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Fraternally Yours®

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK LADIES ASSOCIATION

VOL. 102, NO. 9

JUNE 2016

Oh, give us pleasure in
the flowers today;

And give us not to think so far away
As the uncertain harvest; keep us here
All simply in the springing of the year.

Oh, give us pleasure in the orchard white,
Like nothing else by day, like ghosts by night;
And make us happy in the happy bees,
The swarm dilating round the perfect trees.

And make us happy in the darting bird
That suddenly above the bees is heard,
The meteor that thrusts in with needle bill,
And off a blossom in mid air stands still.

For this is love and nothing else is love,
To which it is reserved for God above
To sanctify to what far ends he will,
But which it only needs that we fulfill.

by Robert Frost

Fraternally Yours, ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA®



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ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA,

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KEEPERS....

I grew up in the 60s and 70s with practical parents. A mother, who care-
fully saved wrapping paper from a gift and then would re-use it because it
was too nice to throw away, a father who was happier getting old shoes fixed
than buying new ones. They “recycled” long before we had a name for it.

Their marriage was good, their dreams focused. Their best friends lived
barely a wave away. I can see them now if I close my eyes; Dad outside,
mowing the lawn or checking the oil in the car while Mom, in a house dress,
was by the stove in the kitchen, baking or making dinner. It was the time for
fixing things. It might have been a curtain rod, the kitchen radio, a screen
door, the oven door, the hem on a dress, but back then we just kept things.

It was a way of life, and sometimes it made me crazy. All that fixing and
re-fixing, eating leftovers, reusing — I wanted just once to be wasteful! Waste
meant affluence. Throwing things away meant you knew there'd always be
more. But through the years I have been struck with the pain of learning that
sometimes there isn't any more.

Sometimes, what we care about most gets all used up and goes away...
never to return. So, while we have it... its best we love it... and care for it...
and fix it when it's broken... and heal it when it's sick.

This is true for our relationships... and old cars... and children with bad
report cards... and dogs with bad hips... and aging parents... and grandpar-
ents. We keep them because they are worth it, because we are worth it.
Some things we keep. Like a best friend that moved away or a classmate
with whom we grew up. There are just some things that make life important,
like people we know who are special... and so, we should take the time to
keep them close!

Remember your family and your family of friends are like stars... you
don't always see them, but you know they are always there. Keep them close!

Dear Friends, this month think about these ten things I am certain God won't
ask when you are met at heaven's gates:

1. God won't ask how many friends you had. He'll ask how many people
to whom you were a friend.
2. God won't ask what kind of car you drove. He'll ask how many people
you drove who didn't have transportation.
3. God won't ask the square footage of your house. He'll ask how many
people you welcomed into your home.
4. God won't ask about the clothes you had in your closet. He'll ask how
many you helped to clothe.
5. God won't ask what your highest salary was. He'll ask if you compro-
mised your character to obtain it.
6. God won't ask what your job title was. He'll ask if you performed your
job to the best of your ability.
7. God won't ask in what neighborhood you lived. He'll ask how you treated
your neighbors.
8. God won't ask about the color of your skin or your religion. He'll ask
about the content of your character and whether you put your “religion”
to work in your life..
9. God won't ask why it took you so long to seek Salvation. He'll lovingly
take you to your mansion in heaven, and not to the gates of Hell.
10. God won't ask how many people you shared this message with because
He'll already know.

Until next month,
Warmly, Carolyn

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

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

My dear Sisters and Brothers,

Travelling through this Extraordinary Holy Year of Mercy, I have been asked what we can/should do to make this year more meaningful as a Catholics. Here is a suggestion on my part but there are so many other opportunities that are available that will be discussed in future articles.

There is still enough time to plan a fall trip to Rome to visit and enter the Holy Year Doors of the four major basilicas of the Eternal City, i.e., Saint Peter, Saint John Lateran, Saint Mary Major, and Saint Paul Outside the Walls where one can earn indulgences fulfilled under the usual conditions. These basilicas have been the traditional pilgrimage destinations for a Holy Year pilgrimage in Rome. This is first time in the history of the Church that two popes were present for the opening of the Holy Year Door at Saint Peter Basilica – i.e., Pope Francis and Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. There have been other designated churches in the world where the traditional Holy Year Door was employed, i.e., Jerusalem. This twenty-seventh Holy Year of the Catholic Church has its roots in Mosaic Law when every fiftieth year was made holy for the Chosen People – debts were cancelled, lands were given back to their original owners, and slaves were made free. A Holy Year usually takes place every twenty-five years during a century but there have been extraordinary ones. In the last century there was an Extraordinary Year of Christ's Redemption in 1933 and another in 1983. This *Year of Mercy* is an extraordinary one which Pope Francis announced in 2015.

With that being said and knowing that most of us can neither afford the time nor the expenses for a trip to the Eternal City or other foreign cities, Pope Francis decreed that his brother bishops of the world to have designated churches in their dioceses for Holy Year Doors. The Holy Father asked each diocesan bishop to open a Holy Year Door at their cathedral and/or another church

with special meaning in the diocese for the entire Extraordinary Holy Year of Mercy. Furthermore, a Holy Year Door may be available in other churches and shrines in which the diocesan bishop has designated. If you do not know of the churches in your diocese, you may want to talk to your pastor or call the diocesan office for further information. At that designated church, a plenary indulgence may be obtained.

One may ask, "What is an indulgence?" Canon 992 in the *Code of Canon Law* states, "An indulgence is the remission before God of temporal punishment for sins whose guilt is already forgiven, which a properly disposed member of the Christian faithful gains under certain and defined conditions by the assistance of the Church which as minister of redemptions dispenses and applies authoritatively the treasury of the satisfactions of Christ and the saints"; canon 993 declares that an indulgence may be either plenary or partial as it may partially or totally free one from temporal punishment; and, canon 994 notes that indulgences may be gained for oneself or a person may apply them to the dead by way of suffrage.

In January 2000, the Apostolic Penitentiary, then headed by the American William Cardinal Baum, issued a brief catechesis on the obtaining of indulgences. In order to so, the Christian is required to fulfill *conditions* and *works*.

For the fulfillment of the conditions, a person,

- Must be in the state of grace at the time that the indulgence is completed; and,
- Can only gain the plenary indulgence once a day.

The above requires one of having the interior disposition of complete detachment from sin, even venial sin; should participate in receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation (should a person desire to receive the indulgence once a day for a brief for several days in a row, Confes-

sion is required only once); receive Holy Communion; and pray for the intentions of the Pope, with usually the Our Father and a Hail Mary.

A person who desires to gain the plenary indulgence also must perform one of the works in one of the following categories:

Works of Religion

- Either make a pious pilgrimage to the church or place designated by the Holy Father or the bishop of the diocese of the Holy Year Door and participate in Mass, Morning/Evening Prayer, or some other pious devotion, (e.g., pray the Rosary, do the Stations of the Cross, etc.); or,
- Make a pilgrimage individually or with a group the place of the Holy Year Door and spend time in Eucharistic Adoration and meditation, ending with the praying of the Our Father, recite either the Nicene or Apostles Creeds, and a prayer to the Blessed Mother.

Works of Mercy or Charity

- Visit for a suitable time someone in need, (e.g., the sick, the imprisoned, the elderly who live alone, persons with disabilities, etc.); or,
- Support to works of a religious or social nature (e.g., young people in trouble, the elderly in need, immigrants, etc.); or,
- Devote personal free time benefitting the community or similar forms of personal sacrifice.

Acts of Penance

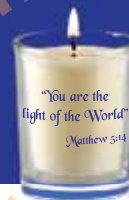
- Abstain from unnecessary consumption (smoking, alcohol, etc.); or
- Fast; or
- Abstain from meat and donate a proportionate sum of money to the poor.

Should you desire and accomplish plenary indulgence(s) during the Extraordinary Holy Year of Mercy, you will be following in the footsteps of Christians who have done so for many past centuries.

(To be continued in the July issue)

Message from our National President

CYNTHIA M. MALESKI



On April 21, 2016, our district presidents gathered for our 15th annual district presidents' meeting in the home office. We also met in an informal setting on the eve of the meeting for dinner, conversation and information sharing.

After the National President's welcome, prayers, pledge of allegiance and introductions, several national officers presented reports on the state of the society. District representatives had many opportunities for questions and comments.

Before Mass we were honored to have National Chaplain Monsignor Peter Polando swear in our newly elected members of the Court of Appeals – Judy Fedor, Cynthia Oresik, and Bernadette Demechko. If you recall, only two candidates submitted letters of intent at the 41st Quadrennial Convention, and the three remaining vacancies were filled through a process culminating in an election by a secret written ballot by members of the board of directors in March, 2016.

Again, we were honored that our National Chaplain Monsignor Peter M. Polando celebrated Mass for us and our employees before lunch.

In the afternoon session, our district presidents favorably received information about upcoming opportunities for growth. We presented merger opportunities with two fraternal benefit societies with a common bond and that further information about them and the timeline for our approval would be sent to each District in the upcoming weeks. They also heard news about the newly established Anna Hurban Scholarship Fund. Mary Jo Noyes, District President of the

Louise Yash District (Wisconsin) presided over the popular District Presidents' Roundtable, where a number of questions and comments were fielded and answered.

We are fortunate indeed to have such dedicated, committed leaders serve as our district presidents! I am privileged to serve with them.

Several important holidays are on the calendar in June. On June 14th, we celebrate Flag Day, a day when we observe and commemorate the adoption of the Stars and Stripes on June 14th, 1777 by the Continental Congress of the United States as the official Flag of the United States of America.

On June 19th, we celebrate Father's Day, where we honor the dedication, love, guidance, and support that our fathers have given us over the years.

Enjoy the beautiful month of June!

Cynthia M. Maleski
National President



Additional photos of the newly elected members of the Court of Appeals



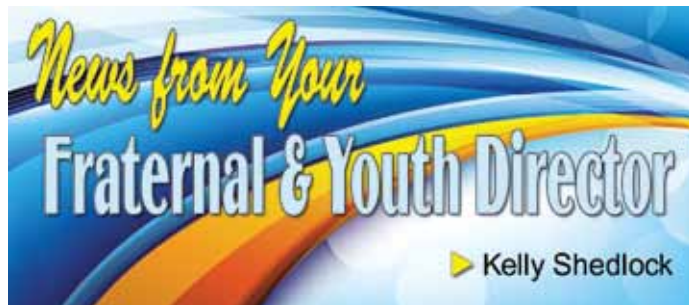
Filled Positions at the Home Office

Current Acting National Secretary, Katherine Bowes, has accepted the position of Interim National Secretary, effective April 27, 2016. Additionally, Paula Dalpiaz, who has been working as Acting Insurance Manager, has accepted the new position of Insurance Manager and IT Coordinator, effective April 27, 2016, as well. These positions will report to the National President.

During this transition year, there has been a realignment of duties regarding these two positions. Katherine will continue to perform the compliance related functions of the National Secretary position, as well as convention and meeting planning, and working with the board of directors under the direction of the National President. She will also direct the activities related to the functional areas of agent administration, new business, ads and promotions, give-aways and reception.

In her new role, Paula will continue to perform her regular duties, as well as direct the activities related to the functional areas of billing, dividends/commissions, policy services member services, death claims/beneficiaries, scholarships, cookbooks, and programming/special projects. She will also serve as our IT Coordinator.

Katherine and Paula have years of professional experience that they bring to their new roles within the FCSLA. We congratulate them and look forward to working with them in their new positions!



Once again I attended the Annual AFA Fraternal & Communications Meeting. This year it was in Hollywood Beach, FL. I really enjoy going to this meeting every year. It's always good to see "old friends" and meet new ones! I made great new friends from Chicago. We had such a good time. They are from a Czechoslovak society that has been around 160 years. We had so much in common even though we were from 3 generations – a Baby Boomer, a Gen Xer and a Millennial. I really hope they will attend next year's meeting, but I do know that we will continue to keep in touch.



For me this meeting always gives me a little boost . . . talking with other Fraternal Directors/Community Outreach Managers/Marketing Managers that are dealing with the same issues I am. No matter how big or small their society is. We are all dealing with the ever changing hi-tech, fast-paced world. We all want what is best for our branch officers and members. We bounce scenarios off of each other, brainstorm, etc. We (fraternal benefit societies) are a unique bunch, not your typical insurance companies. We have more to us than people know about. We care and we want to help our communities and planet.

Some of the topics we discussed made me think about how I (we) are currently doing things and gave me some ideas of how I (we) can make things better for FCSLA. I always try and bring something back from this meeting that I can in one way or another share with all of you. One is never too old to learn. Technology changes daily – it's very hard to keep up.

To our Branch Officers – mentor our younger members. They are the future of FCSLA. Be open to what our young members have to offer. They have great ideas. They know what Gen Xers and Millennials want and how they think. Ask them to head up a committee to plan your annual branch activity or a matching funds project. Even ask if they would like to be a branch officer. Who knows they could be the future branch secretary or president.

To our younger members be open to what our Traditionalist and Baby Boomers have to offer. They have the wisdom, and experience. Be patient with them. Be willing to show them how they too can use today's technology. Every generation has a lot to offer to each other. You can have so much fun with people of different age groups. Just like Gerri, Amanda and myself. Work together and take FCSLA into the future!

Eastern PA Frances Jakabcin District Holds Spring Meeting

The Eastern PA Frances Jakabcin District held their Spring Meeting on Sunday, April 17th at the Barn House Village in Bath, PA with Branches 443 Northampton/Cementon and Branch 484 Egypt, PA hosting.

The hosting officers welcomed all in attendance and National Editor Carolyn Bazik opened the luncheon meeting with a prayer. The group congratulated District Chaplain Monsignor Tom Derzack on both his birthday and 40th anniversary as a priest.

After a delicious meal a regular business meeting was held with President Veronica Bazik presiding. Minutes and financial reports were approved as read. National Trustee Barbara Waller gave an update on the National Level discussing in general terms two possible merger opportunities with those in attendance. She shared that more information would be forthcoming from the Home Office. Chances were sold and prizes awarded. The slate of new officers was presented by the nominating committee Theresa Zuber and Suzanne Strohl. The following members were unanimously elected to office for a two year term:

Veronica Bazik, President; Barbara Waller, Vice-President; Michele Mrazik Grasso, Recording Secretary; Louise Dunstan, Financial Secretary/Treasurer; Suzanne Strohl and Karen Kukol, Auditors; Monsignor Tom Derzack, Chaplain.



Ann Marie Bachman presenting Monsignor Tom Derzack with a cake for his 40th anniversary to the priesthood and his birthday!

The meeting adjourned with a prayer. Next meeting will be the Fall of 2016 and there may be a delegate meeting later this summer.



Officers of host branches S443 and 484.



Newly elected district officers: seated L-R Barbara Waller, Veronica Bazik, Louise Dunstan. Standing L-R Michele Mrazik Grasso, Suzanne Strohl and Monsignor Tom Derzack. Not pictured is Karen Kukol.



Members enjoying good food and fellowship.

CLEVELAND SLOVAK RADIO CLUB SLOVAK PICNIC ~ Sunday, June 26, 2016

Held at the Slovak Sokol Camp, 2069 Royalwood Rd., Broadview Hts., OH 44147 (Between State and Broadview Rd.)
12-8:00 p.m. Admission \$4.00 at the gate.

Slovak Food, Beer, Pastries and Dancing ~ Music by The Frank Moravcik Band

Contact Information: 440/886-4828, 440/885-1994, 440/888-7028, 330/239-2256, 440/582-0114 or 440/864-7444.

Branches 53 and 83 Host Helen Kocan District Meeting

The First Helen Kocan District Meeting of 2016 was held at the Andorra Banquets, hosted by Sr. Branch 53 and Jr. Branch 83 of Joliet, IL. After a delicious luncheon, President

Margaret Abildua called the meeting to order and immediately a lengthy, spirited and enthusiastic discussion of the Convention was enjoyed by the delegates and all the other members.

Our newly elected National Director, JoAnn Skvarek Banvich gave a report of her first experience on the Board and then introduced Cindy Oresik as one of the newly appointed members of the Court of Appeals. Helen Kocan District is pleased to now have two of its members serving our Society on a National Level. Plans were made to honor scholarship winners at the June meeting and we are looking forward to the St. Ann's Day Celebration.



Sr. Branch 140 and Jr. Branch 46 Receives Award

The Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart (MSC Sisters), Reading, PA presented their annual Mission Partner Award to the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association Sr. Branch 140 and Jr. Branch 46 of Lansford, PA during their Spring into Mission Starlight Ball on Saturday, April 9th at the Berkleigh Golf Club in Kutztown, PA. Many vocations to their order came from the eastern Pennsylvania coal region area and the Sisters taught many Slovak children of the immigrant families that settled primarily in the Panther Valley. Sr. Branch 140 and Jr. Branch 46 have been very generous in their support of the Sisters for many years and will continue to do so in the years to come.



Surprising fact about Slovakia

Although it is the capital of Slovakia, there were very few Slovaks in the city of Bratislava, until the middle of the 20th century. Most residents were Germans, Hungarians, Austrians or Czechs.

MATCHING FUNDS ACTIVITIES

Jr. Branch 170

Soup and Bake Sale

The members of Jr. Branch 170, Charleroi, PA joined with the Confraternity of Christian Mothers, Mary Mother of the Church, and held a soup and bake sale that raised \$950.



The Matching Funds check from the fish dinner was presented to Rev. Kenneth M. Seegar, Pastor of St. Andre Bessette Parish in Wilkes-Barre, PA. L-R: Molly McCabe, J207; Florence McCabe, S350; Anna Hudock, S172; Rev. Seegar and Rita Kcenich, S350. From all reports, the dinner was delicious and a huge success.

Sr. Branch 350

Lenten Fish Dinner

Sr. Branch 350, Shamokin, PA recently held a matching funds project. A fish dinner was prepared at the Fr. Zolcinski Church Hall during Lent. The funds were given to the Social Justice Council. This group attends to the sick, hospitalized and members of the parish needing assistance.



An incredible amount of homemade desserts were baked and donated. Florence McCabe and Anna Hudock (standing) and showing the selections to L-R (seated): Harry Messersmith, Noena Messersmith, Joseph Trudnak, Lorraine Shurmanek and Anthony Shurmanek.

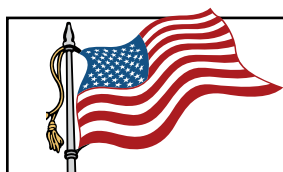
Branch W187

Food Bank Cash and Food Drive

FCSLA Branch W187, Valparaiso, NE recently presented \$1,200 to the Saunders County Food Bank. In August the branch held a cash and food drive at Sts. Mary



In addition to the Matching Funds Check a donation was presented by Sr. Branch 350 to the Social Justice chairperson. L-R: David Gryskevicz; Shirley Nosek, Florence McCabe, Secretary Treasurer S350; Kenneth Burke, Jean Levandowski; Anna Hudock, Chairperson of the Social Justice Council; Rita Kopcho; Florence Kralack; Rita Kcenich, President S350; and Anna Bozinski.



**FLAG DAY
JUNE 14**



Cleveland Branches 408 & 141

On Saturday, April 30, 2016, for the eighth straight year, the Cleveland Okres Branches 408 and 141 "Joined Hands" with The Cleveland Catholic Worker Community to provide a breakfast for about 80 homeless and needy people.

In addition to the breakfast, basic needs items like toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, razors and shave cream, were provided. A local McDonald's Restaurant provided plastic products and condiments. A check for \$505 was presented to the Community to assist them in their ministry.



Left to right: Cindy Bacisim, Dan Phillips, Helen Gebura, Kristina Walker, Catholic Worker Community Volunteer, Mike Phillips, Pat Phillips, and Madison Phillips-Mucha.

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.

& Joseph Church in Valparaiso that brought in two hundred food items and \$600 in cash. Through the FCSLA National Matching Funds Program the Branch received an additional \$600 which allowed them to present the food bank with a much needed infusion of cash.

Pictured are Clarice Sabata (center), secretary of Branch W187 and Nebraska district secretary presenting the donations to Ron (left) and Cindy Bartek (right) managers of the Saunders County Food Bank.

Attended Pre-Concert Benefit Reception



On January 12, 2010, a devastating earthquake took the lives of seven students and three faculty members, and destroyed several buildings which provided a variety of academic, clinical and residential services for blind and deaf children at the Saint Joan Margaret School in Haiti. The school currently serves 110 boys and girls, ages 7-15. Saint Vincent Archabbey and Parish, Latrobe, PA held a benefit reception for the Saint Joan Margaret School in Haiti on Saturday, March 5, 2016. Following the reception, the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and The Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh performed Bach's St. John Passion in the Archabbey Basilica. Pictured Front Row, L-R: is Archabbot and Chancellor Douglas R. Nowicki, O.S.B, National President Cynthia Maleski, National Trustee Barbara Waller, Back Row, L-R: Carolyn Bazik, National Editor and Dr. Andrzej Groch.

Final Scenes from the 41st Quadrennial Convention

October 7 — Wednesday's Events





~ BRANCH 81 MEMBERS ~
SEMI-ANNUAL COMPLIMENTARY DINNER
FOR ALL MEMBERS

Sunday, July 10, 2016

Carmilite Banquet Hall, 1628 Ridge Road, Munster, IN at 1:30 P.M.

Reservations Required Before July 3, 2016

Geraldine: 310-8428 or Margaret: 659-2109

Andrew Jozef Gordon Esterle Recently Baptized



ANDREW JOZEF GORDON ESTERLE was baptized on Sunday, April 3rd at Holy Apostles Parish in New Berlin, WI by Archbishop Jerome Listekski. Andrew is the son of Martin and Katie Esterle and the little brother to sister, Natalie. All family members, including Andrew, are members of Branch 23 in Milwaukee, WI.

EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES FOR FCSLA . . .

After study and recommendation of the Strategic Relations Committee and Executive Committee, the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association (FCSLA) recently approved moving forward with two merger opportunities subject to completion of due diligence. Both organizations, Polish Union of the US of North America and the Polish Women's Alliance share a strong common bond with the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association — Slav and Roman Catholic, strive to provide financial security for members; and have a strong fraternal presence where they are located.

The Polish Union of North America, Wilkes-Barre, PA has been in business since 1890. They are licensed in 4 states and have 6,848 members. The Polish Women's Alliance of America, Chicago, IL was founded by women in 1898. They are licensed in 15 states plus DC and have 29,617 members.

Due diligence has or is being finalized by our legal counsel, actuary, and outside auditor along with Interim National Treasurer Steve Hudak and select FCSLA staff.

These exciting developments present us with the opportunities to grow and build our society by welcoming our brothers and sisters of common religion and Slavic heritage, values and traditions. Per our bylaws, on page 26, these mergers will be voted on by mail in the coming months. Please look for additional information in our magazine, on our web site and in mailings from the Home Office.



IN MEMORIAM

GERTRUDE EFFLE, W045



Gertrude (Tharnish) Effle, daughter of Ernest and Julie (Huigens) Tharnish, was born March 21, 1920, at Creighton and died March 7, 2013. Gertrude attended St. Ludger Catholic School in Creighton and after receiving her education, taught rural school at various locations. On January 16, 1946, Gertrude was married to

Lester "Bud" Effle at St. Ludger Catholic Church. Gertrude and Bud raised their family and farmed west and north of Creighton in Logan Township. After Bud's death in 1987, Gertrude moved back to her hometown of Creighton, where she resided until her death two weeks prior to her 93rd birthday. Gertrude is survived by her sons, Jim (Linda) Effle, Bruce (Deb) Effle, Dave (Diane) Effle, Dan (Wendy) Effle and Duane (Roxanne) Effle, all of Lincoln; daughters Sue (Tom) Stephenson of Dacula, GA, and Mary (Gary) Johnson of O'Neill; 18 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and siblings Ernie Tharnish, Irene Thomas, Margaret Hansen, Elmer Tharnish, John Tharnish, Anne Schumacher, Rita Wagner, Pat Neuman, Bob Tharnish and Ruth Jankiewicz.

CATHERINE M. SOLGA, S319



Catherine M. Solga, beloved wife, mother and lifetime resident of the Lehigh Valley, 98, has entered her eternal happiness on January 2, 2014. She was the precious daughter of the late Martin and Mary Zajacik, and was predeceased in life by her beloved husband Francis A. Solga, (war-time Marine and Traffic Manager at Mack Trucks). Catherine was a member of St. John

the Baptist Roman Catholic Church on Front Street. She was a member of St. Johns Rosary group and was also an active member of St. Thomas Moore Prime Time Club. Catherine was a lifetime member of the Allentown Art Museum Auxiliary and Womens Symphony Community. She was also a volunteer for Channel 39 and graciously participated in the outreach for the Lehigh Valley United Way. She was a long time member of Mack Truck Retirees. Survivors: Catherine leaves three children: daughter, Bernice, wife of Dr. Paul Balson of Beverly Hills, CA, son, Dr. Francis Solga of Orwigsburg, PA, and daughter, Barbara Ann, wife of James Christopher of San Diego, CA; six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

HENRY T. SMARSH, S476



Henry T. Smarsh, 75, of Amherst, passed away peacefully April 2, 2015. He was born on April 4, 1939 in Lorain, to Joseph and Joyce (nee Brada) Smarsh, Sr. and was a 1957 graduate of Amherst High School. Henry began his work career as a newspaper carrier with a route that included 118 customers. In 1956, he began working at Krogers Grocery Store for 10 years,

eight of those years he served as produce manager. He then went on to work at B.F. Goodrich for 28½ years, 15½ of those years he spent as a foreman, retiring in 1994. He enjoyed boating, fishing, going to the casino and traveling. Most of all, he enjoyed his family and being together with them. Henry is survived by his wife of 54½

years, Judith A.; daughters, Michelle (Tony) Schill, Yvonne (Gene) Voros, Eileen (Tony) Looney, Laureen (Paul) Hughett, Patrice (Chris) Niehart, and Colleen (Brent) Pete; sons, Kevin (Kathy Martin) Smarsh, and Timothy (Christine) Smarsh; nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren; brothers, Donald (Henry's Twin) and Ronald Smarsh. The family suggest contributions be made, in memory of Henry, to St. Joseph Church or New Life Hospice, 3500 Kolbe Rd., Lorain, OH 44053.

MARY SOLTIS, S202

Mary Soltis, 90, passed away at St. Elizabeth Health Center in Youngstown, OH. Mary was born March 7, 1925, in Braddock, PA, a daughter of John and Mary Gaydos Lesnansky. She married Frank Soltis at St. Elizabeth Catholic Church in Campbell on October 19, 1946, and he passed away on February 14, 1997. Mary was a member of the Holy Name Catholic Church and its Altar Rosary Society. She was a member of several senior citizen groups at Holy Name, St. Christine, St. Mary's Byzantine, St. Brendan, and Sts. Peter and Paul. She loved to play cards and crochet blankets for Akron Children's Hospital. She is survived by a daughter, Anita (Joseph) Baal, with whom she made her home; two grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; a sister, Irene Parker; and several nieces and nephews.

MARGARET A. KETTMAN, S7



Margaret A. Kettman, 99, of Streator, IL, passed away November 22, 2015. Born July 26, 1916 in Streator, she was the daughter of Andrew and Anna (Perhach) Churney. She married John M. Kettman in June of 1939. He preceded her in death on November 19, 1967. She is survived by daughters, Jane Kettman of Streator and Judy Whalen of Streator; a son, John (Jonelle) Kettman of Grand Rapids, MI; 4 grandchildren; and

10 great-grandchildren. Born and raised in Streator she attended St. Stephen's Grade School and Streator High School. She worked for Harvest Bakery for 10 years and later worked for Boleraski's Market until her retirement. She was a member of the former St. Stephen's Church and currently belonged to St. Michael the Archangel Parish. She was also a longtime member of the Altar and Rosary Society of her church. She was very active in this group serving in many different capacities including President twice. She was an active volunteer with her church and was also one of the Parish Bakers. She was also an Election Judge through Bruce Township. Memorials may be directed to St. Michael the Archangel Church.

JO-ANN D. STOFANAK, S74



Jo-Ann D. Stofanak, 72, of East Allen Township, passed away on December 4, 2015. She was the wife of Patrick M. Stofanak with whom she shared 50 years of marriage last January 30th. Born in Fountain Hill on November 22, 1943, she was a daughter of the late Albert Sr. and Margaret (Gross) Sunday. Jo-Ann was a graduate of Liberty High School. For several years, she was employed as a sales person at the former Wood Haven Unpainted Furniture Store in Bath. Jo-Ann was an active

and faithful member of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church of Bath. She enjoyed sewing and knitting, and unselfishly volunteered her services to assisting those in need. Survivors: In addition to her loving husband, Patrick, she is survived by three sons, Patrick M. Stofanak, Jr. and his wife, Renee of Kunkletown, Gregory J. Stofanak and his wife, Heather of Northampton, and Paul J. Stofanak and his wife, Carrie of Dover, DE; three daughters, Joanne M. Haldaman and her fiancé, Michael Nemes of Allentown, Vanessa A. Stofanak and her boyfriend, Kyle Temos of Bath, and Jennifer A. Hess and her husband, Jamie of Nazareth; thirteen grandchildren; a brother, Albert Sunday, Jr. and his wife, Eileen of New Bedford, MA; a sister, Marie Greenawald of Bethlehem; an aunt, Helen Clater of Bethlehem; a niece and nephews.

MARGARET I. LEWIS, S273



Margaret I. "Marge" Lewis, 94, of Kenosha, WI passed away on December 17, 2015. Marge was born in Kenosha on February 15, 1921, the only daughter of the late Jacob and Mary (Sabena) Lulack. She attended Kenosha schools and was a 1939 graduate of Kenosha High School. She proudly served our country in the U.S. Coast Guard enlisting in 1944 and receiving her discharge in 1946. On May 26, 1951 at St. Anthony Catholic Church she was united in marriage to F. Ward Quinn. He preceded her in death on November 22, 1977. She married Dale R. Lewis, Sr. at St. Anthony's on March 2, 1985. He preceded Marge in death on February 22, 2014. Marge was employed with Jockey International for over 44 years, retiring as an accounting clerk in July of 1983. She was a lifelong devoted member of St. Anthony Catholic Church, singing in the Choir at St. Anthony's and as a member of the St. Anthony Rosary Society. She is survived by her three step-children, Virginia Sekulich, Mary De Loach, and Dale Lewis, Jr.; seven grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren, a brother Dr. Jacob Lulack, and a niece, Barbara Lulack. In lieu of flowers, memorial remembrances to Hawthorne Hollow, 880 Green Bay Rd., Kenosha, WI 53144 or to the Wisconsin Slovak Historical Society, P.O. Box 100164, Cudahy, WI 53110 would be appreciated.

MARY (MIKUS) NOGAY, SZJ0



Mary Nogay, age 99, passed over peacefully on December 18, 2015, leaving a large family blessed with her presence for so many years. Mary was the daughter of the late John and Anna (Jurina) Mikus, growing up in Mead-owlands, PA, as a first-generation American. Known for her warm smile, positive outlook, she spent her prime years in North East, PA, leaving in her mid-80s to live in retirement facilities in the Harrisburg/Carlisle area. There she continued her practice of seeing the best in everyone and being a friend to all, living a full and active life until her death. Baking was her specialty, with scotch cake, nut rolls and cinnamon buns among the most memorable. She was an active member of St. Gregory's Church, volunteering often for their fundraisers. She was also a familiar face as a poll worker. Mary loved to dance the polka and was known to be quite cunning when playing cards. Mary is survived by her loving children, Donald Nogay (MaryAnn) of The Villages, FL, Joanne

Wodecki (Frank) of Hendersonville, NC, Mary Lou Clark of Denver, CO, and Carole DeWall (Tom) of Carlisle, PA. She leaves nine grandchildren who remember their Gram very fondly, particularly for her ever-present love and her unique way of maintaining discipline. In addition, she leaves behind her brother, John Mikus, and sister, Marge Germovsek, both from northeastern Ohio, numerous nieces and nephews, plus three step-grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

DR. THOMAS E. JOHNSTON, S376



Thomas Johnston passed away peacefully December 26, 2015 after a courageous battle with cancer since 2010. Tom, the son of Lyle and Armella Johnston, was a resident of Chippewa Falls, WI. Tom was regarded as a pillar of the community, known as the owner/director/psychologist of Marriage & Family Health Services, Ltd. and the creator of the Mikan programs. He was one of the first male students in the Nursing program at St. Scholastica in Duluth, MN. From there, he rose to the rank of Lt. Col. during his service in the Army, stationed at Fort Sam in Texas. Tom moved on to receive his Master's degree in Nursing. He made a career change and became a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, which fueled his passion for working with traumatized children and teens. Tom has helped thousands of children and teens heal from traumatic experiences through his innovative and research-based programming. Tom's kind, giving and generous ways will be profoundly missed. He is survived by his wife, Jennifer Schulz-Johnston; his son, Sonny Johnston (Jana); his grandchildren Jordan, Makenna and Kaidan Johnston (all of Chippewa Falls); his daughter, Courtnee Johnston (Eau Claire); his parents, Lyle and Armella Johnston (Eau Claire); his two brothers, Richard Johnston (Terry) of Georgia and Lyle Johnston (Patty) of Minnesota; his two sisters Erin Johnston and Nancy Brooks, both of Minnesota; his nieces and nephews; Aunt Ella (Texas); Uncle Joe Wyner (Violet) of Minnesota; many cousins; his in-laws and many, many friends and colleagues.

EDWARD J. MYLET, S45

Edward J. Mylet, Sr., 82, of Sugarloaf, PA, passed away January 16, 2016. Born in Sugarloaf on January 22, 1933, he was the son of the late Michael C. and Anna (Maylath) Mylet. He resided in the Sugarloaf area his entire life and was a self employed dairy farmer until the farm closed in 1988. He then went to work for Valley Seeding Inc. until he retired. Edward was a member of St. John Bosco RC Church, Sugarloaf, and the PA Farm Bureau. Surviving are his wife, the former Sally Smith, with whom he had been married for 43 years, eight children, Theresa Marie Mylet, Allentown; Patricia Ann Walters and her husband Stephen, Greencastle; Monica Ann Mylet and her husband Timothy Wilkinson, Rockford, MI; Edward J., Jr. and his wife Pamela, Mt. Top; Tammy Lynn Brobst and her husband Sean, Hometown; Susan Michele Wagner and her husband William, McAdoo; Jeffery Michael Mylet and his wife Joanna, Berwick; and Nancy Fegley and her companion Donald Fisher, Jr., Sugarloaf; 21 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; a sister Gertrude Ulshafer and her husband James, Tresckow; a brother Martin Mylet and his wife Carol, Hazleton; a sister Theresa

(Continued on Page 14)



IN MEMORIAM

Mary Mylet, Sugarloaf; and three sister in-laws, Josephine Mylet, Lansdale; Louise Mylet, West Hazleton; Rosemarie Mylet, Sugarloaf; and many nieces and nephews.

JERRY PAUL RYSAVY, W85



Jerry Paul Rysavy, Sr., age 99, passed away January 15, 2016 in Owatonna, MN. Jerry was born on June 8, 1916 in Aurora Township to John and Frances (Svercl) Rysavy. He worked on the family farm until he married Roselyn Simon in 1940's. The wedding took place in the basement of Litomysl church which was under construction at the time. After they were married Jerry and Roselyn bought their own farm and

that is where they raised their 7 children. He farmed for 40 years until "retiring" in 1980 when he moved into town. In his retirement he could always be seen out on the farm helping out where ever he could. He enjoyed wood working, gardening, playing cards, fishing and traveling with Roselyn, but most of all he loved spending time with his family. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus. He is survived by his wife, Roselyn of 75 years; children, Jerry (Mary Ann) Rysavy, Owatonna, Thomas (Ana) Rysavy, Random Lake, WI, Kenneth (Betty) Rysavy, Laurens, SC, Joseph (Cheryl) Rysavy, Owatonna, Michael Rysavy, Ellendale, Rita (Gary) Wandrey, Owatonna; 18 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren; one daughter-in-law Arlys Rysavy; and one sister-in-law, Dorothy Rysavy and a host of nieces and nephews.

RONALD J. TURNWALD, SZJ0



Ronald J. Turnwald, 50, of Upper St. Clair, formerly of Maple Grove, MI, passed away January 21, 2016, after a short battle with cancer. Beloved husband of Michelle (Dorney) Turnwald for 24 years; loving father of Sydney and Maxwell Turnwald; cherished son of Richard and Bernadine Turnwald; brother of Richard, Michael and Mark; other loving family members, Diane Ziola and the late Agnes Andres. Ron was a very

kind hearted and loving family man. He also volunteered for many years with the Boy Scouts. Ron will be remembered for his sense of humor and being an extraordinary father.

WILLIAM A. "RED" WEYELS, S218



William A. "Red" Weyels, 94, of Chalfant, died January 27, 2016. He was the loving husband of the late Florence (Parlak) Weyels for 64 years; dear father of Joyce (the late Jim) Vargo, Gerry (Nick) Kosanovich, Jackie (Dennis) DiNardo, Jeff Weyels and the late Jennifer (age 4) and late infant, Judy; and Grand Pap of Michele (Tony) Honko, Jimmy and Bill Vargo, Michael

(Jaimie) Kosanovich, Elizabeth (Kevin) Kosanovich, Gina (Doug) Dykstra, Darren (Erica) DiNardo, Amber (John) Savinda and Taylor, Lacey and Morgan Weyels. Red also has nine great-grandchildren. Red was a very strong and resilient family man and overcame many obstacles in life while keeping a positive attitude. He did whatever he needed to do in order to provide for his family and had a great

work ethic to prove it. Red was a World War II Army Air Corps veteran, serving as a radio operator on B-52's. He was a former member and past president of the Swissvale Rotary. Red was the owner/proprietor of the former Riverside Sales in North Braddock and Swissvale, which eventually became "The Furnishing Touch" in the Braddock Hills Shopping Center. Red will be sadly missed but lovingly remembered by all who knew and loved him.

MICHAEL JOHN ZAJAC, S493



Michael John Zajac, 86, of Holiday City South, Berkeley Twp., NJ passed away January 27, 2016. Michael was born in New Brunswick and graduated from Saint Peter's High School where he excelled in baseball and basketball and was a member of the School's Sports Hall of Fame. He graduated from Rutgers University with a BSIE Degree. His 42 year business career

began with the Squibb Corporation. He then worked for American Machine & Foundry Corporation as Corporate Human Resources Director. During this period he also taught Personnel Management at Rutgers University in the evening sessions. Following this he joined Singer Corporation as Corporate Director of Employment and Training. He then worked for the American Cancer Society as National and Corporate Vice President for Human Resources. He was also the former National Tennis Singles Champion of the Society. In his retirement years he was the Golf Instructor for the Ocean County Parks & Recreation for 20 years and it was a role he truly thoroughly enjoyed. He was also a member of the USGA. He leaves wife Jeanne, the love of his life for 65 years and wonderful children: Deborah Churchill, Nancy Simpson (Peter), Michele El-bridge (William), and son Jeffrey (Maria Mattliano); 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

AGNES A. (PEPON) GUMBITA, S182



Agnes A. (Pepon) Gumbita, 94, Windber, PA passed away January 29, 2016. She was born May 26, 1921, in Windber, daughter of John Sr. and Elizabeth (Pallo) Pepon, she was preceded in death by her husband Stephen Gumbita. Survived by children, Agnes, wife of Gary Strayer; Stephanie, wife of Thomas Walker; Arlene, wife of Jay Penrod; and Patricia, wife of Lud Drob-nick; 8 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren;

and sister-in-law, Susie (Findish) Pepon. Agnes was a generous and loving wife, mother and grandmother whose love was unconditional. She loved cooking, baking, gardening and bird-watching. Winter or summer, each Sunday after Mass, she prepared her famous homemade soup, a tradition her family will always cherish. Her love and selflessness will be dearly missed by more than just her family. The daughters would like to especially thank the Church of the Brethren Home staff who cared for Agnes while she resided there for the past 28 months.

Have you checked out
the FCSLA website lately?
www.fcsla.org

Slovak Instruments at the Musical Instrument Museum

A recent trip to Phoenix, Arizona yielded several surprises. The most unexpected one was the Musical Instrument Museum in nearby Scottsdale. It is the world's **only global** musical instrument museum with over 10,000 instruments and provides a completely fascinating tour of world music.

Not only are instruments on display, but sometimes folk costumes as well. Each display in the museum has a video screen, electronically activated by your individual headset as you approach, providing examples of that country's music, dances, or construction of instruments.

Being of Slovak descent, I was on the alert for the Slovakia exhibit as I toured the Europe Gallery. Due to their close proximity, several neighboring countries have similar musical styles and instruments. Slovak music was influenced by Hungary, Poland, Romania and other nearby countries. As I listened to the music of Slovakia I was transported back to my childhood and the Slovak picnics my family attended every year where musicians played and we all danced.

In addition to displays from every country, there is an Artist Gallery where instruments and costumes from musi-

cians like Elvis, Johnny Cash, Taylor Swift and John Lennon, to name only a few, are on exhibit. Another gallery is a hands-on experience where adults and children alike are encouraged to attempt to play any of the instruments in it.

Also unique to the museum is their restoration lab. Just off the main hallway behind a large glass window, any restoration work being done is open to viewing by the public.

Go to the website for hours, directions and admission fees. <http://mim.org/>

Maureen (Zufa) Blevins is a writer/photographer. She has lived most of her life in Joliet, IL where she attended Sts. Cyril & Methodius School and church there. Both maternal grandparents came from Slovakia where she still has relatives. Website: <http://mauverneen.com/> Blog: <http://maureenblevins.blogspot.com/>

FCSLA Accepting Applications For National Treasurer 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 Treasurer.

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.

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 August 20, 2016.

Scholarship Winner Luncheon and Meeting Scheduled

St. Ann's Lodge Sr. Branch 114 will hold its annual luncheon and meeting to honor this year's scholarship winners on Sunday, July 17. It will start at 1:00 p.m. at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway, Lorain, OH. Please make your reservations no later than Tuesday, July 12 by calling Bernie Danevich at 440-960-2605 or Marge Thomas at 440-288-1492. All members are invited to attend.



The Slovak exhibit at the Musical Instrument Museum of Scottsdale, AZ. Instruments are Zvonec (bell), Gajdy (bagpipe), Roh (animal horn), Bunkos, Fujara, and Pistalka dvojacka (flutes). At bottom of photo are the Ninera, a wheel fiddle (left), and the Citara, a plucked zither (right).



Closer view of the Ninera — a wheel fiddle.

Slovak Catholic Federation Seeks Contributors for the 2016 Good Shepherd/Dobry Pastier Annual

Dobry Pastier (The Good Shepherd), published annually by the Slovak Catholic Federation, is a compilation of articles which are of interest to Slovak-American Catholics. The Federation is seeking material for inclusion in the 2016 edition. While the scope of the annual is broad, encompassing the areas of heritage, history, religion, traditions, travel and personal experience, items of a solely political nature cannot be accepted. The deadline for all articles is August 1, 2016. Due to the publication schedule, items received after the deadline cannot be considered for this year's edition. The annual will be available for distribution in the latter part of 2016.

To facilitate the editing and printing of the *Dobry Pastier/The Good Shepherd*, the following guidelines are established for authors who would like their work to be considered for inclusion in the annual. Submissions and any questions can be sent to the editor, T. L. Wagner, at dobrypastierscf@gmail.com.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- All articles must be type-written, double-spaced, preferably in Microsoft WORD format in 12 point, Times New Roman font, or a similarly easy to read type. For the sake of ease in editing, please avoid capitalizing words or entire sentences needlessly, the excessive use of exclamation points, unnecessary quotation marks, etc. The article layout should be similar to that of pieces printed in daily newspapers and magazines.
- It is strongly preferred that English articles be e-mailed to T. L. Wagner, Editor, at dobrypastierscf@gmail.com. With current technology, it is faster and more cost effective to work from a digitally submitted text than having to re-type an entire hard copy.
- DO NOT SUBMIT SCANNED COPIES. It is virtually impossible for the editor or publisher to effectively modify scanned material to conform to the annual's printed format.
- If it is not possible for an article to be e-mailed, an original "hard copy" can be mailed to T. L. Wagner, 2215 Colorado Avenue, Youngstown, Ohio 44504-1308. The "hard copy" should either be typed or legibly hand-written by the author. Please do NOT send photo copies or any photographs. If photos are essential to the story and cannot be sent digitally, the editor will determine the most effective manner to obtain them and assure their proper handling.
- To be accepted for publication, articles should be between three and ten typewritten pages. Articles with less than three pages or more than ten pages will not be accepted.

USE OF PHOTOGRAPHS:

- If using photographs within the article, they must be included at the same time the article is e-mailed to the Editor. When sending images digitally, save them as separate JPGs to accompany the article. Please indicate

where the photos are to be placed within the body of the article. It is absolutely essential that all persons, places and/or situations depicted in the photograph be clearly identified. It is helpful to provide more information than may seem necessary although it captions may be edited down.

- In the event that an article is e-mailed, but the photos are not included as attachments, please make the editor aware of the situation. The editor will contact the sender to determine the most effective manner to handle the photos. Again, it is necessary that the photos are properly identified and where they are to be placed within the article. Photos should always accompany the article for which they are intended if at all possible.
- Captions must be included with the photographs. Additional explanatory information may also be submitted. This allows the editor and subsequently the reader to better understand the relationship of the photo to the content of the article.

ARTICLES IN SLOVAK:

- Slovak articles can be e-mailed to T. L. Wagner, but a hard copy, which includes all accents and appropriate punctuation, MUST also be mailed to editor's address. (Please indicate that the article was both mailed and e-mailed.) Frequently, accent marks, diacritical characters, and other special characters do not come through properly when e-mailed, including the punctuation format common to the Slovak language. Having a hard copy of the article, with the proper marks, will save valuable time and minimize errors.

As Editor, T. L. Wagner retains the right to correct grammatical errors, delete repetitious text, rearrange material for the sake of clarity, etc. The Editor also retains the right to determine the appropriateness of articles for the publication. Be assured that the Editor will NOT substantially change the author's idea and concept without first consulting the author.

The Communications/Membership Committee on behalf of the entire Slovak Catholic Federation National Board expresses our sincere thanks to all of the faithful contributors to *The Good Shepherd*. These contributions, year after year, ensure that the Slovak Catholic Federation is able to provide a quality annual that celebrates and preserves our Catholic faith, Slovak heritage, and sense of community. It allows our readers to stay in touch with what is happening within the Catholic Church, Slovakia and the Slovak-American community.

Send us your Wedding, Anniversary
and Birthday Announcements!
zjbazik@comcast.net

J339 Members Host Charity Lemonade Stand

Benefitting the Animal Welfare League, Chicago Ridge, Illinois

August 1, 2015 found J339 members Addison and Carter Gillen with Donna Jean and David Trumbull hosting a charity lemonade stand to benefit the Animal Welfare League of Chicago Ridge, IL. These junior members raised \$140 in just three hours' time! Their next task was to look for sales and coupons where they purchased \$350 in food and supplies from the Animal Welfare League wish list, dropping off all the donations to the League in October. (To see additional photos from this event, go to: <http://www.fcsla.org/district/chicago/gallery.php>)



*Regina Jordan Receives
First Holy Communion*



FCSLA Branch W191 member **REGINA JORDAN** received her First Holy Communion on Sunday, April 10th, 2016 at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Lincoln, NE. She is photographed with her grandparents, Ken and Carolyn Dolezal.

*Lucy Furiak Named
April Student of the Month*



LUCY ANN FURIAK (S81, Whiting, IN) is a sophomore at Roncalli Catholic High School, Indianapolis, IN. She is the daughter of Laura Stieneker and Nicolas Furiak and the granddaughter of John Furiak and the great-granddaughter of the late Ann Furiak. She was recently named the Roncalli Student of the Month for April for outstanding achievements in Religious studies.

Additionally, Lucy was also just inducted into the International Thespians Society at Roncalli High School.

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 4/1/2016 thru 6/30/2016.

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.

SCF 2016 Spring Executive Board Meeting

The Executive Board of the Slovak Catholic Federation held its 2016 Spring Meeting on April 4 and 5 in Bethlehem, PA. Several new members were welcomed and officially acknowledged in their new positions. These new members are Rev. Gerard Gonda, OSB of Saint Andrew Abbey in Cleveland, Michael J. Horvath, the Supreme President of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, and Scott T. Pogorelec, Supreme Secretary of the Slovak Catholic Sokol. Father Gonda has been part of the Cleveland Benedictine Community for more than 40 years. For the past 8 years, he has served as President of Benedictine High School, after a number of years as the principal. Mr. Michael J. Horvath was elected the Supreme President of the Slovak Catholic Sokol at their 32nd National Convention which was held in Pittsburgh in early August, 2015. At the same gathering, Mr. Scott Pogorelec was elected the Supreme Secretary, after being a key underwriter for the organization.

The activities for the Spring Executive Board meeting began with a dinner the evening before the actual business portion of the session. It afforded the board members, who traveled from areas stretching from the Great Lakes region across Pennsylvania to New Jersey, an opportunity to reconnect with long-time board members with whom they may have limited personal contact, as well as meet the new members. The working segment of the gathering began with the celebration of Mass. Father Andrew Hvozdic, National President of the Slovak Catholic Federation, presided. Concelebrants included Msgr. Robert Siffrin, Msgr. Thomas Derzack, Father Thomas Nasta and Father Gerard Gonda. Following breakfast, the call to order began the proceedings. Morning prayer was led by Rev. Msgr. Thomas Derzack, SCF National Chaplain, with an active response by those present. With the completion of the standard roll call and the recognition of guests, Msgr. Derzack offered a reflection focusing the Year of Mercy declared by Pope Francis. He related a story about noted anthropologist, Margaret Mead, being asked about what factors identify the beginning of "civilization".



Father Andrew Hvozdic, National President of the Slovak Catholic Federation welcomed new board members, Scott Pogorelec (left), F.I.C., Supreme Secretary, and Michael J. Horvath, Supreme President, who were recently elected to their positions with the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

Her response was simple, "A healed femur bone." The fact that an injured individual was able to heal from what in early cultures would be certain death is evidence of "compassion", which shows that another individual was willing to sacrifice and care for someone who was incapacitated. Compassion is the key hallmark of civilization. This segued into an account of Saint Therese of Lisieux, the Little Flower, appearing to now Saint Faustina Kowalska. Sister Faustina asked, "Will I be a saint? What must I do?" The reply was simple, "You must trust in the Lord." This is the root of Saint Faustina's Divine Mercy revelation and her declaration, "Jesus I trust in you." As St. Faustina and Saint Therese both encourage us, when we turn away from sin in a living faith, trusting in Jesus, our Lord is able to work miracles in our lives – even the miracle of forming us into saints. Msgr. Derzack concluded by reminding those present that God wants us to become what He intends us to be: Trust and see what God can do through you, for you and to you. A handout of the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy was provided supplemented

(Continued on Page 19)



Shown L-R are: Scott Pogorelec, Supreme Secretary of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, Rev. Msgr. Thomas A. Derzack, National Spiritual Advisor of SCF, Rev. Andrew Hvozdic, National President of SCF, Dolores M. Evanko, National Secretary/Treasurer of SCF and Michael Horvath, Supreme President of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.



Several board members attending the meeting are engaged in listening to a proposal as they follow a written summary. Front row (L-R): Mary Jo Savidge, Secretary, Theresa A. Kluchinski, President and Margaret A. Ferri, Public Relations, who are all with the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union. In the back row (L-R) are Michael Horvath, Supreme President and Scott Pogorelec, Supreme Secretary of the Slovak Catholic Union.

Held in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

by a compilation of many creative and practical ways to put the Works of Mercy into action.

In his opening remarks, Father HvozdoVIC as National President, he highlighted the changes that came about during the recent conventions of the fraternal organizations, especially the Slovak Catholic Sokol which saw 7 of 10 board members being new or serving in new positions. He reviewed the recent donations from three of the four fraternal organizations, with the fourth pending, to help defray the costs of publishing and distributing the *Good Shepherd/Dobry Pastier*. Another component of his presentation was the distribution of a prayer card featuring the image of the Chapel of Our Mother of Sorrows at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. and a combined prayer to Our Mother of Sorrows. It is the first such publication by the Slovak Catholic Federation in more than 14 years. The minutes of the Fall 2015 Meeting were reviewed and approved with minor changes.

Dolores Evanko, National Secretary-Treasurer, provided financial reports for the previous year and the first 3 months of this current year. Father Thomas Nasta, 1st National Vice President, reviewed the results of the 2015 Appeal and detailed information about efforts to improve participation and income. A wide ranging discussion followed regarding various ideas to bolster the effectiveness of the appeal. The fact that the appeal is essential to the support provided by the Federation to Pontifical College of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Rome was emphasized. This constitutes one of the primary activities of the organization. Each of the regional chapters of the Slovak Catholic Federation, which had representatives present at the meeting, submitted written reports regarding their recent endeavors. A limited discussion of the challenges the chapters face with maintaining the active participation of members and bolstering actual membership took place. The recent death of Sr. Aurelia Cerny, OFM, who was the President of the Conference of Slovak Religious, has left a void in that group that has yet to be resolved. As

such, only a brief overview of the Conference's status was given. Msgr. Robert Siffrin, Chairman of the Conference of Slovak Clergy, submitted and discussed a report of their convocation and the ongoing support of the Pontifical College of Saints Cyril and Methodius both for its operation and in the funding of grants and scholarships for the students.

Before breaking for lunch, the various standing committees began meeting to discuss goals for the upcoming six to twelve months, and beyond. The Evangelization Committee, headed by Fr. Thomas Nasta, highlighted efforts to translate Slovak hymns into English and the promotion of pilgrimages and retreats during this Holy Year of Mercy. It was suggested that sites with a Slovak history, such as the Villa of the Sacred Heart of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius, be considered for this type of evangelization effort. The Heritage and Cultural Committee, led by Sister Catherine Laboure, SSCM, hopes to promote the use of Slovak hymns and prayers. Fr. Gerard Gonda, a member of the committee, suggested that common Catholic prayers, such as the Our Father and Hail Mary, and perhaps some songs be printed on cards or leaflets with a phonetic guide to accompany the lyrics and perhaps greater participation of the congregations. The goals of the Membership and Communications Committee were presented by Tim Wagner. A specific set of new guidelines for submissions to the *Good Shepherd/Dobry Pastier* be publicized in order to facilitate a more simple and timely editing process. These will be in place before the call for articles is made within the next month. In terms of the membership component a need for greater availability of the current membership information to the chapters was highlighted with the goal of encouraging greater participation in the various regions. It was also suggested that membership applications be more readily accessible, especially at the religious and cultural events that attract individuals of Slovak background. One encouraging note is the creation of a new chapter of the SCF, under the title, Mary, Our Mother of Sorrows. This chapter will encompass the Wilkes-Barre, Hazelton, Scranton, and Danville areas. The actual location and times of the meetings are yet to be determined.

Prior to the conclusion of the meeting, new business was covered. Particular attention was given to the planned convention which is slated for Fall 2017 in Youngstown, OH. In addition to the actual planning of the gathering, the expenses involved were reviewed. The Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius distributed material regarding retreat opportunities at their facility in Danville, PA which includes the Villa Sacred Heart and the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius. A member of the board raised a question regarding the need to update the history of the Slovak Catholic Federation before the convention and also the status of the Federation's website which is outdated. Rev. Msgr. Thomas Derzack, SCF National Chaplain, offered the closing prayer. The Fall 2016 meeting is scheduled for September 12-13 in Beachwood, OH at the headquarters of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association.



Reverend Gerard Gonda, OSB, of St. Andrew Abbey in Cleveland began his tenure as a member of the National Board of the Slovak Catholic Federation at their Spring, 2016 meeting. Pictured L-R: Rev. Thomas Nasta, First Executive Vice President of SCF, Father Gonda, Rev. Andrew HvozdoVIC, National President of the SCF, and Dolores M. Evanko, National Secretary/Treasurer.

Úbohý boháč

Milan Húževka

V osade Beňadín žili dvaja bratia. Kým boli malí, zabávali sa s hračkami, ktoré im zhotovil otec. Keď odrástli a stali sa dospelými šuhajmi, začali si hľadať inakšiu zábavu. Od starších ľudí neraz počuli o pokladoch, ktorých sú vraj na okolí celé kopy, len ich treba vedieť nájsť.

V noci pred Jánom sa presúšajú všetky poklady zeme. Otvárajú sa bralá, odkrývajú zápory a z nich svietia do tmy obrovské kopy peňazí a drahokamov poklady sa ukazujú raz za sedem rokov. A keďže práve ubehlo sedem rokov mali by sa hľadať poklady tejto noci. Lebo potom by sa muselo čakať ďalších sedem rokov. Bratia sa rozhodli hľadať poklady.

Bratia prišli k jednému skalisku a zastali pri ňom. Naraz si sadli a čakali polnoc, mala byť čo nevidieť. V dedine začuli hlásnika a vtedy, div divúci, v brale zaprašťalo, čosi zastonalo, pred nimi sa rozdvíjal otvor. Z neho sa zajaľali drahokamy a tisíce lúčov im oslepilo zrak.

— Našli sme svoj poklad, bráčik, — zašepkal starší brat.

— Sme bohatí.

Vošli dnu. Prikľakli ku kope zlatých predmetov, prehľadali

sa v nej a naťahovali sa za peknými vecami.

Bratia sa pustili do roboty. Brali drahokamy a ukladali ich, každý na svoju kôpku. Už bola pred každým poriadna hŕba, keď obidvaja súčasne chytli zlatú lampu a začali sa o ňu škriepiť.

— Ja som ju prvý držal, — volal mladší.

— Mýliš sa, ja som sa jej dotkol skôr. Vari si len nemyslíš, že by som ňu klamal.

— Klameš, si luhár, lampu je moja!

— Moja je, mamľas, buď trochu slušnejší k staršiemu bratovi!

Trhali lampou sem i tam, vstali pri tom a začali sa biť. Ako sa tak šmýkali, oháňali, mladší vytrhol staršiemu lampu z ruky starší brat sa pošmykol a udrhel si hlavu. Ten tam hneď klesol a skončil. Mladší brat videl, že sa stalo, čo sa nemalo stať. Stál nad mŕtvym bratom, díval sa raz na neho, raz na poklad pred sebou. Zrazu čosi za ním zaprašťalo, zastonalo, a keď sa obzrel, videl, že skala sa zavrela a jeho uväznila v podzemí.

Poor Rich Person

(Please enjoy this English Translation)

In the village of Beňadín lived two brothers. When they were children they played with toys their father made for them. When they grew up, they were looking for something else to do. From older people the brothers heard stories about treasures that were hidden everywhere. All you would have to do is look for the treasures. Everybody said that the night before St. John's day, the big stone mountain would split and in the opening you would find lots of money and precious stones. People believed that this only happened every seven years. The brothers decided to look for the treasures. They found a huge stone mountain, sat down, and waited for midnight. All of a sudden, they heard a lot of noise and they saw the mountain split apart. The brothers saw many precious stones and beautiful objects. "We found treasure, brother", said the older brother. "We are rich" said the younger brother. They went inside the mountain and they found gold items, money and diamonds. The brothers started to divide the treasure. Each made his own pile. Both had a large pile of treasure. Both of them saw a gold lamp and started to argue because both wanted it.

"I touched it first" said the younger brother. "You are mistaken, I touched it before you." "You do not think I am lying" replied the younger one. "You are lying, the lamp is mine" again said the older brother. "It is mine, show some

respect for your older brother." Their argument over the lamp ended in a fight as they were hitting each other, the older brother slipped, fell, hit his head and died. The younger brother saw what happened should not have happened. As he stood before his dead brother and all of the treasures, there was a noise. When he turned around, he saw that the stone mountain had closed the opening, and jailed him.

Attention!

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address: _____

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

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

Slovak Phrases/Words and English Translations

GRAMMAR

Indefinite pronouns are formed by prefix NIE

KTO	who	NIEKTO	somebody, someone
ČO	what	NIEČO	something
KDE	where	NIEKDE	somewhere
KEDY	when	NIEKEDY	sometimes
KTORÝ	which one	NIEKTORÝ	some
KOLKO	how much	NIEKOLKO	a few, several

Negative pronouns are formed by prefix NI

KTO	NIKTO	nobody
ČO	NIČ	nothing
KDE	NIKDE	nowhere
KEDY	NIKDY	never

The rule that two negatives make a positive does not apply in Slovak.

NEMÁM NIČ.	I have nothing.
NEVIDÍM NIKOHO.	I see nobody.
NIKDY NECHCELI ÍŠŤ.	They never wanted to go.
ON NIKDY NIČ NEMÁ.	He never has anything.
NIKTO TAM NEBOL.	No one was there.
NIKTO TAM NIKDY NEBOL.	No one has ever been there.

NARODENINY Birthday

ŽELÁM VÁM PEKNÉ NARODENINY.
I wish you a good birthday.

VÝROČIE Anniversary

VŠETKO NAJLEPŠIE NA NAŠE VÝROČIE.
All the best for your anniversary.

VIANOCE Christmas

NOVÝ ROK New Year

VESELÉ VIANOCE A ŠŤASTNÝ NOVÝ ROK.
Merry Christmas Happy New Year.

POŽEHNANÉ VIANOCE Blessed Christmas

VELKÁ NOC Easter

PRAJEM VÁM PEKNÚ VELKÚ NOC.
I wish you a nice Easter.

ĽUTUJEM ŽE STE CHORÝ.
Sorry that you are sick.

RÝCHLE UZDRAVENIE.
Speedy recovery.

ĽUTUJEM ŽE SA NECÍTITE DOBRE.
Sorry that you are not feeling well.

BLAHO ŽELANIE K MANŽELSTVU or K SVADBE.
Best wishes for your wedding.

PEKNÚ CESTU or VÝLET
A good trip.

MAJTE SA DOBRE.
Have a good time.

DOBRE SA ZABAVTE.
Have a fun time.

UPRIMNÚ SÚSTRASŤ.
Sincere condolence.

ĽUTUJEM ŽE ZOMREL. . . or ZOMRELA . . .
Sorry that he/she died.

BOLA TO NEHODA / AUTOHAVÁRIA
It was an accident.

TO BOLA CHYBA.
That was a mistake.

TO BOLO ŠŤASTIE.
It was a good luck.

TO BOLO NEŠŤASTIE.
It was a bad luck.

VŠETKO JE V PORIADKU.
All is in order/O.K.

DOBRE SA VÁM DARÍ.
Everything is fine with you.

MÁME PEKNÝ ŽIVOT.
We have a good life.

SME ROZVEDENÍ ROZVOD divorce
We are divorced.

NARODIL SA SYN.
Birth of a son.

NARODILA SA DCÉRA.
Birth of a daughter.

NIČ SA NÁM NEDARÍ.
Nothing is going the right way.

YSC Sets Slovakia Tour

Youngstown-Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities will be celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2016. Their 19th tour of Slovakia will take place July 8-22. The annual luncheon with the Mayor of Nova Ves will again be a special feature plus a stay in a thermal water spa, a visit to Tichy Potek, a village of 324 people who transform their village into Slovakia of "olden" days, a re-enactment of a Slovak wedding, and many more events. Arrangements can be made for transportation and interpreter to relatives' homes.

Contact Jim Bench (724) 858-5843 or Kay Bench (724) 771-7900 or Jmbench@yahoo.com or Adventure Travel (800) 542-2487 for details.

2016 SCF APPEAL

The first quarter of the 2016 Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal has recently passed. Most of the funds from this annual Appeal are used to aid the Pontifical Slovak College of Saints Cyril and Methodius, the residence of priests from Slovakia who are sent to Rome by their bishops for graduate studies. After receiving their degrees, these priests return to their dioceses to work as seminary teachers, Tribunal officials, and in other ministries. Donations to the Appeal also benefit those communities of men and women Religious which have a counterpart in the United States represented on the Conference of Slovak Religious.

While collections taken up in personal parishes of Slovak ancestry at one time provided the bulk of the donations, today the Appeal relies upon the generosity of individual donors. If you have already made your donation to the 38th Annual Appeal, thank you. If not, please consider doing so by filling out the information in the box at the bottom of this article and mailing it along with your check to the address provided. Donations in any amount are deeply appreciated. **As of March 31, the 2016 Appeal has raised \$11,992.** Again, thank you for your goodness and generosity to the Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal.

The Slovak Catholic Federation was founded in 1911 by Rev. Joseph Murgas, founding Pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Church, Wilkes-Barre, PA. The Federation brings together under one banner both individuals of Slovak heritage as well as Catholic Slovak Fraternal Organizations for cultural, religious and educational needs. Serving as Moderator is the Right Reverend Gary Hoover, O.S.B., Abbot of St. Andrew Svorad Abbey, Cleveland, OH. National President is Reverend Andrew S. Hvozdo, Supreme Chaplain of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and Pastor of Epiphany Parish, Sayre, PA. Reverend Thomas A. Nasta, National Chaplain of the First Catholic Slovak Union and Pastor of Our Lady of Ransom Parish, Philadelphia, PA, serves as First Vice President of the Federation and is the Appeal Coordinator.

38th Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Amount \$ _____

Please make check payable to

Slovak Catholic Federation and mail to:

Dolores Evanko, National Secretary/Treasurer

Slovak Catholic Federation

173 Berner Avenue

Hazleton, PA 18201

REPORT OF THE FCSLA NATIONAL TREASURER

BALANCE SHEET AS OF JANUARY 31, 2016

ASSETS

Cash & Short Term Investments	\$ 16,319,159
Bonds	777,505,892
Preferred Stock	2,005,553
Common Stock	4,176,949
Investment Income Due & Accrued	12,376,888
Property Plant & Equipment, Net	5,572,819
Certificate Loans & Accrued Interest	3,455,232
Other Assets	745,517

TOTAL ASSETS

\$ 822,158,007

LIABILITIES

Life Reserves	\$ 253,000,151
Annuity Reserves	453,521,783
Death Claims Payable	3,259,017
Unearned Premiums	498,079
Matured Endowments	377,560
Provision for Dividends Payable	1,400,000
Accumulated Dividends & Interest	4,392,222
Accrued Convention Donations	63,000
Provision for Future Conventions	39,000
Asset Valuation Reserve	6,465,281
Interest Maintenance Reserve	1,224,613
Other Liabilities	1,868,375

TOTAL LIABILITIES

\$ 726,109,080

Surplus

\$ 96,048,927

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS

\$ 822,158,007

INCOME STATEMENT

For the One Month Ending January 31, 2016

REVENUE

Insurance Premiums	\$ 241,584
Annuity Premiums	6,592,766
Investment Income	3,378,564
Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve	14,648
Rental Income	34,715
Other Revenue	799
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 10,263,076

EXPENSE

Increase in Reserves — Life	\$ (728,849)
Increase in Reserves — Annuity	5,759,752
Insurance Benefits	1,207,910
Annuity Benefits	2,230,278
Commission Expense	168,885
Surrender Benefits	258,426
Post Mortem Benefits	97,418
Miscellaneous Member Benefits	151
Matured Endowments	(2,371)
Donation Expenses	3,732
Change in Accrued Convention Donations	21,000
Convention Expenses	11,521
Bank Service Charges	15,421
Data Processing Service Fees	7,801
Consulting Fees	13,965
Bonus to Branches	70,000
Fraternal Activities	26,211
Official Publications	39,673
Scholarship Awards	22,593
Miscellaneous Employee Benefits	27,573
Fees — Directors	21,394
Salaries — Employees	116,591
Salaries — Officers	41,486
Interest Expense	27,446
Tax Expense	32,754
Depreciation Expense	21,058
Utility Expense	8,170
Postage and Printing	14,773
Advertising	4,351
Travel Expense	982
Insurance Department Fees	12,122
Sales Promotion	8,503
Rental Expense	34,715
Other Expense	35,164
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 9,630,600

Income (Loss) from Operations

\$ 632,477

Dividends to Members

123,198

Subtotal Income (Loss)

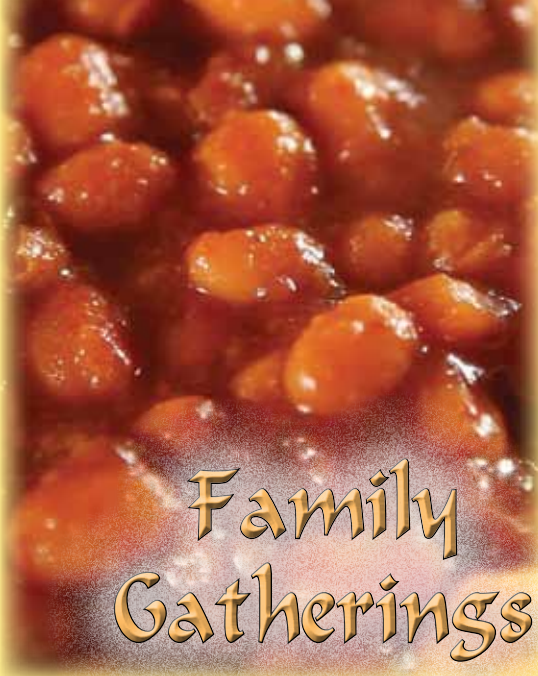
\$ 509,278

Capital Gains (Loss)

0

NET INCOME (Loss)

\$ 509,278



Family Gatherings

OLD-FASHIONED BAKED BEANS

- 10 cups water
- 2 cups dried navy beans (1 pound)
- ½ cup packed brown sugar
- ¼ cup molasses
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 6 slices bacon, crisply cooked and crumbled
- 1 medium onion, chopped (½ cup)
- 3 cups water

Heat oven to 350°F. Heat 10 cups water and the beans to boiling in ovenproof Dutch oven. Boil uncovered 2 minutes. Stir in remaining ingredients except 3 cups water.

Cover and bake 4 hours, stirring occasionally.

Stir in 3 cups water. Bake uncovered 2 hours to 2 hours 15 minutes longer, stirring occasionally, until beans are tender and desired consistency.

PARMESAN BROCCOLI BALLS

- 1 (10 ounce) package chopped frozen broccoli, thawed
- 1 (6 ounce) package chicken flavored dry stuffing mix
- ½ cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 6 eggs, beaten
- ¾ cup margarine, melted
- 1 teaspoon ground black pepper
- ½ teaspoon garlic salt

Place broccoli in a medium saucepan with enough water to cover. Cover, and bring to a boil. Cook 5 minutes. Uncover, and continue cooking 2 to 3 minutes, until tender. Remove from heat, drain, and cool.

In a large bowl, mix broccoli, stuffing mix, Parmesan cheese, onion, eggs, margarine, pepper, and garlic salt. Cover, and chill in the refrigerator approximately 1 hour, until moisture has been absorbed.

Preheat oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C).

Roll the chilled mixture into 1 inch balls, and arrange on a medium baking sheet.

Bake 15 to 20 minutes in the preheated oven, until browned.

CHEESY HAM & PRETZEL ROLL CASSEROLE

- 1 lb. pretzel rolls, cut into ¾-inch pieces (8 cups)
- 4 tablespoons butter
- 1 cup sliced onion
- 2 eggs
- ½ cup heavy whipping cream
- 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 1 lb. diced ham
- 2 cups shredded smoked Gouda cheese (8 oz.)

Heat oven to 350° F. Spray 13 x 9-inch (3-quart) glass baking dish with cooking spray. Place pretzel roll pieces in large bowl; set aside.

In 8-inch skillet, melt butter over medium heat. Add onion; cook 4 to 5 minutes or until tender and beginning to brown. Pour mixture over pretzel roll pieces in bowl; toss to coat.

In medium bowl, beat eggs, cream and mustard with whisk. Stir in ham and 1 cup of the cheese. Pour over pretzel roll mixture; toss to coat. Pour into baking dish. Top with remaining 1 cup cheese. Bake 33 to 36 minutes or until rolls are crispy on top and thermometer inserted in center reads 165° F. Let stand 5 minutes before serving.

GLUTEN-FREE IMPOSSIBLY EASY COCONUT PIE

- 3 eggs
- 1¾ cups milk
- ¼ cup butter, melted
- 1½ teaspoons vanilla
- 1 cup flaked or shredded coconut
- ¾ cup sugar
- ½ cup Bisquick™ Gluten Free mix

Heat oven to 350°F. Grease 9-inch glass pie plate with shortening or cooking spray.

In large bowl, stir together all ingredients until blended. Pour into pie plate.

Bake 45 to 50 minutes or until golden brown and knife inserted in the center comes out clean. Store any remaining pie covered in refrigerator.

LEMON BUDDIES CHEX MIX

- 9 cups Rice Chex cereal
- 1¼ cups white vanilla baking chips
- ¼ cup butter or margarine
- 4 teaspoons grated lemon peel
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 2 cups powdered sugar

Into large bowl, measure cereal; set

aside. In 1-quart microwavable bowl, microwave chips, butter, lemon peel and juice uncovered on High 1 minute; stir. Microwave about 30 seconds longer or until mixture can be stirred smooth. Pour mixture over cereal, stirring until evenly coated. Pour into 2-gallon resealable food-storage plastic bag.

Add powdered sugar. Seal bag; gently shake until well coated. Spread on waxed paper or foil to cool. Store in airtight container.

BANANA, PEANUT BUTTER AND MARSHMALLOW POKE CAKE

- 1 box yellow cake mix
- 1 cup mashed very ripe bananas (2 medium)
- ½ cup water
- ⅓ cup vegetable oil

- 4 eggs

Filling

- 1 box (6-serving size) vanilla instant pudding and pie filling mix
- 3 cups cold milk
- ⅓ cup creamy peanut butter

Topping

- 1 jar (7 oz) marshmallow creme
- 1 cup butter, softened
- 2 cups powdered sugar
- ⅓ cup creamy peanut butter
- Sliced bananas

Heat oven to 350°F (325°F for dark or nonstick pan). Grease or spray bottom only of 13x9-inch pan.

In large bowl, beat cake ingredients with electric mixer on low speed 30 seconds, then on medium speed 2 minutes, scraping bowl occasionally. Pour into pan. Bake 26 to 33 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean.

Remove cake from oven to cooling rack; cool 5 minutes. With handle of wooden spoon (¼ to ½ inch in diameter), poke holes almost to bottom of cake every ½ inch, wiping spoon handle. In large bowl, beat filling ingredients with whisk 1 minute (mixture will thicken). Pour over cake; spread evenly over surface, working back and forth to fill holes. (Some filling should remain on top of cake.) Refrigerate 1 hour.

Spoon marshmallow creme into large microwavable bowl. Microwave uncovered on High 15 to 20 seconds to soften. Add softened butter; beat with electric mixer on medium speed until smooth. Beat in powdered sugar until smooth. Spread evenly over cake.

Just before serving, in small microwavable bowl, microwave ⅓ cup peanut butter uncovered on High in 15-second intervals until thin enough to drizzle. Top cake with sliced bananas; drizzle with warm peanut butter. Cover and refrigerate any remaining cake.

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.