

Fraternally Yours®

The logo for FCSLA Life features a stylized circular emblem with a blue and red design, followed by the text "FCSLA" in blue and "Life" in red.

ISSN 0897-2958

VOL. 108, NO. 2

First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association

NOVEMBER 2021

Happy Thanksgiving

*For each new morning with its light,
For rest and shelter of the night,
For health and food, for love and friends,
For everything Thy goodness sends.*

Ralph Waldo Emerson

ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA

ISSN 0897-2958

Fraternally Yours,
ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA,
is a monthly magazine published by the
First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association.
National Headquarters at 24950 Chagrin Blvd.,
Cleveland, Ohio 44122

Periodical Postage Paid at
Cleveland, OH 44101 and additional entries

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

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

Postmaster: Send address changes to
Ženska Jednota,
First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association
24950 Chagrin Boulevard, Cleveland, OH 44122

Deadline for all articles is the 15th
of the month, 1½ months prior to the issue date.

OFFICE HOURS — HOME OFFICE

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

EDITOR: Carolyn Bazik

P.O. Box 1617, Reading, PA 19603
E-mail: zjbazik@comcast.net
Phone (610) 373-2743 • Fax (610) 375-8333

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAPLAIN:

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

PRESIDENT:

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

NATIONAL DIRECTORS:

Jeanette E. Palanca, 304 W. Exchange Street,
Crete, IL 60417. Residence: (847) 770-3508.
Email: jeanetteeve@outlook.com.

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

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

Patrick Braun, P.O. Box 628, Whitewater, WI 53190.
Residence: (262) 473-1850.
Email: patbraun11345@gmail.com.

NATIONAL TRUSTEES:

Suzanne V. Strohl, 4619C 28th Road South,
Arlington, VA 22206. Residence: (703) 379-1148.
Email: svstrohl@msn.com.

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

NATIONAL AUDITORS:

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

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

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

COURT OF APPEALS:

Cynthia Oresik
Flora J. Funtal
Susan Moynihan
Melanie L. Leonard
Bonnie Vavraska



Prayer of Thanksgiving

Vienna Cobb Anderson

God of all blessings,
source of all life, giver of all grace:
We thank you for the gift of life:
for the breath that sustains life,
for the food of this earth that nurtures life,
for the love of family and friends
without which there would be no life.

We thank you for the mystery of creation:
for the beauty that the eye can see,
for the joy that the ear may hear,
for the unknown
that we cannot behold filling the universe with wonder,
for the expanse of space that draws us
beyond the definitions of our selves.

We thank you for setting us in communities:
for families who nurture our becoming,
for friends who love us by choice,
for companions at work,
who share our burdens and daily tasks,
for strangers who welcome us into their midst,
for people from other lands
who call us to grow in understanding,
for children who lighten our moments with delight,
for the unborn, who offer us hope for the future.

We thank you for this day:
for life and one more day to love,
for opportunity and one more day
to work for justice and peace,
for neighbors and one more person to love
and by whom be loved,
for your grace and one more experience of your presence,
for your promise: to be with us,
to be our God, and to give salvation.

For these, and all blessings,
we give you thanks, eternal, loving God,
through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Dear Friends,

This month dig a hole in your garden of thoughts. Into it put all your
disillusions, disappointments, regrets, worries, troubles, doubts and fears and
— forget.

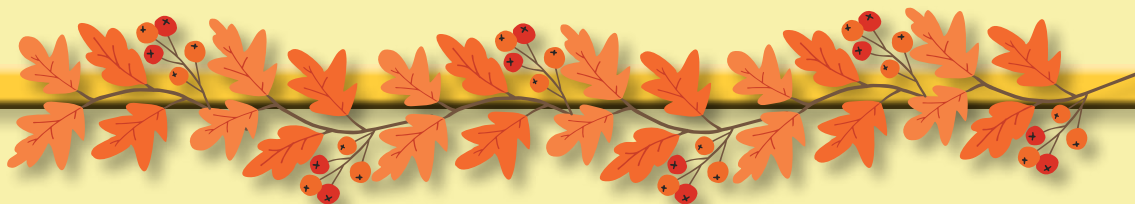
Cover well with the earth of fruitfulness, water it from the well of
contentment. Sow on top again the seeds of hope, courage, strength, patience
and love.

Then, when the time of gathering comes, may your harvest be a rich and
plentiful one.

Remember that gratitude is a seasoning for all seasons!

Happy Thanksgiving!

Until Next Month,
Warmly, Carolyn



Fourth Glorious Mystery: **THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

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

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The Fourth Glorious Mystery is Mary's Assumption into Heaven. The fruit most commonly associated with the mystery of the Assumption is the grace of a happy death.

After the descent of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, the apostles began their mission to convert and baptize. We know the beloved disciple, Saint John, took care of Mary after Christ's death and resurrection. There she lived for many years and was a source of comfort and strength to the apostles. Just as Mary nourished her infant Jesus, she nourished the infant Church spiritually.

One might ask how could God honor her more than he already had by choosing her to be the Mother of God? God had one final gift for Mary, his most humble of servants. Mary's body would not suffer the corruption of death but would become the first fruit of Christ's Resurrection. Her body, as well as her soul, would be assumed into heaven and be a symbol for us of the resurrection of the body. Jesus did not permit the sinless body of his mother to decay in the grave. Corruption of the body is an effect of original sin from which Mary was totally exempted. Because Mary did not succumb to death by sinning, her flesh never lost its eternal life, and thus she was "assumed" or transferred bodily to heaven.

Although our Holy Church tradition teaches that Mary was assumed into heaven at the end of her earthly life, there is no narrative of this event in Scripture. Still early Christians knew that Mary was taken up into Heaven. The early Church would have known Mary as a saint and wanted to collect relics. We

have relics of the apostles and so many of the greatest saints and martyrs in history but not a single relic of Mary's body. As revered as Mary was, this would be very strange, except for the fact of the assumption of her body. The absence of such relics speaks to the reality of this mystery.

Many times throughout Church history, the Church clearly and specifically has made official and infallible what it has already taught for centuries. This is done by virtue of a dogma. On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII declared in an Apostolic constitution known as the *Munificentissimus Deus*, that it is a dogma of the Church "that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory."

Only Mary, who was born without stain of original sin – the Immaculate Conception – could give birth to Christ, who is fully God and fully human. Because of Mary's role in God's plan of salvation, she did not suffer from the effects of sin, which are death and decay. Mary is the first to receive the fullness of the redemption that Jesus won for all of humanity. The Church teaches us that the Assumption is "an anticipation of the resurrection of other Christians." We can look to the life of Mary as an example of faith and holiness, and we can look at her death and assumption as an example of what we can expect. Every time we recite the Nicene Creed, we say: "I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come." By virtue of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we can envision what those words actually mean for us.

FCSLA Donates to Annual Saint Andrew Abbey Benefit

The photo was taken by Andrzej Groch, Husband of National President Cynthia Maleski at the annual Saint Andrew Abbey Benefit held this year at Church of the Assumption in Broadview Heights, Ohio to support the mission and work of the Benedictine monks in Cleveland.

Our Anna Hurban Cleveland District and branches give generously every year in the form of funds,



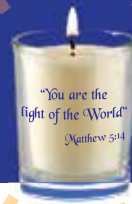
in kind donations and volunteer hours. Presenting a donation from the home office are the following left to right: Sue

Ann Seich, National Trustee, Marie, Golias, District Vice President, Cynthia Maleski, National President (CEO) to Abbot Gary Hoover, OSB, Kimberly Graham, National Secretary (COO), Joyce Lechman, Anna Hurban Cleveland District President and Barbara Sekerak, National Auditor. Next year

Saint Andrew Svorad Abbey will celebrate 100 years of its founding in Cleveland.

Message from our National President

CYNTHIA M. MALESKI



THE ESSENCE OF GRATITUDE



Dear fellow members,

We have so much to be grateful for in our lives! Gratitude embraces the fullness of life. It turns what we have into more than enough. We accept the truth of where we are in life, turning a confusing direction into clarity.

As we express our gratefulness to others, we can more fully express our awareness of where we have come from and our appreciation of the impact that others around us have in our lives. When we are grateful, we become calmer, more peaceful, more fulfilled.

As we show gratitude toward others, we manifest our care and commitment to those around us. It creates a synergy and a connection to those around us – our family, friends, coworkers, members and potential members. We can recognize others for what they do in connection with us.

As we continue to express an attitude of gratitude in all facets of our lives, we will imbed positive thinking into what we do. We will have a dramatic effect on improving and fortifying others.

As we approach Thanksgiving, let us all take a few moments to think about how fortunate we are that our foremothers and forefathers suffered hardship, separation, physical isolation, uncertainty and most probably poor conditions as they immigrated to the United States to provide a better life for future generations. If we take the time to be truly grateful for what they did for us, we will come to realize and appreciate the grand steps they made so that we could reap the benefit

of opportunity in this great country of ours. We can then use our talents and gifts to make a better community and better world for all around us.

We pray that we sustain this sense of gratitude for all, so that we may plan and work together to provide for the COMMON GOOD in our neighborhoods and our communities. Then and only then can we hope for a better life living together peacefully in our nation and in our world.

As we gather together with our family and friends during Thanksgiving and the upcoming Christmas holidays, let us show our gratefulness for those around us, as we relate to one another with compassion, understanding, cooperation and most of all, love.

Every day, let us be grateful for those with whom we interact. We are especially grateful to our military veterans during this time as well, for their selfless service to our country.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Cynthia

FCSLA Annuity Rates

Rates for our deferred Elite Annuities:

SILVER ELITE (5 YEAR)

2.65% APY*

GOLD ELITE (7 YEAR)

2.90% APY*

PLATINUM ELITE (10 YEAR)

3.15% APY*

***This rate is in effect 10/1/2021 thru 12/31/2021**

The credited rate is reviewed quarterly by the Board of Directors and will never go below the minimum guaranteed rate.

The guaranteed rates are:

Elite Silver (5 year) 2.00% APY • Elite Gold (7 year) 2.00% APY
Elite Platinum (10 year) 2.00% APY



Regional Sales Managers and Producers Visit Cleveland in September

Members of the 2021 FCSLA Life President's Club sales team visited Cleveland in September and enjoyed a variety of activities lead by National Sales Manager Paul Smithers. The Regional Sales Managers arrived first, followed by the producers who qualified for this trip. The Drury Hotel in downtown Cleveland was the venue for the Presidents Club qualifiers. The late summer weather was perfect.

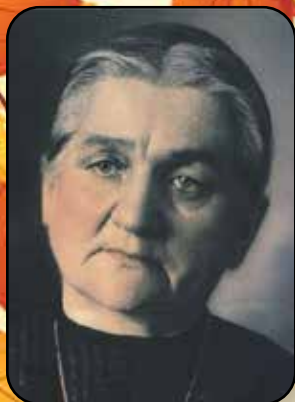
Due to COVID-19, the attendees visit to the Home Office in Beachwood was held outside. The attendees also participated in training sessions and company updates. A special recognition dinner with FCSLA Life National President/CEO Cynthia Maleski was the highlight on Friday, September 17th. There was a trip to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, and other Cleveland points of interest. The group enjoyed a sunset cruise on the Nautica Queen on Lake Erie on Saturday evening as well.

Agents (at right) – L-R, Front Row: Ron McBroom of New Prague, MN; Mike Emser of Buffalo, NY; Karen Ruby of Council Bluffs, IA; Milt Trnka of Lonsdale, MN; **National President Cynthia Maleski of PA and OH.** **Back Row:** Paul Smithers of Beachwood, OH; Matt Dresden of Hartington, NE; Jim Donovan of Ramona, CA; Bob Durante of Parma, OH; John Gonsiorek of Buffalo, NY; Scott Schiermeister of Spokane Valley, WA; Jim Morsovillo of Naperville, IL.



Front row (seated): Susan Durante, Kathy McBroom, Lisa Henry, Lesly Smithers, Cynthia Maleski, Andrea Metcalf. **Middle row:** Robert Durante, Jan Donovan, Ronald McBroom, Mike Emser, Karen Ruby, Petrina Eastman, Theresa Ruby; Donna Morsovillo, Kathie Dresden, Mark Metcalf. **Back Row:** Paul Smithers, Jim Donovan, John Gonsiorek, Scott Schiermeister, Jim Morsovillo, Milt Trnka, Jean Trnka, and Matt Dresden.

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! We will continue to recognize your donations in *Fraternally Yours* at least twice a year.

Private Donations

Julianne Lis-Milam – \$100.00 – In memory of Zofia Lis
Theresa G. Durik – \$25.00 – In honor of our Veterans and in memory of the Durik family
Ann M. Kwak – \$100.00 – In memory of Sister Noel Stasko, SSCM
Dick & Marie Schweinberg – \$50.00 – In honor of your grandchildren Abby & Zack Desko
Helen Niewolak – \$25.00 – In memory of Katherine Pastaszka
Susan J. Talpas – \$100.00 – In memory of Richard D. Talpas
Lynn Schmitz \$100.00 – In honor of Maryann Christoff Pedelty & in memory of Mary Novotney Christoff
Mary Ann Weinberg – \$100.00 – In memory of Monika Sotak
John A. Husovsky – \$150.00 – In memory of John S. & Veronica M. Husovsky
Maureen Scheeringa – \$50.00 – In memory of Elaine Ruzbasan
Margaret Wilson – \$250.00 – In memory of Elaine Ruzbasan
Lisa LaCaruba – \$25.00 – In memory of Irene M. Yanci LaCaruba
Frances E. Gasper – \$200.00 – In memory of Barbara & William Gasper
Cynthia Maleski Groch & Andrzej Groch – \$100.00 – In memory of Rosemary A. Mlinarich
Jack & Sue Ann Seich – \$25.00 – In memory of Rosemary A. Mlinarich
EPOQ Inc. – \$300.00 – In support of young students
Richard Zittman – \$100.00 – In memory of Irene Zittman & Mary Zittman
First Summit Bank – \$30.00 – In memory of Margaret R. Albertelli
Lawrence Albertelli – \$75.00 – In memory of Margaret R. Albertelli
SS Cyril & Methodius Prayer Shawl Group c/o Dorothy Charney – \$30.00 – In memory of Margaret R. Albertelli
Elizabeth A. Thomas – \$50.00 – In memory of Margaret R. Albertelli
Theresa E. Nesbella – \$30.00 – In memory of your deceased mother Margaret Albertelli
Helen Gebura – \$250.00 – In memory of Gebura & Kosnac families
Patricia Logan – \$100.00 – In memory of Florence & James Podany
Thomas Kaniecki – \$50.00
Eleanor R. Bernd – \$20.00
Alberto Chalmeta – \$1,000.00
Patrice Swartz – \$50.00
Gerald Dudek – \$100.00
Louis & Elisa Rusnock – \$50.00
Frances M. Iwanski – \$50.00

Branch

Z562 – Hobart, IN – \$300.00 – In honor of living & deceased members of Branch Z562, St. Anne
S424 – Pittsburgh, PA – \$100.00 – In honor of living and deceased members of Branch S424, Homestead, PA
S107 & J038 – McKeesport, PA – \$200.00 – In honor of living and deceased members of Branch S107 & J038
S417 – Andreas, PA – \$250.00 – In memory of all deceased members of Coaldale, PA, Branch S417
S615 – Wilkes Barre, PA – \$500.00 – In memory of Sister Noel Stasko, SSCM
J364 – Johnstown, PA – \$25.00 – In honor of Branch members
S028 – Johnstown, PA – \$50.00 – In honor of Branch members
S287 & J339 – Oak Lawn, IL – \$50.00 – In memory of Officers & Members of Branch S287 & J339
S230 – N. Catasauqua, PA – \$100.00 – In memory of living & deceased members
S221 & J057 – Parma, OH – \$500.00 – In honor of living and deceased members of S221 & J057
S084 & J007 – Sewell, NJ – \$150.00 – In memory of your branch members
S107 – West Mifflin, PA – \$100.00
S408 & J385 – Westlake, OH – \$200.00
S200 & J056 – Glassport, PA – \$500.00 – In honor of living & deceased members and officers
of Glassport Branch S200 & J056
S128 – Strongsville, OH – \$200.00
S084 & J007 – Sewell, NJ – \$100.00 – In honor of our living and deceased members
S045 & J105 – Hazelton, PA – \$200.00 – In memory of Dominic Cusatis & Marie Kokinda
S089 – Hellerton, PA – \$200.00 – In memory of deceased members of Branch S089
S090 – McKees Rocks, PA – \$250.00 – In honor of Margaret Rudzik Wallace & in memory of deceased members
of Branch S090
J158 – Whitehall, PA – \$50.00
S484 – Whitehall, PA – \$100.00 – In memory of Justine Krempasky deceased & former president of S484
S414 & J272 – Summit Hill, PA – \$100.00
S030 – Hilliard, PA – \$1,000.00 – In memory of Catherine Kovalchik
S350 – Wilkes Barre, PA – \$50.00
S055 – Frackville, PA – \$500.00 – In memory of Margaret Getz
J016 – Frackville, PA – \$500.00 – In memory of Rosemary Leshko
S269 – Brownsville, PA – \$25.00
S086 – Dallas, PA – \$500.00 – In honor of all living and deceased members of Branch S086
S408 & J385 – Westlake, OH – \$500.00 – In memory of past officers of S408 & J385
S101 – St. Louis, MO – \$200.00 – In memory of deceased members of S101
S196 – Frackville, PA – \$500.00 – In honor & memory of Anna Staskel
J032 – McKeesport, PA – \$100.00 – In honor of living and deceased members
J158 – Whitehall, PA – \$50.00
S169 – Youngstown, OH – \$100.00 – In memory of Helen D. Sonoga
S084 & J007 – Sewell, NJ – \$100.00 – In honor of our present and past officers
S334 & J232 – Elk Rapids, MI – \$500.00 – In honor of our present and past members of S334 & J232
S046 – Darien, IL – \$50.00 – In memory of Helen Ledvora
S615 – Wilkes Barre, PA – \$500.00 – In memory of Mrs. Adrienne Iskra
Z562 – Gary, IN – \$300.00 – In memory of deceased members of PWA St. Anne Z 562
S124 – Throop, PA – \$100.00 – In memory of Catherine Stedina
S421 – Chicago, IL – \$100.00 – In memory of deceased members of S521 & J322
S313 – Natrona Hts., PA – \$300.00 – In honor of living & deceased members os S313
J380 – Bedford Hts., OH – \$100.00 – In honor of all J380 members
S475 – Bedford Hts., OH – \$100.00 – In memory of deceased members of S475



National Fraternalist of the Year 2021

The National Fraternalist of the Year award is an honor presented to an individual in our society who, through example and accomplishment, has provided outstanding volunteer service to their FCSLA Life branch, church, and community.



GUIDELINES

- Any FCSLA Life member may submit a nominee for this award.
- Nominee must be at least 23 years old.
- Home Office staff and National Officers are not eligible to be nominated.
- Previous awardees are not eligible.
- A headshot photo of the nominee must be included with the nomination.
- Nominations must be received at the Home Office by **November 15, 2021**.
- An independent committee will select the winner. Decisions are final.
- The winner will receive \$250 and be featured in *Fraternally Yours*, on our website, and social media pages!



The **nomination form** can be found on our website (fcsla.com)
or by contacting the Fraternal Department, 800-464-4642 x1051
or fraternal@fcsla.com.



Let's Make COVID History.



Get a Vaccine as Soon as You Can.

Getting vaccinated—that's how we're going to put COVID behind us. And until you're fully vaccinated (2 weeks after your final dose), keep masking up inside public places (even vaccinated people in areas of substantial or high spread of [COVID-19](#) should wear a mask inside public places to maximize protection from the highly contagious Delta variant and prevent possibly spreading it to others), stay at least 6 feet apart from people who don't live with you and who may not be vaccinated, and avoid crowds and indoor get-togethers to slow the spread.

You have three ways to find vaccines near you:

- Go to [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov)
- Text your ZIP code to 438829
- Call 1-800-232-0233



Content last reviewed: September 7, 2021

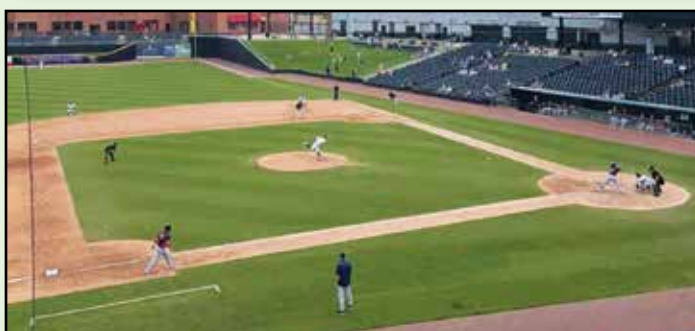
TAKE THEM OUT TO THE BALLGAME

Saturday, August 7th, 2021 was a hot and steamy afternoon, despite the heat we still had nearly 100 people attend our annual event. Junior and senior members of the Helen Kocan District arrived at the Steel Yard Stadium to experience a Gary SouthShore RailCats baseball game. If you were lucky enough to be one of the first 200 people through the gate you received a RailCats jersey. We were very fortunate to have a reserved private patio area with third base seating and an excellent view of the park. Popcorn and chips were set up at the tables with soda and water. A delicious buffet of hamburgers, hotdogs, pulled pork, baked beans, and condiments were ready for all to indulge. Dessert was a variety of giant cookies.

The covered patio served to protect all from the beating

sun. Members could walk around the stadium, challenge themselves to speed pitch, purchase Dippin' Dots (a fan favorite) or just sit and enjoy the game. Rusty, the RailCats mascot, came by to greet fans and take photos. The FCSLA members cheering helped to motivate the RailCats to win the game. After the win all children were invited to "run the bases". It was a great way to end the day at the ballpark. Everyone left with smiles on their faces after participating in another FCSLA event. The Steel Yard was a perfect place to enjoy a day out with plenty of room for adults and children to explore and have fun. Our sincere thanks to Agnes Chervenak, Sr. Branch 409; Betty Ortiz, Sr. Branch 452; Mary Weber, Sr. Branch 289; and Rebecca Coleman, Sr. Branch 81 for all their help to make this a successful event.





Cali Richmeier Confirmed

Cali Richmeier (front row, left), a member of Branch W133, Timken, KS, was recently confirmed at St. Nicholas of Myra Catholic Church in Hays, KS. Cali is pictured with her family who are also members of Branch W133.



ATTENTION CHICAGO DISTRICT MEMBERS

The annual in-person Junior and Senior Christmas parties for the Chicago District have once again been canceled for 2021 due to the continuing COVID 19 situation. We look forward to resuming these events next year as the situation improves. Look for our holiday Facebook postings and contests to join us in celebrating the holidays together.



Take-Out Christmas Dinner for FCSLA Life Branches S410 and S414

A take-out Christmas Dinner will be held for S410, Nesquehoning, PA and S414, Hauto, PA. The branches will be celebrating at Lengyel's Restaurant, Monday, December 6, 2021. This will be a take-out only dinner and the pick up time is from 1:00-2:00 p.m. Please call Jean Bruker S410 at 570-669-9424 or Regina (Gina) Kanick, S414 at 570-645-7896 by Saturday, November 27, 2021 to make your reservation. Reservations are required! Thank you and Merry Christmas to all.

Life Branch W001 Gathers for Annual Summer Picnic

Members of Branch W001 of New Prague, MN were blessed with beautiful weather as they gathered at Memorial Park in New Prague for their annual Summer Picnic on Sunday, August 29th. A large crowd enjoyed the afternoon socializing and were treated to a delicious Chicken Barbeque Dinner. There were games for the kids and door prizes were awarded to lucky winners.



FCSLA Life Branch J317 Welcomes Newest Members



East Chicago, IN, J317 is welcoming the Pepelea cousins as new members, they are left to right: Kayla, Olivia, Emma, Sophia, Mia, Hannah from Highland and Indianapolis, IN. Pepelea cousins great-grandmother Monica Babinec Arvay was S409 Financial Secretary for a number of years and their great-great-grandmothers were Mary Slamka Babinec and Krestina Prisegem Arvay who are very proud and smiling that the girls joined FCSLA LIFE. Back in the good old days, (as the saying goes) their great and great-great-grandmothers used to pay their FCSLA membership at the Assumption Catholic Slovak Church basement, in Indiana Harbor. Their Aunt Marisa K. Pepelea is also a member of S409.

FCSLA Life Branch S140 Annual Christmas Dinner

St. Ann Society Branch S140 of Lansford, PA cordially invites all the members to the annual Christmas dinner which will be held December 5, 2021 at Macaluso's at the Lantern in Nesquehoning, PA.

Dinner will be at 1:00 p.m. Reservations are required and can be made by calling Louise Dunstan 570-645-4354 by Saturday, November 27, 2021. Guests will be charged. Blessed and Merry Christmas to all.



FCSLALife

National Youth of the Year Award 2021

Do you know of a young member who exemplifies youth leadership and service? Someone who stands out as a role model for others? FCSLA Life has a long history of encouraging and supporting youth, beginning in 1905 with the first life insurance certificates sold for children. We continue the tradition of youth engagement with the National Youth of the Year Award. This is your opportunity to nominate that outstanding young person.

Our young members are the future of FCSLA Life.

GUIDELINES

- Any FCSLA Life member may submit a nominee for this award.
- Nominee must be an FCSLA Life member for at least three years.
- Nominee must be between **12 - 22 years old**. (Received date will determine the age.)
- Family members of Home Office staff and National Officers are eligible to be nominated.
- Previous awardees are not eligible.
- Service projects and volunteerism included on nomination form can only be from 2019 - 2021.
- A headshot photo of the nominee must be included with the nomination.
- Nominations must be received at the Home Office by **November 15, 2021**.
- An independent committee will select the winner. Decisions are final.
- The winner will receive \$250 and be featured in *Fraternally Yours*, on our website, and social media pages!

The **nomination form** can be found on our website (fcsla.com)
or by contacting the Fraternal Department, 800-464-4642 x1051
or fraternal@fcsla.com.



Scholarships Awarded During Life Branch S627 Event

Branch S627, Council Bluffs, IA held their annual Senior Branch event with about 70 people in attendance at Pizza Counter in Council Bluffs, IA. Tom Berneman (President) and Karen Ruby (agent), with the help of Marlene Green, presented scholarships to 8 winners, with each receiving \$1,000. The presenter is Marlene Green with scholarship winners below.



Nicholas Swiecki



Arienna Bevert who is a senior in nursing school.



L-R: Scholarship Winners – Arienna Bevert, Christian Swiecki, Nicholas Swiecki, Stella Humphrey, Nick Wailes, Michael Wailes, Gage Green and Wyatt Green.



Christian Swiecki



Gage Green is studying engineering.



Chapter President Tom Breneman addressing the attendees.



Wyatt Green is a music major.



Stella Humphrey who is studying nursing.



Scholarship winner Wyatt Green entertaining the group with his violin.



Nick Wailes



Michael Wailes



Find us on
Facebook

FCSLALife




CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS WITH

FCSLA CHICAGO!



Since we cannot be together again this year in person, the Chicago District invites you to share your favorite Thanksgiving or Christmas memory.



Send us your favorite holiday photo, drawing or description of your family's favorite tradition or Christmas meal.

All submissions will be eligible for a random drawing to win one of ten \$50 Amazon gift cards. The drawing will be held the first week of January 2022 following the holidays.

Submissions will be posted on our FCSLA Chicago Facebook page and District website throughout the holiday season

Send your submissions to: fcslachicagodistrict@gmail.com

Include your name, branch # and phone or email so we may contact you if you win a gift card! Only first names and branch #s will be posted.



Check out
"Cooking with FCSLA Chicago" on
YouTube! Join us as we make some
delicious family recipes!

Contact us at
fcslachicagodistrict@gmail.com if you
want to share your own family recipes!

MATCHING FUNDS ACTIVITIES

Branch S313

Saint Joseph's High School Event

Below is a photo from the Year of Saint Joseph celebration at Saint Joseph's High School event in Natrona Heights, PA. National President and Sr. Branch President Cynthia Maleski and her husband Andrzej Groch, Ph.D. were honored to be invited as well as Sr. Branch 313 officers and guests. Sr. Branch 313 purchased the Saint Joseph pins for all in attendance at the Mass and celebration. Pictured in the photo are Barb Gaydosik Branch 313, Beverly Kaniecke branch 313, newly installed Bishop Larry J. Kulick, Diocese of Greensburg, PA, Sr. Branch 88, who is a Saint Joseph High School graduate, Cynthia Maleski, and Jennifer MacNeil, Sr. Branch 313.



As a follow up to Branch 313's matching funds project for Saint Joseph High School, Natrona Heights, Pennsylvania, Barbara Gajdosik, Jr Order 138 officer and Cynthia Maleski, National President and Sr. Branch 313 President present the matching funds check to Saint Joseph High School Principal Beverly Kaniecki and Development Officer Jennifer MacNeil both members of senior branch 313.

Photos by Andrzej Groch

Branch S077

Fun Walk 4 Kane

Branch S77 participated in the Fun Walk 4 Kane on September 11, 2021. The virtual walk generated \$6,735. The funds were raised through registrations, sponsors and basket auctions. The Kane Foundation raises funds to enhance the quality of life for residents at Kane Community Living

Centers. The residents benefit greatly from the stimulation of special events and extracurricular activities that keep them in touch with the communities where they have lived their whole lifetime. Many FCSLA members have been residents throughout the years.



Participants – L to R: Virginia Holmes, Kathleen Cicak, Regina Smith, Carol Yurechko, Tony Yurechko, Donna Metz, Judy Fedor, Marion Greenland, Nancy Gerdich, and Joan Goodall.



L-R: S077 President Jerry Holmes, Treasurer Virginia Holmes, Auditor Kathleen Cicak, Recording Secretary Judy Fedor, Auditor Regina Smith, Financial Secretary Marion Greenland.

Branch S262

Cash Bash

Branch S262 sponsored a lively matching funds 'Cash Bash' to benefit Our Lady Queen of Peace Church in East Vandergrift, PA. The event mixed raffle tickets, auction baskets and good food to make a fun evening.



Branch member volunteers include four members of the Zelinka family and pastor Fr. Vincent Zidek.

Additional Branch S262 photos on page 18

Frances C. Jakabcin District 4 Holds Fall Meeting

The Frances C. Jakabcin Eastern PA District held its fall 2021 meeting at DeSales University in their Dorothy Day Student Union building on Sunday, October, 10th. It was the first time in two years members were able to meet in person. Branch S319, Allentown, PA, was the host branch for this meeting. Branch and District President, Michele Mrazik Grasso welcomed the assembly of forty members.

A buffet meal was provided to all members and guests. The District then conducted their annual fall meeting. Discussion focused on the Association's home page, previous phone meetings,

the state of the Association and information from the District President's meeting held in early October.

A 50/50 raffle was held as well as raffles for a variety of gifts.

The meeting concluded with the singing of "Hej, Slovaci!" The next meeting is scheduled for the spring of 2022.



District officers – Seated, L-R: Suzanne Strohl, Vice-President & Web-Coordinator; Michele Mrazik Grasso, President. Standing, L-R: Louise Dunstan, Financial Secretary-Treasurer; Catherine Papesch, Recording Secretary; Theresa Zuber, Auditor; and Karen Kukol, Auditor.



Members enjoying the first in-person meeting in two years.

MATCHING FUNDS

Continued from page 16



FCSLA Life Branch S088 Christmas Party Planned

FCSLA Life Branch S088 of Monessen, PA is planning their annual Christmas Party. The event will be held on Sunday, December 5, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at the Cedarbrook Golf Course, Rt. 981, Belle Vernon, PA 15012. In keeping with following COVID protocols, masks will be required and temperatures will be taken prior to entering the event.

As in the past, a \$15.00 deposit is required with each member reservation. The event is for MEMBERS ONLY. Your attendance will result in your check being returned to you. Please put your phone number on your check in the event that Covid-19 causes us to change plans.

Send reservations to: Dorothy Urbanowicz, 27 Crescent Dr., Monessen, PA 15062.



Branch W137 Holds Family Fun Festival

FCSLA Life Branch W137 in Cedar Rapids, IA, held its annual Family Fun Festival on Sunday, October 10th at Bass Farm. Families enjoyed a visit to the pumpkin patch, hayrack rides and fun on the many outdoor games. Everyone received a goodie bag and pumpkins to take home.



Jesse Upah filled his wagon with mums, pumpkins and goodie bags.

VISIT US ONLINE
WWW.FCCLA.COM

Announcing our 43rd Quadrennial Convention

JW Marriott Indianapolis
October 5-8, 2023



Coming Soon:
Watch This Space For





IN MEMORIAM

George B. Ferenchak, S161

Mr. George B. Ferenchak, age 70 of Hartwell, GA, passed away peacefully on June 17, 2021 at Rainey Hospice House. He was a member of the FCSU Branch 731 and the FCSLA Life Branch S161. George was born May 16, 1951 in Youngstown, OH, the son of the late Cyril Ferenchak and Wilma Novak Ferenchak. He grew up on the Southside of Youngstown, OH and graduated from St. Matthias School, Cardinal Mooney High School (Class of 1969), and Youngstown State University. He married Nancy Longden on February 14, 1987. George was retired from the Federal Reserve Bank in Atlanta, GA. He resided and worked in Stone Mountain, GA for many years before retiring to Lake Hartwell. To cherish George's memories are his wife; Nancy, brothers and sister; Paulette Smith of Canfield, OH, Gregory Ferenchak of Paris, TX, Margaret Ferenchak of Youngstown, OH, Theresa (David) Kantz of Wexford, PA, Michael Ferenchak of Indianapolis, IN, sister-in-law; Carolyn Ferenchak, nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews and many friends. George was preceded in death by his parents and brothers; Kenneth (Carolyn) and Cyril (Marta). Donations in George's memory may be made to Rainey Hospice House, 1835 Rogers Rd., Anderson, SC 29621.

Emilia Kramer, Z434

Emilia Kramer, 90, of Ashley, PA, passed away on February 6, 2021, at her residence. Born in Lee, she was the daughter of the late Adam and Stasia Kempinski Kramer. She worked at the Lazarus Department Store before becoming the owner/operator of The Ashley Floral Company. Emilia concluded her working career by working for the United Rehabilitation Service, Wilkes-Barre. She was active in her community as a member of the Crestwood School Board for 30 years and a member of both the Mountain Top Historical Society, Women's Club and Sewer Authority. Emilia was an active member of the Polish Women's Alliance Council 40 as Financial Secretary of Group 434, Vice President of Council 40, Youth Counselor of Council 40, served on committee's at PWA National Convention, and chairman of a council 40 Bal Polonaise. Preceding her in death, in addition to her parents, was her sister, Kathrine. Surviving is her son, Barnett Kramer, with whom she resided; sisters, Eleanor and Leona; and a brother, Frank, all of Mountain Top.

Richard Frank Bozek, S376



Age 78 years, was born to eternal life February 13, 2021 at his Menomonee Falls home surrounded by loving family. Beloved husband and best friend of Kathleen (nee Kons). Dick and Kathy would have celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 24, 2021. Dear dad of Ellen (Eric) Tavela and Lucy (Daniel) Koslo. Loving grandfather "Papa" of Isabella and Khloe Koslo. Brother of Louise Bozek. Brother-in-law of Randy (Mary) Kons, Janet (the late Mike) Christopoulos, Gary (Marcia) Kons, Maureen (the late Arnie) Hieserich, John (Julie) Kons, Michael (Linda) Kons, Mary Kons, Patrick (Jill) Kons, Jean (the late Carl) Montgomery, David (Tamara) Kons, James (fiancé Jennifer Gabel) Kons, and Carol (Andy) Kons. Further survived by nieces, nephews, other loving family and many friends. Dick was a Master Barber in the Greater Milwaukee Area. He also was very proud of his Slovak heritage. Donations to St. Mary Church

or School or the upcoming fund at St. Mary Church for St. Joseph artwork are requested by the family. "Even the hairs of your head have all been counted. Do not be afraid." Luke 12:7.

Beatrice Marian Hushak, W130



Beatrice Marian Hushak, 93, of Traer, IA died March 16, 2020. She was born September 5, 1926, in Tama County, daughter of Amiel and Blanche (Kubik) Halupnick. She graduated from Traer High School in 1943, then worked as a clerk in several businesses in Traer. Bea married Victor Hushak on September 24, 1946. They farmed near Clutier. She was also a de-tasseling crew chief for many years. Bea was a member of FCSLA Catholic Workman Branch No. 130, National Catholic Society of Foresters, Carroll Township Homemakers, Rosary Society and Dysart Women's Clubs and her churches, Immaculate Conception Church in Clutier, St. Joseph Church in Dysart, and most recently St. Paul's Church in Traer. Survivors: four children, Gail (Dwayne) Konicek of Festus, MO, Lorraine Painter of Mound, MN, Marlys (Nick) Rizzi of Ridgefield, CT, and Mitchell (Lisa) Hushak of Granger; nine grandchildren; a step grandchild; 11 great-grandchildren, five step great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren. After retiring in 1985, Bea and Vic split time between their homes in Dysart and North Fort Myers, FL, enjoying family gatherings, square dancing, playing cars and more travel. In later years, Bea transformed into a die-hard Chicago Cubs fan.

Margaret D. McCarroll Henry, SZJ0



Margaret D. McCarroll Henry, 94, of Summit Hill, PA passed away on April 6, 2020. She was the wife of the late Patrick E. McCarroll and the late Joseph Henry. Born in Jersey City, NJ, she was the daughter of the late Michael and Mary (Ochran) Dubosky. She was a graduate of the former Summit Hill High School and went on to graduate as a Registered Nurse from the St. Francis Nursing School in Jersey City, NJ, in the Cadet Nursing Corp. Margaret worked at Doctors Hospital in New York City, the former Coaldale State General Hospital and last worked at Gnaden Huetten Memorial Hospital in Lehigh. She was a member of St. Joseph Parish of the Panther Valley in Summit Hill where she served as a Eucharistic Minister and was a member of the Rosary Group. She was well known for her homemade poppy seed cake and nut rolls. Surviving are Sons, Patrick McCarroll and his wife Martha of Texas, Michael McCarroll of Summit Hill, John McCarroll and his wife Michele of Slatington, David McCarroll and his wife Helen of Mahoning Valley, Joseph McCarroll of Summit Hill; Daughters, Maureen McCullion and her husband Francis of Slatington, Jane Davies and her fiancé Joe Dronetti of Emmaus and Christine Tobin and her husband Brian of New Ringgold; Step Children, Joseph Henry and his wife Jane, Joanne Trimpi and her husband Richard and Chris Henry; 7 grandchildren and 6 step grandchildren; 11 great grandchildren and 9 step great grandchildren; several nieces and nephews.

Heritage – Our Ancestors' Greatest Gift

John Sabol, Branch 141

One of my favorite movies of the past year is "The Last Blockbuster" a documentary about the lone remaining Blockbuster video store in Bend, Oregon.

The movie focuses on this video rental store as the last remnant of an era when people were renting physical videotapes and DVDs of films that they can now download or stream through their home computers. It focused on the death of a major company done in by shifts in technology and how this lone store has won the hearts of video fans simply because it wouldn't quit.

I am the host of the New Czech Voice of Cleveland, an ethnic radio program in Cleveland, Ohio, and there are times when I wonder whether broadcasters like me will someday be the lone holdouts as people forget the heritage left by their parents or grandparents or other ancestors.

Let's take a moment to imagine the city of Cleveland in 1890 or 1895, at the height of European immigration – around the time that the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association was founded.

At that time, fifty percent of Cleveland's population was foreign born. If you were walking down Cleveland's main commercial street, every other person you would see would be from another country.

More than anything, these people needed something to hang onto, not only for their own security but for their own thought processes.

And before these immigrants had radio, they had newspapers, and cultural, religious, and fraternal organizations, many of which, like FCSLA Life, are still with us today. And these elements are all tied to their family, language, and religion.

By the 1920s and 30s many of these immigrants of the 1890s had assimilated into American ways, but their thoughts and dreams would always be in another language. And that's where ethnic radio came in – to reach out to these people, who still longed to hear the language and music of their native land.

This tradition continues to the present day – perhaps for different reasons. Today, many who are foreign born still listen to programs that broadcast in their language, but others listen to these shows because that's what their parents or grandparents or previous generations did, and they want to reach back to reclaim the culture of their ancestors.

Some listen for nostalgic reasons, and that's not a bad thing. But many tune in to a particular ethnic program because they feel drawn to their ancestors' memory. It's a simple fact that decisions your ancestors made perhaps more than a century ago directly affect who and where you are today. You are their heritage.

And that's why I continue the tradition of Czech – and perhaps a little Slovak – radio, not for the sake of nostalgia but to help listeners learn about their culture and remind them that there was a time when their grandparents and beyond lived in a heavily Slovak, Czech, Polish, Italian, Irish or any other ethnic neighborhood, where they could deal with merchants who understood their language or culture and the truths that language and culture imparted. And where they could worship or gather with folks who spoke those eternal truths.

The same can be said for today's immigrants, who want so much to be part of the American fabric but also want to add their own pattern to our patchwork society.

But none of us can ever lose track of who and where we are. To do so would allow us to become a homogenized society with less and less ethnic diversity.

I will always be grateful for the continued support the New Czech Voice has received from FCSLA Life and National President Cynthia Maleski. Because of this support we all benefit.

Through their carefully thought-out mission statements and support of radio programs like the New Czech Voice of Cleveland, organizations such as FCSLA Life help all of us to retain our ethnic identity and assert our role as proud Americans. And they help preserve the three greatest gifts we received from our ancestors – family, language, and religion.



Correction from October Issue

Scholarship Dinner Hosted by Branch S077



Scholarship winner Sarah Hartner with her parents, Suzanne and Bruce.



L-R: Auditor Regina Smith, Financial Secretary Marian Greenland, Auditor Kathleen Cicak, Treasurer Virginia Holmes, President Jerry Holmes, Sarah Hartner, Vice President Mary Jo Matta, Recording Secretary/Junior Secretary Judy Fedor.

Celebrates 90th Birthday



Bernie Drahozal, long-time member of FCSLA Life Branch W137 Cedar Rapids, IA, celebrated his 90th birthday with a family celebration over Labor Day. Bernie turned 90 on September 13th.

REPORT OF THE FCSLA NATIONAL TREASURER

BALANCE SHEET AS OF JUNE 30, 2021

ASSETS

Cash & Short Term Investments	\$ 23,108,000
Bonds	1,038,708,017
Preferred Stock	2,289,295
Common Stock	8,715,871
Investment Income Due & Accrued	14,371,816
Property Plant & Equipment, Net	4,701,396
Certificate Loans & Accrued Interest	1,981,355
Other Assets	710,677
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 1,094,586,428

LIABILITIES

Life Reserves	\$ 303,463,082
Annuity Reserves	656,306,775
Death Claims Payable	3,028,602
Unearned Premiums	466,873
Matured Endowments	381,116
Provision for Dividends Payable	1,400,000
Accumulated Dividends & Interest	4,930,197
Accrued Convention Donations	262,500
Provision for Future Conventions	309,021
Asset Valuation Reserve	12,781,679
Interest Maintenance Reserve	246,580
Other Liabilities	2,067,562
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 985,643,987
Surplus	\$ 108,942,441
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS FUNDS	\$ 1,094,586,428

INCOME STATEMENT

For the Six Months Ending June 30, 2021

REVENUE

Insurance Premiums	\$ 2,581,653
Annuity Premiums	36,428,113
Investment Income	25,062,805
Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve	30,381
Rental Income	176,998
Other Revenue	17,102
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 64,297,052

EXPENSE

Increase in Reserves — Life	\$ 669,082
Increase in Reserves — Annuity	28,691,826
Insurance Benefits	4,599,582
Annuity Benefits	19,648,908
Commission Expense	1,134,884
Surrender Benefits	2,208,919
Matured Endowments	20,596
Interest Expense	238,663
Salaries — Employees	367,047
Tax Expense	29,071

Underwriting Expense

36,995

LIFE AND ANNUITY EXPENSES

\$ 57,645,573

Revenue Less Life and Annuity Expenses

\$ 6,651,479

Bank Service Charges	74,260
Data Processing Service Fees	140,144
Accounting Fees	123,869
Actuarial Fees	179,382
Legal Fees	16,243
Consulting Fees	43,648
Employee Benefits	352,876
Fees — Directors	94,087
Salaries — Employees	728,835
Salaries — Officers	300,130
Temporary Office Expenses	13,252
Tax Expense	94,250
Depreciation Expense	124,460
Utility Expense	61,205
Postage and Printing	106,759
Advertising & Marketing	42,477
Travel Expense	10,783
Insurance Department Fees	62,837
Sales Expense	64,522
Rental Expense	176,998
Building Expense	61,695
Insurance Expense	28,282
Office Equipment & Supplies Expense	80,774
Dues & Subscriptions	33,456
Human Resources	31,678
Other Expense	13,942

SALES & OPERATING EXPENSES

\$ 3,060,843

Revenue Less Sales & Operating Expenses

\$ 3,590,636

Post Mortem Benefits	890,415
Misc. Member Benefits	41,915
Donation Expenses	33,849
Change in Accrued Convention Donations	75,000
Convention Expenses	84,660
Branch and District Funding	358,958
Fraternal Activities	35,471
Official Publications	272,093
Scholarship Awards	229,700

DIRECT FRATERNAL EXPENSES

\$ 2,022,061

Income (Loss) from Operations

\$ 1,568,574

Dividends to Members

704,724

Subtotal Income (Loss)

\$ 863,850

Capital Gains (Loss)

348,379

NET INCOME (Loss)

\$ 1,212,229

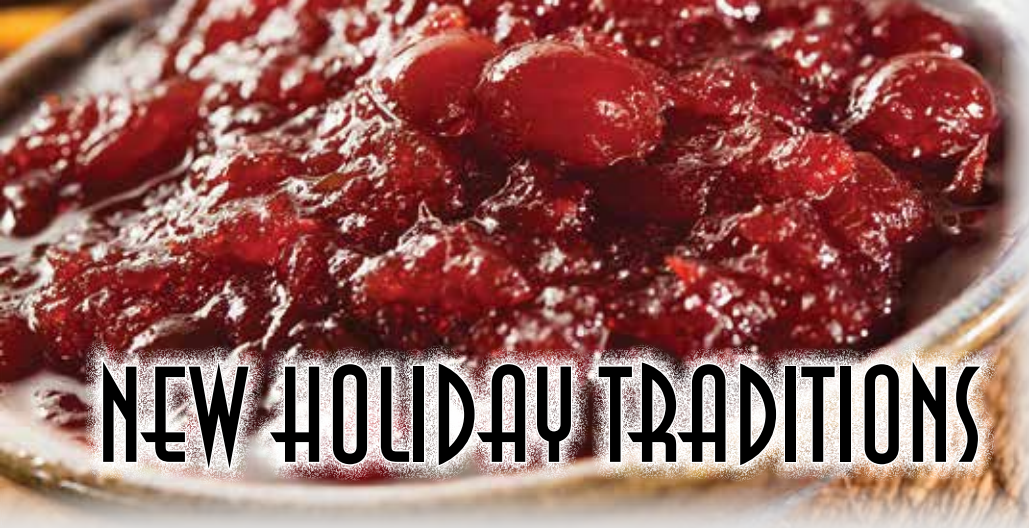
W137 Youth Selected for Iowa Youth Congress



Congratulations to W137 youth, Davis Robe, on being selected as a member of the 2021-2022 term of the Iowa Youth Congress.

Iowa Youth Congress (IYC) was created in 2006 by the Department of Human Rights to enhance opportunity and broader representation of all Iowans in the government process. The IYC provides youth the opportunity to gain hands-on education in the subject areas of state government, democracy, advocacy and civic engagement. IYC goes beyond youth advocating for various issues they find important. Members also serve their community by performing 30 hours of community service, along with completing a self-designed service project.

Davis is a fifth-generation FCSLA member and the son of W137 vice-president, Holly Robe, and W137 secretary, Denise Upah. He is a sophomore at Xavier High School in Cedar Rapids, IA.



NEW HOLIDAY TRADITIONS

TRIPLE CRANBERRY SAUCE

- 1 package (12 oz.) fresh or frozen cranberries
- 1 cup thawed cranberry juice concentrate
- ½ cup dried cranberries
- ⅓ cup sugar
- 3 tablespoons orange juice
- 3 tablespoons orange marmalade
- 2 teaspoons grated orange zest
- ¼ teaspoon ground allspice

In a small saucepan, combine the cranberries, cranberry juice concentrate, dried cranberries and sugar. Cook over medium heat until the berries pop, about 15 minutes.

Remove from the heat; stir in the orange juice, marmalade, orange zest and allspice. Transfer to a small bowl; refrigerate until chilled.

SAUERKRAUT SOUP

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 8 oz. bacon, chopped
- 1 stick celery, diced
- 1 medium onion, diced
- 2 medium carrots, sliced thin
- 1 lb. potatoes, peeled and sliced into ½" thick pieces
- ¼ cup quinoa, rinsed, optional
- 3 cups sauerkraut, triple rinsed & drained
- 8 cups chicken broth
- 2 cups water, or to taste
- 1 (15 oz.) can Great Northern beans
- 1 bay leaf
- Salt and pepper to taste

Heat olive oil in a large soup pot or Dutch oven. Add chopped bacon and sauté until browned. Remove with a slotted spoon and set aside.

Add chopped celery and onion. Sauté until softened and golden for around 5 minutes. Add sliced carrots, potatoes, ¼ cup quinoa (optional), 8 cups broth and 2 cups water. Bring to a boil then reduce heat and simmer 15 minutes.

Add 2-3 cups of well rinsed and drained sauerkraut and half of cooked bacon, reserving some for garnish, beans including

their juice, and 1 bay leaf. Continue to cook until potatoes are tender, around 10 minutes longer. Season soup to taste. Serve with fresh crusty bread.

SIMPLE SLOW-COOKED STUFFING

- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1 cup chopped celery
- ¼ cup butter
- 6 cups cubed day-old white bread
- 6 cups cubed day-old whole wheat bread
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon poultry seasoning
- 1 teaspoon rubbed sage
- ½ teaspoon pepper
- 1 can (14½ ounces) reduced-sodium chicken broth or vegetable broth
- 2 large eggs, beaten

In a small nonstick skillet over medium heat, cook onion and celery in butter until tender.

In a large bowl, combine the bread cubes, salt, poultry seasoning, sage and pepper. Stir in onion mixture. Combine broth and eggs; add to bread mixture and toss to coat.

Transfer to a 3-qt. slow cooker coated with cooking spray. Cover and cook on low for 3-4 hours or until a thermometer reads 160 degrees.

CRANBERRY MACADAMIA STREUSEL COFFEECAKE

Cake:

- 1 (17-oz.) pouch Cranberry Macadamia Cereal
- 1 (16-oz.) box angel food cake mix
- 1 (15-oz.) can pumpkin
- 1 cup cranberry juice or water
- 1 tablespoon ground cinnamon
- 2 teaspoons ground cloves
- 2 teaspoons ground ginger

Streusel:

- 2 cups crushed cereal
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup whole wheat flour

- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 2 teaspoons ground cloves
- 2 teaspoons ground ginger
- 6 tablespoons vegetable oil

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Grease a 13-by-9-inch cake pan.

Poke the seam side of the cereal pouch 10 times with a fork and then crush with a rolling pin using medium pressure. Set aside 2 cups of the crushed cereal for the streusel. Pour remaining cereal into a large bowl.

Add all remaining cake ingredients to the bowl and mix until blended.

Pour the batter into the prepared pan.

To prepare the streusel, combine reserved 2 cups crushed cereal and all remaining ingredients. Mix well and sprinkle over the cake batter.

Bake for 20-25 minutes, or until the cake bounces back to the touch.

PUMPKIN CHEESECAKE

Crust:

- 1½ cups graham crumbs
- 5 tablespoons butter, melted
- 1 tablespoon sugar

Filling:

- 3 (8 oz.) pkgs. cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup canned pumpkin
- 3 eggs
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- ¼ teaspoon nutmeg
- ¼ teaspoon allspice
- Whipped Cream

Mix crust ingredients together, just till coated and crumbly. Press onto the bottom and ¾ up the sides of an 8" springform pan. Bake for 5 mins. at 350. Set aside. Combine cheese, sugar and vanilla in large bowl, mix until smooth with an electric mixer. Add pumpkin eggs, and spices, beat till smooth and creamy. Pour into the crust. Bake for 60-70 mins. or till the top turns a bit darker. Remove from oven and allow to come to room temperature, then refrigerate. After it has thoroughly chilled, remove the pan sides and cut. Serve with whipped cream.

COCONUT MACAROONS

- 1½ cups sweetened shredded coconut
- ½ cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- ⅓ teaspoon salt
- 2 large egg whites, room temperature
- ½ teaspoon vanilla extract

In a small bowl, combine the coconut, sugar, flour and salt. Add egg whites and vanilla; mix well.

Drop by rounded teaspoonfuls onto greased baking sheets. Bake at 325 degrees for 18-20 minutes or until golden brown. Cool on a wire rack.

The background of the entire page is a close-up photograph of autumn leaves. The leaves are in various shades of orange, yellow, and brown, with some showing prominent veins. They are scattered across the frame, creating a textured, seasonal backdrop.

PERIODICAL

11/21

The FCSLA Life Mission Statement

We provide financial security to our members
while embracing our Catholic values and Slavic traditions.

The FCSLA Life Vision is to:

Be a Premier Fraternal Benefit Society
that offers quality financial products and benefits.