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# Fraternally Yours®

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK LADIES ASSOCIATION

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*God Bless America!*



ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA

## Fraternally Yours, ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA®



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## The LITTLE Things

*You may or may not know but ....*

- ◆ The head of a major company survived the tragedy of "9/11" in New York because his son started kindergarten.
- ◆ Another fellow was alive because it was his turn to bring donuts.
- ◆ One woman was late because her alarm clock didn't go off in time.
- ◆ One was late because of being stuck on the NJ Turnpike because of an auto accident.
- ◆ One of them missed his bus.
- ◆ One spilled food on her clothes and had to take time to change.
- ◆ One's car wouldn't start.
- ◆ One went back to answer the telephone.
- ◆ One had a child that dawdled and didn't get ready as soon as he should have, so they left late that day.
- ◆ One couldn't get a taxi.
- ◆ The one that struck me was the man who put on a new pair of shoes that morning, took the various means to get to work but before he got there, he developed a blister on his foot. He stopped at a drugstore to buy a Band-Aid. That is why he is alive today.

*Now when I am stuck in traffic...miss an elevator... turn back to answer a ringing telephone...all the little things that usually annoy me... I think to myself... this is exactly where God wants me to be at this very moment – breathe and just relax,*

Dear Friends,

The next time your morning seems to be going wrong, the children are slow getting dressed, you can't seem to find the car keys, you hit every red traffic light...don't get mad or frustrated; God is at work watching over you.

May God continue to bless you with all those annoying little things - and may you remember and appreciate their possible purpose.

Until Next Month,  
Warmly, Carolyn

## Freedom's Price

Today we celebrate freedom  
thanks to those who came before.

Those brave men who fought and died  
in each and every war.

Freedom always comes at a price,  
And while we celebrate

We should tip our hats to the heroes  
who made our country great.

# EXTRAORDINARY YEAR OF MERCY: ~ AIDS FOR PROMOTING THE YEAR OF MERCY ~

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

(Continued from June Issue)

My dear Sisters and Brothers,

The Hebrew and Christian Scriptures magnificently illustrate God's mercy upon His people throughout the history of salvation. This history is *our* awareness of God's mercy as He bestows it upon all His creatures. I thought that I would give some examples of God's mercy from the Sacred Scriptures as they have touched me in various times of my life. I will quote several verses of a particular passage but I encourage you to pick up your Bible and read the entire passage within the context of who the inspired human author was, what context the author scribed the words, and what meaning the author may present to you within your living Faith today.

From *Psalms 51* we read King David's plea to Yahweh for mercy for the sin of adultery with Bathsheba, "Have mercy on me, God, in your goodness; in your abundant compassion blot out all my offense. Wash away all my guilt; from my sin cleanse me. For I know my offense; my sin is always before me. Against you alone have I sinned; I have done such evil in your sight that you are just in your sentence, blameless when you condemn. True, I was born guilty, a sinner, even as my mother conceived me. Still, you insist on sincerity of heart; in my inmost being teach me wisdom. Cleanse me with hyssop, that I may be pure; wash me, make me whiter than snow. Let me hear the sounds of joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice" (3-10). As I journey through life and am getting older in my years, there have been times that I have done something wrong, seriously hurting another and myself and only wish that I could erase that event from history. My sorrow is great, we have

attempted reconciliation and forgiveness, and mercy mutually given. God's mercy is eternal in salvation history.

David petitions Yahweh for deliverance as he fled from King Saul, "Have mercy on me, God, have mercy on me. In you I seek shelter. In the shadow of your wings I seek shelter till harm pass by. I call to God Most High, to God who provides for me. May God send help from heaven to save me, shame those who trample upon me. May God send fidelity and love. I must lie down in the midst of lions hungry for human prey. Their teeth are spears and arrows; their tongue, a sharpened sword. Show yourself over the heavens, God; may your glory appear over all the earth" (*Psalms 57:2-6*). Have you ever been accused of doing something wrong unjustly? You sought forgiveness but it was ignored. People may have talked about you shamelessly. You were embarrassed but slowly you began to know that God's mercy always is freely bestowed.

The longest Psalm, 119, expands on how Yahweh's people should live according to the Law. In verses 81-88 the sacred writer acknowledges that at various times in their history people are unjustly persecuted. The Psalmist states, "My soul languishes for your salvation; I hope in your word. My eyes fail with watching for your promise; I ask, "When will you comfort me?" For I have become like a wineskin in the smoke, yet I have not forgotten your statutes. How long must your servant endure? When will you judge those who persecute me? Godless men have dug pitfalls for me, men who do not conform to your law. All your commandments are sure; they persecute me with falsehood; help me! They have almost made an end of me on earth; but

I have not forsaken your precepts. In your mercy spare my life, that I may keep the testimonies of your mouth." Do you ever walk around through life, thinking there is a target on your back? Hopefully, it is rare, but there may be times when you may feel persecuted, wrongly interpreted, and taken sport of. Try to remember that when you may have the bow and arrow pointed to the back of someone that you may want to take sport of. You may show your mercy by getting rid of the arrows and bestow God's mercy (and yours) and give love a chance to grow!

*Psalms 136* once again exhibits Yahweh's ongoing mercy throughout the history of creation. This can be observed in the opening lines of the Psalm, "O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever. O give thanks to the God of gods, for his mercy endures forever. O give thanks to the Lord of lords, for his mercy endures forever; to him who alone does great wonders, for his mercy endures forever; to him who by understanding made the heavens, for his mercy endures forever; to him who spread out the earth upon the waters, for his mercy endures forever; to him who made the great lights, for his mercy endures forever; the sun to rule over the day, for his mercy endures forever; the moon and stars to rule over the night, for his mercy endures forever" (1-9). There are so many ways to give mercy! This is why the Holy Father gives us this Year of Mercy. In this Extraordinary Holy Year of Mercy, give praise to our God that God's mercy has, is and will always be given. May all of us be disciples of mercy with all of our sisters and brothers for our mercy should be like God's – forever!

(To be continued in the August issue)



Find us on  
**Facebook**

**FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK  
LADIES ASSOCIATION**

# Message from our National President

## CYNTHIA M. MALESKI



Dear Fellow Members,

As this July issue of our magazine goes to print, we are in the midst of preparing requests for delegate information for a special convention to approve two small mergers. Our new bylaws allow for such a convention by mail.

In light of our good financial profile and the great benefits we provide to our members, you are probably asking why we have gone down this path.

The answer is clear: because we would like to not only survive, but to GROW and THRIVE for many years to come! When presented with two possible opportunities in June 2015, members of our board of directors chose and have voted at every key decision making point to move forward with these opportunities.

We are proud to announce our two merger partners (subject to final due diligence):

- ❖ The Polish Union of The United States of North America, based in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, with over 6,500 members and assets of over \$7.6 million and
- ❖ The Polish Women's Alliance of America, based in Chicago, Illinois, another society founded by women with over 29,000 members and assets of over \$52 million.

The unique advantages of these two opportunities include:

- ❖ Both societies share a common bond with us, being SLAVIC and CATHOLIC, providing financial security to members and having a strong fraternal presence;
- ❖ Growth through mergers is a cost effective way to expand and grow our market and our membership, as compared to individual organic sales.
- ❖ We will grow in both members and opportunities to build our membership in a different market;
- ❖ We have the opportunity to strengthen our insurance block of business, enabling our association to benefit from larger economies of scale.

Most exciting of all is the opportunity to share and enrich the longstanding, strong bond and heritage that all of us share as immigrants, coming to America from far away lands in Europe, toiled in the coal mines, steel mills, farms and factories in our common struggle to provide a better life for our children and grandchildren, while making timeless contributions to the enduring fabric of American life.

We look forward to our common efforts together to improve the lives of our families and those who will follow us.

Have a great Fourth of July as we celebrate our freedom to worship and come together for a common purpose. On St. Ann's Day, please ask St. Ann to intercede for us, so that our efforts, extending over the course of over a year, come to fruition soon.

Fraternally,  
**Cynthia M. Maleski**  
National President

## FCSLA Annuity Rates

*Rates for our Elite Annuities:*

**SILVER ELITE (5 YEAR)**

**3.00% APY\***

**GOLD ELITE (7 YEAR)**

**3.25% APY\***

**PLATINUM ELITE (10 YEAR)**

**3.50% APY\***

\*This rate is in effect 7/1/2016 thru 9/30/2016.

The credited rate is reviewed quarterly by the Board of Directors and will never go below the minimum guaranteed rate. The guaranteed minimum rate for Elite Silver and Gold contracts issued in 2016 is 2% APY and for the Platinum Elite is 2.5% APY.

## **FCSLA Accepting Applications For National Treasurer Position**

As mandated by the changes to the bylaws (approved at October 2014 Special Convention), The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association is accepting applications from qualified individuals for the position of National Treasurer.

**The National Treasurer** monitors the financial conditions of the Association, oversees the Association's finances and investments on a full time basis and reports to the National President. All candidates must have either a CPA or MBA in finance or related fields from an accredited college or university and shall have ten years or more experience in the fields of business, finance or related fields.

Parties interested in this full-time position at the Association's headquarters, meeting the above qualifications, should submit a detailed resumé and cover letter to National President Cynthia Maleski, Esq., FCSLA National Headquarters, 24950 Chagrin Boulevard, Beachwood, OH 44122 no later than August 20, 2016.

## **FCSLA Accepting Applications For National Secretary Position**

As mandated by the changes to the bylaws (approved at October 2014 Special Convention), The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association is accepting applications from qualified individuals for the position of National Secretary.

The **NATIONAL SECRETARY** directs the operating activities of the Association on a full time basis and reports to the National President. The minimum qualifications for such position include a Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university, and ten years experience, demonstrating communication, organization and managerial skills. Insurance and/or fraternal benefit society experience a plus.

Parties interested in this full-time position at the Association's headquarters, meeting the above qualifications, should submit a detailed resumé and cover letter to National President Cynthia Maleski, Esq., FCSLA National Headquarters, 24950 Chagrin Boulevard, Beachwood, OH 44122.



I cannot believe it is July already! OK, as I write this it's not July yet. It's the end of May. But just that I need to write my July article is unbelievable! I hope you are having a fun and safe summer! My plan for this summer is to try and spend as much time as I can with my two cats because they are 13 and 16 years of age (I had three, but I had to put Kahlua to sleep this past January) — I don't know how much time I have left with them, work less in my yard and do more fun things. There are some items on my bucket list that I am going to try and do this summer and cross them off the list.



I love that my job has such a variety from day to day. You don't realize how much you actually do in a day/week at work or how long it takes to complete a certain task until you are asked to break it all down. Which, I was. WOW!! That was hard to do. I just do it (the tasks)! I don't think about the steps, most of it is all automatic — it's in my head (that's something to really think about too... how much information your brain can retain.)

So doing this evaluation of sorts made me think about my FCSLA branch. How can I make my branch more inviting to my members so they will participate more? Can I/we try something new this year? Yes, I believe I/we can. My branch president and I are brainstorming. Sometimes it just takes a little research (we did) and maybe even trying it (we are) before you plan your event there.

We need to keep challenging ourselves...FCSLA branch officers, members and in everyday life. Don't be afraid to try something new and different with branch activities. If it doesn't seem to work or you don't like it — there is always next year . . . start brainstorming now. Sometimes doing the same activity every year and every year gets old and boring.

Life is too short... Try something new! Have fun! Make new friends! And ENJOY!

**~ BRANCH 81 MEMBERS ~**  
**SEMI-ANNUAL COMPLIMENTARY DINNER**  
**FOR ALL MEMBERS**  
**Sunday, July 10, 2016**

Carmilite Banquet Hall, 1628 Ridge Road, Munster, IN at 1:30 P.M.  
**Reservations Required Before July 3, 2016**  
Geraldine: 310-8428 or Margaret: 659-2109



Albert Heiles

Life insurance is often the last thing we think about when a new baby is coming. News and celebration of the pending birth takes the attention to everything important in preparation for the Blessed Event.

Planning the new baby's room, setting up the crib, picking the right color of the room based on the sex of the baby, getting the diapers and baby clothes, etc.

The date of the baptism is determined and Godparents are selected. All of these preparations are important and necessary for the baby's birth and entry into the family.

First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association offers a NEWBORN INFANT FRATERNAL BENEFIT that is truly a benefit in the case of an unforeseen circumstance occurring.

### INFANT FRATERNAL BENEFIT PROGRAM

The death of an infant is a tragic loss which brings grief and the financial burden of the final expenses. The presence of a birth defect is just as heartbreaking.

FCSLA offers the NEWBORN INFANT FRATERNAL BENEFIT to members who have a newborn who is a natural or lawful child of a qualified member. A qualified member is one whose individual insurance program includes at least \$2,000 FCSLA permanent life insurance or \$10,000 FCSLA term insurance. The parent(s) must be so insured at least 60 days prior to the birth of the infant.

### What does the NEWBORN INFANT FRATERNAL BENEFIT mean to your future children?

FCSLA members who are eligible for this fraternal benefit receive special protection for their newborn in two ways:

#### 1. *Death Benefit for Newborn Children*

This is automatic coverage at NO cost beginning on the 8th day and ending on the 60th day of life.

The sum of \$2,500 if one parent qualifies and the sum of \$5,000 if both parents qualify.

In the event of a loss between the 8th and 60th day, qualified members should call the home office.

#### 2. *Guaranteed Insurability Benefit for Newborn Children*

## Scholarship Winners Luncheon and Meeting Scheduled

St. Ann's Lodge Sr. Branch 114 will hold its annual luncheon and meeting to honor this year's scholarship winners on Sunday, July 17. It will start at 1:00 p.m. at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway, Lorain, OH. Please make your reservations no later than Tuesday, July 12 by calling Bernie Danevich at 440-960-2605 or Marge Thomas at 440-288-1492.

All members are invited to attend.

Regardless of health, the FCSLA will guarantee the coverage listed below:

Up to \$5,000 permanent life insurance or \$10,000 Super Youth Plan if one parent qualifies.

Up to \$10,000 permanent life insurance or \$20,000 Super Youth Plan if both parents qualify.

An application for insurance on the life of an infant must be submitted and the initial premium paid to the FCSLA BEFORE the infant's 60th day of life.

If you have additional questions or interest in considering this NEWBORN INFANT FRATERNAL BENEFIT or many of the other excellent insurance and annuity plans available through FCSLA, please feel free to contact a representative of FCSLA or contact the home office.

In order to service you more completely, please feel free to contact the following Eastern Regional Managers. They can direct you to a representative in your area to serve all your life insurance and annuity needs.

#### EASTERN REGIONAL MANAGER:

John Gonsiorek (716) 480-4550

#### MIDWEST REGIONAL MANAGER:

Jim Morsovillo (630) 204-0599

#### ROCKY MOUNTIAN REGIONAL MANAGER:

Amy Hull (402) 310-5688

#### NATIONAL SALES MANAGER:

Al Heiles (412) 401-3434

## FALL LANGUAGE CLASSES

The Slovak language classes this fall will be for intermediate and advanced students only. The classes will be held as follows:

Every Thursday, September 6-October 25 from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Brashear Association, 2005 Sarah Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15203 / (412) 431-2236. The instructor is Bozena Hilko. To reserve your place please contact Joe Senko at [jtsenko@aol.com](mailto:jtsenko@aol.com) or (412) 956-6000.

## ATTENTION DISTRICT MEMBERS OF INDIANA AND ILLINOIS SAVE THE DATE

— July 26, 2016 —

### Tri-District Luncheon

*Hosted by Wisconsin*

Mass at St. John's Cathedral  
Celebrant: Msgr. Peter M. Polando

~ DETAILS TO FOLLOW. ~

# Annual Spring Social Held in Gary, Indiana

The Sr. Branch 289, Gary, IN recently hosted their annual Spring Social for their members. The event was held at Our Lady of Consolation Church Hall in Merrillville, IN on April 17.

It was a great afternoon consisting of a delicious buffet lunch, fellowship and games! Current and past National Officers were also in attendance. It is great to be Slovak!



In support of Join Hands Day, Branch W077 sponsored a BINGO activity at the West Rest Haven. About 60 residents from the facility joined branch members for BINGO, kolaches, and coffee. All residents that participated won prizes. Pictured calling BINGO is Branch Vice President Johnny Cernosek.



## Calendar of Events for Branch W093, Tabor, SD

**July 10** – Monthly meeting after Mass.

**August 7** – Annual Picnic in Tabor Park – 5:00 p.m. Potluck – W093 will supply the refreshments and hot dogs. In the event of inclement weather, picnic will be moved to Beseda Hall.

**September 11** – Monthly meeting after Mass.

**October 23** – Annual Halloween Party – 5:00 p.m. Potluck – Prizes for Best Costume-all ages, meeting and games too, in Beseda Hall.

**November 13** – District 13 South Dakota State Meeting – Host W060, Tyndall at Noon. Request that ALL South Dakota members attend. RSVP for meal count to District Officer.

**December 4** – St. Nick/Christmas Party – Noon Potluck – Cookie Exchange, meeting, honor 50 year members and Fraternalist of the Year, honor scholarship winners, games and refreshments in Beseda Hall. Branch members and their families and ALL parishioners are invited to attend. Attendees are asked to bring a covered dish to share. The branch will supply coffee and juice.

Monthly meetings and locations are subject to change. Direct any questions about the calendar of events to Joyce Sestak at 605-463-2268.



# MATCHING FUNDS ACTIVITIES

## Sr. Branch 452

### Annual Halupky and Sausage Dinner

Having just returned from the quadrennial convention of the FCSLA on October 18, 2015, Sr. Branch 452 in Whiting, IN partnered with the Knights of Columbus in sponsoring the annual Halupky and Sausage Dinner. The Immaculate



Conception Grotto in Whiting continues to undergo renovations to bring it back to its original beauty and modernize electrical lines and other needs.

The attendees of the fundraiser were able to see first-hand what has taken place thus far with an enlightening display by the artist who has been fixing the statues. The Blessed Mother and Saint Bernadette are presently completed and back in their designated area and both are just beautiful.



This event generated over \$3,000 and brought together 17 members to volunteer (along with 41 Knights and friends of the community). This year twelve National Honor Society members from Whiting High School, and Clark High School, along with one from Lake Central High School helped with the 550 attendees. Thanks to the Home Office Matching funds program for assisting to raise an additional \$600 for this project.



## Jr. Branch 362

### Night at the Races and Basket Raffle

Branch J362, Wilkes-Barre, PA held a successful matching funds activity on April 6, 2016 for Wilkes-Barre Academy's Night at the Races and Basket Raffle. The Basket Raffle raised \$648 plus the \$600 match from the Home Office for a total of \$1,248. The funds will be used for student field trips, the Science Olympiad and playground equipment.



L-R: Martha Iskra, President J362; Katie Parsons, PTO President; Francis Ceklosky, S172; Theresa Ceklosky, Secretary J362; Frank Ceklosky, S172; Magdalen Iskra, President S172; Barbara Ceklosky, Treasurer J362; Kevin Ceklosky, S172.



## Branch W033

### Breakfast and Raffle

Branch W033, Spillville, IA held a Matching Funds Breakfast and Raffle on Sunday, March 6, 2016. Approximately 168 people were served a delicious breakfast and many were winners of very nice raffle items. All Branch officers would like to say a very special thank you to the junior and senior members who worked so hard to ensure the success of this annual event.



Branch President Dan Silhacek presents a \$1,000 check from W033 and a \$600 check for the matching funds from the Home Office to Parish Council President Larry Spalla to purchase new chairs for St. Wenceslaus School in Spillville, IA.

# MATCHING FUNDS ACTIVITIES

## Jr. Branch 58

### Race for Education

The Whiting Junior Branch 58 participated in St. John School Race for Education on May 13, 2016. Members and students received pledges from family, friends and businesses. The entire school "raced" around the school playground and local football field. FCSLA officers of branches 58 and

81, along with members volunteered to pass out water to the students. The top fundraiser was our junior branch member, Reagan Klapak. He received nearly \$1,000 in pledges. Due to our involvement in this worthy cause, St John School will receive another \$600 in matching funds from the home office.



## BETTY SKVAREK CELEBRATES 85TH BIRTHDAY

*The NSS Heritage Museum Presents*  
**"Septemberfest"**

**Saturday, September 24, 2016**  
11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

**NATIONAL SLOVAK SOCIETY  
HERITAGE MUSEUM**

351 Valley Brook Road, McMurray, PA 15317

Slovak cooking and craft demonstrations. Slovak dance performances. Slovak food, vendors and more!  
Featuring the largest animated wood carving in the U.S. Please call (412) 421-1204 for more information.



On June 16, 2015, Betty Skvarek, Auditor of Sr. Branch 452 of Whiting, IN was surprised by her family with an 85th Birthday Party at Teibel's Restaurant in Schererville, IN. Betty is shown at left with her two grandchildren: Michael and Kristina Skvarek, both are members of Sr.

Branch 452. Michael is a sophomore at Purdue University and Kristina is a senior at Lake Central High School.

## Sr. Branch 23 and Jr. 130 Brewers Game



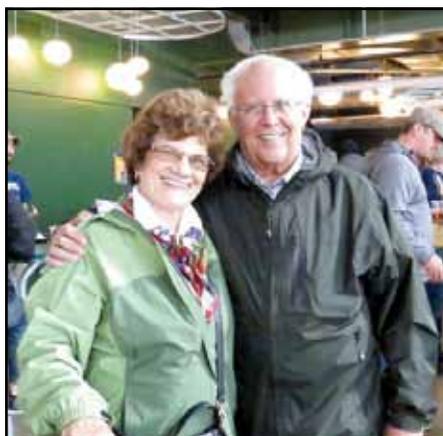
Andrew Esterle seems overwhelmed by the whole event, but his aunt, Stephanie Duelge, definitely enjoyed it.



Michael Muffler, and his guest Lexie, take a moment from the April 29 Milwaukee Brewers vs. Marlins Game to smile for the Branch 23 camera.



Was the baseball game the real attraction or was it climbing the rock wall on the Dew Deck?



Kathy and Bob Mueller thought the buffet dinner served on the Dew Deck was fantastic!

## Slovak Heritage Programs

The monthly Slovak Heritage Programs will continue throughout the year on the first Monday of each month from 7-9 p.m. It is free for both members and non-members. The programs are held at Mt. Lebanon Library located at 16 Castle Shannon Blvd., Mt. Lebanon, PA.

### October 3, 2016 — DISCOVERING YOUR SLOVAK ROOTS

Lisa A. Alzo, a specialist in Eastern European genealogy, will show you how to discover your Slovak roots. She will discuss the best resources to consult and how to overcome the most common pitfalls and obstacles associated with tracing ancestors back to Central and Eastern Europe.

### November 7, 2016 — SHOW-N-TELL

Because of the popularity of last year's Show-N-Tell, we are again asking you to bring your memorabilia from Slovakia — photos, books, souvenirs, etc. This is an opportunity for everyone to participate.

### December 5, 2016 — SLOVAK CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS

Joe Bielecki, a frequent presenter at our programs, will explain and display various Slovak holiday customs.

## Branch W137 Swim Party

Branch W137, Cedar Rapids, IA held a swim party for all members on Sunday, April 17, 2016 at Bender pool. Members enjoyed the water slide, widgees, and water basketball. Dinner was also served.



Have you checked out the FCSLA website lately?  
www.fcsla.org

## Branch W130 Corpus Christi Mass and Procession at St. Wenceslaus Cemetery

The annual Corpus Christi Mass and Procession at St. Wenceslaus Cemetery, rural Clutier, IA, Branch W130 had a fundraiser to raise money to replace the evergreen trees, destroyed in the 2011 Derecho storm. Families could pick an envelope of a gravestone and make a donation as a memorial. A 50/50 raffle was also held. Mugs with an etching of St. Wenceslaus Church are also for sale for \$20. Donations are still needed to help meet our goal. For information on making a donation, please contact Shirley Kubik at [fskubik@fctc.coop](mailto:fskubik@fctc.coop) or Bev Colvin at [colvin@fctc.coop](mailto:colvin@fctc.coop).



## 50th Wedding Anniversary



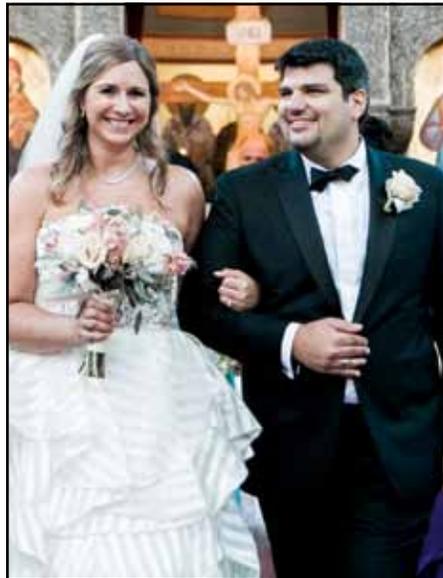
On May 14, 1966, Mary Saroka and John Garwood exchanged wedding vows at St. Michael the Archangel Roman Catholic Church in Levittown, PA. They celebrated their 50th anniversary this year. Mary and John are the parents of two children, Steven and Kathleen. Mary is a lifetime member of Branch S196 in Shenandoah, PA. The couple resides in Willingboro, NJ.

## Alexandra Smith and Konstantinos Sakellis Wedding

On August 22, 2015, Alexandra Leigh Smith wed Konstantinos Sakellis at the Greek Orthodox Church of Our Saviour in Rye, NY, with dispensation granted by the Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco.

Alexandra is Executive Director for Marketing and Sales at CMR in San Francisco, graduated with a BA from the University of Southern California in Los Angeles and received her MBA from Pepperdine University. Konstantinos received his BS in Mathematics from the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada, and is presently an Engineering Manager for Cloudera in San Francisco.

Alexandra is the daughter of Eleanor Smith (S322) and the late Larry Smith of Greenwich, Connecticut. Konstantinos is the son of Manos and Anastasia Sakellis of London, Ontario, Canada. Alexandra is a member of Branch 322 as are her brother, Stephen Smith, and his daughter, Sophie Smith. At the wedding reception, held at the Marros Estate, Alexandra wore her Great-Grandmother's cepiec while dancing with guests to Trencianske Hodiny.



## July 17, 2016 Merrillville, Indiana

Come and celebrate the 43rd Annual Slovak Day Celebration on Sunday, July 17, 2016, starting with a Catholic mass at Our Lady of Czestochowa Shrine, Merrillville, IN at 10:30 a.m. Mass will be followed by ethnic food, drink, a cash raffle and dancing.

This year we are excited to welcome back "The Veselica Folk Ensemble" back to showcase some of the traditional Slovak dances! Cash raffle tickets are available.

Our Lady of Czestochowa Shrine is located at 5755 Pennsylvania St. (Broadway) Merrillville. For more information visit [www.facebook.com/SlovakDayCelebration](http://www.facebook.com/SlovakDayCelebration) contact Betty Yurechko at 219-795-1518.

## WPSCA 2016 Scholarship Winner

Megan McKillop from Indiana University of Pennsylvania is this year's WPSCA scholarship winner. Megan, a physics major, hails from Sprinkle Mills, PA. The \$2,500 scholarship is funded by the Stephanie Husck scholarship fund.



# IN MEMORIAM

## ROBERT J. PENNISTON, S376



Robert J. Penniston, age 90, of Monroe, WI, died at his home on January 30, 2016 surrounded by his family. Robert was born January 4, 1926 in Argyle, WI, the son of Fred and Emma (Herbig) Penniston. He graduated from Argyle High School in 1944. Robert was drafted into the U.S. Navy in 1944 and served on a Landing Ship Tank (LST) in the Philippines. He earned the Philippine Liberation Medal and the Asiatic – Pacific Campaign Medal with one star before his honorable discharge in 1946. He married Betty Montgomery on September 16, 1950 in South Wayne. He was employed in construction all of his adult life eventually owning his own business, “Robert J. Penniston Building and Remodeling”, before retiring in 1996. He was a member of the Monroe United Methodist Church, lifetime member of the Argyle V.F.W. and American Legion, and a past member of the Knight of Pythias. Bob was proud of his beautiful family and enjoyed fishing and hunting. He is lovingly survived by his wife of 65 years, Betty Lou Penniston; two children, John (Gwen) Penniston, Carol (Guy) Calkins, two grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. He is further survived by an unborn grandson, Jaxson Robert; a sister-in-law, Ruth Penniston of Freeport; a brother-in-law, Gene (Joan) Montgomery of South Wayne; and many nieces and nephews.

## ELEANOR B. MEDVEC (PUHALLA) S30



Eleanor B. Medvec, died February 1, 2016. She was born October 29, 1931, to Michael J. and Julia Puhalla. A member of Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Youngstown, she graduated from Fitch High School in 1950. She married her husband of 63 years, John A. Medvec on October 18, 1952, and dedicated her life to her family, teaching, caring for, and always encouraging her children in their endeavors. She spent many years caring for her aging mother, and assisting with her grandchildren. Eleanor and her husband are charter members of the St. Christine Parish. She was a member of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association (Branch S030), St. Christine Altar and Rosary Society, Infant Jesus of Prague Guild, and was a parish festival volunteer. In years past, Eleanor worked at Century Food Market, and was a poll worker. She is survived by her husband; three sons, Daniel of Boardman, John (Suzy) of Canfield, and Frank; one daughter, Linda (William) Kuebler of Berlin Center; seven grandchildren; three great-granddaughters, and two sisters-in-law, Margaret Puhalla and Jean Puhalla. In lieu of flowers, Eleanor’s family requests donations be made in her name to Hospice of the Valley, 5190 Market St., Youngstown, OH 44512, (330) 788-1992; the donor’s preference; or Mass intentions may be made in her name.

## ROBERT JOSEPH KARMIL, S81

Robert Joseph Karmil born December 3, 1931, in East Chicago, IN, died February 20, 2016, Everett, WA. Proud of his Polish heritage, and devout to his Catholic faith, Bob lead a full life. He married his sweetheart Eleanor (“Elly”) on February 16, 1952 and just prior to his passing honored what would have been their 64th anniversary with a trip with his son Michael to the ocean. He brought his family to Seattle in 1965, and although they settled here for 50

years, Indiana was always home to him and Elly, and they enjoyed many trips back via his favorite mode of transportation, Amtrak. He was a devout Catholic who had a strong faith in God and Heaven, a man with a heart of gold and a never ending mirthful wit. To Bob, every day was his birthday! Most importantly, he believed in family and to him, family always came first. Preceded in death by his beloved Elly, and his son-in-law Tim, he is survived by his sons Larry (Kim), Rob (Arlene) and Michael, his six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

## JANET M. KOPSIC, S169



Janet M. Kopsic, 60, passed away peacefully February 7, 2016, at Select Specialty Hospital in Youngstown, OH. Janet was born January 24, 1956, in Youngstown, a daughter of the late John J. Jr. and Mary F. Mihalik Kopsic, and was a lifelong area resident. Janet was a 1974 graduate of Chaney High School and worked as a receptionist in the Oncology Department at St. Elizabeth Health Center in Youngstown for 20 years. She was a member of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Holy Name of Jesus Church in Youngstown. Janet leaves her brother, John J. Kopsic III of Austintown; her sister, Nancy A. (David) Carbon of Westlake; her nephew, Michael J. Carbon; and many extended family members.

## BOYD FRANCIS “DUTCH” KEENAN, S156



Boyd Francis “Dutch” Keenan, 92, passed away February 8, 2016, at home, after complications due to cancer. “Dutch” was born November 26, 1923, in Susquehanna, PA, the second son of the late Gordon Keenan and Ida Arthur Keenan. Upon graduation from high school he entered the military in 1941, joining the U.S. Navy and serving in the South Pacific on Guadalcanal. He received an honorable discharge in 1945 as an aviation metal smith second class. Although he was the former operator of Superior Cleaners in Hubbard, he worked the greater part of his life as a truck driver for companies affiliated with local BP stations. In addition, he was always very involved in local activities and politics. Besides being a former officer of Teamsters Local 377, he also served on the Hubbard Board of Education and was a precinct committeeman for many years. He was also very involved in the local VFW. He and his wife, Anne, traveled extensively, taking many local people to all parts of the world and introduced many to the joy of travel. Dutch leaves his wife of 70 years, Anne (Sovik); as well as his three sons, John Gary (Nadya) of Youngstown, Gordon, and Richard (Diana), both of Hubbard; six grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

## HELEN M. DELEY, S325

Helen M. Deley, 87, passed away February 23, surrounded by her loving family. Helen was born June 10, 1928, in Youngstown, OH, the daughter of Sam and Helen (Ozella) Neri. Helen worked at Valu King, A&P, and then as head cashier at Giant Eagle. She was a member of Our Lady of Sorrows (St. Matthias Church) and Infant Jesus of Prague. Her husband Peter A. Deley, Jr., whom she married on July 19, 1951, passed away on July 17, 2004. Helen will always be lovingly remembered by her two sons, Peter A. III (Karen)

Deley of Youngstown, and Ronald (Patrice) Deley of Boardman; eight grandchildren, four great-grandchildren; and sister, Angela (Judge Joseph) Donofrio. In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully requests that contributions be made to the family to be distributed amongst Helen's favorite charities.

### **MARGARET L. DVORACEK, W093**



Margaret (Kortan) Dvoracek was born August 21, 1926 at Tabor, SD to John and Rosie (Killian) Kortan. She worked at a variety of places in the Yankton and Tabor area. She retired from the Freeman Company in 1991. Margaret will always be remembered for her love of family and friends including cooking, baking kolaches, embroidering, and gardening. She was a member of the Czech heritage preservation society, Catholic Workman, and Altar and Rosary Society. Margaret is survived by two children, daughter Ruth (Alvin) Sternhagen and son Roger (Sandy) Dvoracek, all of Tabor, SD; four grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren and a sister LaVern Sykora.

### **MARY ECK (HOMONEK), S325**

Mary Frances "Babe Homonek" Eck, 89, of Liberty Township, passed away on February 12, 2016. Mary was born June 7, 1926, in Youngstown, OH, the daughter of the late John and Mary Krajack Homonek. Mary worked for 19 years at Liberty School System as a cafeteria manager and had previously worked for Strauss in Youngstown and Humes Furniture Store in Youngstown. She was a member of St. Edward's Church, the Liberty Historical Society, Past-President of the Liberty 55 Club, St. Elizabeth Volunteer Guild, Oblate Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and Woman on a Mission. Mary loved being around people and was always ready to go off and have fun. As a young girl, she performed with the Slovak dance company and performed a solo at Carnegie Hall in New York City of which she was most proud. She leaves to cherish her memory, her son, David (Barbara) Eck, of Austintown, OH, daughter, Marcia (Jim) Anderson-Eck, of Ashburn, VA, and two grandchildren and one great-grandchild. The family requests any material contributions be made to Relay for Life or the American Heart Association.

### **NORBERT J. KRAJNAK, S161**



Norbert J. Krajnak, 90, passed away February 26, 2015, at his home in Las Vegas, NV. Norbert was born February 24, 1925, in Youngstown, OH, the son of John Sr. and Anna Kish Krajnak. He was a 1943 graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School. Born and raised in Lansingville, on Youngstown's south side, he moved to Campbell in 1949, after marrying his wife, Betty. Norbert worked as a machinist at Republic Steel, retiring in 1986, after 42 years of service. He also served as the union shop steward as a member of the AFL-CIO. He was a member of the former St. Elizabeth Catholic Church. A true scratch golfer, he had at least three holes-in-one. He shot his age the first time at age 69, and the last time at age 82, and multiple times in between. His wife, the former Elizabeth "Betty" Hamrock, whom he met at a dance

at the Idora Park Ballroom in 1948, and married on September 3, 1949, passed away March 6, nine days after him. He leaves to cherish his memory, his daughter and son-in-law, Noreen and Jordan "Dan" Dentscheff of Las Vegas; his two grandchildren; and a sister, Eleanor Tesner of Campbell. Donations may be made to Family Home Hospice in Norbert's name.

### **ROSEMARY WASHKO, S66**



Rosemary Washko, 87, of Streator, IL passed away February 2, 2016. Born December 14, 1928 in Streator she was the daughter of Herman and Eva (Cordell) Hiepler. She married Richard F. Washko on November 12, 1949 at St. Anthony's Church, Streator. He preceded her in death on July 3, 1993. She is survived by a daughter, Nancy (Phillip) Martin of Stoughton, WI; a son, Greg (Jeanne) Washko of Streator, IL; grandchildren, Lucas Martin, Andrew Martin, John Washko, Jenna (Brian) Tritt and Janelle Washko; one sister, Mary Lorraine Surges of Naperville and her five great-granddogs that she so cherished. Born and raised in Streator she attended St. Anthony's Grade School and graduated from Streator Township High School. She owned and operated Rosemary's Beauty Shop out of her home for over 50 years. She was a member of the former St. Stephen's Church and currently belonged to St. Michael the Archangel Parish. Rosemary was an avid Bridge player and belonged to several different Bridge clubs through the years. She also enjoyed baking cookies for Monday Bridge and loved reading. In lieu of flowers memorials may be directed to the American Diabetes Association.

### **FREDDIE FRANCIS KUBIK, W130**



Freddie Francis Kubik, 85, of Clutier, passed away October 12, 2015. Freddie was born on May 31, 1930 in Tama County, IA, the son of Fred J. and Eleanor (Zmolek) Kubik. He attended country school at Carroll #3 and then graduated from Traer High School. Freddie married his sweetheart, Shirley Podhajsky, on November 26, 1957 at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church in rural Clutier. Freddie assisted his dad and his brothers with their farms and later after his marriage had his own farming operations. In 2014, his family received the Century Farms award. Freddie enjoyed farm auctions and recently household auctions, playing Czech/Polka music and bowling. Freddie was a member of St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church in rural Clutier, later the Immaculate Conception Church in Clutier and recently St. Paul Catholic Church in Traer. Survivors include his wife of almost fifty-eight years, Shirley of Clutier; one son, Michael Kubik of Clutier; two daughters, Lori (Curtis) Fuller of Solon and Lisa (Jesse) Lain of Iowa City; two grandchildren, two brothers, Dr. Rudy Kubik of Independence and Robert (Sandra) Kubik of Springfield, MO; and several nieces and nephews around the world.

### **MARY L. PACOCHA, S350**

Mary L. Pacocha, 88, formerly of Shamokin, died peacefully on December 28, 2015 at Masonic Village of Elizabethtown. Born

*(Continued on Page 14)*



# IN MEMORIAM

in Shamokin, she was the daughter of the late Joseph and Mary Fott Hemerka. Mary was the wife of the late Albert J. Pacocha who died in August of 2003. A seamstress, Mary worked for the former Shroyer's Dress Factory and graduated from Shamokin High School. She was a faithful member of Mother of Cabrini Catholic Church, Shamokin. Mary loved to cook for her family; she enjoyed cards, puzzles, shopping, and excursions that included eating out.

Surviving is a daughter, Nanette, wife of John Slater of Elizabethtown, a son, Jeffrey Pacocha of Shamokin, three grandchildren: four great-grandchildren; and a sister, Elaine Bressi of Kulpmont. Those desiring may send contributions in Mary's memory to Mother Cabrini Catholic Church, 214 North Shamokin Street, Shamokin, PA 17872.

## MARGARET ANN STASIK (KORDIAK) DADY, SZJ



Margaret died unexpectedly on December 22, 2015 at Catholic Eldercare in N.E. Minneapolis. Born June 18, 1920 in Columbia Heights to Helen and Paul Kordiak. She loved deeply and everyone loved her. The thing we most admired about her was her unflinching faith in God. Preceded in death by her first husband, George Stasik, daughter and best friend MaryJo Stasik,

her second husband John Dady, step-son Robert Dady, sister Helen Peltier and brothers Paul, Joseph, John and Edward Kordiak. She is survived by daughter, Gloria Jean (Don) Browne, son, Greg (Bonnie) Stasik, grandchildren, Michael (Karen) Browne, Stephen (Vicki) Browne, Lisa (Shane) Rovang, Amy (Joe) Trowbridge, and the loves of her life, her great-grandchildren. She is also survived by many devoted nieces and nephews, step-son Tom (Brenda) Dady, daughter-in-law Debbie Dunn, step-grandchildren, Matthew, Rachel and T.J. Dady, sister-in-law Pat Kordiak and many friends. She was a hairstylist at Jackie Ann's and supported her first husband in running the grocery part of Stasik Brothers Grocery and Meat Market. She was a long time member of St. Cyril's Mothers Club, St. Cyril's Women's Guild and volunteered at Catholic Eldercare. In lieu of flowers, memorials preferred to Catholic Eldercare.

## FRANK ALOYSIUS TUROSİK, S221



Frank Aloysius Turosik of Tallahassee, FL went to be with the Lord on January 9, 2016. He was born September 13, 1917 to John and Barbara Turosik in Concord, NY. Frank served in World War II with the 116th Combat Engineer for the 41st Infantry Division receiving a Purple Heart 15 June 1944 in the conflict Biak, New Guinea; additionally receiving WWII Victory Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with two Bronze Stars and Army Good Conduct Medal.

Frank was a blessing and inspiration to those who knew and loved him. He will be remembered for his utter devotion to his faith, joyous belly laughter, referencing himself as a buzzard, and love of the bird - robins. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife Dorthea; brothers, Paul, John, and Chuck; sisters, Margarita and Julia. He is survived by Leona (sister-in-law) and her three children George, Barbara and Paul; great-nieces and a great-nephew, and a great-grandson Doug.

## JAMES PATRICK O'HARA, SZJ



James Patrick O'Hara, age 72, a lifelong resident of Bethel, CT died February 21, 2016. He was the husband of Ellen D. (Knudsen) O'Hara. Jim was born in Danbury, CT on August 29, 1943, son of the late Rosalyn A. (Peters) Birdsall and George T. Birdsall. He served in the US Air Force and the US Marine Corps Reserves. He was a Police Officer with the Bethel Police Department and served 20 years as Cap-

tain. He was recognized by the State of Connecticut Governor and Legislature for outstanding service to the Town of Bethel. He was a parishioner of St. Mary's Church in Bethel and volunteered with the Carnival Committee for 25 years. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and camping and loved to sing and play his saxophone to fifties music.

In addition to his wife of 52 years, he is survived by his daughter: Tammy Lee Butlin and her husband Christopher of Atlanta, GA; son: James T. O'Hara and his wife Sarah of Danbury; and four grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Regional Hospice of Western Connecticut, 30 Milestone Rd., Danbury, CT 06810 or to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital at [www.stjude.org](http://www.stjude.org).

## JANICE CROOK, S53

Janice Crook, 73, of Lincoln, died March 7, 2016, at her home. She was born to James and Beatrice (Stuchlik) Polak on the family farm near Prague on November 18, 1942. She graduated from David City Public School. Janice met the love of her life, Harry Crook, on a blind date. They were married on August 26, 1961, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in David City.

They lived many places in the earlier years, Colorado, Seward, Columbus and David City, before calling Schuyler their home. During those years, Janice worked several jobs. She retired as a cook from the Schuyler grade school in 2007. Janice lived with diabetes for many years and suffered through many medical setbacks. Through it all Janice maintained a positive attitude and a deep faith, making her an inspiration to her family and friends. Those left to grieve her are her husband of 54 years, Harry; sons, Steven (Kimberly) of Crab Orchard, Craig (Tina) of New Castle, Colorado, David (Kathy) Crook of Kearney; nine grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren; brother, James (Kathy) Polak of San Dimas, California; sister, Lyla (Dan) Kouma of Seward; brother and sisters-in-law, Viola (Don) Kroft and Genon Crook of Rising City; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Good **ST. ANNE**, you were especially favored by God to be the mother of the most holy Virgin Mary, the Mother of our Savior. By your power with your most pure daughter and with her divine Son, kindly obtain for us the grace and the favor we now seek. Please secure for us also forgiveness of our past sins, the strength to perform faithfully our daily duties and the help we need to persevere in the love of Jesus and Mary. Amen.



# Eastern European Month in Ohio

By Loretta Ekoniak (Auditor of Sr. Branch 161)

Ohio declared April to be Eastern European Month in Ohio and the American Slovak Cultural Association of the Mahoning Valley (to which many FCSLA members in our area belong) celebrated this new recognition at their meeting on April 12th. As our special guest, Youngstown's Mayor, John A. McNally, presented the City of Youngstown's proclamation honoring Eastern European Ohioans and declaring April Eastern European Month in the city of Youngstown.

We also invited representatives from many of the other local eastern European ethnic groups to come and share a bit of their culture and accomplishments with us! We were happy to have as our guests representatives of the Carpatho-Rusyn, Hungarian, Polish, Ukrainian, and Croatian communities.

This brand new observation, was spearheaded by Laurel Tombazzi, the head of the Eastern European Congress of Ohio, who has lobbied long and hard for the state of Ohio to declare April as Eastern European month. The EECOH culturally unites the people of Ohio whose ancestry and heritage are from Eastern Europe. It fosters discussions and events through bipartisanship to advance Ohio's Eastern European awareness, economic development, and education. As Eastern Europeans represent 1.1 million in OH, we desire to have meaningful dialogue with government leaders to discuss our agenda as other groups



in Ohio. We also want to fairly play a key role in the constituency of Ohio. (from the EECOH website)

Ohio (and Youngstown especially) has many residents of eastern European heritage. These Ohioans have made many contributions to our state but most really have received little official recognition. Some of these ethnic Eastern European Ohioans are Slovak, Polish, Hungarian, Russian, Czech, Carpatho-Rusyn, Lithuanian, Ukrainian, Greek, Serbian, Croatian and Slovenian-Americans among others.

We desire to make sure that Ohio recognizes the contributions of these groups to the state of Ohio (some known to all Americans and others

of more local importance) in fields as diverse as law and government, Gov. Kasich (Croatian/Rusyn), Dennis Kucinich (Croatian), OH Senator Harry Meshel (Greek), Judge John Leskovansky (Slovak), former Youngstown Mayor George Vukovich (Croatian); economics and business, Edward Muransky (Slovak); medicine, Dr. John C. Melnick, (Slovak); sports, Dave Dravecky (Slovak), George "Shotgun" Shula (Slovak), Bernie Kosar (Slovak/Rusyn), Larry Csonka (Hungarian), Olympic gold medalist Peter T. George (Macedonian), Robert Babich (Serbian), Ron Jaworski (Polish); acting, Michael Pataki (Hungarian), Viktor Slezak (Polish), Paul Newman (Slovak, Polish and Hungarian), news and media, Chris Jansing (Hungarian); religion and theology, Fr. John A. Hardon (Slovak); science, astronaut Judith Resnik (Ukrainian); entertainment, Mel Pachuta from the Human Beingz (Slovak); not to mention engineering, math, education, and many other areas.

Hopefully, Eastern European Month in Ohio will continue to help highlight the achievements of this diverse group of citizens. Our local FCSLA branches were honored to participate in spreading the word of our contributions to the state of Ohio and to America as a whole!

## ANNOUNCEMENT

Jr. Branch 46, Lansford, PA will be participating in Christmas in July at Knoebels Grove Amusement Park, Elysburg, PA on Thursday, July 14th. As in previous years, the Eastern PA District will be set up in Pavilion D by 11 a.m. To make reservations, call Branch and District President, Veronica Bazik at 570-645-5253 or by emailing Carolyn Bazik at [zjbazik@comcast.net](mailto:zjbazik@comcast.net) by July 8th. All Junior and Senior Branches in the Eastern PA District are invited to participate.

## RADIO HOUR DINNER

The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour will host its 34th Annual Dinner-Dance on Sunday, October 2, 2016 at the Westwood Golf Club in West Mifflin, PA.

Treat yourself, family and friends to a relaxing evening of dinner, Slovak music, dancing and entertainment. For more information, tune in to the program on Sunday afternoon from 3-4 p.m. on Station WPIT (AM73) or call Sue Ondrejco at (412) 421-1204.

## District Anna Hurban of Chicago Join Hands Day Event

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

For the ninth year in a row, members from the District Anna Hurban of Chicago met on Saturday, May 2, 2015 for its Join Hands Day event at the Edward Hines, Jr., VA Hospital. Seventeen of the District members spent the afternoon with thirty of the resident veterans playing twenty-



**Chicago District members and some of the veterans that took part in our Join Hands Day Event.**

seven serious games of bingo where the vets had the chance to win some of the \$830 in commissary coupons available as prizes. The District provided the initial \$500 and branches added the additional \$330. To make the playing field fair, each of the vets who arrived to play bingo received an initial gift of \$5 in coupons along with one of the FCSLA drawstring backpacks. So as not to forget the other 70 resident veterans who were unable to attend the bingo event, the District also gave each of them a \$5 commissary coupon book. Once again the event was a huge success with the vets truly enjoying their visit with us and asking how soon we could come back to see them. A huge thank you to those members who

came to play bingo with the vets as well as to the following branches for adding to the commissary coupon pot: S181, S225, S248, S274, S287 and S421 – your additional generosity is greatly appreciated!

This VA Hospital is located in Maywood, IL and is the largest of the Chica-

go-area Veterans' Hospitals, well known for its many programs and specialties including blind rehabilitation, spinal cord injury, neurosurgery, radiation therapy, cardiovascular surgery, and serves as a Polytrauma Center for severely injured veterans with skilled medical professionals who treat patients with traumatic brain injuries.

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

## Chicago Junior Branches Summerfest "Bowling for All Ages IV"

Sunday, August 9, 2015, the Chicago Junior Branches sponsored "Bowling for all Ages IV" for its Junior members and their families at the Centennial Bowl in Tinley Park, IL. The Junior Branches provided two games of cosmic bowling, shoe rental, pizza and pop to their Junior members and Parents/Chaperones. This year the Junior Branches switched things up a bit by serving lunch first with dessert served while the guests bowled. Dessert this year were de-

lectably delicious cupcakes from Lydia's Café in Bridgman, MI. As the Junior members left the event, each member received an FCSLA backpack filled with FCSLA goodies as their take-home gift.

The members and their guests had a strikingly wonderful time and look forward to next year's Junior member summer event. (To see additional photos from this event go to: <http://www.fcsla.org/district/chicago/gallery.php>)



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

The Chicago Anna Hurban District hosted its annual scholarship awards luncheon for its nineteen Chicago District Scholarship winners and their guests on Saturday, June 20, 2015 at the Garden Chalet in Worth, IL. The District and Branch Officers and members congratulated the scholarship winners on their scholastic achievements. Mary Therese Ty-lus, Anna Hurban District of Chicago President, reported that for the 2015-2016 Scholarship Program, the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association awarded to its members from first grade through and including graduate school a total amount of \$248,250. The nineteen Chicago District scholarship winners received a total of \$22,000 and the breakdown of the winners is as follows: five elementary, one high school, eleven college students ranging from freshman to junior year, and two graduate students. The nineteen scholarship winners are: Anna M. Sako (J039), Luke A. Braun (J106), Aiden Paul Bugner (J174), Christina A. Javorka (J174), Laura M. Lucas (J175), Grace Olivia Zolna (J322), Christian Miksanek (S181), Calli M. Eichhorn (S225), Mitchell E. Lotko (S225), Jenna Lynn Kolberg (S258), Sarah R. Saffran (S352), Corey T. Kinnane (S421), Elizabeth Lattyak (S421), Logan G. Dolehide (S485), Dylan R. Kudia (S485), Alina M. Lehocky (S485), Vincent L. LoCascio (S485), Daniel James Sblendorio (S485) and Erin E. Walz (S485). As the awardees in attendance were called up to receive their certificate from the District, a short family and scholastic biography informing the attendees of their school, grade/year, favorite subjects and other information of interest was read aloud. The Chicago District is proud of all our scholarship winners and wishes them continued success in their studies. (To see additional photos from this event go to: <http://www.fcsla.org/district/chicago/gallery.php>)



L-R, Back Row: Vincent LoCascio, Mitchell Lotko, Jenna Kolberg and Alina Lehocky. L-R, 2nd Row: Sarah Saffran, Anna Sako, Calli Eichhorn, Elizabeth Lattyak. Front Row: Grace Zolna.



2015 Chicago District Scholars with Chicago District Officers

## Exciting Merger Opportunities

As reported in the June issue of *Fraternally Yours*, after study and recommendation of the Strategic Relations Committee and Executive Committee, the Board of Directors of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association (FCSLA) approved moving forward with two merger opportunities, subject to the completion of due diligence. The two organizations, Polish Union of the US of North America and Polish Women's Alliance share a strong common bond with the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association.

As we work toward welcoming our brothers and sisters of common religion who share our Slavic heritage, traditions, and values, branch secretary's will be receiving information on verifying existing delegates from the 41st Quadrennial Convention and or electing delegates to

participate in a special convention by mail per our latest Bylaws. It is important to adhere to both the process and deadlines described in the mailing so that your branch can take part in this important vote.

These exciting merger opportunities are another way for the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association to grow our assets, membership, and to increase our insurance block of business in a cost effective manner. The organization will also be able to take advantage of an expanded market by reaching out and offering our new members and their families the opportunity to purchase additional FCSLA products.

Look for more information in mailings from the Home Office and on the soon to be released 2016 Merger Information tab on our website, [www.fcsla.com](http://www.fcsla.com).

## Newly Ordained Father Nathan Hall Offers First Mass

Newly ordained Father Nathan Hall, FCSLA member of Branch W55, offered his First Mass at Sacred Heart, Cedar Hill, NE on May 29. Father also led the Corpus Christi procession at the church's new outside altars made possible by a national grant from the First Catholic Slovak Association (FCSLA). Father's parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents were married at the 137-year-old church. They all were members of FCSLA. Father Hall offered his Mass on the altar built by his dad for the church in 1974. His mother made his chasuble, stole and amice.



## SLOVAK DAY AT KENNYWOOD PARK

The 93rd Annual American Slovak Day will be celebrated on Thursday, July 21 at Kennywood Park. The Slovak Kitchen opens at 12:30 p.m. The program at Main Pavilion #5 includes the following:

- 12:30 p.m. — Children's games and treats
- 2:00 p.m. — Children's folk dancing
- 4:00 p.m. — Eucharistic Celebration
- 5:00 p.m. — Slovak folk entertainment

Everyone (age 3+) must have a ticket or Senior Discount Coupon to enter the park. Tickets may be used on any other weekday beside July 21 with no extra charge. Senior Coupons will only be honored Thursday, July 21. Tickets and Senior Coupons will be available from committee members. For more information, contact Sue Ondrejco at [sue.ondrejco@gmail.com](mailto:sue.ondrejco@gmail.com) or (412) 421-1204. No tickets can or will be left for pick-up at the park, so get them early!



## 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!



Branch J011, St. Louis, MO is proud to announce that **SAMUEL OLIVER MIKLOVIC** celebrated his First Holy Communion. Sam, a recent FCSLA grade school scholarship recipient, is flanked by his godmother, Ann Wright, Vice-President of J011 and soon to give birth to a "new" FCSLA member. His proud grandfather is Joseph Miklovic, Secretary of J011.

### ALEXANDER WULFRIC MAR-SALA,

son of Sarah and Brian Marsala, was born on January 4, 2016 at 11:39 p.m. He was 8 pounds, 10 ounces and 22 inches long. He is a member of J328, Coal-dale, PA and his proud grandmother is Carol Wester.



Branch J011, St. Louis, MO proudly announces that **FRANCES ANN KAT-ERI MIKLOVIC** was confirmed by Vicor General of the St. Louis Archdiocese Monsignor Mark Rivituso. Frances recently completed a Junior Branch Matching Funds Backpack Buddy's project for her St. Simon the Apostle School generating over \$2,200. Her proud grandfather is Joseph Miklovic, Secretary of J011.

### NICCOLO ST. ANGEL

made his First Holy Communion on April 30, 2016, at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception in Los Gatos, CA. A fourth generation member, Niccolo is the son of Lindo and Nicolette St. Angel and grandson of Bob and Esther Maruska of Clarendon Hills, IL and Constance St. Angel of Rockford, IL. Niccolo is a member of Branch J382.



**PETER JOSEPH SCHROEDER**, son of Gordon and Mary Schroeder, was baptized recently at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Hays, KS.



Peter is surrounded by his family. Gordon, Mary and their six older children are all members of Branch W133, Timken, KS. Peter is in the process of becoming a member.



Peter is being held by maternal grandparents, Madonna and Marion Oborny, also members of Branch W133. (Marion is the branch president.) After Peter's membership is approved, all 10 of Marion and Madonna's grandchildren will be members.

Jeden kráľ mal tri dcéry a všetky ich mal rovnako rád. Ako stárol čoraz častejšie rozhutoval, ktorej poručiť kraľovstvo, lebo ani k jednej nechcel byť nespravodlivý. Naveľa mu predsa len prišlo do rozumu, že kraľovnou bude tá, ktorá ho má najradšej.

Keď si vec takto premyslel, dal si dcéry zavolať.

— Deti moje, — začal. — Som už starý, tak som sa rozhodol, že kraľovstvo odkážem tej z vás, ktorá ma má najradšej. Nuž, povedz že mi, dcéra moja najstaršia, ako ma máš rada?

— Ja vás mám, tatuško, radšej ako všetko zlato a drahokamy! — zvolala najstaršia a vrhla sa otcovi do náručia.

— Dobre, dcéra moja, vidím, že ma máš veľmi rada, — usmieva sa polichotený kráľ a už sa obracia k prostrednej.

— Ach, tatuško môj, ja vás mam radšej ako svoj vienok zelený, — sladko odpovedá prostredná.

— Vidím, že aj ty ma máš rada, — spokojne prikyvuje kráľ. — A teraz povedz ty, dieťa moje, — s láskavým úsmevom pobáda najmladšiu a kdesi v kútiku srdca najmilšiu dcéru.

— Ja vás ľubim ako sol', — vydýchla Maruška a vystiera k otcovi ruky.

— Chm, ľubi ho iba ako sol', — opovržlivo odfrkli dve staršie sestry.

— Áno, ako sol', — s úsmevom opakuje Maruška.

— Tak ty ma máš rada ako márnú sol'. Čo jej je toľko, že nestojí ani márný groš? Už aj sa mi prac z očí a vráť sa iba vtedy, keď sol' bude drahšia ako všetky poklady sveta! — hrmí napajedený kráľ a naskutku dcéry vyhnal z domu.

Neborka Maruška si zviazala uzlíček s najpotrebnejšími vecami a s nárekom sa pustila, kam ju oči viedli. Ako sa tak smutná uberá lesným chodníčkom, tu, kde sa vzala, tam sa vzala, stojí pred ňou neznáma starenka a vľúdne sa jej prihovára:

— Kdeže ideš, Maruška, a čo ťa trápi, že si taká smutná?

Maruška starenke všetko vyrozprávala a tá ju začala takto chlácholiť:

— Nič sa ty neboj, dievčička, ani sa nenazdáš a nadíde chvíľa, keď aj sol' bude nad zlato.

— Len aby, len aby, — vzdychla dievčina a zaliali ju slzy.

Potom starká prichýlila Marušku vo svojom lesnom domčeku.

Medzitým sa v kraľovskom zámku všeličo zmenilo. Najstaršia kraľovská dcéra vysedávala iba pred zrkadlom, zlatom a drahokamami sa zdobila, o otca sa ani neobzrela. Kráľ videl, že šperky a drahocennosti sú jej milšie ako on. A ani prostredná dcéra nebola odchodnejšia. Radšej si medzi ženíčkami preberala, zvolávala hostí, vystrájala jednu hostinu za druhou a tanca a zábaviek nemala nikdy dosť. Nestala tá o otca.

Neraz si kráľ spomenul na najmladšiu Marušku, na to, ako mu každé ráno raňajky pripravovala, ako ho obletovala a staré dni svojím štebotom krásnila. Z celého srdca ľutoval, že ju tak neuvážene vyhnal.

Na dovŕšenie všetkého zlého, keď na zámku znova chystali veľikánsku hostinu pre urodzených pytačov, pribehol

ku kraľovi vyľakaný kuchár, že v kuchyni, ba ani v celom kraľovstve niet zrnka soli. V noci sa všetka kamsi podela a nikto nevie, kam. Sťaby sa pod zem prepadla.

— Nevídali, s takou pletkou si za mnou ani nemusel chodiť! Keď nemáš čím soliť, var samé sladkosti, — odbil kuchára namrzené kráľ.

Na stoly potom sluhovia nosili sladké jedlá od výmyslu sveta. Spočiatku sa to hosťom páčilo, nazdali sa, že je to nová zábavka prostrednej dcéry, ale keď sa to opakovalo aj na ďalšej hostine, mali už sladkosti po krk. A čo bolo horšie, ľudia v celej krajine začali chorieť a slabnúť, lebo bez soli niet života.

Maruška zatiaľ žila v domčeku uprostred lesov a o ničom nevedela. Zato starenka vedela v všetkom a jedného rána sa dievčine takto prihovarila:

— Maruška, prišiel tvoj čas, v kraľovstve tvojho otca je už sol' drahšia ako zlato, treba sa ti vrátiť domov. Bola si poslušná a pracovitá, vo všetkom si sa mi usilovala ulahodiť, nuž sa ti chcem odmeniť. Žiadaj si, čo len chceš.

— Mne postačí aj tá márna sol', — zaželala si Maruška.

— Keď je tak, že si sol' ceníš nad všetky poklady, nech ti teda nikdy nechýbí, a dala Maruške vreco soli. Kráľ spoznal svoju dcéru a prijal ju s otvorenou náručou. Prosil ju, aby mu odpustila. Maruška ho ubezpečovala, že sa naňho nikdy nehnevá a že ho má stále rada ako sol'. A dala mu vreco soli, z ktorého sol' nikdy neubúdala i keď z neho stále brali. Vtedy každý človek v kraľovstve sa naučil čo je dôležité v živote.

The 23rd Edition of Our

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# Salt is More Expensive Than Gold

*(Please Enjoy This English Translation)*

The king had three daughters and he loved them equally. As he was getting older, he often wondered which one of his daughters should inherit the kingdom, he did not want to be unjust. Then he had an idea, the queen will be the one who loves him the best.

He called his daughters to see him, "my children" he started, "I am very old, so I decided that the kingdom will go to the one who loves me the most." So tell me, my oldest daughter, how much do you love me?"

"I love you, dear father, better than gold or diamonds," the oldest daughter said and hugged her father.

"Good, my dear, I see that you love me a lot," a happy father was smiling. Then he turned his attention to the middle daughter. "Dear father, I love you more than my virtue," the middle daughter replied sweetly. "I see that you love me very much," said the happy king. "And now you my dear child," with a loving smile the father asked his youngest and favorite daughter.

"I love you like salt" — said Maruska trying to embrace her father. "She loves him only like salt" with disdain said the older sisters. "Yes, like salt," said the smiling Maruska. "So you love me like simple salt and salt that is cheap? Get out of my sight and return when salt becomes more expensive than all the treasures of the world. The angry father then threw his daughter out of the kingdom.

Poor Maruska took some belongings and left the house. As she was walking in the forest, an old woman appeared in front of her. This old woman asked — "where are you going Maruska, and what is wrong, why are you so sad?" Maruska told the woman everything.

"Do not worry, girl, you will not know when, but it will

come to pass that salt will be more expensive than gold," said the old woman. "I hope so" cried the girl.

Maruska then lived with the old woman in her house in the forest. In the meantime, big changes took place in the kingdom. The oldest daughter always sat in front on her mirror decorated with gold and diamonds. She loved her jewelry and did not pay any attention to her father. The king saw that jewelry was more important to her than he. The middle daughter was not much better. She could not choose a husband, had lavish parties, elaborate dinners and she danced the night away. She never could get enough fun and entertainment. She did not care much about her father.

The king often thought about his youngest daughter and how she always prepared his breakfast every day, and how she cared for him. He was very sorry that he forced her to leave her home.

The king wanted his daughters to marry so he planned an elaborate party to attract suitors for them. The king's cook sadly went to the king and said that there was not a grain of salt in the house or kingdom. All the salt disappeared during the night and nobody knew how this happened.

"Why are you bothering me with this?" "If you do not have salt, cook only sweet dishes," angrily said the king.

From then on there were only sweet dishes on every table in the kingdom. At the beginning, it was OK, but after a while, people had enough. But what was worse, people started getting sick and weak because salt is essential for life.

During this time Maruska was living in the forest and did not know what was happening in the kingdom. The old woman knew about everything and one morning she said: "It is time, Maruska. Salt in the kingdom is now more expensive than gold. You should go home now. You were good to me and you did your best to help me," said the old woman. "Now I am going to reward you, ask me for anything."

"I am only asking for some salt," said Maruska. "If you treasure salt above all the treasures, you will have it always" — said the clever old woman. She gave Maruska a sack of salt and then she disappeared.

After a long journey, Maruska arrived in the troubled kingdom. She found her father and sisters very sad. The king recognized his youngest daughter, he was happy to see her and expressed his regret for sending her away. He asked for her forgiveness. Maruska said she never stopped loving him, even more than salt. She gave him the bottomless sack of salt. That satisfied the kingdom's needs. From then on everybody in the kingdom had a new appreciation for what was really important in life.

## Attention!

If you would like to receive *Fraternally Yours* by email instead of through the mail please return this form to the attention of Marie Golias at the Home Office.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

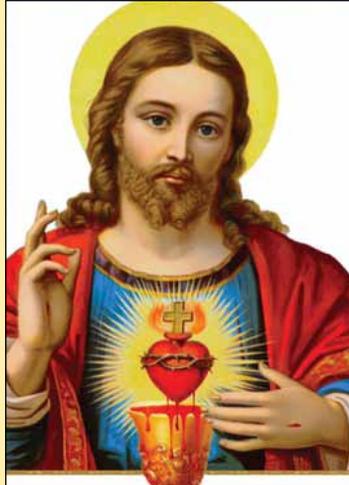
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

You will begin to receive *Fraternally Yours* by email as soon as the changes can be made.

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP  
A NEW MEMBER RECENTLY?

## JULY - MONTH OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD

Lord Jesus, You became Man in order by your Passion and Death and the draining of your Blood on the Cross, might prove to us how much You, our God, love us. Protect us, dear Jesus, from ever running away from the sight of blood. Strengthen our weak



human wills so that we will not only not run away from the cross, but welcome every opportunity to shed our blood in spirit in union with your Precious Blood, so that, dying to ourselves in time we might live with You in Eternity. Amen.

### USE THIS FORM FOR CHANGE OF ADDRESS AND MAGAZINE CANCELLATIONS

CHANGE THE ADDRESS ON ALL FCSLA POLICIES AND COMMUNICATIONS FOR:

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## REPORT OF THE FCSLA NATIONAL TREASURER

BALANCE SHEET AS OF FEBRUARY 29, 2016

### ASSETS

Cash & Short Term Investments	\$ 20,173,680
Bonds	777,110,983
Preferred Stock	2,005,553
Common Stock	4,287,800
Investment Income Due & Accrued	11,843,648
Property Plant & Equipment, Net	5,551,760
Certificate Loans & Accrued Interest	3,480,432
Other Assets	733,497
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 825,187,354</b>

### LIABILITIES

Life Reserves	\$ 253,180,424
Annuity Reserves	457,578,684
Death Claims Payable	2,150,140
Unearned Premiums	501,110
Matured Endowments	375,716
Provision for Dividends Payable	1,400,000
Accumulated Dividends & Interest	4,387,245
Accrued Convention Donations	84,000
Provision for Future Conventions	52,000
Asset Valuation Reserve	6,835,671
Interest Maintenance Reserve	1,209,966
Other Liabilities	1,268,864
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 729,023,821</b>

Surplus \$ 96,163,534

**TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS \$ 825,187,354**

### INCOME STATEMENT

For the Two Months Ending February 29, 2016

### REVENUE

Insurance Premiums	\$ 530,172
Annuity Premiums	11,139,136
Investment Income	6,832,388
Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve	29,295
Rental Income	67,496
Other Revenue	1,172
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 18,599,659</b>

### EXPENSE

Increase in Reserves — Life	\$ (548,576)
Increase in Reserves — Annuity	9,816,653
Insurance Benefits	1,575,081
Annuity Benefits	4,245,452
Commission Expense	297,093
Surrender Benefits	594,834
Post Mortem Benefits	178,585
Miscellaneous Member Benefits	8,275
Matured Endowments	(3,840)
Donation Expenses	7,103
Change in Accrued Convention Donations	42,000
Convention Expenses	24,521
Bank Service Charges	15,421
Data Processing Service Fees	24,779
Actuarial Fees	27,079
Legal Fees	37,211
Consulting Fees	24,378
Bonus to Branches	143,350
Fraternal Activities	55,315
Official Publications	76,921
Scholarship Awards	47,390
Miscellaneous Employee Benefits	55,180
Fees — Directors	34,394
Salaries — Employees	244,768
Salaries — Officers	69,819
Interest Expense	47,726
Tax Expense	55,217
Depreciation Expense	42,117
Utility Expense	16,068
Postage and Printing	33,923
Advertising	17,280
Travel Expense	11,279
Insurance Department Fees	32,858
Sales Promotion	19,280
Rental Expense	67,496
Other Expense	71,172
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 17,507,602</b>

**Income (Loss) from Operations \$ 1,092,057**

Dividends to Members 228,541

**Subtotal Income (Loss) \$ 863,516**

Capital Gains (Loss) 0

**NET INCOME (Loss) \$ 863,516**



# Summer Holiday Picnics

## 4TH OF JULY FROZEN DELIGHT

- 1 can (14 ounces) sweetened condensed milk
- 1/3 cup lemon juice
- 2 teaspoons grated lemon peel
- 2 cups (16 ounces) plain yogurt
- 2 cups miniature marshmallows
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans
- 1 cup sliced fresh strawberries
- 1 cup fresh blueberries

In a bowl, combine milk, lemon juice and peel. Stir in yogurt, marshmallows and pecans. Spread half into an ungreased 11-in. x 7-in. dish.

Sprinkle with half of the strawberries and blueberries. Cover with the remaining yogurt mixture; top with remaining berries. Cover and freeze. Remove from the freezer 15-20 minutes before serving.

## PATRIOTIC FRUIT PIZZA

- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/4 cup confectioners' sugar
- 1 cup cold butter

### Filling:

- 1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 3 cups sliced fresh strawberries
- 1 cup fresh blueberries
- 1 cup strawberry glaze

In a bowl, combine the flour and confectioners' sugar. Cut in butter until mixture begins to hold together. Press into a 12-in. tart or pizza pan; build up edges slightly. Bake at 350° for 10-15 minutes or until golden brown. Cool for 15 minutes.

In a bowl, beat cream cheese, sugar and vanilla. Spread over crust. Arrange strawberries in an 8- to 10-in. circle in center of pizza. Sprinkle blueberries around strawberries. Pour glaze over strawberries. Refrigerate until serving. Cut into wedges.

## RED, WHITE & BLUE TRIFLE

- 1 can (14 ounces) sweetened condensed milk
- 1 1/2 cups 2% milk
- 2 packages (3.4 ounces each) instant lemon pudding mix
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 2 cups fresh blueberries
- 2 cups fresh raspberries
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 package (16 ounces) frozen pound cake, thawed and cubed
- 1 container (8 ounces) frozen whipped topping, thawed
- Additional blueberries and raspberries, optional

In a large bowl, whisk condensed milk, 2% milk and pudding mix 2 minutes. Fold in sour cream. In another bowl, toss blueberries and raspberries with lemon juice.

In a greased 9-in. springform pan, layer half of each of the following: cake cubes, berry mixture and pudding mixture. Repeat. Refrigerate, covered, at least 2 hours before serving.

To serve, remove rim from pan. Serve with whipped topping and, if desired, additional berries.

## TRIED 'N TRUE RED, WHITE AND BLUE CHEESECAKE

- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon grated lemon peel
- 3/4 cup cold butter, cubed
- 2 egg yolks
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- Filling:*
- 5 packages (8 ounces each) cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup half-and-half cream
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon grated lemon peel
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 eggs, lightly beaten
- 1 egg yolk
- 1 cup crushed strawberries
- 1 cup crushed blueberries
- Fresh mixed berries, optional

Preheat oven to 400°. In a large bowl, combine flour, sugar and lemon peel. Cut in butter until crumbly. Whisk egg yolks and vanilla; add to flour mixture, tossing with a fork until dough forms a ball.

Press onto bottom and 3 in. up sides of a greased 9-in. springform pan. Place pan on a baking sheet. Bake 12-15 minutes or until golden brown. Cool on a wire rack.

For filling, in a large bowl, beat cream cheese and sugar until smooth. Beat in

cream, flour, lemon peel, salt and vanilla. Add eggs and yolk; beat on low speed just until combined.

Divide batter in half. Fold crushed strawberries and crushed blueberries into half of the batter. Pour into crust. Top with remaining batter. Return pan to baking sheet.

Bake at 400° for 10 minutes. Reduce heat to 300° bake 60-70 minutes longer or until center is almost set. Cool on a wire rack 10 minutes. Carefully run a knife around edge of pan to loosen; cool 1 hour. Refrigerate overnight. Remove sides of pan.

Garnish with fresh mixed berries and currants, if desired.

## BLUEBERRY JAM

- 8 cups fresh blueberries
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 package (1 1/4 ounces) powdered fruit pectin
- 7 cups sugar

Mash blueberries; transfer to a Dutch oven. Add lemon juice; stir in pectin. Bring to a full rolling boil over high heat, stirring constantly.

Stir in sugar; return to a full rolling boil. Boil for 1 minute, stirring constantly. Remove from the heat; skim off foam. Ladle into jars or freezer containers and cool to room temperature, about 1 hour.

Cover and let stand overnight or until set, but not longer than 24 hours. Refrigerate for up to 3 weeks or freeze for up to 12 months. Yield: 8 cups.

## STRAWBERRY LEMONADE SMOOTHIE

- 2 cups lemonade
- 3/4 cup (6 ounces) lemon yogurt
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract

2 cups frozen unsweetened strawberries

Place all ingredients in a blender; cover and process 15 seconds or until blended. Serve immediately.

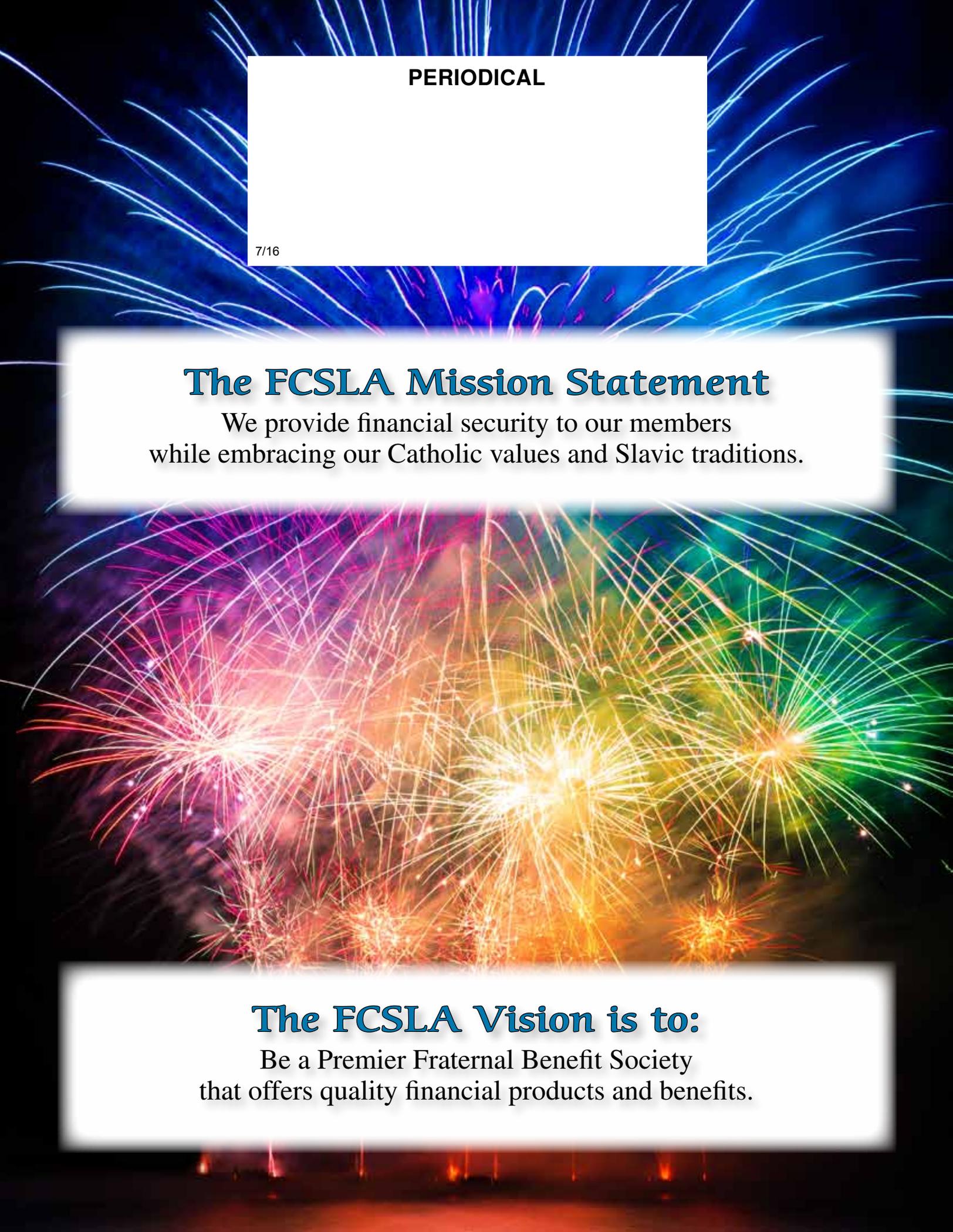
## STRAWBERRY MELON FIZZ

- 2 cups sugar
- 1 cup water
- 5 fresh mint sprigs
- 1 quart fresh strawberries, halved
- 2 cups cubed honeydew
- 1 3/4 cups cubed cantaloupe

Ginger ale or sparkling white grape juice

In a large saucepan, combine the sugar, water and mint; bring to a boil. Boil and stir until a candy thermometer reads 240° (soft-ball stage). Remove from the heat; allow to cool. Discard mint.

Combine strawberries and melon. Just before serving, fill tall glasses with fruit and drizzle with 1 tablespoon syrup. Add ginger ale to each. Yield: 8-10 servings.



PERIODICAL

7/16

## **The FCSLA Mission Statement**

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

## **The FCSLA Vision is to:**

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