

ZORNICKA

Ladies
Pennsylvania
Slovak
Catholic
Union



1898-2007

MORNING STAR

Vol. 66, No. 802

November-December 2007

Lori G. Bryant



Sheryl L. Cosme



David M. Tirpak



THE LPSCU ANNOUNCES OUR POST-GRADUATE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Roger K. Voss



Daniel R. Wakefield



Sarah E. Wakefield



Jennifer S. Zampetti



Details on page 16

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Calendar of Events

NOVEMBER

- 7-8** — LPSCU Semiannual Board Meeting
- 24** — Deadline to order tickets for St. Andrew's Abbey *Vilija* (Slovak Christmas Eve supper). *See page 17 for details.*
- 25** — Rev. Baloga District's Christmas Party at St. Mathias Church Hall, Youngstown, Ohio, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Branches 163 and 180 will host.
- 25** — **Deadline to submit articles for January/February Zornicka.**

DECEMBER

- 1** — Lehigh Valley Okres hosts "Breakfast with Santa" at Chriskindlemart, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. Call Okres officers or your Branch Secretary before November 17 to make reservations. Cost for adults is \$6.00.
- 1** — Holy Mass for the soul of Dr. Jozef Tiso, first president of the Slovak Republic, at 10:00 a.m. at the Slovak Benedictine Chapel, Cleveland, Ohio. *See page 17 for details.*
- 2** — St. Andrew's Abbey/Cleveland Slovak Radio Program host a *Vilija* (Slovak Christmas Eve supper) at Benedictine High School Dining Hall, Cleveland, Ohio. Admission is by advance ticket only. *See page 17 for details.*
- 2** — Rev. Dianiska District's Annual Christmas Party at the Ramada Inn, Public Square, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Branches 6 and 48 will host.
- 9** — Lehigh Valley Okres Christmas Party at the Best Western Lehigh Valley Conference Center, Route 512, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, beginning at noon. Reservation deadline is December 3.
- 9** — Pittsburgh District Christmas Party at Edgewood Country Club, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Please make reservations with your Branch Secretary well prior to the event.

JANUARY 2008

- 22** — 35th Annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. *See page 7 for details.*
- 25** — **Deadline to submit articles for March/April Zornicka.**

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Spiritual Advisor's Message

Viva Cristo Rey!



Fr. Altavilla

On Sunday, November 25, 2007, the Church celebrates the glorious feast of Christ the King. This feast is celebrated on the final Sunday of the Church or Liturgical Year. Unlike the calendar year which begins on January 1st, the Church or Liturgical Year begins on the First Sunday of Advent. The feast of Christ the King was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925 as an antidote to secularism — a way of life which leaves God out of man's thinking and living and organizes man's life as if God did not exist. The feast is intended to proclaim, in a striking and effective manner, Christ's royalty over individuals, families, society, governments, and nations.

At the time, Pius XI witnessed the rise of dictatorships in Europe, and saw even Catholics being taken in by these earthly leaders. Just as the feast of Corpus Christi was instituted when devotion to the Eucharist was at a low point, the feast of Christ the King was instituted when it was most needed, during a time when respect for Christ and the Church was waning. In fact, it is still needed today, as these problems continue to plague us. Today, a similar distrust of authority exists. Individualism has been embraced to such an extreme that for many, the only authority is oneself. The idea of Christ as ruler is rejected in such a strongly individualistic system.

Many balk at the idea of kings and queens, believing them to be oppressive. Some even reject the titles of "Lord" and "King" for Christ because they believe that such titles are borrowed from oppressive systems of government. However true these statements might be — some earthly rulers have been and still remain oppressive — these individuals miss the point. Christ's kingship is one of humility and service. To his disciples Jesus said: "You know that those who are recognized as rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones make their authority over them felt. But it shall not be so among you. Rather, whoever wishes to become great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all. *For the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.*" (Mark 10: 42-45)

Thus, Jesus knew the oppressive nature of secular kings, and in contrast to them, he connected his role as king to humble service, and commanded his followers to be servants as well. In other passages of Scripture, his kingdom is tied to his suffering and death. While Christ is coming to judge the nations, his teachings spell out a kingdom of justice and judgment balanced with radical love, mercy, peace, and forgiveness. When we celebrate Christ as King, we are not celebrating an oppressive ruler, but one who was willing to die for humanity and whose "loving-kindness endures forever." Christ is the king that gives us true freedom, freedom in Him. We must never forget that Christ radically redefined

and transformed the concept of kingship.

This idea of Jesus as King, who exercises his authority in humble service, was greatly understood by Blessed Miguel Agustin Pro, S.J., martyred by the Mexican government on November 23, 1927, for performing his priestly duties. He studied in Mexico until 1914, when a tidal wave of governmental anti-Catholicism crashed down upon the country, forcing the novitiate to disband and the order to flee to Los Gatos, California. In 1915 Pro was sent to a seminary in Spain, where he remained until 1924. By the time he was ordained a priest in Belgium, in 1925, the political situation in Mexico had deteriorated. The presidency had been held by a succession of socialist, bitterly

anti-Catholic politicians who tried to exterminate Catholicism. All Catholic churches were closed, and bishops, priests, and religious were rounded up for deportation or imprisonment. Those caught trying to elude capture were

shot. Celebration of the sacraments was punishable by imprisonment or death.

Because the Church had been driven underground, Pro received permission from his superiors to return to Mexico incognito and to carry on his ministry undercover. He slipped into Mexico City and immediately began celebrating Mass and distributing the sacraments, often under imminent threat of discovery by a police force charged with the task of ferreting out hidden pockets of Catholicism.

He became known throughout the city as the undercover priest who would show up in the middle of the night, dressed as a beggar or a street sweeper, to baptize infants, hear confessions, distribute Communion, or perform marriages. Several times, disguised as a policeman, he slipped unnoticed into the police headquarters itself to bring the sacraments to Catholic prisoners before their executions. Using clandestine meeting places, a wardrobe of disguises (including policeman, chauffeur, garage mechanic, farm laborer, and playboy), and coded messages to the underground Catholics, Pro carried on his priestly work for the Mexican faithful under his care.

Finally he was caught. A car previously owned by his brother had been used in an assassination attempt on General Obregon. The license plate was traced to Pro's brother, and this led to an informant telling the police where the Pro brothers, who knew nothing about the plot, were lodging. They were put in jail and held without trial for ten days while the government trumped up charges falsely, implicating Pro

When we celebrate Christ as King, we are not celebrating an oppressive ruler, but one who was willing to die for humanity . . .

continued on page 20

The National Officers and Staff
of the LPSCU
Wish You and Yours
a Very Happy Thanksgiving,
a Joyous and Blessed
Holiday Season,
and a New Year Filled
with Health and Happiness!

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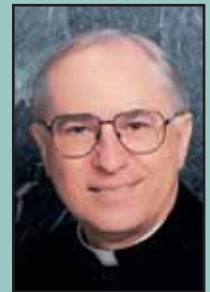
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2007 CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Most Reverend Joseph V. Adamec
Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown
Protector, Ladies Pennsylvania
Slovak Catholic Union

"And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth." (John 1:14)



Bishop Adamec

The Apostle John did not include an account of the birth of Jesus in his Gospel. Instead, he recorded John the Baptist's testimony about Jesus, related the call of the first disciples, and immediately began to describe Christ's public ministry. All this was preceded, however, by an explanation of Jesus' origin on a theological level.

This was God's Word, who was from the beginning and came to dwell among his people as the Christ, the Anointed One of the Lord, and the Son of God as well as of man. Jesus was someone who came not only as our Lord but also as one who walks with us and permeates our life.

Saint Francis of Assisi is credited for beginning the tradition of the crèche. Italian manger scenes tend to include the life of God's people, as it was lived out in the city and countryside. The stable comprises a very small part of the overall display.

There are several permanent displays in the Republic of Slovakia called *The Slovak Bethlehem*. Usually, these are wooden carvings of life in Slovakia that focus on the manger scene and the birth of Jesus. One such display can be found in the town of Rajecka Lesna, where the wooden carvings occupy the whole one side of a room. Many of the figurines and parts of the carving move, showing honor to the newborn Child.

The birth of Jesus is not an isolated event to be taken note of only at a certain time of the year. "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us." He came to be with us, in order to raise our lives to a status with God that is beyond our understanding. That life of ours, which appears ordinary to the worldly eye, is no longer ordinary. Everything that we do, at whatever time of the year, is now destined to speak of God's Word and his presence.

May the blessings of this Christmas Season be yours throughout the New Year of Grace 2008 and overflow into the lives of those around you so that they, too, may know that our God has "made his dwelling among us."

REV. BALOGA OKRES

Rev. Baloga Okres held an indoor picnic on Sunday, July 29, 2007, at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Struthers, Ohio, hosted by Struthers Branch 180.

Okres President Mary Ann Strauss welcomed everyone to the affair and conducted a business session before the picnic. Plans were made for our Christmas party to be held at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 25, 2007, at Saint Matthias Hall in Youngstown, Ohio. Branches 163 and 180 will host the event.

Lucille Komorosky

REVEREND DIANISKA DISTRICT

The Rev. Dianiska District held its second meeting of the year on Sunday, September 30, 2007, at the North End Slovak Club in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Theresa Olshefski welcomed everyone on behalf of host Branches 7 and 122.

The meeting was called to order by District President Mary Ann Ewasko. Vice President Hope Napkora lead the members in a prayer by Mary Paul Curley, FSP, called "Praying the Beatitudes" for our ill and deceased members and their families; for everyone in service to our country; and for peace on earth. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Financial Secretary Marge Zinkavich read the roll call. Barbara Kalish and Debbie Adamchak gave the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports, respectively; both reports were approved. Barbara Kalish read correspondence which included thank you letters from members, from The Laurels for our participation in Join Hands Day at their facility, from the St. Vincent DePaul Kitchen for the school supplies our members donated, and from some of the children who enjoyed our Youth Bowling Party.

President Ewasko announced that the District's annual Youth Bowling Party was a huge success and, as always, the children cannot wait until next year's bowling event.

She then directed everyone's attention to the table full of socks members have donated for "Make a Difference Day." The socks will be taken to the Home Office where they



Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.

— Matthew v.5

Name	Branch	Location
*Mary Kohler	24	Windber, PA
*Eleanor Dougherty	39	Drums, PA
Cecilia A. Madia	64	Pittsburgh, PA
Helen Pollock	64	Pittsburgh, PA
*Pauline Metz	75	Lansford, PA
*Pauline Schwepe	77	Lorain, OH
*George J. Heinlein	90	Johnstown, PA
Sabina Helis	184	Johnstown, PA
Margaret A. Trily	196	Hellertown, PA
Helen Kren	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Alena McCusker	L0005	Forest City, PA
Clement C. Macy	L0028	Luzerne, PA
Aldona Taros	L0094	So. Boston, MA
Adam Sadauskas	L0109	New Britain, CT
Nellie Welicka	L0270	Binghamton, NY
Crescenta V. Stukas	L0270	Binghamton, NY

**Multiple certificates*

will be picked up by Maureen Jordan from the Volunteer Action Group, who will distribute them to the needy.

The stone purchased by the members for the LPSCU Tree of Life will have written upon it our District's name and the date it was established.

As next year is the District's 65th anniversary, President Ewasko asked members to think about what they would like to do to celebrate the occasion.

Flyers were passed out on our annual Christmas party scheduled for December 2, 2007, at the Ramada on Public Square in Wilkes-Barre beginning at 1:00 p.m. Everyone is asked to bring a non-perishable item to donate to the St. Vincent DePaul Kitchen. Reservations for the party are required.

National President Theresa Kluchinski announced that the LPSCU National Convention will be held in July 2008 in Las Vegas, Nevada, and suggested that those who will be attending book their airfare soon. She also explained that The Tree of Life is on hold due to the construction in downtown Wilkes-Barre, but it will be erected as soon as possible. She informed the members about the various scholarships that are available and advised them to watch the *Zornicka* for more information.

At the end of the meeting, President Ewasko presented long time member Helen Stepanik with a lovely angel statue as a remembrance of her membership in the District. Helen will soon be moving away from the area to live near her children.

Susan Worth

PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

The Pittsburgh District held a meeting on September 16, 2007, at Jodi B's Restaurant in Forest Hills, Pennsylvania. Branch 52 was the host. Following a delicious meatloaf luncheon, District First Vice President Dolores Sakal conducted the meeting. She was acting in the absence of President Barbara Janicko, who was unable to attend due to illness.

Meeting discussions included the upcoming October 14 card party at St. Anne's Church in Homestead, Pennsylvania, and the December 9 Christmas party at the Edgewood Country Club, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Emphasis was placed on the importance of members calling their Branch Secretary to make reservations for the December 9th affair. In addition, it was decided that each member would once again bring canned goods to the Christmas party. These items will be donated to the needy at St. Joseph Church, Duquesne, Pennsylvania.

The membership voted to continue to give a \$50 gift to the Pittsburgh District's national scholarship recipients. This year there were five winners from our area.

A vote was passed for the District to buy a \$500 stone on the Tree of Life. The inscription, to be imprinted in both Slovak and English, will read: "God Bless Our Organization."

The next Pittsburgh District meeting is scheduled for March 2008. The date will be announced later.

First Vice President Sakal opened and closed the meeting by offering prayers for President Janicko's recovery.

Sylvia Goda

Pittsburgh Agreement Presented to History Center

On Sunday, September 9, 2007, a special ceremony was held at the Senator John Heinz History Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to welcome The Pittsburgh Agreement home. This historic document, signed on May 30, 1918, by Thomas G. Masaryk (the first president of Czecho-Slovakia), and representatives of the Slovak League of America and of the Czech-American community, was a major contributor to the liberation of the Czechs and Slovaks from Austro-Hungarian rule. The document helped to create the first Republic of Czecho-Slovakia.

The ceremony was coordinated by the Slovak League of America in cooperation with the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association, under the direction of Joseph T. Senko, Honorary Slovak Consul in Pittsburgh.

Beginning at 11:00 a.m., a brunch was enjoyed by more than 100 invited guests, including the officers of the Slovak fraternal, local civic and cultural leaders, the Ambassador of Slovakia, and the Deputy Ambassador of the Czech Republic in the United States. The official program commenced at noon with the singing of the National Anthems of the United States, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic. Approximately 300 guests attended the program.

The opening prayer was offered by Rev. Joseph R. Grosko, pastor of Holy Trinity Church, West Mifflin, Pennsylvania. Greetings were extended by Attorney Joseph Bielecki, president of the WPSCA, and Attorney Cynthia Maleski-Groch, vice president of the SLA for Pennsylvania. Nina Holy, national secretary-treasurer of the SLA, the civic and cultural federation of Americans of Slovak ancestry, which sponsored the proponents of The Pittsburgh Agreement in 1919, addressed the assembly in Slovak.



National officers from four Slovak Catholic fraternal at the Pittsburgh Agreement ceremony are, L-R: Andrew M. Rajac, president, First Catholic Slovak Union; Steven M. Pogorelec, supreme secretary, Slovak Catholic Sokol; Sue Ann M. Seich, supreme president, SCS; Dr. Mary Z. Gasparik, medical examiner, SCS; Theresa Kluchinski, president, Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union; Mary Ann S. Johaneck, president, First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association; and George F. Matta, treasurer, FCSU.

(Photos courtesy of Daniel F. Tanzone)



Pictured above are representatives of the National Slovak Society, First Catholic Slovak Union, First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, Greek Catholic Union, Slovak Gymnastic Union Sokol, and the Slovak Catholic Sokol who participated in the historic ceremony in which the Pittsburgh Agreement of May 18, 1918, was presented to the Senator John Heinz Regional History Center.

Remarks were also offered by the Honorable Rastislav Kacer, Slovakia's ambassador to the U.S. Ambassador Kacer noted the close relationship between the Slovak community in the United States and the Slovak people in his homeland.

The Czech Republic was represented by Juroslav Kurfurst, deputy chief of mission at the Czech Republic Embassy in Washington, D.C. He recalled the role played by the Slovak-American community and their collaboration with Thomas G. Masaryk, which helped establish the first Czecho-Slovak Republic in 1919.

In his address to the assembly, Slovak League President Daniel F. Tanzone outlined the history and purpose of The Pittsburgh Agreement. He recalled that on only two occasions had that document left the United States. In May 1938, on its 20th anniversary, Dr. Peter P. Hletko, then president of the SLA, brought the document to Bratislava where it was welcomed by a great manifestation clamoring for Slovak autonomy, one of the promises made in The Pittsburgh Agreement. In May 2007, the document traveled with the special centennial tour of Slovak League dignitaries to Slovakia, where it was shown to Slovakia's president, Ivan Gasparovic, and other government officials. It was welcomed during a session of the Slovak Parliament and displayed during a special ceremony during which Slovakia issued a commemorative stamp honoring the Centennial of the founding of the Slovak League of America.

Mr. Tanzone then presented The Pittsburgh Agreement to Andrew S. Masich, president and CEO of the Senator John Heinz History Center. Mr. Masich expressed thanks and gratitude to the SLA for considering the Heinz History Center as the new home of The Pittsburgh Agreement.

The program concluded with a benediction offered by Rev. John Cuccaro, pastor of St. John Chryzostom Byzantine Catholic Church in Pittsburgh.

Representing the LPSCU at this historic ceremony were President Theresa Kluchinski, Vice President Anita Gregory, Secretary-Treasurer Mary Jo Savidge, Chair of Trustees Mary Ann Ewasko, and Trustee Dolores Evanko.

35th Annual March for Life

Tuesday, January 22, 2008
Washington, D.C.

For the last several years, members of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union have been invited to participate in the annual March For Life in Washington, D.C. The LPSCU joins other Slovak/Catholic fraternal organizations (First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, First Catholic Slovak Union, and the Slovak Catholic Sokol) in this peaceful demonstration showing our support of and respect for the unborn.

This year's theme ~

*Build Unity on the Life Principles throughout America.
No Exception! No Compromise!*

Wilkes-Barre/Hazleton Area

A bus will leave Wilkes-Barre with a stop in Hazleton, Pennsylvania. Local Branches and Districts sponsor the cost of members wanting to attend. Anyone interested in attending can call Theresa Kluchinski at 888/834-6614 or 570/823-3515 for more information.

Cleveland/Pittsburgh Area

A bus will leave Cleveland, Ohio, with a stop in Pittsburgh. Anyone interested in attending can call Mary Ann Johaneck at 216/468-1011.

Area students can participate at no charge.

Pitt to Hold Summer Program in Slovakia

An agreement between the University of Pittsburgh and Comenius University will be signed this fall for a new four-week intensive beginning or intermediate level Slovak language program in Slovakia beginning next summer. The new program, to be held in Modra from July 21-August 15, will include three weeks of intensive language study followed by one week of guided travel within the country.

The program in Slovakia is a sequel to the six-week, six credit, intensive Slovak Summer Institute held at the University of Pittsburgh from June 9-July 18, 2008. Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Intensive Slovak will be offered in Pittsburgh. These courses are open to students of any age, including juniors and seniors in high school, undergraduate, and graduate students, as well as to persons of any age not currently enrolled in a college or university. Partial and full scholarship aid is available. The Pittsburgh classes meet Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for six weeks. Ten college credits are awarded for completion of both the Pittsburgh and Slovakia components.

The Slovakia 6+4 program includes a three-day trip to Trencin, Zilina, Martin, the High Tatras (Srbske Pleso), Vlkolinec (Skanzen), Demanova (cave), Banska Bystrica, and Banska Stiavnica. Day trips to the Male Carpaty, Modra Harmonia — Cerveny Kamen castle and museum, and to Bratislava are also included.

The Slovak Summer Institute and Slovakia 6+4 program are part of the University of Pittsburgh's East European Summer Language Institute. Other languages offered include Bulgarian, Croatian, Hungarian, Polish, Russian, Serbian, and Ukrainian. Study abroad programs in Russia, Bulgaria, and Poland are also offered.

For further information and applications for the 2008 Slovak Summer Institute, contact Christine Metil, Slavic Department Summer Programs, University of Pittsburgh, 1417 CL, Pittsburgh, PA 15260, or call 412/624-5906, or visit the website at <http://sli.slavic.pitt.edu/>.

Mary Talabay to Celebrate 100th Birthday



Mary Talabay

Mary (Maslik) Talabay of Whiting, Indiana, will celebrate her 100th birthday on November 12, 2007, with her family. She was born in Whiting on November 12, 1907.

Mary was baptized in Whiting's St.

John the Baptist Church, where she is still a parishioner. She is also a member of St. John's Rosary Society.

When Mary was two years old, she moved with her family to Dolna Lehota, Oravsky Podzamok, Slovakia. The village of Dolna Lehota is located in the Orava region in north central Slovakia. Mary lived below the Orava Castle (Oravsky Hrad) in Dolna Lehota until she was eighteen. She then returned to Whiting on her own, leaving her entire family in Slovakia.

Coincidentally, the 13th century Orava Castle is depicted in a mural painted by Austrian artist Ludwig Scheuerle in St. John the Baptist Church.

Back in Whiting, Mary met and married Michael Talabay in 1931. She and her husband spent their life together in Whiting. They were married for 68 years when Michael passed away in 1999.

Mary has two children, Eleanor Lukacsek and Michael Talabay, three grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Her younger sister, Teresa, is still living in Dolna Lehota, Oravsky Podzamok. Mary's granddaughter, Carol Burgan, visited with Teresa and her family in Slovakia in July of this year.

Mary, her daughter, and two of her grandchildren, Carol Burgan and Robert Lukacsek, are all members of LPSCU Branch 79 in Whiting.

The LPSCU extends congratulations and best wishes to Mary Talabay on her upcoming 100th birthday. We wish her the best of health and many more years of happiness with her family.



Honoring

ALL WHO
SERVED



On this Veterans Day 2008, as we remember and thank our military veterans, our thoughts and prayers also go out to the men and women serving our country today, at home and abroad. As an added honor to them, through the generosity of many of our members, we were able again this year to make a generous donation to the Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America. The LPSCU is proud to share these tributes with all our members and friends.

In honor of the **Drapac Brothers ~ John** (U.S. Air Force), **Donald** (deceased) (U.S. Army), **Gerard** (U.S. Air Force), **Thomas** (U.S. Navy), and **Louis** (U.S. Naval Reserves)
We served with pride!

With love and gratitude to family members who have served our great country ~
My father, **Stanley A. Gluc, Sr.**, and my brothers, **Andrew C. Macko** and **Stanley A. Gluc, Jr.**
Thank you! ~ Theresa Kluchinski

To all who have served and to all who continue to protect the United States of America ~
God bless you and keep you safe!
National President Theresa Kluchinski

In honor of my husband, **T. Sgt. Leo L. Lichman**, who served 44 months in the Air Force.
With love and pride, your wife Dorothy

In honor of my father, **Michael G. Lichman**, who proudly served our country in WWI.
I am proud of you, Dad. ~ Your loving son, Leo

In loving memory of **Albert Markovich** and **Alex Markovich** ~
Rest in Peace

In loving memory of **John Bosko** and **Anton Michaels** ~
Rest in Peace

To the best husband and father, **Larry Janicko** ~
With much love, Barb, Ray, and Mark

In honor of our beautiful mother, **Specialist 2/C Mary Bucha Schimeneck**, who served in the Navy during World War II. You are missed and will never be forgotten.
*Given by her children in loving memory ~
The Schimeneck Family*

In honor of our father, **Tech. Sergeant Herbert J. Schimeneck**, who served in HQCO 1759th Special Shop Battalion during WWII. Dad, words can never express how great you were for all of us. You are missed.
Your loving children, The Schimenecks

In honor of our beloved brother and husband, **Lieutenant Herbert A. Schimeneck**, who proudly served his country in Vietnam. We miss you, Herby. You were the greatest!
Your loving wife, Helene, brother, Bill, and sisters, Mary, Georgie, and Donna

In honor of our uncle, **Staff Sergeant William P. Schimeneck**, who made the supreme sacrifice while serving in the 394th Infantry Regiment during WWII.
Given by the Schimeneck Family with our deepest pride and love

In loving memory of our father, **Tec 5 John P. Evanko**, U.S. Army, Company I. 255th Infantry Regiment, WWII ~ Recipient of the Purple Heart.
We are so proud of you! ~Love, Dolores and Fr. Joe

In memory of our grandfather, **Michael F. Guza**, who served in the Army Air Corps in World War II ~
Love, Chris and Jonathan

In loving memory of my father,
Bernard "Mickey" McDade,
who served in the U.S. Navy in World War II.
I love and miss you, Dad! ~ Mary Jo

In honor of my cousins, **Cpl. Alois Holencik**, who served in the Marine Corps, and **Sgt. Steven Holencik**, who served in the Army during the Korean War.
I think of you with love and pride ~ Your cousin, Ceil

In loving memory of my uncle, **Pfc. Adam Holencik**, who served in the Army during WWI. Uncle Adam fought in five major battles and received five Bronze medals. He is and always will be a war hero.
Proud to have you as an uncle – Your niece, Cecilia Gaughan

In memory of **Seaman 1st Class Adam Holencik**, who died aboard the *USS HALLEGAN* when the ship exploded after hitting a mine. Adam, you will never be forgotten.
With love and pride ~ Your cousin, Cecilia Gaughan

In loving memory of **Joseph Holencik**, who died in a North Korean Prison camp. May you rest in peace.
So proud to be part of this heroic family!
— *Your cousin, Cecilia Gaughan*

In memory of my dad,
SPS William J. Ewasko, U.S. Army ~
Loved and deeply missed by daughter, Diane K. Jason, and grandchildren, Paul G. and Marissa

In memory of my husband,
SPS William J. Ewasko, U.S. Army ~
I miss you and love you! ~ Your wife, Mary Ann

In memory of **Branch 6 Dads, Brothers, Sons and Husbands** who have served in the military ~ Thank you!
We are proud of you! ~ MaryAnn Ewasko, Secretary, Branch 6

In memory of my brother, **John Shinal**, U.S. Navy ~
I miss you ~ Your sister, MaryAnn Ewasko

In honor of my family members who served or are serving in the U.S. Armed Forces ~
Father, **CPL. Joseph M. Bucha**, U.S. Army (1946-1947)
Brother, **Col. Peter J. Bucha** (Retd.), U.S. Army (1971-2001)
Husband, **Sgt. Daniel A. Roach**, U.S. Marine Corps,
Vietnam Veteran (1968-1972)
Son, **LCPL Daniel J. Roach**, U.S. Marine Corps (2002-2007)
Brother-in-law, **LT Colonel Patrick Crabb** ~ Our thoughts and prayers are with you as you serve our country.
Brother-in-law, **Jim Baker** ~ With gratitude for serving our country in the U.S. Navy.
With love and pride ~ MaryAnn (Bucha) Roach

With pride, the **Bucha Family** displayed the 6-Star Flag for our servicemen and woman who served our country during World War II: **Franky, Joey, Tony** in the Army, **Marty** in the Seabees, **Mary** and **Johnny** in the U.S. Navy.
You will always be missed by your sister, Ceily

In honor of **Flight Officer John J. Tirpak**, who served in the U.S. Air Force in WWII as a navigator on a B-17 Flying Fortress in the European Theatre.
With love and pride from wife, Ann, children and grandchildren

In loving memory of my father, **James W. Wheat**, a U.S. Army veteran who served overseas during the reconstruction in 1946-47. We miss you so much, Daddy!
Love, your daughter, Beth, son-in-law, Tim, and beloved grandchildren, Mary Beth and Patrick

Remembering the members of the **Kurtz Family** who have served in the military for generations ~
Deceased:

Grandfather, **Joseph Kurtz** (U.S. Marine Corps, WWI)
Uncle, **Joseph Kurtz** (U.S. Navy, WWII)
Served and/or Retired:
Dad, **John A. Kurtz** (U.S. Army, 10th Mountain Div. WWII)
Uncle, **James Kurtz** (U.S. Marine Corps, Korean War)
Uncle, **Paul Kurtz** (U.S. Marine Corps Retd., Korean War)
Brother, **John Kurtz** (U.S. Army Signal Corps, Korean War)
Brother, **Richard Kurtz** (U.S. Army, 82nd Airborne)
Joseph J. Kurtz (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
Currently serving in Bosnia:
Nephew, **John M. Kurtz** (U.S. Army)
Nephew, **James Kurtz** (U.S. Army)
With pride & love, The Kurtz Family

In honor of our father, **Army Corporal William Gaughan**, Military Police Investigator who served in the Korean War, stationed in the South Pacific, Eniwetok, Marshall Islands.
Thanks for serving our country.
From five very proud daughters, Deborah, Laura, Cecilia, Theresa, and Colette

In loving memory of our dad and husband,
John (Jack) Polaha, who served in the U.S. Army's branch of the "Screaming Eagles." You are deeply missed by all of us and by everyone who knew you.
You will never be forgotten ~ Your loving wife, Regina, and children, John, David, Kathy, and Jim

In honor of our dad, **John H. Gregory**, who served in the U.S. Marine Corps ~
With love and pride, Chris and Jonathan

With gratitude **to all those men and women** who unselfishly protect our freedom ~
God bless you! – Anita and John Gregory

In honor of our pop-pop (**Thomas F. Gaughan**) who served in Pusan, Korea during the Korean War. And do you know he drove a tank?
We are proud of you, Pop-Pop!
Your loving grandchildren, Michael, Patrick, Mary Beth, Colleen and Bridget

In honor of our dad, "the Big Guy," a Korean War veteran, **Thomas F. Gaughan, Jr.**
We are proud of you, Dad! – Your kids, Patty, Tom and Tim

In honor of my husband, U.S. Navy veteran **Alan J. Knoche** reactor operator aboard the *USS THOMAS JEFFERSON* SSBN 618 Blue



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Honoring

ALL WHO
SERVED



continued from page 9

In honor of my parents, **Romanza Fairman Krajsa** ("The Chief") and the late **Joseph C. Krajsa**, both U.S. Navy World War II veterans.
With love from your son, Joe

In fond memory of my loving husband, **John Kosalko**. I am forever grateful and proud of you for your service in the U.S. Army contributing to our peace and freedom, and naturally for being a loving, caring husband.
Jean Kosalko

In fond memory of my dear brother, **George Legenza**, who served in the U.S. Marine Corps.
Rest in peace, dear brother ~ From your sister, Jean Kosalko

In loving memory of my dear brother-in-law, **George Kosalko**, who served in the U.S. Army.
*Rest in peace, dear George.
From your sister-in-law, Jean Kosalko*

In our thoughts and prayers, you will forever be in our hearts, dear **Dad**. Thank you for serving our country with honor and raising us to be strong, patriotic, Catholic gentlemen.
Eric and wife Tiffany Kosalko, and Jeffrey Kosalko

In memory of our dear uncles, **George Legenza** and **George Kosalko**. We are proud to be your nephews, knowing how proud you both were to serve our country.
Eric and wife Tiffany Kosalko, and Jeffrey Kosalko

In memory of my husband/father, **Tech. Sgt. Richard T. Ackerman**, who served in the U.S. Army with the 103rd General Hospital in the European Theater during WWII.

In memory of our father, **SF2C Martin G. Bucha**, who served in the U.S. Navy during WWII. We are so proud of you, Dad!
Your loving daughters, Maryjo, Martine, Monica and Aggie

In loving memory of our beautiful mother, **Aux. Agnes (Gavenda) Bucha**, who served in the U.S. Army WAACs during World War II. You left us with beautiful memories ~
Your loving daughters, Maryjo, Martine, Monica and Aggie

In honor of our dad, **Sgt. John A. Kurtz**, who served his country in the U.S. Army during World War II.
From your proud sons, Joe, Jack and Rich

In loving memory of **Pfc. John J. Oravec**, U.S. Army, 129th Infantry Division, killed in action at age 19 on January 18, 1945, Luzon, Philippine Islands, in the Pacific Theater of War, WWII.
Sadly missed by sister Margaret A. Ferri

In loving memory of **Aviation Machinists Mate 2nd Class Joseph A. Oravec**, who served in the U.S. Navy during WWII and is known to all as "Sailor."
With fond memories ~ Your sister, Margaret A. Ferri

In honor of my husband, **Radioman 3rd Class John Ferri**, who served in the U.S. Navy during WWII on *LST 175* in the Normandy Invasion and the European Theater.
With love and pride ~ Your wife, "Peggy"

In honor of our first grandson, **SPC. Benjamin M. Bergfelt**, who has served in Iraq and Kuwait. We pray for Ben a lot and ask God to be with him all the time. ~ *Your loving grandparents*

We honor our third grandson, **Pvt. Mathew J. Bergfelt**, currently stationed in South Korea. We pray that God will continue to hold him in the palm of His hand. ~ *Your loving grandparents*

In loving memory of my father, **T/Sgt. James R. Ford**, USAF (1954-1975).
Your loving daughter, Marie S. Ford-Clemens

In loving memory of my husband, **T/Sgt James R. Ford**, who served in the USAF during the Vietnam War at Plaiku in 1966. ~ *Your loving wife, Mary J. Ford*

In honor of my brother, **Stephen J. Mamay**, who served in the U.S. Navy. ~ *Your sister, Mary J. Ford*

In memory of my husband, **Sgt. Edward M. Shannon**, who served in the U.S. Army in Germany during WWII.
Love, your wife Mary

In memory of my aunt, **Navy Lt. Margaret Mary (Skrinak) Farrington** ~ *You are loved and missed ~ Love, Chuck*

In honor of **Fireman 1st Class Charles Simalchik** for your service to our country in the U.S. Navy.
With love, Chuck

In loving memory of my brother-in-law, **Corporal Joseph E. Schulter**, who served in the U.S. Army during WWII.
I will never forget you, Joe. You are missed ~ Ceily

In honor of **Thomas C. Zak**, World War II veteran.
Love you, Dad. You're our hero! ~ Love, Chris and The Gang

Congratulations to **M. Sgt. William Macek, Jr.**, U.S. Air Force, stationed in Tuscon, Arizona, who is completing 20 years of service in December 2007. We are proud of you, William.
Your loving mother, Anna Boncik and Family

My prayers are with the **Catholic War Veterans**
Joan Hladek, National Trustee

Tree of Life

RESERVATION FORM

Your inscription may be personalized to recognize a loved one or special event with "In honor of...", "In memory of...", or "In celebration of...". You may also simply have your name, the family name, or business name. Restrictions as to space and characters are listed below, based on whether you choose a fraternal leaf or stone.

Your contribution can be paid in one installment or several; however, we will not bill you for any remaining portion. It is your responsibility to monitor your installments.

Please complete the Reservation Form and return it (a photocopy is also acceptable), along with your donation, to: LPSCU Tree of Life, P.O. Box 32, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703-0032. Please make checks payable to the "LPSCU - Scholarship Fund."

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Enclosed is: (please check one)

- my first donation toward my "Tree of Life," entitling me to an engraved fraternal leaf or stone (please circle one) when fully paid. (Minimum of \$20 per payment.)
- my \$100 check entitling me to an engraved fraternal leaf.
- my \$500 check entitling me to an engraved fraternal stone.

PLEASE ENGRAVE MY FRATERNAL LEAF OR STONE AS FOLLOWS:

Leaf inscription:

Maximum of 4 lines with 20 characters per line, including spaces.

Stone inscription:

Maximum of 6 lines with 40 characters per line, including spaces.

YOU CAN WIN \$300!

It pays to refer someone to the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union. For every referral, you will be entered into our \$25 monthly drawing. In addition to our monthly drawing, your name will also be entered into our Convention Drawing with one lucky \$300 winner for those referrals resulting in an approved certificate of insurance. All other referrals will be entered to win \$100.

Simply complete the information below and mail to:

LPSCU
P. O. Box 32
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701-0032



YES, I WOULD LIKE TO REFER:

Please print clearly!

All information must be completed to enter.

Name of Referral _____

Phone (____) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Referred By _____

Phone (____) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Important Notice

In an effort to save time and meet our publication deadlines, please be sure to send any articles/photos for publication directly to our Public Relations Director rather than to the Home Office.

Articles may be emailed or mailed to Marge at the address below. Please be sure to include your name and a phone number or email address so Marge can contact you with any questions.

Margaret A. Ferri, Public Relations Director
428 E. Frankford Street
Bethlehem, PA 18018
Phone: 610/866-8945
E-mail: margferri28@aol.com

Hurry — Offer End Soon!

JET Plan \$1.00 First Year Premium Extended

Earlier this year, the LPSCU Board of Directors announced that the \$1.00 first year annual premium on the Juvenile Estate Term (Term-to-25) plan of insurance was being extended for the year 2007. **This offer is limited to certificates with an issue date of the year 2007.** After the first year, premiums will be billed at the rate of \$16.00 for \$10,000 of term life insurance and \$9.50 for \$5,000 of term life insurance.

The LPSCU's Juvenile Estate Term (JET) Plan, commonly referred to as Term-to-25, is an ideal insurance solution for students and is available to anyone less than 22 years of age. The plan provides full life insurance protection from date of issue to age 25.

A medical exam is not required to apply; however, the LPSCU reserves the right to require a medical exam on any applicant should it be deemed necessary.

Once the JET insurance certificate is issued, coverage remains in full force and effect through the maturity date of the certificate, provided premium payments are current. This

Harcariks Celebrate 65 Years Together

Branch 52 members Elsie and Bernard Harcarik celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on June 16, 2007. They were married by Father Riley at St. Colman's Church, Turtle Creek, Pennsylvania, in 1942.

Elsie and Bernard have three children, five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. They are among the founding members of St. Susanna Church, Penn Hills, Pennsylvania, which they joined 48 years ago. The couple's nephew, Father Bernard M. Harcarik, is pastor at Prince of Peace Parish, South Side, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The LPSCU extends congratulations to Elsie and Bernard Harcarik on the occasion of their 65th wedding anniversary. May they have many more years of good health and happiness together.

Sylvia Goda



Pictured L-R: Branch 52 member Jim Tomasic, Elsie Harcarik, daughter Joan Hockenberry, Bernard Harcarik, and daughter Jean Lamson. Another daughter, Carol Hilles, was unable to attend the celebration.

plan matures when the insured's certificate reaches the anniversary of issue date closest to his/her 25th birthday. **When the certificate expires, the insured will be given an option to convert his/her current coverage amount to a legal reserve plan (permanent insurance) with no evidence of insurability being required. This is a guaranteed provision within the JET contract.**

In the event of the death of the insured prior to reaching 25 years of age, the face amount of the policy is paid to the named beneficiary.

The new legal reserve certificate may provide a death benefit equal to or less than the face amount of the expired JET policy. The policy date of issue will be the expiry date of the JET policy. The policy premium on the new certificate will be based on the member's age on the date of exchange and on the Society's premium rates then in effect. The first premium on the new certificate must be paid prior to the expiry date of the JET policy. Written request for exchange will be required.

JET Term-to-25 is an excellent, affordable plan providing protection for your children from infancy on through their school years, including college. Now the JET Term-to-25 is even more affordable with the first year's premium costing just \$1.00. This offer is good for new certificates with an issue date on or before December 15, 2007. **Applications must be received by December 10th.** Hurry! Time is running out to take advantage of this great offer.

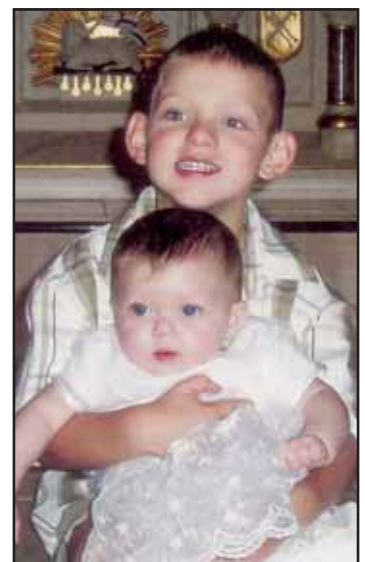
Call your Branch Secretary for an application or contact the LPSCU Home Office at 888/834-6614 or 570-823-3513.

Branch 38 Welcomes New Member

Please welcome Aliyan Alize Caraballo (shown here being held by her proud brother, Anthony.) She is the youngest member of LPSCU Branch 38, Whitehall, Pennsylvania.

Aliyan is pictured on the day of her baptism, July 29, 2007. The christening took place at St. John the Baptist Slovak Roman Catholic Church in Allentown, Pennsylvania.

Aliyan and Anthony are the children of Sabrina and Jose Caraballa. Proud grandmother is Janice Hercek and proud great-great-aunt is Valeria Lukish. Anthony, his mother, and grandmother are also members of Branch 38.



Joseph J. Krajsa, LPSCU Member and Slovak Fraternalist

Joseph J. Krajsa, 59, of Middletown (Lower Swatara Township), Pennsylvania, passed away at home Thursday evening, August 23, 2007, surrounded by his loving family after a courageous battle against cancer.

He was born September 8, 1947, in Allentown, Pennsylvania, son of Romanza Fairman Krajsa and the late Joseph C. Krajsa, long time editor of the *Jednota* newspaper.

In 2001, he retired as general manager of the former *Jednota* Press in Middletown, where he worked for 31 years. He also served as manager of *Jednota* Estates, owned by the First Catholic Slovak Union, a Slovak fraternal benefit society of which Joe was a lifelong member. He served on the Board of Directors of the FCSU for many years, as well as on the board of its holding company, *Jednota*, Inc. Joe had gone on to a second career as sales and marketing manager at *Triangle Press* in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Joe attended Central Catholic High School in Allentown and graduated from the Perkiomen School in Pennsville, Pennsylvania. He earned his bachelor's degree from Bethany College in West Virginia, and received a life insurance marketing degree from Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana. Joe also earned the designation of Fraternal Insurance Counsellor (FIC) for his expertise in fraternal benefit insurance.

Joe was well known in the Middletown area for his community service and generous spirit. He was a former member of the Middletown Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Harrisburg Chamber of Commerce, and spent 16 years on the Middletown Area School District Board. He was one of the co-founders of MusicFest, an annual venue to showcase the performing arts in the area and to raise scholarship money for Middletown area students pursuing careers in the arts. Joe was also instrumental in getting the soccer fields used by the Olmsted Regional Soccer Association on the *Jednota* Estates property in 1980. The fields are still in use today by hundreds of ORSA players and their families each fall. He was a member of a number of area service organizations.

Joe was always proud of his Slovak heritage. In addition to the FCSU, he was a member of LPSCU Allentown Branch 38 and was a delegate to our last national convention. He also belonged to the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, National Slovak Society, Slovak League of America, and Slovak Catholic Federation.

Joe spent numerous years coaching his sons and other youngsters in baseball and soccer. He was a member of Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Middletown, and enjoyed singing in the parish choir.

In addition to his mother, he leaves his fiancée, Carolyn Sullivan; son Brad and daughter-in-law Jill of Denver, Pennsylvania; son Matthew and daughter-in-law Staci of Middletown; three grandchildren, Makenna, Micah, and Jack Krajsa; brother Michael of Coopersburg, Pennsylvania; brother



Joseph J. Krajsa

George and sister-in-law Susan of Davie, Florida; nieces, nephews, and cousins. He also leaves behind many, many people who are grateful to have shared his friendship, loyalty, and love throughout his life.

In addition to his father, Joe was predeceased by a son, Scott Michael, and his sister, Maryagnes Krajsa.

Funeral arrangements were handled by Matinchek and Daughter Funeral Home, Middletown, where a viewing was held on August 27. A funeral mass was held the following morning at his parish church, followed by interment in the Middletown Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made in Joe's name to the Ryan A. Pacella Memorial Scholarship Fund, 1769 Mountain View Road, Middletown, PA 17057. Ryan, a friend and classmate of Joe's sons, succumbed to cancer not long after graduating from high school.

LPSCU Educational Book Buy Program

Earlier this year, the LPSCU announced our newest Fraternal Benefit, the **LPSCU Educational Book Buy Program**. This award is in addition to any Educational Award you may have received from the LPSCU. The Book Buy Program will assist our members attending college by reimbursing 10% of their college book expenses.

How do you qualify? You need only to establish a **NEW 20 Payment Life or Whole Life Policy** during your freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior year of college. Premiums must be paid on an annual, semi-annual, or quarterly basis and must be current for the member to be eligible for this program. You can submit an LPSCU Educational Book Buy Program Application each school year and receive a 10% refund on books purchased (limited to the amount paid for the annual premium on your 20 Payment Life or Whole Life Policy).

Example: A student age 21 purchases a \$10,000 20 Payment Life having an annual premium of \$124.00 (does not include administration fee). The student submits receipts totaling \$815.00 for book purchases. The benefit will reimburse the student \$81.50 (10% of the books purchased).

You may take advantage of this program for a maximum of four (4) years.

Simply complete the LPSCU Educational Book Buy Program Application and attach your book receipts. It's as simple as that! And, in addition to receiving this reimbursement, you are protected with valuable life insurance!

For an application, please contact the Home Office at 570/823-3513, toll free 888/834-6614, e-mail us at lpscu@lpscu.org or check our website at www.lpscu.org.

NFCA Annual Meeting Held in Pittsburgh

Approximately 400 fraternalists from the United States and Canada attended the 121st Annual Meeting of the National Fraternal Congress of America at the Westin Convention Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, from September 6-8, 2007. Themed "Bridging Heritage with Innovation," the meeting addressed important questions such as how to use our heritage as a foundation for innovation.

The Opening Session commenced at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 6, with the Presentation of the Colors, National Anthems of the U.S. and Canada, Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation, and Welcome from the NFCA Chair of the Board, Janice U. Whipple. She also introduced the 2006-2007 NFCA Board and past NFCA Board Chairs.

Greetings were extended by the presidents of the Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress and the Canadian Fraternal Association. Preliminary Reports of Committees and the Treasurer's Report were presented. Delegates approved the Minutes of the 120th Annual Meeting.

Ms. Whipple presented her report as Board Chair, reflecting that the NFCA continues with its strategic direction of protecting the tax exemption, monitoring legislative developments, providing member education, and enhancing its members' solvency through work in membership standards.

The keynote speaker, Todd Buchholz, former director of economic policy at the White House and a managing director of the \$15 billion Tiger Hedge Fund, presented "Lessons from the Past for Our Present and Future." He emphasized that in order to grow, societies must lead with their fraternal advantage and focus on their fraternal communities, creating opportunities for their members to come together for greater outreach, growth, and success.

The Session adjourned at 4:00 p.m., and delegates had the opportunity to visit with Exhibitors to review the new products and services available to the fraternal benefit system.

On Friday morning, September 7, various Sections of the NFCA, including Fraternal, Human Resources, Presidents, and Board Members, held breakfast meetings, many of which had guest speakers. Interactive workshops were also held covering Legislative Updates on Federal and State Issues, Ethical Standards, Accreditation Programs That Work, Using Ratios to



LPSCU Board members with 2007-2008 NFCA officers, L-R: Joan Hladek, Dolores Evanko, Cecilia Gaughan, Mary Ann Ewasko, Mary Jo Savidge, Janice U. Whipple, immediate past chair of the NFCA Board, Katharine E. Rounthwaite, J.D., chair of the NFCA Board, Theresa Kluchinski, Anita Gregory, and Margaret Ferri.

Interpret Financial Performance, and Bringing Fraternal Underwriting Into the 21st Century.

At noon, during the Celebration of Fraternalism Luncheon, the 2007 Join Hands Day Excellence Award winners were announced, and Robert J. Hagen of SPJST of Temple, Texas, was named the 2007 Fraternalist of the Year. The LPSCU received SILVER status for the 2007 NFCA Shining Stars for JOIN HANDS DAY Awards.

The Third Session commenced at 2:30 p.m. Bob Huxel, interim NFCA president and CEO, presented his report relating to specific accomplishments of the NFCA during the past year. A Memorial was held for officers of member societies who passed away since the last Annual Meeting. Michael J. Wade, chair of the Membership Committee, explained the new Accreditation Program for member societies. The new program, "Your Key to Fraternal Success," is comprised of meeting seven key standards, each designed to help societies reach an optimum level within the major disciplines of operating a relevant, sound, fraternal benefit society.

A speech by Jim Carroll, a leading international futurist and innovation expert, featured "Why Educate Yourself When You Know It All?" He explained how rapid times require bold change and new levels of creativity and innovation within every fraternal benefit society.

The Session adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

On Saturday morning, September 8, various Sections including Communications, Investment, Secretaries, and State Fraternal Congresses held breakfast meetings with guest speakers. The Closing Session commenced at 9:00 a.m. Final Reports from the Credential, Constitution, and Governance committees were accepted.

The delegates elected the slate of officers recommended by the Governance Committee. Katharine E. Rounthwaite, J.D., who is vice president, general counsel and executive secretary of The Independent Order of Foresters of Toronto, Canada, was elected as the 2007-2008 Chair of the Board of Directors. In her acceptance speech, Ms. Rounthwaite introduced her theme for the year: "Focus on Fraternalism." She emphasized that "by focusing on fraternalism, each of our



LPSCU Board members and Pittsburgh District representatives at the NFCA Grand Banquet are, L-R: Theresa Kluchinski, Dolores Evanko, Mary Ann Ewasko, Margaret Ferri, Cecilia Gaughan, Anita Gregory, Dolores Sakal (Pittsburgh District), Mary Jo Savidge, Cecilia Sarocky (Pittsburgh District) and Joan Hladek.

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Member-Cousins are Active Athletes

This past summer, cousins Danielle Cooper and Amanda Silay were chosen to participate on the 15-and-under age group tournament team of their slow pitch league, BAGAA, the Bellevue-Avalon Girls Athletic Association. Both girls made great contributions for the team.

In addition to playing softball in the summer league, both girls play for the Northgate High School Varsity Softball team. Danielle is a varsity cheerleader and a member of the Northgate Winter Ensemble. Amanda is a member of the Northgate Varsity Volleyball, Cross Country, and Swim teams. She qualified for the WPIAL championships in swimming as a freshman.

Jimmy Silay, who is Amanda's twin brother, is also a member of the Northgate Varsity Cross Country, Track, and Swim teams. He also qualified for the WPIAL swim champion-



From left, Jim Silay, Danielle Cooper, and Amanda Silay.

ships as a freshman. He recently completed his first triathlon.

Danielle, Amanda, and Jimmy are all lifeguards at the Avalon Borough swimming pool.

Danielle has one sister, Victoria, who is a past winner of the LPSCU Youth Achievement Award. They are the daughters of Chris and Dan Cooper of Avalon, Pennsylvania.

Amanda and Jimmy are the children of Bill and Nancy Silay of Avalon. Danielle, Amanda, and Jimmy are the grandchildren of Rosemary Silay of West View, Pennsylvania. Their aunt is Elva Silay of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The entire Cooper and Silay families are members of LPSCU

Pittsburgh Branch 64, of which Elva is President.

The LPSCU congratulates Danielle Cooper and Amanda and Jimmy Silay on their outstanding athletic achievements. We wish them continued success.

New Insurance Issued

State	Branch Representative	Aug./Sept. Amounts	Year-to-Date Total
PA	Cecilia B. Gaughan	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 165,000.00
PA	Theresa Kluchinski	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 102,000.00
PA	Charles Simalchik	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 55,000.00
PA	Home Office	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
PA	Mary Agnes Stromberg	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
PA	Anita Gregory	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
PA	Elva Silay	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 45,000.00
PA	Marion DiCalogero	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
PA	Joan Ellen Friendak	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
IN	Ann Dobias		\$ 33,000.00
PA	Margaret Ferri	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
PA	Barbara Janicko	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 27,000.00
PA	Dorothy Lichman	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 24,000.00
PA	Mary Vesce	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 22,000.00
OH	Mary Ann Strauss	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 21,000.00
OH	Catherine Bozick	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
PA	Emily Degenhart		\$ 20,000.00
PA	Helen Arlotto	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
PA	Dolores Evanko		\$ 15,000.00
PA	James Yocum	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
PA	Theresa Olshemski		\$ 12,000.00
OH	Lucille Komorosky		\$ 11,000.00
PA	Cecilia Sarocky		\$ 10,000.00
PA	Janice Mathews		\$ 10,000.00
PA	Mary Ann Ackerman		\$ 10,000.00
PA	Verna Prawdzik	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
PA	Bernadine Kurzeja	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
PA	Mary Ann Ewasko	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
PA	Agnes Janinek		\$ 5,000.00
PA	Ann Tirpak		\$ 5,000.00
PA	Joan Evan	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
IN	Joan Hladek		\$ 4,000.00
PA	Deborah Adamchak		\$ 2,000.00
		\$481,000.00	\$ 947,000.00

Cooking Corner

HOLIDAY BREAD

1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese
 1 cup margarine
 1½ cups sugar
 1½ tsp. vanilla
 4 eggs
 2¼ cups sifted flour
 1½ tsp. baking powder
 ¾ cup chopped maraschino cherries, well drained
 ½ cup chopped nuts

Combine softened cream cheese, margarine, sugar, and vanilla, mixing until well blended. Add eggs, one at a time, mixing well after each addition. Gradually add 2 cups of flour sifted with baking powder, mixing well after each addition. Toss remaining flour with cherries and nuts; fold into batter. Bake in 10" bundt or five 6" x 3½" loaf pans or three 1 lb. coffee cans. Grease and flour all tins. Bake at 325 degrees – bundt: 1 hour 20 minutes; loaf pans: 50 minutes; coffee cans: 1 hour. Bake until inserted toothpick comes out clean.

Pittsburgh District Hosts Cruise on Gateway Clipper

On Thursday evening, September 6, 2007, the LPSCU's Pittsburgh District hosted a dinner cruise for our National Board members who were delegates at the NFCA Annual Meeting being held at the Westin Conference Center in Pittsburgh. Enjoying the evening cruise were President Theresa Kluchinski, Vice President Anita Gregory, Secretary-Treasurer Mary Jo Savidge, Chair of Trustees Mary Ann Ewasko, Trustees Dolores Evanko and Joan Hladek, Fraternal Activities Director Cecilia Gaughan, and Public Relations Director Margaret A. Ferri, along with her husband John. Accompanying the group on behalf of the Pittsburgh District were LPSCU and Pittsburgh District Honorary President Cecilia Sarocky, Pittsburgh District 1st Vice President Dolores Sakal, and District Secretary Elizabeth Melko.

The group met at the Gateway Clipper Station Square Docks for the evening cruise which departed at 7:00 p.m. Everyone enjoyed the delicious dinner, the entertainment, and fraternal friendship. The cruise along the Monongahela, Allegheny and Ohio rivers past the tall, lighted buildings lining the beautiful Pittsburgh skyline was truly a memorable experience.

The Pittsburgh District is to be commended for their generosity, hospitality, and fraternal fellowship. We especially appreciated the opportunity to spend an evening with our fraternal sisters, Ceil, Dolores, and Elizabeth, in their beautiful city of Pittsburgh. On behalf of all who attended, I thank you and the Pittsburgh District for a wonderful evening.

Margaret A. Ferri, Public Relations Director



L-R: Dolores Evanko, Dolores Sakal, Elizabeth Melko, Mary Ann Ewasko, Anita Gregory, Cecilia Sarocky, Joan Hladek (partially hidden), Mary Jo Savidge, Cecilia Gaughan, Theresa Kluchinski, Margaret Ferri, and John Ferri.

Congratulations to Our Post-Graduate Award Recipients

Lori Gibbons Bryant

Lexington, South Carolina
Master of Education
Lesley University
Cambridge, Massachusetts
Branch 7, Exeter, Pennsylvania

Sheryl Lynn Cosme

West Simsbury, Connecticut
Master of Science in Nursing
University of Hartford
West Hartford, Connecticut
Branch 6, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

David M. Tirpak

Toms River, New Jersey
Master of Education
Lehigh University
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania
Branch 214, Duryea, Pennsylvania

Roger K. Voss

Monroe, New York
Master in Music
University of New York
Flushing, New York
Branch 19, Swoyersville, Pennsylvania

Daniel R. Wakefield

Youngstown, Ohio
Master of Education
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Las Vegas, Nevada
Branch 159, Youngstown, Ohio

Sarah Elizabeth Wakefield

Youngstown, Ohio
Master of Arts
Youngstown State University
Youngstown, Ohio
Branch 159, Youngstown, Ohio

Jennifer Socash Zampetti

New York, New York
Master of Business Administration
New York University
Leonard N. Stern School of Business
New York, New York
Branch 6, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

Nadzams Celebrate Golden Anniversary



George and Mary Jane Nadzam

George and Mary Jane Nadzam celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on May 27, 2007, with a noon mass and renewal of vows in St. Teresa of Avila Church, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. A luncheon followed at Silvioni' restaurant in the North Hills of Pittsburgh. The couple's family and

friends were present to complete this special day.

Mary Jane is a member of Pittsburgh Branch 64.

George and Mary Jane were married on June 1, 1957, in St. Gabriel Archangel Church on Pittsburgh's north side. They have been blessed with six children and 13 grandchildren who are also members of Branch 64.

The LPSCU congratulates the Nadzams on their Golden Wedding Anniversary. We wish them continued good health and happiness together.

Upcoming Events from the Slovak Institute

St. Andrew's Abbey, Cleveland, Ohio

❖ A Holy Mass for the soul of Msgr. Dr. Jozef Tiso, the first president of the Slovak Republic (1939-1945), will be offered by Abbot Clement Zeleznik, OSB, at 10:00 a.m. at Slovak Benedictine Abbey Chapel, 10510 Buckeye Road, Cleveland, Ohio, on Saturday, December 1, 2007. At the conclusion of the Mass, the relics of Msgr. Dr. Jozef Tiso, from his grave in Bratislava, Slovakia, will be presented to the Slovak Institute of St. Andrew Abbey by Dr. Ludovit Pavlo, president emeritus of the Slovak League of America. Dr. Pavlo brought the relics from Slovakia for American Slovaks to view. After the Mass, the presentation of a video will be shown and Slovak pastries and coffee will be served.

❖ The monks at St. Andrew Abbey and the Cleveland Slovak Radio Club announce that a *Vilija* (Slovak Christmas Eve supper) will be held on Sunday, December 2, 2007, at the Benedictine High School Dining Hall. Preceding the *Vilija*, a Mass will be celebrated at noon at the Abbey Church. Entertainment at the dinner will be provided by the Lucina Slovak Folklore Ensemble dancers and Slovenske Mamichky singers. Tickets will only be available in advance. Tickets are \$20.00 per person. To order, send a check or money order to St. Andrew Abbey – *Vilija*, 2900 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Cleveland, OH 44104. **Deadline for tickets is November 24, 2007.**

NFCA Annual Meeting

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societies should be looking at whether we are doing enough in the form of quality good works and community service to sustain our special status as fraternal benefit societies."

It was announced that Janice U. Whipple, national president of Woman's Life Insurance Society of Port Huron, Michigan, has advanced to the position of immediate past chair of the NFCA Board of Directors.

Keynote speaker was Ira Blumenthal, president of CO-OPPORTUNITIES, Inc., an Atlanta-based consulting firm that has counseled world-class clients in branding strategic alliances, marketing, change management, re-invention, and success. His topic was titled, "Strategic Alliances and Business Partnerships for Success."

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m. Workshops were held until 4:30 p.m. at which time a Catholic Mass was celebrated. A Grand Banquet was held in the evening where the 2007-2008 officers were installed by Bernard Bloom, international fraternal president of the Foresters. Music for dancing pleasure was provided by a band called "Encore."

Representing the LPSCU at the Annual Meeting were President Theresa Kluchinski, Vice President Anita Gregory, Secretary-Treasurer Mary Jo Savidge, Chair of Trustees Mary Ann Ewasko, Trustee Dolores Evanko, Fraternal Activities Director Cecilia Gaughan, and Public Relations Director Margaret A. Ferri. LPSCU Trustee Joan Hladek represented the Indiana Fraternal Congress as second vice president.

Attending the Grand Banquet as guests of the LPSCU were LPSCU Honorary President Cecilia Sarocky and Dolores Sakal of the Pittsburgh District. John Ferri of LPSCU Branch 83, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, also attended the banquet.



Fraternal officers who attended the NFCA Convention are pictured L-R: Theresa Kluchinski, LPSCU president; Cecilia Sarocky, LPSCU honorary president; Steven Pogorelec and Sue Ann Seich, supreme secretary and supreme president, respectively, of the Slovak Catholic Sokol; Mary Ann Johaneck and Cynthia Maleski, president and trustee, respectively, of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association; and Dr. Mary Gasparik, medical examiner of the Slovak Catholic Sokol.

**Have you signed up
a new member lately?
Do your part to help your LPSCU!**

Dear Junior Members,

The month of November is in the middle of the beautiful season of autumn. Autumn makes us a bit nostalgic because we know that summer is gone and winter is fast approaching.



But we certainly can take pleasure in Mother Nature painting our landscapes and the cool weather that autumn brings. The clean crispness that is in the air makes us want to make the most of these days before we are snowed in for the winter.

I am thinking how much fun it would be to take a family hike in the woods on a crisp November day. It's a great opportunity to bond with family members and to enjoy

the beautiful canvas Mother Nature has created. Take along a thick throw or blanket to spread out on the ground and a basket with snacks like apples, grapes, cheese and crackers,

Let's Talk Turkey!

Before you sit down to that scrumptious Thanksgiving dinner, here are some facts about that turkey.

A male turkey is called a tom and a female turkey is called a hen. A baby is called a poult. To hatch a turkey egg it takes about 28 days. The time it takes a turkey to grow to be market-ready is about 19 weeks for a tom and 16 weeks for a hen.

We are gobbling up turkey today like never before. While turkey is still the most popular at Thanksgiving and Christmas, it is now enjoyed throughout the year. One reason for its popularity is that turkey meat is low in fat and high in protein. It is also an excellent source of iron, riboflavin, zinc, and vitamins B₆ and B₁₂.

Tom turkeys can fan out their tails; hens cannot. This is called strutting and the toms do it to impress the hens. Only male turkeys gobble. Hens make a clicking sound. Tom turkeys have a snood. This is the flesh-like skin hanging over their beaks. Hens also have snoods, but not as large. All tom turkeys and some wild female turkey have beards. The beard is made of stiff, black, bristle-like feathers that dangle from the upper chest.

Wild turkeys are very crafty and have strong instincts. They react very quickly to the threat of danger. While domesticated turkeys cannot fly, wild turkeys can fly for short distances at up to 55 mph. They can also run at 25 mph. They have excellent eyesight.

An interesting fact is that Ben Franklin thought the turkey, not the bald eagle, should have been named the official bird of the United States. If that had happened, perhaps we would not be eating turkeys on Thanksgiving Day!



and some beverages so you can take a little break along the way. Also bring along some sort of tote in which you can place all the goodies you will find while you explore the natural surroundings. And be sure to leave all cell phones turned off and music players and electronic games at home. This is strictly going to be between Mother Nature and you!



Bring some binoculars along to spot for birds and other woodland creatures. And be sure to keep your eye out for animal tracks. I think it would be a great idea to take along a notebook to jot down all your findings. You can even have a friendly competition among your family members. Who can spot (or identify) the most birds? Who will see the most unusual animal?

This is pinecone season, so you're sure to see many of them. Pinecones come in all shapes and sizes depending on the conifer on which they grow. How many different kinds of pinecones can you collect? Stash them in your tote and perhaps you can use them to put together a nice centerpiece for your Thanksgiving dinner table. Did you know there are male and female pinecone? The females do not disperse the pollen; the male cone does. All pinecones mature in two years. Most of the cones you will see are from hemlock and spruce trees. The Coulter pine tree, a native to California, produces a pinecone that can weigh 2 to 5 pounds!

Picking fall leaves will also be fun and interesting. You will find many different colors and shapes. Do you know what kind of tree each fell from? Press the leaves in your notebook to transport them home safely. Then you can research what kind they are. These falling leaves will prepare a warm bed for seeds and soon-to-be hibernating creatures. Keep your eye out for them scampering around in the woods during your walk.

Make sure you wear comfortable, sturdy shoes for your hike. Wear several layers of clothing so you can remove it as the sun warms up the day and put it back on as evening approaches. And after an exciting day of fresh air, sunshine, and discovery, you can look forward to getting back to your cozy home to help Mother plan your family's Thanksgiving feast.

Cecilia B. Gaughan, Fraternal Activities Director

Arts and Crafts

THE ADVENT WREATH

You can make your own Advent wreath. Begin with a Styrofoam circle (available at all craft shops) and cut four evenly spaced holes into which you will place the four candles. Traditionally there are three violet candles and one rose-colored candle (for the third Sunday), but sometimes all violet candles are used.

Press artificial greens into the Styrofoam to cover the remaining surface area. (Fresh greens can be used instead, but they will have to be replaced as they dry out.)

The use of the Advent wreath teaches the family the true meaning of Christmas. This is a wonderful family project as even young children can help gather the branches and place the candles in their places.

The Christmas Tree

Each year, during the month of December, millions of homes across America are decorated with Christmas trees and bright lights. But how much do you really know about this festive holiday symbol?

The middle of winter has long been a time of celebration around the world. Centuries before the birth of Jesus, early Europeans rejoiced at the winter solstice — the shortest day of the year — that the worst of winter was behind them as they looked forward to extended hours of sunlight brought by the lengthening days.

Long before Christianity, plants and trees that remained green all year held a special significance for people in the wintertime. Ancient people hung these evergreen branches over their doors and windows, just as today we decorate our Christmas homes with spruce, fir, and pine boughs. In many countries it was once believed that these evergreens would ward off evil spirits, ghosts, and illness. They were also a reminder that summer and new, green growth would indeed come again. The Druids, priests of the ancient Celts of Northern Europe, decorated their temples with evergreen boughs as a symbol of life everlasting.

The Christmas tree tradition as we know it today began in Germany. Sixteenth century German Christians brought small evergreens into their homes and decorated them with candles and wooden ornaments. Consequently, early German immigrants to America brought this tradition with them from their homeland. The first recorded display of a Christmas tree was by German settlers in Pennsylvania in the 1830s. But because the Christmas tree was still viewed as a pagan symbol by many Americans, especially the Puritans, the practice was very slow to spread.

This thinking changed in the mid-1840s when the very popular Queen Victoria of England and her husband, the German prince, Albert, were pictured in a newspaper sketch standing with their children around a Christmas tree. Such was the Queen's popularity that both her loyal subjects and fashion-conscious Americans on the East Coast rushed to emulate the trend.



By the 1890s, the popularity of the Christmas tree in America was definitely on the rise. While Americans traditionally decorated their floor-to-ceiling trees with candles and homemade ornaments, hand blown glass ornaments imported from Germany were gaining popularity. Europeans favored smaller trees of 3-to-4-feet in height and continued to decorate them with apples, nuts, and marzipan cookies.

As you can imagine, it was dangerous to keep a candle-filled tree lit up for long, and buckets of sand or water were kept close at hand to douse any flames. The advent of electricity in homes changed all that, allowing safer lights that could be left burning for hours. Over the years tree

lights themselves have changed from bubbling candles and large painted bulbs resembling colorful birds and snow-covered lanterns to the hundreds of tiny twinkling lights that festoon our trees today.

And thus, the humble evergreen tree has become a cherished part of our Christmas holiday tradition. Have a wonderful time decorating your tree!

The Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath is one of our most popular holiday traditions. It originated in pre-Christian Germany and Scandinavia where, during the cold December darkness of Eastern Europe, people gathered wreaths of evergreen and lighted fires as signs of hope in a coming spring and renewed light. This practice dates back to ancient times. The winter solstice is that time in the year when the sun reaches its southern most point in the heavens and the days are the darkest and gloomiest. Because these ancient peoples longed for the return of the sun's light, they stopped all usual activity and sacrificed the use of their wagon wheels, hanging them up festooned with lights and greens in their celebration halls. There they awaited the return of their Sun god, thinking of the warmth and life he brought. Celebrations culminated in the "nativity" of the sun, the turning point of the year.



As Christians, we use the same meaningful custom to anticipate the feast of the light and life: the nativity of the Savior. We add one light (candle) on the wreath for each Sunday in Advent. We think of the darkness after Adam's sin and watch the growing hope and light as the prophets and Virgin help us prepare for the Savior's birth.

The first candle on the Advent wreath is called the *Prophecy* candle, opening up the period of waiting for the birth of Christ. It is lit on the first Sunday of Advent, and the remaining candles are lit on subsequent Sundays.

The second candle is the *Bethlehem* candle, a symbol of the preparation being made to receive and to cradle the Christ child and a reminder of God's first appearance in such a humble manner. The third candle (a rose-colored one) is the *Shepherds'* candle. It represents the act of sharing Christ and the joy that Advent is half over. The fourth candle is the *angels'* candle, the candle of peace, love, and the message of good news the angels bring.

On Christmas morning the family replaces the violet and rose candles with four bright red candles signifying great joy. In the wreath's center will be placed a white candle, signifying the birth of the Christ Child. The white candle is used to light all the red candles. Now the family will read from the scriptures and offer prayers and sing Christmas carols.

Dear Mrs. Savidge,

I know by this time the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union have had word of the loss of my mother, Sabina Helis, at almost 99 years of age. Belonging to your organization and serving as a local officer for over 50 years, in St. Catherine Lodge, Branch 184 in Johnstown, was to her a great honor in life. She kept her records faithfully and tried hard to keep a close correspondence with many of you, especially with Rita Simalchik (R.I.P.) after closing her assigned tasks some time ago.

My family and I wish to thank you for your support to Mother and encourage you to continue to do good for God and country. I remember since I was a child how much it meant to Mother to be a part of your efforts.

God bless you all.

Sincerely,
Sister Mary Brenda Helis, S.C.

In memory of
Sabina T. Helis
August 19, 2007, R.I.P.

Note: The LPSCU extends sincere sympathy to the family of our beloved member, Sabina T. Helis. She was a dedicated officer of Branch 184 and we will miss her greatly.

Kids in the Kitchen

What's better than holiday treats to make, give and eat? These are great because you can make them as holiday gifts or keep them to eat yourself.

CHEWY BUTTERSCOTCH BROWNIES

You will need:

- 2½ cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 cup butter or margarine, softened
- 1¾ cups brown sugar, firmly packed
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- 2 eggs
- 1 11-ounce package butterscotch morsels
- 1 cup walnuts or pecans, chopped (optional)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Combine flour, baking powder, and salt in a medium bowl; set aside. Beat butter, brown sugar, and vanilla extract in a large mixer bowl until creamy. Beat in eggs. Gradually beat in flour mixture. Stir in 1 cup morsels, and nuts. Spread into ungreased 9x13-inch baking pan. Sprinkle with remaining morsels. Bake for 30 to 40 minutes or until wooden toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool in pan on wire rack.

This makes over 2 dozen brownies, plenty to give as gifts and keep a few for yourself. To give as gifts, place in a pretty box or tin, or decorate a coffee can or box yourself. Top off with a pretty bow and your gift tag.



Viva Cristo Rey!

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in the assassination attempt. On November 13, 1927, President Calles issued the order that Pro be executed, ostensibly for his role in the assassination plot, but in reality for his defiance of the laws banning Catholicism.

When called from his cell, Pro walked to the courtyard, blessed the firing squad, and approached a bullet-scarred adobe wall. He knelt and prayed silently for a few moments. Refusing a blindfold, he stood, faced the firing squad, and held his arms outstretched in the form of a cross, a crucifix in one hand and a rosary in the other. In a clear voice he cried out, **“Viva Cristo Rey!”** (“Long Live Christ the King!”).

In 1988 Pope John Paul II beatified Miguel Pro. His feast day is celebrated on November 23rd each year, the day of his execution.

As we conclude this Liturgical Year with our celebration of the Feast of Christ the King and look ahead to a new Year of Grace beginning with Advent, let us ask God to grant us the same courage and wisdom He bestowed upon Blessed Miguel Pro, S.J. May the words of a prayer composed by Father Pro, shortly before his death, be our own: “I believe, O Lord, but strengthen my faith. Heart of Jesus, I love Thee, but increase my love. Heart of Jesus, I trust in Thee, but give greater vigor to my confidence. Heart of Jesus, I give my heart to Thee, but so enclose it in Thee that it may never be separated from Thee. Heart of Jesus, I am all Thine, but take care of my promise so that I may be able to put it in practice even unto the complete sacrifice of my life.”

In obedience to the example and command of Jesus, our Servant and King, may we render humble and generous service to those around us. May the goodness of our lives resonate with the cry of Miguel Pro: “Viva Cristo Rey!”

Rev. Philip A. Altavilla

An LPSCU insurance policy makes the perfect Christmas gift!



Call your Branch Secretary or the Home Office at 570/823-3513 or toll free at 888/834-6614