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Fraternally Yours®

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK LADIES ASSOCIATION

VOL. 103, NO. 9

JULY 2017



“Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty.”

John F. Kennedy, 1961

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

*See Inside for
125th Anniversary
National Gala
Weekend Details*

ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA

Fraternally Yours, ŽENSKÁ JEDNOTA®



ISSN 0897-2958



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Steps To Happiness

Everybody Knows . . .

You can't be all things to all people.
You can't do all things at once.
You can't do all things equally well.
You can't do all things better than everyone else.
Your humanity is showing just like everyone else's.

So . . .

You have to find out who you are, and be that.
You have to decide what comes first, and do that.
You have to discover your strengths, and use them.
You have to learn not to compete with others,
Because no one else is in the contest of being you.

Then . . .

You will have learned to accept your own uniqueness.
You will have learned to set priorities and make decisions.
You will have learned to live with your limitations.
You will have learned to give yourself the respect that is due.
And you'll be a most vital mortal.

Dare To Believe . . .

That you are a wonderful, unique person.
That you are a once-in-all-history event.
That it's more than a right, it's your duty, to be who you are.
That life is not a problem to solve, but a gift to cherish.
And you'll be able to stay one up on what used to get you down.

Dear Friends,

This month remember that grudges are a waste of perfect happiness.
Laugh when you can, apologize when you should, and let go of what you
can't change.

Until Next Month,
Warmly, Carolyn

This independence day brings forth a new hope
to make our tomorrows most beautiful and cherished.
Wishing everyone a very happy 4th of July.

Mary, Spouse, Joseph

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

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

As we are all aware, the Christian Scriptures revolve around the life, preachings, passion, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord. Most of what we know of the Blessed Virgin Mary is contained in the Infancy Narratives of Matthew and Luke and the Passion Narratives of the four gospels. There are only several references of her outside of the Infancy and Passion Narratives. The rest of our knowledge of her has been handed down to us in the Sacred Tradition of Church teaching. When it comes to her husband, Joseph, there is no further mention of his activities outside the Infancy Narratives. But what we know of him in these sacred writings makes us respect him for all of his earthly actions in relationship to the God who created him and for the care he gave to the Son of God who would save him. Joseph was a man of obedience to his God as exemplified in the gospels.

After the genealogy of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew, the birth of Jesus is described: When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins'...When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home" (1:18-21, 24). The descriptive word "righteous" in the describing the person of Joseph notes that he was faithful in observing the Law of Moses. Because Mary was pregnant and their marital process was not yet complete, Joseph decided to follow the Law and divorce

Mary quietly, meaning not to expose her to the Law which may have led her to death by stoning. Instead, Joseph heeded the angel of the Lord's words and took Mary into his home.

Because of the magi request of Herod for the whereabouts of the child Jesus, and after the magi adoration, Joseph obeyed the angel's command to flee: "Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him. Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt" (2:13-14). And when it was once again safe, the angel appeared to Joseph, "and said, 'Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead.' He rose, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go back there. And because he had been warned in a dream, he departed for the region of Galilee" (2:20-22). Note in these passages how obedient Joseph was to the commands of the angel without demands or challenges. He quietly obeyed.

Pope John Paul II had an intimate devotion to Saint Joseph. In 1989, he wrote: "The Second Vatican Council made all of us sensitive once again to the 'great things which God has done,' and to that 'economy of salvation' of which Saint Joseph was a special minister. Commending ourselves, then, to the protection of him whose custody God 'entrusted his greatest and most precious treasures,' let us at the same time learn from him how to be servant of the 'economy of salvation.' May Saint Joseph become for all of us an exceptional teacher in the service of Christ's saving mission, a mission which is the responsibility of each and every member of the Church: husbands and wives, parents, those who live by the work of their hands or by any other kind of work, those called to the contemplative life and those called to the apostolate. Saint Joseph pray for us.

MARKETING POSITION

First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association is seeking a professional with a block of meaningful marketing experience. Responsibilities include identifying and evaluating marketing strategies and characteristics; determining demands for products and services; recommending strategies for pricing and management of product distribution; developing distribution networks. This position is based in the home office in Beachwood, Ohio.

Detailed responsibilities include:

- Recommend marketing plans based on association's strategic plan;
- Develop and deliver data science analytical insights, metrics and tools for effective delivery of our products and services in target markets;
- Provide marketing input into sales, promotional activities and programs;

- Develop marketing communications based on developed plans;
- Identify, create and implement effective market automation tools; including web, social media and digital campaigns

Ideal candidate should have at least 3 years of relevant experience with a university degree in business; marketing and/or communications or other relevant field; able to work in a collaborative fashion; data analytic science skills. Basic software proficiencies expected, insurance knowledge desirable.

Parties interested in this full-time position with the above qualifications should submit a detailed resume and letter of interest to Jean Buday, Office Manager, First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, 24950 Chagrin Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122.

Resumes will be accepted until the position is filled with a suitable candidate.

Message from our National President

CYNTHIA M. MALESKI



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

As we approach the national celebration of our 125th anniversary, everyone is looking forward to the Mass, dinner, open house and rededication of the St. Anne statue at the home office with excitement and anticipation. We are proud that we continue to stand firm in carrying out the original purposes of our society: providing financial

security to our members, improving conditions for our members and providing assistance to our members and families in cases of sickness, death or old age, and to uphold, preserve and perpetuate the doctrine of the Catholic faith. Today, we are a vibrant society, serving over 86,000 members and hundreds of communities throughout the United States through our benefits, products and programs.

In recent issues of *Fraternally Yours*, we have introduced and detailed the steps towards mergers with Polish Union of the United States of North America, based in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania (with over 6,500 members) and Polish Women's Alliance of America, based in Chicago, Illinois (with over 29,000 members). Both mergers were recently overwhelmingly approved by our delegates. During the next transition phase, I count on the full cooperation of the FCSLA board of directors and the key leadership of the merged societies in order to make this transition as seamless as possible.

On June 1, 2017 we held the official closing of our merger with Polish Union of the United States of North America. We welcome the members, board of directors, who will continue as an advisory board

and leadership to our association; namely, Charlotte Androckitis, acting CEO; Jack Bednarski, acting CFO; and Jeff Malak acting CLO.

As this article goes to print, I am sending a personal welcome letter to all members of Polish Union of the United States of North America as they join our society. In the transition time, the office continues in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

I am proud to follow in the footsteps of our Foundress Anna Hurban, who welcomed new delegates from various parts of the United States to our first convention in August 1892, just eight months after our first branch was founded in January, 1892. In a similar way, we welcome these new members of Polish Union who share a common bond of our Catholic faith and Slavic heritage.

FCSLA Annuity Rates

Rates for our Elite Annuities:

**SILVER ELITE
(5 YEAR)**

2.75% APY*

**GOLD ELITE
(7 YEAR)**

3.00% APY*

PLATINUM ELITE (10 YEAR)

3.25% APY*

*This rate is in effect 7/1/2017 thru 9/30/2017.

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 2017 is 2% APY and for the Platinum Elite is 2.5% APY.

Notice: Date Change!

**FCSLA Sr. Branch 81 Members
Semi-Annual Luncheon**

Sunday, July 9, 2017

Andorra Banquets
Reservations Required
Call: Mary 659-5376 or Becky 801-6665



May was Join Hands Day Month (bringing our youth and adults together to help make our communities beautiful). FCSLA encourages our branches and districts to plan a Join Hands Day project. Every year I take part in the Cleveland District Join Hands Day at Light of Hearts Villa, a senior care facility and this year was no different.

I was the official photographer for FCSLA. Sr. Regina was leading a couple of Girl Scout troops to “their area” and I was tagging along. We had to go through the memory care facility to get to the particular flower garden that the girls work on every year. We said “hi” to some of the residents as we were passing through. A little while later, Sr. Regina was talking to the two scout leaders and me. Sister began to tell us “there is this lady, Susie, maybe you saw her in the recliner. She is always unresponsive, no matter what we do or say, she is unresponsive, but as the girls walked passed, her eyes lit up and she responded for a brief moment to them passing through”.

I do not know what Susie’s condition is, but memory care usually means they have Dementia or Alzheimer’s. I do not know how long she has been there – but for a few seconds those girl scouts / young ladies sparked a memory for Susie, maybe she used to like gardening and planting flowers or maybe her mother used to garden or maybe she used to have long hair when she was a girl – like these young ladies do, whatever it was Susie was responsive for a moment. As we told the girls/young ladies of what had just happened, it brought tears to our eyes. Thank you ladies! You ROCK!

One of the young ladies, Anna has been coming to FCSLA events with her mom, Kathy ever since she was a baby. She is my buddy. It is such a pleasure for me to seeing her grow into a beautiful young lady and see her at the Join Hands Day with her friends working in “their garden”. I am so proud of Anna. I hope you keep coming for many years and keep bringing your friends to Join Hands Day. Maybe one day you will be able to take over for me in helping plan this very special day.

Moments like this are what FCSLA is all about, who we are and what makes us so unique from the commercial insurance companies. I am hoping this story will inspire some of our members to get more involved with your branch and district activities and projects. We are making a difference one day at a time and sometimes you may not know the impact you have on someone by just walking through a room to help make a garden beautiful.



Branch W077 Holds Join Hands Day Activity

On Saturday, May 20, 2017, West Branch WO77 held its Join Hands Day activity at the West Rest Haven. Approximately 50 residents of the nursing home joined in playing bingo. Prizes were awarded, not only to the winners of each game, but to all participants. Kolaches and coffee were also enjoyed by all participants.



Johnny Cernosek, branch vice-president, calling bingo.




87th Annual Slovak-American Day
in Milwaukee
Sponsored by Federated Slovak Societies
SUNDAY, JULY 30, 2017
CROATIAN PARK, 9140 South 76th St., Franklin, WI
 Holy Mass at 12 Noon with Father John Jamnicky
Slovak food and bakery items
PROGRAM STARTS AT 2:30 P.M.
Performances by the Tatra Slovak Dancers
and Slovak Catholic Sokol Drillers
 For info contact Betty Valent at 414-425-6137

A Look Back At The Drill Teams

Today, the drill teams are still recalled with fond memories as one of the Society's most rewarding activities.

They were officially organized in Cleveland on July 11, 1934 by Joseph Matuscak, husband of Junior Order Secretary, Susan Matuscak.

One of the teams' goals was to engage the younger members in the philosophy and work of the Society.

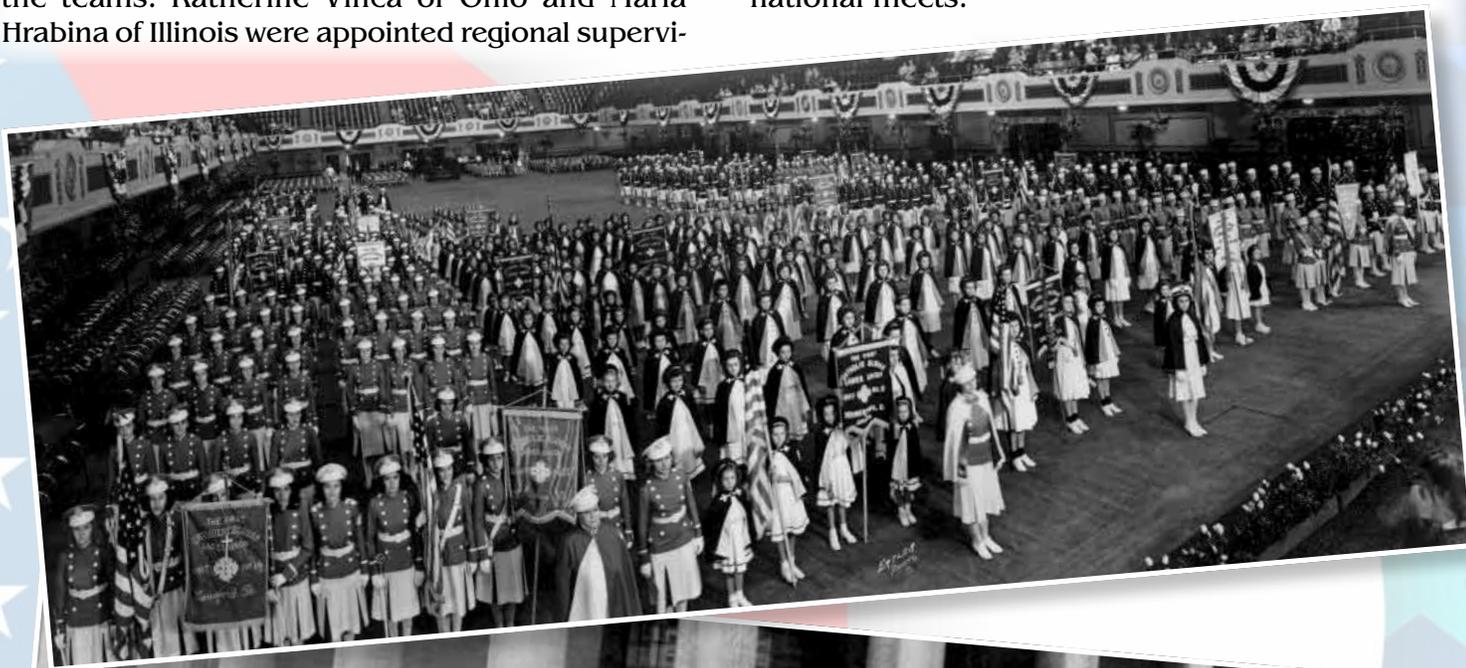
The first team had 88 Sr. Order ladies, all decked in bright military-style uniforms. Soon junior teams were also organized. The drillers seemed to enjoy the exercise and regimentation of performing the intricate and brisk-stepping marching patterns.

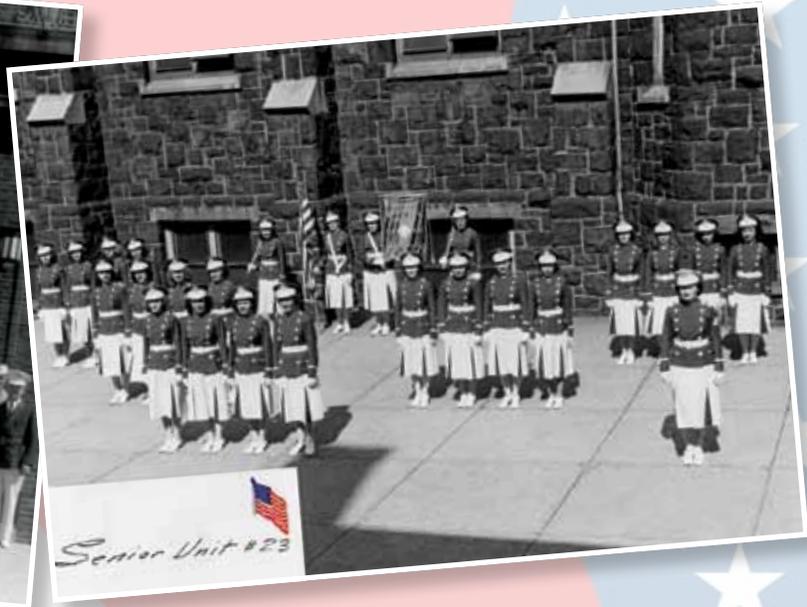
At the St. Louis Convention in 1937, 500 girls competed in the first national FCSLU drill team meet. In 1938 the Board of Directors appointed Frances L. Mizenko as national commandress of the teams. Katherine Vinca of Ohio and Maria Hrabina of Illinois were appointed regional supervi-

sors and served for about a year. They were succeeded by Catherine Steibly of Farrell, PA, Anna Dolak of Youngstown, Ohio and Theresa Krasula of Chicago.

The drill teams were a bright promise for the future of the organization. As the teams continued to receive national acclaim, they became more and more popular among members and even non members. By 1942 about 3,000 young ladies belonged to 32 Senior Order and 23 Junior Order teams. In that year, about 770 girls from Milwaukee, WI to New York highlighted the 50th anniversary of the Society in Cleveland by competing in the third national meet. The prize to the winning team in each Order was a trophy and \$125.

A sense of apathy during the post war years led to the gradual decline of the teams. When the program was completely ended in 1948, the Society had the record of having sponsored four national meets.







First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association

Cordially invites you to join in the celebration of our

125th Anniversary

Security, Faith, Traditions

Saturday, July 29, 2017

Mass

The Cathedral of Saint John the Evangelist
1007 Superior Avenue East
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
4:30 p.m.

Gala Banquet

Cleveland Marriott Downtown at Key Center
127 Public Square
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
Cocktails 6:00 p.m.
Dinner 7:00 p.m.
Cocktail Attire
Entertainment

Contact the Home Office for more information
(800) 464-4642 extension 1093

Slovak U.S.A.

As a project for the Slovak Catholic Federation, Fr. Gerard Gonda, OSB, of Saint Andrew Abbey and Benedictine High School in Cleveland is trying to assemble an on-line guide to **Places of Slovak Interest** around the United States. Please send him information about anything connected with Slovak history or culture in your city or state (excluding Cleveland, OH) at: gerard@cbhs.edu.

Photo Reminder

Photos of poor quality or blurry, will not be published in *Fraternally Yours*. Recommended are photos that are emailed in a non-compressed or larger file size or crisp printed originals for publication.

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK LADIES ASSOCIATION CELEBRATES

125 YEARS 1892 – 2017



Hotel Accommodations for

First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association
125th Anniversary Celebration

Start date: 7/28/17

End date: 7/30/17

Marriott hotel(s) offering your special group rate at the Cleveland Marriott Downtown at Key Center for \$139.00 USD per night plus taxes and fees
127 Public Square, (Driveway Entrance on 1360 West Mall Drive) Cleveland OH 44114

Book your group rate by going to our website www.fcsla.org and clicking on the link found on our home page or call the Marriott directly at 800-228-9290 and ask for the FCSLA group rate.

125th Anniversary Home Office OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, July 30, 2017

24950 Chagrin Boulevard
Beachwood, Ohio 44122

Open House 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Saint Ann Statue Rededication 11:30 a.m.

Refreshments / No cost to attend, open to all members

RSVP to the Home Office
(800) 464-4642 extension 1000

ART CONTEST

Contest Eligibility:

- Must be a FCSLA member age 15 and younger.
- If you submit an entry and you are not a member your entry will not be considered.
- Member must be the one that created the artwork.

Deadline:

- Friday, August 4, 2017
- Please mail entries to: FCSLA, Fraternal & Youth Director
24950 Chagrin Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122-5634

Contest Rules:

- Only one entry per member
- Submission must be in color on paper or art board minimum 8 1/2 x 11 in size
- Please complete the Entry Form below. (copy of entry form is acceptable)



Theme:

“Under the Sea... what do you see?”

Draw what you think sea life looks like deep in the ocean.



Age Groups:

- 6 & Under
- 7-10
- 11-13
- 14-15

Prize list for each Age Group:

- 1st Place - \$ 50.00 Gift Card
- 2nd Place - \$25.00 Gift Card
- 3rd Place - \$15.00 Gift Card

Bonus:

Winners drawing will be published in a future Fraternally Yours Magazine issue and on the FCSLA website.

Good Luck!

FCSLA 2017 ART CONTEST ENTRY FORM

PLEASE PRINT — DEADLINE: August 4, 2017

Name _____ Age _____ Branch # _____

Complete Address _____

E-mail Address _____

Title of Artwork _____

Brief Description _____

FRIENDS & FAMILY

Rewards Program is Back!



Friends & Family Membership Rewards Program Beginning April 1, 2017

**We value and appreciate our Members!
Thank you for telling everybody you know about us!**

A valid referral meets ALL 3 of these requirements:

- Has completed contact information including address & phone number
- Is interested in FCSLA and is not yet a member
- Is willing to meet with an FCSLA representative

Each valid referral earns you \$10!

Submit form on page 11 by mail, fax or email

**First Catholic Slovak
Ladies Association**

of the United States of America
a Fraternal Benefit Society domiciled in Beachwood, OH

FRATERNAL LIFE INSURANCE AND ANNUITIES



**FCSLA Members
of Indiana, Milwaukee
and Chicago**

**Celebrating
ST. ANNE'S DAY**

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

at
**THE SHRINE
OF CHRIST'S PASSION**

ST. JOHN, INDIANA
10:00 A.M. MEET & GREET
(Coffee & Kolacky)

TOURS UNTIL 12:00 NOON
1:00 P.M. LUNCH at ANDORRAS

\$25.00 PER PERSON

Reservations required before July 16, 2017.
Call Agnes 219-865-6396 for information.

Welcome to our
FCSLA family...



AS OF JUNE 1, 2017,
WE WARMLY WELCOME
THE MEMBERS OF
POLISH UNION
OF THE UNITED STATES
OF NORTH AMERICA
TO OUR FCSLA FAMILY.

**First Catholic Slovak
Ladies Association**

of the United States of America
Beachwood, OH



FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERSHIP REWARDS PROGRAM

We value and appreciate our Members! Thank you for telling everybody you know about us!

Submit this form by mail, fax or email

FCSLA Fax: 216-464-9260
24950 Chagrin Blvd. Email: heather@fcsla.com
Beachwood, OH 44122 Website: www.fcsla.org

A valid referral meets ALL 3 of these requirements. Each valid referral earns you \$10!

- Has completed contact information including address & phone number
- Is interested in FCSLA and is not yet a member
- Is willing to meet with an FCSLA representative

Your (Current Member) Information:

Today's Date: _____
Member Name: _____
Street Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Branch: _____

Please Have An FCSLA Representative Contact:

Prospective Member: _____
Street Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Name of your FCSLA Representative
If you do not know an FCSLA Representative, leave blank and the Home Office will find the right Representative for you.

MATCHING FUNDS ACTIVITIES

Branch W187

Bingo, Food and Fun Nite

Branch W187 of Valparaiso, NE held a FCSLA Matching Funds Bingo, Food and Fun Nite on April 30, 2017. A plate lunch was served prior to the 20 games of Bingo that were played. A fun time was had by all and more importantly over \$800 was raised for a digital sign to advertise parish events.



Photo at right: Branch member Jim Blazek calls the lucky numbers.



Food being served at Bingo Nite.



Branch W074

Jason Sis Benefit Dinner

Branch W074 of Atwood, KS held a benefit dinner at St. John's Hall to assist Jason Sis with medical expenses due to an accident that occurred on March 11, 2017. The roast beef dinner was held on May 7th from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for a free will donation. The money raised was matched as part of the FCSLA Matching Funds Program.



Meeting/Luncheon to Honor Scholarship Winners

St. Ann Sr. Branch 114 invites all of its members to the July meeting and luncheon at which time we will honor our scholarship winners. It will be held on Sunday, July 16th at 1:00 p.m. at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway in Lorain, OH. Reservations are required so please make yours no later than July 11th by phoning Bernie Danevich at 440-960-2605 or Marge Thomas at 440-288-1492.

FOUR GENERATIONS OF FCSLA MEMBERS



Four generations of FCSLA members gathered in honor of Vivian Ann Simon's baptism on May 21, 2017. Pictured are (L-R) Paul Maruska (grandfather), holding Vivian, Mary Ann Maruska (great-grandmother) and Megan Simon (mother). They are all members of Branch W001 in New Prague, MN.

Sr. Branch 94 FCSLA Scholarship Winner



Pictured with Timothy DeFelice (far right) from left to right are his Grandmother Theresa, Father Roland, and his Mother Teresa DeFelice as they presented him with the FCSLA scholarship he won as a member of Branch S094. The branch members are very proud of him and are grateful to FCSLA for awarding such a generous scholarship that will help him pursue his education.

Cleveland Okres District Event Schedule

- **July 26, Wednesday** – St. Ann's Day at Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine, Euclid
- **August 6, Sunday** – The FEST at Borromeo Seminary, Willowick

Lithograph Donation

Rev. Adam Keltos, OFM, recently donated a beautiful Saint Cyril and Methodius lithograph by Czech artist Jano Kohler to the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in honor of his mother, Anna S. Keltos; his sister, Sister Louis Keltos, SS.C.M.; and his cousin, Sister Isidore Tomascak. SS.C.M.



L-R: Sister Michael Ann Orlik, SS.C.M., General Superior of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius; Reverend Adam Keltos, OFM.

Newest Members of J362, Wilkes-Barre, PA

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Opolsky are shown with their twin daughter Layne and twin son Trent Kevin who were born on November 1, 2016. Mrs. Opolsky is the former Lissa Munley of Mountain Top, PA and is the great-niece of Dr. Magdalen Benish, a member of S172 in Wilkes-Barre, PA. Mr. and Mrs. Opolsky reside in Tamaqua, PA and are both school teachers in that area. Layne and Trent are the newest members of J362, Wilkes-Barre, PA.



St. Louis Jr. Branch 11 Milestones for Members



Frances Ann Miklovic, a FCSLA Scholarship recipient, graduated from 8th Grade on May 25.



On May 6, Lukas Alan Lyons received his First Holy Communion, the central focus of the sacramental life of the Catholic Church. Lukas' mother, Margaret, is the Treasurer of the St. Louis Branches.



A child is a precious gift from God and baptism is God's gift wrapping. Our special gift, Peter Augustine Miklovic was baptized, placing him in God's care on May 13. Peter is in the process of joining his nine FCSLA cousins in the St. Louis Jr. Branch 11.

College Graduations Recognized

Mary Ann Dodulik (member of Sr. Branch 376) with two of her grandchildren that graduated from college on Mother's Day weekend. Mary Ann is pictured with her grandson Bradley Bean and granddaughter Sarah Szabo who is a member of Sr. Branch 376.





IN MEMORIAM

CASIMER P. CASEY YELITO, S140

Casimer P. "Casey" Yelito, 87, of 71 Park Ave., Nesquehoning PA, entered into eternal rest on November 22, 2016. He was the husband of the late Eleanor (Sobolewski) Yelito, who passed away in 2009. Born in Lansford PA, he was a son of the late Joseph and Mary (Stefanik) Yelito. "Casey" worked as an auto mechanic for Kovatch Corporation for over 50 years before retiring. "Casey" enjoyed camping in his younger years, working on cars, walking miles a day with his dog, attending the Senior Center in Nesquehoning for lunches and loved his grandchildren immensely. He was of the Roman Catholic faith and was a member of St. Joseph's Church of Panther Valley in Summit Hill and was a member of the former St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church in Nesquehoning. Surviving is a son Casimer J., with whom he resided, a sister Jenny, wife of John Terefinko of Bethlehem, PA and two granddaughters.

GILBERT FRANK KALICH, W077



Gilbert Frank Kalich was born March 20, 1920 in Taylor, TX, the son of Jim Kalich and Sophie Zrubek, passed away November 22, 2016 in Dallas, TX. He is survived by his son, Paul G. Kalich; grandson, Ira "Richie" Thrasher, Jr. of Rockdale, and granddaughter, Jennifer Sellers and husband, Bret L. of Friendswood; six great-grandchildren, sister-in-law, Mary Adkins of Jasper, TN and numerous nephews and nieces. He attended school in Circleville and Granger and lived on a farm until August 1941 when he enlisted in the US Army. He served in the Pacific front as a Gun Commander and Army Ranger in Company B, 640th Tank Destroyer Battalion, 40th Division and his tour of duty included the Hawaiian Islands, Guadalcanal, New Britain, and the Philippines. He received a Purple Heart for injuries sustained when a mortar shell hit his tank. He was honorably discharged August 1945 and moved to Dallas where he worked for the US Postal Service until his retirement with 30 years of service. He married Bessie Ruzicka on November 16, 1946, his wife of 59 years. He was a founding member of St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church in Richardson and an active member of the SPJST for over 70 years. He enjoyed gardening, and traveling. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to The American Cancer Society.

JOSEPH J. HUDAK, S84



Joseph J. Hudak, 80, of Ottsville died November 24, 2016. Joe was the beloved husband of Barbara A. Crandley Hudak for 57 years. Born in Philadelphia, PA, he was the son of the late Joseph T. and Elizabeth Oravec Hudak. Joe was a former resident of Doylestown, PA before moving to Ottsville in 1992. He was a graduate of Drexel University, Class of 1960, and long-time member of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. He was a successful salesman from 1960 until his retirement from Arobone and Company in Hatfield. Joe was currently the president of the Warminster/Glenside Radio Control Club, and in his leisure enjoyed gardening. Joe was gifted in many ways. He was a talented musician who taught his children to play both the piano and the organ. Joe was the consummate handyman and

could repair almost anything. In addition to his wife, Barbara, Joe is survived by his children, Carol Martucci and her husband, Michael, Diane Stellfox, Mary Ellen Butler and her husband, Michael, Elaine Zurmuhl and her husband, Martin, Janet Fecko and her husband, Steve, and Susan Hill and her husband, Brian; 10 grandchildren, three step-grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. In lieu of flowers, contributions in his name may be made to Project Home, 1515 Fairmount Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19130.

RANDY SHIREK, W092



Randall Lee "Randy" Shirek, 61, of Minot and formerly of Michigan, ND area, died December 3, 2016. Randy was born April 14, 1955, in Michigan, ND to James Thomas and Stella (Mayer) Shirek. He was reared on the family farm near Lankin and completed his secondary education at Michigan High School graduating in 1973. He was active in athletics, and was a member of the '72-73' Michigan High School basketball team that was the first to represent Michigan in a State Class B Tournament since 1917, where he was named to the all-tournament team. He continued his education at Williston State College and Lake Region State College in Devils Lake. He then moved to Dickinson to work construction, returning to Michigan in 1979. Randy married Joy Hoffmann on May 31, 1980 and they made their home in Michigan until he took a position in Minot in 1981 with Portal Pipeline/Enbridge, where he continued to work for more than thirty-five years as a dispatcher, gauger and locator until his death. Randy's loving family includes his wife of 36 years, Joy; sons, Phil Shirek (significant other, Kiley Mack and her son Declan) of Minot and Charlie (Alyssa) Shirek of Lincoln, NE; mother, Stella Shirek of Lakota, ND; siblings, Bev (James) Sommerfeld of Horace, ND, James M. Shirek of Lankin, ND, Trisha (Harley) Wallace of San Tan Valley, AZ and Anthony (Laura) Shirek of Rochester, MN; mother-in-law, Dorothy (Scherweit) Hoffmann of Fargo, ND; brothers-in-law, Larry (Margaret) Hoffmann and Jack Hoffmann, both of Wheatland, ND and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

WILLIAM VOLESKY, W121



William (Bill) Volesky passed away, after battling a long illness, on December 9, 2016 at his home in Fort Collins, CO. "Papa" was born on the farm in New Hradec, ND on March 30, 1933 to Joseph and Mary (Karsky) Volesky. He graduated from high school after which he joined the United States Air Force and was part of the Thunderbird air demonstration team as a mechanic. He attended Northrup Aeronautical Institute in Los Angeles, CA where he earned his A&E license. After graduation, Papa moved to Denver, CO and was hired by United Airlines as an A&E mechanic, and later, as a supervisor of aircraft maintenance. While at United, Papa met the love of his life, Marcia (Lobel) and they were married in 1962. He left United Airlines in 1973 in order to pursue his life-long dream of farming. In 1979, Papa moved the family to Wellington, CO where he and Marcia bought their own dairy farm. William was a member of Saint Joseph Catholic Church since 1979. He is survived by his

wife (Marcia) of 54 years; three children: Tim, Greeley CO; Kristy (Lee), Fort Collins CO; Jay (Jennifer), Broomfield CO; six grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; five brothers: Edwin (Irene), Dickinson, ND; Tony (Bev), Dickinson, ND; Al (Cele), Helena, MT; Frank (Sue), Warrensburg, MO; Joe, Rapid City, SD; two sisters: Ella Sadowsky, Dickinson, ND; Bridget (Tom) Glaser, Dickinson, ND; one sister-in-law: Clara, Helena, MT; two brothers-in-law: Herman Hauck, Billings, MT and Ben Weigel, Bismarck, ND and a herd of nieces and nephews.

THERESA M. SEPESE, S202



Theresa M. Sepesy, died December 12, 2016. Theresa was born on September 16, 1928, in Youngstown, OH, daughter of the late Andrew and Mary (Kral) Rudy, Jr. She graduated from East High School. After graduation, Theresa was employed at G.C. Murphy Co. and also became an Am-Way Sales Associate. On February 26, 1949, she married Alex J. Sepesy and became

a dedicated homemaker raising five children and enjoyed 67 years of marriage. Theresa was a member of Christ our Savior Parish, St. Nicholas Church and a member in the St. Therese Society of the Little Flower and the Ladies Auxiliary of the VFW Post 3538. She was an avid bowler and President of the Bowladrome Ladies League, she was Secretary/Treasurer in the formation of the Steel Valley Harmonica Club, after which Theresa and her husband Alex entertained as "Harmonica Gypsies" at veterans hospitals and nursing homes where they donated many harmonicas and also for the special needs children at St. John's Villa. Theresa is survived by her husband Alex; her son, Ray (Diane) Sepesy of Mooresville, NC; her daughter, Alexia (Gene) Magazzino of New Springfield; sons, Dave (Shirley) Sepesy, Robert (Davita) Sepesy, Michael Sepesy, all of Struthers; 13 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren; two sisters, Mrs. Patty Kachmer and Rita Rudy and many nieces and nephews.

SHARON A. MAJERNIK, S7

Sharon A. Majernik, 69, Wausau, WI died December 16, 2016. She was born March 1, 1947 in Blackstone, IL, daughter of the late Edward and Leona (LeGare) Wonders. On January 31, 1970 she married Michael Majernik in Streator, IL. He survives Sharon, known as 'Sammy' to her beloved husband, spent the majority of her life in Streator, IL where she raised her three children. Sharon worked for several local businesses and owned her own cleaning service. She was active in her church, her children's school, and loved spending time in her flower garden. Sharon's four granddaughters were the light of her life and her retirement years were spent close to them in Wausau, WI. She enjoyed road trips with Mike throughout the upper Midwest and winter trips to Florida in their Ford Mustang. Survivors include her husband, Michael Majernik, Wausau, her children, Kimberly Majernik, Palm Harbor, FL, Jason (Susan) Majernik and Todd (Kendra) Majernik, both of Wausau, four grandchildren; her siblings, Donald Wonders, Illinois, Margaret (Dave) Shirley, Illinois, Tom (Pat) Wonders, Ohio, Linda (Bill) Ross, Missouri, Barbara Hall, Illinois, and Ginger (Art) Connor, Illinois as well as many nieces and nephews.

JUNE MARY TRENCHAK, S102



June M. Trenchak, 75, passed away December 27, 2016. She is survived by her brothers, Philip Trenchak of South Plainfield, NJ and David (Barbara) Trenchak of Idaho Falls, ID; nieces and nephews, Heidi (Craig) Gummow, Amy Trenchak, Brian (Abigail) Trenchak, Patti Feeney and P.J. Trenchak; and cousins, Thank you to her special friend and caregiver, Martha Martinez. June was born May 10, 1941, in Pueblo. She retired as head pediatric nurse from St. Mary Corwin Medical Center. She was an avid Broncos and Rockies fan and enjoyed going to Cripple Creek. As per her request, there will be no viewing. Memorials may be made to American Cancer Society through Montgomery & Steward Funeral Directors, 1317 N. Main St., Pueblo, CO 81003.

DOLORES LUCAS, S524



Dolores Lucas, (nee Martin) passed away December 4, 2016 two months shy of her 90th birthday. Beloved daughter of Margaret (nee First) and Thomas F. Martin (both deceased). Dear sister of Fr. Thomas Martin (deceased), Gerald Martin, George Martin (Ann) and Richard Martin (Mary Ellen). Dear longtime friend of the late Tony Slama. Loving aunt, great aunt and great-great aunt. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory are suggested to the Martin Family Scholarship Fund, c/o Benedictine High School, 2900 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Cleveland, OH 44104.

STANLEY JOHN CERVENKA, W028



Stanley John Cervenka died December 21, 2016 at the age of 94. He was born September 20, 1922, in Pisek, ND, the seventh of eight children of Frank and Mary Cervenka. His little hometown was very Czech and very Catholic, and it was there that he learned the value of a dollar and the principles of integrity and humility that he carried with him throughout his life. During World War II, Stan was selected for the V-12 Navy College Training Program, under which he earned a mechanical engineering degree from the Illinois Institute of Technology. He was then sent for officers' training to Columbia University in New York, which is where he found himself when the war in Europe ended in 1945. That summer Stan made the fortuitous decision to attend a dance at Bachelor's Grove in North Dakota, where he met a pig-tailed redhead named Patty Rose Reiten, as vivacious as he was quiet. He and Pat married in 1947 and eventually settled in Seattle, where Stan worked for the Boeing Company for 38 years. Self-effacing and humble, Stan had a greater impact on his family, his workplace, his church, and his community than he ever recognized. Stan is survived by his loving wife, Pat; nine children: Mary Eidsvold (Barry); Mark Cervenka (Sue); Frank Cervenka (Laurie); Margaret Schmitz (Andy); Cathy Peters; Sue Steelquist (Dan); Patty Cervenka; Paul Cervenka (Joni); and Bob Cervenka; 15 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.



IN MEMORIAM

VIOLA BARTOCK, S177

Viola "Vi" (Carbonara) Bartock, 92, of Uniontown, PA, passed away December 21, 2016. She was born on March 17, 1924 in Connellsville, PA, a daughter of the late Frank and Caroline (Saverese) Carbonara. She was a member of St. Mary (Nativity) Roman Catholic Church, St. Mary Christian Mothers, a 1942 graduate of Connellsville Area High School and later worked at the Anchor Hocking Cap Plant. Viola married the love of her life Joseph F. Bartock, Sr., on October 29, 1949. In her free time she enjoyed duckpin bowling, bingo and attended Masontown Senior Center, most of all, Viola enjoyed being a wife, mother and grandmother, her family was her greatest treasure. She is survived by her children, Joseph F. Bartock, Jr., and wife Linda of Masontown, Rose Ann Sloboda and her husband John of Uniontown, Patricia Thomas and husband Paul of Masontown, Frederick (Buzzy) Bartock and wife Brenda of Smithfield, Caroline Heavener and husband Rennie of Uniontown, Michael Bartock and wife Susan of Smithfield, 14 grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, three brothers Anthony Carbonara, Eugene Carbonara, Richard Carbonara and wife Rose all of Connellsville, two sisters, Louise Mecco and husband Leonard of Uniontown, Carmalee Porter and husband David of Connellsville, brothers-in-law James Quinn of Coraopolis, Anthony Bartock of Uniontown and sister-in-law Anna Kerr of Carmichaels and also many nieces and nephews.

ANNE MARIE LEDVA, S84



Anne Marie Ledva (nee Barlick) died on January 25, 2017 at the age of 87. Devoted wife of Michael Ledva. Loving mother of Kathleen Mercurio and her husband, Harry; Marianne Ledva; Michael Ledva and his wife, Ann; John Ledva and his wife, Amy; Therese Ledva; and Daniel Ledva. Beloved grandmother of nine and dear great-grandmother of three. Anne was born on January 17, 1930 in Coral, PA to Bartholomew and Mary Barlick (nee Kmec). Seeking opportunity after the coal industry waned, the family moved from Western PA, to Philadelphia, where Anne attended Bartram High School. Anne worked as an AT&T international operator and later retired from St. John Neumann. She married Michael Ledva, on September 16, 1950. While a working mother, she was also a caregiver to her mother-in-law, Anna, (Baba) for many years. Anne is remembered for numerous lovely reasons. She was a kind, patient, generous wife/mother who didn't seek recognition for her roles. "It Counts the Most When No One is Watching" is a remembered quote. Anne was passionate about her faith, family and friends. She was a stalwart member of St. Christopher parish, dedicated to the Legion of Mary, and an actively participating member of St. Agnes Slovak Church. Anne also contributed to numerous Catholic Charities. She served as an officer of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association Branch 084 and enjoyed volunteering at Cranaleith Spiritual Center. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Cranaleith Spiritual Center, 13475 Proctor Road, Philadelphia, PA 19116 or Holy Redeemer Hospice, 12265 Townsend Road, Suite 400, Philadelphia, PA 19154.



Senate of Pennsylvania

HARRISBURG, PA
Condolences

In the Senate, January 30, 2017

Whereas, The Senate of Pennsylvania mourns the loss of Anne Marie Barlick Ledva, who passed away on January 25, 2017, at the age of eighty-seven; and

Whereas, Born in Coral on January 17, 1930, Mrs. Ledva was the daughter of the late Bartholomew and Mary Kmec Barlick. She relocated to Philadelphia with her family and attended Bartram High School. An AT&T International Operator for a time, she retired from Saint John Neumann High School. A devout member of Saint Christopher Parish and a member of the Legion of Mary and Saint Agnes Slovak Church, Mrs. Ledva contributed to a number of Catholic charities, and she was an officer of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association and a volunteer at the Cranaleith Spiritual Center; and

Whereas, Mrs. Ledva represented many things to many people, among them a beloved family member, dedicated worker and devoted community steward who gave of her heart and time to enhance the quality of life of her family and her community. Her inspiring presence and genuine love for her family and friends will live long in the hearts and memories of the many individuals whose lives she touched; not therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania note with great sadness the passing of Anne Marie Barlick Ledva, whose life greatly benefited all those who lived, worked and worked with her; and extend heartfelt condolences to her husband of sixty-six years, Michael Ledva; sons, Michael, John and Daniel; daughters, Kathleen Mercurio, Marianne and Therese; nine grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and many other family members and friends; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this document, sponsored by Senator John P. Sabatino, Jr. and Senator Charles J. McKinney, Jr., be transmitted to Michael Ledva.

Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International

16th CGSI Genealogical Cultural Conference

Tuesday, October 17-Saturday, October 21, 2017

Hyatt Regency Hotel, Pittsburgh International Airport

Theme: Industry and Our Immigrant Ancestors

Speakers: International, National and Local Experts

Activities:

- Informative presentations on the genealogy, history, and ethnic heritage of our Slovak, Rusyn and Czech ancestors, and the Pittsburgh area.
- Lively cultural programs including music, dance, folk art and folk dress (Kroje).
- Guided historic Pittsburgh Slovak and Rusyn neighborhoods and institution tours.
- On-site access to genealogical resources from the CGSI Traveling Library.
- Regional round-table networking sessions, an exceptional opportunity to meet with fellow researchers, experts and enthusiasts from across the country.

CGSI is an all volunteer non-profit genealogical society. Contact PaulMCzech@comcast.net for more information.

Frances Jakabcin Eastern PA District Meeting

The Frances Jakabcin Eastern PA District met at Capriotti's in McAdoo, PA on April 23, 2017. Over fifty members were in attendance at the meeting hosted by Shenandoah Branch 196 and Mahanoy City Branch 55. After a delicious dinner, a business meeting conducted by President Veronica Bazik followed, that included making plans for the District's 125th Anniversary celebration later this summer. Michele

Mrazik Grasso District Secretary will attend the District president's meeting on the 27th of April for President Bazik and report back at the fall meeting. Monsignor Thomas Derzack, District Chaplain closed the meeting with prayer and everyone left looking forward to the fall meeting.



Karina Graham Receives Bishop's Youth Award

Karina Ann Graham, daughter of Kimberly Graham, SB172 was honored at Senior Mass on Sunday, June 4, 2017 at St. Andre Bessette Parish, Wilkes-Barre, PA.

Karina was also congratulated for being nominated and selected for the Diocese of Scranton "Bishop's Youth Award" presented to her on May 4, 2017 in St. Peter's Cathedral in Scranton, PA.



L-R: Dave Domzalski, Kim Graham, Karina Graham, Fr. Ken Seegar, Audrey Graham (grandmother).



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

Slovak Benedictines Visit Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville, PA

The Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius were recently blessed with visitors from the Slovak Republic. Father Vladimír Kasan, OSB, Prior of the Monastery of the Transfiguration of Jesus in Sampor, Slovak Republic, and several Benedictine monks visited the Motherhouse of The Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville. The Benedictines were traveling from Catholic University in Washington D.C. where they celebrated the PhD graduation of Father Dolný. They stopped in Danville on their way to Saint Andrew Abbey in Cleveland, OH, where they visited the Benedictines there.



(L-R): Br. Igor Hajas, OSB; Milan Kasan; Father Ján Dolný; Sister Jana Polakova, SCM; Sister Michael Ann Orlik, SS.C.M.; Sister Barbara Sable, SS.C.M.; Father Vladimír Kasan, OSB.

U.S. Ambassador to Slovakia Visits Pittsburgh

The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association (WPSCA) honored Adam Sterling, U.S. Ambassador to Slovakia, on his recent visit to Pittsburgh. At a reception in his honor attended by approximately 50 people, the Ambassador presented an overview of contemporary Slovakia discussing Slovakia's political, economic and social progress since independence in 1993.

Ambassador Sterling arrived in the Slovak Republic in August, 2016. As a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, he has served in the Netherlands, Azerbaijan, Israel, Kazakhstan, Belgium and Peru.



Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance 2017 Scholarship Program

The Scholarship Committee of the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance is announcing that the 2017 applications are now available for the annual Scholarship Program. Applications can be obtained through eligible members of a Fraternal Benefit Society belonging to the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance or by contacting the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance Secretary-Treasurer at Theresa@lpescu.org or 888-834-6614.



Applicants must:

- Be a resident of Pennsylvania and a member of a Fraternal Benefit Society that is a member of the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance.
- Be a 2017 high school graduate attending an accredited college, university, trade school, etc. in the summer/fall of 2017 as a full time student (twelve semester credits).
- Obtain a recommendation letter from their Fraternal Benefit Society.
- Submit a 500-word essay on: **“What does fraternal mean to you? What would you do to increase the relevance of fraternal to you and your peers?”**

Return the completed application, essay and letter of recommendation, postmarked no later than September 1, 2017.

At least one \$500 scholarship will be awarded. Additional scholarships may be awarded depending upon available funds.

If you or your society has not received the information on the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance Scholarship, please contact Virginia Holmes at 412-672-1565 or e-mail holmes7732@aol.com.

ALEX KROMKOWSKI RECEIVED EAGLE SCOUT RANKING

On June 11, 2016 Alex Kromkowski of Rochester, IN received his Eagle Scout Rank for Boy Scouts. He started scouts in first grade as a Tiger Scout and worked his way up through the ranks. For his Eagle Projects, he worked with the Knights of Columbus on their sweet corn booth that they use for the annual Trail of Courage Rendezvous in Rochester. This is the Knights big fundraiser for the year. The work included fixing the fire pit and corn crib, installing a new hand washing station, replacing the fence, and removing a stump that was in the middle of the work area. Alex graduated from Tippecanoe Valley High School in June, 2017.



Lajcak Elected President of United Nations Assembly

On May 31, the United Nations General Assembly elected by acclamation Foreign Minister Miroslav Lajcak of Slovakia as President of its upcoming 72nd session. Following his election at UN Headquarters in New York, Mr. Lajcak outlined the priorities for his tenure: people; peace and prevention; migration; sustainable development goals; climate action; and human rights, which would guide his work as an overarching principle.



Joe and Albina Senko with newly elected President of the UN General Assembly, Miroslav Lajcak. Mr. and Mrs. Senko were among the guests at a reception given by Frantisek Ruzicka, Permanent Representative of the Slovak Republic to the United Nations, honoring Mr. Lajcak's election.

**SAVE
THE DATE**
Sunday,
September 3, 2017
**SLOVAK FESTIVAL
IN PARMA, OH**

*Sponsored by
The Cleveland
Slovak Radio Club*

Schwager 50th Wedding Anniversary Observed

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Schwager celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday, June 10, 2017 with a Mass at 4:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Church, Springfield.

Walter and the former Marjorie Tapocik were married at St. Aloysius Church, Springfield on June 10, 1967.

The couple has two children: Gregory and daughter-in-law, Tina of Raleigh, NC, and Julie Barnes, (husband, Nathan, deceased), of Springfield. They are grandparents to CJ Garcia, Isabella and Gabrielle Schwager. Granddaughter Lucy Schwager is deceased.

Walter who is disabled, served in the USNR and retired from the State of Illinois. Marjorie is a retired X-ray technologist and retired from the former



End of the Rainbow, Florals and Gifts owned by she and her husband. She is an Illinois Master Floral Designer.

Due to health limitations, a formal celebration was not held. Friends have suggested a card shower be sent to 905 Portland, Sherman, IL 62684.

First Holy Communion Celebrated

On April 29, 2017, Jr. Branch 538 member, Ryan Dickman received her First Holy Communion at Sacred Heart Church, in Fremont, OH. The Rev. Krzysztof Kardzis, pastor, celebrated the Mass and Sacrament. Pictured with

Ryan are her parents, Katie and Seth and 2 brothers, Nolan and Nathanael. One week later, May 8, 2017, at Sacred Heart School, Ryan had the honor of crowning the Virgin Mary during the May Crowning ceremony. Ryan is in the second grade at Sacred Heart grade school.



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**FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK
LADIES ASSOCIATION**

FCSLA Executive Committee Fourth Quarterly Meeting

Home Office, Beachwood OH • November 17, 2016

Call to Order/Prayer/Pledge of Allegiance

President Cynthia M. Maleski called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. at the home office, Beachwood, Ohio. She asked Director Joann Skvarek Banvich to open the meeting with prayer.

Opening Business

Roll Call

Interim Secretary Katherine M. Bowes was asked to call the roll.

Members present were:

Cynthia M. Maleski	President
Sue Ann M. Seich	Director
Joann Skvarek Banvich	Director
Virginia A. Holmes	Trustee
Barbara Novotny Waller	Trustee

It was noted that Chaplain Monsignor Peter M. Polando will be arriving a few minutes late and is excused until his arrival. Interim Treasurer Stephen C. Hudak is also in attendance.

Approval of the Agenda

President Maleski called for approval of the agenda. Trustee Barbara Novotny Waller moved and Director Skvarek Banvich seconded to approve the agenda as presented.

MOTION ADOPTED

Approval of the Minutes

President Maleski called for approval of the August 24, 2016 Executive Committee Meeting minutes. Director Sue Ann M. Seich moved and Trustee Waller seconded to approve the minutes as presented.

MOTION ADOPTED

National President's Comments

President Maleski informed the committee that a break would be taken during the meeting today for a special meeting of the board of directors to consider the approval of the Polish Women's Alliance of America (PWAA) merger agreement and to consider the approval of an individual for the position of National Treasurer.

Pro-Life March

FCSLA will participate again in the March for Life in Washington D.C. on January 27, 2017. In conjunction with the First Catholic Slovak Union, FCSLA will sponsor two buses for attendees. At the District Presidents' meeting in April, President Maleski encouraged districts and branches to participate in pro-life activities in their own areas and churches, as well as the national event.

Monsignor Polando joined the meeting.

Strategic Planning Process

President Maleski reviewed the strategic planning process, background, and trends that were presented at the board of directors' strategic planning session in March. The updated strategic plan will be presented at the December board of directors meeting.

Merger Updates

The merger agreement between Polish Union of the United States of North American (PUNA) and First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association (FCSLA) has been signed by both parties and PUNA will have its special convention on January 8, 2017 in Wilkes-Barre, PA. Regulators at the Ohio Department of Insurance have agreed that sending a postcard notice regarding the potential mergers to all FCSLA members and posting the agreements on our website will fulfill the Ohio statutory requirement.

125th Anniversary

The committee met on October 3, 2016 and November 15, 2016. The national event is to be held on July 29-30, 2017. The Cleveland Marriott Downtown has been contracted for the Gala banquet and the home

office event will be held the next morning. Districts will be encouraged to hold their own anniversary events and guidelines for reimbursement of such events are being developed. The Saint Ann statue at the home office will be refurbished. An anniversary calendar is being planned.

A.M. Best

A new analyst has been assigned to FCSLA. A.M. Best also announced it will be revising its BCAR (Best's Capital Adequacy Ratio) methodology and is currently in a consultation period.

Fraternal Tax Exemption

President Maleski is on the advocacy panel with several other national leaders to represent fraternal in the tax exemption status discussion with U.S. senators and U.S. congressional representatives in Washington D.C. FCSLA executive committee members who know their representatives personally are encouraged to contact them regarding this issue.

Fraternal Benefit Society Branding Project

The AFA (American Fraternal Alliance) funded the first phase of this project that developed positioning statements. The next phase, which entails fraternal involvement, will be taken to the internal marketing task force for a recommendation to the board. A description of the project and process was presented.

President Maleski stated her report will be completed after the recess. Director Seich moved and Director Skvarek Banvich seconded to accept the President's report thus far.

MOTION ADOPTED

The meeting was recessed at 10:30 a.m. for short break and to convene a special meeting of the board of directors to consider the approval of the Polish Women's Alliance of America (PWAA) merger agreement and to consider the approval of an individual for the position of National Treasurer.

The meeting was reconvened at 12:01 p.m. The meeting was then recessed for lunch. Monsignor Polando led the committee in grace.

SECOND SESSION – NOVEMBER 17, 2016

The meeting was reconvened at 12:51 p.m. Office Manager Jean Buday was in attendance.

National President's Comments (reopened)

The President reopened her comments to discuss the employee benefits section of the employee manual.

Employee Benefits Section of the Employee Manual

The employee benefits section of the manual is subject to the approval of the board of directors, per the bylaws' section V. (A)(3)(b) (i). Office Manager Buday presented a draft of the benefits section and a comparison grid for discussed.

Supplement 1

Director Seich moved and Trustee Waller seconded to recommend to the board of directors to accept the employee benefits section of the employee manual, subject to minor editing.

MOTION ADOPTED

New Item

Trustee Virginia A. Holmes moved and Director Skvarek Banvich seconded to recommend to the board of directors to increase the death benefit for current and past board members from \$2,000 to \$15,000.

MOTION ADOPTED

Discussion ensued that this topic should be deferred to the Board Performance and Review Committee.

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Office Manager Buday was excused from the meeting.
Director Seich moved and Trustee Waller seconded to accept the remainder of the President's Report.

MOTION ADOPTED

Treasurer's Report

Interim Treasurer Hudak presented the Treasurer's Report.

Supplement 2

Investments

Interim Treasurer Hudak went over the details on the Acquired Securities Report. A number of questions were asked and answered.

Annuity Reserves by Product

Interim Treasurer Hudak reported on our annuity reserves by product. He explained in detail significant statistics on the report. Several questions were asked and answered.

3rd Quarter Budget vs. Actual

Interim Treasurer Hudak discussed the report and reviewed both life and annuity sales compared to the detailed budget. Interim Treasurer Hudak also discussed recommender sales versus agent sales and merger costs. Questions on the report were asked and answered.

The meeting was recessed at 2:31 p.m. for short break and was reconvened at 2:42 p.m. Interim Treasurer Hudak introduced the new controller, Mr. Frank Rando.

2017 Budget Discussion

Interim Treasurer Hudak presented the proposed 2017 budget in detail with Controller Rando in attendance. Interim Treasurer Hudak identified budget items relating to the 125th anniversary celebration and discussed integration of the potential merger parties.

Monsignor Polando moved and Director Seich seconded that the executive committee recommend to the board to approve the proposed 2017 budget with minor changes.

MOTION ADOPTED

Controller Rando was excused from the meeting.

Yield Curve

Interim Treasurer Hudak reviewed the yield curve and the interest rate environment.

Annuity Interest Yield (January 1, 2017 – March 31, 2017)

After discussion, Director Seich moved and Trustee Holmes seconded that the executive committee recommend to the board that the annual annuity yield rate credited for the first quarter 2017 (January 1, 2017 – March 31, 2017) to remain the same:

Elite products

Silver Elite – 5 yr 2.75% APY
Gold Elite – 7 yr 3.00% APY
Platinum Elite – 10 yr 3.25% APY

Legacy products

Legacy 3.5% - 3.5618% APY
Legacy 4.5% - 4.6025% APY

MOTION ADOPTED

Meeting Dates

To be determined after the fourth quarterly meeting of the board of directors.

Adjournment and Prayer

Monsignor Polando moved and Director Skvarek Banvich seconded to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m. with prayer led by Monsignor Polando.

MOTION ADOPTED

Cynthia M. Maleski, President

Katherine M. Bowes, Interim Secretary

ATTEST:

Monsignor Peter M. Polando, Chaplain

Sue Ann M. Seich, Director

Joann Skvarek Banvich, Director

Virginia A. Holmes, Trustee

Barbara Novotny Waller, Trustee

94th Annual Slovak Day at Kennywood

The 94th Annual Slovak Day will take place Thursday, July 20, 2017 at Kennywood Park, West Mifflin, PA. It will be a day for Americans of Slovak descent to celebrate their heritage while enjoying colorful displays, authentic costumes, a Slovak liturgy, Slovak Folk Dance performances, Slovak food, children's activities as well as music for dancing.

A highlight of Slovak Day is the con-celebration of the Slovak Liturgy in the Main Pavilion directly behind Garfield's Revenge at 4:00 p.m. The Main Celebrant of the Liturgy will be the Very Rev. Msgr. Peter M. Polando, of Youngstown OH, along with several Catholic priests from the Pittsburgh, Greensburg and Johnstown-Altoona Dioceses. Immediately following will be the vibrant repertoire of Slovak music, songs and dances presented by the Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble (PAS) and the Pittsburgh Slovaks.

Tantalize your taste buds at the Slovak Kitchen where you will be able to enjoy holubky (stuffed cabbage), haluski (sweet cabbage and noodles), pirohy and kolbasy. Your sweet tooth can be satisfied with the homemade favorite – ceregi and Paska. Enjoy this delicious dinner or ala-carte foods and relax amid the echoes of Slovakia, as the strolling musicians play all of the Slovak favorites. Food will be served in Pavilion #4 behind the ride Garfield's Revenge from 12:30 p.m. until the food is sold out.

In Pavilion #3 you will be able to see an exhibit Slovak Wood Craft Shop prepared by the PAS Jr. and Maly Ensembles. The exhibit will include Slovak heirlooms of folk treasures that show the incredible skill and artistry found in the Slovak villages.

In the Main Pavilion #5 there will be Slovak Cultural Displays provided by the Slovak Fraternal.

A special youth area will feature activities just for children. The children's program will include games and treats beginning at 12:30 p.m. by the Main Pavilion. Every child participating in these activities will receive a free treat.

From 1 to 4 p.m., one can sit back and enjoy the music or kick up your heels dancing, grab a partner and twirl to traditional Slovak music of the George Batyi Ensemble at the Kitchen Pavilion.

For a day to remember, join all Slovaks on Thursday, July 20, 2017, Kennywood Park. The cost of tickets are \$26 for Fun Day General Admission, \$15 for those 55 years of age and over, plus a coupon will be available for those 70 years and over to be paid at the gate for \$11.00 + tax. Tickets and coupons are available by contacting Sue Ondrejco at (412) 421-1204 or Mary Lou Wagner at (412) 462-1957.

For general information about the 94th Slovak Day contact Chairwoman Mary Lou at (412) 462-1957.

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



No books are sold or delivered C.O.D.
 ALL ARE SOLD FOR CASH

The cost of each book is \$9.00. A carton of 18 books is \$144 (\$8.00 per book). Canada residents \$11.00 U.S. money order per book. *Send only money order or check payable to:* First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Attention: Cook Book Department, 24950 Chagrin Boulevard, Beachwood, OH 44122.

(Please Print)

Name _____
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 State _____ Zip Code _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____

Enclosed find \$ _____ (Money Order)
 (Check) for _____ copies of the Cook Book.

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 Dalpiaz at the Home Office.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address: _____

REPORT OF THE FCSLA NATIONAL TREASURER

BALANCE SHEET AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2017

ASSETS

Cash & Short Term Investments	\$ 24,357,461
Bonds	820,408,470
Preferred Stock	1,385,283
Common Stock	5,762,627
Investment Income Due & Accrued	12,744,922
Property Plant & Equipment, Net	5,355,116
Certificate Loans & Accrued Interest	2,546,694
Other Assets	185,117
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 872,745,690

LIABILITIES

Life Reserves	\$ 254,251,459
Annuity Reserves	498,321,925
Death Claims Payable	1,970,384
Unearned Premiums	470,205
Matured Endowments	295,604
Provision for Dividends Payable	1,400,000
Accumulated Dividends & Interest	4,501,208
Accrued Convention Donations	336,000
Provision for Future Conventions	252,084
Asset Valuation Reserve	8,258,584
Interest Maintenance Reserve	998,652
Other Liabilities	1,395,409
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 772,451,514
Surplus	\$ 100,294,176
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS	\$ 872,745,690

INCOME STATEMENT

For the Two Months Ending February 28, 2017

REVENUE

Insurance Premiums	\$ 650,368
Annuity Premiums	7,778,235
Investment Income	7,136,854
Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve	26,290
Rental Income	66,189
Other Revenue	2,111
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 15,660,046

EXPENSE

Increase in Reserves — Life	\$ 137,459
Increase in Reserves — Annuity	5,447,925
Insurance Benefits	953,402
Annuity Benefits	5,366,296
Commission Expense	195,196
Surrender Benefits	644,416
Post Mortem Benefits	228,609
Miscellaneous Member Benefits	7,761
Matured Endowments	(7,153)
Donation Expenses	7,132
Change in Accrued Convention Donations	42,000
Convention Expenses	33,334
Bank Service Charges	16,873
Data Processing Service Fees	31,723
Accounting Fees	6,140
Actuarial Fees	60,519
Legal Fees	43,654
Consulting Fees	21,870
Bonus to Branches	137,500
Fraternal Activities	32,243
Official Publications	70,987
Scholarship Awards	52,166
Miscellaneous Employee Benefits	71,003
Fees — Directors	26,520
Salaries — Employees	282,251
Salaries — Officers	77,717
Interest Expense	43,965
Tax Expense	52,530
Depreciation Expense	43,148
Utility Expense	16,227
Postage and Printing	52,708
Advertising	32,776
Travel Expense	5,762
Insurance Department Fees	31,632
Sales Promotion	34,576
Rental Expense	66,189
Other Expense	76,888
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 14,443,946

Income (Loss) from Operations

Dividends to Members	\$ 230,123
Subtotal Income (Loss)	\$ 985,977
Capital Gains (Loss)	(195)
NET INCOME (Loss)	\$ 985,782



Backyard Celebrations

GRILLED BURGERS

- 2 pounds lean ground beef
- ½ cup quick-cooking or old-fashioned oats
- ¼ cup milk
- 1 egg, beaten
- ¼ cup ketchup
- ½ cup chopped onion
- 3 teaspoons finely diced green pepper
- 1 teaspoon salt
- Dash pepper
- 8 hamburger buns

Combine first nine ingredients in a large bowl and mix well. Shape into eight patties. Grill until burgers reach desired doneness. Serve on buns with lettuce, tomato and cheese if desired.

GRILLED CORN

For the Garlic Butter

- 8 tablespoons butter, at room temperature
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- ¼ teaspoon red pepper flakes
- 1 tablespoon finely chopped fresh parsley
- 4 ears of corn, husked
- 1 tablespoon butter
- Kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- ½ cup Parmesan cheese
- ½ cup Pecorino Romano

To make the garlic butter, whisk together butter, garlic, red pepper flakes, and parsley in a small bowl. Set aside.

Lightly butter the corn with 1 tablespoon of butter and season with salt and pepper to taste. Wrap ears individually in aluminum foil.

Place the foiled corn on the grill and cook until tender and slightly charred, about 20 minutes, turning 4 times during cooking.

Remove from the grill and let cool for 3 to 5 minutes.

Mix Parmesan and Pecorino cheeses together on a large plate. Open the foiled corn, slather each ear in the garlic butter, roll in the cheese mixture, and serve.

BACON POTATO SALAD

- 4 cups cubed red potatoes
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 7 Bacon strips, cooked and crumbled
- 2 tablespoons minced fresh parsley
- 1⅓ cups mayonnaise
- 3 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese
- 3 tablespoons prepared ranch salad dressing
- 2 tablespoons prepared mustard
- 4 teaspoons white vinegar
- ½ teaspoon minced garlic
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon pepper

Place potatoes in a large saucepan and cover with water. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and cook for 10-15 minutes or until tender. Drain.

In a large bowl, combine the potatoes, onion, bacon and parsley. In a small bowl, combine the remaining ingredients. Pour over potato mixture; toss to coat. Refrigerate for 1 hour or until chilled.

SOUTHERN BAKED BEANS

- 1 large onion, diced
- 2 (16-ounce) cans pork and beans
- 3 tablespoons prepared yellow mustard
- ¼ cup maple syrup
- ¼ cup light brown sugar
- 4 tablespoons ketchup
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- ½ pound bacon strips, cut into ½-inch pieces

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. In a Dutch oven, mix onion, pork and beans, mustard, maple syrup, light brown sugar, ketchup, and lemon juice. Top with the bacon pieces. Bake, covered, for 45 to 60 minutes.

LEMON LUSH

- 1 pouch (17.5 oz.) Betty Crocker™ sugar cookie mix
- Butter and egg called for on cookie mix pouch for drop cookies
- ¼ cup butter, melted
- 1 package (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 tablespoon finely grated lemon peel
- 1 container (12 oz.) Cool Whip™ frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 2 boxes (4-serving size each) Jello lemon instant pudding & pie filling mix
- 3 cups cold milk

Heat oven to 375 degrees. Make and bake drop cookies as directed on pouch.

Cool completely, at least 30 minutes. Set aside 6 cookies for garnish.

In food processor, process half of the remaining cookies to coarse crumbs. Remove to medium bowl. Continue to process second half of remaining cookies to coarse crumbs; add to bowl. Stir in melted butter until well blended. In ungreased 13x9-inch pan, press cookie crumb mixture firmly in bottom. Set aside.

In medium bowl, beat cream cheese, powdered sugar and lemon peel with electric mixer on medium speed until smooth, scraping down sides of bowl frequently. Beat in 2 cups whipped topping. Spread over cookie crust.

In another medium bowl, beat dry pudding mix and milk with whisk about 2 minutes or until thick. Spread over cream cheese mixture. Spread remaining whipped topping over pudding layer. Cover and refrigerate 4 hours.

When ready to serve, place 6 reserved cookies into quart-size resealable food-storage plastic bag. Seal bag; coarsely crush cookies with rolling pin. Sprinkle on top. Cut into 6 rows by 4 rows. Cover and refrigerate any remaining pieces.

TOMATO SALAD WITH RICOTTA SALATA AND CREAMY GARLIC VINAIGRETTE

- 2 pounds ripe tomatoes, sliced ½-inch thick
- 2 cups fennel, julienned
- Salt and freshly ground pepper
- 2 tablespoons minced chives
- ¼ cup fresh chervil leaves
- 4 basil leaves, shredded
- 4 ounces ricotta salata cheese, crumbled
- ½ cup nicoise olives, pitted
- Creamy garlic dressing, recipe follows

Arrange tomatoes on a platter. Toss fennel in a bowl with a few tablespoons of the creamy garlic dressing and season with salt and pepper. Mound the fennel in the middle of the platter on top of the tomatoes. Sprinkle with the herbs, cheese and olives and drizzle with some more of the creamy garlic dressing.

Creamy Garlic Dressing:

- 2 tablespoons prepared mayonnaise
- 3 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 2 cloves garlic, smashed
- 1 cup olive oil
- Salt and freshly ground pepper

Combine mayonnaise, vinegar, lemon juice, mustard and garlic in a blender and blend until smooth. Slowly add the olive oil until emulsified and season with salt and pepper to taste.

PERIODICAL

7/17

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.