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Fraternally Yours™

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK LADIES ASSOCIATION

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ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA

Fraternally Yours, ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA®



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ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA,

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Be A Person of Character

Let's face it, it's not easy to become a person of character. It takes a good heart, but it also requires wisdom to know right from wrong and the discipline to do right even when it's costly, inconvenient or difficult.

*Becoming a person of character
is a lifelong quest to be better.*

- ◆ A person of character values honesty and integrity and pays whatever price is needed to be worthy of trust, earning the pride of family and friends and self-respect.
- ◆ A person of character plays fair even when others don't and values no achievement unless it was attained with honor.
- ◆ A person of character has strong convictions, yet avoids self-righteousness.
- ◆ A person of character believes in the inherent dignity of all people and treats everyone with respect, even those whose ideas and ideologies evoke strong disagreement.
- ◆ A person of character deals with criticism constructively and is self-confident enough to take good advice, admit and learn from mistakes, feel and express genuine remorse and apologize graciously.
- ◆ A person of character knows what's important, sacrifices the now for later, is in control of attitudes and actions, overcomes negative impulses and makes the best of every situation.
- ◆ A person of character willingly faces fears and tackles unpleasant tasks.
- ◆ A person of character is consistently and self-consciously kind and empathetic, giving generously without concern for reward.
- ◆ A person of character feels and expresses gratitude freely and frequently.
- ◆ A person of character is not defeated by failure or dissuaded by disappointment.
- ◆ A person of character seeks true happiness in living a life of purpose and meaning, placing a higher value on significance rather than success.



Dear Friends,

This month strive to be a person of character.

Until next Month,
Warmly,
Carolyn

*As we celebrate the Association's 125th Anniversary this year
let's take a look back at how it all began . . .*

Our Beginnings . . .



**Anna Hurban, 1st auditor
and honorary President**

In 1892, at a time when women were almost considered second class citizens, nine Slovak immigrant homemakers, under the leadership of Mrs. Anna Hurban of Cleveland, Ohio, began laying the foundation for a fraternal benefit society, the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Union. Mrs. Hurban was a 35-year old mother from the village of Gbely in Nitra County, Slovakia. At the turn of the century, thousands of Slovaks came to the United States seeking opportunities in a new world. They faced many hardships: language barriers, labor disputes, discriminations, to name just a few. This was the era of steel mills and coal mine employment for the immigrant men, so some of the most painful times came when mine disasters and mill accidents befell the Slovak laborers and often left the breadwinner's family destitute and fatherless. These founding women knew there had to be provisions made for death and injury benefits that would protect families from the hazards of industrial labor. Men could already be insured through the Men's Jednota founded by Rev. Stephen Furdek; however, they did not insure women and children. With encouragement from Father Furdek Mrs. Hurban began to organize a Slovak Fraternal for women under the patronage of the Blessed Mother.

Despite much opposition, Mrs. Hurban assembled eight

other Slovak women on January 1, 1892 at St. Ladislaus Church, E. 92nd Street and Holton Avenue, then the only existing Slovak Catholic Church in Cleveland. The eight women who helped Mrs. Hurban were: Elizabeth Degro, Maria Michalcik, Maria Onda, Elizabeth Pesta, Margaret Ruzinsky, Maria Sabovik, Maria Sotak, and Barbara Susa.

Within a few months many members were recruited and the first convention was held in August of that same year at St. Ladislaus. There were 15 women delegates representing six branches in five states: Cleveland, OH; Pittsburgh, PA; Yonkers, NY; Minneapolis, MN; Terre Haute, IN; and Johnstown, PA. The first convention delegates wrote a set of bylaws, named themselves Prva Katolicka Slovenska Zenska Jednota and chose At. Anne as their patroness. The society established a \$200 death benefit for each member who paid 10 cents a month dues, over and above what extra assessments were levied according to need. Collecting fees according to need was called the pocket assessment plan; the more people who died each

month, the more each member had to pay in assessments. The first National officers elected were: Helen Ratkovic as President; Anna Hurban, auditor; and Anna Strunak of Cleveland, vice-president. Rev John Martvon was the first chaplain. Others elected were: Mary Cisar of Youngstown as recording secretary; Anna Stanko of Cleveland, financial secretary; Maria Onda of Cleveland, treasurer; and Elizabeth Degro of Cleveland, auditor. Later because of her historic role in the society, Anna Hurban, was named Honorary President.

By the end of 1892 the organization had grown from \$77 in assets and nine members to \$212 in assets and 95 members. For about the next 25 years the Society's assets nearly doubled every two years.



**Helen Ratkovic
1st President**



**Anna Strunak
1st Vice-President**



1st branch organized in Cleveland

SP. P. MARIE CISO-IL. K. S. Z. J.
ZALOZEN SEPT. 17, 1893

Photo by J. JAGUNSKI

Message from our National President

CYNTHIA M. MALESKI



Dear fellow fraternalists,

In this June, 2017 issue of our magazine, we are proud to update you about the 16th annual district presidents' meeting held in the home office on Thursday, April 27, 2017. We were pleased that all of our districts were well represented by the district president or his or her representative. Everyone was enthusiastic and excited about our upcoming 125th anniversary events!

On the eve before the meeting, all were invited to a casual dinner in the hotel where out of town representatives stayed. We enjoyed everyone's company and each district was given an opportunity to present the events, meetings and community outreach done in each district. To me, this is a very enjoyable and interesting part of the meeting. We thank every district for what it does in its region of our country!

In depth presentations sharing our strategic vision, sales, financial, merger, IT, district quota and scholarship updates were provided by Al Heiles, Steve Hudak, Paula Dalpiaz, Katherine Bowes and Cynthia Maleski. Our newly appointed National Secretary Denise Mackura was formally introduced to the group by National President Cynthia Maleski.

We were fortunate that our National Chaplain Msgr Polando celebrated Mass for all participants and employees, after which we held a brief May crowing ceremony, when we crowned the statue of our Blessed Mother and St. Ann located in our board room.

The afternoon session included a brainstorming session led by National Fraternal and Youth Director Kelly Shedlock, assisted by Paula Dalpiaz, where all were given the opportunity to provide input into branch succession and branch development ideas.

Everyone present enthusiastically embraced our Anna Hurban Scholarship Appeal (for scholarships for year 2018 and moving forward), and were updated about other additional scholarship initiatives for the 125th anniversary year.

As the meeting concluded, everyone left with motivation, enthusiasm and inspiration through an evening and day of information sharing and fellowship, bound by a common purpose to continue to build the bright future for our beloved First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association!

Fraternally in this 125th anniversary year, I am

Cynthia M. Maleski
National President

2017 District Presidents Meeting



All 16 FCSLA Districts attended the Annual District Presidents Meeting at the Home Office. We thank them for their dedication and commitment to our Association.

- Joyce Lechman, Okres Anna Hurban – Cleveland, Ohio (#1)
- Bernadette Demechko, Okres Maria E. Grega – Youngstown, Ohio (#2)
- Barbara Gajdosik, Pittsburgh Okres – Western, PA (#3)
- Michelle Mrazik Grasso, Okres Frances C. Jakabcin - Eastern, PA (#4)
- Helen E. Oravec, Okres Maria Kollar – Scranton and Olyphant, PA (#5)
- Margaret Abildua, Okres Helen Kocan – Lake County, IN and Joliet, IL (#6)
- Lorraine Gibas, Anna Hurban Okres – Chicago, IL (#7)
- Nina Holy, New York New Jersey (#8)
- Katie Esterle, Louise M. Yash – Wisconsin (#9)
- Magdalen I. Iskra, Magdalen I. Iskra – Wilkes-Barre, PA (#10)
- Cecilia Hall, Okres St. Isidore – Nebraska (#11)
- Sally Hejlik, Okres FCSLA-Catholic Workman – Iowa (#12)
- Ronald Sestak, Okres South Dakota – South Dakota (#13)
- Donald J. Cernosek, Okres St. Vaclava – Texas (#14)
- Milton Trnka, Okres New Prague – Minnesota (#15)
- David Sadowsky, Okres North Dakota – North Dakota (#16)

In June, I wish all fathers, grandfathers, godfathers, uncles and those who serve as fathers to others a heartfelt greeting and thank you on Father's Day. We honor you, remember you, LOVE YOU and are grateful to you for all you have given to us throughout our lives!

Happy
FATHER'S
Day!

On June 14 of every year, we have a Pause for the Pledge of Allegiance as part of the celebration of National Flag Day throughout our nation, and, as your National President, I ask you and everyone of you to pause at 7 p.m. Eastern Time on this day for the 35th annual Pause for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of American and this great nation of ours.

The Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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

In the summer of 1996, I joined a group of priests and bishops for a two week visit through Slovakia. It was a wonderful trip – personal tours through the Cathedrals of the Dioceses/Eparchies; review of renovations/plans of new seminaries; visits with most of the bishops/eparchs; tours of the major cities; a day long visit to the Tatra Mountains; and, just for us, a fourth of July picnic in a beautiful forest setting. This was my first visit back to family's homeland since August 1973 when my parents, great aunt and uncle and I spent more than a month with our relatives that I never knew existed! That, however, was the time of communism but in 1996, Slovakia was its own republic and changes were taking place.

A major event that overwhelmed spiritually took place in the Diocese of Spis in a small town named Levoca in Easter Slovakia. It is a well-known pilgrimages town where in a church atop a mountain house the Statue of Our Lady of Levoca. The town is quaint and the church on the hill is simple but houses this golden statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary with a crown on her head. Another unique aspect of this statue is that the Blessed Mother is pregnant with the child Jesus.

There is a pilgrimage to Levoca each year. People walk from mile and miles, praying and singing for days to get there. On 3 July 1996 Saint Pope John Paul II was principal celebrant of the Mass and over 400,000 pilgrims were on hand, in the rain! Well here we were to concelebrate Mass a year later and there were over 200,000 pilgrims there on a beautiful sunny day! To see all the people, hear all the signing, view so many young people, experience a living faith brought me to an uplifting spiritual vitality. This was truly the highpoint of my trip. You may ask "Why are you writing about this trip and statue this month?" The universal Roman Catholic Church celebrates the feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary on 31 May of each year. The feast commemorates the Blessed Virgin Mary, who is pregnant with Jesus, visiting with her cousin, Elizabeth who is pregnant with John the Baptist. To read about this visit, please open your bibles to the Gospel of Luke 1: 39-56. But you should really prayerfully read all of chapter one to get the full "flavor" of that opening chapter of the Gospels.

After the Second Vatican Council, there was reform of the Liturgical Calendar that was promulgated in 1969. In the old calendar, this feast of the long standing years of having this pilgrimage, the Vatican permitted the feast to remain on 2 July for the Slovak people. And by the way, there is almost a duplicate of Our Lady of Levoca at Olos, Saint Matthias Church in Youngstown, Ohio. Call Father Jerek the pastor to unlock the Church so you may see it when you are in the area.



FCSLA is celebrating our 125th Anniversary this year. We were founded on January 1, 1892! This is a huge milestone for our Society – just look at the dates 1892 to 2017! I wonder if our foundress Anna Hurban ever thought that her ideas would still be going strong 125 years later! I have the privilege of working on several projects for our 125th Anniversary – looking through our archives and lots of old photos. I have learned a lot about our Society through our history! Did you know that because of our growth over the years we are in our third home office building? Or that we had built a home for the aging – the Villa Sancta Anna? How about that during World War II (in 1943) we bought and donated five fully equipped ambulances for \$1,529 each? The total donation was \$7,645.00 for the five ambulances. Those are just a few facts of the incredible history of our Society.

We need to keep our history going. We can do that by branches having branch activities for the members, Join Hands Day projects, Matching Funds Projects, celebrating St Ann's Day (our patron Saint), having branch meetings and district meetings. Branch officers should be inviting their members to get involved and they should be mentoring our younger members so they can continue with the branch for years to come. Will we be around another 125 years? I sure hope so. But only if we all do our part to keep FCSLA going. Branch officers – plan activities or ask your members to be on a branch planning committee – send out invites. Members go to the branch and district activities that you are invited to! You will meet wonderful people and have fun! Happy 125th Anniversary to all of us!



SAVE THE DATE
Sunday, September 3, 2017
SLOVAK FESTIVAL IN PARMA, OH
Sponsored by
The Cleveland Slovak Radio Club

Anna Hurban Chicago District Members Attend Lenten Presentation of The Passion of Christ

On Sunday, March 26, 2017, members of the Anna Hurban Chicago District continued their annual tradition of gathering as a District for Lent by attending a presentation of the Passion of Christ at Sacred Heart Church in Palos Hills, IL. The presentation was performed by Wieczernik, a religious group of semi-professional and professional actors who annually perform this play at a variety of churches throughout the Chicagoland area. The afternoon performance was intense and inspirational as the cast recounted the Passion of Christ where the entire church served as the stage for this extraordinary cast of performers while the audience sat in the church's pews. All who attended were moved by both the story and the performance. The Wieczernik troupe schedules this performance annually at several churches

throughout the area during Lent, with performances given in both English and Polish. Anna Hurban Chicago District members in attendance were inspired by the performance and stated that they look forward to making this event an annual tradition for Lent.



Branch W137 Members Enjoy Afternoon of Bowling

W137 members (Cedar Rapids, IA) enjoyed an afternoon bowling at May City Lanes. Snacks and beverages were served. Prizes were given to bowlers in many age groups.



FCSLA Sr. Branch 81 Members Semi-Annual Luncheon

Friday, July 7, 2017

Andorra Banquets

Reservations Required Before July 2nd

Call: Mary 659-5376 or Becky 801-6665

Correction

Johanna Oros Receives Highest CWVA Award

The correct photo appears below with the editor's apology to the Oros family for the error in April's *Fraternally Yours* on page 8.



L-R: Joe Oros, President S553; Most Reverend Richard B. Higgins, Stl. DD, Bishop Protector of the CWV; award winner Johanna Oros, treasurer S557; Most Reverend Robert P. Deeley, J.C.D. Bishop of Portland, Maine; Victoria Oros, member J481; Donna Oros, President S557; Matthew Oros, member J481; Paul Vihonsky, member S553 along with his wife Jody.



Branches 408 and 141 Participate in Join Hands Day

On Saturday, April 29, 2017, for the ninth 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. Checks for \$500 were presented to the Community to assist them in their ministry.



L-R: Helen Gebura, Mike Phillips, Jr., Barb Phillips, Dan Phillips, Pat Phillips, Chris Phillips, Mike Phillips, Sr., Cindy Bacisim.



L-R: Pat Phillips, Helen Gebura, Paula Miller, Catholic Worker Community volunteer, Mike Phillips presenting checks totaling \$500.

Annual Summer Festival in Danville

The 44th annual Summer Festival, sponsored by the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville, PA will be held on Saturday, July 8, 2017. Activities will begin at 10:30 a.m.

The festival will feature a large Flea Market, a silent auction, home-made baked goods, handcrafted items, a book store, and Religious and Slovak articles. There will be a variety of ethnic foods such as Holupky, Halusky and Potato Pancakes, as well as hot dogs, hamburgers, sausage, ice cream and much more. There will be a variety of games for children and adults plus special attractions like a petting zoo, raffles, and bingo.

The Summer Festival has been a blessed opportunity for the Sisters to keep in touch with former students, their parents, and family members; to reconnect with friends they've made over the years, and to make new friends. The day never seems long enough for visiting with friends old and new.

Bus parking is available. The Festival will take place rain or shine, and will close with a Mass at 5:00 p.m. Tours of the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius will also be available.

For more information, please call: Sister Barbara Sable at: 570-275-3581, Ext. 302.



National President Cynthia Maleski is pictured with Honorable Adam Sterling, U.S. Ambassador to Slovakia at an event held by the Western PA Slovak Cultural Association on May 10th at the Crowne Plaza Hotel and Suites South in Pittsburgh, PA. Ambassador Sterling delivered an overview of contemporary Slovakia, including Slovakia's political, economic and social progress since independence in 1993.





First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association

Cordially invites you to join in the celebration of our

125th Anniversary

Security, Faith, Traditions

Saturday, July 29, 2017

Mass

The Cathedral of Saint John the Evangelist
1007 Superior Avenue East
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
4:30 p.m.

Gala Banquet

Cleveland Marriott Downtown at Key Center
127 Public Square
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
Cocktails 6:00 p.m.
Dinner 7:00 p.m.
Cocktail Attire
Entertainment

Contact the Home Office for more information
(800) 464-4642 extension 1093

Slovak U.S.A.

As a project for the Slovak Catholic Federation, Fr. Gerard Gonda, OSB, of Saint Andrew Abbey and Benedictine High School in Cleveland is trying to assemble an on-line guide to **Places of Slovak Interest** around the United States. Please send him information about anything connected with Slovak history or culture in your city or state (excluding Cleveland, OH) at: gerard@cbhs.edu.

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

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK LADIES ASSOCIATION CELEBRATES 125 YEARS

1892 – 2017



Hotel Accommodations for

First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association
125th Anniversary Celebration

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End date: 7/30/17

Last day to book: 6/30/17

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Book your group rate by going to our website
www.fcsla.org and clicking on the link
found on our home page or call the Marriott
directly at 800-228-9290 and ask
for the FCSLA group rate.

125th Anniversary Home Office OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, July 30, 2017

24950 Chagrin Boulevard

Beachwood, Ohio 44122

Open House 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Saint Ann Statue Rededication 11:30 a.m.

Refreshments / No cost to attend, open to all members

RSVP to the Home Office
(800) 464-4642 extension 1000

Kurt Mariola Honored



Kurt Mariola, a senior at Garfield Heights High School was honored with a plaque for exceptional moral character on March 21st by Darryl Rowland, Jr., SFC of the US Army. Kurt is captain and team leader of the JV bowling team.

When Kurt is not bowling he coaches youth football and baseball for Garfield Heights, OH. Kurt will attend Northwestern University of Ohio where he will study sports management and participate on their bowling team. Kurt is the son of Lori Szumilak and proud grandparents are Joe and Dorothy Szumski.

Kurt and his family are members of S519 and J460.

Mission Trip Expenses

Branch W026 member Theresa Tvrdy of Weston, NE, accepted a \$100 from the branch toward her expenses to participate in a mission trip to New Mexico this summer. The trip is organized by Bishop Neumann High School, in Wahoo, NE. The branch also donated \$400 to the mission committee to help pay transportation costs.



Valentine and Anna Lesniak Celebrate 75th Anniversary

Valentine and Anna Lesniak of Tonawanda, NY celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary with a family gathering February 4. Mr. Lesniak and the former Ann Palko were married February 8, 1942, in Holy Trinity Catholic Church, in McKeesport, PA. They became members of St. Benedict Catholic Church in Eggertsville after moving to Buffalo, NY in 1948. He retired as a foreman from Westinghouse Electric Corp. and is past president of St. Benedict's Seniors and Ushers Society, and at age 90 still attends the 10 a.m. Sunday service in that capacity. Mrs. Lesniak is a homemaker. The couple continues to coordinate occasional senior bus trips. They have three children, five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Congratulations and God's blessing on our anniversary couple!



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.

Branch W033 Card Party

Branch W033, Spillville, IA held a Fellowship Euchre card party Sunday, March 26, 2017. The weather was much more cooperative than last year. There were 19 people in attendance with 16 playing cards. Women's and Men's High received \$20.00 and Low \$5.00. Four assorted Easter Baskets were given out as door prizes to Charles Ira, Frank Ryant, Donna Ryant, and Alice Klemish.

Lunch was then served. Everyone had an enjoyable afternoon of fraternal fun and fellowship.



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 4/1/2017 thru 6/30/2017.

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 Members
of Indiana, Milwaukee
and Chicago**

**Celebrating
ST. ANNE'S DAY**

**Wednesday, July 26, 2017
at**

**THE SHRINE
OF CHRIST'S PASSION**

ST. JOHN, INDIANA

**10:00 A.M. MEET & GREET
(Coffee & Kolacky)**

TOURS UNTIL 12:00 NOON

1:00 P.M. LUNCH at ANDORRAS

\$25.00 PER PERSON

Reservations required before July 16, 2017.
Call Agnes 219-865-6396 for information.

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- Minimum insurance amount is \$2,000 for all ages
- Maximum insurance amount is \$25,000 for ages 86 to 90

10 PAY LIFE

(Contract 01-WL-05)

- Premium payments are made over ten years
- Issue ages are 0 through 85**
- Minimum insurance amount is \$5,000 for all ages

20 PAY LIFE

(Contract 01-WL-05)

- Premium payments are made over twenty years
- Issue ages are 0 through 75**
- Minimum insurance amount is \$5,000 for all ages

LIFE PAID UP AT 85

(Contract 01-WL05)

- Premium payments are paid until age 85
- Issue ages are 0 through 75**
- Minimum insurance amount is \$5,000 for ages 0 to 60
- Minimum insurance amount is \$2,000 for ages 61 to 75**

* Dividends are not guaranteed. Payment and amount of dividends are determined annually by FCSLA Board of Directors.

**Maximum issue ages in Washington state differ.

Let's Plan Together

**First Catholic Slovak
Ladies Association**

of the United States of America
a Fraternal Benefit Society domiciled in Beachwood, OH



FRATERNAL LIFE INSURANCE AND ANNUITIES

**For more information, please visit us at
www.fcsla.org or call (800) 464-4642**

MATCHING FUNDS ACTIVITIES

Jr. Branch 157

Baked Goods Sale for Drama Club

Jr. Branch 157 of Monessen recently held a Matching Funds Project for the Drama Club of Monessen High School. The group sold baked goods, popcorn, various snacks and drinks for three nights during intermission of the play. They also had a basket raffle. Funds generated totaled \$1,392 plus the additional check that will be sent by Headquarters.



Branch W187

Pizza Fundraiser

Branch W187 youth members, Valparaiso, NE, recently held a fundraiser selling pizza certificates. Only a limited amount of certificates (all donated by Raymono's, (a local pizzeria), were available and sold out in 30 minutes.

The event raised \$1,500 for the Bishop Neumann Catholic High school students' Mission trip to Chicago and New Mexico in the summer of 2017.



Sr. Branch 81

Annual Bake Sale

During our April branch meeting, a matching funds check of \$600 was presented to Rev. Mark Peres, the pastor of St. John Church in Whiting, IN. The check was a result of the annual bake sale, which occurred on February 18, 2017. The

bake sale was sponsored by Sr. Branch 81. It took place during the Mardi Gras Festival, the school's yearly fundraising event. Quite a few members and officers baked traditional Slovak recipes along with parents and parishioners bringing their own baked goods to be sold. There were three long banquet tables covered with vintage table cloths and FCSLA signs. The tables were brimming with delicious, homemade nut and poppyseed rolls, pizzelles, fruit and nut filled roscky and kolachky, sweet breads, banana and zucchini breads, nut



cups, and a variety of cakes, cookies, and brownies. We also had our FCSLA cookbooks available for sale. Along with the many members and parishioners who attended the bake sale, local advertising and announcements in church bulletins around the diocese brought people from all over Northwest Indiana. This year, \$1,180 was raised with all proceeds going directly back to St. John the Baptist School. As a matching funds project, in addition to the funds raised at the bake sale; another \$600 was presented to the school from the home office. Thanks to all the members and everyone who lent a helping hand to contribute to the success of this project!



Branch W149

Bake Sale and Dinner

Sr. Branch W149, Vining, IA, sponsored a Bake Sale and Dinner on April 2, 2017, a matching funds activity to benefit GoServ-Global, a nonprofit organization, building grain bin Safe T Homes for the people of Haiti. The activity, held at St. Patrick Church, Tama, IA,



Parishioners of St. Patrick Church, Tama, enjoying the noon luncheon.

MATCHING FUNDS ACTIVITIES

with the help of The K of C and other parishioners, is one of many in our Circle of Saints Cluster and other churches in our area helping with this Lenten project. There are thousands in Haiti without shelter following an earthquake and more recently Hurricane Matthew. The Bake Sale/Dinner raised \$1,539.22. Total for project was \$46,819!

Vining Branch W149 would like to thank FCSLA for the \$600 in matching funds!



FCSLA members John Hayek and Robert Benda helping with the Luncheon and Bake Sale.



Helping with the Bake Sale are FCSLA members Donna Fish, Vice-Pres. Marvin Hlas and Eugene Cibula.



Branch W149 Secretary Barbara Cibula presenting Matching Funds Check to Haiti Hut Project organizer Deanna Dickens-McCarroll. Picture L-R are: Co-organizer Denise Fletcher, John and Betty Hayek, Deanna Dickens-McCarroll, FCSLA Vice-Pres. Marvin Hlas, Barb Cibula, Eugene Cibula, and K of C Larry Yuska.

Cleveland Okres District Event Schedule

- July 26, Wednesday – St. Ann's Day at Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine, Euclid
- August 6, Sunday – The FEST at Borromeo Seminary, Willowick

Branch W033

Breakfast and Raffle

Pictured L-R: President of Branch W033 Dan Silhacek presents a \$1,000 check from the Matching Funds Breakfast and raffle held on Sunday, March 5th from 8:30-11:30 a.m., plus the \$600 from the Home Office to Parish Council President Larry Spalla.



The money raised by the delicious breakfast held at St. Wenceslaus School, Spillville, IA will go toward the purchase of chairs for the school. Many thanks to everyone for their help and support in making this such a successful event!

Completes Sacraments of Initiation



Noah Oborny (second from left) recently completed the sacraments of initiation at the Easter Vigil at St. Nicholas of Myra Catholic Church in Hays, KS, and joined the church. It was also his fifteenth birthday. Noah and his family are members of Branch W133, Timken, KS.

BRANCH W093 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 15, 16, & 17 — Czech Days in Tabor, SD W093. Volunteers needed.

July 1 — Deadline for W093/FCSLA high school seniors to apply for local Branch W093 local scholarships. Contact W093 officer for application.



IN MEMORIAM

TONY KOLAR, W092



Tony Kolar, 91, formerly of Taylor, died August 21, 2016 in Dickinson, ND. Anton Peter Kolar was born June 26, 1925, the youngest child of Frank and Mary (Ficek) Kolar. He grew up on the family homestead south of South Heart, where he attended country school. He joined the U.S. Army and while in the service his parents moved to a farm north of Taylor. Following his honorable discharge from the military, he moved back home and met Clarice Gullickson, the two were united in marriage on November 22, 1949. He eventually purchased the family farm, which he and Clarice made their home. In addition to working the farm, Tony spent many hours building calf feeders and shelters for others while also working at Bosch Lumber for 45 years. The saddest time of his life was the loss of Clarice at her young age of 59. He was a kind, strong and humble man, and always had a smile for everyone. There is peace in knowing that he is walking in Heaven today with that little tilt to his cap. He never failed to respond to an "I love you" from his family without an "I love you more." Tony is survived by his children, Della Jean (Dick) Allen, Clayton (Teresa) Kolar, Curtis (Janel) Kolar, Corby Kolar, Connie (Leon) Decker, Rhonda (Ken) Krogh, Lyndell (Daniel) Bernhardt, and Cordell (special friend, Dakota Schoch) Kolar; 17 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews and other extended family.

STEVE G. DATKO, S301



Steve G. Datko, 92, of Canton, OH passed away September 2, 2016. Born in Byesville, OH to the late Joseph Sr. and Rosalia (Glejduka) Datko, he was also preceded in death by his wife Mildred and brother Joseph Datko Jr. Steve graduated from Lincoln High School and was a Navy veteran of World War II serving aboard the USS San Francisco as an Electrician Mate 2nd Class. He retired from Republic Steel in 1983 with over 30 years of service as an electrician. He was a former member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church. He is survived by his daughters Denise (Tom) Horvath of Massillon, Marsha (Bill) Daley and Mary Brodzinski all of Canton, grandson Billy (Shelby) Zorbas, sisters Anna Mae (Stanley) Duff, Rose Lorenzo and Mary Ebner all of Canton, OH.

JODY LANGE, S277



Jody Lange, 65, of Pittsburgh, died September 16, 2016. She was the beloved wife of Thomas W. Conrad; mother of Madeleine and Charles Lange; stepmother of Anne and Jane Conrad; and sister of Frank Coshey Smith, MD; also survived by many cousins and friends. Jody was a managing director and chief creative officer at Burson-Marsteller, where she worked for the past 21 years and formed countless cherished relationships with her colleagues. She held a bachelor's degree in journalism and advertising from Penn State University. She earned a master's degree in communications planning and information design from Carnegie Mellon University. She also taught marketing classes at Duquesne University and

CMU, where she was awarded a Certificate of Teaching Excellence. An oft-recipient and judge of the American Advertising Federation's prestigious ADDY Awards, Jody was inducted in 2012 into the Pittsburgh Advertising Federation Hall of Fame in recognition of her work on accounts for Coca Cola, Stouffer's, Iron City and many others. Jody was an adept flea marketer, knitting enthusiast, devoted fiction bookworm, gin connoisseur, Rolling Stones fanatic, yin ("as opposed to yang," she'd say) yoga practitioner, water aerobics ace and diehard Democrat. More than anything, Jody was a master of words -- written, spoken and even sung (she was an excellent jingle-writer). She -- and only she -- would be able to find the right words to describe just how loved she is and how missed she'll be.

ELIZABETH J. SKLUZACEK, W56



Elizabeth "Lisa" Skluzacek, 46, of Lonsdale, MN lost her long and courageous battle to cancer on October 14, 2016. She was born on April 17, 1970 to George and Inez Jirik. She grew up in Lonsdale and attended grade school at LNMV and graduated high school from Bethlehem Academy in Faribault. Lisa graduated in 1992 from The College of St. Benedict with a degree in elementary education. She then went on to passionately teach 4th grade at St. Dominic Catholic School in Northfield for 24 gratifying years. Lisa truly lived life to the fullest through simple pleasures. She was a religious woman involved in many church activities through St. Dominic Catholic School in Northfield and Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Lonsdale. Family was always the most important aspect of her life. She enjoyed many sporting events sitting next to Tim cheering on Megan and Jack at Tri-City United High School, always looked forward to annual family trips to Lake Miltona, and cherished time spent with family close to home. Additionally, adventurous travel with her close girlfriends most often involved excursions to places such as Washington, D.C. and New York. She will always be remembered as a loving wife, mother, daughter, sister, and friend whose greatest passion was teaching and spending time with her loved ones. Lisa is survived by her husband Tim; children: Megan and Jack; mother: Inez Jirik; siblings: Anne (Mike) Trnka and Bob (Jan) Jirik; mother-in-law: Katie Skluzacek; in-laws: Danny (Barb) Skluzacek, Lisa Cepelcha, and Jenni (Curtis) Harkrader; many nieces and nephews, friends and students.

SISTER M. MERCEDES VOYTKO, SS.C.M., S172



Sister M. Mercedes (Victoria Voytko), SS.C.M., 85, died on September 8, 2016, at Emmanuel Center, Danville, PA. She was born June 2, 1931, in Humboldt, the youngest child of Michael and Anna (Vantuch) Voytko. She attended local schools and completed her elementary education at St. Joseph School, Hazleton. She graduated from St. Cyril Academy, Danville. Sister entered the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius on October 3, 1949, and was received as a novice on August 10, 1952. She made her first profession of vows on August 13, 1952. Sister Mercedes received her B.A. and M.A. from Marywood University. Sister also continued her education at Fordham, Scranton, Bloomsburg and LaSalle Universities. She taught in parish schools in New Jersey,

New York, Pennsylvania, and South Carolina. Sister also taught at Bishop O'Reilly, Kingston, Bishop O'Hara, Dunmore, and at Sacred Heart Clinic, Wilkes-Barre. She served as principal at St. Joseph School, Nanticoke. Sister Mercedes was engaged in pastoral ministry part-time at the Danville State Hospital for seven years. Well-known and active in Slovak circles, Sister Mercedes was director of the Jankola Library at Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, for 15 years. She was also a member of the Slovak League of America, Slovak World Congress and the Slovak Catholic Federation. She is survived by many nieces and nephews and their families.

MARY E. (NEE KEYASKO) McGUIRE, S124

Mary E. McGuire, 89, died peacefully on October 18, 2016, at VITAS Hospice in Darby, PA. Born in Throop, PA, Mrs. McGuire was a graduate of Throop High School and received her RN degree from Keystone College. She served in the US Army Cadet Nurse Corp. during WWII. She then worked at Jefferson Hospital in Philadelphia from the late 1940s to the mid-1950s where she specialized in neonatal care. She was a resident of Springfield since 1956. Mrs. McGuire was a founding member of Saint Kevin Church in Springfield, a member of the First Catholic Ladies Slovak Association and a member of Pioneers at Saint Kevin's. She was also an avid Phillies fan. She is survived by her son, David McGuire of Springfield; her daughter, Cheryl Plush of Niantic, CT, two grandchildren, Jacqueline and Jason Plush, and several nieces and nephews. Donations in her memory may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka KS 66675 or online at woundedwarriorproject.org.

JOHN EDWARD SMITH, S10

John Edward Smith, 46, passed away on October 20, 2016 in Mount Pleasant, SC. He was born March 25, 1970 and grew up in Shaker Heights, OH. John's smile was contagious and he never knew a stranger. He also never let fear get in the way of doing the right thing. He approached difficulties head on in all aspects of life and regularly said, "There are no such things as problems, only opportunities." This attitude allowed John to always be the calm in the storm and he shared this gift with others as often as he could, unselfishly supporting countless people through their own challenges and hard times. John was both passionate and visionary in his work, dedicating his career to helping organizations create cultures centered on deep respect and unbridled encouragement of others. John was a member of Christ Our King Catholic Church and shared his love for mentorship there by teaching Sunday school to seventh graders. John graduated from Kent State University in 1994 earning a degree in Computer Science and Mathematics. He began his career in the IT industry and worked in that industry for over 20 years, earning an MBA in Information Technology Management from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 2004. John is survived by his children, Merissa 14 and Trevor 13; wife, Lori (nee Tyler); sister, Sarina Walters; nephew, Benjamin and family and friends too large in numbers to list, but not forgotten.

ROSELYN RYSAVY, W085

Roselyn Rysavy, 97, lifelong resident of Owatonna, MI died October 21, 2016. Roselyn was born August 24, 1919 in Owatonna the daughter of Sidney and Mary (Schiller) Simon. She attended

country school in Summit Township. Roselyn was united in marriage to Jerry Rysavy Sr. on November 14, 1940 at Holy Trinity Catholic Church at Litomysl and had celebrated their 75th anniversary. The couple made their home on a farm, raising seven children. Roselyn worked alongside of her husband Jerry in many aspects of the farm. She particularly enjoyed helping in the field. She was a member of the St. Monica Guild, St. Blanche Guild and the St. Agnes Altar Society. Both Roselyn and Jerry were leaders for the local 4-H club. Roselyn liked to bake, can food, make wedding cakes, play bingo, cards and games (just ask the grandchildren), participated in several card clubs and liked dancing to old time music with Jerry. Roselyn is survived by her children Jerry (Mary Ann) Rysavy of Owatonna, Thomas (Ana) Rysavy of Random Lake, WI, Kenneth (Betty) Rysavy of Laurens, SC, Joseph (Cheryl) Rysavy of Owatonna, Michael Rysavy of Ellendale, Rita (Gary) Wandrey of Owatonna. She is further survived by 18 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, Memorials preferred to Owatonna Homestead Hospice House, Holy Trinity Catholic Church and Sacred Heart Church.

REV. ANDREW ULINCY, S89



Rev. Andrew A. Ulinicy, died on October 28, 2016, at the age of 80. A native of Bethlehem, PA, Father Ulinicy was the son of the late Andrew J. and Appolonia (Palenchar) Ulinicy. Father Ulinicy studied for the Priesthood at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, Overbrook. He was ordained to the Priesthood on May 21, 1966 by The Most Reverend Joseph McShea at the Cathedral of Saint Catharine of Siena, Allentown.

Father Ulinicy's first assignment was Professor, Marian Catholic High School, Hometown, with residence at Saint Joseph Parish, Jim Thorpe. His first pastoral assignment was Pastor, Saint Mary Parish, Mahanoy City, and Associate Professor, Marian Catholic High School, Hometown, followed by Pastor, Saints Simon and Jude Parish, Bethlehem; Assistant Pastor, Saint Michael Parish, Lansford; Pastor, Saint Joseph Parish, Frackville; Assistant Pastor, Holy Rosary Parish, Reading; Administrator pro tempore, Immaculate Conception Parish, Birdsboro; Administrator, and then Pastor, Saint Paul Parish, Reading. Father Andrew will be greatly missed by his family, parishioners, and friends. He is survived by a sister, Margaret Maher, Potomac, Maryland; many nieces and nephews and great-nieces and great-nephews.

BERNADETTE MARY KOTRBA, W096



Bernadette M. Kotrba, 95, of Tabor, MN passed away peacefully November 2, 2016. Bernadette Mary Vanyo was born on December 8, 1920 in Northland Township of rural Tabor the daughter of Joseph and Mary (Sabol) Vanyo. She was raised in rural Tabor and graduated from Alvarado High School in Alvarado, MN in 1937. She went on to graduate from Aaker's Business

College in Grand Forks. She was employed as a Bookkeeper with Giese Hardware in East Grand Forks, MN. Bernadette married Joseph E. Kotrba on October 26, 1943 in Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Tabor. Bernadette and Joseph farmed their entire lives in the Tabor area. Joseph preceded her in death on November 10, 1997. Bernadette was a very caring person. She loved to bake



IN MEMORIAM

and garden and was dedicated to the welfare of her special needs daughter, Valerie. She is survived by her sons, Joseph (Carol) Kotrba, Grand Forks, ND, Steven (Chong) Kotrba, Salt Lake City, UT, Philip (Ellen) Kotrba, Tabor, MN; daughters, Rita Bailey, Kennewick, WA, Betty (Mike) Borscheid, Surprise, AZ, Valerie Kotrba, East Grand Forks, MN; 14 grandchildren; 26 great-grandchildren and 20 great-great-grandchildren.

TODD ALAN KUCERA, W130



Todd Alan Kucera, 39, died peacefully November 6, 2016 at Mercy Hospice. In lieu of flowers, The Kucera Educational Fund has been established for his daughters, Emily and Ella, c/o Hills Bank and Trust. Todd was born December 23, 1976 in Waterloo, IA the son of Mark and Kerry Mikoda Kucera. A 1995 graduate of North Tama High School he received his BS degree in exercise science (athletic training) from the University of Iowa. He was a paramedic specialist.

Todd later received his nursing degree (RN) and his bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) from Mount Mercy University. Todd married the love of his life Molly Berkenpas on October 6, 2001. Todd was employed at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in SICU, OR, the cardiology clinic and ASC. Triathlon and obstacle course racing were his primary hobbies and training regimens. He enjoyed camping with his family. They planned a large trip each summer to experience a different part of the United States. He was a faithful Iowa Hawkeye fan from his days in college as a cheerleader, but his passion was Hawkeye wrestling and football. Todd is survived by his wife Molly and their daughters, Emily and Ella; his parents, Mark and Kerry of Toledo, IA; his brother, JD (Kristin) and their children, Reed and Paige of Dike, IA; his grandfather, Dale Mikoda of Elberon, IA; his in-laws, Bob (Pam) Berkenpas of Port Charlotte, FL; brother-in-law, Andy (Anne) of West Branch; numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, extended family and friends.

JOSEPH GERARD "JOEY" PUGH, S65



Joseph Gerard "Joey" Pugh, 22, Plains Township, PA passed into eternal life most unexpectedly November 12, 2016, following injuries he sustained being struck by a motor vehicle in the North End section of Wilkes-Barre, PA. Born July 2, 1994, in Wilkes-Barre, he was the younger of two sons to Francis (Fran) R. Jr. and Coleen R. (Dougher) Pugh, with whom he resided. He was a member of the 2012 graduating class of James M. Coughlin High School, Wilkes-Barre, and also attended classes at the Wilkes-Barre Area Vocational-Technical School, Plains Township. At graduation, Joey was the recipient of the prestigious President's Education Awards Program Outstanding Academic Achievement Award. He attended Luzerne County Community College, Nanticoke, taking courses for electrical engineering and later welding. Joey enjoyed watching college football, hockey and NASCAR racing. Having a love of the outdoors, he was an avid hunter and fisherman. Large in stature, he is most remembered by those who knew and loved him as being a "Giant Teddy Bear" who would do anything for anyone in need. Surviving, in addition to his

loving parents, Fran and Coleen, at home, are his older brother, Francis Pugh III and his fiancée, Cassie Novak, Scranton; maternal grand mom, Mrs. Ann (Phillips) Dougher, and paternal grand mom, Mrs. Winnie (Saraka) Pugh, both of North Wilkes-Barre, and both of Joey's fishing buddies; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and dear friends. In lieu of floral tributes, Joey's family would be honored if those wishing to make a memorial contribution in his memory kindly consider the Wounded Warrior Project, 4899 Belfort Road, Suite 300, Jacksonville, FL 32256.

ROBERT EUGENE FISHTER, S005



Robert Eugene Fishter, 79, died November 14, 2016, with his loved ones by his side in the place he called home for over 20 years. Bob was born March 23, 1937, in Johnstown, PA, to William Fishter and Anna Zahurak Fishter. He married Grace Maria Giamboi on May 1, 1976, who was the love of his life for over 41 years and remained by his side until his death. He is survived by his loving family: his wife Grace; his daughter Grace Marie; his son Anthony Amunat-

egui; his dear friend who he considered like a son, Domingo Ortiz; and his five grandchildren. He is also survived by his daughters, Sharon and Susan Fishter. Bob moved to South Florida in the late 60s. He graduated with a Master's degree in Chemical Engineering. He worked for Pratt & Whitney for 30 years, where he developed seventeen patents for the United States government, including patents dealing with corrosion in jet engines. He enjoyed playing golf with his friends and had a love for Coca Cola, useless trivia, and ball point pens. Bob traveled the world with his children and wife and had the recent dream of going to China. Now, on his last, most important journey, he will be able to accomplish his dream and look down upon the Great Wall from God's Kingdom. The family requests, in lieu of flowers, donations be made in Bob's name to the Alzheimer's Association, Southeast Florida Chapter, 3323 W. Commercial Blvd, Suite 260, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33309-3447.

MARY JANE BECAY, S191



Mary Jane Becay (nee Kravec), 91, of Barberton, OH passed away peacefully November 14, 2016. Mary was the beloved wife (his, "Rosebud") of 52 years of the late, Joseph L. Jr. Loving mother of Mary Frances, Stephen and Joseph. "Mrs. B" was the cherished and best shopping buddy of Betty Hofman. Dearest friend of Pamela Drowns and special "Baba" to

Peyton Logue. She will be greatly missed by her family and bossy feline, "Samantha". Mary was employed for 37 years with Yoder Brothers, actively working on their annual Secret Santa project. Proud of her Slovak heritage, she was a life-long member of the now closed SS Cyril and Methodius Parish. From 1998 she was their St. Anne's "Sunshine Girl". Until the parish closed in 2009 she was a devoted Bingo kitchen cook. The family would like to thank Brookdale Barberton and Home Helpers for their loving care and compassion. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to St. Augustine Catholic Church or Haven of Rest.

THOMAS P. CAPIZZI, S19



Thomas P. (Tom) Capizzi, 65, died November 16, 2016. He was born and raised in Philadelphia, PA, the son of the late Jean Switenko and Peter Capizzi. He was formerly from North Brunswick before moving to Bridgewater in 1996. Tom graduated from LaSalle College in 1972 with a B.A. degree in Mathematics and from Temple University School of Medicine in 1977 with a M.S. degree and in 1980 with a Ph.D. in Biometrics. He retired in 2010 as Vice President of Global Research Data and Quantitative Sciences from Schering-Plough Research Institute in Kenilworth, NJ. He formerly worked as a Ph.D. Statistician with thirty years of progressive experience in supporting preclinical and clinical development programs at Merck Research Laboratories, Rahway, NJ. Tom was a parishioner of St. Bernard in Bridgewater. He was a member of the American Statistical Association and the Society of Clinical Trials. In his spare time, Tom enjoyed traveling, reading, cooking and was an avid tennis player and fan. He will be sadly missed by his family and friends. Surviving are his wife of 33 years, Donna (Sromovsky) Capizzi, a daughter Stefanie Capizzi and sisters Patricia Tarby and Gloria Recigno.

ANNA MARIE ALESKI, S184



Anna Marie (nee Hasek) Aleski, 81, of Metuchen died on November 19, 2016 in New Brunswick. Anna Marie was born in Perth Amboy to the late Joseph and Pauline Hasek. She had lived in Carteret prior to residing in Metuchen for the past 64 years. Anna Marie worked as an RN in Raritan Bay Medical Center for 25 years. She also worked for Genesis Health Care in Westfield before retiring. Anna Marie is a communicant of St. Francis Cathedral in Metuchen. Her best moments were spending time with her seven grandchildren. Anna Marie is predeceased by her husband of 52 years, Stanley Aleski, and her two brothers, Francis and William Hasek. She is survived by her two daughters, Constance Harbison and her husband Tim and Caroline Swetz and her husband Steve both of Hillsborough and seven grandchildren, Kate, Carly, Alexa, Michael, Holden, Emma and Ashton. Memorial donations may be made to St. Francis Cathedral in her memory.

MARCELLA "MARCIE" M. SLOUP, W013



Marcella "Marcie" M. Sloup, 88, of Prague, NE, entered into eternal rest on November 19, 2016 in Omaha, NE. She was born August 2, 1928 outside of Prague, NE to Charles and Clara (Kriz) Kaspar. She attended Prague High School and the Omaha College of Business. On January 31, 1950, Marcie was united in marriage to Adolph A. Sloup in the wedding dress she shared with two of her four sisters. They made their home 5 miles north of Prague on the family farm. She enjoyed gardening, antiques, auctions, garage sales, and simply being a friend to many. Her greatest job was being a wife to Adolph, and a mother. She is survived by children and grandchildren: David (Diane) Sloup – Kim, Ryan, and Emily;

Cathie (David) Adams; Elizabeth (Brian) Hartwick – Andrea and Chelse; Jeff Sloup – Meg and Katie; Jeanine (Rodney) Naker – Mark, Nora, Keith, and Amber; great-grandchildren: McKenna, Laila, Reid, Jaxson, Brooklyn, Aubrey, Adelaide, and Genevieve; sisters: Zdenka Urban, June Madigan, Nadine Bratcher, and Elaine (Allan) Kaspar; brother-in-law and sister-in-law Roland and Adelyne Koranda; many special nieces, nephews, and friends. She was thrilled to have been a Godmother to many nieces and nephews. Marcie's life was about the simple joys of sharing and giving. Marcie's family wishes to thank her devoted caregivers, her outstanding doctors, nurses, and hospice/care team. Also to Father Zimmer from her parish, St. John's Catholic Church, and the many kind and supportive friends and relatives who helped through to her final journey toward eternal life.

PEGGY JEAN HOLMAN, S81



Peggy Jean Holman, 83, of Flowood, MS, died on November 20, 2016. Peggy Jean Holman was born Peggy Jean Lamb on November 2, 1933 in Sarasota, FL to the late Mary Christina Starrak and William Horace Lamb. After graduating from Sarasota High School and working at Merrill Lynch, she met the love of her life, Alfred Francis Holman, an Airman 1st Class in the United States Air Force. The couple was married on May 11, 1955 at St. Martha Catholic Church in Sarasota, Florida. While a Florida girl at heart, Peggy moved with her new husband, Al, to Whiting, IN. After the birth of her two sons, the late Michael Francis Holman and David Mark Holman, and a longing to return to the South, Al and Peggy moved to Cape Kennedy, FL but eventually settled in Pascagoula, MS. Possessing a true servant's heart, Peggy faithfully cared for family and friends through delicious cooking/baking from scratch, and sewing. She volunteered at the boys' school and eventually took a full time job in the school office. Hurricane Katrina forced Al and Peggy to move to Flowood, MS. She never sought attention for herself and always sacrificed her needs for that of her family and friends. Peggy is survived by her husband, Al Holman, who loved and cared for her; her son, D. Mark Holman and his wife, Colette Holman; her daughter-in-law, Debbie Holman; her five grandchildren; and her one great-grandson. In lieu of flowers, we hope you will do an unexpected and unsolicited act of kindness for some poor unfortunate soul in Peggy's name.

ROSALIE PANKOW, S468

Rosalie Pankow, nee Vavrus, 89, of Orland Park, IL, formerly of Summit, born September 27, 1927, passed away peacefully, November 21, 2016, with her family at her side. Past President of Branch 455 of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association and former member of the Orland Park Women's Club. Beloved wife of Theodore "Ted" Pankow; loving mother of Gregory (Barbara) Pankow, Marian (James) Wallis, Karen (Michael) Morgenroth, Brian (Catherine) Pankow, Susan (Jon) Raymond and Jeffrey (Marianne) Pankow; cherished grandmother of 15; and loving aunt to many nieces and nephews. Donations may be made in Rosalie's name to the Alzheimers Association or to a local Animal Shelter.

SPRING 2017 MEETING OF THE NATIONAL BOARD OF THE SLOVAK CATHOLIC FEDERATION

The National Board of the Slovak Catholic Federation held its Spring 2017 meeting on Tuesday, April 4 in Wilkes-Barre, PA. A group of early arrivals gathered at the Bear Creek Inn the evening before for dinner, hosted by Theresa Kluchinski and the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union. The session began at 9:00 a.m. with a call to order by National President, Rev. Andrew HvozdoVIC.

As is customary and highlighting the Catholic nature of the group, morning prayer was led by Rev. Msgr. Thomas Derzack, SCF National Chaplain. Beginning with the devotion from the Liturgy of the Hours for Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Lent, Msgr. Derzack then offered a reflection, Ten Ways to Mediate on Christ's Passion. This included suggestions to read the Biblical account of the Passion of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, silent reflection and contemplation before the Crucifix, pious practice of The Way of the Cross, meditating on the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary, making a good confession, reflecting on the Seven Last Words of Christ, watching the classic film, "The Passion of the Christ", offering Penance, participating in the Good Friday Liturgy and finally, seek grace from Our Lady of Sorrows, the "Stabat Mater", who stood valiantly at the foot of the cross.

In his opening remarks, Rev. Andrew HvozdoVIC noted his visit on Monday to the room dedicated to Father Jozef (Joseph) Murgas, the founder of the Slovak Catholic Federation at King's College in Wilkes Barre with Father Thomas Nasta, First National Vice President. Father HvozdoVIC reiterated the mission of the SCF, defined by Fr. Murgas at the organization's founding, to "federate Catholics who are Slovak." It is a clear and direct statement of the purpose of the Slovak Catholic Federation which continues to the present day. While welcoming Father Robert L. Seeman, pastor of Saint Peter, Slippery Rock and Saint Anthony, Forestville, PA, in the Pittsburgh Diocese, as the newest member of the board, he shared the resignation of long-time board member Sister Catherine Laboure, SSCM. Concluding his remarks, Father HvozdoVIC also mentioned that Pope Francis spoke at length about Saints Cyril and Methodius bringing the Catholic faith to the Slovak people during their February 14th feast day Mass.

In routine procedures, the minutes of the prior meeting and the financial report of the federation were accepted with minor changes. Rev. Thomas Nasta, the 1st National Vice President, presented a summary of the 2016 Annual Appeal. With a revised approach, including a direct mailing, donations increased by 44.2% from 2015, totaling more than \$51,000. It was also noted that 2018

will be the 40th anniversary of the appeal which primarily supports the endeavors of the Conference of Slovak Clergy and the Conference of Slovak Religious. Several issues were discussed related to the disbursement of funds and various pending concerns with the board achieving a resolution of them. A primary goal is to revive the Conference of Slovak Religious, which has recently been inactive, or perhaps incorporate it into another entity so its vital work can continue.

The required reports of the various SCF Chapters were reviewed. The courtesy report from the Conference of Slovak Clergy was also presented, although the conference president, Rev. Msgr. Robert Siffrin, was unable to attend the meeting due to his diocesan responsibilities. Again, keeping with ongoing custom, Mass was celebrated at the end of the morning session, followed by lunch.

The standing committees met to formulate goals for the upcoming year and to gauge progress toward previous objectives. The major focus is preparation for the quadrennial convention to be held this fall in Youngstown, OH. The gathering will begin on Sunday, September 17, with the 4:00 p.m. Mass at Saint Columba Cathedral and a banquet at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Hall, both in the downtown area of the city. The convention will take place on Monday and Tuesday, September 18 and 19, at the Holiday Inn in Boardman, OH, an adjacent suburb community, which is a short drive from the Cathedral and social hall. Various committee assignments were presented and reviewed, in anticipation of an active dialogue during the convention sessions. Requirements for being a delegate to the convention were also outlined.

Prior to closing prayer, Rev. Gerard Gonda suggested the SCF endeavor to create a "Slovak Catholic Directory" to delineate the various groups that share our faith and heritage, as well as serve to identify legitimate Slovak Catholic entities that may seek funding. Msgr. Derzack led the closing prayer. The Daily Number tickets for the August 2017 fundraising effort were distributed with a reminder to sell and return the stubs in a timely manner. This program, which occurs twice per year, is a vital source of funding for the operation of the national office of the Slovak Catholic Federation.

T. L. Wagner, Communications and Membership Committee Chairman



Sister Thomas More Dzurnak, SSCM offers the reading from the day's liturgy.



The attendees gather for a group photograph at the conclusion of the Spring 2017 National Board Meeting of the Slovak Catholic Federation. (Seated, L-R) Guest, Norbert Wagner, Sister Thomas More Dzurnak, SSCM, Brother Gabriel Balazovic, OSB, Dolores M. Evanko, Robert Magruder, Magdalen I. Iskra, Martha Iskra and Ann Dougher. (Standing, L-R) Scott Pogorelic, Michael Horvath, Father Robert Seeman, Father Thomas Nasta, Father Andrew HvozdoVIC, Monsignor Thomas Derzack, Father Gerard Gonda, OSB, Marie Golias, and Theresa Kluchinski.



The Elevation of the Eucharist during the Mass. (L-R) Father Robert Seeman, Father Gerard Gonda, OSB, Father Andrew HvozdoVIC, Monsignor Thomas Derzack and Father Thomas Nasta)

Baseball at the Akron Rubberducks Canal Park Stadium for Branches 475 and 380

On July 29, 2016, members and guests of Sr. Branch 475 and Jr. Branch 380 were treated to a night of baseball at the Akron Rubberducks Canal Park stadium. The class AA Cleveland Indians farm club was able to give the FCSLA fans a big win over the Bowie Bay Sox (Baltimore Orioles farm club).

In addition to all the baseball fun, attendees were treated to an All-You-Can-Eat buffet style picnic meal. Goodies like hot dogs, hamburgers, BBQ pulled chicken, potato salad,

mac and cheese, chips, cookies and beverages were available one hour before the game started and continued for one hour after the start of the game. Everyone was seated in the left field McDonald's Family Terrace area at picnic tables and we watched the game from those same seats. To top off a perfect outing we were all treated to fireworks after the game.

Everyone enjoyed themselves and said they are ready to do it again!! These pictures tell the story of how much fun everyone had.



YOUNGSTOWN SISTER CITIES HOSTS MAYOR

As part of the 25th anniversary of its founding, Youngstown-Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities (Slovakia) will be hosting Nova Ves Mayor, Doctor Jan Volney, on his visit to Youngstown, June 15-22, 2017. Youngstown Mayor, John McNally, will accept the Crest of Nova Ves and Seal of the State of Ohio, from the Mayor. These will be hung in Youngstown City Hall. These wood carvings were hand-carried to the United States by YSC Director, John Slanina, who commissioned an artisan in Slovakia to carve them for YSC.

YSC President, Jim Bench, has announced that the Mayor will be a special guest at Simply Slavic Fest, downtown Youngstown, Saturday, June 17. He will be taken on tours of local Youngstown sites, a one-day trip to Niagara Falls and, Slovak Department, Pitt University.

SIMPLY SLAVIC FEST Saturday, June 17 (downtown) Youngstown

If you live near Youngstown stop at the Simply Slavic Fest (downtown) June 17, to meet the Mayor, enjoy all day Slovak dancing/singing groups in the Entertainment Tent, and partake of Slovak meals and pastries. As darkness approaches, a vatra (bonfire) will be lit and the smell of slanina (bacon) sizzling on sticks and skewers over the flames will fill the night air as singing and dancing goes on for several more hours after the Fest.



Find us on
Facebook

**FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK
LADIES ASSOCIATION**

FCSLA Anna Hurban District Hosts 13th Annual Senior Branch Party

The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, District Anna Hurban of Chicago, hosted its thirteenth annual combined Senior Branch Christmas Party at the Orland Chateau in Orland Park, IL on Saturday, December 3, 2016 with a total of 326 senior branch members and guests in attendance along with National Directors Joann Skvarek Banvich and Jeanette Palanca. District members and their guests enjoyed many great conversations while catching up on the years' events before and during the luncheon. The Branch members and their guests feasted on a flavorful family style meal, which included the traditional Slovak roasted pork, smoked Polish sausage with sauerkraut, oven baked chicken with dressing, buttered parsley potatoes, vegetable melody and beef barley soup. Everything was deliciously prepared and scrumptious!

Later in the program, the District sponsored its annual raffle of many, many prizes and gift cards to various entities in denominations of \$5, \$10, \$15, \$20 and \$25 donated by individuals, the District and Chicago Branches. With a surprise visit from Santa, the District Junior Members who were in attendance acted as prize runners to help distribute



the gifts to the raffle winners who shouted "Kapusta, Koláčiky, Bingo" or another favorite Slovak word upon hearing their winning number. This year the District solicited from its members and guests in attendance donations to

ACCESS Psychological Services, a Division of CTF Illinois in Tinley Park, of coats, scarves and warm clothes for homeless adults with severe mental illness. The wonderful event, started by Marge Krugley (\$180) has been a favorite now for the entire District and the surrounding Chicago area.

District President, Lorraine Gibas opened the event after lunch with welcoming remarks, recognizing the 90th Anniversary of the Chicago District which was celebrated earlier in October and requested that all past District Officers stand to be recognized for their contribution to the District and

their efforts in making it what it is today. District President, Lorraine Gibas remarked that, "Once again, everyone had a wonderful time renewing old friendships, making new ones and reminding everyone of the wonderful FCSLA products and upcoming District events! Truly the room was electrified with folks meeting and greeting one another, renewing old friendships and acquaintances and forging new ones."

A special thank you goes out to the Senior Branch Christmas Party Committee: Lorraine Gibas, Chair, Rosemary Mlinarich, Raffle Prize Coordinator, Barbara Mugavero, Raffle Gift Card Coordinator, Jarmila Hlubocky, Raffle Prize Distribution



Coordinator, Gary Ledvora (Santa), Barbara Schultz, Invitations, RSVP and Menu Coordination for the Event, Rich and Irene Zittman, Seating Plan and Door Greeter Coordinators, Caro Rosenthal, Raffle Ticket Sales Coordinator, Jessilyn Gibas and Stephanie Kaiser, Centerpiece Coordinators, Marge Krugley, Promotional Gift Coordinator, Jeanette Palanca Charitable Donation Coordinator and Event Photographer, Oplatky Sales Coordinator Emily Minelli, and Mary Therese Tylus, Event Photographer. And last, but not least, a huge thank you to the entire District Board and Branch Officers and their elves for working so hard in making it such another memorable event for our members and their guests.

So mark your calendar for next year's party on Saturday, December 2, 2017 – same time, same place! (To see all of the photos from this event, please go to <http://www.fcsla.org/district/chicago/gallery.php>)



St. Ann's Lodge Annual Party



St. Ann's Lodge of Farrell, PA held their annual Christmas Party on Sunday, November 13, 2016 at Park Inn by Radisson in West Middlesex, PA. Members were entertained with Bingo for prizes, door prizes, individual member gifts from the Branch and Home Office give-aways. After having some fun all were treated to a delicious sit down dinner. To close the afternoon Christmas Carols were sung in English and Slovak. Prayers were offered for all deceased members and Christmas wishes were extended to all!



87th Annual Slovak-American Day in Milwaukee

Sponsored by Federated Slovak Societies

SUNDAY, JULY 30, 2017

CROATIAN PARK, 9140 South 76th St., Franklin, WI
Holy Mass at 12 Noon with Father John Jamnicky

Slovak food and bakery items

PROGRAM STARTS AT 2:30 P.M.

*Performances by the Tatra Slovak Dancers
and Slovak Catholic Sokol Drillers*

For info contact Betty Valent at 414-425-6137

94th Annual Slovak Day at Kennywood

The 94th annual American Slovak Day will be celebrated on Thursday, July 20, at Kennywood Park. The Slovak Kitchen opens at 12:30 p.m. The program at Main Pavilion #5 will include the following:

- 12:30 p.m. Children's games and treats
- 2:00 p.m. Children's folk dancing
- 4:00 p.m. Eucharistic Celebration
- 5:00 p.m. Slovak folk entertainment

Everyone (age 3+) must have a ticket to enter the park. Tickets may be used on any other weekday beside July 20 with no extra charge. Super Senior (70+) tickets will only be honored Thursday, July 20. Regular and Super Senior tickets will be available from committee members in mid-May.

For more information, contact Sue Ondrejco at sue.ondrejco@gmail.com or (412) 421-1204. No tickets can or will be left for pick-up at the park, so get yours early!

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

USE THIS FORM FOR CHANGE OF ADDRESS AND MAGAZINE CANCELLATIONS

CHANGE THE ADDRESS ON ALL FCSLA POLICIES AND COMMUNICATIONS FOR:

☐ INDIVIDUAL — NAME

☐ ENTIRE FAMILY — LIST NAMES

Old Mailing Address

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

New Mailing Address

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____

Signature Required (Insured, Annuitant, Owner)

Date of Birth _____
(for ID purposes)

Today's Date

☐ CANCEL MAGAZINE

MAIL OR FAX TO:

First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association
24950 Chagrin Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122
FAX: (216) 464-9260

FISH FRY AND MEAT RAFFLE EVENT

On Friday, March 31st the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association Sr. Branch 638 and Jr. Branch 535, held their first "Fish Fry and Meat Raffle Event". The attendance was fantastic, the fish fry was delicious, and the meat raffle was a huge success! And all who attended received information and a special gift from the FCSLA. We would like to thank everyone who attended and supported this fun filled event.



REPORT OF THE FCSLA NATIONAL TREASURER

BALANCE SHEET AS OF JANUARY 31, 2017

ASSETS

Cash & Short Term Investments	\$ 20,182,346
Bonds	820,848,373
Preferred Stock	1,385,283
Common Stock	5,546,115
Investment Income Due & Accrued	13,345,585
Property Plant & Equipment, Net	5,375,429
Certificate Loans & Accrued Interest	2,546,344
Other Assets	173,949

TOTAL ASSETS

\$ 869,403,425

LIABILITIES

Life Reserves	\$ 254,178,978
Annuity Reserves	495,356,285
Death Claims Payable	1,758,091
Unearned Premiums	479,041
Matured Endowments	299,730
Provision for Dividends Payable	1,400,000
Accumulated Dividends & Interest	4,498,058
Accrued Convention Donations	315,000
Provision for Future Conventions	235,417
Asset Valuation Reserve	8,231,831
Interest Maintenance Reserve	1,011,797
Other Liabilities	1,914,350

TOTAL LIABILITIES

\$ 769,678,580

Surplus

\$ 99,724,845

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS

\$ 869,403,425

INCOME STATEMENT

For the One Month Ending January 31, 2017

REVENUE

Insurance Premiums	\$ 318,110
Annuity Premiums	4,148,754
Investment Income	3,555,152
Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve	13,145
Rental Income	33,308
Other Revenue	1,625
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 8,070,095

EXPENSE

Increase in Reserves — Life	\$ 64,977
Increase in Reserves — Annuity	2,482,285
Insurance Benefits	389,460
Annuity Benefits	3,152,079
Commission Expense	100,603
Surrender Benefits	358,345
Post Mortem Benefits	90,998
Miscellaneous Member Benefits	6,529
Matured Endowments	(5,530)
Donation Expenses	732
Change in Accrued Convention Donations	21,000
Convention Expenses	16,667
Bank Service Charges	210
Data Processing Service Fees	16,355
Actuarial Fees	30,724
Legal Fees	23,654
Consulting Fees	12,683
Bonus to Branches	68,750
Fraternal Activities	23,800
Official Publications	34,452
Scholarship Awards	26,083
Miscellaneous Employee Benefits	34,576
Fees — Directors	13,260
Salaries — Employees	141,265
Salaries — Officers	38,858
Interest Expense	18,099
Tax Expense	27,559
Depreciation Expense	21,556
Utility Expense	8,696
Postage and Printing	17,297
Advertising	6,938
Travel Expense	3,620
Insurance Department Fees	1,794
Sales Promotion	20,086
Rental Expense	33,308
Other Expense	33,919
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 7,335,688

Income (Loss) from Operations

\$ 734,406

Dividends to Members

124,600

Subtotal Income (Loss)

\$ 609,806

Capital Gains (Loss)

(195)

NET INCOME (Loss)

\$ 609,611



Desserts for Every Taste!!

KEY LIME PIE CHEESECAKE DIP

16 oz. Cream Cheese, Softened
 ½ cup Granulated Sugar
 ¼ cup Milk
 ½ teaspoon vanilla extract
 Juice and zest of two limes
 Green Food Coloring, *Optional*
 Graham Crackers, for serving

In a large bowl blend together the cream cheese, sugar, milk, and vanilla using a hand mixer, until well combined.

Mix in the juice and zest from both limes, and green food coloring. Serve immediately with graham crackers, or chill until ready to use.

BEST NEW YORK CRUMB CAKE

Butter and flour, for greasing the pan

Cake:

1½ cups all-purpose flour
 ½ cup granulated sugar
 2½ teaspoons baking powder
 ½ teaspoon salt
 1 large egg
 ½ cup milk
 2 tablespoons canola or vegetable oil
 2 teaspoons vanilla extract

Topping:

2½ cups all-purpose flour
 1 cup packed light-brown sugar
 1½ teaspoons ground cinnamon
 1 cup (16 tablespoons) unsalted butter, melted and cooled to room temperature
 confectioners' sugar, for dusting

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Butter and flour a 9x13-inch baking pan or line with parchment and lightly grease with non-stick baking spray.

Make the Cake:

In a medium bowl sift the flour, sugar, baking powder and salt together.

In a separate large mixing bowl whisk the egg, milk, oil, and vanilla together until well combined.

Add the dry ingredients to the wet and gently fold in with a spatula or wooden spoon.

Scrape the batter into the greased pan and spread evenly from corner to corner - it will be a very thin layer.

Make the Topping:

In a medium bowl whisk the flour, brown sugar and cinnamon together. Pour the melted butter over it and toss together with a spoon until well combined.

Use your hand to sprinkle the crumbs evenly over the top of the batter breaking the mixture apart into big crumbs.

Bake 10 minutes and rotate the pan. Bake 10-12 minutes longer or until a toothpick comes out clean from center.

Cool in pan on a wire rack.

Dust the top generously with confectioners' sugar and use a serrated knife to cut into squares or rectangles.

Store tightly covered in a cool, dry place up to 4 days.

TRIPLE CHOCOLATE CHEESECAKE WITH OREO CRUST

For the Crust:

24 Oreo cookies, finely crushed
 ¼ cup unsalted butter, melted

For Cheesecake Filling:

2 lbs. cream cheese, room temperature
 1⅓ cups powdered sugar
 3 tablespoons cocoa powder
 4 eggs, room temperature
 10 oz. bittersweet chocolate, chopped

For Chocolate Topping:

¾ cup heavy cream
 6 oz. bittersweet chocolate, finely chopped
 1 tablespoon granulated sugar

Preheat oven to 350 degrees, grease a 9-inch springform pan and set aside.

Finely crush the cookies in a food processor, add melted butter and blend until it's all moistened.

Press crumb mixture onto the bottom of the prepared pan and bake for 8 minutes. Remove from the oven and set on a wire rack to cool while making the filling.

To make the filling:

Melt 10 oz. bittersweet chocolate and set aside to cool.

Mix cream cheese and sugar until smooth, mix in cocoa powder

Add the eggs one at a time, mixing on low speed and do not overbeat it.

Add melted chocolate and mix on low speed to combine.

Pour the filling over the crust and smooth the top. Bake the cheesecake until the center is set and the top looks dry (about 1 hour to 1 hour 10 minutes).

Cool on a wire rack for 5 minutes, then run a thin knife around the sides of the pan and set the cake in the refrigerator (uncovered), for at least 8 hours, or better overnight.

To make the topping:

In a medium saucepan stir together cream, chocolate and sugar on low heat until the chocolate is completely melted and the mixture is smooth. Cool and pour over the cheesecake. When the topping is set and cooled again run a thin knife around the sides and remove the springform pan sides.

This cheesecake can be prepared up to 2-3 days in advance just store covered in the refrigerator. Garnish with chocolate curls (optional).

SNICKERS RICE KRISPIE TREATS

¼ cup butter
 5 cups mini marshmallows
 5½ cups rice krispie cereal
 ½ cup salted peanuts
 16 oz. bag of caramels, unwrapped
 3 tablespoons heavy cream
 2 cups chocolate chips

Melt butter or margarine over medium low heat in a large sauce pan.

Add in marshmallows, and stir together till marshmallows are completely melted.

Pour in rice krispie cereal and stir together till cereal is completely coated. Pour cereal into a 9x13 in pan and press down evenly. (Don't press too hard.) Sprinkle peanuts evenly over the top of the rice krispie treats.

In a medium sized sauce pan combine caramels and heavy cream over medium heat. Stir until caramel is melted and smooth. Pour caramel evenly over the top of rice krispie treats.

Melt chocolate chips in the microwave in 30 second increments (for about 90 seconds total), stirring after each until smooth.

Pour chocolate over the caramel layer and spread evenly. Let chocolate set completely and cut.

FUDGE SAUCE

1 cup Brownie Mix
 ⅔ cup water
 Ice cream
 Maraschino cherries

In a saucepan, bring the brownie mix and water to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer for 1-2 minutes or until thickened. Serve over ice cream. Garnish with cherries if desired. Yield: about 1 cup.



PERIODICAL

6/17

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.