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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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# COLORS

Once upon a time the colors of the world started to quarrel. All claimed that they were the best. The most important. The most useful. The favorite.

**GREEN SAID:** "Clearly I am the most important. I am the sign of life and of hope. I was chosen for grass, trees and leaves. Without me, all animals would die. Look over the countryside and you will see that I am in the majority."

**BLUE INTERRUPTED:** "You only think about the earth, but consider the sky and the sea. It is the water that is the basis of life and drawn up by the clouds from the deep sea. The sky gives space and peace and serenity. Without my peace, you would all be nothing."

**YELLOW CHUCKLED:** "You are all so serious. I bring laughter, gaiety, and warmth into the world. The sun is yellow, the moon is yellow, the stars are yellow. Every time you look at a sunflower, the whole world starts to smile. Without me there would be no fun."

**ORANGE STARTED NEXT TO BLOW HER TRUMPET:** "I am the color of health and strength. I may be scarce, but I am precious for I serve the needs of human life. I carry the most important vitamins. Think of carrots, pumpkins, oranges, mangoes, and papayas. I don't hang around all the time, but when I fill the sky at sunrise or sunset, my beauty is so striking that no one gives another thought to any of you."

**RED COULD STAND IT NO LONGER HE SHOUTED OUT:** "I am the ruler of all of you. I am blood - life's blood! I am the color of danger and of bravery. I am willing to fight for a cause. I bring fire into the blood.. Without me, the earth would be as empty as the moon. I am the color of passion and of love, the red rose, the poinsettia and the poppy."

**PURPLE ROSE UP TO HIS FULL HEIGHT:** He was very tall and spoke with great pomp: "I am the color of royalty and power. Kings, chiefs, and bishops have always chosen me for I am the sign of authority and wisdom. People do not question me! They listen and obey."

**FINALLY INDIGO SPOKE, MUCH MORE QUIETLY THAN ALL THE OTHERS, BUT WITH JUST AS MUCH DETERMINATION:** "Think of me. I am the color of silence. You hardly notice me, but without me you all become superficial. I represent thought and reflection, twilight and deep water. You need me for balance and contrast, for prayer and inner peace."

And so the colors went on boasting, each convinced of his or her own superiority. Their quarreling became louder and louder. Suddenly there was a startling flash of bright lightening thunder rolled and boomed. Rain started to pour down relentlessly. The colors crouched down in fear, drawing close to one another for comfort.

**IN THE MIDST OF THE CLAMOR, RAIN BEGAN TO SPEAK:** "You foolish colors, fighting amongst yourselves, each trying to dominate the rest. Don't you know that you were each made for a special purpose, unique and different? Join hands with one another and come to me."

Doing as they were told, the colors united and joined hands.

**THE RAIN CONTINUED:** "From now on, when it rains, each of you will stretch across the sky in a great bow of color as a reminder that you can all live in peace. The Rainbow is a sign of hope for tomorrow." And so, whenever a good rain washes the world, and a Rainbow appears in the sky, let us remember to appreciate one another!

Dear Friends,

This month rather than fear or criticize what appears "different" take the time to appreciate and value the diversity and uniqueness that surrounds you every day!

Remember we are all perfect in our own way because God created all of us and God doesn't make mistakes!

Until next Month....

Warmly, Carolyn

ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA

# SAINT ISAAC JOGUES AND COMPANIONS

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

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Isaac Jogues was born in 1607 in Orleans, France. Having heard many stories of the Jesuit missionaries and their martyrdom, he entered the Order of Jesus at the age of 17. At that time missionaries were focusing on the New World. Upon his ordination, Father Jogues was sent to the Jesuit mission at Lake Huron in Canada. The New World was nothing but wilderness. By the end of Father Jogues' very difficult 900-mile journey he was stricken by fever. The mission itself lacked proper sanitation, was infested, and food was scarce. An epidemic broke out among the Jesuits as well as the natives of the village. With epidemics becoming a regular occurrence, the Huron Indians blamed the "Black Coats," as they called the Jesuits, threatening to kill them all. They were eventually calmed so that by the following year relations between the Huron and the Jesuits improved.

For six years Father Jogues lived in the village and learned the ways and language of the Huron. Gradually they began to accept him. They realized that he and his companions were not there to profit in any way but to share the Word of God. Many of the Indians accepted Christianity. However this good will did not last as some Indians spread reports of how missionaries only brought misfortune wherever they went. The Mohawk tribe of the Iroquois, who were enemies of the Huron, was the most dangerous threat. After a particularly bad winter Father Jogues, along with his companions and some Huron, made the dangerous trip to Quebec City for supplies. On their journey they were attacked by the Mohawk who beat Father Jogues with clubs and sticks until he was unconscious. After this they tore out his fingernails and chewed the two forefingers on his hands. René Goupil, one of the lay missionaries who had ac-

companied Father Jogues, was martyred because he made the Sign of the Cross on a child's forehead. Father Jogues was kept captive for more than a year, facing tremendous torture many times. He experienced severe malnourishment and exposure to the elements. All the while he continued to minister as a priest by comforting the other captives and caring for the sick. He mastered the Mohawk language and was given the name "Ondessonk" (the Indomitable One). Slowly he was afforded some freedom. He baptized 70 dying Mohawks, including one of the men who had bitten off his fingers.

In the fall of 1643 Father Jogues was able to escape when taken on a trading expedition with the Mohawk. He was hidden by the Dutch until a ship took him downriver to Manhattan Island. From there he sailed to France. Now able to freely celebrate Mass, he was given a special dispensation by the Pope to handle the Blessed Sacrament without the use of his missing fingers. In France he was welcomed as a living martyr. Still he longed to return to his ministry with the Indians, which he did after four months' time.

With talk of a peace treaty, Father Jogues was asked to act as ambassador for the French because of his familiarity with the Indians, along with a layman named Jean de Lalande. Father Jogues returned to the same Mohawk village where he had been tortured and kept as a slave. The people of the village accepted that he was there to promote peace between the tribes. Father Jogues made several visits there and planned to winter in the village, but this never happened. Because of disease that had spread within the tribe and the failure of crops due to insect infestation, the Mohawk placed blame on Mass vestments and personal effects that had been left by the Jesuits on a previous visit. They accused the Black Coats of putting a curse on them. Once again Father Jogues was taken captive. The majority of the Mohawk tribe voted to set him free, but one faction disagreed and took matters into their own hands. They invited Father Jogues to feast in one of their tents. When he arrived they killed him by a tomahawk to the head. The next day they killed Jean de Lalande.

In the following years the Iroquois broke their treaty with the French and destroyed all of the Huron villages and Jesuit mission posts. Five other Jesuit priests were martyred. They, along with Father Jogues, Jean de Lalande and René Goupil, would become known as the eight North American Martyrs who were canonized by Pope Pius XI in 1930.

Eventually peace between the Huron and Mohawk was established; Jesuit missionaries once again returned. Two final interesting facts: The Mohawk Indian who had tomahawked Father Jogues converted to Christianity and took the name "Isaac Jogues" as his baptismal name. Secondly, ten years after Father Jogues' death, a Mohawk woman named Kateri Tekakwitha was born in the same village and accepted Christianity. She would become the first Native American to be canonized, a result of the ministry that began with Father Jogues.

*Saint Isaac Jogues, pray for us, that we may act with Christ-like charity to all.*

**Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association**

**SLOVAKTOBER FEST**

**SLOVAK SOKOL HALL**

(2912 E. Carson St., South Side)

**Friday, October 18**

**from 6-10 p.m.**

~ CASH BAR – FREE PARKING ~

**Slovak Beer, Buffet Dinner,  
Dancing & Entertainment**

**Tickets: \$30 (members) \$35 (non-members)**

*For more information please call 412-243-3437  
or email [apavlak@gmail.com](mailto:apavlak@gmail.com)*

**Live Music: The Gypsy Stringz**



# Message from our National President

## CYNTHIA M. MALESKI



### LET US STAND TALL AND PROUD AND HAVE A JOYFUL TIME TOGETHER AT OUR 42ND QUADRENNIAL CONVENTION!



Dear fellow members,

From October 3-6, 2019, many of our key leaders will gather in Tampa, Florida at our 42nd Quadrennial Convention to deliberate for the good of our Association. May God bless us in our deliberations and actions for the future of our society!

While we are there, we will see many old friends and hopefully make some new ones. As we work together to provide financial security for our members, embrace our Catholic faith and Slovak/Slavic traditions, it is important for us to do so in a joyful, open, honest way. With joy and pride, let us be wise stewards of the treasures God has given us – our time, our talents and our treasures – in the way that reflects our faith and our values with respect and love for each other, and affirming the dignity of each person.

Most importantly, I wish HAPPINESS and JOY to everyone during these precious days together. We will not pass this way again, so let us savor our moments and time together. We can and will weave a fabric of

cherished memories together that will last a lifetime for each and every one of us.

I hope we will all be “in tune with each other”, enjoy the entire experience of our convention, be productive in the present moment, and be happy and share the joy of each other and the success and growth of our beloved Zenska Jednota!

On October 7, 2019 we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. As we continue to ask Mary, Mother of God, for refuge in times of danger, sorrow and trouble, let us also pray to her in time of joy and light in our lives, as well.

Let us all Stand Tall and Proud Together!

**Cynthia M. Maleski**

National President (CEO)



## **FCSLA** **Annuity Rates**

*Rates for our  
deferred Elite Annuities:*

**SILVER ELITE (5 YEAR)**

**3.00% APY\***

**GOLD ELITE (7 YEAR)**

**3.25% APY\***

**PLATINUM ELITE (10 YEAR)**

**3.50% APY\***

\*This rate is in effect 10/1/2019 thru 12/31/2019.

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.



## *Anna Hurban Scholarship Fund Donations*

The Anna Hurban Scholarship Fund was started in 2017 to make a difference in helping to make education affordable for a deserving student. Your tax deductible gift to the Anna Hurban Scholarship Fund gives our young members the opportunity to build an even stronger foundation as they begin their life journey and affirms them at a crucial time in their lives. We gratefully acknowledge those who have donated to the fund since its inception during the Association's 125th Anniversary year. Thank you for your generous donations! The fund currently has a balance of \$180,945. We will continue to recognize your donations in *Fraternally Yours* at least twice a year.

### *Branches*

S410/J321 – Nesquehoning, PA – \$100.00  
S096 – Hazle Township, PA – \$100.00 – In Memory of Florence Podany  
S221/J057 – Cleveland, OH – \$200.00 – In Honor of Present and Deceased Members & Officers of S221 and J057  
S088/J157 – Monessen, PA – \$300.00 – In Memory of Dr. Reverend Micah Kozoil  
District 3 – Pittsburgh Okres, Western PA – \$200.00 – In Memory of Dr. Reverend Micah Kozoil  
S108 – St. Ludmila Ladies Society of Olyphant, PA – \$300.00 – In Memory of Deceased Members of S108  
S484 – St. Anne's, Whitehall, PA – \$100.00 – In Memory of Deceased Members of S484  
S424 – Homestead, PA – \$100.00 – In Honor of the Living and Deceased Members of Branch S424  
District 10 – Okres Magdalen I. Iskra District – \$500.00  
J458 – Wellington, OH – \$100.00  
S200/J056 – Glassport, PA – \$500.00 – In Memory of Living and Deceased Members of S200 and J056  
S615 – Wilkes-Barre, PA – \$1,000.00 – In Honor of Branch 615 Members  
S114 – Lorain, OH – \$75.00 – In Memory of Dorothy M. Gallo-Masley  
S234 – Union, NJ – \$300.00 – In Memory of Irene Deviatka  
S089 – Hellertown, PA – \$200.00 – In Memory of Veronica Bazik, District President

### *Private Donations*

Virginia A. Holmes – \$400.00 – In Memory of John J. Tapocik  
Elizabeth Hickie – \$25.00 – In Honor of Sister Helen Scasny  
Frank and Pat Korchnak – \$100.00 – In Memory of Parents – Frank & Anna and Sister Dorothy Korchnak  
James L. Carroll – \$100.00 – In Memory of Susannah Carroll  
Joseph A. Kocab – \$100.00 – In Memory of Mary Soltis Tallarovic  
Charles and Dorothy Urbanowicz – \$50.00 – In Memory of Dr. Reverend Micah Kozoil  
Patrice Swartz – \$50.00 – In Memory of Veronica Swartz  
Michael Blazicek – \$100.00 – In Honor of James & Rose Blazicek; In Memory of Rose Hurban Blazicek  
Irene C. Grube – \$50.00 – In Memory of Palasky, Koprowski & Mattis Families  
Michelle Veselicky – \$100.00  
Christine Derivan – \$500.00 – In Memory of Martha A. Kosir  
Richard Yovanovic – \$200.00 – In Memory of Ann Hovancik  
Mr. & Mrs. Jake Krempasky – \$100.00 – In Memory of Justine Krempasky  
Lynn Schmitz – \$200.00 – In Honor of Maryann Christoff Pedetty and In Memory of Mary Novotney Christoff  
Erin MS Warner – \$25.00 – In Memory of Mary & Andrew Shesko  
Marianne Wudarsky – \$150.00 – In Memory of Helen Thomas Wudarsky  
Barbara Kramer – \$20.00 – In Memory of Ann Rabatin Mastandrea  
Sue Ann Seich – \$25.00 – In Memory of Elizabeth Yurechko  
Suzanne Hudson – \$100.00 – In Memory of Jonette Chrzastek  
Barbara Sekerak – \$100.00 – In Memory of Jim Sekerak  
Joanne Mrosko – \$75.00 – In Memory of Dorothy M. Gallo-Masley  
Kathleen R. Giordano – \$200.00 – In Memory of Veronica Bazik, District President  
Cynthia M. Maleski – \$100.00 – In Memory of Veronica Bazik



## *Magdalen I. Iskra District* **National and District Scholarship Awards Luncheon**

The Magdalen I. Iskra District recently held a luncheon to honor the sixteen National and three District Scholarship recipients from the District. Two special scholarship recipients were also honored. There were fifty-four adults and four children in attendance. The luncheon was held at the Genetti Hotel & Conference Center in Wilkes-Barre, PA.

Anna M. Hudock, District Treasurer served as Master of Ceremonies.

Bernadette Yench, Sr. Branch 172 Secretary led the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of the National Anthems of the United States of America and Slovakia.

Magdalen I. Iskra, District President extended greetings to all in attendance. Ann J. Dougher, District Fraternal Coordinator gave the invocation. A delicious buffet was served.

After lunch, Anna M. Hudock introduced the branch and district officers in attendance. Each recipient then introduced their family members present. The District Scholarships were then awarded. The Magdalen I. Iskra Scholarship and the Frank & Joann Biros Memorial Scholarship were also awarded. Gifts were given to the National Scholarship recipients from their branches.

Everyone in attendance was given gifts, compliments of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association.

After the awarding of the scholarships and presentation of gifts, District President Magdalen I. Iskra announced that District Treasurer Anna M. Hudock was named the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association's 2019 Fraternalist of the Year. She was nominated for the honor by Magdalen I.



National, District, and Special Award Recipients with District President Magdalen I. Iskra – Front row (L-R): Alina M. Guth, Bethlehem Catholic High School, National High School Sophomore Award; Catherine Rose Flannery, St. Catherine Laboure School, National Sixth Grade Award; Matthew J. Van Why, Good Shepherd Academy, National Third Grade Award; and Jordan M. Ceklosky, Wilkes-Barre Academy, District Sixth Grade Award. Back row: Theresa A. Dutter, Pennsylvania State University, Frank and Joann Biros Memorial Scholarship; Connor J. Eckert, Jacksonville University, National College Junior Award; Matthew N. Pehala, Marywood University, National College Sophomore Award; Christian J. Blazes, Heritage Academy, National High School Senior Award; Nolan C. Iskra, Temple University, Magdalen I. Iskra Scholarship; Kelci C. Kuren, Holy Redeemer High School, National High School Junior Award; and Magdalen I. Iskra, District President.

Iskra. Magdalen I. Iskra presented Anna with a certificate and gifts from the home office.

She was awarded the honor for Shining like a Star, inspiring others and contributing to her church, school, and community.

Jacqueline M. Barkus, District Trustee gave the benediction. The program ended with singing of "God Bless America" by everyone in attendance.

Recipients unable to attend were: Amy E. O'Neill, Temple University, National College Graduate Award; Nicole C. Klessar, University of Delaware, National College Graduate Award; David Alberigi III, Temple University, National College Sophomore Award; Rachael D. Christy, St. John Fisher College, National College Sophomore Award; Maria T. Schense, University of Virginia, National College Freshman Award; Thomas J. Ungvasky, Rutgers University, National College Freshman Award; Brendan J. Neuman, Mercer County Community College, National Vocational - Technical Trade Award; Daniel G. Balas, Holy Redeemer High School, National Florence Hovanec Memorial Award; Caroline R. Kcenich, St. Martins in the Fields School, National Fourth Grade Award; Jordan A. Choman, Pennsylvania State University, District College Junior Award; and Dylan M. Christy, Landsdale Catholic High School, District High School Junior Award.

Congratulations to all recipients!



Seated: Florence McCabe, Rita R. Kcenich, and David Bryk. Standing: Patricia Bryk, Brianna Van Why, Matthew J. Van Why, Kelly Van Why and Nancy Alberigi.



L-R: Alexandra Pehala, Christine Pehala, Jeffrey Pehala, and Matthew N. Pehala.





**L-R – Seated: Anna Blazes, Jennifer Blazes, Anna M. Hudock, Christian J. Blazes, Ann Kwak, and Charles Butler. Standing: Jill Blazes and James Blazes.**



**L-R – Seated: Cyril Iskra, Sr., Theresa Iskra, and Magdalen I. Iskra. Standing: Martha A. Iskra, Cyril Iskra, Jr., Nolan C. Iskra and Shanin Iskra.**



**L-R – Seated: Marie Flannery, Brian Flannery, Theresa Partika, and Ann J. Dougher. Standing: Catherine Rose Flannery, Andrea Flannery, Michael Flannery, and Jo Ann Klinessmith.**



**L-R – Seated: Bernadette M. Yench, Peter Dutter, Diane Dutter, and Theresa A. Dutter. Standing: Theresa Ceklosky, Jordan M. Ceklosky, and Francis Ceklosky.**



**L-R – Seated: Connor J. Eckert, Rosalie Eckert, and Catherine Trzcinski. Standing: Carl Kuren, Kelvi C. Kuren, Jennifer Koren, Stephanie Eckert, and Catherine Kolessar.**



**L-R – Seated: Lillian Brodoski, Alina M. Guth, Kristina Guth, and Thomas Guth. Standing: Diane F. Gregor, Jacqueline M. Barkus, and Karen Guth.**



**Nolan C. Iskra and Magdalen I. Iskra, District President.**



**Magdalen I. Iskra, District President and Anna M. Hudock, First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association's 2019 Fraternalist of the Year.**

## Planning Meeting Scheduled for Sr. Branch 89

Branch SO89 will be meeting at Stefano's Restaurant in Bethlehem, PA for dinner and their annual 2019 activity report and 2020 planning meeting on Sunday, November 10 at 1:00 p.m. Please call or email Loretta Ulincy (610-737-8207 or loralinc@gmail.com) or Kate Giordano (484-868-1783 or krgiordano@ptd.net) by November 1st if you plan to attend.



# Branch W018 Annual Picnic at Mahoney State Park

Members of Branch W018 of Omaha, NE, enjoyed their annual picnic at Mahoney State Park on June 30th. The hot day encouraged quick eating so members could head to the swimming pool and paddle boats for a cool afternoon.

The picnic had a change of venue from Lakeview Shelter to the Wild Turkey Shelter. Wild Turkey has a view of the John Wayne Stables as well as the James Family Conservatory, which offered additional attractions for the group. Members enjoyed a menu of pulled pork sandwiches, hot dogs, water and pop (supplied by the Branch) and marvelously delicious side dishes brought by member families.

Again, this year Branch W018 members remembered those who are not as fortunate as they are. Several boxes of canned food goods were collected for the St. Vincent de Paul Society.



Getting ready for a game of catch and advertising FCSLA: Matthew Popelka, Pat Mahoney, Joseph Hunter and Vinnie Hunter.



Most members visit the lunch line while a few enjoy playing toss.

After the meal and before the park activities, the Branch Board members were introduced, and Branch Scholarship winners were announced. In spite of the hot weather, the members present enjoyed seeing each other and catching up, in addition to meeting new people.



W018 Board Members: L-R: Standing – Secretary/Treasurer Margie Hladik, Marge Egermier, Laura Tworek, Vice-President Tom Jelinek, President Bob Hladik. Seated: Ann Van Hoff, Activities/Scholarship Chair Julianne Popelka, Jim Popelka.

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

## Eastern PA Frances Jakabcin District Fall Meeting

The Eastern PA Frances Jakabcin District will hold their fall meeting on Sunday, October 27th at the Marian Inn at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 3219 Santee Road, Bethlehem, PA 18020. The meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. and will be sponsored by Bethlehem Branch S089. Election of officers will take place. RSVP to Loretta Ulincy at 610-737-8207 or [loralinc@gmail.com](mailto:loralinc@gmail.com) by October 15th.



## Celebrate Golden Wedding Anniversary



High school sweethearts William Lawrence Allen and Patricia Ann Fabian (members of Branch 522) celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary recently. They were wed on July 26, 1969 at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church in Bedford, OH, by Reverend Father George Drops.

They have two children, Jennifer Marie Allen, and William Albert Allen, and 3 grandsons.

Through the years, Bill and Patty have built their own home with the help of Patty's father, started and managed an auto body business for 35+ years, and enjoyed traveling to each continent (*except Antarctica – too cold!*).



## Branch W006 Holds Annual Picnic

Branch W006 Heun, NE held its annual picnic August 17, 2019. National scholarship winners were recognized at this time. Over 50 members were in attendance and enjoyed grilled burgers and hot dogs.



President Bryan Mastny presented Mitch Yosten with his \$1,250 national scholarship check.



Mitchell Yosten and Grace Dvorak recipients of national scholarships.

## 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.

## 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](mailto:mugsann@gmail.com).

## 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@fcscla.com](mailto:cynthia@fcscla.com).

## Jr. Branch 198 Bowling & Pizza Party

All members of Jr. Branch 198 in Lorain, OH are invited to attend the annual Halloween Bowling and Pizza Party sponsored by the United Slovak Societies. It will be held on Sunday, October 27 at 1:00 p.m. at the bowling lanes at American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway in Lorain, OH. Reservations are a must. Please call the bowling lanes at 440-244-1293 or Marge Thomas at 440-288-1492. Hope to see you there.



Scholarship winners and representatives

## Youngstown District Honors Scholarship Winners

The Youngstown (Ohio) District honored its 25 scholarship winners with a dinner held at the Park Inn in West Middlesex, PA, on August 18. The event was hosted by Branch 153, Farrell, PA with President Fran Chervinko; Secretary Dolores Medvec, and a dozen members working to make it a lovely affair.

Dolores welcomed the 183 attendees and congratulated the winners for their accomplishments. District President Bernadette Demechko thanked the parents and grandparents for having the foresight to purchase insurance policies when the students were young so that they could be eligible for the many benefits of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association.

She announced the regular meeting would not be held so that all that time could be given to the winners. Instead of the usual prayer to Saint Anne, Bernadette read a quote from a book of female saints. "Anne took Mary to school and serve in the Temple." So Mary was able to teach Jesus about the Torah and Jewish religion. It is no wonder that when Jesus was twelve he was able to communicate with the elders in the Temple.

After a delicious sit-down dinner, Bernadette made a few announcements. In June she presented a Seminar on Term Policies with members from all eight Branches attending. The District will receive \$750 for the Seminar and \$350 each for May Crowning, Scholarship and Christmas meetings so Headquarters will mail a check for \$1,500 to the District at the end of the year.

She reminded the members of the five new scholarships that will be offered to students attending vocational or technical schools.

The Youngstown District has 28 delegates who will be attending the FCSLA Convention in Tampa, FL, in October.

The next District Meeting will be the Christmas Party in November at Avon Park at Squaw Creek, Girard, OH, with Branch 422 hosting. Branches were reminded to bring a door prize to the event.

Loretta Ekoniak, President of the American Slovak Cultural Association, announced applications of their scholarship will be accepted until September 30. She reminded everyone to attend the International Building at the Mahoning County Fair where the group annually has a Slovak exhibit. The Vilija Dinner will be December 8.

The major order of business was announcing the scholarship winners who would be called forward by their Branch President and asked to speak briefly on their academic achievements and goals, extra-curricular activities, etc. Each winner will be presented with a monetary gift from their Branch and from the District.

Mary Lou DiPillo, Branch 30, introduced Vincent Pez-

*Continued on Page 11*



Agnes Lisko, with Sedlacko Scholarship winners. Front; Ava Melfi and Brooke Merrill.



Ashley Hull, S156 Vice President, Marie Brooke grandmother of Mya Agee, S161, winner of the Granchay District winner, and Patti Granchay, President of Branch 156.



## Youngstown District Scholarship Winners

*Continued from Page 10*

zuto, Elementary School student and Taylor DeProfio and Meganne Evans, College students.

Dolores Medvec, Branch 153, introduced Mila Medvec, College student and Katie Callahan, Graduate student.

Patty Granchay, Branch 156, introduced Autumn Torday, College student and Lauren Getz, Graduate student. Hannah Schwager, College student was already in school but sent a letter which Patty read to the group.

Melanie Leonard, Branch 161, gave a FCSLA cookbook to each of the Branch winners in addition to the monetary gift. Elementary students included Anna Brooke and Jack Thomas White. College students included Brooke Chandler, Marissa Gordon, and Justic Pelic who were absent but represented by family members. Anastascia Viau is a high school student and Mark Schuler, a Graduate student. Francisco DeMayo and Nicole Malkovits, College student, did not attend.

Dolores Sonoga, Branch 169, introduced College student Bridget Bobovnyik.

Shelly Zura, Branch 344, introduced High School student Anthony Leombruno and College students Jenna Kish and Kenneth Misik.

In the absence of Sandi Saluga, Branch 422 who was recuperating from surgery, the President introduced College student Courtney Smith.

The President introduced Agnes Lisko, representative of the Katherine L. Sedlacko Family Trust Scholarship. Agnes stated this was the 12th year that the family presented a \$1,000 scholarship. It was established by the family in honor of their sister Katherine who had been an Elementary School teacher. Recipients this year were Ava Melfi, Branch 257, Girard, OH, and Brooke Merrill, Branch 257, Fort Wayne, IN, whose family was in attendance. Each of the winners received \$500.

Patty Granchay, President of Branch 156, which is the guardian of the Anna S. Granchay District Scholarship, explained that the Scholarship was established upon the death of Anna who had served as National President of the FCSLA. The \$500 scholarship was awarded to Mya Agee, Branch 161, who was at college. The award was accepted by her grandmother, Marie Brooke, Branch 161.

Scholarship applications for all local scholarships were available at the dinner and will also be available at the November Christmas Party.

Bernadette commented that 22 of the 25 scholarship winners were present or had a family representative which indicates the interest of the group's commitment to education. She also noted the resumes of the winners are a positive sign that our future leadership is in good hands.

A prayer was said for the deceased members and for anyone in need of prayers.

The meeting adjourned.

## July Scholarship Luncheon and St. Ann's Day Celebration

Members of S114 and J198 celebrated St. Ann's Day and honored Scholarship winners and applicants on July 21, 2019 at the American Slovak Club in Lorain, OH.

Following a short meeting, Sr. Branch President Bernie Danevich announced there were two FCSLA Senior winners of \$1,250, Meghan Novotny, Abby Desko, and four other applicants; Emily Bobek, Anna Baron, Colleen Novotny and one in attendance with his family, Dillion Iwanski. There was one junior winner, Leah Shutic received a \$750 scholarship for grade school and attended with her mother, aunt and friend. She read her winning essay to the enjoyment of the group. Betty Boone, Jr. Branch Secretary and Treasurer presented her with branch gifts and congratulations. All Senior and Junior Branch applicants will receive a monetary gift from the Lodge. They were congratulated and wished a successful school year.

Afterwards, a light luncheon was served to all with cake for dessert. The meeting ended with a raffle and gifts from Sr. Branch 114 and FCSLA followed by prayer and adjournment.



**L-R: Leah's mother, Jr. Branch Secretary Betty Boone, and Jr. Branch scholarship winner Leah Shutic.**



**Dillion Iwanski (second from left) is pictured with Branch S114 President Bernie Danevich (center) and his family.**



# 2019 Art Contest Winners



The theme for the 2019 FCLSA Annual Art Contest was “1. If you were a Princess or Prince what would your castle look like? and 2. What would you name your castle?” Once again our AMAZING FCLSA Artists’ did not disappoint! I received 91 entries! Thank you to all the parents for encouraging your children to enter the contest. They were all incredibly creative! It was hard for my judge – a teacher to choose the grand prize winners. She kept saying this is really hard. They are all so good. It took a while, but she finally picked the winners! Congratulations to all! As far as I am concerned you are all winners! Everyone who entered received a gift!

The grand prize winners are published in this issue of Fraternally Yours, but you can see all the entries on our website and Facebook page. I just had to share all of them. They all put so much effort into their drawings – they deserve to be seen!

Even though I have a couple of ideas for next year, if you have any suggestions, send me an email – [kelly@fcls.org](mailto:kelly@fcls.org).

Congratulations again! I look forward to next year’s contest!

Kelly M. Shedlock, Fraternal & Youth Director

## AGE GROUP 2-4

### 1st Place

Title of Drawing: Akera’s Frozen Castle  
Name of Artist: Akera Kuczenski  
Harleyville, PA  
Age: 4 Branch: U-320



1st Place: Akera Kuczenski

### 2nd Place

Title of Drawing: Castle Fantasia  
Name of Artist: Natalia Leftdwige  
Richardson, TX  
Age: 4 Branch: W-077



2nd Place: Natalia Leftdwige

### 3rd Place

Title of Drawing: Spooky the Castle  
Name of Artist: Dean McCluskey  
Tallmadge, OH  
Age: 4 Branch: J-192



3rd Place: Dean McCluskey

### Honorable Mention

Title of Drawing: Princess Castle  
Name of Artist: Merelise Champ  
Freemont, NE  
Age: 3 Branch: JHO0





Honorable Mention: Merelise Champ

**3rd Place (tie)**  
**Title of Drawing:** Castle Midnight  
**Name of Artist:** Kiera Sullivan  
 Elma, NY  
 Age: 6 Branch: J-534

**Honorable Mention (tie)**  
**Title of Drawing:** Color Kingdom  
**Name of Artist:** Leah Yurchick  
 Allison Park, PA  
 Age: 6 Branch: J-126

**3rd Place (tie)**  
**Title of Drawing:** Candy Castle  
**Name of Artist:** Hadelynn Donovan  
 Eagle River, AK  
 Age: 6 Branch: J-544

**Honorable Mention (tie)**  
**Title of Drawing:** Pineapple Peak  
**Name of Artist:** Nicole Freaney  
 Avon, OH  
 Age: 6 Branch: J-457

## AGE GROUP 5-6

**1st Place (tie)**  
**Title of Drawing:** Family Castle  
**Name of Artist:** Natalie Esterle  
 New Berlin, WI  
 Age: 5 Branch: J-130



1st Place (tie): Riley Boland



2nd Place (tie): Evan Poland

**1st Place (tie)**  
**Title of Drawing:** Magic Rainbow Castle  
**Name of Artist:** Riley Boland  
 Lowellville, OH  
 Age: 5 Branch: J-250



3rd Place (tie): Kiera Sullivan

**1st Place (tie)**  
**Title of Drawing:** Prince Ben of the High Seas  
**Name of Artist:** Benjamin Cook  
 Morgantown, WV  
 Age: 6 Branch: J-115



1st Place (tie): Benjamin Cook

**2nd Place (tie)**  
**Title of Drawing:** Doom World  
**Name of Artist:** Mason Raimondi  
 Port Richie, FL  
 Age: 6 Branch: J-527



3rd Place (tie): Hadelynn Donovan

**2nd Place (tie)**  
**Title of Drawing:** King Solid Fortress  
**Name of Artist:** Evan Poland  
 Age: 6 Branch: W-130



1st Place (tie): Natalie Esterle



2nd Place (tie): Mason Raimondi



Honorable Mention (tie): Leah Yurchick



# 2019 Art Contest Winners



Honorable Mention (tie): Nicole Freaney



1st Place (tie): Clare Freaney



2nd Place (tie): Logan Tumminia

## AGE GROUP 7-8

### 1st Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: Forges  
Name of Artist: Clare Freaney  
Avon, OH  
Age: 8 Branch: J-457

### 1st Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: The Fun Cubs Castle  
Name of Artist: Bryant Ziemba  
Round Lake, IL  
Age: 8 Branch: Z-128

### 1st Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: The Castle of Doom  
Name of Artist: Lucy Ziemba  
Round Lake, IL  
Age: 8 Branch: Z-128

### 2nd Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: I Dare You Castle  
Name of Artist: Logan Tumminia  
Parkville, MD  
Age: 7 Branch: Z-763

### 2nd Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: Party Palace  
Name of Artist: Rebecca Lithgow  
Livonia, MI  
Age: 8 Branch: Z-277

### 3rd Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: Castle of Color  
Name of Artist: Gabrielle Hornicak  
Naperville, IL  
Age: 7 Branch: J-083

### 3rd Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: Creepy Castle  
Name of Artist: Evan Unrein  
Scotts Bluff, NE  
Age: 8 Branch: J-024

### Honorable Mention

Title of Drawing: Olympus  
Name of Artist: Rylie White  
Superior, WI  
Age: 8 Branch: J-130



1st Place (tie): Bryant Ziemba



3rd Place (tie): Gabrielle Hornicak



1st Place (tie): Lucy Ziemba



3rd Place (tie): Creepy Castle



2nd Place (tie): Rebecca Lithgow





Honorable Mention: Rylie White

## AGE GROUP 9-10

### 1st Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: My Dream Castle

Name of Artist: Shelby Bailey

Lorain, OH  
Age: 10 Branch: J-198

### 1st Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: Rainbow Palace

Name of Artist: Sasha Kirk

McLean, VA  
Age: 10 Branch: J-512

### 2nd Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: My Castle in Ireland

Name of Artist: Alaina Jost

Wheaton, IL  
Age: 10 Branch: J-470

### 2nd Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: Cousin Castle

Name of Artist: Rachel Boomhower

Pittsburgh, PA  
Age: 9 Branch: J-126

### 2nd Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: Midnight Madness

Name of Artist: Madie DeGeorge

Omaha, NE  
Age: 10 Branch: Z-356

### 3rd Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: Tudor Castle

Name of Artist: Ashley Snyder

Mars, PA  
Age: 9 Branch: J-018

### 3rd Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: Fort Destroy

Name of Artist: Dylenn Donovan

Eagle River, AK  
Age: 10 Branch: J-544

### 3rd Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: Fort Summit

Name of Artist: Lauren Freaney

Avon, OH  
Age: 9 Branch: J-457

### Honorable Mention (tie)

Title of Drawing: The Cool Castle

Name of Artist: Graham Ziemba

Round Lake, IL  
Age: 9 Branch: Z-128

### Honorable Mention (tie)

Title of Drawing: Castle Riley

Name of Artist: Molly Riley

Amherst, OH  
Age: 10 Branch: J-198

### Honorable Mention (tie)

Title of Drawing: Kitty Palace

Name of Artist: Natalia Startare

Brownsville, PA  
Age: 9 Branch: J-157



2nd Place (tie): Alaina Jost



2nd Place (tie): Rachel Boomhower



1st Place (tie): Shelby Bailey



2nd Place (tie): Madie DeGeorge



1st Place (tie): Sasha Kirk



3rd Place (tie): Ashley Snyder



# 2019 Art Contest Winners



3rd Place (tie): Dylenn Donovan



Honorable Mention (tie): Natalia Startare



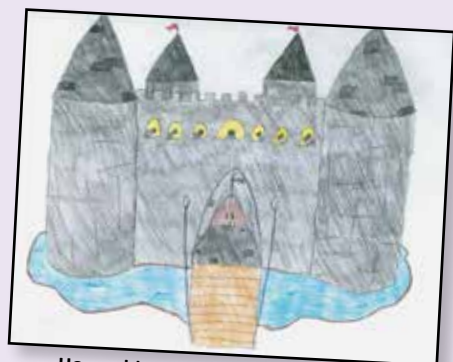
1st Place: Ethan Goldsworthy



3rd Place (tie): Lauren Freaney



Honorable Mention (tie): Graham Ziemba



Honorable Mention (tie): Molly Riley

## AGE GROUP 11-12

### 1st Place

Title of Drawing: Sky High  
Name of Artist: Ethan Goldsworthy  
Harrison City, PA  
Age: 12 Branch: J-003

### 2nd Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: The Castle Boat  
Name of Artist: Eli Triffanoff  
Belle Vernon, PA  
Age: 11 Branch: J-157

### 2nd Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: Castle in Da Skies  
Name of Artist: Allie DeGeorge  
Omaha, NE  
Age: 12 Branch: Z-356

### 2nd Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: Antarctic Castle  
on an Iceberg  
Name of Artist: Jonathan Rudinsky  
Princeton, NJ  
Age: 12 Branch: S-235

### 3rd Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: Flower Power Towers  
Name of Artist: Chloe Adam  
Midland, MI  
Age: 11 Branch: W-093

### 3rd Place (tie)

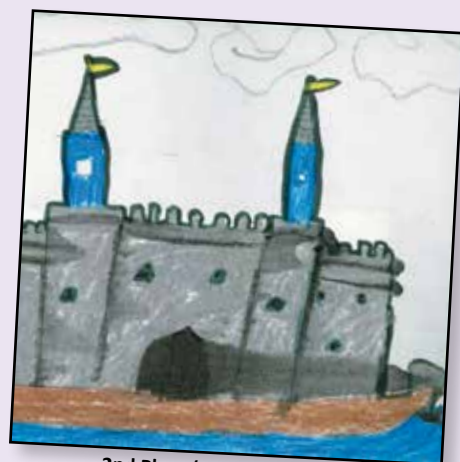
Title of Drawing: Enchanted Castle  
Name of Artist: Elizabeth Hornicak  
Naperville, IL  
Age: 11 Branch: J-083

### Honorable Mention (tie)

Title of Drawing: Battle of the Monsters  
Name of Artist: Isaiah Scanlon  
Delran, NJ  
Age: 12 Branch: J-527

### Honorable Mention (tie)

Title of Drawing: Castle Cobra  
Name of Artist: Colton Campbell  
Omaha, NE  
Age: 11 Branch: W-055



2nd Place (tie): Eli Triffanoff



2nd Place (tie): Allie DeGeorge





2nd Place (tie): Jonathan Rudinsky



Honorable Mention (tie): Isaiah Scanlon



3rd Place (tie): Chloe Adam



Honorable Mention (tie): Colton Campbell



3rd Place (tie): Elizabeth Hornicak

## AGE GROUP 13-15

### 1st Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: Očarený Hrad  
(Enchanted Castle in Slovak)  
Name of Artist: Alexandra Pehala  
Dallas, PA  
Age: 14 Branch: J-362

### 1st Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: Castle in the Sky  
Name of Artist: Sean Jost  
Wheaton, IL  
Age: 13 Branch: J-470

### 1st Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: Floating Paradise  
Name of Artist: Noah Triffanoff  
Belle Vernon, PA  
Age: 13 Branch: J-157

### 2nd Place

Title of Drawing: Sunset Bay Castle  
Name of Artist: Anna Sedlock  
Charles Town, WV  
Age: 13 Branch: J-440

### 3rd Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: Ziemba Krölow  
Name of Artist: Owen Ziemba  
Round Lake, IL  
Age: 13 Branch: Z-128

### 3rd Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: Nice Ice Castle  
Name of Artist: Ann Koppitch  
Shaker Heights, OH  
Age: 15 Branch: J-355

### 3rd Place (tie)

Title of Drawing: Marble Castle  
Name of Artist: Adam Sedlock  
Charles Town, WV  
Age: 15 Branch: J-440

### Honorable Mention (tie)

Title of Drawing: My Castle  
Name of Artist: Cassandra Pavlik  
Sheffield Village, OH  
Age: 14 Branch: J-198

### Honorable Mention (tie)

Title of Drawing: Fort Narwhal  
Name of Artist: Tamara Bajek  
Naperville, IL  
Age: 14 Branch: J-339

### Honorable Mention (tie)

Title of Drawing: Castle of Imagination  
Name of Artist: Lily Lehtinen  
Cary, NC  
Age: 13 Branch: J-029



1st Place (tie): Alexandra Pehala



# 2019 Art Contest Winners



1st Place (tie): Sean Jost



3rd Place (tie): Owen Ziemba



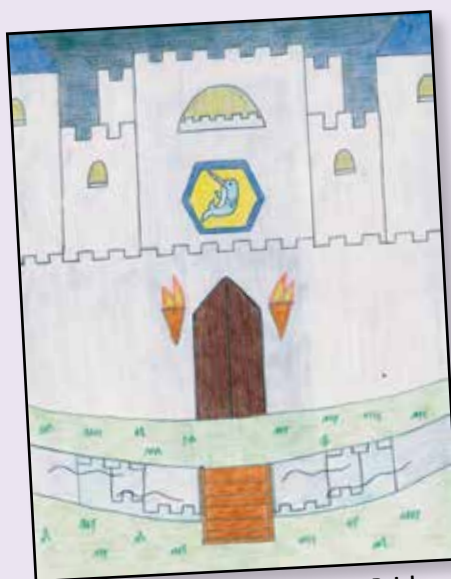
Honorable Mention (tie): Cassandra Pavlik



1st Place (tie): Noah Triffanoff



3rd Place (tie): Ann Koppitch



Honorable Mention (tie): Tamara Bajek



2nd Place: Anna Sedlock



3rd Place (tie): Adam Sedlock



Honorable Mention (tie): Lily Lehtinen



## Cleveland District Celebrates Saints Anne & Joachim Day of Recollection

The Cleveland District held their annual Saints Anne & Joachim Day of Recollection on Friday, July 26, 2019 at Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine located in Euclid, OH. Mass was held at 12:00 p.m.



**Bishop Roger Gries, O.S.B. and Nate Lechman at Saint Anne's Day.**

It was concelebrated by Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus Roger W. Gries, O.S.B., Fr. Michael Brunovsky, O.S.B., Fr. Thomas Sanders, O.S.B., Fr. Jerome Lajack and Fr. Anthony Sejba.

A luncheon was held after Mass in the dining hall by the Sisters of the Most Holy Trinity.

Our scholarship winners assisted with the

"endless raffle" which benefited one of the matching funds projects.

A big thank you to everyone that participated and helped to make this day a special one!



**Fr. Thomas Sanders, O.S.B., Fr. Michael Brunovsky, O.S.B., Bishop Roger W. Gries, O.S.B., Fr. Jerome Lajack and Fr. Anthony Sejba celebrating Mass.**



**Members of FCSLA and clergy attending the luncheon.**

## Branch W018 Scholarship Winner Celebration Dinner

Branch W018 celebrated its scholarship winners with a dinner in their honor at the Ralston Spaghetti Works on Thursday, July 18th.



**Gross Catholic High School student Lucero Reyes-Arana accepts her certificate from Tom Jelinek, Jr., son of Thomas Jelinek, Sr. for whom the scholarship is named. Scholarship Chair Julianne Popelka is in the middle.**

The following young people were awarded National Scholarships: Quinn Krejci, Elementary Grade 4; Colin Zuroske, Elementary Grade 6; and Anna Rice, Elementary Grade 7.

Branch W018 awarded scholarships to the following youth members: Emily Steinkraus, Elementary Grade 1; Cooper Hladik, Elementary Grade 3; Thomas Towell, Elementary Grade 5; and Sofia Fulton, High School Freshman. In addition,

the Branch awarded College Freshmen scholarships to Danielle Buresh, Michael Jelinek, and Lia Reckmeyer.

Every year as a memorial to the late President of Branch W018 Thomas Jelinek, Sr., the Branch awards two scholarships to one junior and one senior at Gross Catholic High School. This year those scholars are Theodosia Mba and Lucero Reyes-Arana.



**Branch W018 scholarship winners present at the dinner. Back Row: Lucero Reyes-Arana (partially hidden); Scholarship Chair Julianne Popelka; Michael Jelinek, Theodosia Mba and Branch President Bob Hladik. Front Row: Anna Rice, Lia Reckmeyer, Colin Zuroske, Emily Steinkraus and Danielle Buresh. Unable to attend: Quinn Krejci, Cooper Hladik, Thomas Towell, and Sofia Fulton.**

## Jr. Branch 157 Schedules Annual Activity

Jr. Branch 157 of Monessen will hold their annual event on November 22, 2019. We will sponsor a bus to transport the members from Epiphany of Our Lord Parish in Monessen to the Westmoreland County Fair Grounds to view the Annual Holiday Light Display. Transportation, entrance and snack will be provided. For an additional fee, carriage rides, train rides and pictures with Santa will be available along with visiting several gift shops. For more information call Rosemary Betza 724-684-9778.

# PACCF 2019 Youth Trip to Poland Highlights

On July 6th, 2019 a group of thirty-five (35) students between the ages of 13-15 from states across the U.S. departed from Chicago to participate in the Explorers' Summer Polish Language and Culture Camp at the Jagiellonian University,



**Polish Language Class: Students getting oriented on the first day of class. One of six classroom levels based on prior knowledge of Polish.**

accompanied by Bo Padowski, Secretary and Antoinette Trela, Treasurer of the Polish American Congress Charitable Foundation.

After arrival on campus, the students were given their rooming assignments in the dormitories (2-3 to a room with private

bath) so that they could unpack, get familiar with their surroundings and rest.

This two-week program encompassed daily 3-3.5 hour Polish language lessons, with the students having been tested on the day of arrival and class placement determined by level of knowledge, so that the students in each group were learning at the same pace.

In addition, there were cultural outings and activities including:

- A tour of the Jagiellonian University Museum
- Sightseeing of Old Town and Wawel Castle in Krakow
- A trip and hiking in Zakopane
- A workshop at the Stanislaw Lem Garden of Experiences
- A cruise along the Vistula River to Tyniec
- A tour of Ogrodzieniec Castle
- A visit to Bochnia Salt Mine
- A visit to Krakus Mound
- Sports activities and competitions on-campus
- Free time for shopping

Of course, the students were given time each afternoon for a break to rest and socialize together after lunch. In addition to the 35 students sponsored by PACCF, there were 25 students of Polish heritage from a number of other countries,



**Youth Trip Departure: PACCF participants prior to departure from Krakow Airport. Also pictured are their favorite counselors Pani Wieslawa and Pan Pawel.**

including England, Brazil, Ukraine, etc. who participated in the Explorers' Camp. We are sure many new friendships were established!

The PACCF has been sponsoring cultural youth trips to Poland for many years, determined as funds become available. Participants must be an insured member of one of the Polish fraternals\*, or a dues paying member of a local Division or the National Polish American Congress.

\*This year, due to the merger of the Polish Women's Alliance of America into the FCSLA (in 2017), members of all Branches of FCSLA falling within the 13-15 age group, were included and were eligible to participate.

FCSLA had eight (8) participants from the following Branches: Branch Z-434, Branch J-112, Branch Z-43, Branch W-184, Branch Z-821, Branch Z-821, and Branch S-409.

During the closing ceremonies and dinner, held on Friday, July 19th, the students were each presented with a diploma for having successfully completed the Polish language class and



**Farewell Dinner: Students and Teachers enjoying the last night at a special dinner before receiving their Diplomas and having a Disco Party before lights out.**

each received a small gift from the school. This was followed by a Disco Dance Party before lights out for the final time.

We were told by numerous faculty members and school chaperones that this group of students was, by far, the

most respectful, pleasant and enjoyable group that they have had as participants in the Explorers' Camp over the past several years.

As the sponsoring organization, PACCF officers are very proud of our participants, as should be all parents and the organizations that sent students, including FCSLA, Polish National Alliance (PNA), the Polish Falcons (PFA) and the local Division and National Polish American Congress.



**Youth Trip Outing: Students preparing to take a walking tour of Old Town Krakow.**



## Anna Hurban District of Chicago Holds Annual Scholarship Awards Luncheon

The Chicago Anna Hurban District hosted its annual scholarship awards luncheon for its eight Chicago District Scholarship winners and their guests on Saturday, June 22, 2019 at Camelot Banquet Hall in Hickory Hills, IL. The District and Branch Officers and members congratulated the scholarship winners on their scholastic achievements. Lorraine Gibas, Anna Hurban District of Chicago President, reported that for the 2019-2020 National Scholarship Program, the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association awarded to its members from first grade through and including graduate school a total amount of \$279,000. The eight Chicago District scholarship winners received a total of almost \$9,000 and the breakdown of the winners are as follows: 2 elementary, 1 high school, and 5 college students. The eight scholarship win-



**L-R: Jarmila Hlubocky, District Financial Secretary, Christopher Podgorni (J322), Lorriane Gibas, District President, Teresa Gibas (S421), Jeanette Palanca, District Recording Secretary, Courtney Kinnane (S421), Mary Lynn Economou (representing Nicolas Economou (S287), Gary Ledvora, District Treasurer and Fay Hlubocky, Ph.D., District Vice President.**

ners are: Anna M. Sako (J039), William J. Rome (J308), Christopher K. Podgorni (J322), Paul J. Braun (S180), Christina A. Javorka (S258), Nicholas Economou (S287), Terese Gibas (S421), and Courtney N. Kinnane (S421). As the awardees in attendance were called up to receive their certificate from the District, a short family and scholastic biography of each winner was read aloud. The Chicago District is proud of all our scholarship win-

ners and wishes them continued success in their studies.

While the District celebrated its scholarship winners, attendees to the meeting were also treated to a celebratory cake in honor of the National Organization reaching a billion dollars in assets. (To see additional photos from this event go to <http://www.fcscla.org/district/chicago/gallery.php>)



## SSCM APPEAL DONATIONS

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 August 31, \$29,721.73 has been received from 159 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 mail 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.

### 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

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Tabor, South Dakota

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

**NOVEMBER 3** — District 13 State Meeting. Host: Branch W060 Vodnany at 12:00 noon. It is requested that all members attend. RSVP for a catered meal to district officer.

### ANNA HURBAN DISTRICT Annual Combined Junior Branch St. Nicholas Party SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10

St. Johns Hall – 10:00-4:00

Featuring: Visit from St. Nicholas • Raffles •  
Food • Hooligan and New Split the Pot Bingo!

For tickets (\$18 per person) contact Jeanette Palanca,  
847-770-3508; jeanetteeve@outlook.com  
or your branch officer.



## REPORT OF THE FCSLA NATIONAL TREASURER

### BALANCE SHEET AS OF MAY 31, 2019

#### ASSETS

Cash & Short Term Investments	\$ 40,963,881
Bonds	936,195,146
Preferred Stock	2,201,328
Common Stock	7,194,764
Investment Income Due & Accrued	13,395,279
Property Plant & Equipment, Net	5,080,089
Certificate Loans & Accrued Interest	2,400,096
Other Assets	1,061,911

#### TOTAL ASSETS

\$ 1,008,492,493

#### LIABILITIES

Life Reserves	\$ 299,034,655
Annuity Reserves	580,344,720
Death Claims Payable	3,161,601
Unearned Premiums	443,133
Matured Endowments	388,569
Provision for Dividends Payable	1,400,000
Accumulated Dividends & Interest	4,746,905
Accrued Convention Donations	903,000
Provision for Future Conventions	548,733
Asset Valuation Reserve	9,113,817
Interest Maintenance Reserve	532,132
Other Liabilities	1,876,425

#### TOTAL LIABILITIES

\$ 902,493,690

#### Surplus

\$ 105,998,804

#### TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS

\$ 1,008,492,494

### INCOME STATEMENT

For the Five Months Ending May 31, 2019

#### REVENUE

Insurance Premiums	\$ 2,016,980
Annuity Premiums	20,987,309
Investment Income	20,648,780
Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve	54,076
Rental Income	150,137
Other Revenue	6,254
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 43,863,535</b>

#### EXPENSE

Increase in Reserves — Life	\$ 274,655
Increase in Reserves — Annuity	15,913,302
Insurance Benefits	4,026,459
Annuity Benefits	14,522,798
Commission Expense	624,183
Surrender Benefits	1,639,645
Post Mortem Benefits	738,675
Miscellaneous Member Benefits	35,620
Matured Endowments	78,134
Donation Expenses	47,839
Change in Accrued Convention Donations	105,000
Convention Expenses	63,513
Bank Service Charges	51,974
Data Processing Service Fees	99,556
Accounting Fees	95,032
Actuarial Fees	160,360
Legal Fees	24,154
Consulting Fees	48,548
Branch and District Funding	315,381
Fraternal Activities	47,146
Official Publications	252,254
Scholarship Awards	114,665
Miscellaneous Employee Benefits	228,101
Fees — Directors	68,979
Salaries — Employees	857,569
Salaries — Officers	220,729
Interest Expense	150,682
Tax Expense	90,607
Depreciation Expense	98,905
Utility Expense	41,336
Postage and Printing	172,353
Advertising	42,166
Travel Expense	35,165
Insurance Department Fees	35,298
Sales Promotion	58,428
Rental Expense	150,137
Other Expense	259,468
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 41,788,815</b>

#### Income (Loss) from Operations

\$ 2,074,720

#### Dividends to Members

583,061

#### Subtotal Income (Loss)

\$ 1,491,659

#### Capital Gains (Loss)

(181,516)

#### NET INCOME (Loss)

\$ 1,310,143





## Fall Harvest Recipes

### PARMESAN ASPARAGUS

- 1 pound fresh asparagus,  
tough ends trimmed
- 2 tablespoons water
- 2 tablespoons melted butter
- 1 lemon wedge
- ¼ cup grated Parmesan cheese
- ground white pepper to taste

Place asparagus and water in 8x8 inch microwave-safe dish and cover.

Heat in microwave on high until tender, 6 to 7 minutes. Line a baking sheet with foil.

Preheat the oven's broiler and set the oven rack about 6 inches from the heat source.

Remove asparagus from dish and place in a single layer on the prepared baking sheet. Squeeze lemon wedge into melted butter and drizzle over asparagus.

Sprinkle Parmesan cheese and ground white pepper over asparagus. Place under broiler until lightly browned, about 2 minutes.

### ROASTED BUTTERNUT SQUASH PASTA

- 1 butternut squash, peeled and cubed
- ½ white onion, chopped roughly
- olive oil, to taste
- salt, pepper, and nutmeg, to taste
- 1 cup vegetable broth
- 1 cup almond milk
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 teaspoon red pepper flakes, optional
- 1 teaspoon dried sage
- 1 head broccoli, steamed
- 8 oz. whole wheat pasta, cooked
- grated parmesan cheese, to serve

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Add butternut squash and onion to a parchment paper-lined baking sheet, and

season with olive oil, salt, pepper, and nutmeg.

Roast for 25-30 minutes, or until tender.

Add roasted squash and onion to a food processor or blender. Add vegetable broth, almond milk, and blend until smooth.

In a large sauce pot over medium heat, add olive oil, garlic, red pepper flakes, and sage. Cook for about 1 minute, or until fragrant. Add squash puree and bring to a simmer, stirring occasionally.

Add cooked pasta and steamed broccoli and stir to combine.

Top with Parmesan, and serve.

### CHEESESTEAK STEW IN A BREAD BOWL

- 1½ pound beef sirloin, sliced
- salt and pepper to taste
- ¼ teaspoon onion powder
- 4 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- olive oil, drizzle
- 2 large onions, sliced
- 10 ounces mushrooms, sliced
- ½ teaspoon dried thyme
- 3 cloves garlic, crushed
- 4 cups beef stock
- ½ cup heavy cream
- 4 sourdough bread bowls
- 4 slices provolone cheese

Add sliced beef to a large bowl, season with salt, pepper, onion powder and toss to coat. Sprinkle with 2 tablespoons flour, toss to coat.

Place a pot over medium-high heat, drizzle olive oil. Once hot, add half the sirloin and cook till brown, remove onto a plate to hold, then repeat with the remaining sirloin. Set aside.

Add more oil to the pot, add sliced onions, add pinch of salt and pepper, and caramelize the onions, stirring frequently to avoid burning.

Once the onions are softened, add mushrooms and continue sautéing until cooked.

Stir in dried thyme and garlic. Sprinkle remaining 2 tablespoons of flour onto mixture, stir to combine, then add beef stock. Reduce heat to medium-low, and simmer for 10 minutes.

Mix in heavy cream, then add beef, along with juices, stir to combine. Ladle stew into hollowed out sourdough bowls, top with slice of provolone, then broil until the cheese is brown and melted.

### PUMPKIN DUMP CAKE

- 1 can (29 oz.) pure pumpkin  
(not pumpkin pie filling)
- 1 can (12 oz.) evaporated milk
- 3 whole eggs
- 1 cup white sugar
- 3 teaspoons cinnamon

1 box Super Moist yellow cake mix

1 cup chopped pecans (optional)

¾ cup butter, melted

Preheat oven to 350 degrees and grease a 9x13 baking dish.

In a large bowl, mix pumpkin, milk, eggs, sugar, and cinnamon until well blended. Spread pumpkin mixture in prepared baking dish. Mixture will be very wet.

Sprinkle cake mix evenly on top of the batter. If adding pecans, sprinkle them over the cake mix. Pour melted butter over the top of the cake mix. Bake 50 minutes.

Cool completely. Top with whipped cream or ice cream.

### FOOLPROOF CARAMEL CORN

- 7 quarts plain popped popcorn
- 2 cups dry roasted peanuts (optional)
- 2 cups brown sugar
- ½ cup light corn syrup
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup margarine
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Place the popped popcorn into two shallow greased baking pans. Add the peanuts to the popped corn. Set aside.

Preheat the oven to 250 degrees.

Combine the brown sugar, corn syrup, margarine and salt in a saucepan. Bring to a boil over medium heat, stirring enough to blend. Once the mixture begins to boil, boil for 5 minutes while stirring constantly.

Remove from the heat, and stir in the baking soda and vanilla. The mixture will be light and foamy. Immediately pour over the popcorn in the pans, and stir to coat. Don't worry too much at this point about getting all of the corn coated.

Bake for 1 hour, removing the pans, and giving them each a good stir every 15 minutes. Line the counter top with waxed paper. Dump the corn out onto the waxed paper and separate the pieces. Allow to cool completely, then store in airtight containers or resealable bags.

### PUMPKIN SPICE COFFEE

- 1 cup brewed coffee
- 1 cup almond milk
- 2 tablespoons pumpkin puree
- 2 tablespoons maple syrup, or sweetener of choice
- ¼ teaspoon vanilla extract
- ½ teaspoon pumpkin pie spice, or ¼ teaspoon cinnamon plus ¼ teaspoon nutmeg
- whipped cream, optional

Combine all ingredients in a medium sauce pot and heat through, making sure not to boil, stirring occasionally.

Serve hot, or over ice! Top with whipped cream and a cinnamon stick (optional).

The background of the entire slide is a close-up photograph of autumn leaves. The leaves are in various shades of yellow, orange, and red, with some green grass visible between them. The lighting is bright, creating a warm and natural feel.

PERIODICAL

10/19

## **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.