



ISSN 0897-2958

Fraternally Yours®

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK LADIES ASSOCIATION

VOL. 103, NO. 11

SEPTEMBER 2017

FCSLA Celebrates *125 Years* of Security, Faith, Traditions



ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA

See
Page 6
for celebration
highlights...

Fraternally Yours, ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA®



ISSN 0897-2958



Fraternally Yours,
ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA,
is a monthly magazine published by the
First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association.
National Headquarters at 24950 Chagrin Blvd.,
Cleveland, Ohio 44122
EDITOR: Carolyn Bazik
P.O. Box 1617, Reading, PA 19603
E-mail: zjbazik@comcast.net
Phone (610) 373-2743 • Fax (610) 375-8333

Periodical Postage Paid at
Cleveland, OH 44101 and additional entries

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

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

Postmaster: Send address changes to
Ženska Jednota,
First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association
24950 Chagrin Boulevard, Cleveland, OH 44122
Deadline for all articles is the 15th
of the month, 1½ months prior to the issue date.

OFFICE HOURS — HOME OFFICE
Monday through Friday — 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Phone: (216) 464-8015 • Toll Free: 800-464-4642
Fax: (216) 464-9260 • Website: www.fcsla.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAPLAIN:

Very Reverend Monsignor Peter M. Polando,
Cathedral of Saint Columba, 159 W. Rayen Ave.,
Youngstown, OH 44503. Residence: (330) 744-5233.
Email: ppolando@youngstowndiocese.org.

PRESIDENT:

Cynthia M. Maleski, Esq., 24950 Chagrin Bou-
levard, Beachwood, OH 44122. (800) 464-4642. Ext.
1011. Email: Cynthia@fcsla.com.

NATIONAL DIRECTORS:

Jeanette E. Palanca, 25716 S. State Line Road,
Crete, IL 60417. Residence: (847) 770-3508. Email:
jeanetteeve@outlook.com.

Sue Ann M. Seich, 1433 Saxony Circle, NW, Can-
ton, OH 44708. (330) 478-2949. Email: sams330@aol.com.

Lawrence M. Golofski, 1114 Surrey Lane, Vander-
grift, PA 15690. Residence: (412) 915-9035. Email:
LarryG.FCsla@gmail.com.

Joann Skvarek Banvich, Whiting, IN 46394. Resi-
dence: (219) 322-8785. Email: btvendo@gmail.com.

NATIONAL TRUSTEES:

Virginia A. Holmes, 1625 Vermont Avenue, White
Oak, PA 15131. Residence: (412) 672-1565. Email:
Holmes7732@aol.com.

Barbara Novotny Waller, 413 Oley Street, Read-
ing, PA 19601. Residence: (610) 372-5750. Email:
bnwaller@comcast.net.

NATIONAL AUDITORS:

Barbara A. Sekerak, 6312 Elmdale Road,
Brook Park, OH 44142. (216) 676-9332. Email:
bas7535@gmail.com.

Dennis L. Povondra, 102 South Janda Avenue,
Tabor, SD 57063. Residence: (605) 463-2571.
Email: povondra@hcinet.net.

Dorothy L. Urbanowicz, 27 Crescent Drive,
Monessen, PA 15062. Residence: (724) 684-8243.
Email: doty8613@gmail.com.

COURT OF APPEALS:

Anne M. Sedlock
Ronald Sestak
Judith A. Fedor
Cynthia Oresik
Bernadette J. Demechko

Hello God, I Called Tonight

Hello God, I called tonight
To talk a little while...
I need a friend who'll listen
To my anxiety and trial...

.....
You see, I can't quite make it
Through a day just on my own...
I need your love to guide me,
So I'll never feel alone.

.....
I want to ask you please to keep,
My family and friends safe and sound.
Come and fill their lives with confidence
For whatever fate they're bound.

.....
Give me faith, dear God, to face
Each hour throughout the day,
And not to worry over things
I can't change in any way.

.....
I thank you God, for being home.
And listening to my call,
For giving me such good advice
When I stumble and fall.

.....
Your number, God, is the only one
That answers every time.
I never get a busy signal,
Never had to pay a dime.

.....
So thank you, God, for listening
To my troubles and my sorrow.
Good night, God, I love You, too.
And I'll call again tomorrow

Dear Friends,

This month take some time out of your busy lives to give God a call.
Trust me, it is free, he is always listening, and he will be happy you
reached out!

Remember we are never alone.

Until next month...
Warmly, Carolyn



Find us on
Facebook

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK LADIES ASSOCIATION

Our Lady of Sorrows

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

My dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

For those of us who are of Slovak heritage, the Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows on September 15 is a profound day of prayer and devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary as she, under this title, is the Patroness of the Slovak Republic. As the Blessed Mother is the Patroness of the United States of America under the title of the Immaculate Conception which is a Holy day of Obligation in the Universal Calendar of the Roman Catholic Church on December 8, so, too, the Catholics of Slovakia pray and devoutly implore through the intercession of the Mother of God to assist them in times of hardship and pain before her Divine Son, Jesus Christ, in answer to their prayers.

One of the more popular Marian shrines in the Slovak Republic is located in Sastin-Straze, where pilgrimages are held each year, especially on the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows. It is a small town, in the Trnava region of Slovakia, forty miles from the capital of Bratislava, with a population of about 5,000, mostly who are Catholic. I have never been to Sastin-Straze, but the pictures that I have viewed exhibit a wonderful church and town!

At the Pontifical College of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Rome, the College built and supported with funds primarily by American Slovaks during the early 1960's to educate Slovak seminarians for priesthood during the years of communism in Czechoslovakia; there is a beautiful mosaic near the right of the sanctuary depicting Our Lady of Sorrows.

And at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., our friend who is President of Slovak Catholic Federation, Father Andrew HvozdoVIC a priest of the Scranton Diocese, always reminds us when we are taking a pilgrimage there that the most visited chapel of the Basilica is that of Our Lady of Sorrows. That chapel was funded by our brother organization, First Catholic Slovak Union, and celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its dedication a few years ago.

By the tradition that gradually unfolded through the centuries, there are seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary as portrayed in the Sacred Scriptures:

- The Prediction of Simeon at the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple (*Luke 2:22-38* especially vv. 33-35);
- The Flight to Egypt (*Matthew 2:13-15*)
- The Boy Jesus in the Temple (*Luke 2:41-52*)
- The way to Calvary (*Matthew 27:32, Mark 15:21, Luke 23:26-32, John 19:17*);
- The Crucifixion (*Matthew 27:33-56, Mark 15:22-41, Luke 23:33-49, John 19:18-30*);
- The Deposition (*Matthew 27:57-58, Mark 15:22-41, Luke 23:50-53, John 19:38*); and,
- The Burial (*Matthew 27:59-61, Mark 15:46-47, Luke 23:53-56, John 19:39-40*)

Let us reflect on these Sorrows during the month of September and ask the Blessed Mother to always to pray for us!

Our Lady of Sorrows, pray for us!

Welcome to our FCSLA family...



**WE WARMLY WELCOME
THE MEMBERS OF
POLISH UNION
OF THE UNITED STATES
OF NORTH AMERICA
TO OUR FCSLA FAMILY.**

MARKETING POSITION

First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association is seeking a professional with a block of meaningful marketing experience. Responsibilities include identifying and evaluating marketing strategies and characteristics; determining demands for products and services; recommending strategies for pricing and management of product distribution; developing distribution networks. This position is based in the home office in Beachwood, Ohio.

Detailed responsibilities include:

- Recommend marketing plans based on association's strategic plan;
- Develop and deliver data science analytical insights, metrics and tools for effective delivery of our products and services in target markets;
- Provide marketing input into sales, promotional activities and programs;
- Develop marketing communications based on developed plans;
- Identify, create and implement effective market automation tools; including web, social media and digital campaigns

Ideal candidate should have at least 3 years of relevant experience with a university degree in business; marketing and/or communications or other relevant field; able to work in a collaborative fashion; data analytic science skills. Basic software proficiencies expected, insurance knowledge desirable.

Parties interested in this full-time position with the above qualifications should submit a detailed resume and letter of interest to Jean Buday, Office Manager, First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, 24950 Chagrin Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122.

Resumes will be accepted until the position is filled with a suitable candidate.

Message from our National President

CYNTHIA M. MALESKI



Dear fellow members,

In September, we celebrate National Life Insurance Awareness Month!

It is especially fitting to mark the importance of this designation for this month during our 125th anniversary year. Indeed our Foundress Anna Hurban and the Slovak immigrant women who founded our society in 1892 had the vision and foresight to realize the importance and value of life insurance in the

form of a death benefit for themselves and members of their families.

How many of us have benefitted from the foresight of our grandmothers and mothers who purchased a life insurance policy for us when we were young? How many branch officers urged us and our families to "sign up" as members so we could reap the benefits of membership of First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association starting at an early age?

There are so many benefits in purchasing life insurance policies for loved ones that I cannot give justice to them in a short article. Some of them include paying a lower premium when the insured is young; in many instances, the policy has a level premium or graduated cash value accumulation, the insured may be able to borrow funds on the cash value of the policy in case of emergency, and there are definite tax

advantages. With FCSLA there are also many unique fraternal benefits, in addition to the policy of life insurance itself.

Have you reviewed your policy lately? Does it provide for the amount of protection that is necessary to cover today's costs? Most of us have policies that were purchased when we were young and may not 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 today's expenses for ourselves or a loved one.

Of course different products have different features, so it is important that you contact your FCSLA representative or the Home Office for further information.

Let's be just as smart as our parents and grandparents and purchase a policy for a loved one and update our own policy TODAY! What a great way to show our appreciation for the wisdom and vision of our founding ladies in our 125th anniversary year.

Fraternally Yours,

Cynthia M. Maleski, National President

Slovak Catholic Sokols Make Presentation

The Slovak Catholic Sokols made a presentation in honor of the Association's 125th Anniversary to National President Cynthia Maleski before the banquet.



L-R: Bishop Roger Gries; Michael Horvath, SCS President; Msgr. Peter Polando, FCSLA National Chaplain; Cynthia Maleski, FCSLA National President; Father Andrew Hvozdozic, SCS National Chaplain and President of Slovak Catholic Federation; Abbot Gary Hoover; Danny Tanzone, SCS National Editor and President of Slovak League of America.

FCSLA Annuity Rates

Rates for our Elite Annuities:

SILVER ELITE (5 YEAR)

2.75% APY*

GOLD ELITE (7 YEAR)

3.00% APY*

PLATINUM ELITE (10 YEAR)

3.25% APY*

*This rate is in effect 7/1/2017 thru 9/30/2017.

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 2017 is 2% APY and for the Platinum Elite is 2.5% APY.

FCSLA Connects . . .



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.

American Slovak Club Events

The United Slovak Societies at the American Slovak Club located at 2915 Broadway Avenue, Lorain, OH, will host the following events: **Chicken Paprikas Dinner on Sunday, September 24** from 1-4 p.m. Advanced Tickets are \$12 and event is open to the public with cash bar. Contact Len Zilko at 440/988-3236.

Children's Halloween Bowling Party on Sunday, October 29 at 1:30 p.m. Sign up at Bowling Alley or call 440/244-1293.

*Albert E. Heiles, Jr., FIC, CLU, ChFC, AEP, CRC, LUTCF,
FCSLA National Sales Manager*

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 has 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**

FCSLA 125th Anniversary Weekend Celebration

Security, Faith, Traditions . . . July 29 - 30, 2017

The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association celebrated their 125th anniversary in grand fashion on Saturday, July 29th with 4:30 pm Mass at the Cathedral of Saint John the Evangelist in Cleveland, Ohio. Principal celebrant was Most Reverend Roger Gries; OSB retired Auxiliary Bishop Diocese of Cleveland. Master of Ceremonies was FCSLA National Chaplain, Very Reverend Msgr. Peter M. Polando. Concelebrating clergy were: Right Reverend Gary Hoover, OSB; Very Reverend Monsignor Robert Siffrin; Reverend Andrew HvozdoVIC; Reverend Jerome Lajack; Reverend Nathanael Polinski, OSB; and Reverend Gerald Sabo.

Inspiring music for the liturgy was led by Greg Heislman, Director of Music and Organist at the Cathedral of Saint John the Evangelist.

Following the Mass a Gala Banquet was held at the Cleveland Marriott Downtown at Key Center beginning with a cocktail hour at 6pm followed by dinner at 7pm. Sue Ann M. Seich, FCSLA National Director was the Mistress of Ceremonies. After the National Anthem led by veterans in attendance and an invocation by Most Reverend Roger Gries, OSB retired Auxiliary Bishop Diocese of Cleveland, National Auditor Dennis Povondra gave the toast that led to a delicious dinner. Following dinner, National President Cynthia M. Maleski, Esq. gave an inspiring congratulatory message. The highlight of the evening was the 125th Anniversary Video which told the story of FCSLA in a moving way, from immigrants arriving through Ellis Island, to the mine disasters and mill accidents that left Slovak families without a breadwinner, and the determination of our foundress Anna Hurban to begin an organization with eight other Slovak women in 1892, that has persevered and grown in 125 years to an over \$900 million dollar business with 115,000 members, doing business in 48 states and the District of Columbia. Everyone in attendance left with a copy of the DVD. A link to the DVD will be placed on our website and DVD's can be purchased for \$5.00 by calling the Home Office.

Virginia Holmes, National Trustee and Chair of Philanthropic & Scholarship Committee announced the 125th Anniversary grant recipients and National Treasurer, Stephen Hudak shared the outstanding results to date of donations to Anna Hurban Scholarship Fund, this year's President's Appeal. Donations for the appeal will be accepted throughout the remainder of 2017.

State Representative Marlene Anielski, House District 6, Ohio House of Representatives, and FCSLA member, attended the gala and presented President Maleski with a proclamation from the House in honor of our 125th Anniversary.

National President Cynthia Maleski, Esq. honored our long time actuary Robert Bruce for his years of dedicated service to FCSLA. The evening ended with a representative from each FCSLA District leading everyone in singing God Bless America. Music during the cocktail hour and throughout dinner was provided by *Gypsy Stringz*, led by George Batyi from Pittsburgh, PA. As a special touch for us the group added a cimbalom player to their group from Cleveland, Ohio. A cimbalom is an elaborate stringed instrument of the dulcimer family used in small music ensembles by central European Roma (Gypsies). The entertainment made the evening even more memorable!

The anniversary weekend continued on Sunday, July 30th with an open house at the FCSLA Home Office in Beachwood, Ohio. In addition to the 125th anniversary, 2017 also marked the 10 year anniversary of the dedication and opening of our current Home Office. In the months leading up to the celebration the patio area behind the office where the statue to St. Ann, our patron saint is located was refurbished. As the focal point of our open house the statue was blessed by our National Chaplain Monsignor Peter M. Polando during the open house. After the blessing a beautiful painting of our foundress Anna Hurban was unveiled by two of our National Auditors, Barbara Sekerak and Dennis Povondra after comments by National President Cynthia M. Maleski, Esq. President Maleski talked about our foundress and how she chose to serve the organization she founded not as President, but rather, as an Auditor.

Beachwood Mayor Merle S. Gorden attended the open house and blessing and in recognition of this milestone anniversary along with City Council proclaimed July 30th as "FCSLA Day in the City of Beachwood." He also talked about the positive and cooperative relationship the city has maintained with FCSLA for many years!

Everyone in attendance at the open house enjoyed delicious light fare, desserts, and refreshments!

The weekend of festivities was a fitting way for FCSLA to mark its 125 years of success as it soars to even greater heights in the future!



Scenes from the Anniversary Weekend



Scenes from the Anniversary Weekend



SLOVAK MAYOR VISITS FCSLA HEADQUARTERS

Youngstown-Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities (Youngstown, OH) is celebrating its 25th anniversary. As a special gift to Spisska Nova Ves, the YSC Board voted to host its Mayor, Doctor Jan Volny, to a visit to the United States. The main purpose was for Mayor Volny to present to Youngstown Mayor, John McNally, wood carvings of the Crest of Nova Ves and the Seal of the City of Youngstown. They will be hanging on the wall of the entry way to Youngstown City Hall.

Beneath the plaques, stamped in metal, is an explanation of the origin of Sister Cities, its accomplishments, and current Board of Directors.

Director John Slanina had hand carried the plaques from Slovakia and was responsible for the media event at City Hall. Mayor McNally gave Mayor Volny the key to the City and t-shirt of "The City Youngstown" and Mayor Volny presented Mayor McNally with a bottle of slivovica (plum brandy) and a palm-sized heart carved from Travertine marble, the same material used in the construction of Spis Castle and the Parliament building in Bratislava.

The next day the two Mayors cut the ribbon that opened Simply Slavic Fest in downtown Youngstown. The flags of 12 Slavic nations were carried in by representatives of various groups in their native kroj (traditional ethnic outfit).

Mayor Volny had a table with his name on it placed at the opening of the entertainment tent so he was able to visit with many Slovak-Americans including many tourists from the area whom he met while they were on the annual Slovak Heritage tour. In Slovakia the tourists always attend a reception at City Hall, sign the guest book in formal surroundings, and are treated to a meal by the Mayor.

Director Ken Shirilla drove the Mayor, his interpreter, Addy Akram, and YSC President, Jim Bench, to Niagara Falls, a site the Mayor had written that he would like to view. They went to the Canadian side where the Falls are even more spectacular



YSC Board Visits FCSLA Headquarters: L-R: Addy Akram, Slovak Interpreter; FCSLA National Treasurer, Steve Hudak; YSC Director, Loretta Ekoniak; YSC Secretary Bernie Demechko; YSC Director, Gigi Bacon; SC Vice-President, Ken Shirilla; Slovak Mayor Jan Volny; FCSLA President, Cynthia Maleski; YSC President, Jim Bench, Kay Bench, and FCSLA National Secretary, Denise Mackura.

Loretta Ekoniak, some guests, and the Mayor had lunch at First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association with President, Cynthia Maleski, National Secretary, Denise Mackura, and Treasurer, Steve Hudak. A relaxing time after the meal was spent in conversation. Cynthia outlined the history of the FCSLA and the events to be held this year in honor of the 125th anniversary of the society.

In Cynthia's office, she showed the Mayor the 642 page hard cover book of the History of Spisska Nova Ves (1268-2010). A note on the title page states that YSC had donated \$3,000 toward the publication of the book with money it had received as a donation at FCSLA's 2011 Convention. The Mayor signed the book making it a special volume.

While in Cleveland, the group visited Calvary Cemetery so the Mayor could stop at his uncle's grave site. He had brought some dirt from his garden in Slovakia and sprinkled it on the grave and buried a small marble heart in the soil.

A farewell dinner was held the evening before the Mayor departed. A brief meeting was held at which Jim announced that Ken Shirilla had accepted the position of Vice President of YSC. Robert Wasko (Wasko Funeral Home) had accepted a Director's position on the board after a unanimous vote by the Board. Jim reminded everyone that the 20th Slovak Heritage tour will take place in 2018 with details forthcoming.

The Mayor was very grateful of the sites and activities YSC was able to schedule in his seven day stay. He is now even more knowledgeable of the importance of the Slovak fraternal groups and amazed that the Slovak heritage is still maintained by so many groups in the United States even though over 100 years has passed since our Slovak ancestors came to the United States.



Group shot of YSC Board and Wood plaques in City Hall.



Cynthia and Mayor at Headquarters.

and rode the "Maid of the Mist" boat which takes you behind the Falls.

Since the Slovak Fraternal groups provide major funding for YSC's projects it was important they spend one day touring the ones in the area. Five members of the Board, President, Jim Bench; Secretary, Bernie Demechko; Vice President, Ken Shirilla and Directors, Gigi Bacon and

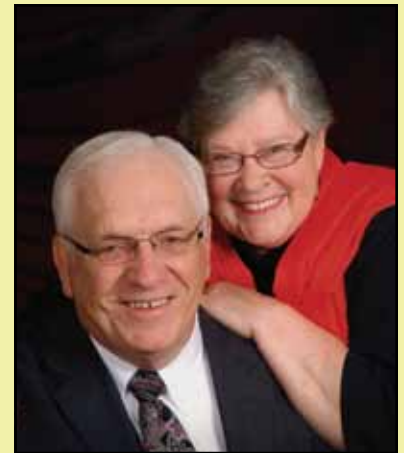
Amanda Blazek Received Bachelor of Science Degree

On June 17 2017, Amanda Blazek, Sr. Branch 295 Chicago, received a Bachelor of Science degree in Journalism from Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism, Media, Integrated Marketing Communications. Amanda is a third generation member of FC-SLA. Her grandmother, Ingeborg Blazek, was a past Chicago District Vice President and Branch President. Presently, Amanda serves as Sr. Branch 295's Auditor. Pictured (at right) with Amanda is her family, FCSLA Sr. Branch 295 officers and members: Uncle Chris Blazek, Aunt Jarmila Hlubocky, Dad and Mom, Dr. Gerold and Mrs. Nancy Blazek; cousin Dr. Fay Hlubocky and the graduate herself. ***Congratulations Amanda and best wishes!***



Fred and Maetta Jurewicz Celebrate 55th Wedding Anniversary

Alfred (Fred) and his wife Maetta Jurewicz (W001) celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on July 14, 2017. The couple met in college in La-Crosse, Wisconsin and were married in Okauchee, Wisconsin. Their six children and 12 grandkids are all



members of FCSLA. Three children and 8 grandchildren live in Ohio. The other 3 children and 4 grandkids live in Minnesota. Members of Ss. Joachim and Anne Parish, Shakopee, Minnesota, Fred just retired as Parish Trustee after more than 15 years. Fred is active as a lector and Eucharistic Minister and volunteers at St Francis Hospital bringing Holy Communion to the Catholic Patients. Maetta sings in the Sunday Mass choir; also serves as a Eucharistic Minister. Both participate in Meals on Wheels and are volunteer drivers for the free St. Mary's clinic transferring clinic supplies from St. Paul to the clinic in Shakopee. A former teacher, Fred officiated high school football, basketball, baseball and softball for more than 40 years. After the athletes got too fast for him, he started refereeing high school volleyball. Since 1984, Fred has still actively operated Fred Jurewicz Financial, a financial consulting service. Maetta serves as his office administrator.

Sean Jost of Jr. Branch 470 Receives FCSLA Scholarship

SEAN JOST, member of Junior Branch 470, was a recipient of an FCSLA scholarship for the 6th grade. He attends St. Michael's School in Wheaton, IL. What he likes best about attending school is participating in Catholic Schools Week because it is a lot of fun. He also enjoys gathering with his faith family. This is a group of students from all different grades. Together they meet for mass, pray, and do fun activities together. This allows him to get to know students from other grades. This was especially important to him this year as he was a new transfer to the school. He really appreciated the hospitality he was shown, as it helped him fit right in.



He was active this past year in Cub scouts, volleyball team, chess club, and the basketball team. He is looking forward to another great year and making the transition to middle school.

ANNUAL FAMILY BIKE RIDE AND LUNCH

On June 24, 2017, Branch W137, Cedar Rapids, IA held their annual family bike ride and lunch.



SLOVAK CATHOLIC FEDERATION NORTHEAST PA CHAPTER

Pilgrimage of Faith

Saturday, October 14, 2017

Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius
Villa Sacred Heart

580 Railroad Street, Danville, Pennsylvania

Arrival 11:00 a.m.

Tours of the Basilica
and Jankola Library and Museum

Liturgy 4:00 p.m.

Cost \$15.00 (includes lunch)

RSVP by October 2nd to Theresa Kluchinski

Call or Text 570-817-4657

Mail: 446 Mountain Oaks Drive

Laurel Run, PA 18706

FCSLA Scholarship Recipients from Branches 630 and 534



Scholarship recipients from FCSLA Branches S630 and J534, Buffalo, NY received checks at the annual meeting. Pictured above are L-R: Scholarship Committee Chair James Staszak, scholarship recipients Eric Piotrowski, Kelly Ann Swartz, Kate Coughlin, and Committee Co-Chair Linda Zurek.

Branch W137 Sponsors Band Concert in Czech Village



Branch W137, Cedar Rapids, IA sponsored a band concert in Czech Village on June 2, 2017 featuring the music of the Czech Plus Polka Band.

SCF 59th National Convention

The 59th National Convention of the Slovak Catholic Federation will be Sunday, September 17 to Tuesday, September 19, 2017 in Youngstown, OH. The Convention will open with Mass to be celebrated on Sunday, September 17, 2017 at the Cathedral of Saint Columba, Youngstown, OH. Following the Mass a banquet will be held at the Basilica of Our Lady of Mount Carmel banquet hall. Cocktail hour begins at 5:30 p.m. with a buffet dinner at 6:30 p.m. Cost per banquet ticket is \$25. Tickets will be available to purchase by calling 330-727-6726.

FCSLA HELEN KOCHAN DISTRICT FESTIVAL

On Sunday, July 2nd, the Helen Kochan District held a festival for the junior members and their families to celebrate the FCSLA 125th anniversary. It was a warm, beautiful day, at the Wicker Memorial Park in Highland, IN. All of the local branch officers worked together to plan and execute the celebration. Since it was the Fourth of July weekend, we decorated with patriotic red, white and blue colors. The children played games and won prizes, and each branch had their own raffle for a Target gift card. There were so many activities for the children to enjoy and they stayed busy at the playground, bounce house, and splashpad. A picnic lunch was served and everyone enjoyed being together and making new friends. We hope to do it again next year!



Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and Tomb Guards (3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment)

G T W E N T Y O N E S T E P S K H R Z D J U T B A K
 N T S V L A X C N T W Y Q I O V K V A B E T N R D H
 I C Y E H B Y V I S U Y I T H A Q Q Q F H U L D L B
 N W O Q N V R N R O N O H D N A E G D E L I V I R P
 I W V N W T U A K O R E A N W A R K O F N A Q D W S
 A I W L S E I D M A P P L Y H X P L G G M W A E A D
 R N K I T T Z N G E A V K B R E D U T Y A D M D L R
 T A E I I B A I E G T N A J Q G G O R D P D E R K A
 E E L V S A M N E L P I T B U L N F C X N E R A I U
 S E I V E V W H T F X Y H A D N P K Y Z R U I U N G
 N S J V F S V D L V W U R W A W P S Q C I M C G G B
 E M J G L J R K J Z I D I T Y P W J S D P Y A P T M
 T E T O F D Y U F B I G I J C E A L K Z M R N F H O
 N A D V K Q E O O Z T O I I O Y E K I R A D C O E T
 I V Q E D B M L U F N I K L V N M Z A L T P Z R M R
 I U K F R U D I T A Y M R G I N T S F S N A W Y A M
 M V H X W O A S L Q X T J T K O U H Y Y O S P M T R
 J V J P N X N C R H M A N S R A E Y Y T H G I E P C
 R A J V Y F E O W E L E K E O O G G G Y T U V O E V
 L H I Q U M I I H K S D N F W Q B B Z N N E X H L F
 P Z B K E I G G A B Q S F E O T J B E K B N Y T S S
 E Y V T J P V X F Y C I K A E L L H N M L S S Y G A
 U S E X P B H N D K P S G C T X B O U P Z E U X I R
 V R L B R Q S I W G N F L D D N W F A M C Z J Q G G
 Y V P I B J L X E T K V J Q M N R E I D L O S Q F M
 D K V W K Q E B E J H B N T S A I R U X J X B F G Y

Words may be found up and down, side to side, diagonally or words may share letters.



AMERICAN
 APPLY (to be a Tomb Guard)
 ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
 CONSTANT VIGIL
 EIGHTY YEARS (since 1937)
 ELITE UNIT
 GUARDED
 HONORED

INTENSE TRAINING
 KOREAN WAR (Unknown)
 PRIVILEGE AND HONOR
 SENTINEL
 SENTINELS CREED
 SOLDIER
 THE OLD GUARD
 TOMB GUARDS

TWENTY ONE STEPS
 TWENTY FOUR SEVEN (24/7 guarded)
 UNKNOWNNS
 US ARMY
 WALKING THE MAT
 WHITE MARBLE
 WWI (Unknown)
 WWII (Unknown)

Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Branch: _____ Phone # _____

PUZZLES MUST BE IN THE HOME OFFICE FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2017!

YOU MUST BE A FCSLA MEMBER TO QUALIFY.

100 WINNERS WILL BE RANDOMLY DRAWN FROM ALL THE ENTRIES RECEIVED.

Mail to: FCSLA Fraternal Department, 24950 Chagrin Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122

Spillville Branch W033 Annual Picnic

Branch W033, Spillville, IA held their Annual Picnic on Sunday, July 9, 2017 from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. There were 40 people in attendance enjoying a delicious pot luck dinner with ham, hot dogs and beverages supplied by the branch. Deacon and member James Zajicek led the group in prayer followed by the wonderful meal, socializing with members, and door prizes for adults and children. The day was humid so the picnic was enjoyed by all in the comfort of air conditioning. Everyone left looking forward to 2018.



Jr. Branch 126 Sponsors a Rock Painting Tent

East Vandergrift, PA Jr. Branch 126 sponsored a rock painting tent for kids at the Vandergrift annual summer art festival. As part of the event, artist creations on painter's palettes lined the street. The Branch also provided a palette painted with a replica of the Slovak flag.



United in Marriage

On Saturday, May 27, 2017, Marquis Michael Johnson and Rachel Marie Schrecengost were united in marriage at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Carnegie, PA. A beautiful reception was held at The Pittsburgh Botanical Garden in Oakdale, PA. A wonderful time was had by all the guests. Marquis is a member of Branch S177, Clairton as is his grandfather, mother, sister, brother and nieces. Marquis is a Senior Communication Specialist for Bayer Corporation in Moon Twp., PA. Rachel is a third grade teacher at Haine Elementary in the Seneca Valley School District.



Receives First Holy Communion



KYLE GRABOWSKI, J202 made his First Holy Communion on May 7, 2017 at St. Barbara's Church, Harrison City, PA.

HELEN KOCAN DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS HONORED

The Helen Kocan District presented its scholarship winners and their parents at a luncheon, preceding the District Meeting on June 11th at the beautiful Andorra Banquets in Schererville, IN.

Before enjoying a bountiful buffet, each scholarship winner was introduced to their respective Branch officers by District President Margaret Abildua.

Branch officers were then photographed with winners as they presented an additional gift to the winner in recognition of their achievement.

The scholarship winners and their parents enjoyed the afternoon, meeting fellow FCSLA members, sharing experiences and making new friends.

The luncheon was followed by the regular quarterly meeting of the Helen Kocan District, which was called to or-

der at 3:30 p.m. After regular business was completed, President Margaret Abildua shared information received at the President's Meeting which was held in April at the Home Office and JoAnn Skvarek-Banvich, National Director, shared a detailed report of the last Board meeting, answering many questions presented by the Branch officers of the Helen Kocan District. Her reports are enlightening to all branches, as we learn of the progress of the FCSLA.



Katherine Prantl Receives Scholarship

Katherine Nicole Prantl is pictured below receiving her FCSLA scholarship from Branch W008 Secretary Alice Maresh (her grandmother), of Dodge, Nebraska.

Kate will be a sophomore at Fountain Valley High School in Colorado Springs, CO. She along with her parents Deb and Chris Prantl and her siblings are members of the W008. Congratulations "Kate" from all the members of Branch W008.





IN MEMORIAM

Ronald Hottovy, S233



Ronald John Hottovy, 69, of Windsor, CA, passed away on December 31, 2016. He was born January 15, 1947 in David City, NE, the son of John and Agnes (Kobza) Hottovy. While attending the University of Nebraska, Ron was a member of the AGR fraternity and joined ROTC. After graduating in 1969 with a degree in Business Economics, Ron was stationed at FE Warren Air Force Base as a 1st Lieutenant. While in the service, Ron earned his MBA in 1972 from the University of Wyoming and met his first wife, Judy Mahlum. After one tour of duty, he returned to Nebraska where he received his CPA. He started his business career with Coopers & Lybrand. Ron moved to Denver in 1976 where he accepted a position with Peat Marwick before moving into private business. In 2006, he relocated to California, and on February 14, 2009, he married Gail Rubenaker. Always quick with a story, Ron had a way of making those in his presence feel welcome. He will also be remembered as a tireless mentor, coaching countless Denver-area baseball and basketball teams. In addition to his wife Gail, Ron is survived by sons R.J., Andy, and Pat Hottovy; step-daughter Heather (Rubenaker) Davila; step-son Chance Rubenaker; two granddaughters; one grandson; a step-grandson and step-granddaughter; sisters Paulette Shank and Carol Glasshoff; brothers John, Les, Tom, Steve, Scott, and Paul Hottovy. Memorial contributions may be made to the University of Nebraska, Regis Jesuit High School in Aurora, CO or Aquinas High School in David City, NE.

Edward J. Fajcak, S682



Edward J. Fajcak, 93, of Youngstown, OH, passed away January 2, 2017, at his home at Omni Manor Assisted Living, following a long and fulfilling life. Edward was born September 11, 1923, in Youngstown, OH. He was a son of the late John and Mary Schat Fajcak, and a lifelong area resident.

Edward was a graduate of South High School, and served in the United States Army during World War II in the European Theater, where he was awarded five Bronze Stars and a Bronze Arrowhead. Ed was self-employed for much of his life; he and his late wife owned and operated the Victory Tavern on Steel Street in Youngstown from 1945 until 1981, when they both retired.

He was a member of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Holy Name of Jesus Church in Youngstown. Ed was a lifelong fan of football, especially his pride and joy team - Notre Dame. In his younger years, he enjoyed playing golf, and more recently, he enjoyed the activities of Wii bowling, Bingo, and crafting with his family and friends at Omni West.

His wife, Ann Serednesky Fajcak, whom he married May 25, 1957, passed away March 16, 1994. Edward leaves his daughter, Deborah M. Fajcak of Mineral Ridge, and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, great-great-nieces and great-great-nephews, and many other extended family members. He enjoyed spending time with his family and enjoyed when all the kids would visit, since he was still a big kid at heart.

Margaret Bernarda Uhrin, S81



Margaret Bernarda Uhrin, a resident of the Albertine Home of Hammond, IN, passed away November 26, 2016 at St. Catherine Hospital, East Chicago, IN at the age of 93. She was the beloved wife of the late Dusan "Duke" Uhrin who passed away May 17, 2000. She was the loving mother of Elaine (Richard) Herrmann of Munster, IN, Donald Uhrin of Carmel, IN, Robert (Elena "Georgette") Uhrin of Aspen, CO, and

Judy (John) Uhrin-Mojzik of Chicago, IL; cherished grandmother of Scott (Staci) Herrmann, Kristin (Dave) Ratz, Jennifer Uhrin, Nicole (Chad) Hobson and her special grandson Jason Uhrin who predeceased her; adoring great-grandma of Kaitlyn Herrmann, Michelle (Tim) Shilling, Madeline and Charlotte Herrmann, Liam, Amanda and Nadia Ratz and Catherine Bradley; proud great-great-grandma of Carter and Lilly Shilling; dearest aunt to many nieces and nephews. She was also preceded in death by her brother Albin (late Mary Lou) Derbis and her sister Mary (late Joseph) Kusbel.

Marge was born on February 22, 1923 in Zborov, Slovakia to John and Susanna (Litecky) Derbis. She was a resident of the Calumet Region for the past 78 years and a graduate of Whiting High School. She was a member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Whiting, the St. John Rosary Society, the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Branch 81, the Daughters of Isabella, the Whiting-Robertsdale Senior Citizens Club and the Slovak Gymnastic Sokol, #269.

Marge loved to knit and crochet, enjoyed baking and cooking Slovak food, and spending time nurturing her amazing garden. An active member of St. John's, she served as an extraordinary minister at the daily morning Mass, participated with the morning rosary group, and helped the Priests with daily Mass preparations. She spent many hours helping to clean the church and maintaining vestments and altar linens. Marge enjoyed serving at St. John banquet parties and making those delicious pirohi for festivals and fellow parishioners. She was blessed with pilgrimages to Medjugorje, Fatima and Lourdes, she so dearly loved the Virgin Mary.

A devoted wife, mother, grandmother and beyond, she found great joy in spending time with her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren passing on her life stories and Slovak traditions. Marge loved serving the Lord, her faith community and her family. She is sadly missed by all who knew and loved her and will be forever in our hearts.

The family extends special thanks, gratitude and love to the kind Sisters and Priests of the Albertine Home, Hammond, IN who so lovingly cared for her. May God Bless All!

ST. ANN LODGE ANNUAL SOCIAL

St. Ann Lodge Branch 114 will hold their annual social on Sunday, October 15th at 1:00 p.m. at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway in Lorain, OH. All members are invited to attend. Please make your reservations by calling Bernie Danevich at 960-2605 or Marge Thomas at 288-1492. Deadline for reservations is October 11th.

Branch W045 Annual Picnic in Cedar Rapids

Branch W045's annual picnic was held on July 30, 2017 in the Glovik Hall of St. Wenceslaus Parish Cedar Rapids, IA. There were 65 in attendance to enjoy good conversation, bingo and food. The meal included hot dogs, bratwurst and hamburgers, potato salad, baked beans, fresh tomatoes and cucumbers and, of course, kolaches of prune, cherry, poppyseed, apricot and cottage cheese. The meal was catered by Ruzicka's Meats of Solon, IA and the St. Monica Circle of St. Wenceslaus Parish, Cedar Rapids. The Branch also was honored to have one of its members awarded a National Scholarship. Emily Hunsaker will be a first grade student at St. Jude Elementary School in Cedar Rapids.



L-R: Grandfather John Salat, Mother Melissa, Father Aaron, Emily and her sister Harper.



Lorain Scholarship Recipients

The United Slovak Societies at the American Slovak Club in Lorain, OH awarded three scholarships for the upcoming 2017 school year.

The recipients include: Meghan Novotny and Emily Gorenshek both members of St. Ann's Branch #114 of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association and Andrew Naelitz of Slovak Catholic Sokol Wreath 111.

Miss Novotny is a graduate of Freedom High School in South Riding, Virginia. She plans to attend James Madison University to study elementary education. Miss Novotny is the granddaughter of Branch #114 president Bernie Danovich.

Miss Gorenshek is a graduate of Marion L. Steele High School in Amherst, Ohio. She plans to attend Lorain County Community College to major in paralegal studies. Miss Gorenshek is the granddaughter of the late Bernie Robertson, former president of Branch #114.

Mr. Naelitz is a graduate of Marion L. Steele High School in Amherst, Ohio. He plans to attend Lorain County Community College to study business administration. Mr. Naelitz is the grandson of Sue Naelitz, vice president of Slovak Catholic Sokol Wreath 111.

A BBQ was held on July 11th at the Slovak Club in Lorain to present the award to the students.



L-R: United Slovak Societies President Len Zilko, Emily Gorenshek, United Slovak Societies Secretary and Scholarship Coordinator Michele Mager, and Andrew Naelitz.



L-R: Branch W045 officers: Trustee Al Sattler, Vice President Ed Melichar, President Mike Papich, Recording Secretary and Grandfather John Salat, Emily, Fraternal Secretary and Treasurer Joe Zachar and Trustee Bob Ruzicka.



Branch W018 Holds 13th Annual Picnic

Branch W018 held its 13th annual picnic for all members and their families on Sunday, June 25 at the Lakeview Shelter in Mahoney State Park. The weather was very cooperative with sunshine and gentle breezes and temperatures in the mid-80s.

After a lunch of pulled pork, hot dogs, salads, vegetables, salads of all

varieties and, of course, homemade desserts, Julianne Popelka announced the winners of the Branch scholarships as well as the National scholarships. After all announcements were made and conversations were finished, members selected one of three park activities: paddle boat rides or miniature golf or the waterpark. Some members opted

to go fishing instead and were rewarded for their efforts with several fish apiece!

This activity is always the best attended of all the Branch offerings and this year was different because we had the largest group ever in attendance!

Thanks to all the cooks and those who helped plan and set up this popular event.



Ann Van Hoff and Josie and Lucy Tworek show their patriotism.



Cooking all those hot dogs is hard work! From left: Michael Jelinek, Julianne Popelka and Tom Jelinek.



Maggie and Alyssa McElligott and Devyn Deman get their activity passes from Margie Hladik.



Branch W-018 Board members: (from left to right) Marge Egermier, Ann Van Hoff, Tom Jelinek (vice-president); Julianne Popelka (scholarship chair); Jim Popelka, Laura Tworek, Margie Hladik (secretary/treasurer); and Bob Hladik (president).



Branch W-018 members enjoying their picnic lunches.

Annual Picnic for Branch W133

Branch W133, Timken, KS, held their annual picnic on July 30 at the Timken Hill Bar & Grill. Members enjoyed a wonderful lunch and some enjoyable social time. The next branch activity will be Feb. 4, 2018 at 12:30 P.M., at the Timken Hill Bar & Grill.



FCSLA MEMBERS Sr. Branch 172, Wilkes-Barre, PA

You are invited to an

All Seasons Luncheon

Sunday, September 24, 2017

Celebrating the 125th Anniversary of FCSLA &
15th Anniversary of Magdalen I. Iskra District

Reservations required.

Please call Martha Iskra (570) 824-0216
or Bernadette Yench at (570) 822-9843.

MATCHING FUNDS ACTIVITIES

Sr. Branch 81

Race for Education

St. John the Baptist Catholic School in Whiting, IN was the recipient of a \$600 matching funds check from the home office. Thanks to Whiting Sr. Branch 81 and their members holding a matching funds event. On May 12, 2017 they helped to raise funds at the school during the annual Race For Education. This was done by members and students receiving pledges from family, friends and businesses. The students and their teachers "raced" around the school playground and local football field. FCSLA officers of Branches 58 and 81, along with members, volunteered to pass out water to the students. Our members raised nearly \$1,000, with the entire school raising \$17,000.



Sr. Branch 157

Craft Show at St. Sebastian Church

Monessen Jr. Branch 157 recently sponsored a craft show at St. Sebastian Church in Belle Vernon, PA. Various crafters, basket raffles and kitchen sales resulted in a profit of \$2,269 for the church. They will also receive the \$600 match from our National Office.



Sr. Branch 630

Dancing for Dyngus Benefit

Rev. Adolph Kowalczyk, pastor of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish in Orchard Park, NY, receives a check for \$1,554 from members of FCSLA Branch S630. The donation represents proceeds from the organization's "Dancing for Dyngus" program which offered lessons in Polish dances to area residents, along with matching funds from the FCSLA Home Office. Dancing for Dyngus was chaired by FCSLA branch president Lynn Zakowicz with assistance from Michelle Kisluk from the Polish Heritage Dancers. Funds will be used in support of the Catholic Youth Organization at the parish. Pictured above from L-R are: FCSLA Business Agent John Gonsiorek, FCSLA Branch President Lynn Zakowicz; Rev. Adolph Kowalczyk, and Parish Director of Faith Formation Lynn Liczynski.



*Additional photos from the
125th Anniversary Celebration
in our next issue of Fraternally Yours*

Jubilee Celebration

The Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville, Pennsylvania recently celebrated the Jubilees of some of their members: Celebrating anniversaries (photo below) were L-R, front row: Sister Elizabeth Ann Matonak (60 years), Sister Mary Paul Kurator (65 years). Back row: Sister Maria Jana Polakova (20 years), Sister Barbara Sable (45 years), Sister Seton Marie Connolly (45 years), Sister Anne Renee Penningo (50 years), Sister Deborah Marie Borneman (20 years), Sister Rita Polchin (65 years). Absent from photo – Sister Maria Goretti Hudak (65 years).



L-R: Sisters Carol Ann Terlicher, Donna Marie Ivanko and Margaret Dubas 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 diocese of Harrisburg PA.

The celebration included a Mass in the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius.



(L-R) Pictured at the Liturgy are: Rev. John Cyriac, Chaplain at Maria Joseph Manor and Geisinger Medical Center, Danville, PA; Rev. Ignatius Madumere, OP, Parochial Vicar at St. Joseph Parish and Chaplain at Danville State Hospital, Danville, PA; Deacon Thomas Baranoski, Charleston, SC; Rev. Martin Moran, Dean of the Northumberland Deanery and Pastor at Divine Redeemer Parish, Mount Carmel, PA; Rev. Gerard Heintzelman, Rector of the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius and Chaplain at Maria Hall, Danville, PA; and Rev. Patrick Devine from the Diocese of Harrisburg, PA. Liturgy was followed by a dinner to which the friends, family and Community members of the Sister celebrants were invited.

FCSLA Bake Sale at the Polish Heritage Festival

Sr. Branch 638 and Jr. Branch 535 held a bake sale at the Polish Heritage Festival honoring our Veterans. Besides selling homemade bake goods they handed out FCSLA brochures and giveaways. The attendance was well over 300. Food served during the Festival was a Polish American Buffet, and music was by the Buffalo Touch and John Gora and the Gorale from Canada. We honored our Veterans with free admission and with the help of the bands a tribute to all our military servicemen and women was held.



Branch President James P. Jozwiak



L-R: Cliff Jozwiak, Megan Jozwiak, Christopher Jozwiak, and Sue Jozwiak.

Annual Dyngus Day Parade

FCSLA Branches S630 and J534 were well represented at the annual Dyngus Day Parade in Buffalo, NY on the Monday following Easter Sunday. Dyngus Day celebrates the end of Lent and the joy of Easter. Over the decades it has become a wonderful holiday in Buffalo to celebrate Polish-American culture, heritage, and traditions. FCSLA Branch Membership Chairman (and Regional Sales manager of New York State and the northeast) John Gonsiorek (above photo) marches with the FCSLA banner representing Branches S630 and J534 at the annual Dyngus Day Parade in Buffalo, NY.



Riding in a vintage fire truck are Branch Membership Chairman John Gonsiorek and Branch President Lynn Zakowicz.

BRANCH 81 HOSTS 125th ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON

FCSLA Whiting Branch 81 hosted a 125th anniversary luncheon on Sunday, July 9th at Andorra Banquets, in Schererville, IN. The theme of the party was the patriotic colors of red, white and blue. Numerous loyal members came to celebrate with us. Additionally, special guests attended, including our national director, Joann Skvarek-Banvich, and her mother Betty Skvarek, former Chicago district president Mary Therese Tylus, former national auditor Betty Yurechko, and from our local sister branches, Betty Ortiz (452), and Agnes Chervanek (409).

A delightful lunch was served and everyone had a wonderful time socializing. Each guest in attendance received

a garden grow kit from the home office which included gloves, rain gauge and confetti flower seed packet. Branch officers provided door prizes and guests were also invited to purchase 50/50 tickets for cash prizes. After all prizes were awarded President of Branch 81, Margaret Abildua announced two special 125th anniversary prizes of \$125 each would be drawn, everyone was so surprised! Our sincere gratitude to everyone who helped to make our 125th anniversary party a success. All who attended enjoyed themselves and are looking forward to our next fraternal gathering.



CHICAGO DISTRICT EVENTS

Saturday, October 21st – Chicago area celebration of the FCSLA 125th Anniversary. 11 a.m. mass at St. Jane de Chantal in Chicago and Luncheon at 1 p.m. at the Mayor's Mansion (formerly European Chalet). Tickets are \$15.00 per person and can be purchased from your branch officer or lorrainegibas@gmail.com by October 1st. All members are welcome.

Sunday, November 5th – Chicago area Junior Christmas Party – Camp Manitoqua, Frankfort, IL – 11 a.m.-3 p.m. – RSVP by October 22nd.

Saturday, December 2nd – Chicago area Senior Christmas Party – Orland Chateau, Orland Park, IL – 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. – RSVP by November 18th.

Triplets Graduate High School

Ashley Rose, Amy Lynn and Nicole Marie Rissmiller, S074, Bethlehem, PA graduated from Freedom High School in Bethlehem on June 7, 2017. They are the daughters of Cynthia (Holva) and Charles Rissmiller and granddaughters of Barbara (Swegel) and the late Stephen Holva. The girls will attend Northampton Area Community College in Bethlehem, PA this fall.



Ashley, Amy and Nicole Rissmiller on Graduation day.

Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal

The 2017 Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal is progressing well. As many of you know, the funds raised in this annual Appeal are sent to the Pontifical Slovak College of Saints Cyril and Methodius to assist with its day to day operations. The College is 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.

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 39th 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 July 15, the 2017 Appeal has raised \$15,249. Again, thank you for your goodness and generosity to the Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal. Donations received before November 30, 2017 will be credited toward the 2017 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. HvozdoVIC, V.F., 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 Sacred Heart Parish, Swedesburg, PA, serves as First Vice President of the Federation and is the Appeal Coordinator.

39th 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 APRIL 30, 2017

ASSETS

Cash & Short Term Investments	\$ 20,004,993
Bonds	833,184,135
Preferred Stock	785,283
Common Stock	5,715,620
Investment Income Due & Accrued	12,955,950
Property Plant & Equipment, Net	5,311,935
Certificate Loans & Accrued Interest	2,500,697
Other Assets	153,944

TOTAL ASSETS

\$ 880,612,558

LIABILITIES

Life Reserves	\$ 255,077,439
Annuity Reserves	505,073,435
Death Claims Payable	2,064,324
Unearned Premiums	472,391
Matured Endowments	288,656
Provision for Dividends Payable	1,400,000
Accumulated Dividends & Interest	4,525,995
Accrued Convention Donations	378,000
Provision for Future Conventions	282,718
Asset Valuation Reserve	8,364,477
Interest Maintenance Reserve	972,363
Other Liabilities	1,500,117

TOTAL LIABILITIES

\$ 780,399,916

Surplus

\$ 100,212,642

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS

\$ 880,612,558

INCOME STATEMENT

For the Four Months Ending April 30, 2017

REVENUE

Insurance Premiums	\$ 1,638,349
Annuity Premiums	15,254,204
Investment Income	14,299,261
Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve	52,579
Rental Income	151,122
Other Revenue	4,455
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 31,399,970

EXPENSE

Increase in Reserves — Life	\$ 963,439
Increase in Reserves — Annuity	12,199,435
Insurance Benefits	2,090,025
Annuity Benefits	9,506,186
Commission Expense	443,413
Surrender Benefits	1,254,074
Post Mortem Benefits	492,929
Miscellaneous Member Benefits	21,782
Matured Endowments	(13,539)
Donation Expenses	30,589
Change in Accrued Convention Donations	84,000
Convention Expenses	78,177
Bank Service Charges	22,128
Data Processing Service Fees	66,257
Accounting Fees	15,336
Actuarial Fees	99,421
Legal Fees	66,539
Consulting Fees	37,169
Bonus to Branches	279,700
Fraternal Activities	40,931
Official Publications	141,402
Scholarship Awards	104,332
Miscellaneous Employee Benefits	140,293
Fees — Directors	53,040
Salaries — Employees	560,819
Salaries — Officers	163,139
Interest Expense	94,182
Tax Expense	102,426
Depreciation Expense	86,329
Utility Expense	31,200
Postage and Printing	76,861
Advertising	56,586
Travel Expense	24,147
Insurance Department Fees	9,355
Sales Promotion	77,185
Rental Expense	151,122
Other Expense	179,551
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 29,829,958

Income (Loss) from Operations

\$ 1,570,012

Dividends to Members

516,469

Subtotal Income (Loss)

\$ 1,053,543

Capital Gains (Loss)

(195)

NET INCOME (Loss)

\$ 1,053,348



Special Occasions

FRESH PEACH BELLINIS

2 ripe peaches, seeded and diced
1 tablespoon freshly squeezed lemon juice
1 teaspoon sugar
1 bottle chilled prosecco sparkling wine

Place the peaches, lemon juice, and sugar in the bowl of a food processor fitted with a steel blade and process until smooth. Press the mixture through a sieve and discard the peach solids in the sieve. Place 2 tablespoons of the peach puree into each Champagne glass and fill with cold prosecco. Serve immediately.

GREAT NORTHERN BEANS SALAD

1 (40.5 oz.) can Great Northern Beans
5 plum tomatoes, chopped
¼ cup or more chopped red onion
1 small red pepper, chopped
Juice of 2 lemons
2 tablespoons flat leaf parsley, chopped fine
6 tablespoons wine vinegar
½ teaspoon garlic powder
Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste

Toss everything together in a small bowl. Allow to stand for 1 hour to let all the flavors marry together. Tastes even better the next day.

PENNE WITH SUN-DRIED TOMATO PESTO

12 ounces penne pasta
1 (8.5-ounce) jar sun-dried tomatoes packed in olive oil
2 garlic cloves
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
1 cup (packed) fresh basil leaves
½ cup freshly grated Parmesan

Cook the pasta in a large pot of boiling salted water until tender but still firm to the

bite, stirring occasionally, about 8 minutes. Drain, reserving 1 cup of the cooking liquid.

Meanwhile, blend the sun-dried tomatoes and their oil, garlic, salt and pepper, to taste, and basil in a food processor and blend until the tomatoes are finely chopped. Transfer the tomato mixture to a large bowl. Stir in the Parmesan.

Add the pasta to the pesto and toss to coat, adding enough reserved cooking liquid to moisten. Season the pasta, to taste, with salt and pepper and serve.

GRILLED PEACH AND CORN SALAD

¼ cup extra-virgin olive oil, plus more for drizzling
4 ears corn, shucked
3 peaches, each cut into 4 wedges
Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
2 tablespoons white wine vinegar
1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
½ Fresno pepper, halved, seeded and thinly sliced into half-moons
½ small shallot, finely minced
⅓ cup toasted sliced almonds
⅓ cup crumbled feta (2 ounces)
4 cups baby arugula (2½ ounces)

Prepare a grill for medium-high heat. Drizzle some olive oil on the corn and peaches and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Grill the corn and peaches, turning them periodically, until they develop dark grill and char marks on all sides, 6 to 8 minutes for the peaches and 10 to 12 minutes for the corn. Let cool slightly.

Meanwhile, whisk together the olive oil, vinegar, mustard, Fresno pepper, shallot, ½ teaspoon salt and a few grinds of pepper in a large bowl.

Cut the corn kernels from the cobs and discard the cobs. Slice the peach wedges crosswise so each piece has some grill

marks. Add the corn kernels and sliced peaches to the large bowl of dressing along with the almonds and feta. Toss gently to coat. Check for seasoning and add more salt and pepper to taste.

Arrange a bed of arugula on a large platter. Top with the peach and corn salad.

GRILLED SHRIMP

16 jumbo shrimp, deveined in shell, raw
Extra-virgin olive oil, about ½ cup for brushing

Coarse salt and black pepper

2 lemons, halved

Preheat griddle or grill pan over high heat. Butterfly shrimp by slicing almost through lengthwise, but leave shell on shrimp, this will keep the shrimp tender while grilling over such high heat.

Brush shrimps with oil, season with salt and pepper and grill 2 minutes on each side, until shells are hot pink and shrimp is opaque. Place lemons on grill the last minute. The heat will release the juice from the lemons. To serve, squeeze grilled lemon wedges over shrimp.

PEACH CRISP

For the filling:

5 large ripe peaches, pitted and cut into chunks

1 lemon, zested and juiced
3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
¼ cup tightly packed brown sugar
2 tablespoons sugar

½ teaspoon vanilla extract

½ cup golden raisins

Pinch kosher salt

For the topping:

1¼ cups all-purpose flour

½ cup rolled oats

½ cup brown sugar

½ cup sugar

1¼ stick cold unsalted butter, cut into pea sized pieces

½ cup sliced almonds

Pinch kosher salt

1 to 2 tablespoons cold water

Special equipment: 6 (6-ounce) ramekins

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.

Filling: Toss the peaches in a large bowl with the zest and lemon juice. Add the rest of the ingredients and stir to combine. Divide the filling evenly between the ramekins.

Topping: Combine all of the ingredients in a food processor except the water. Pulse until combined, this will take about 30 seconds. Add water, 1 tablespoon at a time until mixture is clumpy but crumbly.

Top each ramekin with the topping. Be sure to loosely sprinkle the topping and not pack it down. Place the ramekins on a sheet tray and bake in the preheated oven for 20 to 25 minutes, or until the filling is hot and bubbly and the topping, brown and crispy.



PERIODICAL

9/17

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.