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Fraternally Yours™

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK LADIES ASSOCIATION

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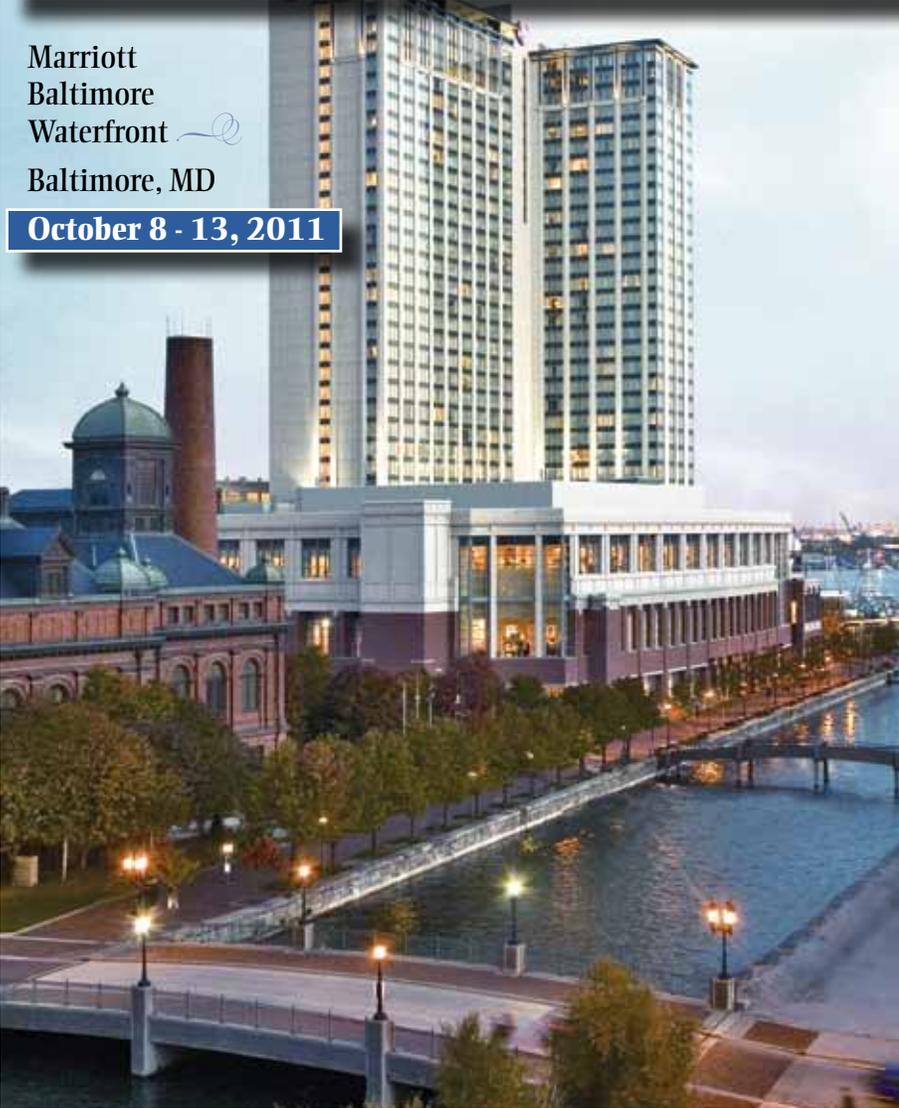
JANUARY 2011

First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association

40th National Convention

Marriott
Baltimore
Waterfront
Baltimore, MD

October 8 - 13, 2011



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA

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ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA,

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

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Phone: (216) 464-8015 • Toll Free: 800-464-4642
Fax: (216) 464-9260 • Website: www.fcsls.com

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44141. Residence: (440) 526-7530.

EDITOR:

Carolyn Bazik, P.O. Box 1617, Reading, PA 19603
(610) 373-2743.

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Convention 2011

Marriott Baltimore Waterfront



It is hard to believe, but the time is fast approaching for delegates of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association to gather for the organization's 40th National Convention to be held October 8th thru the 13th, 2011 at the Marriott Baltimore Waterfront, 700 Aliceanna Street, Baltimore, MD. This well appointed Baltimore Inner Harbor hotel offers lodging with amazing views of the water and surrounding attractions, like Baltimore Aquarium, Oriole Park at Camden Yards, M&T Bank Stadium and University of Maryland Medical Center. This Triple AAA 4 Diamond rated facility boasts 31 floors, 732 rooms and 21 suites. The opening banquet and daily sessions should be easily accommodated in the 35 meeting rooms

and 80,000 sq. ft. of total meeting space. Located only 12 miles from BWI International Airport and near major interstate highways, it should be easy to arrange transportation for your delegates.

While the convention site is appealing, each delegate should keep in mind that they will be responsible for making critical business decisions for our Association. It is VITAL that branches send members that are willing to listen, learn, discuss and debate matters of great importance. The welfare of our organization rests in the hands of the delegates, therefore, it is imperative that branches send individuals that are willing to attend the daily business sessions, and are knowledgeable about the values, goals and objectives of the FCSLA.

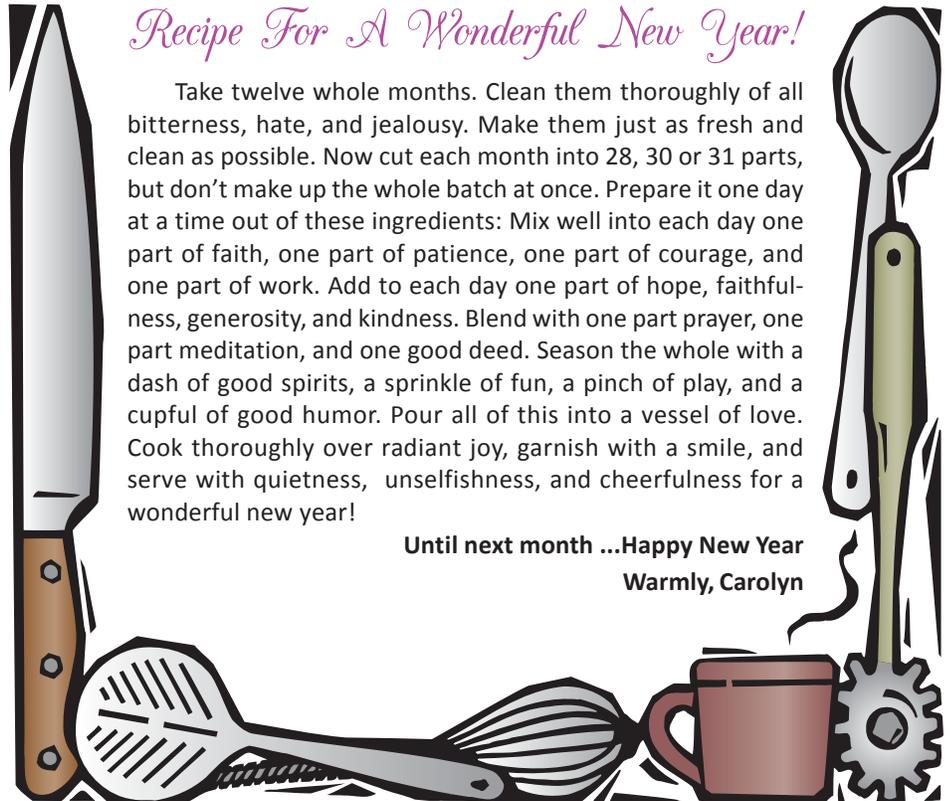
More details about the convention will be forthcoming — including information about delegate selection, committees and specific hotel accommodations. Therefore, it is not too early to save the dates and begin to discuss travel plans for this important event!



Recipe For A Wonderful New Year!

Take twelve whole months. Clean them thoroughly of all bitterness, hate, and jealousy. Make them just as fresh and clean as possible. Now cut each month into 28, 30 or 31 parts, but don't make up the whole batch at once. Prepare it one day at a time out of these ingredients: Mix well into each day one part of faith, one part of patience, one part of courage, and one part of work. Add to each day one part of hope, faithfulness, generosity, and kindness. Blend with one part prayer, one part meditation, and one good deed. Season the whole with a dash of good spirits, a sprinkle of fun, a pinch of play, and a cupful of good humor. Pour all of this into a vessel of love. Cook thoroughly over radiant joy, garnish with a smile, and serve with quietness, unselfishness, and cheerfulness for a wonderful new year!

Until next month ...Happy New Year
Warmly, Carolyn



A NEW YOU IN THE NEW YEAR!

Reverend Monsignor Peter M. Polando, National Chaplain

My dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Šťastlivý Nový Rok! May this New Year bring you many blessings, good health, and bounteous gifts! My prayer for you and your family is to be able to grow in the life of our Savior Jesus Christ so that you will be more self-fulfilled both physically and spiritually this year than in the previous year, 2010. And as we come closer to our quadrennial convention in Baltimore this coming autumn, may the gifts of the Holy Spirit be upon our delegates so that we may continue to make decisions necessary to keep our Association strong and viable in the years to come.

Now that the Christmas Season has been celebrated and all the decorations have been placed away until the end of this year, I have taken notice people on television informing me that I am in need of losing some weight because of all the food I ate during the holidays. Have you seen these advertisements on television, especially in January? Many of them are not just one minute spots — there are those that last for a whole half hour. One attempts to persuade me to think that if I take this pill, I will be able to lose ten pounds within two weeks. That is really something. It took me the entire summer to lose ten pounds by eating only one full meal a day and walking five miles four to six days a week. I think I should order the pill; it would save me a lot of time and effort!

Other advertisements not only offer to lose weight but also firm up the body. These grueling exercise machines make the traditional treadmill look like a tricycle. One looks like your gliding on the snow, air born. Another makes your abs look like you are eighteen again (with only three twenty minute workouts per week) and is the latest in building up resistance while losing weight! And then there are the commercials of how to eat healthier by using a particular blender to make tastier drinks with fresh fruits and vegetables or various table ovens that eliminate unnecessary fats in the foods you consume.

I admit that I have one of those old fashioned tread mills in the rectory here at

Saint Matthias Church. I do use it but not as much as I should. I love walking outside in the nice weather and that is my incentive for my brisk walks. But television in the early morning and the monotony of being in the same place for an hour on a cold, snowy pre-dawn time in a basement is not all that inviting. I also confess to all of you that I did more eating of food during the holiday season than I usually do. My excuse was and is similar to yours — “It’s Christmas!” “I’ll get back into my routine after the first of the year.”

I believe that all the advertisements about eating healthier and getting into shape each January makes us consumers feel guilty about the way we eat and look. It is a ploy to purchase this type of merchandise in order to change one into a “new” self. The problem may still exist then because eating habits may not change and commitment to exercise may be minimal at best. Or, we may make our New Year’s resolutions and promises only to see them fade away when we fall back into our old habits, regretfully thinking that if we fail once, we may as well give up the resolution.

In the fifth chapter of his Second Letter to the Corinthians, Saint Paul speaks to the Christian community of his ministry of reconciliation, his love for them and how each must entertain a life of reconciliation — a life of forgiveness, and a life that changes the heart, in Greek, *μετανοια*. Whoever accepts the waters of Baptism and changes their lives in conformity to the Gospel of Jesus is a new creation. Paul tells them that his ministry and that of the apostles is one that is God given and God driven. Because of the death and resurrection of Jesus we live for Jesus and thus become a new creation in Him. Paul writes: “The love of Christ impels us, who have reached the conviction that since one died for all, all died. He died for all so that those who live might live no longer for themselves but for him who for their sakes died and was raised up. Because of this we no longer look on anyone in terms of mere human judgment. If at one time we so regarded Christ, we no longer know him by

this standard. This means that if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old order has passed away; now all is new! All this has been done by God, who has reconciled us to himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation” (14-18).

We are all sinners but through the various sacraments of the Church, the different liturgical seasons, and the various styles of prayer that are employed by individuals and communities throughout the world, we are given opportunities to be healed by Almighty God daily and thus continue to become a new creation. In other words, we Christians, we Catholics are people of change because of God’s love and forgiveness.

As our human bodies and the conditions that surround us change day to day, year to year, so the understanding of our Faith changes. The core of our Church’s Faith does not change but the way we express our Faith through our thoughts, words, and actions changes when we are fifteen years old, forty years old, sixty-five years of age, and so on. The depth of our Faith changes as we grow in the understanding of our Faith. If it does not, then we become stagnant and dormant. Our Faith demands us to change, and the best way for us to change as Christians is through love and reconciliation. This is the reason why Jesus came and, as Saint Paul declares, “This means that if anyone is in Christ, he/she is a new creation. The old order has passed away; now all is new! (5:17)

We now come to the beginning of a New Year. Some may make a resolution to slim down, others may want to exercise more and eat fewer portions at meals. Some resolutions may last a few days or a few weeks; others may be more successful. But for you in this New Year, try to become a new you in understanding your Faith. If you fail, you can always be forgiven and be able to pick up where you left off. Our God loves you and always forgives. God asks you to do the same with your self and with your neighbor. Be a New You in the New Year as a Catholic. The reward will be eternal!



Deborah Brindza, M.D.

IN 2011 WE RESOLVE TO IMPROVE THE WORLD — ONE STEP AT A TIME

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



Sue Ann M. Seich

Will you join us as we welcome in the New Year and resolve to make our world a better place? This year we hope to create an awareness of how to make our lives, bodies and world better. We will focus on ways to be healthy in an environmentally friendly way. We will offer suggestions and ideas how to decrease our carbon footprint. The term carbon footprint means the measurement of greenhouse gases we produce through our daily activities. These gases when released will damage the atmosphere and increase global warming.

Primary footprints are things we do that we have direct control over. An example would be choosing to walk instead of driving reduces your primary footprint.

Secondary footprints are choices we make that ultimately cause less greenhouse gases. An example would

be bringing shopping bags to the store rather than getting plastic grocery bags. This will reduce the number of plastic bags being made. By making fewer bags, less energy will be used, and less greenhouse gases will be released. Some states are starting to mandate that stores charge for plastic bags. In the future it will cost money to use this secondary carbon footprint.

We hope you will join our resolution to make the world better. We look forward to you sharing your ideas and suggestions with us.



STREATOR SR. BRANCH 7 DONATES RELIGIOUS ITEMS

When the request for religious articles was read in the July *Fraternally Yours* issue, Sr. Branch 7 in Streator, IL, decided to answer the call. A notice was placed in the parish bulletin announcing the collection of new or gently used religious articles.

The collection continued for three weeks. The results were: 19 boxes of missals, prayer books, scapulars, med-

als, holy cards and rosaries. The items were mailed to Peter Gaidos, in Texas. He distributes these articles to Catholic Missions in Third World countries. This project was a huge success and Sr. Branch 7 members have decided to repeat this project again.

ATTENTION

Anyone requesting a donation at the time of our XXXX National Convention in October 2011 must complete a **DONATION APPLICATION** to be eligible for consideration by the Donation Committee. These applications must be completed in full and received in the Home Office by June 13, 2011.

Donation Applications can be obtained from the website www.fcsla.org or from National Headquarters:

**First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association
Convention Donation Request
24950 Chagrin Blvd.
Beachwood, OH 44122**

BRANCH W086 HAPPENINGS

Branch W086 of Munden, KS served rolls and coffee after the Saturday evening Mass on November 13th at St. George Church. Having doughnuts after Mass in November is a long-standing tradition in commemoration of deceased Branch W086 members. Mass was celebrated by Father Jack Schlaf for the intentions of deceased Br. W086 members. Fellowship was enjoyed by members, St. George parishioners and visitors.

**From January 1 through March 31, 2011,
older FCSLA annuities
(issued prior to 2005) with a guaranteed
minimum rate of 4.50% will earn a yield
of 4.6025%, while newer FCSLA
annuities (issued 2005 and after)
with a guaranteed minimum rate of
3.50% will earn a yield of 3.5618%.**

MEET THE NEWLY ELECTED PRESIDENT OF CHICAGO JR. BRANCH 339

Joyce M. Kelly, a life-long and current resident of the southwest side of Chicago and member of Sr. Branch 287 was recently elected as the President of Jr. Branch 339. Joyce is a prodigy of the U.S. Catholic school system, having graduated from St. Ludmilla grammar school, Maria High School and attended Loyola University Chicago. Joyce is the proud mother of four sons with her late husband, Robert. After her husband's death in 1985, Joyce lost the youngest of their four sons, Victor, to T-Cell Leukemia. In 1989, Joyce met John Merkel and in 2006 they were married.



Joyce started her career in sales as a Brownie, Girl Scout selling cookies until the age of 18 where she transitioned into the world of retail with a job at Goldblatt's, selling everything from cosmetics, ladies' hats, men's suits, candy, deli meats, etc. She was later promoted to the Human Resources Department at the young age of 17. After marrying Robert, she began working at Rush Presbyterian St. Luke's Hospital (RUSH) in Chicago where she started out as an insurance coder, biller, and collector. She remained there until the birth of her first son in 1978. While she was raising her sons, she became a stay-at-home/work-at-home mom enjoying a job as a magazine coder. In 1989, she joined the United States Department of Veteran Affairs where she rose from file clerk and is now the Supervisor of the Fiduciary and Field Team that is charged with ensuring that our most vulnerable veterans, widows/widowers, and orphans are protected financially. Her team makes home visits in order to audit their financial estates and to work tire-

lessly as staunch advocates for these veterans and their families. Joyce's job transition to the VA was in order to provide her sons with a strong Catholic education. Joyce's three sons are all Eagle Scouts.

Joyce is excited about her new role as the President of Jr. Branch 339 and looks forward to growing and fostering strong Catholic beliefs and practices in our youth. She is also extremely excited about ensuring that the FCSLA continues it's great work and reaches out to as many families as can benefit by our fellowship. She recently signed up her first new member! Welcome Joyce, the Chicago District looks forward to having you on board as a member and officer!

NATIONALITY ROOM OPEN HOUSE

On Sunday, December 5, 2010 the Nationality Rooms Program, University of Pittsburgh held its Annual Holiday Open House at the Cathedral of Learning, 5th Avenue, University of Pittsburgh Pittsburgh, PA. All the rooms were open for tours by authentically garbed student tour guides, and the committees from the Rooms held folk dance performances in the Commons Room with the various



Cynthia Maleski (center) was selling items for the Women's International Club for their scholarship programs.



Cynthia Maleski took time to visit the CzechoSlovak Room, one of the original Rooms, to talk to current student (Quo Vadis) dressed in one of the Rooms authentic costumes in front of the fresco Miracle Tree and the Room's decorated Christmas Tree.

Rooms selling homemade items for Scholarship Programs. Cynthia M. Maleski represented the Women's International Club and offered different items from their Club.

Cynthia M. Maleski, National Trustee, currently serves as volunteer President, Women's International Club, Nationality Rooms and Intercultural Exchange Program, University of Pittsburgh. Founded in 1939 to promote harmony and understanding among various nationality groups, the Club currently also awards scholarships in an extremely competitive empanelled process to deserving eligible university women students and promotes the Nationality Rooms.

Four Generations of FCSLA Members

Pictured below are great-grandmother Ann Scott of Boardman, OH, with her daughter, Carol DelBane of Mayfield Heights, OH, granddaughter Denise Knowles, and great-granddaughter Leah Knowles both of Hickory, NC.

Ann, Carol, and Denise are members of Branch 325 and Leah is a member of Jr. Branch 354.



MATCHING FUNDS ACTIVITIES

Sr. Branch W016

Bake Sale

A Bake Sale was held on October 10 for the benefit of the Brainard PCCW (Parish Council of Catholic Women) in Brainard, NE. Branch and parish members donated baked goods for the bake sale. The sale raised \$700 and will be used toward the purchase of new altar boy cassocks for the parish. Pictured below are PCCW members Julie Novacek and Brenda Janak and FCSLA members Marcy Janak, Alyce Haavlovic and Joyce Rezac with some of the items for sale.



Sr. Branch 225

Gifts and Postage for Adopted Troop in Iraq

The St. Catherine Sr. Branch 225 of Chicago held its matching funds event on November 9, 2010 at St. Julie Billiard's Church Hall in conjunction with the Senior Young of Hearts luncheon held to honor the U.S. veterans of the parish. During the luncheon, St. Catherine's Sr. Branch 225 of Chicago conducted a free will offering from the attendees for gifts and postage for our adopted troop in Iraq. The attendees donated \$621 to this endeavor. Mayor Ed Zabrocki from the Village of Tinley Park accepted the invitation to speak at the luncheon and thanked the veterans in attendance for their service. Dolores Glomb, Treasurer of St. Catherine's Sr. Branch 225 who coordinated the free will collection, stated, "This matching funds event was an-



Village of Tinley Park Mayor, Ed Zabrocki.



L-R: Sr. Branch 352 Officers: Fred Olszowka and Therese Buc, Sr. Branch 225 Officers: Phil and Dolores Glomb and Sr. Branch 485 Officer: Lydia Berry.

other great success for our branch. The generous response from the attendees at the luncheon was overwhelming. Thank you to all who attended and made this event a success."



L-R — Sr. Branch 225 Officer, Dolores Glomb with the veterans who attended the luncheon and on the far right is Sr. Gael of St. Julie Billiard Parish (Coordinator of the Young At Hearts)



Sr. Branch 88 — Monessen Food Pantry



Members and officers of Branch 88 presented a \$500 Matching Funds check to Monessen Food Pantry Director. L-R are: Rosemary Betza, Branch 88 Auditor; Mary Ann Ralston; Mary Jo Smith, Monessen Food Pantry Director; Dorothy Urbanowicz, Branch 88 President; Veronica Bellicini, Branch 88 Auditor, and Marilyn Pivarnik.



Jr. Branch 531

All Saints Church Fundraiser

Junior members from Branch 531 held its first matching funds project on September 4th and 5th. Sr. Branch members from Branch 620 assisted the junior members with running the



MATCHING FUNDS ACTIVITIES

booth at the All Saints Church Festival. The members sold popcorn, pop, water and candy. They also sold raffle tickets to help generate funds. The booth raised over \$330, which will be donated to the All Saints Parish to help repair rectory windows.



Branch W008

Church Lottery Dinner Fundraiser

Branch members from W008 along with St. Wenceslaus Church members hosted a Church Lottery Dinner to benefit St. Wenceslaus Parish. Members from Branch W008 and the church sold tickets and prepared the meal for the dinner. The Lottery Dinner raised over \$8,260 and will be used to remodel the Holy Family Room.



Branch W074

Father Day Brunch and Matching Funds Project

Joel Sis, Treasurer of Branch W074 presented a check to Rev. Nicholas Parker of St. John Nepomucene in Beardsley, KS for \$1,207. Of that \$1,207, \$707 were proceeds raised from the annual Branch FCSLA Breakfast — the remaining \$500 was from the National Home Office as part of the Matching Funds Program. The money will be used to put a new roof on the church.



Branch W187

Ice Cream and Brownie Social for Scholarships

Branch members from W187 put together an Ice Cream and Brownie Social at Saints Mary and Joseph Church for the benefit of its student members. Members baked brownies, donated ice cream and helped serve. The event raised over \$225 and will be used for branch scholarships.



Sr. Branch 618

Dinner Dance Fundraiser



Sr. Branch members from 618 held a dinner dance at Catered Elegance Party Center for the benefit of St. Augustine's Hunger Center. At the dinner, the branch sold raffle tickets for a new TV. The Dinner Dance raised \$1,608 and was donated to the hunger center to help purchase foods and meats for the upcoming holiday season.



(continued on next page)

MATCHING FUNDS ACTIVITIES

Branch W092

Dinner Dance Benefit

Members from Branch W092 held a dinner dance at Bechyme Heritage Hall on October 2, 2010. The branch members roasted a pig, boiled dumplings and cooked the sauerkraut for the dinner portion. The 200 attendees enjoyed an evening full of dancing with music by Matt Hodek and the Dakota Dutchmen. The event raised \$1,500 and was donated to the improvement fund for Bechyme Heritage Hall.



Sr. Branch W016 — Brainard, NE

Fall Brunch Benefit and Raffle

A Fall Brunch was held on October 17, 2010 for the benefit of the Brainard Area Community Club. Branch members and



community club members donated food, time, supplies, raffle prizes and money to help make this fall brunch a success. The brunch and raffle raised \$519 for the benefit of the Community Club. Pictured below left are members Mary Lou Meister and Joyce Rezac (foreground) and Community Club officers Brenda Janak, Dave Foster and Sheri Nielsen (background).



Branch W013

Quilt Raffle

Branch members from W013 along with members from St. John's Parish held a Quilt Raffle at St. John's Parish in Prague, NE. Branch and parish quilters made and donated the quilt for the raffle. They collected \$823, which was donated to the parish.



Sr. Branch 522

Pasta Dinner Fundraiser

Members from Sr. Branch 522 held a pasta dinner for our branch, Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine, and also community members. The dinner was held in the St. Ann's Dining Hall. Dinner tickets were sold by members along with raffle tickets for the gift baskets. The event raised \$1,585 and was donated to the Shrine for the expansion of the St. Ann's Dining Room.

Sr. Branch 101 and Jr. Branch 11

Food Drive/Fundraiser

Branch members from Sr. Branch 101 and Jr. Branch 11 along with the Knights of Columbus Council #453 held a food drive to collect food for the St. Vincent de Paul Society. This is the second year the branches held a matching funds project for the St. Vincent de Paul Society. The food drive raised more than \$3,000, which will help approximately 500 individuals this holiday season.



Sr. Branch 176

Walk/Fundraiser for Ovarian Cancer

This year Sr. Branch members from 176 formed a team to join in the OutRun Ovarian Cancer 5K Race/Walk. Branch members asked community members for pledges in order to raise money for Ovarian Cancer research. Branch 176 team members raised \$500 to be donated to the OutRun Ovarian Cancer.

JANUARY 2011

CONVENTION CAMPAIGN

In anticipation of our 2011 convention, FCSLA is announcing an outstanding Convention Campaign. Every Life Insurance Certificate approved from January 1, 2011 through August 31, 2011 will generate a chance in a drawing at the convention*. **The prize in that drawing will be a brand new 2011 Ford Fusion!**

We hope that every single Recommender, Sales Representative and General Agent will take advantage of this unprecedented opportunity to win the NEW CAR, by placing at least one new life insurance certificate with the Association. Every placed life insurance application earns you another entry into the drawing. As the saying goes "YOU HAVE TO BE IN IT TO WIN IT"! Obviously the more life insurance certificates a producer sells, the better his or her chance of winning the car.

In addition to the big drawing for the car, producers will have the ability to earn bonus money throughout the year. Checks will be sent out at convention time. A report will also be put in the convention material showing the names of bonus winners.

Here's how the bonuses will work: There will be five bonus levels. Each month stands on its own. There are three possible ways to qualify for each level. All monthly bonuses will be totaled for a final payout at convention time.

Here are the levels:

Level 1: Two life applications OR \$500 annualized premium OR \$10,000 Single Premium, during the month, qualifies for a \$25 bonus.

Level 2: Four life applications OR \$1,000 annualized premium OR \$25,000 Single Premium, during the month, qualifies for a \$50 bonus.

Level 3: Six life application OR \$2,000 annualized premium OR \$50,000 Single Premium, during the month, qualifies for a \$100 bonus

Level 4: 10 life applications OR \$3,000 annualized premiums OR \$100,000 Single Premium, during the month, qualifies for a \$250 bonus.

Level 5: 15 life applications OR \$5,000 annualized premium, OR \$250,000 Single Premium, during the month, qualifies for a \$500 bonus.

*Two Super Life Term applications of at least \$25 will count as one application for both the monthly bonus and the drawing for the car.



Note: All state licensing requirements and rules will be strictly observed.

*All life insurance certificates must be submitted by a licensed agent or a member in a state with fraternal exemption.

District Anna Hurban of Chicago Hosted its 7th Annual Combined Branch Christmas Party

The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, District Anna Hurban of Chicago, hosted its seventh annual combined branch Christmas Party at the Orland Chateau in Orland Park, IL on Saturday, December 4, 2010 with a total of 345 branch members and guests in attendance. Members and guests enjoyed great conversation with one another and caught up on the years' events before and during the luncheon. Sr. Antonia Klausner, District Chaplain, gave a food prayer and blessing before the meal. The members and their guests feasted on a flavorful beef barley soup,

garden salad, hot rolls, the traditional Slovak roasted pork and dumplings, fresh polish sausage with sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, California blend vegetables, baked chicken with dressing, and tasty Italian pastries for dessert – all deliciously prepared and scrumptious! Later in the program, the attendees participated in a raffle to win any of the 178 available prizes. Winning raffle number recipients then received their prize, brought to them by some of the attending District's Junior Members. After the event, branch members commented, "This year's party was another HUGE success! Everyone is looking forward to next year's party!" Joe Ledvora, District President stated, "Once again, the Branch Officers did another outstanding job in coordinating this event, from shopping and wrapping the prizes to creating the invitations to send to their members. And despite the morning snowfall, our membership travelled from near and far to celebrate the beginning of the holiday season with one another."



L-R: Marge Krugley, Jarmila Hlubocky, Irene Zittman, Judy Tybor-Knizner, Joseph Ledvora, Alice Nemcek, Helen Ledvora.





Branch 140 of Lansford, PA Holds Christmas Party

Sunday, December 5th dawned beautiful and bright – the perfect day for the Sr. Branch 140 (Lansford, PA) Christmas Party. Over 65 members enjoyed a wonderful meal at Macaluso's Restaurant in Nesquehoning, PA following a short business meeting. Louise Dunstan, Branch Financial Secretary/Treasurer welcomed everyone and led the group in prayer. Following the pledge of allegiance, Branch President

Veronica Bazik shared her Christmas message with the group. National Editor Carolyn Bazik spoke briefly about the results of the Special Convention and the upcoming 40th National Convention to be held at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront in October 2011. Everyone enjoyed their meal so much that the date for next

year's party has already been reserved again at Macaluso's.





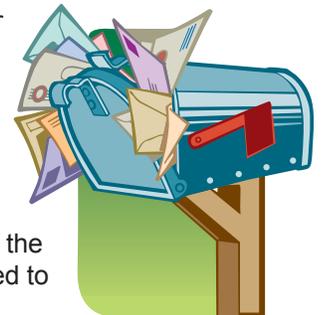
Please Plan to Attend Next Year's Event!



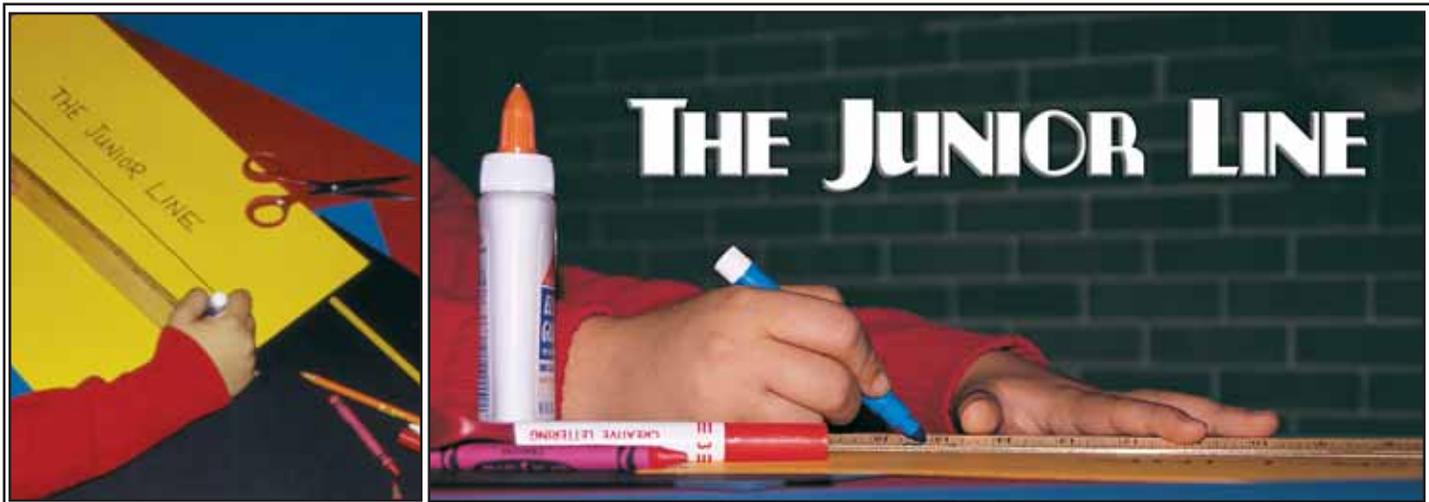
Change of Address?

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 24 and mailing to the home office address. We ask that one magazine per household be sufficient.

Also, the same form holds good for any of our members who would like to, but are not receiving the magazine. If you are our member, you are entitled to receive our publication.



HAVE YOU SIGNED UP A NEW MEMBER THIS MONTH?



KYLE GRABOWSKI (Jr. Branch 202) celebrated his 2nd birthday on August 21st with a Mickey Mouse theme along with his brothers, Alex and Ryan. Kyle is the son of Susan and Martin Grabowski of Harrison City, PA.

First Grade Scholarship winner, **JOSHUA BRAUN** was honored at the 90th Anniversary of Jr. Branch 334 and given a \$100 check from the Jr. Branch. Joshua attends St. Frances Cabrini Catholic School, enjoys swimming, riding his bike, playing games with family and friends, and collecting webkinz. He is also a pretty good bocce ball player!



In April, **JOSEPH ROSSI** made his First Communion at St. Mary's Parish in Foxboro, MA. Joey attends Foxboro Regional Charter School, and enjoys playing soccer, baseball, and football, as well as XBOX! He is also a great swimmer.

His parents are Dawn and Steve Rossi. Dawn is a member of Sr. Branch 376 in Milwaukee, WI; and Joey's grandmother is Kathy Dorfner, President of Branch 376. Joey is a member of Jr. Branch 334 in Milwaukee, WI.



LAUREN ELIZABETH SHEMAN-SKY is the newest member of Jr. Branch 362, Wilkes-Barre, PA. She was born on September 9, 2010 and baptized at Most Precious Blood Church in Hazelton, PA. Lauren is the daughter of Thomas and Linda Shemansky and the granddaughter of Thomas and Carol Shemansky and Francis and Theresa Ceklosky. Linda, Francis and Theresa are members of Sr. Branch 172, Wilkes-Barre, PA. Lauren is the great niece of Barbara Ceklosky, Treasurer of Jr. Branch 362 of Wilkes-Barre, PA.

RECENT BRANCH W086 BAPTISMS

Future members of FCSLA Branch W086 were baptized recently. **ZACHARY BARNES SPLICHAL**, adopted son of Kim Splichal was baptized by Father Barry Brinkman at St. George Church, Munden, KS. Godparents are Heath Baxa and Audrey Splichal.

JOHN HUGH JOHNSON, infant son of Bonnie and Harold Johnson II was baptized November 7, 2010 by Father Brinkman at St. George Church, Munden, KS. Witnesses were Pam and Jeff Smith.

The mothers and grandparents Eddie and Cindy Splichal of the newly baptized are members of Branch W086, Munden, KS.

Branch W001 Hosts Annual Picnic

Branch W001 hosted a picnic for Branches W001 and W035 in New Prague, MN on Sunday, August 22, 2010. The adults spent the afternoon visiting and playing cards. The kids spent the day finding tokens in the sand (which were cashed in for money), participating in an egg toss, water balloon toss and card bingo. Many door prizes were awarded to branch members.



Youngstown Sister Cities Sets Slovakia Tour

Youngstown Sister Cities' 14th Heritage Tour to Slovakia has been set for July 4-18, 2011. The tour includes Vienna, Austria; Bratislava; Trencin; Tatry Mountains; Levoca; Kosice; and Spisska Nova Ves.

Special features include Mass in Lendak where villagers still wear Slovak kroj (costumes) to Mass; Kezmarok Street Fair where local artisans sell their homemade items at booths and where one can sit and enjoy Slovak folk music and dancing which is performed all day on stage (while you eat delicious Slovak food); the Piestany Spa; Slovak wood-carving of the complete scene of Bethlehem; gondola lift ride up the side of a Tatra Mountain and dinner at a genuine koliba (shepherd's hut), raft ride on the Dunajec River, tour many old churches, museums and castles. A special tour event is a champagne breakfast at the Town Hall hosted by the Mayor of our Sister City, Spisska Nova Ves.

One day in Levoca is reserved to visit friends and relatives — English speaking guides (chauffeurs) will be available for personal visits (for a fee). Jim and Kay Bench who have been guides on many of the YSC trips are knowledgeable about tours and sites to be seen during the 13-day stay.

Total cost per person (airfare from Pittsburgh-Washington-Vienna) is approximately \$3,500 which includes airfare, thirteen nights in first class hotels, two meals per day and an air-conditioned bus with an English speaking guide for the entire tour.

For information contact Jim/Kay at cell (724) 858-5843 or jmbench@yahoo.com or Adventure International Travel Service (800) 542-2487 or Paul@aits.webmail.com or bdemechko@aol.com, Secretary, Youngstown Sister Cities.

Branch W016 Holds "Celebration of Gratitude" Party

The scenes are from the "Celebration of Gratitude" party held in Brainard, NE on November 14, 2010 at the Holy Trinity Klein Center.



Members Bill Prochaska and Albert Divis and their guests enjoy the get together. Member Marcy Janak is in the background.



Branch W016 Vice President Alyce Havlovic shares a FCSLA favor with guest Bill Perk.



Musical entertainment was provided by (L-R) Leo Kovar, Vern Dvorak, Father Matthew Eickhoff, Bill Perk, and Father Jeff Eickhoff.



L-R: Leo Kovar, Elly and Joe Kliment and other guests partake of the buffet meal.



Father Matthew Eickhoff (far right) welcomes member Jerome Svoboda and guests Sharon Svoboda and Vern Dvorak.



IN MEMORIAM

HELEN (BILKA) STEFFEK Branch 248/367

Helen (Bilka) Steffek, 89, of Mount Prospect, IL passed away on July 16, 2010. She was a member and choir member of St. Cecilia Church in Mt. Prospect, IL. Formerly she was a very active member of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Chicago along with her husband John Steffek. For many years Helen was an officer of the Jr. Branch of the FCSLA in Chicago, IL.

Helen was born on May 14, 1921, in Chicago, IL to the late John and Mary Bilka and was predeceased by her loving husband John Steffek and her two brothers Albert and Ray Bilka.

Helen and her husband John were dedicated to their family and very active in many church activities.

Survivors include her children Jack (Joan) Steffek, Mary Ellen (Pat) Woodward and Tom (Joann) Steffek and her loving grandchildren Kristin Woodward, Tommy Steffek and Patrick Woodward. She will be missed by her family and friends.

IRENE A. PINKOWSKI Branch 334

Irene A. Pinkowski (nee Kristek), 80, died peacefully in her home on Tuesday, August 10, 2010, after a year and half battle with colon cancer. She was surrounded by loved ones at the time of her death.



Irene was born in Detroit, MI to Celia and Joseph Kristek on June 12, 1930. Irene graduated from SS. Andrew and Benedict Elementary School, Holy Redeemer High School and Mount Carmel Mercy College of Nursing. She was married to Walter in June 1951.

Irene is survived by her children Kathleen (John) Polanski, James (Liz), Timothy (Dreema), Michael and seven grandchildren. Irene was preceded in

death by her husband, Walter and her son, Thomas.

Irene was a life-long member of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association where she served as President, Secretary and Treasurer of Branches 334 and 232. Irene was an active member of St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church where she served as a Eucharistic Minister, was on the Worship Commission, Funeral Lunch Committee, Christian Mothers and sang in the choir. Irene was a kind and friendly neighbor. Her friends and family were numerous and dear to her heart. She enjoyed nature. She loved walking in the woods, looking for unusual wild flowers and mushrooms. Irene fed flocks of birds daily and she enjoyed crocheting and reading.

Memorial contributions were made to Henry Ford Hospice.

HELEN C. SOPKOVICH Branch 169

Helen C. Sopkovich, 92, of Briarfield Manor and formerly of North Brockway Avenue in Youngstown, passed away August 16, 2010 at Hospice House.

Helen was born January 4, 1918 in Youngstown, OH. She was a daughter of the late Charles and Helen Glosmek Niznik, and was a lifelong area resident.

She was a graduate of Chaney High School, and was a homemaker who dedicated her life to raising and caring for her family.

Helen was a lifelong member of Holy Name of Jesus Church in Youngstown, OH, member of the church's Altar and Rosary Society.

She enjoyed the time she spent with her family, especially her grandchildren.

Her beloved husband, Joseph Sopkovich, whom she married May 7, 1949, passed away March 12, 2010.

She left two sons, John (Carol) Sopkovich of Girard and Dennis (Paula) Sopkovich of Canfield; six grandchildren, Christopher, Jennifer, Justin, Jordan, Joshua, and Jessica; and a sister Ruth Kay of Youngstown.

Helen will be truly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Besides her husband, three brothers, Charles, Edward, and Stephen Niznik, and a sister, Anna M. Nizink are deceased.

HELENA P. LAZAR Branch 1

Helena P. Lazar of Lake County, Ohio, formerly of Cleveland, 88, died on July 23, 2010 with her family at her side. Born on February 17, 1922, she was the fourth daughter and child of Mary (Toth) and Stephen Placko of Weltytown, PA.



She married Joseph Lazar at St. Ladislav Church in 1942 and was a long-time member of St. Benedict Parish before moving to Eastlake and joining St. Justin Martyr Parish community.

Helena was President of FCSLA Sr. and Jr. Branch 1 that formerly held meetings at St. Ladislav and St. Benedict Parishes in the Buckeye Road area in Southeast Cleveland. She held various positions in the branch since the age of 16, starting as Junior Order Auditor, then Financial Secretary and Recording Secretary before succeeding her mother, Mary as President in 1976. She was a member of the 100M Club of the Association and worked for 20 years at the FCSLA Home Office before retiring in 1987.

Helena was the devoted wife of the late Joseph J. Lazar of Eastlake for 55 years. She is survived by her children: Toni (Karl) Toth of Newbury, Joseph (Phyllis) Lazar of Willoughby, Kathleen (William) Boldizar of Willoughby Hills and Mary Alyce (Dan) Dawson of Eastlake. She was preceded in death by a son, Bob Lazar. Also survived by grandchildren: Michelle, John (Shirley) and Keith Toth; Bryan (Heather) Lazar; Gary (Katherine) and Sarah Boldizar

and three great-grandsons; Zachary Toth and Lincoln and Grayson Boldizar.

Helena is sadly missed and lives on in her children's hearts with memories of her devotion to daily prayer, pride in her Slovak heritage, great sense of humor and love of a happy life. Her love of baking, especially for the holidays will be carried on by her daughters.

RUDOLPH A. BLECHA **Branch W086**

Rudolph A. Blecha was born April 8, 1917 and died August 30, 2010 at the age of 93. He was born and raised near Munden, KS. Rudolph was the son of Frank and Anna (Shimanek) Blecha. After graduating from the 8th grade he started farming due to the illness of his father. Rudy farmed for over 60 years. He married Viola Popelka and they had an adopted daughter, Connie.

A member of St. George Catholic Church, Munden, KS, Rudy was also a member of Branch W086 and Knights of Columbus.

After leaving the farm, Rudy lived in Belleville, KS for 5 years and then moved to Mankato, KS to be near his family. He was preceded in death by his wife, and his parents, two brothers and two sisters.

He is survived by his daughter Connie and husband Michael Waite of Mankato, KS; seven grandchildren: Jennifer and Matt Grennan of Broomfield, CO, Jared and Jennifer Waite of Abilene, KS, Carrie and Jason Reece of LaCross, KS and Dustin Waite of Broomfield, CO; six great-grandchildren Zach, Isaac, and Hannah Grennan; Grant and Annastyn Waite; and Ryland Reece.

RITA C. PASEKA **Branch W013**

Rita C. Paseka, 88, of Prague died October 7, 2010, at Saunders Medical Center in Wahoo, NE.

She was born August 2, 1922, near Morse Bluff to Mike and Anna (Bratrsovky) Pabian.

She grew up in the Cedar Hill area near Morse Bluff attending a nearby country school and also Linwood High School. She married Joseph C. Paseka on February 13, 1945, in a double wedding ceremony with her sister, Anne, at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church in Wahoo.

They made their home on a farm northeast of Prague where she lived the rest of her life. She worked as a homemaker and farm wife. She was a member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and was a member of the Rosary Society, First Slovak Catholic Ladies Association and the American Legion Post 254 Auxiliary.

Survivors include: daughters, JoAnn (Larry) Johnson of Malmo, NE; Janice (Richard) Wielage of Mead, NE; sons Ronald (Debra), Richard (Beverly), Raymond, Robert (Mary Ann), Roger (Joyce) and Randy (Christina) all of Prague, NE; 28 grandchildren; 33 great-grandchildren; sister, Anne Nesladek of North Bend, NE.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Joseph, four brothers and a sister.

Memorials were made to St. John the Baptist Church.

ANN MARGARET PALKO **Branch 81**

Ann Margaret Palko, 96, of Whiting, IN passed away Friday, July 23, 2010 at her residence. Beloved daughter of the late Andro and Anna Palko. She is survived by loving and caring friends: John and Elaine Badnarik, with whom she shared a wonderful friendship for over 60 years; cousins: Richard and Jo Ann Palko and family; the Horni families of Michigan and Arizona; her caregiver, Becky Coleman and numerous cousins.

Ann Palko was born on November 8, 1913 in Cleveland, OH to the late Andro (1885-1954) and Anna (Horni) Palko (1889-1974) and was a resident of Whiting for the past 87 years. Her parents were born, raised and married in Slanske Nove Mesto, Abov, Slovakia. They came to America in 1911 and 1912

and are resting in St. John Cemetery, Hammond.

Ann was a member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Whiting, the St. John Rosary Society, the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Branch 81, the Daughters of Isabella, the Whiting Robertsdale Historical Society and the St. Gaspar del Bufalo Society, St. Gaspar del Bufalo, founder. She was a hairdresser for many years, worked for the Northern Indiana Public Service Company and retired from the Amoco Oil (BP) Whiting Refinery with a service of 31 years. Ann enjoyed her Slovak heritage, family genealogy, ancient history, traveling and doll collecting.

Memorials were made to the St. John School Endowment Fund.

CHERYL LYNN MIRELES **Branch S081**

Cheryl Lynn Mireles (nee Bobos), 51 of Long Grove, IL formerly of Whiting, passed away September 5, 2010 at the Northwest Community Hospital, Arlington Heights, IL.

Beloved daughter of Richard and Justine (Habell) Bobos of Hobart; cherished sister of Janet (Chuck) Warner of St. Louis, MO, Mark Bobos and Ruth (Steve) Shirk both of Hobart, Karen (Tony) Rohman of Michigan City and Vickie (Fernando) Loreda of Crown Point; many nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins.

She was a member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church where she was a graduate of St. John School. She went on to attend the Calumet College of St. Joseph, Whiting where she was on the honor roll for three years. Cheryl had aspired to become a counselor and was a guest speaker on the subject of addiction. She loved to cook and sew. She especially enjoyed making stuffed animals and Christmas tree decorations. Family gatherings were always very special to Cheryl; she adored her nieces and nephews. She was a very kind and giving person who always gave from her heart. She will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved her.

LUCINKA CHILDREN'S SLOVAK FOLK ENSEMBLE

The Lucinka Children's Slovak Folk Ensemble experienced a memorable, enjoyable time on their inaugural visit to Slovakia. The Ensemble was invited to perform at the 14th Annual Juznoslovenské Children and Youth Folk Festival held July 24 to July 25, 2010 at the Amphitheatre in Dulovce, Slovakia. Dulovce is a small town near the southern border of Slovakia which continues to maintain its Slovak heritage through the song and dance of this unique children's festival.

Since many of the Ensemble's members had not travelled to Slovakia previously, along with seeing all of the beautiful history and architecture, visiting grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins and other extended family were also a first for some! The Ensemble selected the historic city of Košice to begin their Slovak sightseeing adventures. A day-long tour included a visit to the glorious cathedral of St. Elizabeth, St. Michael's Chapel, the State Theatre and the Immaculata Statue. Visiting the shops and lunch at the Karczma Mlyn, a traditional Slovak wine cellar with traditional Slovak foods and beverages made the day complete.

The Ensemble then travelled to the town of Levoča to visit the church of St. Jacob which contains many beautiful statues and the extraordinary wooden altar made by Master Pavol. The Ensemble visited the historic town of Vlkolínec located in northern Slovakia which has maintained much of its notable architecture, the ancient castle located in Orava, the Slovak mint located in the city of Kremnica and a mineral mine located in the city of Banská Stiavnica. Overnight accommodations for the group included a stay in a 300 year old miner's home located near Banská Stiavnica and Kremnica.

In addition to the invitation to the Juznoslovenské Festival, the Lucinka dancers also received an invitation to dance with children's groups at the From Ohaj to Ohaj Children's Folklore Festival held in Horný Ohaj Friday afternoon, July 23rd. In addition to Lucinka, groups included the Kaška Ensemble and the MS Vrabie Ensemble both from Vrabie and the Sílešánek Ensemble from Vinodola. Prior to the Ohaj Festival, the group toured the nearby city of Nitra including the Nitra Castle.

Overnight accommodations for many of the participants were in the city of Komarno near the Hungarian border. While staying in Komarno, the Ensemble visited an historic Turkish fortress which housed Russian soldiers during the Communist regime.

The Juznoslovenské Festival began with rehearsals on Saturday with all of the members of the participating ensembles which included Slovak Children's Ensembles Zochárik from Topoľčany, S'astné Detstov from Brezno, Lúčík from Dulovce, Matičiarik from



L-R: First row: Kristyna Nosek, Anna Nosek, Victoria Oros, John Allen-McIntyre, Veronica Montani, Lexi Glova, Katie Skurka. Second row: John Moynihan, Kaz Dzurec, John Dzurec, Vladimir Sokol, Scott Connors.

Nové Zámky, Levaáraneek from Veľké Leváre and Inovček from Hlohovec. From outside of Slovakia included Fraňo Strapač from Markovec, Croatia, Petrovská Družina from Bačsky Petrovec, Serbia and the Lučinka Ensemble from Cleveland, Ohio, USA.

A Festival Parade through Dulovce began the Saturday evening's festivities. The performances were entertaining, the costumes were charming and the artistic presentations included all ages of children and youth celebrating Slovak culture through song and dance. The final performance of the evening included the adult folklore ensembles Vatra from Tlmače, Slovakia and Skowronki from Branksa, Poland, showcasing some of the best Slovak folklore talent! Following Saturday's performances, a dance party was held for the young and young at heart!

Sunday's performances were moved from the Amphitheater to a nearby elementary school due to inclement weather and despite the rain, the spirits were high and the song and dancing once again impressed the audience. Both Saturday's and Sunday evening's performances were concluded with representatives from all of the ensembles dancing together. Even with potential language barriers, song and dance make for immediate friendship and the weekend's events were no exception. These forged friendships and the experiences will not be quickly forgotten.

The week went quickly and all too soon, it was time to head back to the States. However, the Lučinka Children's Slovak Folk Ensemble of Cleveland has its sights set on a return trip to Slovakia with hopes of performances at the larger festivals for young adults as they continue to develop their talents. The Lučinka dancers and parents wish to extend a sincere thank-you to all who provided financial support in order to make this unforgettable tour possible. Please visit our web site at www.lucina.org for information about the Lučinka Ensemble and to see photos from our visit to Slovakia. You may also contact Director Christine Hearn at 440-655-8244 or Parents Committee Chair Dana Glova at 216-360-0930 for more information.



L-R: John Dzurec, Kaz Dzurec, John Moynihan, John Allen-McIntyre, Vladimir Sokol, Scott Connors; in the background Katie Skurka. John and Kaz Dzurec are members of Jr. Branch 374.



L-R: Lucinka Treasurer Michele Mager, Lucinka Secretary Mary Ann Dzurec, Lucinka Parents Committee Chair Dana Glova, Office of Slovaks Living Abroad Representative Mgr. Michaela Grznárová, Lucinka Instructor Nadia Oros and Office of Slovaks Living Abroad Representative Božena Malíková.

FCSLA 2011/2012

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

More than \$248,250 in Scholarship Awards!

The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association is pleased to announce its 2011-2012 Scholarship Program which is in fulfillment of one of the objectives of the organization. This year more than \$248,250 will be awarded to young members of the Association, which includes \$42,000 being awarded to elementary school applicants.

These elementary school awards are a benefit recently passed by the FCSLA Board of Directors. In this day of promoting education, one of the best means of offering assistance is by the Scholarship Program.

**COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS WILL BE \$1,250 EACH
AND GRADUATE AWARDS ARE \$1,750 EACH**

58 Freshmen • 27 Sophomores • 16 Juniors • 16 Seniors • 16 Full Time Graduate Awards

**32 HIGH SCHOOL AWARDS AT \$1,000 EACH
WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AS FOLLOWS:**

8 Freshmen • 8 Sophomores • 8 Juniors • 8 Seniors

**28 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AWARDS AT \$750 EACH
WILL BE AWARDED AS FOLLOWS:**

7 for Grade 5 • 7 for Grade 6 • 7 for Grade 7 • 7 for Grade 8

28 EARLY ELEMENTARY AWARDS AT \$750 EACH

7 for Grade 1 • 7 for Grade 2 • 7 for Grade 3 • 7 for Grade 4

In addition, two (2) Theresa Sajan Scholarships are awarded to graduate students.

An eligible candidate for a FCSLA Fraternal Scholarship Award shall be a member of good standing for at least three years prior to date of application and hold a \$1,000 legal reserve certificate, a \$5,000 term certificate or have an annuity certificate. If applying for a Seminary or Deacon Scholarship it is necessary to complete all documents.

Winners will be chosen by a committee of impartial judges from the educational field and based on the following:
Academic standing 50%, Family membership 15%,
Financial need 20%, Leadership 10%, and extenuating circumstances 5%.

All applications and supporting documents must be completed and submitted to the Home Office no later than March 1, 2011.

Applications and further details for this program may be obtained by calling the Home Office, your local Branch Officer, or by visiting our website at www.fcsla.com or by completing the form on this page and mailing it to:

**First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association
Scholarship Department
24950 Chagrin Boulevard
Beachwood, OH 44122-5634**



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION REQUEST

Please send me a scholarship application form.
(PLEASE PRINT)

Branch No. _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Application requested for following award:

- College Graduate High School
 Seminary or Deacon Scholarship
 Grades 5-8 Grades 1-4

Reception Held in Honor of U.S. Ambassador of Slovakia

Ambassador Theodore Sedgwick born and raised in Cleveland, OH visited the Cleveland area on Thursday, November 18, 2010 to meet with members of the Slovak-American community. Ambassador Sedgwick is newly appointed, representing the United States in Slovakia at the U.S. Embassy in Bratislava. He was confirmed by the United States Senate on June 30, 2010 and sworn in on July 4, 2010 in a private ceremony.

Ambassador Sedgwick is a business executive with experience in the publishing and timber industries. He founded Pasha Publications, a specialty publisher focused on energy, defense and environment markets, and served as its chief executive for 20 years. More recently, he founded Io Energy, an online information company covering gas, coal and electricity industries. He was president of Red Hills Lumber Co., a producer of pine flooring. Prior to his



National President Mary Ann Johaneck and National Secretary Irene Drotleff are pictured with Honorable Theodore Sedgwick the U.S. Ambassador to Slovakia at a reception held in his honor, on November 18 at the Independence Crowne Plaza Hotel, Independence, OH.

appointment Ambassador Sedgwick served on a number of private company boards, including Inside Higher Ed, Atlantic Information Services, and Washington Business Information, Inc. He has served on the boards of a number of cultural institutions, including the Folger Shakespeare Library, the Shakespeare Theater Co. and the Gennadius Library in Athens, Greece. Ambassador Sedgwick has also served on the boards of a number of land preservation organizations, including the Civil War Preservation Trust, which he chaired from 2006-2009, and the Wetlands America Trust, an affiliate of Ducks Unlimited. He was on the Council of the Land Trust Alliance. Ambassador Sedgwick is a member of the Chief

Executives Organization, an organization of global business leaders. He graduated with honors from Harvard College, cum laude, where he majored in Ottoman History.

America's Foremost Slovak Sports Event!

Slovak Bowling Congress Celebrates 69th Annual National Tournament

In 1939 two Slovak Brothers Steve "Doc" and Peter Hletko formed the Slovak Bowling Congress, and organized the first Slovak National Bowling Tournament. The first tournament was held in 1939 at St. Francis recreation in Milwaukee, WI. Two teams, ten bowlers participated in that first tournament.

Since that time the tournament has grown to almost 200 teams, 815 bowlers participating in the tournament still known as the Slovak Bowling Congress of America Slovak National Bowling Tournament. The tournament is held in the month of April. The 2011 tournament will cover the weekends of April 2nd through the weekend of May 1st in Warren, OH at Echo Lanes. Past tournaments have enjoyed entry of 13,131 teams, 32,042 doubles teams, and 74,983 singles and 52,024 all-events bowlers. All time payouts total over \$811,891.01!

Entry of over 700 bowlers from some 160 cities throughout the United States and Canada is expected. Bowlers will be competing for a prize fund in excess of \$20,000.00.

As a special incentive to Slovak Bowlers, the following Slovak organizations are offering special prizes and trophies to their members who participate in the tournament. The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association "Zenska Jednota", The First Catholic Slovak Union "Jednota", The National Slovak Society "N.S.S.", and the Slovak Catholic Sokol "Sokol".

Any questions, or for more information on the tournament or the SBC please contact John M Golias: (440) 526 3657, (440) 526 3445, or Joe Harkulich: (330) 448 8630. Hoping to see all Slovak Bowlers at Echo Lanes in Warren, OH.

SLOVAKIA TOURS FOR 2011

This year John's Tours will schedule two tours to Slovakia and surrounding countries. A 12-day tour: June 25-July 7 — to visit Bratislava, the capitol of Slovakia, Cicmany, Rajecka Lesna, the village of the unique wooden Bethlehem wooden carving — 15 years in the carving. Stops in Levoca, Spania Dolina, Castle Lubovna, Stara Lubovna village, Banska Steavnica, Poprod, Nitra, Trnava, Piestany, Spissky Hrad "Castle" it consists of 3 castles, upper, central, and middle. Dunajec River rafting, 2 day visit to Krakow, Poland with a visit to Auschwitz — the Nazi Concentration Camp of World War II. Visit the Old Town Market Place, Royal Castle of Wawel with a visit to Czestochowa to visit the Shrine of the Black Madonna in Jasna Gora Monastery, one of the most precious Polish relics.

The 17-day September tour: September 4-20 — will cover Slovakia, Vienna, Austria, Krakow, Poland, Czech Republic, Prague. Visits in Slovakia to Bratislava, Levoca, Sponia Dolina, Presov, Banska Steavnica, Stara Lubovna, Poprod, Nitra, Kosice, Trnava, Piestany, Spissky Hrad, Dunajec raft ride, Rajecka Lesna. We will have two Folklore programs, one at Krakovany, and one at Ticky Potok — a Rusin Village. The Mayor will show you the village and there will be a folklore program with dinner. We will see sights in Vienna, Austria. A visit to Schoenbrunn Place, St. Stephen's Cathedral, the Platz at Czech Republic. See Old Town Square, St. Vitus Cathedral, Prague Castle, Charles Bridge and The Astronomical Clock plus other sights.

Included in the tour will be two (2) meals daily, 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 in the above tours please call or write for a complete day-by-day itinerary and price. John's Tours, PO Box 154, Vandergrift, PA 15690. Call (724) 567-7341 or (724) 568-3215, or toll free at 1-800-260-8687.

SLOVAK WORDS AND ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS

Store/Stores:

bakery (eat-in)
bar
barber shop
beauty shop
book store
cigarettes
dairy store
department store
farmer's market
fish store
food (grocery) store
furniture store
half-prepared foods
ice cream store
liquor store
meat store
newspapers/magazines
pharmacy
record store
restaurant
school
self-service store
sporting goods
stationery store
toy store
wine cellar

Obchod/Obchody:

cukráreň
krčma
holič
kaderníctvo
kníhkupectvo
tabak
mliekáreň
obchodný dom
trh
ryba
potraviny
nábytok
polotovary
zmrzlina
liehoviny
mäsiarstvo
trafika
lekáreň
platne
reštaurácia
škola
samoobsluha
športové potreby
papierníctvo
hračky/hračkárstvo
vínna pivnica

Shops/Stores, Services:

Where is the nearest . . .
. . . pharmacy
. . . the hairdresser
. . . the photo shop
. . . the jeweler
. . . the department store
. . . the police station
. . . the gas station
. . . the garage
How do I get there?
Is it close/far?

Obchody/Služby:

Kde je najbližšia . . .
. . . lekáreň
. . . kaderník
. . . obchod s fotopotrebami
. . . klenotníctvo
. . . obchodný dom
. . . policajná stanica
. . . čerpadlo
. . . garáž
Ako sa tam dostanem?
Je to blízko/ďaleko

Service:

Can you help me, please?
Can you show me this?
And that, too.
It's too expensive/cheap.
It's too big.
It's too small.
Can you show me some more?
. . . something better
. . . something cheaper
How much is this?
And that?
It's not quite what I want.
I like it/dislike.

Služba:

Môžete mi pomôcť, prosím vás?
Môžete mi to ukázať?
A tamto, tiež.
Je to veľmi drahé/lacné.
Je to veľmi veľké.
Je to veľmi malé.
Môžete mi viac ukázať?
. . . niečo lepšie
. . . niečo lacnejšie
Koľko to stojí?
A toto?
Nie je to celkom, čo chcem.
To sa mi páči/nepáči.

Pharmacy:

I'd like something . . .
. . . for a cold
. . . for a cough
. . . for travel sickness
Can you recommend
something . . .
. . . hay fever
. . . for sunburn
. . . for diarrhea
. . . for a headache
. . . for a stomach ache
. . . for a toothache

Lekáreň:

Chcel by som niečo . . .
. . . proti nádche
. . . proti kašiu
. . . aby mi neprišlo zle pri
cestovaní
Môžete mi odporúčať niečo . . .
. . . proti sennej nádche
. . . na opaľovanie
. . . proti hnačke
. . . proti boľeniu hlavy.
. . . proti boľeniu žalúdka
. . . proti boľeniu zubov

Toiletry:

May I have . . .
. . . razor blades
. . . shaving cream
. . . toothpaste
. . . toothbrush
I'd like some . . .
. . . soap
. . . suntan oil
. . . shampoo

Toaletné Potreby:

Môžem dostať . . .
. . . žiletky
. . . krém na holenie/mydlo na
holenie
. . . zubnú pastu
. . . zubnú kefku
Chcel by som . . .
. . . mydlo
. . . olej na opaľovanie
. . . šampón

At the Barber's:

I'd like a haircut, please.
. . . short
. . . leave it long

U Holiča:

Chcem sa dať ostrihať, prosím.
. . . nakrátko
. . . nechajte to dlhé

At the Hairdresser's:

I'd like a . . .
. . . set my hair
. . . bleach
. . . permanent
. . . color rinse
. . . manicure

U Kaderníka:

Chcela by som . . .
. . . vodovú
. . . si odfarbiť vlasy
. . . trvalú
. . . zafarbiť vlasy
. . . manikúru

Photography:

I'd like a film for this
camera.
This camera doesn't work.
Where can the film be
developed?

Fotograf:

Chcel by som film do tohto
fotoaparátu.
Tento fotoaparát nefunguje.
Kde sa dá vyvolať film?

Service Station:

Where is the nearest service
station/gas station?
Fill 'er up, please.
Check the oil, please.
Would you check the tires?

Autoservis:

Kde je najbližší autoservis/
čerpadlo?
Natankujte mi benzín, prosím.
Skontrolujte mi olej, prosím.
Skontrolujte pneumatiky.

33rd Annual Slovak Catholic Federation SS. Cyril & Methodius Appeal

When our ancestors came to these shores more than a century ago, they brought with them few monetary assets. However, their most precious possession was their faith. The seeds were nurtured by the Slovak priests who came with the immigrant people and helped build our Slovak Catholic fraternals, religious communities of men and women, and nearly 300 Slovak parishes. In 2011, in response to this legacy, the Slovak Catholic Federation will sponsor the 33rd Annual SS. Cyril & Methodius Appeal.

The Church in Slovakia has enjoyed a great renaissance since the fall of Communism in 1989. We in America and Canada take pride in the fact that the Slovak Catholic fraternals, our parishes, and individuals of Slovak ancestry have responded generously to assist the Church in our ancestral homeland. The 2011 Annual Appeal begins during the month of February in churches of Slovak descent across the United States and Canada and will continue to the end of the year.

The 2010 Appeal collected \$57,276.09.

Since its inception, this Appeal has raised \$2,232,034.69!

Funds raised from the Appeal will aid the priest-graduate students at the Pontifical Slovak College of SS. Cyril and Methodius. These fine priests are being called upon to be the future leaders of the diocesan churches in Slovakia both as vicars and bishops, in addition to providing qualified instructors/professors for the seminaries that educate future priests. In addition, funds benefit those Religious communities of both men and women which share a counterpart which belongs to the Slovak Catholic Federation and the Slovak Conference of Religious. These communities include the Vincentian Sisters of Charity (*Ruzomberok*); Dominican Sisters (*Dunajska Luzna*); School Sisters of St. Francis (*Zilina*); Daughters of St. Francis (*Bratislava-Prievoz*); Byzantine Catholic Sisters of St. Basil the Great (*Secove and Presov*), Franciscan Friars Minor (*Bratislava*), and House of St. Benedict (*Bacurov*).

The Slovak Catholic Federation was founded in 1911 under the spiritual leadership of Rev. Joseph Murgas, founding pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Church, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. The purpose of the Federation is to federate individuals of Slovak origin under one banner for cultural, religious, and educational needs. Serving as National President is Rev. Philip Altavilla, V.E., Episcopal Vicar for the Northern Pastoral Region of the Diocese of Scranton. The Episcopal Moderator is the Most Rev. Joseph V. Adamec, D.D. The National First Vice President, Rev. Andrew S. Hvozdic, pastor of Epiphany Parish, Sayre, Pennsylvania, is the coordinator for this Annual Appeal.

In our church today, we are finding more and more individuals of Slovak descent do not attend traditionally founded Slovak parishes, for a number of reasons. Because of this reality today, the monies raised for this Appeal come both from the collections taken in our Slovak parishes as well as from individual donors.

Your tax deductible donation, made out to the *Slovak Catholic Federation* (please note that it's for the "Annual Appeal"), can be sent directly to the National Secretary-Treasurer of the SCF: Dolores Evanko, 173 Berner Avenue, Hazleton, PA 18201.

Thank you in advance for your continued support.

REPORT OF THE FCSLA NATIONAL TREASURER

BALANCE SHEET AS OF AUGUST 31, 2010

ASSETS	
Cash and Short Term Investments	\$ 14,428,868.50
Bonds	581,080,464.42
Preferred Stock	8,160,880.87
Common Stock	743,226.25
Investment Income Due and Accrued	9,035,696.84
Promissory Notes	47,287.85
Property Plant and Equipment, Net	6,812,686.23
Certificate Loans & Accrued Interest	1,616,925.70
Other Assets	236,318.68
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 622,162,355.34
LIABILITIES	
Life Reserves	\$ 178,463,374.08
Annuity Reserves	337,026,150.10
Death Claims Payable	517,956.34
Unearned Premiums	518,232.00
Matured Endowments	308,992.00
Provision for Dividends Payable	1,835,360.54
Accumulated Dividends and Interest	3,613,436.57
Accrued Convention Donations	555,557.00
Provision for Future Conventions	510,000.40
Asset Valuation Reserve	6,393,370.00
Interest Maintenance Reserve	1,492,757.00
Other Liabilities	1,643,712.63
Provision for Annuity Certain Accounts	3,081,000.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 535,959,898.66
SURPLUS	
Surplus	\$ 86,202,456.69
TOTAL SURPLUS	\$ 86,202,456.69
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS	\$ 622,162,355.35

INCOME STATEMENT

For the Eight Months Ending August 31, 2010

REVENUE	
Insurance Premiums	\$ 8,754,193.19
Annuity Premiums	26,028,352.94
Investment Income	22,753,211.17
Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve	85,131.00
Rental Income	259,653.00
Other Revenue	13,291.55
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 57,893,832.85
EXPENSES	
Increase in Reserves — Life	\$ 9,821,374.00
Increase in Reserves — Annuity	22,295,150.00
Insurance Benefits	2,235,485.20
Annuity Benefits	12,030,003.44
Commission Expense	1,200,499.75
Surrender Benefits	1,701,926.47
Miscellaneous Member Benefits	49,996.91
Matured Endowments	7,360.02
Donation Expenses	260,077.03
Convention Expenses	121,263.00
Dividends to Members	1,250,383.19
Post Mortem Benefits	561,517.70
Bonus to Branches	636,870.00
Fraternal Activities	73,718.69
Bank Service Charges	51,984.48
Data Processing Service Fees	217,229.91
Accounting Fees	81,171.00
Actuarial Fees	107,645.00
Legal Fees	128,725.61
Consulting Services	97,763.36
Official Publications	226,728.35
Scholarship Awards	240,358.75
Miscellaneous Employee Benefits	259,199.98
Fees — Directors	74,846.88
Salaries — Employees	908,985.01
Salaries — Officers	291,983.36
Interest Expense	166,684.47
Tax Expense	194,421.77
Depreciation Expense	186,424.00
Utility Expense	54,114.75
Postage and Printing	252,173.79
Advertising	71,209.04
Travel Expense	92,294.98
Insurance Department Fees	69,354.29
Sales Promotion	109,796.03
Rental Expense	259,653.00
Other Expense	296,649.88
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 56,685,023.09
NET INCOME	\$ 1,208,809.76



For a Cold Winter Night

LIGHT LINGUINE CARBONARA

- 8 ounces uncooked linguine
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 1 cup fat-free evaporated milk
- ¼ cup finely chopped sweet red pepper
- ⅛ teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
- ⅛ teaspoon pepper
- ½ cup grated Parmesan cheese, divided
- 2 bacon strips, cooked and crumbled
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley

Cook linguine according to package directions. Meanwhile, in a small saucepan, combine the next five ingredients. Cook and stir over medium-low heat until mixture reaches 160 and coats the back of a metal spoon. Stir in ¼ cup Parmesan cheese, and bacon; heat through. Drain linguine; toss with sauce. Sprinkle with the remaining Parmesan cheese. Garnish with fresh parsley. Serves 4.

VEGETABLE SOUP

- 1 cup chopped celery
- ½ cup chopped onion
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1½ quarts water
- 1 can (14½ ounces) diced tomatoes, undrained
- 3 medium potatoes, peeled and cubed
- 2 medium carrots, diced
- 1 cup chopped cabbage
- 3 tablespoons minced fresh parsley
- 2 teaspoons brown sugar
- 1¼ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon dried marjoram
- ½ teaspoon dried rosemary, crushed

- ¼ teaspoon pepper
- ⅛ teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 2 cans (16 ounces each) refried beans with green chilies
- 1 can (15 to 16 ounces) kidney beans, rinsed and drained
- Hot cooked macaroni

In a Dutch oven or soup kettle, saute the celery, onion and garlic in oil for 7 minutes or until tender. Add the next 12 ingredients; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 40 minutes.

MASHED WINTER SQUASH

- 4 packages (12 ounces each) frozen cooked winter squash
- ½ cup packed brown sugar
- ¼ cup butter, cubed
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon
- ¼ teaspoon ground nutmeg
- ⅛ teaspoon ground ginger

Place squash in a microwave-safe bowl. Cover and microwave on high for 7-8 minutes or until heated through, stirring after 5 minutes. Add the sugar, butter, salt, cinnamon, nutmeg and ginger; mix well. Microwave, uncovered, for 2-3 minutes or until heated through. Serves 8.

BAKED BEEF STEW

- 1½ pounds beef sirloin tip roast, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 3 cups cubed peeled potatoes
- 3 celery ribs, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1½ cups cubed peeled sweet potatoes
- 3 large carrots, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1 large onion, cut into 12 wedges
- 1 cup cubed peeled rutabaga
- 1 envelope reduced-sodium onion soup mix
- 2 teaspoons dried basil
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon pepper
- C cup water
- 1 can (14½ ounces) Stewed Tomatoes

In a large resealable plastic bag, combine the beef, vegetables, soup mix and seasonings. Seal bag; shake to coat evenly.

Transfer to a Dutch oven or 13-in. x 9-in. baking dish coated with cooking spray (pan will be very full). Pour water over beef mixture.

Cover and bake at 325 degrees for 1½ hours. Stir in tomatoes. Bake, uncovered, for 30-40 minutes, stirring after 25 minutes, or until beef and vegetables are tender. Yield: 6 servings.

CRANBERRY-STICKY-BUNS

- 4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 (.25 ounce) package active dry yeast
- ¼ cup sugar
- ¼ cup butter or margarine

- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup milk
- 2 eggs

TOPPING:

- ¾ cup chopped fresh or frozen cranberries
- ⅔ cup packed brown sugar
- ½ cup butter or margarine
- ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon
- ¾ cup chopped walnuts
- 2 tablespoons butter or margarine, melted

FILLING:

- ½ cup packed brown sugar
- ½ cup chopped walnuts
- ½ cup chopped fresh or frozen cranberries
- ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon

In a mixing bowl, combine 2 cups flour and yeast. In a saucepan, heat sugar, butter, salt and milk to 120 degrees. Add to dry ingredients; beat on low speed for 30 seconds. Add eggs; beat on high for 3 minutes. Beat in remaining flour. Turn onto a floured surface; knead until smooth and elastic, about 6-8 minutes. Place in a greased bowl, turning once to grease top. Cover and let rise in a warm place until doubled, about 1 hour.

In a saucepan, combine the first four topping ingredients; cook and stir over low heat until brown sugar is dissolved and butter is melted. Stir in walnuts. Spread into two greased 9-in. square baking pans; set aside.

Punch dough down; divide in half. Roll each portion into an 18-in. x 6-in. rectangle; brush with butter. Combine filling ingredients; sprinkle over dough to within ½ in. of edges. Roll up jelly-roll style, starting with a long side; pinch seam to seal. Cut each roll into nine slices; place cut side down over topping and flatten slightly. Cover and let rise until doubled, about 1 hour.

In a saucepan, combine the first four topping ingredients; cook and stir over low heat until brown sugar is dissolved and butter is melted. Stir in walnuts. Spread into two greased 9-in. square baking pans; set aside.

Punch dough down; divide in half. Roll each portion into an 18-in. x 6-in. rectangle; brush with butter. Combine filling ingredients; sprinkle over dough to within ½-in. of edges. Roll up jelly-roll style, starting with a long side; pinch seam to seal. Cut each roll into nine slices; place cut side down over topping and flatten slightly. Cover and let rise until doubled, about 1 hour.

Bake at 375 degrees for 10 minutes. Reduce heat to 350 degrees; bake 15 minutes longer or until golden brown. Immediately invert onto serving plates.

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