



Fraternally Yours™

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK LADIES ASSOCIATION

VOL. 96, NO. 10

JULY 2010



Let Freedom Ring!



**Frances C. Jakabcin District
Hosts Board of Directors Meeting**

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ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA

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Fraternally Yours™



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ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA,

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Do You Still Have Hope?

If you can look at the sunset and smile, **then you still have hope...**

If you can find beauty in the colors of a small flower, **then you still have hope...**

If you can find pleasure in the movement of a butterfly, **then you still have hope...**

If the smile of a child can still warm your heart, **then you still have hope...**

If the sight of a rainbow still makes you stop and stare in wonder, **then you still have hope...**

If the soft fur of a favored pet still feels pleasant under your fingertips, **then you still have hope...**

If you can look to the past and smile, **then you still have hope...**

If you still buy the ornaments, put up the Christmas tree or cook the turkey, **then you still have hope...**

If you still offer your hand in friendship to others that have touched your life, **then you still have hope...**

If you can see the good in other people, **then you still have hope...**

Hope is such a marvelous thing. It bends, it twists, it sometimes hides, but rarely does it break... It sustains us when nothing else can... It gives us reason to continue and courage to move ahead. Hope is a wonderful thing, something to be cherished and nurtured, and something that will refresh us in return... And it can be found in each of us.

Dear Friends,

Remember to never deprive someone of hope — it may be all they have.

Until Next Month ... Warmly, Carolyn

— DELIVERY NOTICE —

Dear Members,

Many of you have been experiencing inconsistent delivery of our national publication *Fraternally Yours*. Each month we (your editor and the team at Triangle Press) complete our work on *Fraternally Yours* in a timely manner. The magazine is then mail sorted and dropped at the U.S. Post Office for delivery to you. Once it is transferred to the Postal Service the delivery schedule is out of our hands. The inconsistent deliveries are the result of how local post offices handle their 2nd class mail delivery. We apologize for these inconsistencies, but want you to know that we are doing everything we can to improve this unfortunate situation and thank you in advance for your patience. I also encourage you to view an electronic version of *Fraternally Yours* each month by visiting our website www.fcsla.com where archived editions are also available under the Fraternal Tab.

Warmly, Carolyn

YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY

Reverend Monsignor Peter M. Polando, National Chaplain

My dear Sisters and Brothers,

In addition to my national chaplaincy of this august Association, and being the pastor and administrator of two of the three Slovak parishes in the city Youngstown, Ohio (eventually within the next two years to be merged into one Slovak parish for the city of Youngstown), I spend two working days each week in the Tribunal of the Diocese of Youngstown. During the last sixteen years of my priesthood in the diocesan Tribunal, I have been involved with adjudicating cases determining the sacramental validity or invalidity of marriages.

As a judge of the Church, I am guided by canon law (the law of the Church). As a priest, canon law must temper my disposition in interpreting the law to a specific situation. Thus, with moral certitude, I am able to judge that case presented before me both in the Church court and within the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Both presiding in the court and presiding over the sacrament are quite awesome yet humbling moments for the priest that undertakes these judicial moments between members of the Church and as representative of that Church founded by Christ.

Recently I involved myself in a conversation with the notary of my diocesan Tribunal, Linda Tedde, married to her husband, Peter, who together have three children, two of whom have been graduated from a local Catholic high school within the last several years and pursuing higher goals. The youngest will be in the sixth grade at his Catholic school this autumn. I asked her, "What did you see in your husband that made you come around and desire to marry him?" She responded that while she was dating her future husband, she saw in him three basic features that captured her heart and knew that this was the man that she wanted to be wedded to for the rest of her life. The first quality was that he was a hard worker. And this is true of Peter. He has been a very successful person for other

people as he assists them in personal fiscal management. He is excellent in what he does and that is only because he invests many hours each day in doing what he does best.

The second feature that Linda was looking for in a husband with whom she desired to share the rest of her life was that he had to be a man who was family oriented. Linda and Peter not only have placed ample time in developing their relationship with one another but also place their three children as priorities in their lives. This is well noted by their commitment, selfless giving, and overwhelming love that they share with Rebekah, Peter Jr., and Dominic.

Finally, Linda declared that she saw in Peter a deep spiritual reality. Practice of religious faith, steeped in firm belief and commitment was important to Linda. And this was proven to be true as Linda made her entrance into the Catholic Church because of Peter and together they have raised their children in an environment enveloped in the Catholic Church.

The Sixth Commandment of the Decalogue states, "You shall not commit adultery" (*Genesis 20:14*). For the Christian, the underlying principle is a call, a vocation to a life of chastity that is directed to the Sacrament of Marriage. In the *Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World* of the Second Vatican Council, the Fathers of the Council state, "Married love is uniquely expressed and perfected by the exercise of the acts proper to marriage. Hence the acts in marriage by which the intimate and chaste union of the spouses takes place are noble and honorable; the truly human performance of these acts fosters the self-giving they signify and enriches the spouse in joy and gratitude. Endorsed by mutual fidelity and, above all, consecrated by Christ's sacrament, this love abides faithfully in mind and body in prosperity and adversity and hence excludes both "

Adultery is an offense against the dignity of marriage. In paragraph 2380

of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, we read that "Adultery refers to marital infidelity. When two partners, of whom at least one is married to another party, have sexual relations – even transient ones – they commit adultery. Christ condemns even adultery of mere desire. The sixth commandment and the New Testament forbid adultery absolutely. The prophets denounce the gravity of adultery; they see it as an image of the sin of idolatry."

Because of its interpretation of the Sacred Scriptures, the teaching of the Catholic Church has been consistent throughout its history insisting that sexual expression is reserved between a husband and wife. "Sexuality is ordered to the conjugal love of man and woman. In marriage the physical intimacy of the spouses becomes a sign and pledge of spiritual communion. Marriage bonds between baptized persons are sanctified by the sacrament" (*Catechism*, paragraph 2360). Offenses against chastity such as lust, masturbation, fornication, pornography, prostitution, and rape are contrary to the conjugal love of man and woman and eliminate the twofold obligation of the covenant of marriage, namely, fidelity and fecundity.

It takes hard work to keep a marriage alive "until death do us part" or "all the days of my life". Yet statistics reveal that here in the United States, one in two marriages end in divorce. Many of those divorces occur because one or the other spouse has been unfaithful to their marriage covenant because of adultery. Our culture is quite permissive with the freedom of sexual expression in print and in the media. In order for Catholics to lead a more sin free life, it is important to master chastity to the best of one's ability. As the *Catechism* teaches, "The chaste person maintains the integrity of the powers of life and love placed on him. This integrity ensures the unity of the person; it is opposed to any behavior that would impair it. It tolerates neither a double life nor duplicity in speech" (paragraph 2338).

CHALLENGING TIMES CALL FOR CAREFUL MANAGEMENT OF FCSLA ASSETS

People are often surprised to learn that the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association has assets of over a half-billion dollars. That's the amount of funds we manage on behalf of our members, who have invested with us through the purchase of annuities and insurance certificates. All told, we have 85,000 members — individuals who trust us to safeguard their investments in FCSLA and make sure those funds are available to help support them in their old age, or when a death occurs in their family.

That's an enormous responsibility, and one that we take extremely seriously. Currently, we're fortunate to have a highly skilled and deeply experienced management team in place to make sure your money is invested wisely and watched carefully — something that's even more challenging in today's volatile economy. But with our current method of electing our top officers, there's no guarantee that individuals with comparable skills will manage our organization in the future. That puts your investment — and our entire organization's operation at high risk in the coming years.

Your Board is recommending that we adopt a more reliable method of selecting the managing officers. That process would place the responsibility of choosing the president with the Board of Directors. The president would hire the secretary, treasurer and editor with the approval of the Board. The Board will oversee the goals and direction of the association. Clearly, the most important positions are those of the members of the Board — those persons elected by our delegates.

Currently, the possibility exists that someone with limited experience or qualifications could be elected to our most important management positions. As a result, on both of their last two regularly scheduled examinations, the Ohio Department of Insurance recommended that we reduce the risk to our society by revising our governance structure.

The delegates to our special convention this October will be asked to approve this important change. When it passes we will be joining other successful fraternal benefit organizations that have moved in this direction. The move will put us among the leaders in our field who are wisely changing their governance structure to meet the challenges of our times.

If you have questions about the bylaw change, you are welcome to contact Mary Ann Johaneck directly at 216-468-1011, or by email at maryann@fcsla.org. Or visit our website where we have posted more information and a link to a new video which explains the change from the perspective of our current board members.

4th of July History, Trivia and Facts

- The major objection to being ruled by Britain was **taxation without representation**. The colonists had no say in the decisions of English Parliament.
- In May, 1776, after nearly a year of trying to work out their differences with England, the colonies sent delegates to the Second Continental Congress. Finally, in June, admitting that their efforts were hopeless, a committee was formed to compose the formal **Declaration of Independence**. Headed by Thomas Jefferson, the committee also included John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Philip Livingston and Roger Sherman. On June 28, 1776, Thomas Jefferson presented the first draft of the declaration to Congress.
- **Betsy Ross**, according to legend, sewed the first American flag in May or June 1776, as commissioned by the Congressional Committee.
- Independence Day was first celebrated in Philadelphia on July 8, 1776.
- The **Liberty Bell** sounded from the tower of Independence Hall on July 8, 1776, summoning citizens to gather for the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence by Colonel John Nixon.
- On June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress, looking to promote national pride and unity, adopted the national flag. "Resolved: that the flag of the United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation."
- The first public Fourth of July event at the White House occurred in 1804.
- The first Independence Day celebration west of the Mississippi occurred at Independence Creek and was celebrated by Lewis and Clark in 1805.
- On June 24, 1826, **Thomas Jefferson** sent a letter to Roger C. Weightman, declining an invitation to come to Washington, D.C., to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. It was the last letter that Jefferson, who was gravely ill, ever wrote.
- Both Thomas Jefferson and John Adams, died on Independence Day, July 4, 1826.
- In 1941, Congress declared July 4 a federal legal holiday.
- The 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence did not sign at the same time, nor did they sign on July 4, 1776. The official event occurred on August 2, 1776, when 50 men signed it. Later that year, five more signed separately and one added his name in a later year. Thomas McKean was the last to sign in January, 1777.
- The origin of **Uncle Sam** probably began in 1812, when Samuel Wilson was a meat packer who provided meat to the US Army. The meat shipments were stamped with the initials, U.S. Someone joked that the initials stood for "Uncle Sam". This joke eventually led to the idea of Uncle Sam symbolizing the United States government.

**From July 1 through September 30, 2010,
older FCSLA annuities (issued prior to 2005)
with a guaranteed minimum rate of 4.50% will
earn a yield of 4.6025%, while newer FCSLA
annuities (issued 2005 and after)
with a guaranteed minimum rate of 3.50%
will earn a yield of 3.5618%.**

FCSLA FRATERNAL OUTREACH IS ON THE MOVE IN 2010

*From the desk of Deborah Brindza, M.D.,
National Medical Examiner and Sue Ann M. Seich, Fraternal & Youth Director*

Has Your Warning Bell Started Ringing?

This month we are sharing some very important information about Prediabetes and Diabetes. Statistics prove that every ten seconds two people are diagnosed with diabetes. A person with diabetes is four times more likely to be hospitalized. The leading cause of dialysis, blindness and amputations is diabetes. Doctors now recognize that a condition called prediabetes is a point where lifestyle changes and diet modification can reduce the progression of this disease.

At right is the table which shows the blood glucose levels for normal, prediabetes and diabetes. A fasting blood glucose (FBG) is a blood test with no food or drink for eight hours. A two hour glucose tolerance test (2 hr.

GTT) is an 8 hour fast with a special glucose solution. Blood is then tested for glucose level two hours later. This shows how the body handles a heavy load of glucose.

	<u>Normal</u>	<u>Prediabetes</u>	<u>Diabetes</u>
Fasting	less than 99	100-125	over 126
2 hr. GTT	less than 139	160-199	over 200

A person with prediabetes has a fifty percent chance of progressing to actual diabetes in five to ten years.

How can you help to prevent or diminish this disease?

- ✓ Weight reduction and eating healthy
- ✓ Thirty minutes of exercise 3-5 times per week
- ✓ If you smoke – quit

50th Wedding Anniversary Celebrated

Richard and Florence Mizikar of Seven Hills, OH celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on February 21st with their children, grandchildren, great-grandsons, relatives and many friends. Mass was celebrated at St. Columbkille Church, Parma, OH with Pastor Reverend Neil O'Connor as celebrant. Mass was followed by a dinner reception at Prokova Hall and music was provided by Ralph Szubski and band.

Rich and Florence were married at St. Catherine Church, Cleveland, OH with Reverend Dr. Thomas Kirby, pastor as celebrant.

Following in the footsteps of her Mother, Mildred Kitchas (deceased 1988), who was a branch officer for many years, Florence and Richard are current officers of Sr. Branch 238 and Jr. Branch 441 of Cleveland, OH. Their entire family holds membership in the FCSLA. We wish them God's blessing on this happy occasion.



THANK YOU — FCSLA!

Michael Pohlot, a member of Sr. Branch 88, Monessen, PA wishes to thank the FCSLA for the opportunities they have given him over his four years in college at Washington and Jefferson College. The scholarship he was awarded helped him attend this private college and pursue his dream of becoming the best teacher he could be. He was



recently given the James W. Hanna Award for his teaching ability and for showing the most improvement during his student teaching semester. This award is named for a professor of Education at Washington & Jefferson College who passed away in 1995 but left his mark on the lives of all those whom he interacted with because of his kindness and compassion. Dr. Hanna touched both the hearts and minds of his students and Michael hopes to follow in his footsteps as he pursues a career in teaching.

PITTSBURGH OKRES DISTRICT MEETING TO BE HELD

The July meeting of the Pittsburgh Okres will be hosted by Branch 77 of McKeesport. It will be held on Sunday, July 25, 2010 at 1:00 p.m at the McKeesport Palisades at 501 Water Street, McKeesport, PA, 15132. Contact your branch secretary for reservations.

Join Hands Day Event

DISTRICT ANNA HURBAN OF CHICAGO

An afternoon of bingo with veterans at the Hines VA Hospital in Maywood, IL

On Saturday, May 1, 2010, several Junior and Senior members from the District Anna Hurban of Chicago met for the third annual Join Hands Day event at the Edward Hines, Jr. VA Hospital to spend an afternoon with approximately 30-40 veterans residing at the facility to play bingo. Prizes for first time winners were a gift voucher to the commissary and a pair of socks. Second and third time winners received other toiletry-type prizes. Toward the end of the bingo session, the District President asked for those in attendance to raise their hand if they had not won at a game of bingo in order for each of them to receive a gift voucher to the commissary. As District President, Joe Ledvora explained, "All veterans who serve their country are winners!" Each year this event receives wider and wider participation from the resident veterans and it is evident that those in attendance truly love to play the game of bingo as they always ask, "When are you coming back?"



L-R: Joseph Ledvora, Chicago District President and Anthony Mugavero, Jr. Branch 175 Officer testing the bingo equipment.

The VA Hospital in Maywood, IL was opened in 1921 and is the largest of the Chicago-area Veterans' Hospitals. After World War II this hospital was the first in the VA sys-

tem to affiliate itself with a local medical school in order to provide enhanced medical care to veterans while providing clinical education for students in all aspects of the medical field. Today Hines is affiliated with approximately 70 colleges and universities in order to assist in educating undergraduate and graduate students in the associated health professions and occupations. Hines is institutionally affiliated with Loyola University Chicago, Stritch School of Medicine and maintains an affiliation with the University of Illinois College of Medicine, Chicago and provides medical care to veterans living in the Cook, DuPage and Will County areas of Illinois. The hospital has 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 and is skilled in treating patients with traumatic brain injuries.

It truly was an afternoon of fun for all and a great way for our members to say thanks to these vets who have given so much for our American freedom.

— WANTED — Catholic Religious Items!

Missals, Prayer Books, Scapulars, Medals, Holy Cards, Statues, Crucifixes, and Rosaries

If you are considering "cleaning out" please do not throw these Catholic items away! Help send them to Catholic Missions in Third World countries that they may be used once again and spread the Holy Catholic faith.

Please send to Peter Gaidos, 738 Gatewood Road #131, Garland, TX 75043-3398.

Do not send old Christmas Cards or Mass Enrollment Cards. Thank you.

May Jesus and Mary most abundantly bless and reward you for your kind generosity to those who have so very little!

SAVE THE DATE!

The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association will be holding a Special Convention on October 11, 2010, at the Renaissance Hotel in Cleveland, OH. Arrange to be there! We will be discussing and deciding the best system of governance for our society today. Be a part of it!

Between now and October 11, the Board of Directors will be involved with educational materials and meetings to bring the membership up to date on the issues. Watch for the information!

Mary Ann S. Johanek



The District's Join Hands Day event was held at the Hines VA Hospital. Pictured with several veterans are Junior and Senior members from the Chicago District.

PITTSBURGH OKRES HOLD SPRING MEETING

The spring meeting of the Pittsburgh Okres was held on Sunday, April 25, 2010 at the Georgetown Center in Pleasant Hills, PA. The meeting was hosted by Branch 424, in Homestead. National Chaplain Monsignor Peter Polando, President Mary Ann Johanek and Secretary Irene Drotleff were guests at the meeting.

President Judy Fedor opened the meeting with the salute to the flag and the singing of "God Bless America". Father Joseph Grosko, District Chaplain, led the prayer before meals.

After the luncheon President Judy introduced Jim Dubina, Secretary of Branch 424, who was acting on behalf of branch President Andy Ferenc, and asked him to introduce his officers. Jim introduced Andy, Dorothy Dubina, Treasurer, and Vicky Deutsch, Jr. Secretary. President Judy thanked him for hosting the meeting and recognized Dorothy for the beautiful centerpieces she created. She presented Jim with a check toward the cost of the luncheon and for a Mass for the members of Branch 424. Father Grosko led responsorial prayers.

Recording Secretary Judy Yates took roll and read the minutes of the last meeting. Acting Financial Secretary Marian Gatto read the Treasurer's report and the district's goals and were discussed.

Father Grosko administered the oath of office to Ruth Bielawski, who was elected Financial Secretary at the October 2009 meeting, but could not be present at that meeting. President Judy expressed the district's appreciation to Marian Gatto for continuing to perform the duties of the Financial Secretary until Ruth was able to assume the office.

Linda Killeen, National Vice President and member of

the Pittsburgh District, presented the National Officer's report, updating the members on Home Office business.

President Johanek addressed the membership regarding the pilot program and a lengthy discussion was held. She presented a DVD regarding the upcoming special convention to be held in October and spoke briefly about governance. President Johanek will be attending the July meeting to further discuss the issue.

Drawings were held and the meeting was adjourned. Monsignor Pumbo led the closing prayer and "Hej Slovaci".



Father Grosko administers the oath of office to incoming Financial Secretary, Ruth Bielawski.



National, District and Branch 424 Officers.



Members enjoying the luncheon.

BRANCH W018 RECOGNIZES LONGTIME MEMBERS

Omaha, NE Branch W018 members gathered on the second Sunday in April to recognize the service and support of 20 longtime members. Lazlo's fine dining in Omaha, NE was the setting.

After a fine luncheon each member received a certificate commemorating their work with First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association.

Branch President Bob Hladik, welcomed all. Special guests were St. Isidore District president, Gene Sobota and his wife, Irene.



Honoree Dorothy Halamek accepts her service award.



Julianne Popelka receives her certificate from Branch President Bob Hladik.

TALPAS RECENTLY AWARDED RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT



Daniel Timothy Talpas of North Olmsted, OH was recently awarded the rank of Eagle Scout. Daniel is the son of Mary and Tim Talpas and grandson of Richard and Susan Talpas, officers of Branch 221. Daniel is a member of Sr. Branch 221.

Danny started scouting in Cub Scouts and became a member of Boy Scout Troup 204. He held several leadership positions such as assistant

patrol leader, bugler, and Troup Guide, mentoring younger scouts in the basic skills of scouting.

Danny was elected to the Order of the Arrow in 2009. This is the equivalent of the National Honor Society for Scouts. In 2008 he participated in the National Youth Leadership training program, a weeklong intense program where future scout leaders are given tools and skills they need to prepare them for future responsibilities. The following summer he was selected to be on The Staff for the same program. He plans to stay in scouting as a leader.

Danny's Eagle Scout Project was that served his neighborhood. The building that serves at the main gathering area

for Sandy Ridge Development was deteriorating and in dire need of scraping and painting. He organized the materials, people, and approvals to plan the project. The project was a success.

At North Olmsted High School, Danny is consistently on the Honor Roll. He is a member of the varsity hockey team, lettering in his first year. He is also a member of the marching band and has been on the track team for the last two years.

In the future Danny wants to serve his community as a Police Officer and is looking for a good Criminal Justice college program.

ANNUAL TRI-STATE ST. ANN'S CELEBRATION

St. Ann's Day Celebration will be hosted by the Louise M. Yash Wisconsin District on Monday, July 26, 2010.

There will be coffee and a social from 10:00-10:45 a.m. followed by an 11 a.m. Mass at Sacred Heart Church, 917 N. 49th Street (near 49th and Wells) Milwaukee, WI 53208. Lunch will follow at Klemmer's Banquet Hall at 10401 W. Oklahoma Avenue, West Allis, WI 53227.

Reservations must be made by July 16, 2010. The cost of lunch is \$20.00. Please make checks payable to Louise M. Yash District and mail to: Betty Novak, 3237 North 93rd Street, Milwaukee, WI 53222. Please call Betty Novak at 414-445-5382 for more information.

Annual Card Party Hosted by Branch 289

On Sunday, April 18, 2010, the annual card party hosted by Sr. Branch 289, Gary, IN took place at Our lady of Consolation Church Hall in Merrillville, IN. The day was filled with a delicious catered buffet luncheon followed by Bingo, Bunco and various card games. Members born in the years of 1970, 1971 and 1972 were honored with a small wooden pocket angel piece.



BRANCH W080 ANNUAL BREAKFAST MEETING

Branch W080, Clarkson, NE held their Annual Breakfast Meeting at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 16 at St. John Neumann Hall. Parents and students of St. John Neumann School prepared a delicious brunch of egg/sausage casserole, sweet rolls, strawberry parfaits, juice and coffee. Tables were decorated with adorable hand painted wooden houses and flowers.

Guests were free to visit with District Sales Coordinator Steve Stemper, who was happy to answer a variety of questions on insurance and annuities.

President Don Vrbicky conducted a short business meeting with reports from Secretary Sharon Bos and Treasurer Monica Fisher. Certificates for 60-year memberships were awarded to Steve Brabec, Alice Svehla and Edith Fiala. Larry Prokopec received his 50-year certificate.

Door prizes consisting of a lawn ornament and an outdoor thermometer were won by Marie Gall and Jacquelyn Lee. The committee also enjoyed giving away other prizes including jump ropes and pizza cutters.

Members were encouraged to attend again next year.



Officers at head table enjoy the annual event.



District Sales Coordinator Steve Stemper answers questions from guests at breakfast meeting.



BRANCH 376 HOLDS SPRING MEETING

On Saturday, April 17, 2010, members of Branch 376 were treated to a delicious lunch and held their Spring Meeting at Klemmers's Banquet Center. In the absence of President Kathy Dorfner, Vice President Mary Jo Noyes conducted the meeting. Prayers were said for Richard Kimlicka, Alfred Bannach, Stan Mackai, and Michael Bazik, father of our National Editor Carolyn Bazik. All have passed away since our Christmas meeting.

Members were asked to keep October 23, 2010 open on their calendar, as we will be celebrating our 95th Anniversary. Topics of discussion were our donation of \$500 to the Haiti Relief Fund,

annual Slovak Picnic on July 25th at Croatian Park, St. Ann's Day on July 26th in Milwaukee, and the District Join Hands Day on May 15 in Elm Grove, where we will play Bingo with the School Sisters of Notre Dame retirees. Our Christmas meeting will be held on December 11th at Klemmer's Banquet Center.

Any member of Branch 376 who does not get an invitation and is interested in joining us for any of the above activities should call President Kathy Dorfner at 414-744-3496. We would love to have you join us, and we will make sure that you get added to the mailing list.



President Don Vrbicky awards certificate to Steve Brabec for his 60 years of membership to the organization.



Guests enjoying a delicious brunch made by St. John Neumann School students and parents.



FRANCES C. JAKABCIN DISTRICT HOSTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Frances C. Jakabcin District of Eastern Pennsylvania hosted the Annual Out of Town Board of Directors Meeting on June 6-8, 2010.

The opening Mass was held at St. Katharine Drexel Church in Lansford, PA at 1 p.m. on Sunday, June 6, 2010. District Chaplain Monsignor Thomas Derzack, Pastor of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Bangor, PA was the principal celebrant and National Chaplain Monsignor Peter Polando, Pastor of St. Matthias Church in Youngstown, OH was the homilist. The Parish Choir under the direction of Jeana DePuy and Amy DePuy, M.D. performed an exceptional combination of music during the liturgy including several beloved Slovak and Latin Hymns.

A dinner was held following Mass at The Lantern Lodge and Macaluso's Restaurant in Nesquehoning, PA where members of the National Board had an opportunity to visit with district members and enjoyed an outstanding meal. District President Veronica Bazik welcomed everyone to the event and Monsignor Peter Polando, our National Chaplain served as Master of Ceremony. National President Mary Ann Johaneck addressed the gathering about the proposed governance changes that will be the topic of the Special Convention in October of 2010 and showed the recently released governance DVD.

The National Board then convened its quarterly Board Meeting at the Inn

at Reading, in Reading, PA on Monday and Tuesday, June 7 and 8, 2010. The National Board was treated to a fine dining experience at the Stirling Guest Hotel in Reading's Centre Park Historic District Monday evening and had a surprise visit from State Senator Mike O'Pake.

The Board wishes to thank the District Officers Veronica Bazik, President; Barbara Waller, Vice-President; Louise Dunstan, Financial Secretary/Treasurer; Michele Mrazik, Recording Secretary; Karen Kukol and Carolyn Bazik, Auditors and all the members of the District for the kindness shown to them during their recent trip to Eastern Pennsylvania.



Monsignor Peter Polando, National Chaplain proclaiming the gospel at the opening liturgy.



District President Veronica Bazik (S140) during the First Reading.



Monsignor Thomas Derzack, District Chaplain blesses the altar with incense.



District Officers, National Board Members and their guests gather on the steps of St. Katharine Drexel Church in Lansford prior to the opening liturgy.



Monsignor Peter Polando and Monsignor Thomas Derzack on the altar at St. Katharine Drexel Church in Lansford, PA during the opening liturgy.



Interior Slovak Greeting at St. Katharine Drexel Church, Lansford, PA where the opening liturgy was held.



Members and friends in attendance at the opening liturgy.



National Officers and Guests with District Officers after Mass at St. Katharine Drexel Church, Lansford, PA.



District Officers Karen Kukol, Michele Mrazik and Louise Dunstan brought the offertory gifts to the table at the opening liturgy.



Soloist Amy DePuy, M.D. (S417) sings the meditation hymn after communion.



Scenes from the opening dinner.



District president Veronica Bazik welcomes everyone to dinner held at Macaluso's Restaurant in Nesquehoning, PA.



Additional photos on page 16



JESSICA SCHIMEK, a member of Jr. Branch 194 received the Regina Coeli Religious Award which was presented by the Most Reverend William F. Murphy, STD Bishop of Rockville Centre, NY during the 53rd Annual Girl Scout Convocation held in Saint Agnus Cathedral on May 2, 2010.

This Diocesan Award is offered to help each girl become more aware of God's presence in her home Girl Scout Troop and her community under the care and protection of her patroness, The Blessed Mother.

Jessica is the daughter of Sr. Branch 322 members James and Alicia Schimek, sister of Justin and granddaughter of former National Vice-President Regina Schimek.



ANTHONY MICHAEL ZUCCARO, JR. received his First Holy Communion on Sunday, May 2 at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church in Ashtabula, OH with the Reverend Joseph Ruggieri celebrating the Mass.

Anthony is the son of Tony and Melissa Zuccaro and resides in Kingsville, OH. He is an honor student at Kingsville Elementary School where he attends along with his sister, Andrea.

Anthony, also known as A.J., plays baseball and soccer and is active in the Cub Scouts.

Both Anthony and Andrea are members of Jr. Branch 66 where his aunt, Lisa Jackson, is secretary and his "Baba" is an auditor. Anthony's mom, Melissa, is a member of Branch 156 along with many of his extended family.

Anthony is the grandson of Emil and Ann Bobby of Struthers, OH, Janet Zuccaro, also of Struthers and Jerry Zuccaro of Youngstown, OH.



BRYAN ALEXANDER WESTFALL, son of Bryan and Donna Westfall and brother of Charlene made his First Holy Communion, May 1, 2010, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Aurora, OH. He is the grandson of Joseph and Charmaine Mandula. Bryan and his family are members of Branch 1 or 522 in Cleveland, OH.

Have You
Signed Up a
New Member
This Month?



JOSEPH ANDREW RUKAVINA, son of Ron and Gina (Bottegal) Rukavina of Allegheny Township, Leechburg, PA received his First Holy Communion on April 25, 2010 at Christ The King Catholic Church in Leechburg. He made his confirmation on May 5, 2010 at St. Gertrude Church in Vandergrift, PA along with his sister Stephanie Mary as his sponsor. Joseph, his sister Stephanie, brother Michael John and cousin Dane Michael are all members of Jr. Branch 126 in East Vandergrift, PA.

Joseph's proud "Baba" and "Papa" are Gino and Betty Jane (Liska) Bottegal of Allegheny Township. They along with his parents and "Teta" and "Chickie" are members of Sr. Branch 262 in East Vandergrift, PA. His late great-grandparents, John and Mary U. Liska formerly of East Vandergrift, were also members of Branch 262 where his great-grandmother also served as a branch officer for many years.

Joseph is very involved with soccer and plays often. Out of 86 participants in his outdoor spring and summer league he was chosen as 1 of 14 to play fall and winter soccer for the Kiski Tornadoes in the PISA winter building in Harmarville, PA. His team placed first in its division last season.

Joseph is currently a second grade student at the Allegheny Hyde Park Elementary School.

He received many gifts from family and friends at a party held in his honor at the Villa Ballanca Restaurant in Lower Burrell, PA.

BRANCH W137 ANNUAL SWIM PARTY HELD RECENTLY

Branch W137 of Cedar Rapids, IA held their annual swim party Sunday, April 11, 2010 at Bender pool. Sixty members were in attendance for swimming and dinner. The next family event is a bike ride starting from Sokol Park on Saturday, June 26th at 10 a.m. with lunch following the ride.



We Want to Hear From You!

Did your children, grandchildren receive special awards or achievements in school this year? Baptisms? Confirmations? Participated in Volunteer and Community Projects?

If they are members of the FCSLA please send us a photo and short article about their special achievements to Carolyn Bazik, National Editor.



IN MEMORIAM

CATHERINE McLEAN Branch W130



Catherine Carolyn (Liston) McLean, 76, of Traer, died at Covenant Medical Center Waterloo on April 17, 2010, of restricted respiratory disease.

She was born on May 20, 1933, in Marshalltown to Carl and Carrie (Mishek) Liston. She attended St. Mary's School in Tama and graduated from Tama High School in 1951. She attended Iowa State Teacher's College. On August 24, 1954, she was united in marriage to Donald Joseph McLean at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Tama. He preceded her in death on November 14, 2008. They farmed together for many years on the family farm near Traer.

She was a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters and FCSLA Branch W130. She served as Director of Religious Education for Immaculate Conception-St. Wenceslaus Churches of Clutier.

Catherine was a church organist for over 50 years. She received a Papal Blessing in 1993 from Pope John Paul II for her many years of service to the Catholic Church.

Catherine received great joy from spending time with her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She loved visiting with friends, cooking, music, and the Notre Dame Fighting Irish.

She is survived by her four children: D. Pat (Sue) McLean of Traer, Cecelia (Jim) Harmsen of Reinbeck, Mary McLean of Traer, and Kathy (Dan) McGrane of Nixa, MO; eight grandchildren: Tom (Brandi) Harmsen, Todd (Allyssa) Harmsen, Emily Krafka (Aaron Knebel), Shane (Bailey) Krafka, Ryan and Rylee McLean, Isabel and Keira McGrane; six great-grandchildren: Ireland, Michael, Levi and Alivia

Harmsen, Ben and Hadley Krafka and one due in September; and two nieces.

She was preceded in death by her four brothers: Glen (Mildred) Liston, Dale Liston, Maynard Liston, and Paul Liston; a nephew, and a grandson, Michael Harmsen.

DARLENE RAE CIMPL Branch W093

Darlene Rae Cimpl, age 84, of Yankton, SD passed away May 1, 2010 at Avera Sister James Care Center Yankton, SD.

Darlene was born in Yankton, SD on June 12, 1925 to Raymond and Irene (Johnson) Freidel. Darlene attended schools in Yankton SD, Berkeley, California, and Iowa City, Iowa. After graduating from Yankton High School, she attended the University of South Dakota where she was a member of the Alpha Phi Sorority. She also attended Yankton College and obtained her teaching certificate. Darlene taught grades one through eight at the one room rural Kietzman School in Yankton County.

On May 1, 1947, Darlene married John Cimpl at St. Wenceslaus Church in Tabor, SD. They lived for a brief time in Tabor and then resided in Yankton for the rest of their married life. Darlene died on the 63rd anniversary of their wedding. Darlene had served as a substitute teacher and was a member and past president of PEO, Chapter AS. She was an avid bridge player her entire life.

Darlene was preceded in death by her parents, and her sister, Charlotte Nash. She is survived by her husband, John Cimpl, of Yankton, SD, her daughter Cindy (Thomas) Bottini of St. Louis, MO; her three grandchildren, Colette (Ben Peck) Bottini of Washington, DC, John (Sarah) Bottini of Atlanta, GA, and Alexander Bottini of St. Louis, MO; one great-grandchild; and many nieces and nephews.

Memorials are directed to the One Heart, One Mind, One Spirit in Christ

Campaign, Sacred Heart Catholic Church 509 Capitol Yankton, SD 57078 or Heartland Humane Society, PO Box 585, Yankton, SD 57078.

RITA WALLACE FALCHEK Branch 350



Rita Wallace Falчек, 81, of Plains, PA and formerly of Bear Creek Township, passed away on December 30, 2009 at Geisinger Medical Center in Plains.

She was born in Plains on August 3, 1928 to the late Jacob and Anna Shedlock Wallace.

She was a widow of the late Eugene Falчек who passed away on February 28, 1985.

Rita was a graduate of Plains Memorial High School Class of 1946, and a member of Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Church where she volunteered for the church bazaars.

She was a secretary/bookkeeper for her late husband's business, Cooperative Dental Laboratory in Wilkes-Barre, PA.

Rita was an officer for the former Sacred Heart Rosary Society and President of the Bear Creek Senior Citizens Project Head, and also a member of the FCSLA Branch 172, Wilkes-Barre, PA.

She was a faithful and long-time volunteer in the Little Flower Manor Nursing Home Gift Shop in Wilkes-Barre.

Rita was an avid fan of the Phillies and Penn State Football team.

Rita loved to talk to all people with whom she came in contact. She especially loved small children and babies.

Besides her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by her brother, Jacob Jr.

Surviving are her daughter Janet and husband, Dr. Richard Lorraine of Penllyn, PA, her son John and wife Mary Falчек of Plainfield, IL; seven

grandchildren: Andrew, Alec and Alli Lorraine; Ryan, Elyse, Maggie and Michael Falchek; brother Francis, Wilkes-Barre; sister Anne Hrycenko, Plains, PA; aunts, cousins, nieces and nephews.

VERONICA ROSE FITCHKO **Branch 301**

Veronica Rose Fitchko, age 94, of Canton, passed away on May 1, 2010. She was born on Dec. 17, 1915, in Wilpen, PA, to the late John and Elizabeth Smetanka. Veronica retired from Lincoln High School, where she was employed as a cook for several years. She was a member of St. Benedict's Catholic Church and also held memberships in the Rosary Altar Society, Columbian's Catholic Group and First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association. Veronica enjoyed crocheting, quilting and baking but, most of all, enjoyed spending time with her family that she so dearly loved.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Steve Fitchko in 1992; and eight brothers and sisters. Veronica will be greatly missed by her five children, Ron (Janet) Fitchko of Alpharetta, GA, Bob (Therese) Fitchko of Columbus, OH, Jim (Rebecca) Fitchko of Bluffton, SC, Karen (George) Fawver of North Canton and Kathy (Paul) Lively of Massillon; 10 grandchildren, Todd, Shawn, Dana, Ben, Christopher, Melissa, Craig, Julie, Paul and Michael; five great-grandchildren, Nicholas, Kasie, Falishah, Zoe and Ethan.

The family would like to extend a special "thank you" to the staffs at Mercy Hospice and Altercare of Nobles Pond for their outstanding care and kindness.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations were made to Mercy Medical Center Hospice (7568 Whipple Ave. N.W., North Canton, OH 44720).



EDWARD JABLONSKY

Branch W121



Edward Jablonsky, 79, passed away peacefully November 14, 2009, at home with his loving wife (Martha) at his side.

Edward was born on April 10, 1930 the son of Stanley and Rose (Karsky) Jablonsky in Stark County. Edward was married to Martha Jirges on October 9, 1951 at the Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in New Hradec. Together Edward and Martha lived on the farm where they raised their four children. In 1994 they retired and moved into Dickinson, ND where they have made their home.

He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in South Heart, and Queen of Peace in Dickinson and served on the church council.

Survivors include his wife, Martha, Dickinson; daughter, Sandy (Duane) Nelson, Glendale, AZ, and step-children, Dustin (Christine) and Dallas

(Renee) Nelson; daughter, Jackie (Duane) Wolf, Dickinson, and children, Brent (Kara), Craig, Lance, and Jenna Wolf; daughter, Janet (Rod) Lindbo, Belfield, and children, Jacob (Tatum) and Michael Lindbo, step-children, Cory (Jennifer) Lindbo, Tonya (Michael) Steele, and Kristopher (Mandi) Lindbo; son, Ken (Tana) Jablonsky, Fargo, and children Eric and Amanda Jablonsky; 2 great-grandchildren; 5 step-grandchildren and 13 step great-grandchildren.

Also survived by his sister, Tillie (Walt) Shypkowski, Fargo; four brothers, John (Roberta) Jablonski, Inver Grove Heights, MN; Charlie (Arlene) Jablonsky, Elk River, MN; Don (Marge) Jablonsky, Belfield; and Larry (Shirley) Jablonsky, Belfield; and sister-in-law, Carol Jablonsky, Belfield.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Albert, Raymond, and Alfred; sisters, Gladys Koolmo and Mary Jablonsky; sister-in-law, Elayne Jablonsky and brother-in-law, Virgil Koolmo; his mother and father-in-law, Joe and Mary Jirges; sister-in-law, Mary Luptak; brother-in-laws, Andrew Polensky and Henry Luptak.

PAT BRAUN REPRESENTS FCSLA AT NATIONAL FIC CONVENTION

In May, Pat Braun Represented FCSLA at the 2010 National Fraternal Insurance Counselors Convention, in Omaha NE, and provided leadership

for America's Fraternal Sales Force. Qualified Fraternal Counselors from around the country discussed current and improved sales techniques, and solutions needed in our industry, and compliance with state and federal laws. Each fraternal reviewed the effective techniques at a special Thursday dinner/meeting.



Pat Braun (far right) is pictured at the National FIC Convention in Omaha, NE with the Boystown Director and some featured guests.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

SCENES FROM THE DINNER HOSTED BY DISTRICT OFFICERS AT THE STIRLING GUEST HOTEL IN READING, PA



National and District Officers and Guests with State Senator Michael A. O'Pake (Sr. Branch 75) who was kind enough to stop by the Stirling to welcome our fraternal visitors to Reading, PA.



Frances Jakabcin District Officers on the steps of the Stirling Guest Hotel.



Celebrates 65th Anniversary of Profession as a Franciscan

On May 25, 2010 several Franciscans were honored at a special banquet in Chicago given by the Province of St. John the Baptist. Friar Richard A. Portasik, OFM served as the FCSLA National Chaplain from 1992-1995. Below is a summary of his highlights.

MY PARENTS WERE IMMIGRANTS

As I reflect on my sixty-five years in the Franciscan Order, there are not many who know that I was born and raised in an immigrant family. Both of my parents came to the United States from Slovakia; both lived in poverty and under the foreign domination of Hungary for over 1,000 years. Like parents in similar circumstances, they sought to instill in us immigrant children a twofold gift: love for freedom and faith in God. It was within this framework that I experienced ethnic ridicule of the Slovak people, and sensed a deep desire to encourage immigrants who came to this country at the turn of the twentieth century to be bold. What eventually enabled me to achieve this goal was my ability to speak Slovak from birth, and the eventual entrance into the Vice Province of the Holy Savior. As a friar and priest, I became a bi-lingual missionary from the Northeast to the Midwest for over forty years. Among my happiest moments was the downfall of communism in Slovakia in 1989 and the restoration of the suppressed Franciscan Province.

Many are probably not aware of my love and interest in the Secular Franciscan Order (Third Order). I was appointed as Commissary for eighteen years. During these years I

came in contact with many friars in the United States; among them a dear and close friend Friar Jovian Weigel, OFM. I still have a stole that he gave to me on the occasion of my fiftieth anniversary of ordination. With the approval of the new SFO Rule in 1978, I heard at meetings of the need for a simple introduction to the SFO. This prompted me to write a study pamphlet entitled *Way of Life*.

Because of the smaller number of members in the Vice Province, I had many opportunities to experience the presence of friars both here and abroad. Among these were my election as Custos (1976-1982), participation in two general chapters (1976 and 1979), appointment as general visitor to two Custodies and one Vice Province, member of the American Franciscan Liturgical Committee, and several visits to the Holy Land and Slovakia. With my personal knowledge of the Vice Province in the United States, I published two short volumes entitled *Slovak Franciscans in America*, an authentic record of some of the work of OFM Franciscans in the twentieth century among the immigrants of Slovak descent in the United States.

Sixty-five years is a long time, except in the eyes of God. It is like a passing breath or a whisp of smoke. This is an opportunity to thank our Provincial, Friar Jeff Scheeler, OFM and his Council for this special honor to share the above thoughts with you. May St. Francis and his love for Jesus and Mary fill your hearts with a similar desire for all present and future immigrants.

Friar Richard A. Portasik, O.F.M.

2010 Recommender New Member Life Insurance Campaign

Annuity Applications DO NOT Apply

This campaign will run from *March 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010* on applications received in the Home Office

Recommenders are eligible to participate in two categories for the prizes below.

- Number of new life members
- Amount of annualized life premium for new members

There will be **10 winners** in each category. The following prizes are awarded on an approved and premium paid basis.

- \$1,000 to the **first** place sales person in each category
- \$900 to the **second** place person in each category
- \$800 to the **third** place person in each category
- \$700 to the **fourth** place person in each category
- \$600 to the **fifth** place person in each category
- \$500 to the **sixth** place person in each category
- \$400 to the **seventh** place person in each category
- \$300 to the **eighth** place person in each category
- \$200 to the **ninth** place person in each category
- \$100 to the **tenth** place person in each category

The winners of these categories will be awarded at year end.

Extra Bonus to a Recommender's Branch in each category

- The first place recommender's Branch will receive **\$500**
- The second place recommender's Branch will receive **\$250**
- The third place recommender's Branch will receive **\$100**

Bonus Opportunity

Any recommender who writes **EIGHT** new life applications (3 Super Youth Term applications will equal 1 new life application) in any one month based on the date received at the Home Office will be awarded a bonus of **\$250.00**.

This bonus will be paid the month following the **EIGHT** applications.

The standard commissions will be paid in the regular manner.

* Please remember, recommenders may only sell in states with a fraternal exemption and the sale must fall within the fraternal exemption limits.

PÁS – Shining Brightly in the Sunshine State

Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., Ph.D.

Editorial assistance from Milenka Melanie Feighner and Angie Lipchick

The year 2010 will be remembered for its record snowfalls and chilly temperatures. Even Florida experienced several frosts during the frigid winter which threatened orange groves and cooled the usually warm southern state.

The Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble (PÁS), brought a ray of sunshine to Florida and warmed its audiences with two lively musical performances – one at Disney World on March 5, and another at the Slovak Garden on March 7. Perhaps it was no coincidence that temperatures rose steadily day by day after the troupe touched ground in Orlando!

Magic at Disney World

At “Downtown Disney,” PÁS put on a dazzling display in front of a large audience at the Waterside Stage, Walt Disney World’s premiere venue for entertainers. Invited to perform as part of the 25th anniversary of Disney’s *Magic Music Days*, PÁS presented a rousing program including elements of the one the troupe presented at the 44th Annual Folk Festival in Detva, Slovakia during July 2009. Opening with *Vyhadzovaná*, or the tossing dance from Myjava, the repertoire included a *mazurka* from the western region near the town of Kubra, a waltz, a medley of songs, a couples’ dance from the central Liptov region, and the *Zbojnický taniec*, or the Dance of Jánošík, the Slovak Robin Hood, with axes.

PÁS’s performance proved a real crowd pleaser. In consideration of the audience’s probable unfamiliarity with the Slovak traditions, the group presented a short speech about PÁS and its mission to continue the traditions of Slovak folk song and dance in America. This was quite useful for the

audience; one person in attendance initially thought the group was Spanish!

The Slovak Cultural Garden

Founded in 1952, the Slovak Cultural Garden is a retirement community for Slovak Americans in Winter Park, northeast of Orlando. The Cultural Garden features a banquet hall for dining and entertainment in addition to an extensive library and museum, which opened to the public after the meal and performance.

At the Slovak Garden, there was no confusion about who were the Slovaks. The audience consisted mainly of ethnic Slovaks from Florida, other parts of the USA, and even Canada. As all gathered for the celebration of their 58th Annual Slovak Day, most were quite familiar with PÁS from their celebrated performances of recent years.

The activities commenced with the Liturgy celebrated by the Reverend Louis P. Lulijak, recited and sung in Slovak, with only the sermon given in English. As part of the Mass, following the Eucharist, the PÁS women performed a solemn liturgical dance to the hymn “I Am the Living Bread.”

After the Liturgy, guests enjoyed a banquet including traditional Slovak foods such as *schnitzel* (pork chops are *bravcový rezeň* in Slovak), *pirohy* and *halubky* (stuffed cabbage), with *kolace* for dessert.

Following the meal, U.S. Representative John Mica, of Florida’s 7th District, delivered a short speech about how proud he is that Slovak Americans continue the traditions and religious faith of their immigrant ancestors.

Then PÁS awed the audience with a startling array of folk dances and songs from both eastern and western Slovakia. In addition to the dances performed in the shorter program at Disney, PÁS incorporated a suite of dances, including the women’s *karicka* (circle dance) to *Dajce nam Pal’enky* (Give us some brandy), the men’s military recruitment slapping dance, *Verbunk*, *Šarišska Polka*, the Eastern *Čsárdáš* and *Karčmár*, *Karčmár* (the Innkeeper’s Song).

continued on page 19



PASs John Lipchick Jr entertains Disney crowd in Outlaw dance.



Milenka spieva.



PAS dance at Slovak Cultural Garden, FL.

Slovak Heritage Society of NE Pennsylvania Holds Annual Meeting

The Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania recently held its Annual Meeting at the Gus Genetti Hotel and Conference Center, Wilkes-Barre, PA.

Pictured are the newly elected Officers and Board Members for 2010-2011. Seated from left to right: Helen Savinski, Swoyersville; Secretary Anna M. Hudock, Wilkes-Barre; Society Chairperson Philip R. Tuhy, Wilkes-Barre; Dinner Chairperson Elaine Palischak, Plymouth; Betty Pirnik, Wilkes-Barre; and Dorothy Sullivan, Nanticoke.

PÁS

The show concluded with *valašky* (long handled axes) bran-dished for the ever-popular *Zbojnický taniec*. The audience applauded with resounding approval.

Returning to Florida in 2011

Both events proved to be a great success and both Disney World and the Slovak Garden have asked the ensemble to return again for performances in 2011.

Credit for PÁS's success belongs to director and choreographer Angie Lipchick, who also meticulously scruti-nizes the singing and music with musical director John Lipchick, who provides the group with accompaniment as well as coaching all aspects of their musical interpretation.

For more information about the Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble, visit the group's website at www.pasfolkensemble.com or contact them via regular mail at PÁS Folk Ensemble, 1254 Old Concord Road, Monroeville, PA 15146. You may also call (412) 373-3873.

The entirely-volunteer members of PÁS are both proud and grateful to continue the historic traditions of our Slovak forebears both in the United States and throughout the world, and would like to express their thanks to all of those whose support makes their efforts possible.

Michael J. Kopanic, Jr. and his family are members of Home Office Branch ZJO0.



PAS performing lively dance at Slovak Cultural Garden.

Standing from left to right: Corresponding Secretary Bernadette Yench, Wilkes-Barre; Society Chaplain Rev. John Albosta, Waymart; Financial Advisor Magdalen M. Benish, Plains; Treasurer Jackson Hendershot, Wilkes-Barre; Anthony Palischak, Plymouth; Michael Stretanski, Kingston; Membership Chair Mary Migatulski, Wilkes-Barre; and Public Relations Director, William A. Zdancewicz, Edwardsville. (Not pictured are Joseph Kowatch, Kingston; and Andrew Sofranko, Hanover Township.).

Following the meeting and dinner, members and guests participated in a "Slovak Sin-Along" with accordion music provided by Andrew Chuba of Wilkes-Barre.



SLOVAKIA WINS ITS FIRST GOLD MEDAL AT WINTER OLYMPICS

Slovakian Anastasiya Kuzmina won gold in the biathlon women's 7.5 km sprint event at Whistler Olympic Park with a time of 19:55.6. Kuzmina made history by being the first Slovak athlete to ever win a gold medal at the Winter Olympics. She also won a silver medal in the women's 10km pursuit. When she is not training for the Olympics, she is a coach and a police officer in Slovakia.

Biathlon means "dual event." The sport consists of two disciplines, cross country skiing and rifle shooting. The biathlon was included in the Olympic schedule at the 1960 Squaw Valley Winter Games. At the 1960 Games, the only biathlon event contested was the men's 20 kilo-meter individual event. With the growth of the Games, the number of events has also increased. Women started competing in the biathlon events at the 1992 Albertville Winter Olympics. Currently ten events are contested during the biathlon competition at the Winter Games.



SLOVAK WORDS AND ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS

HOUSE, ROOMS AND FURNITURE: DOM, IZBY A NÁBYTOK:

Bedroom:	Spálňa:
bed	postel
blanket	deka
bookcase	knižnica
drapery	záclona
feather comforter	perina
mattress	matrac
night stand	nočný stolík
picture	obraz
pillow	poduška/vankúš
quilt	paplón
sewing machine	šijací stroj
sheet	plachta
Bathroom:	Kupeľňa:
bathtub	vaňa
comb	hrebeň
hairbrush	kefa na vlasy
mirror	zrkadlo
perfume	voňavka
razor	žiletka
shampoo	šampón
shower	sprcha
soap	mydlo
straight razor	britva
toilet	záchod/WC/OO
toilet paper	toaletný papier
toothbrush	zubná kefka
toothpaste	zubná pasta
towel	uterák

Verbs

THE INFINITIVE

The infinitive, or dictionary form of the verb is translated as “to ask,” “to write,” and so on. Slovak infinitives end in **ť**, for example **písať** to write. Some verbs have the particle **sa** behind them, usually meaning “self,” for example **myť sa** wash oneself. Here is a list of some common Slovak verbs, listed in the infinitive, followed by the 1st person singular (the “I” form):

to ask	pýtať sa	pýtam sa
to be	byť	som
to buy	kúpiť	kúpim
to carry	niešť	nesiem
to cry	plakať	plačem

to dance	tancovať	tancujem
to eat	jesť	jem
to find	nájsť	nájdem
to finish	končiť	končím
to go	ísť	idem
to hear	počuť	počujem
to know	vedieť	viem
to like	mať rád	mám rád
to lose	stratiť	stratím
to have to, must	musieť	musím
to pay	platiť	platím
to read	čítať	čítam
to recognize, know	poznať	poznám
to see	vidieť	vidím
to send	poslať	pošlem
to sing	spievať	spievam
to sit	sedieť	sedím
to sleep	spať	spím
to smile	smiať sa	smejem sa
to stand	stáť	stojím
to start	začať	začnem
to take	vziať	vezmem
to travel	cestovať	cestujem
to understand	rozumieť	rozumiem
to want	chcieť	chcem
to wash oneself	myť sa	umývam sa
to work	pracovať	pracujem
to write	písať	píšem

PRESENT TENSE

One must learn for each infinitive what the 1st person singular form (the “I” form) is. With practice, on the basis of the 1st person singular and the infinitive, the other forms of the present tense may be predicted.

The present endings are as follows:

	singular	plural
1st p.	-m I	-me we
2nd p.	-š you (sg.)	-te you (pl.)
3rd p.	- he, she, it	-ú or -ia they

Note that the 3rd person singular form does not have an ending. One usually does not use the personal pronouns together with the verb, since the person is expressed by the verb ending itself. Here are the present-tense forms of the verbs **mať** have, **chcieť** want, and **vedieť** know:

mať have	
mám I have	máme we have
máš you have	máte you have
má he, she it has	majú they have
chcieť want	
chcem I want	chceme we want

Pokračovanie na str. 21

ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA

chceš *you want* **chcete** *you want*
chce *he, she wants* **chcú** *they want*

vedieť *know*
viem *I know* **vieme** *we know*
vieš *you know* **viete** *you know*
vie *he, she, it knows* **vedia** *they know*

The verb **byť** *be* is irregular:

byť *be*
som *I am* **sme** *we are*
si *you are* **ste** *you are*
je *he, she, it is* **sú** *they are.*

PAST TENSE

The past tense is formed from the infinitive by dropping the **ť** and adding the endings **l**, (masculine) **la** (feminine) **lo** (neuter), and **li** (plural). One uses the past tense forms together with the present forms of the verb **byť** *to be*. For example, here is the past tense of **dať** *give*:

dal som (f. **dala som**) *I gave*
dal si (f. **dala si**) *you (sg.) gave*
dal (f. **dala**, n. **dalo**) *he, she, it gave*
dali sme *we gave*
dali ste *you (pl.) gave*
dali *they gave.*

FUTURE TENSE

The future tense is formed with the verb **budem**, **budeš**, **bude**, **budeme**, **budete**, **budú**, and the infinitive of the verb that we want to use. For example, here is the future of the verb **čítať** *read*:

budem čítať *I am going to read*
budeš čítať *you are going to read*
on (ona) bude čítať *he is going to read*
my budeme čítať *we are going to read*
vy budete čítať *you are going to read*
oni (ony) budú čítať *they are going to read*

☆☆☆

Exam/Skúška

Find the correct noun:

1. Rád pozerám _____.
2. Písací stôl je _____.
3. Moja poduška je _____.
4. Deko je _____.
5. _____ je drahý.
6. Na poličke je _____.
7. Uterák je _____.
8. _____ dobre voní.

Possible answers: 1. televízor, 2. tam, 3. veľká, 4. teplo, 5. obraz, 6. hrniec, 7. mokry, 8. šampón.

Utíšenie Búrky Na Mori

Bohuslav Zeman SSP

(Please enjoy the English translation below)

Čítam

Lk 8, 22-25

Ježiš a jeho učeníci nastúpili na loď.

– Preplavme sa na druhý breh jazera – povedal Ježiš.

Učeníci ho poslúchli a odrazili od brehu. Ako sa plavili, Ježiš zaspal, lebo bol veľmi unavený, keďže predtým učil ľudí. Vtom sa na jazero spustila taká víchrica, že sa im do lode naberala voda.

Boli vo veľkom nebezpečenstve.

Učeníci pristúpili k Ježišovi a zobudili ho slovami:

– Učiteľ, učiteľ, hynieme! Ježiš vstal, pohrozil vetru a rozbúrenej vode i upokojili sa a nastalo ticho. Potom sa opýtal učeníkov:

– Kde je vaša viera?

A učeníci sa veľmi preľakli a s údivom sa pýtali sa jeden druhého:

– Čo myslíš, kto je to, že rozkazuje vetru i vode a ony ho poslúchajú?

A tak sa šťastne doplavili do gergezského kraja.

☆☆☆

Jesus Calms a Storm

Bohuslav Zeman SSP

I Read

Luke 8:22-25

One day Jesus and His disciples got into a boat.

'Let us go across to the other side of the lake,' He said to them.

The disciples obeyed Him and set out. While they were sailing, Jesus fell asleep because He was very tired from teaching. Suddenly, a gale swept down on the lake. Rough waves began to fill the boat with water. It was very dangerous.

The disciples woke Jesus up, shouting, 'Master, Master, we are perishing!'

And Jesus woke up, got up, rebuked the wind and the raging waves. A great calm set in. Then He asked His pupils, 'Where is your faith?'

They were very afraid and started asking one another, 'Who then is He, that He commands the winds and the water and they obey Him?'

And so they sailed back safely to the land of the Gerasenes.

Slovak Catholic Federation Mid-Year Annual Appeal Report

Since 1978, the Slovak Catholic Federation has been conducting the SS. Cyril and Methodius Appeal, which begins each year in the month of February during the closest weekend to the Feast of SS. Cyril and Methodius. To date, I am happy to report that **\$18,325.24** has been collected. This year's Appeal continues until the end of calendar year 2010.

Now in its 32nd year, the Appeal has primarily been taken up in parishes of Slovak heritage in the United States and Canada. As we are all very much aware, the days of "ethnic parishes" are becoming a thing of the past. More and more Slovaks reside in different parts of the country and no longer claim to belong to a parish of Slovak heritage. For this reason, many Slovaks may not have the opportunity to hear about, let alone participate in, this Annual Appeal. If it were not for the Slovak Catholic fraternal societies and their publications, communication to American and Canadian Slovaks would not be possible. In recent years we have seen an increase in individual donations apart from the parish collections. Also, most of the Slovak fraternal societies have been making contributions to this collection from their National Board of Directors, along with a number of local branches, wreaths, assemblies, and lodges.

For as you know, this Appeal assists the Church in Slovakia by supporting the training mission of the Pontifical Slovak College of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Rome, Italy (formally known as the Slovak Institute or *Ustav*). In addition, funds are distributed to those Religious communities of both men and women which share a counterpart which belongs to the Conference of Slovak Religious. These communities include the Vincentian Sisters of Charity (*Ruzomberok*), Dominican Sisters (*Dunajska Luzna*), School Sisters of St. Francis (*Zilina*), Daughters of St. Francis (*Bratislava-Prievoz*), Byzantine Catholic Sisters of St. Basil the Great (*Secove and Presov*), Franciscan Friars Minor (*Bratislava*); and House of St. Benedict (*Bacurov*).

As various groups will be holding summer picnics as well as several national fraternal conventions, I ask that consideration be given to kindly taking up a collection in support of the Slovak Catholic Federation Appeal. All donations are tax deductible. In 2009 this Annual Appeal totaled **\$50,322.49**.

Individuals, groups, picnics, etc., are all welcome to make a donation to this Appeal. Make all checks payable to: Slovak Catholic Federation and send directly to SCF National Secretary-Treasurer Dolores Evanko, 173 Berner Avenue, Hazleton, PA 18201.

I pray that Almighty God reward all of us who participate in the support of the Church in Slovakia through the Slovak Catholic Federation's 32nd Annual SS. Cyril and Methodius Appeal.

Fr. Andrew Hvozdovic, Appeal Coordinator

REPORT OF THE FCSLA NATIONAL TREASURER

BALANCE SHEET AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2010

ASSETS

Cash and Short Term Investments	\$ 12,280,482.08
Bonds	559,130,071.30
Preferred Stock	8,266,125.87
Common Stock	743,229.59
Investment Income Due and Accrued	9,049,730.53
Promissory Notes	54,315.22
Property Plant and Equipment, Net	6,880,126.43
Certificate Loans & Accrued Interest	1,511,218.88
Other Assets	219,677.61

TOTAL ASSETS \$ 598,134,977.51

LIABILITIES

Life Reserves	\$ 170,461,317.08
Annuity Reserves	322,534,245.10
Death Claims Payable	524,905.11
Unearned Premiums	517,140.00
Matured Endowments	300,727.00
Provision for Dividends Payable	1,894,881.00
Accumulated Dividends and Interest	3,548,627.15
Accrued Convention Donations	388,889.00
Provision for Future Conventions	420,000.40
Asset Valuation Reserve	6,042,801.00
Interest Maintenance Reserve	1,472,881.00
Other Liabilities	1,315,476.33
Provision for Annuity Certain Accounts	3,081,000.00

TOTAL LIABILITIES \$ 512,502,890.17

SURPLUS

Surplus	\$ 85,632,087.34
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TOTAL SURPLUS \$ 85,632,087.34

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS \$ 598,134,977.51

INCOME STATEMENT

For the Two Months Ending February 28, 2010

REVENUE

Insurance Premiums	\$ 1,581,135.55
Annuity Premiums	8,230,481.51
Investment Income	5,749,385.42
Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve	13,852.00
Rental Income	61,268.00
Other Revenue	4,011.52
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 15,640,134.00

EXPENSES

Increase in Reserves — Life	\$ 1,819,317.00
Increase in Reserves — Annuity	7,803,245.00
Insurance Benefits	487,538.67
Annuity Benefits	2,838,957.99
Commission Expense	214,715.95
Surrender Benefits	365,046.96
Miscellaneous Member Benefits	6,895.94
Matured Endowments	(2,784.00)
Donation Expenses	59,788.90
Convention Expenses	30,000.00
Dividends to Members	312,512.84
Post Mortem Benefits	142,316.54
Bonus to Branches	186,870.00
Fraternal Activities	41,333.91
Bank Service Charges	10,509.38
Data Processing Service Fees	62,911.11
Accounting Fees	2,460.00
Actuarial Fees	23,146.00
Legal Fees	19,675.90
Consulting Services	20,520.00
Official Publications	55,046.15
Miscellaneous Employee Benefits	68,743.24
Fees — Directors	18,711.72
Salaries — Employees	220,142.14
Salaries — Officers	73,108.34
Interest Expense	38,103.82
Tax Expense	52,213.06
Depreciation Expense	45,406.00
Utility Expense	14,020.65
Postage and Printing	77,700.98
Advertising	18,565.68
Travel Expense	14,288.68
Insurance Department Fees	29,570.38
Sales Promotion	40,889.32
Rental Expense	61,268.00
Other Expense	79,506.33

TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 15,352,262.58

NET INCOME \$ 287,871.42



Outdoor Cooking at it's Best!

BACON CHEESEBURGERS

2 lbs. ground beef or turkey
 ¾ cup barbecue sauce, divided
 8 slices cooked bacon, cut up
 4 slices American cheese
 4 kaiser rolls or hamburger buns
 lettuce

Mix meat and ½ cup of the barbecue sauce. Shape into 8 thin patties.

Top 4 of the patties each with 2 bacon slices, 1 tablespoon barbecue sauce and 1 cheese slice. Top each with second patty. Press edges of patties together; seal with fork. Grill patties over medium coals 7 to 9 minutes on each side or until cooked through. Fill rolls with patties and lettuce. Makes 4.

DILLY MUSTARD SALMON BURGERS

1½ pounds skinless salmon filet, cut into large chunks
 2 tablespoons capers, chopped
 Grated peel of half a lemon (lemon half reserved for squeezing)
 ⅓ cup finely chopped flat-leaf parsley
 2 teaspoons seafood seasoning
 Salt and pepper
 1 tablespoon olive oil
 ¼ seedless cucumber, chopped
 2 plum tomatoes, seeded and chopped
 ½ small red onion, finely chopped
 ½ cup Dijon mustard
 3 tablespoons fresh dill, finely chopped
 4 kaiser rolls, split
 4 red-leaf lettuce leaves

Using a food processor, coarsely chop the salmon; transfer to a bowl. Mix in the capers, lemon peel, parsley and seafood seasoning and season with salt and pepper. Form into 4 patties.

Preheat the broiler. In a nonstick skillet, heat the olive oil and add the patties. Cook for 4 minutes on each side.

Meanwhile, in a small bowl, combine the cucumber, tomatoes and red onion. In another small bowl, mix the mustard with the dill.

Toast the rolls under the broiler and slather each side with the mustard-dill sauce. Squeeze the lemon half over the cooked burgers. Set a lettuce leaf and burger on each roll bottom and top with tomato-cucumber relish and a roll top. Makes 4.

HONEY SESAME PORK CHOPS

Marinade

2 tablespoons plus 2 teaspoons light soy sauce
 1 garlic clove, crushed
 2 teaspoons dry sherry
 1 tablespoon plus 1 teaspoon honey
 ⅛ teaspoon fivespice powder
 ¾ teaspoon toasted sesame oil
 ¾ teaspoon sesame seeds
 8 center-cut pork rib chops, trimmed

To prepare the marinade, combine all ingredients in a bowl and stir thoroughly.

Place pork chops in a shallow dish and add the marinade. Cover and refrigerate for several hours or overnight.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Place pork chops on a wire rack over a baking dish. Bake for about 35 minutes, brushing with marinade occasionally, or until tender. Makes 4 servings.

GRILLED CREAMED CORN

8 ears corn, husked
 2 tablespoons butter
 2 tablespoons flour
 1¼ cups milk
 3 tablespoons cream cheese
 Salt and black pepper

Preheat a grill to medium-high. Arrange the corn on the grate and grill, turning occasionally, until the kernels are golden-brown and softened, 8 to 10 minutes. Once cool enough to handle, remove the corn kernels from the cobs; discard the cobs. (you will have approximately 5 cups of kernels.) Lower the grill temperature to medium.

Heat a large cast-iron skillet over the grate. Add the butter to melt, then whisk in the flour until combined and foaming, about 2 minutes. Gradually whisk in the milk and cream cheese and cook, whisking constantly, until smooth and thick, 2 to 3 minutes. Stir in the corn kernels; season with salt, black pepper, and cook until heated through, about 1 minute.

GRILLED STRAWBERRY CHEESECAKE DESSERT

1 pound strawberries, hulled
 Two 12-ounce pound cakes, cut into twelve 1/2-inch slices
 4 tablespoons butter, melted
 12 ounces cream cheese, at room temperature
 ¼ cup sugar

¾ cup heavy cream

¼ cup strawberry jelly, melted

Preheat a grill to high. Thread the strawberries onto skewers and place on the grill. Cook, turning frequently, until lightly charred, 5 to 7 minutes; transfer to a bowl. Lower the heat to medium. Brush the pound cake slices on both sides with the melted butter. Grill, turning once, until toasted and grill marks appear, about 8 minutes.

Coarsely chop the strawberries. In a medium bowl, using a handheld mixer, beat the cream cheese with the sugar until smooth. Beat in the heavy cream until soft peaks form, about 3 minutes. Stir in three-quarters of the chopped strawberries.

Brush the cake slices with the jelly, then spread each with 3 tablespoons of the strawberry cream. Stack them in twos, cream side up, to make 6 double stacks. Dollop each with the remaining strawberry cream and chopped strawberries.

GRILLED COBBLER

1 cup plus 1 tablespoon flour
 ¼ cup plus 2 tablespoons sugar, plus more for sprinkling
 2 teaspoons baking powder
 ½ cup buttermilk, at room temperature
 4 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted
 3 or 4 nectarines, sliced
 1 cup mixed berries
 Vanilla ice cream

Preheat a grill to medium-high. Grease a medium cast-iron skillet. In a medium bowl, whisk together 1 cup flour, ¼ cup sugar and the baking powder. Mix in the buttermilk and butter until just combined.

In another medium bowl, toss together the nectarines, berries, remaining 1 tablespoon flour and 2 tablespoons sugar.

Spoon the fruit into the prepared skillet and dollop the dough over the fruit in 8 spoonfuls; sprinkle with sugar. Cover with foil and grill until the juices are bubbling and the top is golden, about 20 minutes. Let cool for 5 minutes before serving with a scoop of ice cream.

TOASTED MARSHMALLOW MILKSHAKES

One 1-pound bag jumbo marshmallows
 2 cups milk
 2 cups vanilla ice cream
 2 tablespoons vanilla yogurt

Preheat the broiler. On a foil-lined baking sheet, place half of the marshmallows in a single layer; broil until charred, 3 minutes. Transfer to a plate to cool. Place the remaining marshmallows on the sheet and roast just until toasted, 2 minutes; let cool.

In a blender, mix the milk, ice cream, yogurt and charred marshmallows. Serve topped with the toasted marshmallows.

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