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Fraternally Yours™

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK LADIES ASSOCIATION

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JUNE 2012

*Happy
Father's
Day*

For fathers, who have given us life and love, that we may show them love and affection today and all days...

For fathers who have lost a child through death, that they may find hope, and solace in your never ending love...

For fathers who have died, that God may welcome them into that peaceful place that is without ending, we pray to you, O God, our Father.

ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA

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ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA,

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Are Your Potatoes Heavy?

A professor once told each of her graduate students to bring a clear plastic bag and a sack of potatoes to class. For every person they refused to forgive in their life's experience, they chose a potato, wrote on it the name and date, and put it in the plastic bag. Some of their bags were quite heavy.

They were then told to carry this bag with them everywhere for one week, putting it beside their bed at night, on the car seat when driving, next to their desk at work.

The hassle of lugging this around with them made it clear what a weight they were carrying spiritually, and how they had to pay attention to it all the time to not forget and keep leaving it in embarrassing places. Naturally, the condition of the potatoes deteriorated to a nasty smelly slime. This was a great metaphor for the price we pay for keeping our pain and heavy negativity bottled up inside! Too often we think of forgiveness as a gift to the other person, and yet it clearly is for ourselves!

Remember the words of our Lord on the subject of forgiveness . . .

“And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins.”

(Mark 11:25)

“But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. “Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.” . . . How can you say to your brother, ‘Brother, let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when you yourself fail to see the plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.”

(Luke 6:35-38;42)

Dear Friends,

Jesus taught the art of forgiveness. “ ‘Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?’ Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times” (Matthew 18:21-22).

Forgiveness is a gift you give to yourself. It is not something you do FOR someone else . . . Compassion is one of the key ingredients of forgiveness. Learn to look for and appreciate the love, beauty and kindness around you. It's there, and you may have to change your thinking and behavior to discover it. To have compassion for others, you must first have compassion for yourself. It may well be the key to your own happiness. Forgiving someone else takes moral courage. It ends the illusion of separation, and its power can change misery into happiness in an instant. Forgiveness means choosing to let go, allowing yourself to move on, and to favor the positive.

Dear Lord, let me practice forgiveness today by starting with the little hurts. I will let go of all the everyday occurrences that do not go the way I want, and the moment I begin to feel the familiar feeling of anger or resentment, I will practice forgiveness by invoking your loving and peaceful Presence and allowing divine grace to surround me.

Amen.

Until next Month . . . Warmly, **Carolyn**

ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA

MORAL GUIDES FOR CATHOLICS – PRECEPTS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Reverend Monsignor Peter M. Polando, National Chaplain

My dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In the course of any given calendar year, you and I celebrate milestones that have us sit back and reflect upon who we are in relationship to God and one another. What are these milestones? For me, they are events that are foundational in Faith, life, and personality. For example, 17 February is a very special day for me for it is the anniversary of my birth while 7 March each year brings to mind the day that I was reborn in the waters of Baptism. 5, 6 May recalls the days when I received for the first time the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Most Holy Eucharist respectively (my Golden Anniversary this year!) while 10 January reminds me of being fully initiated into the Church as I received the Sacrament of Confirmation in 1966. The number 21 is special to me because I was ordained a deacon on that day in April 1979 and a year later ordained on that very same date in June 1980 to the presbyterate. There are dates that exhibit that we are human and that life does come to an end like 13 January and 13 August, the anniversaries when my father and brother had died but there is also the Fourth of July that celebrates independence and 1 January that brings to mind a new hope in a new year!

The Church likewise celebrates milestones each year that encourage us to sit back and reflect upon who we are as daughters and sons of Faith. This is ultimately viewed in the celebration of the annual Paschal Triduum that commemorates the Passion, Death and Resurrection of the Lord Jesus. As the Paschal Triduum is to the year, so too is the celebration of Sunday to each and every week of the year. Sunday commemorates the Resurrection of the Lord, *the* event of our salvation and I invite you to review the articles that I have expounded on the importance of Sunday observance (*Fraternally Yours*,

March 2010, and February 2012). In the addition to the celebration of the feast days of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the angels, saints and those acclaimed blessed, the Universal Church continues to call to mind highpoints of the Church's year that are held in high esteem. In paragraph 2043 of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* concerning the Precepts of the Church, we read, "The fourth precept ('You shall keep holy the holy days of obligation.') completes the Sunday observance by participation in the principal liturgical feast which honor the mysteries of the Lord, the Virgin Mary and the saints."

These holy days are defined in the *Code of Canon Law*, canon 1246, §1 of the Roman Church, "Sunday, on which by apostolic tradition the paschal mystery is celebrated, must be observed in the universal Church as the primordial holy day of obligation. The following days must also be observed: the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Epiphany, the Ascension, the Body and Blood of Christ, Holy Mary the Mother of God, her Immaculate Conception, her Assumption, Saint Joseph, Saint Peter and Saint Paul the Apostles, and All Saints." Canon 1246, §2 states, "With the prior approval of the Apostolic See, however, the conference of bishops can suppress some of the holy days of obligation or transfer them to a Sunday."

Traditionally in the United States, we have maintained as days of obligation for participation in Holy Mass the Solemnities of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Ascension, Holy Mary the Mother of God, her Immaculate Conception, her Assumption, and All Saints. The Solemnities of the Epiphany and the Body and Blood of Christ have been transferred to the following Sundays and the Ascension has been transferred to the following Sunday in most provinces of the United States except in the provinces of Boston,

Hartford, New York, Newark, Philadelphia, and Omaha. When the Solemnities of Holy Mary Mother of God, her Assumption, and All Saints fall on a Saturday or Monday, however, it is not considered a day of obligation for participation in Mass because of its proximity to the Sunday Eucharist. In recent history (during my lifetime), the Solemnities of Saint Joseph and Saints Peter and Paul the Apostles have not been days of obligation in the United States.

I would say that most Catholics participate in Holy Mass on Christmas but the observance of the other solemnities varies. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states that, "The precepts of the Church are set in the context of a moral life bound to and nourished by liturgical life. The obligatory character of these positive laws decreed by the pastoral authorities is meant to guarantee to the faithful the indispensable minimum in the spirit of prayer and moral effort, in the growth in love of God and neighbor" [paragraph 2041]. I note that the *Catechism* states that the precepts are the "indispensable minimum of prayer and moral effort". How much more we are able to do only brings about more saving graces in the life of the Catholic! Each one of us has the ability to do more according to our state of life.

Our participation in the liturgical life of the Church is essential to our spiritual and communal formation as Catholics. For Catholics, the celebration of Holy Mass is the focal point of the Christian life. As we meditate on this precept of Church, may we not look upon the observance of holy days as an "obligation" but as a milestone to commemorate the gift of salvation in the person of Jesus Christ through His Mother and the Saints. May we joyfully participate at Mass, and even though we may have to work, to celebrate them in some extraordinary fashion as we would a birthday or anniversary!

11th Annual District Presidents' Meeting



From the Desks of the

National President & National Secretary

Cynthia M. Maleski & Sue Ann M. Seich



On May 2, 2012, I had the privilege of presiding over a successful 11th Annual District Presidents' Meeting held in the Home Office. The "District Presidents' Round Table", a new feature, was added to provide a forum for exchange of ideas and experiences and which was led by Mrs. Bernadette Demechko, Youngstown District President. With the experienced to the newly elected District

Presidents in attendance, I presented the current priorities of the new managing officers, the other managing officers presented information and staff members updated all in attendance with timely information about insurance applications and licensing. Mrs. Barbara Sekerak gave a short update on branch leadership.

The goal of the meeting was to provide opportunities, both formal and informal, to exchange information from the home office and to and from each district. We engaged in lively discussion and received much positive feedback after the meeting.

We are fortunate indeed to have such committed individuals serve as leaders in our Association. Thank you to all who participated.



On May 2, 2012 we conducted a very successful 11th Annual District Presidents' Meeting at the Home Office. All of the District Presidents in attendance, from the experienced to the newly elected, brought valuable information to share with their peers. I had the opportunity to share with them many topics that pertained to branch operations. I ask them if they would kindly share the information with the branches in their district. One item really stands out from the others. It has to do with the expression "You can't take it with you". This expression has a lot to do with managing your branch treasury wisely. When a branch closes, the money in their treasury is sent to the Home Office. We then forward the money to the branch that accepts the membership. Sometimes we cannot believe the substantial amount that was accumulated in that closed branch's treasury.

Why didn't they use the funds to assist their members, church and community? How many members could have used their branch's help? Branches receive a yearly compensation check. Saving funds for your branch delegate's convention transportation and incidental expenses should be budgeted. It is an every four year expense. The balance of the treasury should be budgeted for branch activities, donations and expenses. Spread the good news of FCSLA's generous fraternal spirit. Please consider this reminder, "the funds you receive can make a difference in a member's life, your church, or community and 'You can't take it with you' "!

Until next issue, may God keep you happy, healthy and loved.

~ UP ON THE ROOF ~



Patrick Braun

I have written many articles for “*Fraternally Yours*”, extolling the many benefits of FCSLA products, the advantages of selling for fraternal societies, estate planning and others. However, this article is a little different. It tells the story of how I became a “born again” life insurance salesman.

It was in the early 1970s and I was selling life insurance in the towns and villages of southeastern Wisconsin. I had made an appointment with two brothers who owned a small construction company. They employed about a dozen people and the company did everything from building houses to digging ditches. It was a good business and my company had their group health insurance and a little personal insurance on their families. I will call them “Al and Elijah” (not their real names.)

The reason for my appointment was to discuss partnership (buy and sell) life insurance. Simply stated, each would own a policy on the other and there would be a written agreement that, if one died, the proceeds would be used to buy the business from the widow.

I didn’t know a lot about business insurance so I had called on an “Advanced Underwriting Advisor” to come out and help me. The night of the interview it was so foggy that I didn’t think the gentleman would make it, but he arrived in the nick of time and helped me make the sale. We filled out the applications and left. I felt great! Each application was

for a large amount of life insurance. However, they decided not to give us any money until the policies were issued.

It took over two months for the company to issue the policies and Elijah was rated way up for health reasons and his premium was a lot higher than Al’s. When I tried to collect the money to put the policies in force, I was rebuffed! They wanted to “think it over”. Those two policies sat on my desk for three weeks because I was afraid to go back and get rejected again!

Finally I received a note from my sales manager telling me to collect the money to place the policies or turn them back in to the company. Summoning up my courage, I went back to their office, but was told that they were out on the job. It turned out that they were not even working on the same job. Al was driving a truck and Elijah was with a crew, building a house. I caught up with Al first. He was the younger of the two and had a wife and four children. I said, “Al, we have to get this insurance in force. Elijah may never be able to get a policy in the future and you could end up in business with his wife. If it’s all right with him, is it all right with you?” Al responded that if Elijah agreed, they would put the insurance in force.

I then proceeded to the house that Elijah was building. He was up on the roof. He shouted down that he couldn’t come down because everyone would have to stop working. So-o-o, I climbed a double extension ladder two stories and crawled across the roof to where he was. Somewhat breathlessly, I managed to say, “Al says we should get these policies in force and that I should get your OK for the check.” Elijah wasn’t very happy but he said OK. I retreated down the ladder and went back to their office. I told the secretary that Al and Elijah wanted her to give me a check for the policies. She dutifully wrote out a check for the annual premium on both policies!

I was elated. Back then it was one of the biggest sales anyone in our office had made that year. It qualified me for the Leaders Conference trip. And that was the context I put the sale in — for six months.

Then one day, Al, the younger, healthier brother, was digging down in a ditch, and the dirt wall caved in on him, killing him instantly!

After that, selling life insurance had a whole new meaning. Elijah received the proceeds of Al’s insurance and used them to purchase the business from Al’s widow. She received a fair price — the price they had agreed on, and Elijah owned the business which was able to continue without any employees losing their jobs. Al’s widow was able to continue her standard of living and raise and educate their children as a full time mother. Through the miracle of life insurance and my willingness to overcome a few obstacles, the story turned out a lot better than it could have.

After this experience, I became an evangelist for the value of life insurance, both owning it and selling it. I remain so to this day!

CLEVELAND OKRES
ANNA HURBAN DISTRICT
OF THE FCSLA

St. Anne’s Day

Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine

21281 Chardon Rd., Euclid, OH

Thursday, July 26, 2012

- Time: 9 a.m. til 3 p.m.
- Mass at 11 a.m. in the Chapel
- Seating is limited
- Get your Tickets now — \$15.00 each
- Please contact Barb Sekerak to purchase tickets at 216.676.9332.
- Raffle tickets will be sold to win great prizes provided by the branches.

Message from our National President

CYNTHIA M. MALESKI



To my fellow FCSLA officers, members and friends,

Summer is a season of celebration. It is a season of barbecues, pool parties, baseball games, and fireworks. We go outside to bask in Mother Nature's warmth and bounty, and we finally take that vacation we have been waiting for all year.

And yet we celebrate more than just sunshine during the summer. Summer is the season of heroes. A string of national holidays celebrates our veterans, our nation's founding fathers and independence, and our workers — ordinary people who have readily embraced challenge with courage and determination and who built our nation, brick by brick, into the greatest nation in the world.

This summer, as we embark on our 120th anniversary year, let us also celebrate the courage and determination of our Association's heroes, especially our Foundress, Anna Hurban, who refused to tolerate the injustice that she would not be able to achieve financial security in her new country because of her gender and background. It was she who, with the assistance of Rev. Father Furdek, had the resolve to bring together like-minded Slovak-American women to found our Association and to promote and protect our financial, religious and cultural interests and traditions.

As we also begin our Association's hectic season of fraternal activities, we must also recognize the heroes in our own neighborhoods who lead volunteer projects regularly and often to help others under the banner of fraternalism. Our branch officers and members perform thousands of hours of community service working on food bank projects, contributing to disaster relief efforts, visiting the sick, volunteering at summer church festivals and

praying for our deceased. These charitable works are beacons of hope in our communities. These volunteer leaders are our local heroes.

We can look back at the last 120 years with great awe and pride with what we have accomplished, but we must also look to the next 120 years with a sharpened focus that will help us work together to reach new heights. I am encouraged by the spirit of cooperation, commitment and dedication of our new Board of Directors and by the newly formed "District Presidents' Round Table", part of the annual meeting of our District Presidents, which will hopefully provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and experiences. It is exactly this sort of commitment and collaboration that will allow us to continue to offer secure financial products to our members and that will spur the innovations that are necessary to adapt to ever-changing financial markets and business environments.

We are fortunate indeed to have such committed individuals serve our association as leaders!

May you have an enjoyable summer with family and friends. May God bless you and those you love in your travels!

39th ANNUAL SLOVAK DAY

Sunday, July 15, 2012

Salvatorian Shrine

5755 Pennsylvania Street
Merrillville, Indiana

- 10:30 A.M. **Holy Sacrifice of the Mass**
Our Lady of Czestochowa Shrine
Main Celebrant: Rev. Joseph Kelchak,
Gary Diocese Priest
Con-Celebrants: Gary Diocese and
Visiting Slovak Priest
After Mass: Purchase of "Ethnic
Foods"
Cash Bar: Open after Mass until
closing time!
- 1:00 P.M. **"Veselica Dancers"** — Chicago,
Illinois
- 1:30 P.M. **Raffle Drawing**
- 2-5 P.M. **Music and Dancing** — "Joe Arent
Quartet"

Attention: Chicago District

All Chicago, Indiana and Wisconsin FCSLA members are invited to the Chicago District's St. Anne's Celebration event on Thursday, July 26, 2012 with mass at 11:00 a.m. at St. Linus Church, Oak Lawn, IL with a luncheon to follow at 12:30 p.m. at the Garden Chalet in Chicago Ridge, IL. For more information see our website at <http://www.fcsla.org/district/chicago/calendar.shtml> or contact Jarmila Hlubocky at 773-776-2167.

JOIN HANDS DAY — FCSLA FRATERNALISM IN ACTION!

Branches 408 & 141 — Cleveland, Ohio

On Saturday, April 28, 2012, as a “Join Hands Day” project, the Cleveland Okres, Branch 408, and Branch 141 joined hands with The Cleveland Catholic Worker Community, and provided a breakfast for about 80 homeless and needy people.

The breakfast consisted of cereal, milk, toast, juice, fruit, donuts, hard-boiled eggs and coffee.

Donations of \$542 by Okres members, as well as paper and plastic products donated by a local McDonalds, were collected.

In addition to the breakfast items, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shower soap, laundry and dish detergent, bleach, toilet paper, paper towels and napkins, trash bags and a check for \$230 were presented to the Community.

The smiles and words of appreciation by the recipients were most rewarding. The experience is an example of what we can accomplish by “Joining Hands”.



Branch W130 — Clutier, Iowa

FCSLA Branch W130 of Clutier, IA, held their Join Hands Day Project on Sunday, April 15. FCSLA members joined in with the St. Patrick’s Catholic Church in Tama, IA to package meals for the most vulnerable children around the world. Kids Care Food Relief is a program of Outreach Inc. Over 3,000 meals were packaged and boxed for shipping in one hour. FCSLA W130 donated \$200 towards the project to buy the ingredients and supplies for the packaging.



The group photo shows three generations: (first row) Mike Phillips, Christine Phillips, Madi Phillips-Mucha, Helen Gebura, Pat Phillips, (second row) Mike Phillips, Jr. and Dan Phillips.



L-R: Mike Phillips, Helen Gebura and Pat Phillips presenting the check to Peter Quillan of the Catholic Worker Community.



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

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ALL ARE SOLD FOR CASH

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City _____

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Enclosed find \$ _____

(Money Order) (Check) for _____ copies of the Slovak-American Cook Book.

Celebrates 92nd Birthday

Margaret M. (Skolnik) Fuese, (S161, Youngstown, OH) will celebrate her 92nd birthday on September 7, 2012. She is loved by her husband who lives in Waldorf, MD and is recovering from an injury. She lives with her youngest daughter Theresa Skolnik and son Joe Skolnik. Her other daughters are Marguerite and Marilyn, all of Youngstown, OH. She is also loved by the family pet Amy, a 2-year-old Poodle. She has 11 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.



Margaret & Joe when they remarried – 10/13/12).

Margaret was married 53 years to Joseph John Skolnik who passed away December 19, 1998. She remarried Joseph Fuese of Waldorf, MD on October 13, 2001 at St. Matthias Church in Youngstown, OH. The ceremony was performed by now National FCSLA Chaplain, Monsignor Peter M. Polando.

She belonged to the Quilters, Infant of Jesus of Prague since 1953 and loved to work and play bingo. She loves and enjoys the family pet Amy, fresh air and visit from family. Her hobbies include quilting, sewing, knitting, tatting, cooking and baking delicious snacks. God Bless you Margaret!



Margaret with the family pet Amy .

15-DAY TOUR

SEPTEMBER 10-24, 2012: SLOVAKIA; POLAND; VIENNA, AUSTRIA; CZECH REPUBLIC, PRAGUE

Included in the tour will be two (2) meals daily: breakfast and dinner, an English-speaking guide, bus transportation with restroom and air conditioning, all admits to the sights, rooms in 3 or 4 star hotels, all with private bath. Air transportation as a group, this way we can give you a better price and save you the hassle. If you are interested call or write for a complete day-by-day itinerary and price. John's Tours, P.O. Box 154, Vandergrift, PA 15690. Call 724-567-7341 or 724-568-32 or call toll free 1-800-260-8687.

CELEBRATES 90th BIRTHDAY

On April 18, 2012, Mildred Budjac-Dudek celebrated her 90th birthday by visiting one of her favorite places for the day, followed by a party with family. Pictured below with Mildred are four generations, her daughter, Patricia Bertram, granddaughters Tami Whaley and Amy DiBuduo, and great-granddaughters, Maci and Ava Whaley, and Mia DiBuduo. All are members of Branch 376 in Milwaukee, WI.



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

Jessica Seich Awarded a BS in Nursing



L-R: Kevin John & Jessica Lynn Seich (S301, Canton, Ohio) with their daughter Sydney Lynn (J143, Canton, Ohio). Jessica graduated from the University of Akron on Sunday, May 6, 2012 with a BS degree in Nursing. Sue Ann Seich, National Secretary is proud of her daughter-in-law's accomplishments.

CELEBRATES 70TH ANNIVERSARY

When Stanley Duff of Canton, OH was a driver for his captain's Jeep near the end of World War II, he looked out through a windshield that had "Anna Mae" painted in large letters on the metal beneath the glass. In those days, that was allowed even encouraged by commanding officers.

Stanley and Anna Mae met well before Duff served in the Army in Europe as a cook and driver.

The two went to Lehman (High School) for two years. That's where they fell in love walking around the building at lunch time.

Duff went to McKinley High School for his last two years. Then he went to work at the Timken Co.

He was drafted in 1942 and spent two years stateside, training to prepare food for troops in the field.

The 331st Infantry, for which Duff was one of a handful of cooks for Company K, was sent first to England, then landing at Normandy about a week after D-Day.

Attached to the 83rd Division — a largely Ohio unit — the 331st fought its way through Europe, marching through France, Belgium, Luxembourg and Germany.

Duff had two brothers who also went to war, but they were elsewhere in the world with the Navy. Friends from Canton were closer at hand, serving in Duff's 50-man company. One friend, Paul Stanely, was killed just six days after landing.

For the most part, Duff spent his time cooking meals with kitchen gear transported by a special truck. Potatoes frequently were on the menu, cooking meat when they were able to. A lot of K-rations were served as dinners during the fighting.

Duff returned to Canton after the war and went back to work at



The Duff's in 2012

Timken Co. He had worked there for more than 42 years when he retired in 1982 as a department supervisor.

He and Anna Mae had two children, Betty Lou Dobson, who died in 1988, and William Duff of Canton. They have six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

One year her husband's junior, Anna Mae's younger age makes little difference now, as they go to auctions together or work in their yard. But, it was a small hurdle during their high school days.

They were very close, but she (Anna Mae) was too young — 14 — to have a boyfriend, so he'd walk her home, and she'd leave him a block away to be safe.

That love remained strong when he was sent to war and she went to work as a "Rosie the Riveter" at the Hoover Co. She kept a scrapbook of his service to his country.

"I prayed for him day and night," said Anna Mae, looking at the picture of the Jeep that carried her name — a reminder her husband was thinking of her, as well, during his days in the war.

"He came back," she said, "and I thank God every night for that."

The Duff's (Branch S301, Canton, OH) celebrated their 70th Wedding Anniversary on May 2, 2012.

Congratulations and may God continue to bless our anniversary couple with health and happiness.



The Duffs in 1943 at Camp Atterbury in Indiana.



Corporal Stanley Duff sits in the Jeep he drove during WWII that carried the name of his loving wife.

From APRIL 1 through JUNE 30, 2012,
older FCSLA annuities (issued prior to 2005)
with a guaranteed minimum rate of

4.50%

will earn a yield of 4.6025%.

NEWER FCSLA ANNUITIES

(issued 2005 and after)

with a guaranteed minimum rate of

3.50%

will earn a yield of 3.5618% while those with a
guaranteed minimum rate of

3.00%

will earn a yield of 3.0453%.

OLYMPIC SPORTS



Find the names of several modern Olympic sports in the puzzles. Words may be found up and down, side to side, or diagonally.

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

- archery
- basketball
- boxing
- curling
- cycling
- diving
- figure skating
- gymnastics
- ice hockey
- skiing
- swimming
- track
- volleyball
- weight lifting
- wrestling

Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Branch: _____ Phone: _____

**COMPLETE BY JULY 10
YOU MAY WIN A PRIZE!**

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

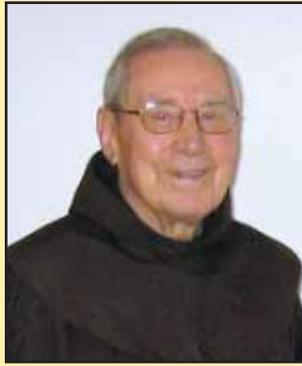
60th Anniversary Ordination ~ Fr. Richard A. Portasik, O.F.M.

Fr. Richard A. Portasik, O.F.M. will be celebrating his 60th Anniversary of Ordination on June 14, 2012.

Throughout these years he exhibited his love and concern for Slovak immigrants and their children in the United States. Both of his parents, Frank and Mary (Lalis), came to the U.S. at the turn of the 20th century and were married at Holy Trinity Church, Ford City, PA on July 16, 1918.

Fr. Richard was nourished by the example of his parents who brought with them the faith of SS. Cyril and Methodius.

As a youth he followed in the footsteps of his uncle Brother Florian Lalis O.F.M. and his brother Fr. Joseph O.F.M., and joined the newly established Franciscan Vice Province of the Holy Savior (initially called a Commissariat/Custody) with the center among the large enclave of Slovaks in the Pittsburgh, PA area in 1926. Educated among the Franciscans, he completed his philosophical and theo-



logical studies in the Assumption Province of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary.

Following his ordination on June 14, 1952 at Stella Maris in Cedar Lake, IN, he pursued graduate studies at Duquesne University where he received an M.A. in English Literature and at Notre Dame University where he earned an M.A. in Liturgy.

As a bi-lingual speaker, he preached both in Slovak and English throughout Pennsylvania, Ohio, Chicago, Northwestern Indiana and the Northeast. As a son of St. Francis of Assisi, he sought to bring the Good News of the Gospel

to a portion of God's people.

Fr. Richard also published many articles in Slovak newspapers and leaflets, and devoted 21 years of special ministry to members of the Secular Franciscan Order (Third Order).

During his years of ministry, especially at Holy Family Friary in Pittsburgh and St. Anthony in Uniontown, he held the office of guardian (superior) and vicar. He was elected as Custos of the Vice Province 1976-1982.

His activity among the Slovak fraternalists is well known. As a member of the Jednota from birth, he attended most of the conventions; as a member of the FCSLA, he was elected National Chaplain from 1992-1995; as a member of the Sokols, he was chaplain of Group #6 for 13 years. Through his articles he encouraged members to fidelity in achieving their cultural goals and their faith.

One of Fr. Richard's dream was to establish recognition of the OFM Franciscans in America in their work among Slovaks in the 20th century. He therefore published two (2) well known short volumes entitled *SLOVAK FRANCISCANS IN AMERICA*. The volumes encompass the years 1926 to 2000. Both volumes are found in the Library of Congress, the OFM Curia in Rome and the Heinz Library in Pittsburgh, PA.

To celebrate his 60 years as a friar-priest, and to honor his living and deceased family and friends, Fr. David Moczulski, O.F.M., guardian, and the friars of Holy Family Friary celebrated a special Mass at 11:00 a.m. with an open house reception on May 20, 2012.

FCSLA Makes Donation to Rosary Makers

The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association (FCSLA) recently made a donation to St. Michael the Archangel Rosary Makers at their meeting in St. Nicholas Parish Community Room. The Rosary Makers were founded by the late Helen Parduski, an FCSLA member, over eleven years ago and her good work is now carried on by the group. The donation will help buy the necessary supplies to make the rosary packets, which are sent to missions, prisons, and the U.S. military worldwide, including Iraq. To date over 80,000 rosaries have been made. Anyone wishing to make a donation can do so by sending it to St. Michael the Archangel Rosary Makers, P.O. Box 1504, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703-1504.



L-R (first row): Patricia Koschak, Susan Ott, Joan Ott, Rosary President, and Rosemary Haney; (second row): Msgr. Joseph G. Rauscher, pastor of the Church of Saint Nicholas; Irene Koschak, Charles Didgeon, Magdalen I. Iskra, FCSLA District President, and Edward Pilwallis.

FALL LANGUAGE CLASSES SET

WPSCA will conduct Fall Slovak language classes every Tuesday, September 4 through October 30 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the Brashear Association, 2005 Sarah Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15203. The cost is \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members. The instructor will be Bozena Hilko. Please call Pam at 412-531-2990 during office hours to reserve a place.



We Want to Hear From You!

- Did your children, grandchildren receive special awards or achievements in school?
- Baptisms? Confirmations? New Members?
- 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!



National Secretary Sue Ann Seich's grandson **JACK N. OPPENHEIMER** (J143, Canton, OH) made his First Holy Communion on April 9, 2012 at St. Brigid Church, Zenia, OH.



National Secretary Sue Ann Seich's granddaughter **LAUREN C. NIEPORTE** (J143, Canton, OH) made her First Holy Communion at Little Flower Church in Canton, OH on May 5, 2012.

Jr. Branch 46 to Host Christmas in July

Jr. Branch 46 of Lansford, PA, will host their annual "Christmas in July" event at Knoebel's Grove Amusement Park in Elysburg, PA, on Thursday, July 19, 2012. Formal invitations will be sent this month.

Any other junior branches in the Eastern PA District that wish to participate should call Branch and District President Veronica Bazik at 570-645-5253 for more information.



National Secretary Sue Ann Seich's grandson **MICHAEL W. OPPENHEIMER, II** (J143, Canton, OH) made his First Holy Communion at St. Brigid Church, Zenia, OH in May 2010.

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT SLOVAKIA

- Parliamentary elections are held every 4 years in Slovakia. There are 150 representatives in Slovak Parliament. It is called Slovenska Narodna Rada. (Slovak National Council.)
- The Vah river is the longest river (470km) in Slovakia. The Danube is the largest river, but only part of its length (less than 100km) flows through Slovakia.
- Slovakia switched to using the Euro on January 1, 2009. Before that the national currency was the Koruna.
- Slovakia is bordered by 5 countries – The Czech Republic, Austria, Hungary, Ukraine and Poland. The longest border (679km) is with Hungary.
- The capital of Slovakia is Bratislava. The second largest city is Kosice.
- The highest point in Slovakia is 2,655 meters and is named Gerlach Peak. It's part of the Sierra Tatry and found in the town named Poprad in northern Slovakia.
- The most popular spectator sport in Slovakia is ice hockey which traditionally starts the last Saturday in April.

KATIE SABOL TOURS WITH JAZZ ENSEMBLE

With its historic castles, rugged landscapes and magnificent coastline, there are few places more majestic than Scotland and England, as Mansfield music student Katie Sabol (S140, Lansford, PA) recently found.

As a member of the Jazz Ensemble at the college, Katie performed in Edinburgh, York and London during her spring break through a student exchange program with Napier University. The daughter of Dr. Joseph and Cindy Sabol of Mahoning Township, she is the granddaughter of the late John and Agnes Maholick and Latzie and Mary Sabol.

Katie got her musical start playing in the Lehigh Area Middle School and Lehigh Boys and Girls Band. She continues playing with the Lehigh and Palmerton Bands in the summer.

Katie, a sophomore at Mansfield, is double majoring in music education and saxophone performance. In addition to being a member of the college's Jazz Band, she is also



a member of the Wind Ensemble and the Spirit of Pride of Pa. as well as the college's marching band, where she is the saxophone section head.

Also touring with the Jazz Ensemble was the Mansfieldians Vocal Jazz Ensemble.

After departing from Newark Airport on March 9, the group traveled overnight to Edinburgh where they began their visit touring Edinburgh Castle, Palace of Holyrood, Royal Mile, Prince's Street and St. Giles. They performed their first concert performance before an enthusiastic audience at St. Andrew and St. George West Church.

Before their performance at Tynecastle High School, the band members met in a workshop session with the students. The

day's activities were capped off with a public concert at the high school for the entire community.

Their next stop was York, England, where they enjoyed a walking tour of York Minister, a medieval walled city. They then presented a concert performance in the famous Spice Jazz Club in London.

After the musical performances, Katie had time to unwind by touring London's main attractions, including the historic London neighborhoods and Buckingham Palace, Whitehall, Big Ben and Westminster Abbey.

During her free time, Katie also chose to visit world class museums, tour St. Paul's Cathedral, take a ride on the Thames, and take in a production of London's famous West End theaters.

Her last concert performance was at Highgate Senior School in London. Andre Canniere, an alumni of Mansfield University and a successful jazz musician in London, arranged for the concert at Highgate where he teaches.

There's another big performance trip in Katie's future. Mansfield University Bands have been invited to perform in London during the Summer World Olympic Games in August 2012. Approximately 140 students have committed to making the trip, which will give them the opportunity to perform for an international audience.

The FCSLA congratulates Katie and looks forward to an update after her performances at the World Olympic Games this summer!

Branch W045 Winners of Grant Awards Named

Branch W045, Cedar Rapids, IA is proud to announce the winners of The Wayne Krotz Elementary School Grant Awards. The program was initiated in 2008. Students are eligible for these grants if they are juvenile members of Branch W045 with either a life insurance policy or annuity certificate in force and are attending school in grades K thru Eighth Grade. Three grants are awarded by a random drawing from all applications. The awards are \$200 and may be used for any school needs.

The winners are: Charles Herder-3rd grade, Our Lady of the Lake, Mound, MN; Kevin Trcka-4th grade, Johnathan Elementary, Chaska, MN; and Cody Freeberg-6th grade, LaSalle Middle, Cedar Rapids, IA.



Charles Herder



Kevin Trcka



Cody Freeberg

Have A New Address?

If you belong to a household receiving two or more magazines or if you have recently moved and have a new address, you can alleviate both situations simply by using the form on page 21 and mailing to the home office address. We ask that one magazine per household be sufficient.



IN MEMORIAM

REV. LOUIS S. MATTAS **Branch W133**

Rev. Louis S. Mattas, 83, died December 31, 2011 in Wichita KS.

Fr. Mattas was born on the farm east of Wilson, KS to Frank A. and Mary (Vopat) Mattas. After attending Wilson High School and serving in the army for 2 years, he attended St. Mary's College in Kentucky graduating with a BA degree. He attended Kenrick Seminary in St Louis, graduating in 1960.

He was ordained for the Salina, KS diocese in his home parish of St. Wenceslaus in Wilson by Bishop Fredrick Freking on April 3, 1960. Throughout his priestly ministry he served in parishes in Elmo, Cuba, Logan, Kanopolis, Salina, Beloit, Junction City, Washington and Abilene. Catholic schools/education held a special place in his heart. Fr. Mattas also served as the national chaplain for the fraternal organization, Catholic Workman for several years. In 1998 he retired, living in Abilene, KS until 2000 when he moved to the Priest Retirement Center at the Catholic Care Center in Wichita.

Fr. Mattas was known for his sense of humor. The programs printed for his ordination to the priesthood were printed in English except for the menu — that was in Bohemian. Translated they had: baked goose and pork baked sauerkraut, baked new potatoes, prune gravy, cottage cheese, dill cucumber, red beets, rolled dinner rolls, butter, rye bread, houska, pears, and kolache.

He was proud to be Bohemian and enjoyed speaking the language whenever he could find someone to converse with.

Fr. Mattas was preceded in death by his parents, brothers Frank, Henry and Emil, and sister, Rose. Left to mourn his death and celebrate his life are sisters: Mary Ann Erickson, McPherson, KS, Frances Arnold, Pearland, TX, many nieces and nephews and brother priests. Mass of Christian burial was in Wilson, KS. Burial in Wilson Catholic cemetery with military honors.

ELIZABETH "BETTY" KUSH **Sr. Branch 153**



Elizabeth "Betty" Kush of Sharpsville, PA died on March 19, 2012 in Pittsburgh after a brief illness. She was 90 years old.

Betty was born July 19, 1921 in Mutual, PA and was

a graduate of the St. Ann Parish Commercial School in Farrell. She was a devoted member of St. Ann Church, Farrell, PA and more recently a member of Our Lady of Fatima-St. Ann, also in Farrell. She was a very active member of Branch 153 of FCSLA.

Betty was employed by the former Sharon Transformer Division of Westinghouse Electric Corp.

On August 30, 1947, she married George Kush, he survives at home. Betty and George had three sons, Raymond G. Kush and wife Lorraine of Lockport, NY; Richard J. Kush and wife Barbara of Chandler, AZ; and Robert A. Kush and wife Cynthia of Gilbert, AZ. She is also survived by a sister, Ethel Krukar of Farrell, PA, nine grandchildren, and 18 great-grandchildren. Betty was preceded in death by her parents, five sisters, and five brothers.

Betty and George always had a large vegetable garden at their home, and she loved to can all the produce for her family. She once told her sons that in 60 years of marriage she had never purchased a can of tomatoes at the store! Her family was everything to Betty, and she was a shining example to them of everything a loving mother and wife should be. She will be dearly missed by all her family.

PEGGY EILEEN LESNAK **POWLYSYN** **Sr. Branch 156**

Peggy Eileen Lesnak Powlysyn, 76, passed away March 24, 2012, at home.

Peggy was born June 15, 1935, in Youngstown, OH, a daughter of Michael J. and Anna Lanore Regets Lesnak.

She attended St. Patrick Elementary School and graduated from Hubbard High School in 1952.

She was an executive secretary for Equifax Services in Youngstown for 40 years, retiring in 1992. She was a lifelong member of St. Patrick Roman Catholic Church.

She is survived by her husband, Stephen Powlysyn, whom she married November 16, 1968; her aunt, Margaret Koches of Girard; many cousins, including her godchild, Marlene Wise; and her special friend, Sue Shardy.

Her parents preceded her in death.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to Dr. Slemmons.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Patrick Roman Catholic Church Building Fund, 225 North Main St., Hubbard, OH 44425.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR **Sr. Branch 177**



William H. Taylor (Bill) died surrounded by his loving family at home in Bethel Park, PA on March 22, 2012, at the age of 80.

He was the devoted husband of Mary C. (Laver)

Taylor; father of Valerie and William J. (Marcia) Taylor; grandfather of Travis, Alexis and Zach Taylor; brother of George W. and the late Robert Taylor.

Bill and Mary were married at St. Joseph's Church in Clairton, PA, 49 years ago and are members of St. Thomas More Parish in Bethel Park, PA, where they have resided for 42 years.

Bill was a talented carpenter, built his own home and took pride in construction. He made everything from his own kitchen cabinets, furniture, and even an in-ground swimming pool; along with a beautiful gazebo for fam-

ily gatherings. Bill helped Mary host many parties at their home knowing everything was perfectly built.

In 1996 Bill retired from the Pittsburgh Board of Education as Carpenter Foreman with 47 years of service.

He was a proud Army Sgt. Veteran of the Korean War specializing in Morse Code interception.

Bill was a member of Camp Buckhorn in Marienville, PA and loved to hunt alongside his son and grandsons. He was an avid fan of the Pittsburgh Steelers and Pittsburgh Penguins and enjoyed watching games with Valerie and family.

Bill's memory will last forever just by looking around us, remembering his sense of humor and love of family.

ANNA LOBO BUDA **Sr. Branch 8**

Anna Lobo Buda, 94, of Bridgeport, CT, the beloved wife of the late Joseph G. Buda passed away peacefully on February 22, 2012 in her daughter's residence in Shelton.

Anna was born on October 1, 1917 in Jersey City, NJ, and was the daughter of the late John and Suzanna Kuzma Lobo. Anna was an active member of the former St. John Nepomucene Church, The Guild of the Mother of Jesus, Holy Name of Jesus Church, Slovak Alliance and the local branch secretary of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association Sr. Branch 8 and Jr. Branch 384.

Anna is survived by two sons Michael J. Buda and wife Ellen of Windsor, CT., Joseph G. Buda and wife Linda Moran Buda of Simsbury, one daughter Dorothy Aniuk and husband Richard of Shelton with whom Anna resided, five grandchildren Jonathan Aniuk, Kathryn Aniuk, Donald Buda, Joseph Buda and Margaret Buda, one sister-in-law Margaret Lobo of Monroe Township, NJ and several nieces and nephews. Along with her husband she is also predeceased by three brothers John Lobo, Brother Michael Lobo Sr. and Joseph Lobo.

ANN (GRECHIK) FURIAK **Sr. Branch 81**



Ann Furiak (nee Grenchik), 96, of Whiting, IN, passed away Thursday, February 9, 2012 at the Hammond-Whiting Care Center. She was the beloved wife of the late John Furiak

who passed away June 5, 1995; loving mother of Rosemary (Raymond) Giovannoni of Reisterstown, MD, Ruth Ann (Howard) Sauer of Glen Ellyn, IL, John (late Evie) Furiak of Hammond, Thomas Furiak of Whiting and the late Connie (late Robert) Evans; cherished grandmother of eight; adoring great-grandma of nine; and proud great-great-grandma of one.

Ann Furiak was born on May 18, 1915 in Whiting, IN, to John and Mary (Kovacik) Grencik and was a lifelong resident. She was an alumna of SS. Cyril and Methodius Academy, Danville, PA, Class of 1934. She was a member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Whiting, the St. John Rosary Society and the Secular Order of Franciscans. She was a member of the FCSLA Branch 81 and served as an officer for over 40 years. Ann was also the sweetest and most caring daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmother and friend anyone could ever have. Ann's 96 years on earth were truly a gift to all who loved and were loved by her. Her grace and joy will always be remembered by those who knew her. Ann always found time to help and pray for those in need.

In lieu of flowers, memorials to the St. John School Endowment Fund would be appreciated.

AGNES SUSAN PUHALLA **Sr. Branch 169**

Agnes Susan Puhalla, 84, passed away March 31, 2012, at St. Elizabeth Health Center in Youngstown, OH, following a brief illness.

Agnes was born January 9, 1928, in Filbert, PA, a daughter of the late John Walick and Susan Janov Zimovian Walick and came to Youngstown in November of 1946 after she graduated from Redstone Township High School in Republic, PA, earlier that year.

She was a homemaker and worked as an operator for Ohio Bell, as a clerk for People's Drugs in Cornersburg and in custodial services for the Youngstown City Schools, retiring in July of 1996.

Mrs. Puhalla was a member of St. Christine Church in Youngstown, a member of the church's Infant Jesus of Prague Guild and was currently the guild's Remembrance Secretary. She was a member of the Altar and Rosary Society at the church, and was a member of the FCSLA Branch 169.

Agnes leaves six children, Robert M. Puhalla of Youngstown, Richard J. (Jie) Puhalla of Saipan, Ronald E. Puhalla of Youngstown, Susan P. Victor of Youngstown, Thomas J. Puhalla of St. Augustine, FL, and John J. (Margaret) Puhalla of Youngstown; four grandchildren; a sister, Mary Dolce of New Port Richey, FL; two sisters-in-law, Marie and Betty Walick, both of Parma; and many nieces and nephews.

Her husband, Michael M. Puhalla, whom she married July 2, 1949, passed away January 28, 1973. Agnes will be truly missed by all who loved her.

Memorial contributions may be made in Agnes' name to the Infant Jesus of Prague Guild of St. Christine Church, 3165 S. Schenley Ave., Youngstown, OH 44511 or to the CTNY at St. Paul's Monastery, 9531 W. Akron-Canfield Road, Canfield, OH 44406.



Matthew Bazik Graduates from American University



Matt Bazik on graduation day at American University.

Matthew Michael Bazik (S140, Lansford, PA) graduated from the School of Public Affairs at American University in Washington, DC on Sunday, May 13th, 2012. He was awarded a Bachelor of Arts Degree, (magna cum laude) in Political Science and Secondary Education. He is the son of Michael (S140) and Ann Bazik of Drexel Hill, PA and the grandson of Eastern PA District President Veronica Bazik and the nephew of FCSLA National Editor Carolyn M. Bazik.



Matt Bazik on graduation day with (L-R) his parents Michael & Ann, sister Nicole, girlfriend Haylee Wilson, Grandmother Veronica Bazik, family friend Barbara Waller (FCSLA National VP) and Aunt Carolyn M. Bazik.

ANNUAL CHURCH FESTIVAL *June 28-30*

St. Thomas A' Becket Church of Jefferson Hills, PA will hold their 2012 Annual Church Festival on Thursday, June 28th through Saturday, June 30th from 6:00-11:00 p.m. There will be a special dinner each evening along with entertainment, shows, rides for adults and children and even a giant slide. There is something for the entire family!

For more information call 412-655-2885.

Father's Day

Father's Day is a celebration of fathers inaugurated in the early twentieth century to complement Mother's Day in celebrating fatherhood and male parenting.

One early observance of a Father's Day took place in Fairmont, WV on July 5, 1908. It was organized by Mrs. Grace Golden Clayton, who wanted to celebrate the lives of the 210 fathers who had been lost in the Monongah Mining disaster several months earlier in Monongah, WV, on December 6, 1907. It is possible that Clayton was influenced by the first celebration of Mother's Day that same year, just a few miles away. Clayton chose the Sunday nearest to the birthday of her recently deceased father. Unfortunately, the day was overshadowed by other events in the city, West Virginia did not officially register the holiday, and it was not celebrated again. Clayton's celebration was forgotten until 1972, when one of the attendants to the celebration saw Nixon's proclamation of Father's Day, and worked to recover its legacy. The celebration is now held every year in the Central United Methodist Church, as the Williams Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was torn down in 1922.

Credit for what we now recognize as the official Father's Day goes to Sonora Smart Dodd, born in Arkansas from Spokane, who invented her own celebration of Father's Day in 1910. Its first celebration was in Spokane, WA on June 19, 1910. Her father, the Civil War veteran William Jackson Smart, was a single parent who reared his six children in Spokane, WA. Although she initially suggested June 5, her father's birthday, she did not provide the organizers with enough time to make arrangements, and the celebration was deferred to the third Sunday of June.

A bill to accord national recognition of the holiday was introduced in Congress in 1913. In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson went to Spokane to speak in a Father's Day celebration and wanted to make it official, but Congress resisted, fearing that it would become too commercialized. U.S. President Calvin Coolidge recommended in 1924 that the day be observed by the nation, but stopped short of issuing a national proclamation. Two earlier attempts to formally recognize the holiday had been defeated by Congress. In 1957, Maine Senator Margaret Chase Smith wrote a proposal accusing Congress of ignoring fathers for 40 years while honoring mothers, thus "[singling] out just one of our two parents". In 1966, President Lyndon B. Johnson issued the first presidential proclamation honoring fathers, designating the third Sunday in June as Father's Day. Six years later, the day was made a permanent national holiday when President Richard Nixon signed it into law in 1972.



Branch W006 Holds Annual Spring Supper

FCSLA Branch W006 located at Holy Trinity Parish Heun in rural Clarkson, NE held their annual spring sausage supper following the 5 p.m. Mass celebrated by Father Leo Rigatuso. Following the delicious meal prepared by the Holy Trinity Altar Society, Branch President Gene Sobota reviewed the past year and informed the members that through the efforts of Branch W006, the Holy Trinity Cemetery received a generous donation for landscaping and trees. W006 Treasurer Larry Kuzel and Secretary Rolland Svec also presented a check to Melissa Grovijohn, a representative of the Howells Community Catholic Schools, for updating their curriculum and in appreciation for their commitment to continuing Catholic education in the local community.



L-R: Branch Secretary W006 Rolland Svec, Father Leo Rigatuso, and Cemetery Board Secretary Brian Mastoy.



L-R: Branch W006 Treasurer Larry Kuzel, Howells Community Catholic Schools representative Melissa Grovijohn, and W006 Secretary Rolland Svec.

SLOVAK WORDS AND ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS

GRAMMAR

Slovak nouns are divided into 12 groups according to their endings.

<i>Gender</i>	<i>Nominative Singular</i>	<i>Example</i>
Masculine		
Animate	Not ending in -a Ending in -a	chlap (fellow) hrdina (hero)
Inanimate	Ending in hard consonant Ending in soft consonant	dub (oak) stroj (machine)
Feminine		
Ending in -a	Preceded by a hard consonant Preceded by a soft consonant	žena (woman) ulica (street)
Ending in	-j, -z, -ň, -ž, -č, -š, -ď, -ť, -dz, -st', -r, -c, -s, -p, -v, -st'	dlaň (palm) kost' (bone)
Neuter		
Ending in	-o -e -ie -a, -ä	mesto (town) srdce (heart) vysvedčenie (certificate) dievča (girl)
<i>Nominative plural</i>		
chlap-i	žen-y	mest-á
hrdin-ovia	ulic-e	srdc-ia
dub-y	dlan-e	vysvedčen-ia
stroj-e	kost-i	dievčat-á

Translate into Slovak and then vice versa:

Excuse me, please, is this Nová street? Where is the main station? Bratislava is a nice town. I need some flowers. This building is big. What do you see there? Do you see the river? I have a small garden. Do you know any Slovak villages? We need new machines. Do you know that picture? He has a new car. The little boy has nice pictures. We have a large garden, you have a small one. What kind of book has John got? What are we looking for? We are looking for the main station. Where is the child? What kind of flowers has Eva?

Prepáčte, prosím, je toto Nová ulica? Kde je hlavná stanica? Bratislava je pekné mesto. Potrebujem nejaké kvetiny. Táto budova je veľká. Čo tam vidíte? Vidíte rieku? Mám malú záhradu. Poznáte niektoré slovenské dediny? Potrebujeme nové stroje. Poznáte tento obraz? On má nové auto. Malý chlapec má pekné obrazy. My máme veľkú záhradu, vy ju máte malú. Akú knihu dostal Ján? Čo hľadáme? Hľadáme hlavnú stanicu. Kde je dieťa? Aké kvetiny má Eva?

Jack and the Beanstalk

(Please enjoy the Slovak translation of this fable on Page 21)

Long ago, there lived a poor woman and her son named Jack. They had no money and no food, so the woman decided that they must sell their milking cow.

The woman asked Jack to take the cow into town and offer it for sale. But on the road into town, Jack met a strange old man who asked to buy the cow.

“I will give you five magic beans for your cow,” he told Jack. “Do you know how many that is?”

“Two in each hand and one in my mouth!” answered Jack.

“Right!” said the old man, “and here are the five beans.” So Jack traded the cow for the five magic beans.

When Jack returned home, he proudly told his mother of the good trade he had made.

“You foolish boy!” she said. “Now we must go hungry!” And she threw the beans out the window, for she did not believe they were magic at all. Then she sent Jack to bed without any supper — though there was nothing to eat anyway.

The next morning, Jack awoke to find a giant beanstalk growing from the ground where the beans had fallen. It was so tall, it grew all the way up to the sky!

Jack climbed up the beanstalk until he reached the clouds. He kept climbing until he was above the clouds. And there before him, he saw a great castle.

Jack walked up to the castle door. There, in the doorway, stood the biggest woman that he had ever seen!

“Please, Ma’am, I am hungry. Could I come in and have something to eat?” asked Jack.

The woman said that her husband, who was also a giant, was coming home soon and would want to eat Jack for his supper. But Jack asked again so nicely that the woman brought him inside and gave him some breakfast.

No sooner had Jack finished eating than he heard the *tramp, tramp, tramp* of the Giant’s boots.

Quick as a wink, the woman popped Jack into the unlit stove, safely out of sight.

The Giant sat down in his chair with a thump that rattled the kitchen floor, and called for his wife to bring him his magic harp. Jack watched as a lovely golden harp was set before the Giant.

When the Giant roared, “Sing!” the harp played a beautiful song all by itself. It even sang along with its music in a soft, sweet voice. The Giant ate his supper while the harp played and sang. And when the Giant was full, the harp’s music lulled the Giant to sleep.

When the Giant was snoring loudly, and was most certainly asleep, Jack crept from his hiding place behind the huge broom. He grabbed the golden harp and ran away with it.

His mother was happy to have him home, and the gold brought them food for months. But as soon as the coins were spent, Jack disguised himself and again climbed the beanstalk up past the clouds, and asked the Giant’s wife to let him into the castle.

The woman did not recognize Jack in his disguise. But she did not want to let him in. She told Jack that the last boy she let in to feed had stolen some of her husband’s gold.

But Jack asked so nicely for a drink that she brought him to the kitchen and gave him a thimble of water.

No sooner had Jack finished the water than he heard the tramping of giant boots and ran to hide in the oven. The Giant roared,

“Fe fi fo fum,

I smell the blood of an Englishman!

Be he live or be he dead,

I’ll grind his bones to make my bread!”

His wife said, “You only smell this delicious soup, I have cooked for you.” Then she fed the Giant his supper.

After the Giant had eaten, he called to his wife and told her to bring his hen.

“Lay an egg!” commanded the Giant. The hen laid a perfect, golden egg. Soon the Giant fell asleep and Jack crept out from his hiding place. He grabbed the wonderful hen, and did not stop running until he was safely home.

Each day the hen laid a golden egg, so Jack and his mother were able to sell them to buy plenty of food to eat. Jack’s mother was very happy.

But Jack still longed for adventure. So he climbed up the beanstalk once more and tiptoed into the Giant’s castle. He hid in the kitchen behind a giant broom.

Soon the Giant and his wife came in. The Giant looked around and cried,

“Fe fi fo fum,

I smell the blood of an . . .”

His wife ran to look in the oven, but no one was there.

The Giant sat down in his chair with a thump that rattled the kitchen floor, and called for his wife to bring his magic harp. Jack watched as a lovely golden harp was set before the Giant.

When the Giant roared, “Sing!” the harp played a beautiful song all by itself. It even sang along with its music in a soft, sweet voice. The Giant ate his supper while the harp played and sang. And when the Giant was full, the harp’s music lulled the Giant to sleep.

When the Giant was snoring loudly, and was most certainly asleep, Jack crept from his hiding place behind the huge broom. He grabbed the golden harp and ran away with it.

The magic harp called out, “Help, Master!”

This woke the sleeping Giant. When he realized that his prized harp was being stolen, the Giant leaped up with a mighty roar of rage and tried to grab Jack with his giant hand.

Jack jumped off the table and ran just as fast as his legs would carry him. He could hear the *tramp, tramp, tramp* of the Giant’s boots behind him, and that made Jack run faster than he had ever run before!

continued on page 19

ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA

A Strúčková Zelená Fazuľa

Dávno predávno žila jedna matka so svojím synom, ktorý sa volal Jack. Nemali z čoho žiť, a tak sa matka rozhodla, že musia predať kravu. Tak matka povedala Jack, aby zobral kravu do mesta a predal ju. Po ceste do mesta Jack stretol starého človeka, ktorý chcel kúpiť kravu.

“Dám ti päť zázračných semien za tvoju kravu”, povedal starec. Tak Jack predal kravu za zázračné semená.

Keď sa Jack vrátil domov pyšne povedal matke aký dobrý obchod spravil.

“Bláznivý chlapec,” matka povedala “teraz budeme hladní.” Vyhodila semená von oknom, lebo neverila, že sú zázračné a poslala Jack spať bez večere – lebo nebolo čo jesť.

Ráno sa Jack zobudil a videl obrovskú zelenú fazuľu rásť na mieste kde matka hodila semená. Rastlina bola taká obrovská, že rástla až do neba.

Jack sa škriabal po rastline až sa dostal do oblakov, vlastne až nad oblakmi. Zrazu sa pred ním objavil mohutný hrad. Jack prišiel pred hradnú bránu, kde stála obrovská žena. “Prepáčte som hladný, môžem vojsť a zjesť niečo?” Opýtal sa Jack obrovskej ženy.

Žena povedala, že jej manžel, ktorý je tiež obor, príde čoskoro domov a bude chcieť jesť. A je možné, že to bude Jack. Ale aj napriek tomu Jack sa ešte raz slušne opýtal o jedle a tak ho žena pozvala do hradu a dala mu jesť.

Keď Jack všetko zjedol, počul ako prichádza obor.

Obrovská žena rýchlo schovala Jack do trúby, aby ho jej muž nenašiel. Obor prišiel do kuchyne a hľadal niečo na jedenie, myslel si, že voňal človeka.

“Ty len voniaš guláš, čo som urobila”. Povedala žena a dala mu jesť.

Keď sa obor najedol chcel vidieť svoje zlato. Žena priniesla veľké vreco plné zlatých dukátov. Obor ich počítal až sa unavil a zaspal. Hlavu si položil na stôl a chrápal. Jack vyskočil z trúby a zobral vreco zlata a utekal rýchlo dolu po zelenej fazule dolu, dolu, dolu. Jeho matka bola rada že prišiel domov a zlato im stačilo na mesiac živobytia.

Keď sa zlato minulo Jack sa zamaskoval a znovu sa vyškríabal po zelenej fazule do oblakov a prišiel k obrovskej žene a pýtal si niečo jesť. Ona ho nechcela pustiť a povedala mu, že predtým keď pustila chlapca do domu, ukradol jej mužovi peniaze.

Ale Jack bol taký slušný, že ho pustila dovnútra a dala mu piť vodu. Keď sa Jack napil, počul ako obor ide domov a rýchlo sa skryl v trúbe.

Obrovská žena myslela, že obor by mohol chcieť zjesť Jack, tak ponúkla obrovi jesť polievku čo predtým navarila. Keď sa obor najedol, povedal žene, aby mi priniesla jeho sliepku.

“Daj mi vajce” povedal obor. Sliepka zniesla perfektné zlaté vajce. Obor zaspal a Jack vyšiel z trúby. Schytil sliepku a ponáhlal sa domov. Každý deň sliepka zniesla zlaté vajce, ktorý Jack s matkou predali, a kúpili jedlo. Boli veľmi spokojní. Ale Jack nemal pokoj. Zase sa vyškríabal po zelenej fazule do hradu. Skryl sa v kuchyni v kúte. Obor niečo, tušil, že sa niekto niekde skrýva, tak sa žena pozrela do trúby, ale nikoho nenašla. Obor sa utíšil a povedal žene, aby mu priniesla čarovnú harpu. Jack sa o harpu zaujímal. Obor kričal “spievaj” a harpa hrala a spievala sama od seba. Hudba veru uspala obra. Jack potom uchytiteľ harpu a utekal preč.

Harpa kričala “pomoc”. Obor sa zobudil a chcel chytiť Jack, ktorý mal harpu. Jack rýchlo utekal ale obor bol za ním. Jack utekal tak rýchlo ako len mohol. Prišiel k zelenej fazule a ponáhlal sa dolu.

Keď sa dostal dolu, chytil sekeru a zrúbal zelenú fazuľu. Obor sa zrútil na zem. To bol koniec zelenej fazule ale aj obra. Jack a jeho matka žili šťastne lebo mali vynikajúcu sliepku a zázračnú harpu.

Jack and the Beanstalk

continued from page 19

When he reached the beanstalk, Jack quickly climbed all the way down to the ground with the magic harp clutched tightly in one arm.

The Giant filled the kitchen door and roared,
“Fe fi fo fum,

I smell the blood of the Englishman!
Be he live or he be dead,

I'll grind his bones to make my bread!”

“You only smell the stew I have cooked,” said his wife, setting a huge bowl in front of him.

After the Giant had eaten his fill, he called for his gold. His wife brought his bags of gold coins. The Giant counted the coins until he grew sleepy. His head nodded and he began to snore.

Jack slipped out of the dark oven and grabbed one of the bags of gold. Then he ran as fast as he could to the beanstalk and climbed down.

As soon as Jack reached the ground, he grabbed an axe and, with one sharp blow, chopped down the beanstalk. Down it crashed, and with it crashed the Giant.

That was the end of the magic beanstalk, and that was the end of the Giant!

As for Jack and his mother, they lived happily ever after with the wonderful hen and the magical golden harp.

“WELCOME . . . TO THE NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK”

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is another in a series of feature articles addressing the realm of genealogy. It is one specifically designed for Slovak descendants and is so structured to serve as an introductory course for the novice, meet the needs of the advanced researcher or, if nothing else, the curious.)

Over the course of the year I have occasionally formatted this column by sharing a variety of research questions from our readers, hopeful of providing “a sense of direction” as you build upon your individual family histories.

Recently while responding to a range of inquiries received via letters, emails, and telephone calls, a noticeable pattern emerged that had escaped my previous problem-solving efforts. The essence of your “message” was that a number of you are in their initial throes as researchers and you made reference to this column’s preface — “*This is another in a series . . .*”

Your collective pleas are for access to a few of the “foundation articles” published previously, thereby providing insights that might compensate for months and possibly years of procrastination in jump-starting the process of tracing your Slovak ancestral past.

Simply said, I truly sense your new-found commitment and will be pleased to oblige!

Thus in the months ahead we will occasionally retrace our steps with topics paramount to Slovak genealogical sleuthing, making certain to note updates (new addresses, internet sites, etc.) where appropriate. And for those readers well along in your research we will continue to probe new directions and territory.

Having set our updated course, it’s time to respond to some of your latest inquiries.

Postal Carrier: “What is the latest issue of filming and cataloging of parish records in Slovakia by the Family History Center?”

Response: Great, and a timely question! Very pleased to report that the final phase of filming vital church records (borth, larrage, death) in Slovakia is currently being completed. More specifically this effort focuses on records from the Bytca and Bratislava archives in Western Slovakia. Although filming is virtually completed, cataloguing will be an on-going process before film copies are distributed to the respective Family History Centers nationwide and digital images make available on the internet.

Email Account: “My parents and most of their relatives/friends have passed away. Can you suggest a starting point in identifying who some of these individuals might have been in order to move me from what seems like a standstill with my research?”

Response: All sound research starts with oneself (YOU!) and works back in time — your parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, etc. However one possible gold

mine that could shower a wealth of information, if located, is the “Address Book” your parents kept next to their telephone. It will have a treasure trove of names, addresses, telephone numbers and possible notations in providing a roadmap for the early stages of your research. By the way, don’t forget to check your own “Address Book” for added clues.

Telephone Call: “I have a number of gaps in researching my one grandmother and a great-grandfather. What is the best way to fill in some of these holes?”

Response: An often-heard question indeed and to the point. I have used one technique that has proven successful, that of creating a time line. Simply make a chronological time line in five-year increments (1895, 1900, 1905, etc.) and the next to each date, list the individual’s age, place of residence, and if single or married. Once completed, step back and the visual time line will virtually point you in the direction of your next research steps.

My Christmas Gift to Each of You: Remember all those “family letters” we receive from relatives and friends each year as part of their Christmas card greetings? Don’t throw them out just yet, as each provides a valuable first-hand chronicle in piecing together our family history. How many times have we said, “If I had only kept those from past years?” Just think what our children will say 20-30 years from now if we discard these valuable pieces of genealogical information — similar to what we quietly chastised our parents for having done so in the past.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: There is now available a completely revised and updated Slovak Genealogy Research Kit (52 pages, plus forms), one designed exclusively for those tracing their Slovak roots. The kit may be ordered for \$13, plus \$1.75 postage. Also available is a detailed historical summary and comprehensive map for any village you specify in Slovakia at \$5 plus \$1 postage. Make check payable to Ray Plutko, 6862 Palmer Court, Chino, CA 91710-7343.)

Cleveland District Participates at the FEST SUNDAY, AUGUST 5

The Cleveland District will once again have a booth at the FEST, Sunday, August 5, 2012 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Center for Pastoral Leadership, 28700 Euclid Avenue, Wickliffe, OH 44092.

It is a day of fun for the whole family. The day will end with Mass at 8 p.m. on the main stage.

Volunteers needed to help at the FCSLA booth. Call Barb Sekerak at 216.676.9332 to sign up and for additional information.

Students Participate in Alternative Spring Break Program

Pictured (at right) are the students who participated in Elyria Catholic High School's Alternative Spring Break Program. The school is located in Elyria, OH and the program received a convention donation to support the students participation in a major disaster relief and evangelization effort during their Easter Break.

The Alternative Spring Break program was introduced at Elyria Catholic High School in 2011. That year a group of 53 students traveled to Pulaski, VA, to assist in disaster relief after the town was struck by an EF1 tornado.

This year a group of 56 students and four chaperones traveled to Henryville, IN, to assist in clean-up efforts after the town was struck by an EF4 tornado on March 2, 2012. Everyone agreed that the trip was a life changing experience.

The school is partnering with National Relief Network, a non-profit organiza-



tion that works with colleges and high schools across the country to provide this unique type of service outreach to students. At Elyria participation was open to all sophomores, juniors and seniors at the high school.

The program at the school received a convention donation from the FCSLA and all participating students wanted to say thank you to our organization for supporting their efforts to live the Gospel message in their everyday lives by

providing comfort and assistance to those in need.

President of Elyria Catholic High School, Andrew Krakowiak, commented in his thank you letter that the FCSLA's support of this project made real the charitable, educational and religious works espoused by the mission of our organization.

It is heartening to see that fraternalism is alive and well within our organization, especially among our youth.

USE THIS FORM FOR CHANGE OF ADDRESS AND MAGAZINE CANCELLATIONS

CHANGE THE ADDRESS ON ALL FCSLA POLICIES AND COMMUNICATIONS FOR:

INDIVIDUAL — NAME _____

ENTIRE FAMILY — LIST NAMES _____

Old Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

New Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____

Signature Required (Insured, Annuitant, Owner)

Date of Birth _____

(for ID purposes)

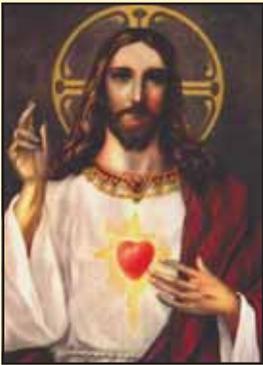
Today's Date

CANCEL MAGAZINE

MAIL OR FAX TO: First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, 24950 Chagrin Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122

FAX: (216) 464-9260

June the Month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus



Since the 16th century Catholic piety has assigned entire months to special devotions. The month of June is set apart for devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. "From among all the proofs of the infinite goodness of our Savior, none stands out more prominently than the fact that, as the love of the faithful grew cold, He, Divine Love Itself, gave Himself to us to

be honored by a very special devotion and that the rich treasury of the Church was thrown wide open in the interests of that devotion." These words of Pope Pius XI refer to the Sacred Heart Devotion, which in its present form dates from the revelations given to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque in 1673-75.

The devotion consists in the divine worship of the human heart of Christ, which is united to His divinity and which is a symbol of His love for us. The aim of the devotion is to make our Lord King over our hearts by prompting them to return love to Him (especially through an act of consecration by which we offer to the Heart of Jesus both ourselves and all that belongs to us) and to make reparation for our ingratitude to God.

ACT OF CONSECRATION TO THE SACRED HEART

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, to Thee I consecrate and offer up my person and my life, my actions, trials, and sufferings, that my entire being may henceforth only be employed in loving, honoring and glorifying Thee. This is my irrevocable will, to belong entirely to Thee, and to do all for Thy love, renouncing with my whole heart all that can displease Thee.

I take Thee, O Sacred Heart, for the sole object of my love, the protection of my life, the pledge of my salvation, the remedy of my frailty and inconstancy, the reparation for all the defects of my life, and my secure refuge at the hour of my death. Be Thou, O Most Merciful Heart, my justification before God Thy Father, and screen me from His anger which I have so justly merited. I fear all from my own weakness and malice, but placing my entire confidence in Thee, O Heart of Love, I hope all from Thine infinite Goodness. Annihilate in me all that can displease or resist Thee. Imprint Thy pure love so deeply in my heart that I may never forget Thee or be separated from Thee.

I beseech Thee, through Thine infinite Goodness, grant that my name be engraved upon Thy Heart, for in this I place all my happiness and all my glory, to live and to die as one of Thy devoted servants. Amen.

(St. Margaret Mary Alacoque)

REPORT OF THE FCSLA NATIONAL TREASURER

BALANCE SHEET AS OF MARCH 31, 2012

ASSETS	
Cash and Short Term Investments	\$ 20,252,753.92
Bonds	645,577,974.08
Preferred Stock	5,998,660.16
Common Stock	984,996.19
Investment Income Due and Accrued	10,204,379.83
Bond Liquidating Trust	64,377.46
Property Plant and Equipment, Net	6,487,926.48
Certificate Loans & Accrued Interest	1,990,874.60
Other Assets	190,207.82
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 691,752,150.54
LIABILITIES	
Life Reserves	\$ 220,078,351.08
Annuity Reserves	370,143,828.19
Death Claims Payable	705,730.88
Unearned Premiums	671,467.00
Matured Endowments	316,434.00
Provision for Dividends Payable	2,201,940.00
Accumulated Dividends and Interest	3,828,929.62
Accrued Convention Donations	92,500.00
Provision for Future Conventions	65,120.70
Asset Valuation Reserve	6,524,215.00
Interest Maintenance Reserve	1,285,394.00
Other Liabilities	1,381,862.11
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 607,295,772.58
SURPLUS	
Surplus	\$ 84,456,377.97
TOTAL SURPLUS	\$ 84,456,377.97
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS	\$ 691,752,150.54

INCOME STATEMENT

For the Three Months Ending March 31, 2012

REVENUE	
Insurance Premiums	\$ 10,205,275.21
Annuity Premiums	7,138,395.87
Investment Income	9,257,820.83
Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve	22,139.00
Rental Income	103,658.00
Other Revenue	4,738.53
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 26,732,027.44
EXPENSE	
Increase in Reserves — Life	\$ 10,835,351.00
Increase in Reserves — Annuity	6,454,828.69
Insurance Benefits	1,127,518.54
Annuity Benefits	4,741,040.14
Commission Expense	1,177,740.37
Surrender Benefits	594,729.98
Miscellaneous Member Benefits	14,781.25
Matured Endowments	1,090.36
Donation Expenses	68,239.82
Convention Expenses	39,000.00
Dividends to Members	538,972.20
Post Mortem Benefits	258,621.67
Bonus to Branches	225,000.00
Fraternal Activities	18,513.15
Bank Service Charges	3,787.08
Data Processing Service Fees	57,330.63
Accounting Fees	40,974.90
Actuarial Fees	63,048.00
Consulting Services	30,620.00
Official Publications	93,236.22
Scholarship Awards	0.00
Miscellaneous Employee Benefits	86,073.11
Fees — Directors	49,978.94
Salaries — Employees	341,784.66
Salaries — Officers	109,437.51
Interest Expense	55,877.33
Tax Expense	82,800.56
Depreciation Expense	73,809.00
Utility Expense	22,724.88
Postage and Printing	107,192.35
Advertising	31,028.26
Travel Expense	30,455.16
Insurance Department Fees	47,268.26
Sales Promotion	39,431.79
Rental Expense	103,408.00
Other Expense	148,764.02
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 27,714,457.83
OTHER EXPENSE	
ExtraOrdinary Gain or Loss	\$ (1,110,117.81)
TOTAL OTHER EXPENSE	\$ (1,110,117.81)
NET INCOME	\$ 127,687.43



BACK YARD GATHERINGS

OVEN FRIED CHICKEN THIGHS

- 8 chicken thighs
- 5 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 3 tablespoons grainy mustard or a spicy mustard
- 2 teaspoons honey
- ½ teaspoon minced garlic
- 1¼ cups bread crumbs
- ⅓ cup shredded Parmesan cheese
- ¾ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon pepper
- 2 teaspoons dried parsley flakes

Heat oven to 400 degrees. Line a large baking pan with parchment paper and lightly spray with nonstick cooking spray. Wash chicken thighs, remove skin and extra fat. Pat dry and sprinkle with salt and pepper.

Combine the mayonnaise with mustard, honey, and garlic in a shallow bowl. In another shallow bowl, combine the bread crumbs, paprika, ¾ teaspoon salt, ¼ teaspoon pepper, and parsley.

Rub the chicken thighs with the mayonnaise/mustard mixture, then press all sides in the bread crumb mixture to coat thoroughly. Place on prepared baking sheet. Bake for 45 minutes, or until juices run clear when chicken is pierced with a fork.

Turn oven down to 325 degrees and remove pan. Sprinkle with shredded Parmesan cheese, return to oven and continue to bake for another 10 minutes or until topping is golden brown.

TACO CHEESEBURGER-MACARONI

- 6 ounces macaroni
- 1 pound lean ground beef
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 medium red or green bell pepper (or combination), chopped
- 1 can (10 ¾ ounces) Cheddar cheese soup
- 4 ounces (1 cup) shredded Cheddar cheese
- ¾ cup milk
- 1 envelope (1 ounce) taco seasoning mix
- Salt and ground black pepper, to taste

Cook macaroni in boiling salted water following package directions. Set aside.

In a large skillet brown the ground beef in olive oil with onion and peppers until ground beef is no longer pink. Add the cheese soup, shredded cheese, milk, and taco seasoning mix. Taste and add salt and pepper, as needed. Stir in the hot drained pasta.

TOSSED SALAD PIZZA

- 2 Italian bread shells (such as Boboli brand)
- ½ cup shredded reduced-fat mozzarella cheese (2 ounces)
- 4 cups packaged mixed salad greens
- 2 plum tomatoes, chopped
- 1 red onion, thinly sliced
- 4 pitted kalamata olives, halved
- 3 tablespoons bottled reduced-calorie Caesar salad dressing
- 1 tablespoon crumbled reduced-fat feta cheese

Preheat oven to 450 degree. Sprinkle each bread shell with half of the mozzarella cheese. Place bread shells directly on middle oven rack. Bake for 5 minutes.

Meanwhile, in a large bowl, combine salad greens, tomato, onion, and olives. Drizzle salad dressing over greens mixture; toss to coat.

Top bread shells with lettuce mixture. Sprinkle with feta cheese. Cut into wedges.

PEAR COBLER

- 2 to 2½ cups sliced fresh pears
- 2 cups sugar, divided
- 4 ounces butter
- ¾ cup flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¾ cup milk
- 1 egg

Mix pears with 1 cup sugar and let stand. Put butter in 2-quart casserole and place in 325 degrees oven until melted. Combine all dry ingredients, including the remaining 1 cup of sugar. Mix well. Whisk together the milk and egg; slowly combine with dry ingredients to make a batter. Pour over melted butter. Do not stir. Spoon pears over the batter. Do not stir. Bake at 325 degrees for 50 to 60 minutes, or until nicely browned and pears are tender.

Serve hot or cold with ice cream or whipped cream.

HUMMINGBIRD CAKE WITH CREAM CHEESE FROSTING

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 cups granulated sugar
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 3 eggs, beaten
- 1¼ cups vegetable oil

- 1½ teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1 can (8 oz.) crushed pineapple, drained
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 2 cups chopped firm ripe banana
- Cream Cheese Frosting:**
- 16 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup butter, room temperature
- 2 pounds confectioners' sugar
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- ½ to 1 cup chopped pecans

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Sift flour, sugar, salt, baking soda and cinnamon together into mixing bowl several times. Add eggs and salad oil to the dry ingredients. Stir with a wooden spoon until ingredients are moistened. Stir in vanilla, pineapple and 1 cup pecans. Stir in the bananas. Spoon the batter into 3 well-greased and floured 9-inch round cake pans. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes, or until a wooden pick or cake tester inserted in center comes out clean. Cool in pan for 10 minutes, then turn onto cooling rack. Cool completely before frosting.

Cream Cheese Frosting:

Combine cream cheese and butter; cream until smooth. Add powdered sugar, beating with an electric mixer until light and fluffy. Stir in vanilla.

Frost the tops of all 3 layers, stack and then frost sides. Sprinkle top evenly with the ½ to 1 cup chopped pecans.

GRILLED AVOCADOS

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 tablespoon lime juice
- 2 large ripe avocados, halved, seeded, and peeled (about 1 lb. total)
- ⅓ teaspoon salt
- ¼ cup bottled picante sauce
- 1 ounce Monterey Jack, shredded or crumbled (¼ cup)
- Snipped fresh cilantro
- Salad greens (optional)
- Bottled picante sauce (optional)
- Dairy sour cream (optional)

Stir together olive oil and lime juice. Brush avocados all over with olive oil mixture. Sprinkle cut sides of avocados with salt.

For a charcoal grill, grill avocado halves, cut side down, on the rack of an uncovered grill directly over medium coals for 5 minutes or until browned. Turn avocado halves, cut side up. Fill centers of avocado halves with the ¼ cup picante sauce and shredded cheese. Cover grill and grill about 5 minutes more or until cheese begins to melt. (For a gas grill, preheat grill. Reduce heat to medium. Place avocado halves on grill rack over heat. Cover and grill as above.)

Remove avocados from grill. Sprinkle tops of avocado halves with snipped cilantro. If desired, serve on a bed of salad greens with additional picante sauce and sour cream.

The FCSLA Mission Statement

Established in 1892, the FCSLA provides financial security to its members nationwide through its premier life insurance and annuity products. Sales of these products allow FCSLA to serve both its members and the community with fraternal and charitable opportunities that promote Catholic and Slavic traditions.

The FCSLA Vision is to:

- *Promote the temporal and spiritual welfare of the members through fraternal and charitable activities in our communities*
- *Promote our Slovak Catholic values and traditions and all Slavic cultures*
- *Be a premier Fraternal Benefit Society that offers quality financial products and benefits*