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Fraternally Yours®

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK LADIES ASSOCIATION

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Goodbye Summer
HELLO AUTUMN

ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA

Fraternally Yours, ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA®



ISSN 0897-2958



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ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA,
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IN ALL THE WORLD THERE'S NOBODY LIKE YOU. Since the beginning of time,
there has never been another person like you. Nobody has your eyes, your hair, your voice.

No one can be found that has your handwriting. Nobody anywhere has your tastes
for food or music or art. No one sees things just as you do. In all of time there's been
no one who laughs like you, no one who cries like you. And what makes you laugh
and cry will never provoke identical laughter and tears for anybody else, ever. No one
reacts to any situations just as you would.

YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE IN ALL CREATION WHO HAS YOUR SET OF ABILITIES.
Oh, there will always be somebody who is better at one of the things you are good at,
but no one in the universe can reach the quality of your combination of talents, ideas,
abilities and feelings. Like a room full of musical instruments, some may excel alone,
but none can match the symphony of sound when all are played together. You are a
symphony. Through all of eternity no one will ever look, talk, walk, or think like you do!

YOU ARE RARE. And in rarity there is a great value. Because of your great rare
value do not ever attempt to imitate others. Instead accept, yes, celebrate what makes
you different!

Dear Friends,

This month realize it is no accident that you are special. God made each of us
special for a very special purpose. God must have a job for you that no one else
can do as well. Out of all the billions of applicants only one is qualified, only one
has the combination of what it takes. That one is you. You are special – you are
unique. Being the best is great, it means you're number one. But being unique is
greater, because you're the only one. Make a difference in the world by being you!

Until Next Month,
Warmly, Carolyn

FCSLA Annuity Rates

Rates for our deferred Elite Annuities:

SILVER ELITE (5 YEAR) 3.25% APY*

GOLD ELITE (7 YEAR) 3.50% APY*

PLATINUM ELITE (10 YEAR) 3.75% APY*

*This rate is in effect 7/1/2019 thru 9/30/2019.

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 2019 is 2% APY and for the Platinum Elite is 2.5% APY.

SAINT MATTHEW, THE APOSTLE

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

My dear Sisters and Brothers,

The background of Saint Matthew is very interesting. We know he was the author of one of the four Gospel accounts of the life of Jesus but his background and how he came to be one of Christ's disciples may surprise you.

Matthew was born in Capernaum, a settlement on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, about a year after the birth of Jesus. Before Matthew became a disciple, he was a tax collector or "publican." As a publican, it was up to him to gather taxes for the Romans even though he himself was a Jew. You can imagine this was not a popular profession. As a publican he worked for the Roman government while enriching himself with taxes he collected from his own people. The system for collecting taxes was greatly corrupt. The Romans were only concerned about getting what they felt was theirs. Anything the publicans collected over the Romans' demands was kept as profit. As a result tax collectors were commonly regarded as being thieves. Because their work was enforced by Roman soldiers, no one dared to object for fear of the consequence.

Matthew's name was actually Levi. Most likely at the time of his conversion Jesus gave him the name Matthew, which means "gift of Yahweh." Jesus did this in other conversions also. Remember, Saint Peter's name had been Simon before Jesus gave him the name Peter; as was Saint Paul's name originally Saul.

FCSLA Accepting Applications for National Sales Manager

Due to the future retirement of National Sales Manager, Albert E. Heiles, Jr., CLU, ChFC, AEP, FIC, LUTCF, the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association is accepting applications from qualified individuals to prepare for succession planning. The successful candidate will possess previous life insurance sales experience and demonstrated sales management experience to include knowledge of life insurance and fixed annuity products, recruiting expertise in attracting non captive, independent, insurance professionals, budgeting and sales promotions as well as previous senior leadership positions in the life insurance industry. The successful candidate is expected to work from the home office in Beachwood, Ohio. Appropriate higher education (BS/BA, MBA) as well as industry designations are preferred. Interested candidates should submit their resume along with a cover letter to Cynthia Maleski, FCSLA National President/CEO, 24950 Chagrin Boulevard, Beachwood, Ohio 44122 or to cynthia@fcsla.com.

Now picture Saint Matthew sitting in his tax booth on the main highway where he was collecting duties on goods brought by the farmers and merchants who were passing by in their caravans. As it was Jesus was walking along this same road and came upon Matthew. Where others only saw Matthew with contempt, Jesus had the divine insight to see the promise of greatness within him. Jesus spoke only two words to Matthew: "Follow me." With those words Matthew felt the peace of Our Lord, got up and followed Him. He did not hesitate. He left behind a life of wealth and security for a life of poverty and uncertainty, but one with the promise of eternal life. Matthew told of this is his own Gospel which he came to write after the death of Jesus.

Of course it was scandalous for Our Lord to choose a publican as one of his closest followers. People were shocked. They felt Matthew was unworthy. A further scandal occurred when Matthew decided to throw a large celebration that same evening as a sort of farewell to his former life. He invited his friends, many of whom were also tax collectors, but also Jesus. The Pharisees, who were known to be strict in their application of Jewish law, were quick to condemn Jesus' choice of companions. But Jesus said to them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. . . . I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners" (*Matthew 9: 12-13*). Jesus made it clear that He came to save the people who admitted that they needed salvation.

From that day forth Matthew was an eyewitness to the work of Our Savior. Having been a tax collector, he excelled in record keeping and was a keen observer of people. Those qualities served him well when he wrote his Gospel some 20 years later. His book is the first Gospel in the New Testament and the longest of the four Gospels. With his talent for detail, he is the only evangelist who shared the eight Beatitudes with his readers. He wanted to faithfully report Jesus' words in describing who will be truly blessed in God's Kingdom and what is required for those who follow Christ. Saint Matthew also wanted his readers to know that Jesus was the Messiah that God had promised to send to save all people. With that in mind many of the events Matthew described in the New Testament made it clear that Jesus was the fulfillment of the prophets in the Old Testament. Matthew felt this correlation was important for the Jews who had converted to Christianity.

After the death of Our Lord, Matthew followed Christ's command to go out and preach the Gospel. He preached in Jerusalem for many years and then went out as a missionary to other countries. We already know that Matthew put into words his account of Christ's ministry to which he was a witness. Tradition tells us that he died as a martyr.

Saint Matthew is the patron saint of **bankers, accountants and bookkeepers**. *Saint Matthew, pray for us, that we may with ready hearts obey the calling of Our Lord to follow Him.*

Message from our National President

CYNTHIA M. MALESKI



Dear Fellow Member of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association,

Our 42nd Quadrennial Convention of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association of the United States of America will be held October 3-6, 2019 at the Tampa Marriott Water Street convening at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, October 4th, 2019 in the Marriott Grand Salons A-E.

As we approach our convention, membership stands at over 110,000. **Every member is important to us.** With a growing national and fraternal imprint, our society is in excellent financial condition. Our insurance in force now exceeds \$1.1 billion dollars, our assets have grown to over \$1 billion and our surplus exceeds \$105 million. A.M. Best has reaffirmed our A- (Excellent) rating for the last eight consecutive years.

Unprecedented for fraternal benefit societies in general, we planned, organized and conducted three national conventions in three years; our Special Convention for the bylaws revision in 2014, our 41st Quadrennial Convention in 2015, and our Special Convention by mail to approve our mergers with two like-minded societies in 2016-2017.

These strategies and actions have produced an even stronger, more vibrant society, enhancing our membership base, our financial strength and our national imprint. Since 2012, we have opened 23 new branches in areas where we have not had a presence to date. Many of our branches are beacons in our communities across our nation, where in 2018 alone we sponsored 174 matching funds projects in many communities, raising \$520,027 for charitable works and matching \$100,330. In 2018 our branches logged over 3,109,478 hours of volunteer community service and fraternal activities, as we continue to enrich the fabric of American life.

In 2017, we celebrated our 125th Anniversary with restoration of our outside St. Ann statue, vibrant district celebrations, a national gala, an open house and a video highlighting our fine, remarkable history and wise, prudent leadership over many years. We honored our Foundress Anna Hurban with the creation

of the Anna Hurban Scholarship Fund, to augment our current generous scholarship program.

Our board of directors, managing officers and home office staff have worked diligently to provide financial security to our members while embracing our Catholic values and Slavic traditions. With a positive outlook for generations to come, our opportunities are immense.

Looking forward to seeing you in Tampa, Florida, we **STAND TALL** and **PROUD TOGETHER** as we embrace our longstanding motto: **"FOR GOD AND COUNTRY"!**

"You are the Light of the World" Matthew 5:14

Cynthia M. Maleski
National President (CEO)



**My Special Invitation
to All Credentialed Delegates:**

**Our 42nd Quadrennial Convention
of the
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in the Marriott Grand Salons A-E**

Cynthia M. Maleski
National President/CEO
Convention Chair

Frances Jakabcin District St. Ann's Day Celebration

The Frances Jakabcin Eastern Pennsylvania District held their first district-wide St. Ann's Day Celebration on Sunday, July 21, 2019 at St. Nicolas Catholic Church, Walnutport, PA. Mass was celebrated by District Chaplain Monsignor Thomas Derzack at 1 p.m. Liturgical music was provided by the choir of the former St. Katherine

Drexel Parish - Jeana DePuy, Organist, Amy DePuy, Director. Following Mass a luncheon was provided in the social hall with the food being donated by Carolyn Bazik (S140), FCSLA National Editor and Amy DePuy (S417) in memory of Veronica Bazik, Frances Jakabcin District President who passed away on April 15, 2019. Michele Mrazik Grasso,

district secretary provided everyone in attendance a prayer card to St. Ann.

The event was very successful and enjoyed by all in attendance. The district plans to make it an annual event!

Following the luncheon a brief delegate meeting was held to discuss the upcoming quadrennial convention in Tampa, FL.



September is the Month of Our Lady of Sorrows

The title, Our Lady of Sorrows, given to our Blessed Mother focuses on her intense suffering and grief during the passion and death of our Lord. Traditionally, this suffering was not limited to the passion and death event; rather, it comprised the seven dolors or seven sorrows of Mary, which were foretold by the Priest Simeon. These seven sorrows included the flight of the Holy Family into Egypt; the loss and finding of the child Jesus in the Temple; Mary's meeting of Jesus on His way to Calvary; Mary's standing at the foot of the cross when our Lord was crucified; her holding of Jesus when He was taken down from the cross; and then our Lord's burial.

FCSLA Senior Branch 81 Hosts Spring Luncheon

The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Sr. Branch 81, hosted its annual Spring Luncheon on Sunday, April 28, 2019 at St. Maria Goretti's banquet hall in Dyer, IN. Many branch members and guests attended, including National Director Joann Skvarek Banvich and Branch 452 President Betty Ortiz.

The event began with the celebration of Holy Mass beginning at noon with Fr. Niblick as the celebrant. Branch Auditors Judy Vhrin/Mojzik and Nancy Dunn did the first and second readings respectfully. What a way to start a luncheon but with the Holy Eucharist! After mass, members and guests had plenty of time to visit and catch up with each other before the meal was served. Prior to the lunch being served, Branch 81 President Margaret Abildua, welcomed everyone and asked Fr. Niblick to give the invocation.

Afterwards lunch was served on tables that were decorated with beautiful center pieces put together by Mary and Annette Markovich. The menu started with a fresh tossed salad and followed with family style servings of roast beef, chicken piccata, stuffed peppers and a fresh vegetable. A choice of a delicious slice of either chocolate or white cake was served for dessert.

Everything was perfectly prepared and served. After lunch, President Abildua introduced the guests and asked National Director Skvarek Banvich to say a few words. Joann gave a nice presentation on the status of FCSLA. Margaret proceeded to give a recap of the branch business and the upcoming convention. Margaret then turned the microphone over to Rebecca Coleman to announce the winners of various door prizes and a 50/50 raffle.

As guests were signed in, they were entered for a chance to win a door prize and had the opportunity to buy the 50/50 raffle ticket from Marjorie Strbjak. Donations for the Whiting/Robertsdale Food Pantry were accepted also. As Ms. Coleman read of the names of the winners, the other branch officers presented the winners with their prizes. As a result of the 50/50 raffle and donations, Branch 81 made a generous donation to the Whiting/Robertsdale food pantry.

Everyone had a wonderful time renewing old friendships and celebrating mass together before a wonderful lunch.



Edward "Butch" O'Hare

Naval Aviator of the U.S. Navy - 1914-1943

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

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

CHICAGO
GRUMMAN WILDCAT
(USS) LEXINGTON
MISSING IN ACTION
NAVY
OHARE (International) AIRPORT
PURPLE HEART
SEARCH

FLYING ACE
IRISH AMERICAN
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER
MUSEUM
NAVY CROSS
PEARL HARBOR
RITA (wife)
SHOT DOWN

GILBERT ISLAND
KATHLEEN (daughter)
MEDAL OF HONOR
NAVAL ACADEMY
NEVER FOUND
POSTHUMOUS (decorations)
(USS) SARATOGA
USS OHARE

Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Branch # (if known): _____ Phone # _____

PUZZLES MUST BE IN THE HOME OFFICE FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2019!

YOU MUST BE A FCSLA MEMBER TO QUALIFY.

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

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



Anna Hurban District of Chicago Joins the ALS Greater Chicago Chapter for their Annual "Walk to Defeat ALS"

Early Saturday morning, June 1, 2019 members of the Anna Hurban District of Chicago joined close to 3,000 enthusiastic walkers at Cantigny Park in Wheaton, IL, for the annual "Walk to defeat ALS". The walk is organized annually by the ALS Association of Greater Chicago to raise funds and awareness for the care, advocacy, research and education about this debilitating disease. This year, the Chicago District Team joined the walk in honor of Helen Ledvora, past National, and District officer, as well as, other FCSLA members and friends who have been afflicted with ALS. Gary Ledvora, S046, organized this event for the District, and welcomed our guests to a FCSLA host table in the walk's "Tent City." FCSLA guests were encouraged to walk, donate, or just relax in a beautiful setting along with their fellow members. Our 20-plus walkers, from Sr. Branch 421 and 46 ranged in age from 95 to 2 years of age. They stepped off at 9:30 a.m. and completed the two mile route through historic Cantigny Park, each at their own pace. Funds were raised by sponsoring walkers through individual as well as Chicago District Branch sponsorships. In all, over \$1,100 was raised for the ALS foundation. All who participated look forward to this becoming an annual event for the District. (To see additional photos from this event go to: <http://www.fcsla.org/district/chicago/gallery.php>).



McKeesport Scholarship Dinner

On Friday, July 19, 2019, McKeesport Branches S077 and J032 celebrated their scholarship winner with a dinner at the Olive Garden in Pleasant Hills, PA.

Eli J. Lindley was this year's winner. Eli is a third grade elementary student at Madonna Catholic Regional School in Monongahela, PA. Eli was also a winner in an event in which students from five local Catholic schools participated in a competition which challenges their creative abilities and ingenuity. This activity involved research and presentation of the project. Eli won first prize in his grade group for his innovative bird feeder which blocks squirrels and deer from the bird seed!



Eli Lindley with parents Julie and Brian.

Parents Julie and Brian Lindley celebrated with Eli and branch officers. Branch Treasurer Virginia Holmes presented Eli with an additional gift from the branch.

Eli's sisters Ava and Mya and baby brother Leo are all members of Branch J032. Congratulations to our scholarship winner and his parents!



John Sabol Recognized for Lifetime Achievements



John Sabol, Sr. Branch 141, shown here (left) with retired Cleveland Municipal Court Judge Ralph Perk, Jr., was a recipient of the Freedom Award of the American Nationalities Movement at the group's annual Captive Nations Week Dinner, July 18, 2019 at Holy Spirit Party Center in Parma, OH.

The reward recognizes John's lifetime achieve-

ments as the author of the books *Cleveland Slovaks*, *Cleveland Czechs*, *Cleveland's Buckeye Neighborhood* and *Kelleys Island*, and for perpetuating the culture of his Slovak and Czech heritage, particularly as host of the New Czech Voice of Cleveland Radio Program, heard every Sunday from 3-4 p.m. on WHKW-AM 1220 in Cleveland.

A former reporter and news editor for *The Cleveland Press* and senior editor for Ernst & Young's communications group, John is also a member of the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society and currently on the planning committee for the group's 2019 conference in Lincoln, NE.

FATHER WASHINGTON ELEVATED TO MONSIGNOR

Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera was recently informed that His Holiness Pope Francis, has named Reverend Christopher T. Washington, a priest of the Diocese of Scranton, a Chaplain of His Holiness, with the rank and title of Monsignor. Monsignor Washington has been serving in the diplomatic corps of the Holy See for the past four years.



During the period of preparation for this service, he studied International Law at the Pontifical Ecclesiastical Academy, Rome, and obtained a Doctorate in both Theology and Canon Law.

He is fluent in the foreign languages of Italian, Spanish and French. A Wilkes-Barre native son who was ordained for his home Diocese in 2006, Monsignor Washington began his diplomatic service in July 2015, when he was appointed by Pope Francis to serve as Deputy Head of Mission of the apostolic Nunciature (Embassy of the Holy See) in Bolivia.

Following the completion of the three-year appointment, he was named to the same position at the Apostolic Nunciature in Lithuania, which also encompasses Latvia and Estonia.

"I am truly humbled and grateful to the Holy Father," expressed the new Monsignor upon learning of the nomination. "(I realize) when one is honored, all are honored, so this recognition belongs to the entire Diocese of Scranton." We congratulate Monsignor and ask God to bless him in this new position. He and his Mother are members of Sr. Branch 172, Wilkes-Barre, PA.

FCSLA NATIONAL PRESIDENT CYNTHIA MALESKI ANNOUNCES THE NEW 2019

Branch Membership CHALLENGE!

July 1 - December 31, 2019

Goal: For every branch to accept 5 new members

Reward: Recognition in *Fraternally Yours* and a \$100 reward to your branch

Special Recognition at the 2019 National Convention

to any branch with 5 or more new members between July 1 and September 30 or if 5 members or more in your branch participate in the Guaranteed Issue program from March 1 thru August 31

Grand Prize: THREE WAYS TO WIN!

1. The branch with the highest number of new members by December 31...WINS!
2. The branch with the highest % of new members by December 31...WINS!
3. The branch with the highest % of participating members for the Guaranteed Issue program by August 31...WINS!

Recognition in *Fraternally Yours* and a \$250 donation to your charity of choice or a \$250 reward to your branch

Branch W187 Supports Valparaiso Days Festival

Branch W187 had an information table set up at the local Valparaiso Days Festival. About 200 people visited the table. Many received free FCSLA give-aways, some took brochures and asked questions. Five prospects talked with an agent. Pictured are from L-R: Vice-President Mike Divine, Secretary Clarice Sabata, and member Darelene Blazek.



Branch W033 Enjoys Annual Summer Outing

Branch W033, Spillville, IA held their annual Summer Picnic at the Spillville Library, Sunday, July 7, 2019. Thirty people attended and enjoyed beverages and visiting, followed by a delicious potluck dinner. The menu was grilled brats and weiners, buns, beverages, and place settings provided by the branch. Ice cream with toppings was served along with many other delicious desserts.



After dinner, bingo was played for prizes and cash with two door prizes awarded before everyone headed home. Everyone left smiling after enjoying good food and fellowship inside a great air conditioned venue!



District 11 Branch Workshop Training Session



President Cecilia Hall provides introductions and an overview of the day.

District 11, Omaha, NE, held a Branch Workshop Training Session on June 13, 2019. Eight branches were represented. Each officer presented a different subject. Topics covered included: Branch Manual, Insurance, Matching Funds, Donations, Giveaways, and Reports. Every person, including the officers, said they learned something and found the day very beneficial.



L-R: Agents Bob Hladik and Ron Paseka cover FCSLA's Insurance Products.



L-R: Clarice Sabata and Marge Hladik review the Branch Manual.

Sr. Branch 88 Annual Holiday Party

Monessen Sr. Branch 88 will hold their annual Holiday Party on Sunday, December 1, 2019. The event will be held at 2:00 p.m. at the Cedarbrook Golf Club, 215 State Route 981, Belle Vernon, PA. As in the past, a \$15.00 deposit per member will be required at time of reservation. Your presence will result in a deposit refund. The party is for members only and reservations must be mailed to Dorothy Urbanowicz, 27 Crescent Dr., Monessen, PA 15062. All reservations must be postmarked no later than November 15, 2019.

Christmas in July at Knoebels Amusement Park

Many junior branches in the Frances Jakabcin Eastern PA District took advantage of Christmas in July at Knoebels Amusement Park on Thursday, July 11, 2019. Knoebels Amusement Resort is a family-owned and operated amusement park, picnic grove, and campground in Elysburg, PA. It is and has been America's largest free-admission park for 90 years of operation. Opened in 1926, the park has more than 60 rides, two wooden roller coasters, a 1913 carousel, and a haunted house dark ride that was featured on the Discovery Channel. The participating junior branches provided food and amusement tickets to their members while the district paid for refreshments in the pavilion all day. Despite the threat of thunderstorms and the heat – there was an excellent turnout and everyone had an enjoyable day. The event continues to be so popular and successful, the date Thursday, July 9, 2020 has already been reserved!



Sarah Hood (center), S140, Lansford, PA scholarship winner is pictured with her Mom Lisa; National Trustee and Branch Auditor Barbara Waller and National Editor Carolyn Bazik.



FCSLA Scholarship Winner

Kansas City, KS Jr. Branch 176 and Sr. Branch 211 are very proud of member Elizabeth Frances Hornick (J176) who was named one of the FCSLA scholarship recipients. Pictured with Elizabeth from left to right are her mother Maureen and grandmother Frances Hornick, both members of S211 along with Branch Secretary Theresa Planac.



Couples Celebrate 50th Wedding Anniversaries



JOHN R. AND MARY LOUISE (KOVALAK) BAGAY celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 23, 2019. The couple recently went on a trip to Aruba.

They are the parents of Lisa (James) Hawrot and the grandparents of Samantha Hawrot.

Mr. Bagay retired from Xerox Corporation in 2010 after 40 years. Mrs. Bagay worked for France, Lint & Associates in Charleroi, PA. She retired in 2013 after 30 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Bagay were married in St. Michael's Byzantine Rite Catholic Church in Donora, PA, by the late Rev. Msgr. Michael Durisin in 1969.

John is a member of Sr. Branch 88 (Monessen) and his granddaughter, Samantha, is a member of Jr. Branch 157 (Monessen).



CHARLIE AND JEAN CUNNINGHAM of Glassport, PA celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 12, 2019. They were married at St. Peters Church, South Side, Pittsburgh, PA.

The couple has one son Jason and wife Kim of Aliquippa, PA. They also have two granddaughters, Abigail and Molly.

Jean and Charlie are both retired from AT&T in Pittsburgh, PA. Jean is Recording Secretary of Glassport Sr. Branch 200 and Jr. Branch 56.



JOHN AND JEANNE (FERENC) SABOL, members of Sr. Branch 141 (Cleveland, OH), celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 23, with a Mass at St. Leo the Great Church in Cleveland followed by a reception and dinner at Holy Spirit Party Center in Parma.

The couple was married June 21, 1969 at Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Cleveland, where they attended school together from the second through the eighth grade and were baptized, made their first Holy Communion and were confirmed on the same dates.

Their family includes sons Stephen, Thomas and David, their wives Brooke, Erin and Erin, plus grandchildren, Andrew, Amelia, Annabelle, Evan, Emily, Sammy and Louisa. Their grandchildren are members of Jr. Branch 14 and Andrew is a recent \$1,000 FCSLA scholarship winner.

Julia Ashworth, University Graduate

Julia C. Ashworth (S221), daughter of Lance and Cindy Ashworth, Fishkill, NY, graduated from the State University of New York at Binghamton on Sunday, May 19, 2019. Julia is the granddaughter of Gloria Ashworth, S221 and great-granddaughter of the late Kathryn Horvath, both of Cleveland, OH and long-time members. Julia obtained a B.A. degree in Biology from Binghamton and is working as a paid intern at Stony Kill Farm Environmental Education Center this summer. She will pursue a Master's degree in Biology this coming fall also at Binghamton University in New York.



J158 member Christian McNeill and family proudly displayed FCSLA gear at the Grand Canyon, AZ this summer.

Celebrates Two Holy Catholic Events

Days apart in April, Josef and his brother Jacob celebrated two Holy Catholic events – Josef received his First Holy Communion and Jacob was baptized.

Proud Momma Leah Duffie and proud Mima Susan and Joseph Miklovic (members of S101) witnessed these blessed events.



Emily A. Jackson Graduates



Emily Anna Jackson, S156 recently graduated from Boardman High School in Boardman, OH after lettering in both golf and lacrosse. Emily was also a violinist in the school's acclaimed symphony orchestra and rock orchestra, Project Mayhem. Emily is a 5th generation FCSLA member along with her siblings Erin and Samuel. Emily will be following in her parents footsteps at Youngstown State University in Youngstown, OH. She will major in psychology and hopes to continue playing lacrosse and golf. Emily is the daughter of Sam and Lisa Jackson of Boardman, OH and the granddaughter of Emil and Ann Bobby and Sam and the late Dolly Jackson, all of Struthers, OH.

Four Generations of FCSLA Members

Four generations of FCSLA members recently gathered to celebrate the baptism of Adeline Rose Simon, member of Branch W001 in New Prague, MN. Pictured are great-grandmother, Mary Ann Maruska; grandfather, Paul Maruska; mother, Megan Simon and Adeline Simon.



Branch W187 Scholarship Winners



Branch W187 Scholarship winners Colin and Aiden Masek are pictured with L-R: Mike Divine, VP, Father Matthew Zimmer, Chaplain, and Clarice Sabata, Secretary.

St. Ann Lodge Branch 114 Annual Bingo Social

St. Ann Lodge Branch 114 will hold its Annual Bingo Social on Sunday, October 20 at 1:00 p.m. at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway in Lorain, OH. All members are invited and encouraged to attend. Deadline for reservations is October 16. Please make your reservations by calling Bernie Danevich at 960-2605 or Marge Thomas at mugsann@gmail.com.

Visit Us Online
www.fcsla.com

MATCHING FUNDS ACTIVITIES

Sr. Branch 630

Benefit St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows

Officers from Sr. Branch 630, Buffalo, NY presented checks totaling \$2,629.91 to parish leadership at St. Gabriel of our Lady of Sorrows Church in Elma, NY. The funds, to be used by the parish youth group, were raised through a series of Polish dance lessons offered at the parish as part of the group's "Dancing For Dyngus" program. Dance registrations (less minimal cost) totaled \$2,029.91 and the National FCSLA office provided a match of \$600.



L-R: St. Gabriel's Pastor Rev. Walter Grabowski; Parish Youth Ministry Coordinator Jean Czerniak; FCSLA President Lynn Zakowicz; Dance Instructor Michelle Kisluk; and FCSLA Sales Manager John Gonsiorek.

Anna Hurban Chicago District Calendar of Events

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Chicago District Meeting and District Board Elections

Location to be announced
or contact your branch officer.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Annual Combined Junior Branch St. Nicholas Party

Location to be announced at a later date.

All Chicago area members are invited.

Call your branch officer or District Recording Secretary,
Jeanette Palanca, 847-770-3508.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

Annual Combined Senior Branch Christmas Party

Orland Chateau, 14500 S. LaGrange Road, Orland Park, IL

All Chicago area members are invited, but tickets are limited – Call your branch officer or District President Lorraine Gibas, 630-728-7518, for more information.

Jr. Branch 534

Mini-Golf Tournament Proceeds

FCSLA members were ready to play miniature golf at the annual Mini-Golf Tournament sponsored by Jr. Branch 534, Buffalo, NY. The event, held at the Broadway Driving Range and Miniature Golf Center in Depew, NY, raised funds for the Response To Love Center, a safe, welcoming and non-judgmental community center addressing basic human needs and providing a pathway to self-sufficiency under the leadership of Sister Mary Johnice Rzakiewicz, CSSF.



A welcome ice cream treat for those who took part in the annual Mini-Golf Tournament sponsored by Junior Branch 534 of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association as a fund-raiser for the Response To Love Center.

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with your mobile phone
to get more information
about FCSLA Insurance
Policies!



MATCHING FUNDS

Sr. Branch 630

Fundraising Golf Tournament

Mark and Tom Franczyk are ready to tee off the Annual Fundraising Golf Tournament sponsored by FCSLA Sr. Branch 630. The event, held at the Chestnut Hills Country Club in Darien Center, raised funds for the Response To Love Center, a safe, welcoming and non-judgmental community center addressing basic human needs and providing a pathway to self-sufficiency under the leadership of Sister Mary Johnice Rzakiewicz, CSSF. Tom Franczyk is the Branch 630 Treasurer and served as Golf Tournament Co-chairman along with FCSLA Sales Manager John Gonsiorek.

Mike Emser and Ralph Maraszek are ready to tee off the Annual Fundraising Golf Tournament sponsored by FSLA Sr. Branch 630. The event, held at the Chestnut Hills Country Club in Darien Center, raised funds for the Response To Love Center.



Mark and Tom Franczyk



Mike Emser and Ralph Maraszek

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

- Did your children, grandchildren receive special awards or achievements in school?
- Baptisms? Confirmations? New Members?
- Participated in Volunteer & Community Events?

If they are members of the FCSLA please send us a photo and short article about their special achievements!

Email National Editor at
zjbazik@comcast.net

YOUNGSTOWN DISTRICT HOLDS SEMINAR

The Youngstown District held an insurance seminar for its members on June 25, at Selah's Restaurant, Struthers, OH. Ten Board Members, representing eight Branches, were in attendance. The Seminar, "The Alternative for a Single Premium Whole Life Policy: 10 Pay Life....20 Pay Life.... Life Paid Up at 85" was presented by District President, Bernadette Demechko, licensed insurance agent who also holds annuity certification. Each attendee received a folder containing six hand-outs.

While attendees were enjoying appetizers and drinks upon arriving at Selah's, Treasurer, Shelly Zura, was available for the District Auditors, Mary Lou DiPillo (Branch 30) and Nancy DeWitt (Branch 202), to answer any questions. Financial records were all checked and signed with no corrections. The event was held in a private room of the restaurant which was a "recycled" bank building. Following a delicious family-style meal a brief Directors' meeting was held. Details of the October Convention were discussed after which the meeting adjourned.



L-R: Auditors Nancy DeWitt, (S202) and Mary Lou DiPillo, (S30) check financial records with Treasurer, Shelly Zura (S344).



Clockwise from front, left: Vice President, Shirley Zura (S344); Auditor, Mary Lou DiPillo (S30); Trustees, Fran Chervinko (S153) and Melanie Leonard (S161); President, Bernadette Demechko (S161); Trustees, Sandi Saluga (S422) and Patti Granchay (S156); Auditor, Nancy DeWitt (S202) and Secretary, Dolores Sonoga, (S169).

Photo by Shelly Zura

HELEN KOCAN DISTRICT HONORS SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

On June 23rd the Helen Kocan District, Officers and Members, honored scholarship winners at a Sunday Brunch at Andorra Banquets in Schererville, IN. Before enjoying the beautiful buffet, each winner, their parents, grandparents and siblings were introduced to their respective Branch Officers by District President Margaret Abildua. Branch and District Officers were then photographed with the winners as they were presented with an additional gift in recognition of their achievement.



FCSLA Agent John Zaborske explains the guaranteed issue letters to the members.



Joann Skvarek, District VP and National Director reads a congratulatory letter to the scholarship recipients from National President Cynthia Maleski.

ment. Guests then heard a very inspiring letter, to the scholarship winners, from National President Cynthia Maleski, which was read by District VP Joann Skvarek Banvich. As dessert was served, President Abildua introduced John Zaborske, local FCSLA Agent, who clearly explained the recent GUARANTEED LIFE insurance letters mailed to eligible members. John also clearly answered many questions presented by the guests.

The luncheon was followed by the regular meeting of the Helen Kocan District, called to

order at 3:45 p.m. by President Margaret Abildua. After ratification of the appointment of new Secretary Cindy Oresik, and the regular order of business was completed, a detailed report of the District President's Meeting was given by National Director JoAnn Skvarek Banvich, who represented Helen Kocan District in the absence of President Margaret Abildua. Joann then gave a report from the last FCSLA Board Meeting.

All reports completed, plans were made to attend the St. Ann's Day Celebration in Milwaukee, and preliminary Convention plans were presented. Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.



Helen Kocan District scholarship winners are pictured with the district officers.



Scholarship winner Rose Treese, Jr. Branch 83 is pictured with her mother, grandparents and branch president, Rosemarie Hamerla.



President Margaret Abildua presents a gift to scholarship winner Alexa Tumidalsky as Sr. Branch 81 branch officers congratulate her for her achievement.



Scholarship winner Rachel Martin, Sr. Branch 289 is pictured with her grandmother and branch president Leona Cupka.

Annual Membership Picnic for Branch W045

The annual membership picnic for Branch W045, Cedar Rapids, IA was held on Sunday, June 21, 2019 in Glovik Hall at St. Wenceslaus. There were 65 members attending. Bingo began at 2 p.m. with the meal of hamburgers, hot dogs, bratwursts, tomatoes, cucumbers, baked beans, kolaches and a beverage were served at 4 p.m. Raffle tickets were sold and 14 drawings were held with a cash prize of \$20.00 to each winner. Also in attendance was one of our scholarship winners, Harper Hunsaker, along with her parents and grandparents.



The raffle ticket sellers. The blue wavy line on the wall is the height reached by the flood waters in 2008.



Harper Hunsaker with her parents (Aaron and Melissa), her sister Emily and her grandparents (John and Cindy Salat).



The kolach bakers.



Officers of Branch W045: President Mike Papich, Fraternal Secretary Joe Zachar, Recording Secretary John Salat, Harper Hunsaker, Vice President Ed Melichar and Trustee Bob Ruzicka.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS Tabor, South Dakota

October 4-6 — Quadrennial National Convention in Tampa Bay, FL.

October 27 — All Ages Annual Potluck Halloween Party, 5 p.m. Prizes for best costumes. Meeting and games at Beseda Hall, Tabor.



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SLOVAK
LADIES
ASSOCIATION



St. Louis Sr. Branch 101 and Jr. Branch 011 Coordinate a U.S. Flag Retirement Ceremony

"There is a debt of service due from every man (& woman) to this country, proportioned to the bounties which nature and fortune have measured to them."

Thomas Jefferson wrote these words 20 years after he wrote the Declaration of Independence, whose 243rd anniversary we celebrated on this past Fourth of July.

We, the FCSLA, call ourselves "Patriots." The term belongs to anyone who pays his or her debt of service – even if it's just by coordinating a Flag Retirement Ceremony. The original Patriots paid a debt of service for ideals they believed in. This is how the nation began, and this is the only way it will endure.

We, the FCSLA St. Louis' Branches, have been Blessed with a Great Bounty – We, in turn, will match this Bounty with Boundless Service!

When the United States Flag (Old Glory) becomes worn, torn, faded or badly soiled, it is time to replace it with a new flag, and the old flag should be "retired" with all the dignity and respect befitting our Nation's Flag. The traditional method of retirement is to incinerate the flag but this does not mean that one should simply drop the entire flag (intact) into a fire. Our Branches did not burn the flags – we retired a

symbol of America's honor, courage, and strength.

Old Glory was born on June 14, 1777, in Philadelphia. The thirteen stripes (symbolic of the rays of light emanating from the sun) alternating red and white, with a union of thirteen white stars (a symbol of the heavens and the divine goal to which man has aspired from time immemorial) in a field of blue – colors of the pales (the vertical stripes) are those used in the Flag of the United States of America; White signifies purity and innocence; Red, hardiness & valor; and Blue, the color of the Chief signifies vigilance, perse-

verance and justice the blue of heaven, loyalty, and faith – represented a new constellation, a new nation dedicated to the personal and religious liberty of mankind.

The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association St. Louis Sr. Branch 101 and Jr. Branch 11, collected 175 worn, tattered flags and, otherwise unserviceable flags, and respectfully 'retired' them during a Flag Retirement Ceremony on July 4th after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Mary Magdalen Church – Celebrating its Centennial.

Thomas Jefferson also wrote, "The price of freedom is eternal vigilance." On the 4th of July, we gave thanks to live in a country where citizens from every generation willingly and courageously raised their hands to stand the watch supporting 'Old Glory.' We, on this continent, should never forget that men first crossed the Atlantic Ocean not to find soil for their ploughs but to secure liberty for their souls.

Freedom is not America's gift to the world; Freedom is the Almighty's gift to every man and woman who lives in this world.

Senior branch members Joshua and Jacob Miklovic (USMC veterans and Eagle Scouts) and Susan Miklovic and Judy Uxa – junior branch members BSA Scouts Sam and Louis Miklovic participated in the FCSLA Flag Retirement ceremony.





IN MEMORIAM

Gwynn Ellen Krempasky, S484



Gwynn Ellen Krempasky, 76, passed away on November 7, 2018. She was the beloved wife of Wilfred M. Krempasky for 57 years. Gwynn was born in Allentown, PA to the late Robert Uhle and Elma Mae (Harley) Uhle. Gwynn attended Parkland High School and worked for several years in insurance before becoming an Acquisitions Administrative Assistant for the Parkland

Community Library for nearly 30 years, retiring in 2005. She was an avid reader and collector of books. Her talents included drawing, gardening and baking. She loved nature and animals, especially dogs, and was an enthusiastic bird-watcher. Her last rescue dog, Heidi, was a constant joy in her life. She was a caring and loving wife, mother and grandmother, a devoted daughter and sister, and a loyal friend who will be deeply missed. Surviving with her husband are daughters, Susan Dickinson and husband Pat of Allentown and Katherine Steirer and husband Bill of Allentown; mother, Elma Mae Uhle of Allentown; sister, Jane Krasley and husband Doug of Allentown; a goddaughter, and five granddaughters.

Patricia Dobry, Z763

Patricia Dosh Dobry of Parkville, MD, formerly of Lutherville, MD, died November 12, 2018. She was the beloved wife of Thaddeus (Ted) Dobry, to whom she was married for 66 years. Born and raised in Baltimore, she was the daughter of the late Paul and Alice Dosh. After graduating from Mount Saint Agnes High School, she briefly worked at the FBI before marrying the love of her life and devoting herself as a full time wife and mother to her four children. Volunteerism was core to her nature; she served as Den Mother in Cub Scouts, an active member of the Parent-Teacher Association at the Immaculate Conception School and Co-Chair of the Parents Club at Calvert Hall. As a long-time member and several term President of the Volunteer Association at Greater Baltimore Medical Center, she loved providing care to newborns and their families. In addition to her husband, she is survived by her sons Tep, Rob, and Steve, and his wife Nancy, her daughter Dee Thaxter and her husband Michael; her four grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren, as well as extended family across the United States. In lieu of flowers, those who wish may make memorial contributions in Pat's name to the Alzheimer's Association of Greater Baltimore.

Edward Nick Brezina, W056



Edward Nick Brezina, Pappa Ed, age 79 of Farmington, MN died on November 13, 2018. He was born November 25, 1938 in Faribault, MN. Ed worked at Faribault Foods for 40 years until he retired. He married his wife lone on May 14, 1993. Pappa Ed enjoyed his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He loved to be outside mowing lawns, snow blowing snow, helping lone pick weeds in their many, many

gardens. He also loved to go to Treasure Island, (always going to win big and did a lot of times). Pappa Ed loved to play his accordion and Button Box, along with his wife lone playing the drums. He played at the Farmington Fair and also KCHK Radio too. He loved to help family whenever he could. Survived by his wife of 25½

years, lone; dear sisters, Dorothy and Mary; loving children, Mike (Lisa), John (Michelle), Steve (Dorinda), Ed (LeAnn), Tom (Barb), JoAnn (Greg), Linda (Rick) and Nancy (Alex); many grandchildren, a great-grandchild, family and friends; also by extended family too.

Margaret Rose Smore, S433

Margaret Rose (Kamas) Smore, 95, of Uniontown, passed away on November 15, 2018. Margaret was born on April 1, 1923 the daughter of Louis J. and Sophia (Stepanik) Kamas. Margaret graduated from Georges Twp. High School class of 1941. A member of St. Johns the Evangelist Church, Christian mothers, the Jefferson Club, the Widows group, Catholic Daughters of America and a greeter on Sundays. She was an Office Volunteer at St. Johns for many years. She was a member of Happy Helens, the Birthday Girls, the National Slovak Society and the first Catholic Slovak Ladies Association. She volunteered at Mt. St. Macrina Bingo group. Margaret is survived by two sons: Thomas J. Smore and wife Carol and Lawrence D. Smore and wife Laura, five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Irene Konat Delehant, Z356



Irene Konat Delehant, 96, of San Francisco, CA died November 28, 2018. Irene was born in Omaha, NE on July 15, 1922 to Gust Konat and Constance Bernica Konat. Following her graduation from Creighton University in Omaha with a degree in Sociology, Irene married John Wayne Delehant Jr. in February 1944. Irene and John lived many years in Omaha raising five children and serving the community. Irene was active in the Junior League, Joslyn Art Museum, Omaha Hearing School, Bergan Mercy Hospitals' Guilds, Aksarben Ball Committee among many others. In order to be closer to their adult children and their families, Irene and John moved to San Francisco, CA in 1988. There Irene continued to nurture three generations with a big heart, a generous spirit and endless energy. Affiliations in San Francisco included: Junior League, Garden, Metropolitan and Saint Francis Yacht Clubs. Irene's ability to live such a full life with kindness, strength and generosity is her legacy. Irene is survived by her family: Connie Sears of Healdsburg, CA; John Delehant III, wife Susan Sample of Avila Beach, CA.; Susan Guheen Desautels, husband Marc of San Mateo, CA; Trish Lassart, husband James of San Francisco, CA; David Delehant, wife Carolyn Koloski of Carmichael, CA; nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Thomas S. Holizna, S77

Thomas S. Holizna, 56, of Ford City, PA died November 11, 2018. He was born October 26, 1962, in Kittanning to Thomas R. Holizna and Marie Zahradnik Holizna. He was a lifelong resident of the area. Thomas was retired from ATI, Vandergrift, and worked mostly at the Bagdad plant. He was a member of the former Holy Trinity Church. He enjoyed coin collecting and baseball cards, hunting and fishing, gardening, and most of all enjoyed spending time with family and grandchildren. He is survived by his wife, Wendy Klingensmith Holizna, who he married September 12, 1980; his sons, Thomas M. Holizna, of Ford City, and Brian and Patience Holizna, of Ford City; eight grandchildren; and a sister, Anna Hutchison, of Ford City.

DISTRICT ANNA HURBAN OF CHICAGO JOIN HANDS DAY EVENT

An Afternoon of Bingo with the Vets at Hines VA Hospital, Maywood, Illinois



For the thirteenth consecutive year, officers and members from the District Anna Hurban of Chicago met on Saturday, April 27, 2019, for its Join Hands Day event at the Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital. Nineteen district members, including district and branch officers, spent the afternoon with thirty-four of the one hundred seven resident veterans playing forty-three very serious games of bingo where the vets had the chance to win some of the \$1,000 in commissary coupons available as prizes. The District provided \$500 toward the commissary coupons with the District Branches contributing an additional \$500. To make the playing field fair, each of the vets who arrived to play bingo received an initial gift of \$5 in coupons along with an FCSLA drawstring bag. The branches also donated toiletries for packets that will be put together to be passed out to all the residents in the unit. Once again the event was a huge success with the

vets truly enjoying their visit with us and looking forward to next year's visit.

The VA Hospital is located in Maywood, IL, and is the largest of the Chicago-area Veterans' Hospitals, well known for its many programs and specialties including blind rehabilitation, spinal cord injury, neurosurgery, radiation therapy, cardiovascular surgery, and serves as a Polytrauma Center for severely injured veterans with skilled medical professionals who treat patients with traumatic brain injuries.

As always, the afternoon was filled with lots of laughter and fun, and everyone in attendance from the District agreed that it was just a small way of showing these vets how grateful we all are to them for the sacrifices they have made to ensure our American freedom! (To see additional photos from this event go to: <http://www.fcsla.org/district/chicago/gallery.php>)



Helen Kocan District of Indiana Share With The Share Foundation

The 28th Spring Luncheon of the Share Foundation was held in April at the Halls of St. George in Schererville, IN. Of the 900 attendees, over 20 members of the Helen Kocan District were participants in this annual event to support the Share Foundation founded in 1982. In the 1970's Father Dennis Blaney was in charge of the Apostolate for the Handicapped, a church related service. This expanded as parents of other-abled joined with Father Blaney to find ways to provide help and services to these families throughout the community and their other-abled adults. Today, Share Foundation solely exists to meet the needs of God's other-abled people and provide them with the Sharing Meadows, a 185 acre residential community of 15 homes and five villages. The Villagers (residents) have very full lives, adhering to daily work schedules that alternate their vocational training between birdhouse and birdfeeder construction, ceramic workshops, computer labs, and planting fruit-bearing trees and bushes. The residents learn every-day living skills, fostering their independence, while encouraging use of their existing skills to create sewing, cooking and canning products that are sold at the fundraising events. The Kathy Kelly's Dancing Villagers entertain at the Spring Luncheon as seen in the photographs as others are assisting in selling cookies, baskets, and other homemade articles. Presently, Father Blaney is a retired priest from Northwest Indiana who is the President of the Board of the Share Foundation, and can be seen with two members at the April Luncheon. Bishop Donald J. Hying of the Diocese of Gary attended this function and stopped to visit several FCSLA branch officers,

members and National Director, Joann Skvarek Banvich as seen with him in the picture.

The Helen Kocan District has been sharing their treasure with the Share Foundation for many years to assist with their needs as they receive no government funding.



The 23rd Edition of Our **SLOVAK-AMERICAN COOK BOOK**

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

ALL ARE SOLD FOR CASH



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

(Please Print)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Enclosed find \$ _____ ☐ (Money Order)

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

41ST ANNUAL SAINTS CYRIL AND METHODIUS APPEAL

The Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal is in its 41st year raising money to assist the Pontifical Slovak College of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Rome with its day to day operations. Today, the Appeal relies upon the generosity of individual donors in addition to collections taken up in personal parishes of Slovak ancestry.

As of July 20, \$25,149.73 has been received from 149 donors. On behalf of the Pontifical College, thank you for your continued generosity and support.

Anyone who wishes to contribute to the 2019 Appeal but did not receive a solicitation letter in January is asked to fill out the information in the box at the bottom of this article and mailing it along with your check payable to the Slovak Catholic Federation to the address provided. Donations in any amount are deeply appreciated and are acknowledged. Gifts received after November 30, 2019 will be credited toward the 2020 Appeal. Thank you again for your goodness and generosity.

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. Hvozdivic, 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.

41st Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Amount \$ _____

*Please make check payable to
Slovak Catholic Federation and mail to:*

Rev. Thomas A. Nasta
National First Vice President, SCF
Sacred Heart Catholic Church
120 Jefferson Street
Swedesburg, PA 19405

REPORT OF THE FCSLA NATIONAL TREASURER

BALANCE SHEET AS OF APRIL 30, 2019

ASSETS

Cash & Short Term Investments	\$ 38,110,304
Bonds	936,581,394
Preferred Stock	2,201,328
Common Stock	6,768,297
Investment Income Due & Accrued	13,474,865
Property Plant & Equipment, Net	5,077,180
Certificate Loans & Accrued Interest	2,366,124
Other Assets	887,561

TOTAL ASSETS

\$ 1,005,467,053

LIABILITIES

Life Reserves	\$ 299,234,392
Annuity Reserves	577,554,525
Death Claims Payable	3,296,965
Unearned Premiums	448,909
Matured Endowments	389,355
Provision for Dividends Payable	1,400,000
Accumulated Dividends & Interest	4,751,456
Accrued Convention Donations	882,000
Provision for Future Conventions	534,137
Asset Valuation Reserve	8,834,145
Interest Maintenance Reserve	543,140
Other Liabilities	1,924,553

TOTAL LIABILITIES

\$ 899,793,577

Surplus

\$ 105,673,476

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS

\$ 1,005,467,053

INCOME STATEMENT For the Four Months Ending April 30, 2019

REVENUE

Insurance Premiums	\$ 1,583,882
Annuity Premiums	17,083,960
Investment Income	16,716,494
Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve	42,848
Rental Income	116,518
Other Revenue	6,130
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 35,549,833

EXPENSE

Increase in Reserves — Life	\$ 474,392
Increase in Reserves — Annuity	13,123,107
Insurance Benefits	3,097,561
Annuity Benefits	11,377,278
Commission Expense	494,583
Surrender Benefits	1,401,962
Post Mortem Benefits	572,609
Miscellaneous Member Benefits	25,923
Matured Endowments	75,553
Donation Expenses	41,358
Change in Accrued Convention Donations	84,000
Convention Expenses	48,657
Bank Service Charges	41,794
Data Processing Service Fees	80,012
Accounting Fees	60,410
Actuarial Fees	119,074
Legal Fees	21,154
Consulting Fees	36,958
Branch and District Funding	248,714
Fraternal Activities	24,904
Official Publications	205,889
Scholarship Awards	92,332
Miscellaneous Employee Benefits	184,553
Fees — Directors	55,183
Salaries — Employees	692,418
Salaries — Officers	176,598
Interest Expense	119,599
Tax Expense	73,958
Depreciation Expense	78,486
Utility Expense	32,821
Postage and Printing	153,905
Advertising	29,867
Travel Expense	13,638
Insurance Department Fees	25,108
Sales Promotion	44,583
Rental Expense	116,518
Other Expense	191,421
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 33,736,879

Income (Loss) from Operations

\$ 1,812,954

Dividends to Members

500,295

Subtotal Income (Loss)

\$ 1,312,659

Capital Gains (Loss)

(181,049)

NET INCOME (Loss)

\$ 1,131,610



CAULIFLOWER SALAD

- 1 head cauliflower, trimmed and cut into bite-size florets
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1 tablespoon mustard
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ground black pepper to taste
- 4 hard boiled eggs, chopped
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 cup frozen green peas, thawed
- ¼ cup dill pickles, chopped
- 6 slices crisply cooked bacon, crumbled

In a large bowl whisk together the mayonnaise, mustard, salt, and pepper. Add the cauliflower, eggs, onion, peas, dill pickles, and bacon to the dressing and stir until well coated. Cover and refrigerate for 1 hour before serving.

BACON RANCH PASTA SALAD

- 1 (12 ounce) package uncooked tri-color rotini pasta
- 10 slices bacon
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 3 tablespoons dry ranch salad dressing mix
- ¼ teaspoon garlic powder
- ½ teaspoon garlic pepper
- ½ cup milk, or as needed
- 1 large tomato, chopped
- 1 (4.25 ounce) can sliced black olives
- 1 cup shredded sharp Cheddar cheese

Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil; cook rotini according to directions on package.

Place bacon in a skillet over medium-high heat and cook until evenly brown. Drain and chop.

In a large bowl, mix mayonnaise, ranch dressing mix, garlic powder, and garlic pepper. Stir in milk until smooth. Place rotini, bacon, tomato, black olives and cheese in bowl and toss to coat with dressing. Cover

and chill at least 1 hour in the refrigerator. Toss with additional milk if the salad seems a little dry.

GRILLED MUSHROOM SWISS BURGERS

- 1½ pounds lean ground beef
- ½ teaspoon seasoned meat tenderizer
- salt and pepper to taste
- 2 teaspoons butter
- 2 (4 ounce) cans sliced mushrooms, drained
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 4 slices Swiss cheese
- 6 hamburger buns

Prepare a grill for medium heat. Lightly oil the grate. Divide the ground beef into 6 patties. Season with meat tenderizer, salt and pepper. Set aside.

Melt the butter in a skillet over medium heat. Add the mushrooms and soy sauce; cook and stir until browned. Set aside and keep warm.

Grill the patties for about 6 minutes per side, or until cooked through. Divide the mushroom mixture evenly amongst the burgers and top each one with a slice of Swiss cheese. Cover the grill for about 1 minute to allow the cheese to melt. Remove from the grill and serve on hamburger buns.

GRILLED HAWAIIANS

- 3 tablespoons butter or margarine, softened
- 8 slices bread
- 4 slices Swiss cheese
- 8 slices thinly sliced cooked ham
- 1 (8 ounce) can crushed pineapple, drained well

Heat a large skillet over medium-high heat. Spread butter onto one side of each slice of bread. Place up to 4 of the slices of bread, butter side down in the skillet. Top each piece with one slice of cheese, two slices of ham, and about 2 tablespoons of the crushed pineapple. Place remaining slices of bread on top with the butter side up. When the bottom of the sandwich is golden brown, flip sandwiches, and cook until browned on the other side, about 1 minute. Repeat steps with remaining ingredients if all four sandwiches do not fit in your skillet.

FRESH CORN AND ZUCCHINI SAUTE

- ¼ cup butter
- ½ small white onion, finely diced
- 3 small zucchinis, diced
- 3 ears corn, husks and silk removed
- sea salt to taste
- freshly ground black pepper to taste

Heat butter in a skillet over medium heat, stirring occasionally, until lightly browned, 1 to 2 minutes. Cook and stir onion in the melted butter until translucent, about 5 minutes. Cut kernels from the ears of corn.

Add zucchini and corn; cook and stir until zucchini is tender, about 8 minutes. Season with sea salt and pepper.

CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIE ICE CREAM CAKE

- 1 (18 ounce) package small chocolate chip cookies
- ¼ cup margarine, melted
- 1 cup hot fudge topping
- 2 quarts vanilla ice cream
- 1 cup whipped cream
- 12 cherries

Crush half the cookies (about 20) to make crumbs. Combine crumbs with melted margarine and press into the bottom of a 9-inch springform pan or pie plate. Stand remaining cookies around edge of pan. Spread ¾ cup fudge topping over crust. Freeze 15 minutes.

Meanwhile, soften 1 quart of ice cream in microwave or on countertop. After crust has chilled, spread softened ice cream over fudge layer. Freeze 30 minutes.

Scoop remaining quart of ice cream into balls and arrange over spread ice cream layer. Freeze until firm, 4 hours or overnight. To serve, garnish with remainder of fudge topping, whipped cream and cherries.

BLUEBERRY ZUCCHINI BREAD

- 3 eggs, lightly beaten
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 3 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2¼ cups white sugar
- 2 cups shredded zucchini
- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ¼ teaspoon baking soda
- 1 tablespoon ground cinnamon
- 1 pint fresh blueberries

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly grease 4 mini-loaf pans.

In a large bowl, beat together the eggs, oil, vanilla, and sugar. Fold in the zucchini. Beat in the flour, salt, baking powder, baking soda, and cinnamon. Gently fold in the blueberries. Transfer to the prepared mini-loaf pans.

Bake 50 minutes in the preheated oven, or until a knife inserted in the center of a loaf comes out clean. Cool 20 minutes in pans, then turn out onto wire racks to cool completely.

STRAWBERRY FRUIT DIP

- 1 (8 ounce) package strawberry-flavored cream cheese
- 1 (7 ounce) jar marshmallow creme

In a medium bowl, mix the strawberry-flavored cream cheese and marshmallow creme until well blended. Chill in the refrigerator approximately 1 hour before serving. Best with apples, grapes, strawberries or pineapple.

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.