



## *Benjamin G. Klophaus Receives 2008 Bishop Grutka Award*

The LPSCU is pleased to announce that Benjamin G. Klophaus of Pipersville, Pennsylvania, is the 2008 recipient of our Bishop Andrew G. Grutka Young Adult Ministry Award.

The Bishop Grutka Award was established at our 37th National Convention held in Merrillville, Indiana, on August 13-16, 2000. This special award is given in memory of Bishop Grutka, who was an outstanding Slovak leader and the founding bishop of the Diocese of Gary, Indiana. Through this award, the LPSCU seeks to encourage and recognize young adult members who are exceptional in their involvement with organizations and activities which promote pride in our Slovak heritage.

Benjamin is an active member of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church in Doylestown, Pennsylvania, where he was an altar server for five years. During the last three summers, he has helped at his church by performing building maintenance, lawn and garden maintenance, and painting. He is an Eagle Scout and a recent honors graduate of Lansdale Catholic High School in Lansdale, Pennsylvania, where he excelled in academics and extracurricular activities. Currently, he is a freshman at The Smeal College of Business at Penn State University, University Park, Pennsylvania.

Benjamin was also honored as our 2008 Youth Achievement Award winner. An article detailing that honor was featured in the July/August 2008 *Zornicka* on page 8. The National Fraternal Congress of America, the trade association of America's fraternal benefit societies, also named Benjamin a "Fraternal MVP" (Most Valuable Participant) for the week of June 23, 2008. His NFCA honor appeared in the September/October 2008 *Zornicka* on page 9.

Benjamin and his brother, Michael, are members of LPSCU Branch 38 in Allentown, Pennsylvania, where his aunt, Cecilia B. Gaughan, is president and secretary. He is the son of Monica and Gary Klophaus of Pipersville.

The LPSCU congratulates Benjamin on his outstanding service and dedication to his parish community. He is a remarkable young man and most deserving of the Bishop Grutka Award.

We wish him continued success in his educational endeavors at Penn State University.



# In This Issue

Spiritual Advisor's Message . . . . .	3	Msgr. Beeda District to Celebrate . . . . .	10
LPSCU Partners with Enterprise . . . . .	4	Jankola Library Offers Oplatky . . . . .	10
Bishop Adamec's Greeting . . . . .	4	In Memoriam . . . . .	10
Statement of Ownership . . . . .	4	Summary of the 39th Convention . . . . .	11
Christmas Wishes . . . . .	5	Convention Photos . . . . .	12-13
LPSCU Resolution . . . . .	5	Illinois, Indiana Branches to Celebrate . . . . .	14
Branch and Okres News . . . . .	6	Branch 52's Anniversary Celebration . . . . .	14
Post-Graduate Award Recipients . . . . .	6	Thanksgiving Greeting . . . . .	14
Pittsburgh District to Celebrate . . . . .	6	Illiana Okres Hosts Celebration . . . . .	15
EFC Meeting Minutes . . . . .	7	2nd Quarter Financial Report . . . . .	15
Rev. Baloga District Celebrates . . . . .	7	Lithuanian Christmas Eve Supper . . . . .	15
Fraternalist of the Year Sought . . . . .	8	Honoring Our Veterans/Military . . . . .	16-18
LPSCU Youth Achievement Award . . . . .	8	SS.C.M. Sisters Begin Centennial . . . . .	18
Jennifer McKinley is Confirmed . . . . .	8	New Insurance Issued . . . . .	18
LPSCU Privacy Statement . . . . .	9	LPSCU 2009 Educational Benefits . . . . .	19
Jesse Schafer is Fraternal MVP . . . . .	9	Pet Contest Entrants . . . . .	20-21
Cooking Corner . . . . .	9	Junior Branch Journal . . . . .	22-23
ScriptSave Report . . . . .	10	Lithuanian News Welcomed . . . . .	24

# Calendar of Events

## NOVEMBER

- 3** — Msgr. Beeda District meeting at St. Joseph Church Cafeteria, Hazleton, Pennsylvania, at 7:00 p.m. Plans will be finalized for the Liturgy/Brunch to celebrate the 110th Anniversary of the LPSCU, and also for the Msgr. Beeda District's Christmas Party.
- 12** — Deadline to make reservations to attend the Liturgy/Brunch being held by the Msgr. Beeda District for the LPSCU's 110th Anniversary Celebration. (See November 23)
- 17** — Deadline to make reservations to attend Branch 52's Family Christmas Party/LPSCU Anniversary Celebration. (See December 7)
- 23** — The Msgr. Beeda District will celebrate the 110th Anniversary of the LPSCU with a Mass of Thanksgiving at 11:15 a.m. at St. Joseph Church, Hazleton, Pennsylvania, immediately followed by a Brunch at the Ramada Inn, Route 309, Hazleton. (Note change of venue from originally announced St. Joseph's cafeteria.) All LPSCU members are invited to attend.
- 24** — Deadline to make a reservation to attend the Rev. Baloga Okres Christmas Party and LPSCU Anniversary Celebration. Contact Mary Ann Strauss at 330/758-2148. (See November 30)
- 25** — **Deadline to submit articles for January/February Zornicka.**
- 30** — Rev. Baloga Okres Christmas Party and LPSCU 110th Anniversary Celebration at Holy Trinity Church, 250 N. Bridge Street, Struthers, Ohio, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Branches 163 and 180 will host. All National Officers and LPSCU members in the Struthers/Youngstown, Ohio, area are cordially invited to attend. Cost of dinner is \$10.00.

## DECEMBER

- 7** — Reverend Dianiska District's annual Christmas Party at the Ramada Hotel, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Branches 7 and 122 will host.
- 7** — Branch 52's Family Christmas Party held in conjunction with the LPSCU's 110th Anniversary at Grandview Golf Club, North Braddock, Pennsylvania, from 12:00-3:00 p.m. Reservations required.
- 7** — Deadline to make reservations to attend the Pittsburgh District's LPSCU Anniversary Celebration and District Christmas Party. Call Dolores Sakal (412/243-0438) or Elva Silay (412/322-6033). (See December 14)
- 9** — Deadline to make a reservation to attend the Lehigh Valley Okres Holiday Luncheon. Call your Branch Secretary or Okres officers. (See December 14)

continued on page 7



(USPS 699-520)

ZORNICKA (Morning Star), a bi-monthly magazine, is the official publication of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, National Headquarters, 71 South Washington Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701.

Send articles for publication to Margaret A. Ferri, Public Relations Director, 428 E. Frankford Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018. Articles must be received by the 25th of the month, five weeks prior to the issue date.

Printed by Triangle Press, 6720 Allentown Blvd., Harrisburg, PA 17112.

Periodical Postage paid at Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701 and additional entries.

Subscription Rate: Members — free; non-members — \$15.00 per year.

Postmaster: Send address changes only to: Zornicka (Morning Star), Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, 71 South Washington Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701.

### OFFICE HOURS AT NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

**Monday through Friday:  
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Phone: 570/823-3513  
Toll Free 888/834-6614  
Fax: 570/823-4464  
E-mail: [lpacu@lpacu.org](mailto:lpacu@lpacu.org)  
Website: [www.lpacu.org](http://www.lpacu.org)**

### SECRETARY/TREASURER

Mary Jo Savidge, 71 South Washington Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701; 570/823-3513, Fax 570/823-4464

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

Rev. Philip A. Altavilla, V.E., Our Lady of the Snows Parish, 301 South State Street, Clarks Summit, PA 18411-1599; 570/587-5191

#### PRESIDENT

Theresa A. Kluchinski, 446 Mountain Oaks Drive, Laurel Run, PA 18706; 570/829-5410

#### VICE PRESIDENT

Anita Gregory, 304 Turkey Path Road, Sugarloaf, PA 18249; 570/788-3263

#### CHAIRPERSON OF TRUSTEES

Mary Ann Ewasko, 9 Shannon Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702; 570/823-6432

#### TRUSTEES

Dolores M. Evanko, 173 Berner Avenue, Hazleton, PA 18201; 570/454-5547

Joan T. Hladek, 2138 Waterbury Lane E., Sycamore, IL 60178; 815/895-0431

Margaret Jollimore, RR 2, Box 374, Harvey's Lake, PA 18618-9512; 570/333-5371

Elizabeth Melko, 100 Bryn Mawr Court West #513, Pittsburgh, PA 15221; 412/242-0419

#### FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

Cecilia B. Gaughan, 325 Florida Avenue, Whitehall, PA 18052; 610/433-4610

#### PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR

Margaret A. Ferri, 428 East Frankford Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018; 610/866-8945



# Spiritual Advisor's Message

## Who Are We Waiting For?



Fr. Altavilla

Traditionally known as the Latter Days of Advent, December 17 to 23 marks a change in the tone of the Advent season as the days of Christmas come closer. During these special days, we call on Jesus with titles that speak of mystery of the Incarnation ("taking on flesh"). This is what we celebrate on Christmas: that our Divine Lord took on human flesh and was born as one of us, to save us from sin and death. As we know, Jesus was born in poverty and became one with the poor and the lonely, with the saint as well as with the sinner. During these final days of the Advent season, in preparation for Christmas, we are given unique opportunities to grow in holiness by praying what are known as the "O Antiphons."

The "O Antiphons" come at the end of Advent to tie together the prophetic hopes of a people who waited not three or four weeks for the coming of the Lord, but for centuries.

These antiphons are the substance of the beautiful Advent hymn, "O Come, O Come Emmanuel." The "O Antiphons" lead us up to the feast of Christmas. They are special prayers to Jesus which call him by certain names: O Wisdom, O Lord, O Root of Jesse, O Key of David, O Radiant Dawn, O King of Nations, O Emmanuel.

These antiphons have been sung since the 6th century as antiphons before the **Magnificat** at Vespers (Evening Prayer). They bring together ancient Hebrew prophecies about the coming of the Messiah. In a sense, these prayers become a very important pre-Christmas "wish-list." When we pray them, we ask for: instruction in the way of prudence; redemption; deliverance; the release of prisoners from the prison-house of sin; enlightenment; and for salvation. It is interesting to note that contained within themselves, these "O Antiphons" reveal an answer to the very petitions they embody. Written out together across a page in Latin and in reverse order, the first consonants of the Antiphons – **Emmanuel, Rex (king), Oriens (light), Clavis (key), Radix (root), Adonai (Lord), Sapientia (wisdom)** spell the words *Ero cras*, which in Latin is translated: "I will be there tomorrow." We are called to wait, in patience, for the dawning of the Day of the Lord, the coming of the King of Kings.

Each antiphon has the same structure: an invocation to the coming Lord, expressed by a different title each day, followed by a few words further developing the title, then a petition introduced by the emphatic "Veni" ("Come"), and finally, a plea for redemption. Each antiphon embodies the call of the entire Church to Christ, as the darkness of Advent gives way to the resplendent light of Christmas.

1. "O **Wisdom**, O holy Word of God, you govern all creation with your strong, tender care; Come and show your people the way to salvation." This divine Wisdom is from all eternity and is seen in relationship to creation. Wisdom comes

forth from the very mouth of God and is identified very closely with the Word of God. Openness to divine Wisdom will help us grow in understanding the will of God in our daily lives and how we are called to act with prudence in living in a way that is truly pleasing to God.

2. "O Sacred **Lord** of ancient Israel, who showed yourself to Moses in the burning bush on Sinai mountain; Come, stretch out your mighty hand to set us free." This antiphon reminds us that God has continually revealed himself to his people and, in history, has interacted with his people. The greatest act of revelation is the coming of Jesus Christ, to be our Savior. The Son of God stretched out his mighty arm from

heaven and fully embraced a humanity like our own, making it his own. It is Jesus who would stretch out his arms on the cross so as to free us from sin and death. During the Advent season, one of the best ways that we can experience freedom from our sins is to participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation or Confession.

3. "O **Root** of Jesse, you have been raised up as a sign for all peoples; kings stand silent in your presence; the nations bow down in worship before you; Come, let nothing keep you from coming to our aid." Jesus, coming from the lineage of Jesse (the father of King David), is the branch that buds forth with life. Jesus is the flower of Israel for all to see. He is the sign of salvation for all peoples. During this time of Advent, we seek to be renewed in our commitment to live the new life that was given to us at Baptism. Through Baptism, we have become branches intimately connected to Jesus, the Vine, and we are called to bear fruit for the Kingdom by faithfully living and sharing the Gospel message.

4. "O **Key** of David, O Royal Power of Israel, controlling at your will the gate of heaven; Come break down the prison walls of death for those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and lead your captive people to freedom." Prior to the coming of Jesus, men and women did not have access to the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus, through his death and resurrection, has unlocked the gates of heaven. His cross becomes the key which unlocks the heavenly portal. This Advent, we can ask Jesus to open the heavenly realm to us by helping us to daily grow in the life of holiness. We pray daily that Jesus would set us free from whatever keeps us from following him.

5. "O **Radiant Dawn**, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice; Come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death." From the darkness of nothingness, God, at the very dawn of creation, said: "Let there be light!" (Genesis

*continued on page 24*

*During these final days of the Advent season, we are given unique opportunities to grow in holiness . . .*

## LPSCU Partners with Enterprise Rent-A-Car

The LPSCU is pleased to announce a preferred partnership with the largest car rental company, Enterprise Rent-A-Car! With more than 6,500 locations throughout the U.S., Enterprise is truly a neighborhood company and is within approximately 15 minutes of 90% of the U.S. population, making them an obvious choice for us for local rental needs. LPSCU employees/members will receive contracted rates at all *non-airport* Enterprise locations in Northeast and Central Pennsylvania. In addition to becoming our primary home city vendor, Enterprise will serve as our secondary airport vendor. Enterprise has agreed to provide us with free pick up and return service (delivery where available) at the start and end of all our rentals.

The Enterprise rental program was designed to give the LPSCU an alternative to employees/members utilizing their personal vehicles for travel for personal and/or business purposes. Using a rental vehicle can be less expensive than reimbursing per mile. In addition to cost and liability savings, our employees/members will have the peace of mind of a 24-hour roadside assistance program, newer model vehicles with current safety features, and the ability to rent from a convenient neighborhood location rather than depreciating their personal vehicle. In addition, this program can be utilized when your vehicle is in for repairs.

There are many ways to make reservations for an Enterprise vehicle. By phone, call 1-800-RENT-A-CAR; by internet, [www.enterprise.com](http://www.enterprise.com); or call your local Enterprise branch. Be sure to **use our Preferred Customer Number — 57CE441** — to receive the proper benefit program. You can also go to [www.lpsc.org](http://www.lpsc.org) and click on the link to Enterprise.

Enterprise has generously extended this program to all LPSCU employees/members for personal use, so if you have a family trip coming up, or want a luxury car for a special event, you can access this program for that as well.

If you have any questions about our program, please contact Allison Ottino at 570/829-3411.

## 2008 Christmas Message

Most Reverend Joseph V. Adamec

Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown

Episcopal Protector, Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union

*"All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart." (Luke 2:18,19)*



**Most Reverend Joseph V. Adamec**

Many times during her life did the Blessed Lady have an opportunity to reflect upon that moment when the Archangel Gabriel appeared to her and invited her to be the mother of the Savior. Just as many times, she may have wondered why things were happening the way that they were. One of those times must have been the day of her Son's birth. If He was the Son of God, why was his coming taking place in a stable?

However, then came the shepherds, followed by the Magi. Both groups acknowledged the remarkable event that had taken place. The fact that it occurred in humble surroundings did not appear to matter to them.

We get into the "Christmas Spirit" rather readily during the season. Decorations, music, and the traditional activity help us do that. However, that was not the way that Jesus came. He came within the milieu of everyday, routine human life. And, if we search, as did the shepherds and the Magi, that is where we, too, will find the presence of our God.

The Christmas Season is a time to remember and to celebrate. It is also an opportunity to reflect and to refocus.

I take this opportunity to extend my Christmas Greetings to the officers and members of our Society, the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union. May you be reminded throughout the New Year of Grace 2009 that the Lord our God came to be with you, within the very life that is yours, bringing you much peace and joy!

**A BLESSED and MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

### Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation

(Act of October 23, 1962, Section 4369, Title 39 U.S. Code.)

Date filed: September 10, 2008.

Title of publication: *Zornicka* (Morning Star). Official organ of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, published bimonthly.

Office of publication: 71 South Washington Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701.

Business office: 71 South Washington Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701.

Publisher: Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, 71 South Washington Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701.

Owner: Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, 71 South Washington Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701.

Known bondholders, mortgage and other security holders: None.

Issue Date for Circulation Data: 9/8/2008.

	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
Total Number of Copies	5,371	5,371
Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions	5,172	5,341
Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions	0	0
Paid Distribution Outside the Mails	0	0
Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail	0	0
Total Paid Distribution	5,172	5,341
Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County	0	0
Free or Nominal Rate In-County	0	0
Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other	0	0
Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail	0	0
Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution	0	0
Total Distribution	5,172	5,341
Copies not Distributed	199	30
Total	5,371	5,371
Percent Paid	100%	100%

Publication of Statement of Ownership will be printed in the November/December issue of this publication

*The National Officers and Staff  
of the LPSCU Extend  
Warm Holiday Wishes!*

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Most Rev. Joseph V. Adamec, D.D.  
Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown, Episcopal Protector  
Rev. Philip A. Altavilla, V.E., Spiritual Director  
Theresa A. Kluchinski, President  
Anita Gregory, Vice President  
Mary Jo Savidge, Secretary/Treasurer  
Mary Ann Ewasko, Chairperson of Trustees  
Dolores M. Evanko, Trustee  
Joan T. Hladek, Trustee  
Margaret Jollimore, Trustee  
Elizabeth Melko, Trustee  
Cecilia B. Gaughan, Fraternal Activities Director  
Margaret A. Ferri, Public Relations Director

**COURT OF APPEALS**

Deborah Adamchak, Chairperson  
Janice Mathews, Secretary  
Mary Ann Kaylor  
Paricia Stearney  
Barbara Kalish

**HONORARY OFFICERS**

Msgr. Francis J. Beeda, Honorary Spiritual Advisor  
Cecilia Sarocky, Honorary President  
Mary Ann Ackerman, Honorary Vice President  
Ann C. Dobias, Honorary Trustee

**HOME OFFICE STAFF**

Christine Zak  
Patricia Weiksner  
Maureen Grohowski  
Mary Kluchinski  
Sarah Rigol

*Wishing you a Joyous Christmas  
and a Blessed and Happy New Year!*

*Radostne Vianocne sviatky  
a Bohom pozehnany  
Novy Rok!  
Linkiu jums geru Sv.  
Kaledu ir mielu bei laimingu  
Naujuju Metu!*



**Ladies Pennsylvania  
Slovak Catholic Union**

**RESOLUTION**

*WHEREAS*, The Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union (LPSCU) held its 39th National Convention on July 22-24, 2008, where delegates approved various changes to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union; and *WHEREAS*, The changes approved at the 39th National Convention to the Constitution and Bylaws were submitted to Insurance Department of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and *WHEREAS*, The Insurance Department of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania notified the LPSCU that Article 31, under Duties of Board of Directors, states "Shall meet at least three times a year to transact the business of the LPSCU" and does not comply with the Fraternal Benefit Society Act 40 P.S. S991.2405 (1) (ii) which states "The board shall meet at least quarterly to conduct the business of the society" and *WHEREAS*, Article 96 of the LPSCU's Constitution and Bylaws states, "If any of the provisions of the foregoing Bylaws are inconsistent or should they become inconsistent with the laws in force in any of the countries, states, or provinces where the LPSCU does business, the Board of Directors, from time to time, by resolution, may amend the Bylaws, including the table of rates, so as to comply with such a law or laws. However, when the Board of Directors in accordance with this paragraph shall amend certain Bylaws, notice of such amendments shall be published in the Official Publication of the LPSCU, and from and after the date of the publication of the particular amendment or amendments these shall be in full force and effect and shall bind every member of the LPSCU and all those acquiring their legal rights from such a member until such amendments are changed, modified or repealed by a Convention at a regular or special session as the case may be."

*NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED* that at the Semi-annual Meeting of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union Board of Directors held September 26-29, 2008, it was unanimously approved that Article 31 of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union be amended to read as follows:

Article 31. Shall meet at least quarterly to transact the business of the LPSCU at such times and places to be fixed by the President.

*Theresa A. Kluchinski*

Theresa A. Kluchinski, National President

*Mary Jo Savidge*

Mary Jo Savidge, National Secretary-Treasurer



**REVEREND DIANISKA DISTRICT**

The Rev. Dianiska District met on Sunday, September 14, 2008, at Shankey's in Swoyersville, Pennsylvania. Margaret Jollimore welcomed everyone on behalf of Branches 37, 58, and 94.

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Ann Ewasko. Vice President Hope Napkora lead the members in prayer 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 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 and some from children who attended the Annual Youth Bowling Party.

President Ewasko displayed the thank you from residents of The Laurels for the District's participation in Join Hands Day at their facility.

President Ewasko directed everyone's attention to the table full of socks and other clothing items that the District will donate to various charities.

The District's Annual Youth Bowling Party was a success again this year. The children verbally expressed their appreciation for the event.

Plans were finalized for District's 65th and LPSCU's 110th anniversaries to be held on Sunday September 28, 2008, with Mass at 10:30 a.m. in Holy Trinity Church, Hughes Street, Swoyersville, Pennsylvania, with a luncheon immediately following at the Ramada Hotel, Public Square, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

Our annual Christmas party will be held on Sunday, December 7, 2008, at the Ramada on Public Square in Wilkes-Barre at 1:00 pm. Everyone is asked to bring a non-perishable item that will be donated to the St. Vincent DePaul Kitchen. Everyone is invited to attend. Contact your Branch Secretary for information and reservations.

The first meeting of 2009 will be held on Sunday, March 8, at 1:00 p.m. at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish Center, 134 S. Washington Street, Wilkes-Barre. Branches 6, 48, and 213 will host the meeting. Contact your Branch Secretary with attendance figures.

**Susan Worth**

**PITTSBURGH DISTRICT**

A Pittsburgh District meeting was held on August 24, 2008, at The Risen Lord Education Building on Pittsburgh's North Side. First Vice President Dolores Sakal presided at the meeting due to the recent loss of District President Barbara Janicko.

Branches 64 and 202 hosted the event and members served a delicious traditional Slovak luncheon that included bandurkovo halusky, chicken, and desserts.

Plans for an October 19th luncheon card party were finalized. It will be held at 1:00 p.m. at the Rodi Road Comfort Inn, Pittsburgh. Cost is \$10 per person.

The LPSCU's 110th anniversary was discussed and it was decided to celebrate this event in combination with the Pittsburgh District's annual Christmas party. The joint party

**LPSCU NAMES 2008  
POST-GRADUATE  
AWARD RECIPIENTS**



**ANGELINA K. FERRI**  
of New Market, Maryland  
Master of Arts in Teaching—  
Elementary Education  
Towson University  
Towson, Maryland  
*Member of Branch 130  
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania*



**JOSEPH V. HUSTY**  
of Larksville, Pennsylvania  
Juris Doctor Degree  
The George Washington  
University Law School  
Washington, D.C.  
*Member of Branch 19  
Swoyersville, Pennsylvania*

**Pittsburgh District  
to Celebrate  
LPSCU's Anniversary**

The Pittsburgh District extends an invitation to all LPSCU members to attend the District's celebration of the LPSCU's 110th Anniversary. This affair will be held in conjunction with the Pittsburgh District's Christmas Party on December 14, 2008, at the Rodi Road Comfort Inn, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

For directions and ticket information, please contact Dolores Sakal at 412/243-0438 or Elva Silay at 412/322-6033. **Deadline for reservations is December 7.**

**Sylvia Goda**

will take place on December 14th at 1:00 p.m. at the Rodi Road Comfort Inn, Pittsburgh. All LPSCU members are invited to attend, even if they are not members of the Pittsburgh District. For ticket information please contact Dolores Sakal at 412/243-0438 or Elva Silay at 412/322-6033. **Deadline for reservations is December 7.**

A Nominating Committee was appointed for the upcoming District election of officers. Elections will take place at the first 2009 Pittsburgh District meeting (date to be announced).

**Sylvia Goda**

ZORNICKA

# Minutes of the Executive Finance Committee

August 27, 2008 – Home Office, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

President Theresa Kluchinski called the meeting to order and offered a prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Attendees: Theresa Kluchinski, president; Anita Gregory, vice president; Mary Jo Savidge, secretary-treasurer; and Mary Ann Ewasko, chairperson of trustees.

The committee reviewed and accepted the Minutes from the June 25, 2008, Executive Finance Committee meeting. (No meeting was held in July.)

## Correspondence and Requests

The committee acknowledged all the correspondence read, approving the following:

- ❖ Ohio Fraternal Congress requesting charitable donation for their 91st Annual Meeting. (*Approved \$25.00 for the Deaf and Blind Apostolate, \$50.00 for the Lorain County Free Clinic, and \$25.00 for the OFC Scholarship Fund*)
- ❖ Polish National Union of America requesting ad in their 100th Anniversary Program Book. (*Approved \$100.00 ad and a gift*)
- ❖ Slovak Heritage Festival requesting ad in their 90th Anniversary Program Book. (*Approved \$75.00 ad*)
- ❖ Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association requesting ad in their program book and purchase of dinner tickets for the 4th Consular Testimonial Awards Dinner. (*Approved \$75.00 ad and four \$55.00 dinner tickets*)
- ❖ Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius celebrating their 100th Year Anniversary. (*Approved a gift of \$100.00*)

## Financial Statement

The committee reviewed the following checking accounts as of June 30 and July 31, 2008: M & T Bank – General Operating Account, M & T Bank – Home Office Checking Account and Smith Barney Checking Account. The committee completed a review of the Balance Sheet and Revenue/Expense statement for June 30 and July 31, 2008. Graphs illustrating month-end balances for 2008 for the assets, liabilities, fund balance, premium income, investment income, and investments were presented and reviewed.

## Rev. Baloga Okres Plans Christmas Party and LPSCU Anniversary Celebration

In conjunction with the 110th Anniversary of the LPSCU, the Rev. Baloga Okres will hold a Christmas Party on Sunday, November 30, 2008, at Holy Trinity Church, 250 N. Bridge Street, Struthers, Ohio, beginning at 1:00 p.m. The Okres respectfully invites the LPSCU National Officers and LPSCU members in the Youngstown and Struthers area to attend this celebration. Branches 163 and 180 will host the event. Cost of dinner is \$10.00. For reservations, please contact Mary Ann Strauss, secretary of Branch 180, at 330/758-2148 **by November 24, 2008.**

## Bond/Stock/Pension Portfolio

The committee was provided copies of all reports from June 30 and July 31, 2008, reviewing all activity, including CDs, Common Stocks, Preferred Stocks, Bonds, International Investments, and Schedule D – Parts 3 and 4. The Employee Retirement Plan was also reviewed.

The committee reviewed the LPSCU Statement of Investment Policy Objectives and Guidelines and the LPSCU Employee's Retirement Plan Statement of Investment Policy Objectives and Guidelines, which will be presented to the Board of Directors at the semiannual meeting in September.

## Other Business

The committee discussed the following: 2008 Convention, the budget, and future meeting dates.

There being no further business, the EFC adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

**Mary Jo Savidge**

National Secretary-Treasurer

## Calendar of Events

*continued from page 2*

- 13** — The Illiana District, and Branches 28 (Joliet, Illinois), 109 (Hammond, Indiana), 158 and 194 (Chicago, Illinois), and 198 (Whiting, Indiana) will mark the LPSCU's 110th Anniversary with a joint celebration at Glenwood Oaks Restaurant, 106 N. Main Street, Glenwood, Illinois, at 4:30 p.m. Reservations are required.
- 14** — Lehigh Valley Okres Holiday Luncheon at 12 noon at Best Western Lehigh Valley Hotel and Conference Center, Routes 512 and 22, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.
- 14** — The LPSCU 110th Anniversary Celebration and annual Pittsburgh District Christmas Party at 1:00 p.m. at the Rodi Road Comfort Inn, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

**2009**

### JANUARY

- 25** — **Deadline to submit articles for March/April Zornicka.**

### FEBRUARY

- 28** — Deadline to apply for an LPSCU College Scholarship Award.

### MARCH

- 8** — Rev. Dianiska District meeting at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish Center, 134 S. Washington Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, at 1:00 p.m. Branches 6, 48, and 213 will host.
- 25** — Deadline to nominate a member for the 2009 Youth Achievement Award and the 2009 Fraternalist of the Year Award.
- 25** — Deadline to apply for the Anne (Shinal) Cichy Memorial Award.
- 25** — **Deadline to submit articles for May/June Zornicka.**

# Attention:

## LPSCU Branch & District Members

*We're Looking for a Shining Star  
in the LPSCU for the  
2009 Fraternalist of the Year*



Do you have a member who, through example and accomplishment, provides outstanding volunteer service?



Do you have a member that should be recognized for outstanding fraternal and volunteer efforts?



If you can answer "yes" to the above, then you have a "Shining Star" member to be nominated as our 2009 LPSCU Fraternalist of the Year!

To receive a Nomination Form, contact the Home Office at 570/823-3513 or toll free 888/834-6614; e-mail: [lpscu@lpscu.org](mailto:lpscu@lpscu.org) or visit our website: [www.lpscu.org](http://www.lpscu.org).

Hurry — The Deadline for Nominations is **March 25, 2009**

*Let an outstanding youth know. . .*

## You Are Appreciated

We all know someone between the ages of 13 and 18 who deserves recognition for his or her scholastic, athletic, fraternal, volunteer, and/or other achievements.



To receive a Nomination Form, contact the Home Office at 570/823-3513 or toll free 888/834-6614; e-mail: [lpscu@lpscu.org](mailto:lpscu@lpscu.org) or visit our website: [www.lpscu.org](http://www.lpscu.org). The deadline for nominations is **March 25, 2009**.

Help the LPSCU show an outstanding young person that "You Are Appreciated" by nominating him or her for the Youth Achievement Award!

## Jennifer McKinley is Confirmed in Barnesville

Jennifer Noelle McKinley, a member of LPSCU Branch 197, received the Sacrament of Confirmation with her fellow confirmants this past April. Retired Bishop Thomas Welsh of the Allentown Diocese administered the sacrament in St. Richard's Church, Barnesville, Pennsylvania. Jennifer's sponsor was her grandmother, Kathleen M. Korutz. Jennifer chose Deborah, after her mother, as her confirmation name.

Jennifer is currently in the 7th grade at the Academy of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mahanoy City, Pennsylvania, where she is an honors student and member of the Spirit Club. Additionally, she has been taking piano lessons for over three years and has played numerous times at Mass in her church. When not called upon to play the piano at Mass, Jennifer is an active altar server.

Jennifer is the daughter of Chris and Deborah A. McKinley of Tamaqua, Pennsylvania. Her cousins, Lisa and Matthew Beichey, are also members of LPSCU Branch 197.

The LPSCU congratulates Jennifer on receiving her confirmation. We are proud of her academic achievements and talented accomplishments and wish her continued success in her educational and musical endeavors.



**Jennifer Noelle McKinley is shown on her Confirmation Day with Bishop Thomas Welsh (left), retired bishop of the Allentown Diocese, and Rev. Stephen Halabura.**



## LPSCU PRIVACY COMMITMENT

The Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union (LPSCU), a fraternal life insurance society, shares your concerns about privacy. We believe in protecting the confidentiality and security of the information we collect. This notice describes our privacy policy and how we treat the information we receive about you.

### **Why We Collect and How We Use Information**

We use the information we collected about you for business purposes with respect to our insurance and fraternal relationship with you. The business purposes include evaluating a request for our products, services or benefits; evaluating benefit claims; administering our products, services or benefits; and processing transactions requested by you. We may also use the information to contact you about other products and services we provide.

### **How We Collect Information**

Much of the personal information that we have comes directly from you. The information you give us when you apply for our products or services generally provides the information we need. If we need to verify information or need additional information, we may obtain this information from third parties such as health care providers. Information collected may relate to your employment, finances, health, avocations, or other personal characteristics.

### **How We Protect Information**

We treat the information we collected about you in a confidential manner. Our employees are required to protect the confidentiality of this information. Your personal information is available only to our employees who may need to see it to fulfill and service your needs. We maintain safeguards to protect the information and our employees are required to comply with our established policies. Should your relationship with us end, your personal information will remain protected in accordance with our privacy practices as outlined in this notice.

### **What We Do With Personal Information We Collect**

We do not disclose your personal information to companies or organizations not affiliated with us that would use the information we have provided them to contact you about their own products and services.

We may disclose information about you in order for us to conduct our business, or where law requires disclosure. For example, information may be disclosed to others to enable them to provide business services for us, such as performing general administrative activities. We may use your personal information for marketing purposes or to help with your overall insurance program. Information may also be disclosed for audit or research purposes, or to law enforcement and regulatory agencies.

### **Further Information**

A recently enacted federal law established new privacy standards and requires us to provide this summary of our privacy policy once each year. For additional information regarding our privacy policy, please contact us in writing at:

Theresa A. Kluchinski, Secretary-Treasurer  
Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union  
69 Public Square, Suite 922  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701

## Jesse Schafer Named NCFA 'Fraternal MVP'

The National Fraternal Congress of America (NFCA), the trade association of America's fraternal benefit societies, named Jesse M. Schafer, a member of LPSCU Branch 172, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as a "Fraternal MVP" (Most Valuable Participant) for the week of September 22, 2008. Jesse, who is the recipient of our 2008 Anne (Shinal) Cichy Memorial Scholarship, had his name submitted by the LPSCU as a member best representing "the spirit of fraternalism and volunteerism."



**Jesse M. Schafer**

Fraternal MVPs are "fraternalists-in-action" who volunteer their time and energy to strengthen their communities through participation in local lodge activities and other charitable endeavors. In a news release, NFCA Board Chair Barbara A. Cheaney noted, "As a Fraternal MVP, Jesse Schafer embodies the heart of fraternalism through his hard work, dedication, and generosity."

The Fraternal MVP designation is part of NFCA's Fraternalists-in-Action Program, designed to remind the public and our elected officials how much good fraternalists accomplish throughout the country. We are proud that the NFCA represents 10 million fraternalists – like Jesse – who selflessly, humbly, and anonymously volunteer millions of hours and dollars to help their communities and fellow citizens.

Jesse's outstanding accomplishments, which set him apart as our 2008 Anne (Shinal) Cichy Memorial Scholarship recipient, were featured in the July/August issue of *Zornicka* on page 11.

The LPSCU congratulates Jesse M. Schafer on adding the title of "Fraternal MVP" to his list of accomplishments. We are proud to see him receive this distinct honor from the NFCA.

## Cooking Corner

### ICE CREAM KIFFLES

5 cups flour  
1 pt. vanilla ice cream, softened  
1 lb. stick margarine, softened  
Powdered sugar  
Walnut, poppy seed, apricot or prune filling

Mix flour, ice cream, and softened margarine well. Shape into 5 balls. Refrigerate overnight. Take out balls, one at a time, to roll. Roll out on powdered sugar. Cut into triangles and fill with walnut, poppy seed, apricot, or prune filling. Place on cookie sheet and bake at 350 degrees for 8 to 10 minutes.





## UTILIZATION REPORT

	For August 2008	Year-to-Date 2008
Prescriptions Filled:	13	182
Normal Retail Pricing:	\$ 385.08	\$6,599.91
ScriptSave Pricing:	\$ 301.40	\$5,098.04
Total Dollars Saved		
by LPSCU Cardholders:	\$ 83.68	\$1,501.87
Average Saved per		
Discounted Prescription:	\$ 8.37	\$ 10.73
Overall LPSCU Discounted		
Prescription Savings:	24.06%	25.92%

The ScriptSave® Prescription Drug Savings Program is available to you at **NO COST** from the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union. There are **no monthly or ongoing fees, no limits on usage and no income or age restrictions**. Your entire household can use the card to receive substantial savings on brand name and generic prescriptions at over 53,000 participating pharmacies nationwide.

### Everyone Can Save!

Use your ScriptSave® card for any brand name or generic prescription you or a family member pays for out-of-pocket. If you have health insurance coverage, use your ScriptSave® card for any prescriptions that are not covered by your insurance or for savings for your family members not covered by insurance. The ScriptSave® card also provides savings on prescriptions that are excluded by Medicare Part D law, if you have Medicare and are enrolled in a Medicare Part D prescription drug plan.

The ScriptSave® card provides you:

- Average savings of 22%, with potential savings of up to 50% (based on national program savings data) on both brand name and generic prescriptions for you and your entire household.
- Easy access to everything you need — right online! Look up drug prices, find a pharmacy nearby and get answers to your questions.

Any LPSCU member (including the membership of LCA) can receive a ScriptSave® card at no cost. If you are interested in receiving a ScriptSave® card, please contact our Home Office at [lpescu@lpescu.org](mailto:lpescu@lpescu.org). You are eligible for the card as long as you are a member of the LPSCU (or LCA) in good standing.

**DISCOUNT ONLY — NOT INSURANCE. This program is not an insurance policy and does not provide insurance coverage. Discounts are available exclusively through participating pharmacies. You may cancel your registration under this program within thirty (30) days from the date your discount card is issued.**

*Have you signed up a new member lately?*

## Msgr. Beeda District to Celebrate LPSCU's 110th Anniversary

Come join us on Sunday, November 23, 2008, as the Msgr. Beeda District celebrates the 110th Anniversary of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union. A Mass of Thanksgiving will be offered by Msgr. Francis J. Beeda at 11:15 a.m. at St. Joseph Church, Hazleton, Pennsylvania. A Brunch will be served at the Ramada Inn, Route 309, Hazleton, immediately following the Mass. **(Please note change of location for the Brunch. It was originally announced to be held in St. Joseph's church cafeteria.)**

The Msgr. Beeda District extends an invitation to the LPSCU Board of Directors and all adult and junior members of the LPSCU to be our guests at the Brunch. Reservations are required and can be made by calling District President Anita Gregory at 570/788-3263. Cost for non-members is \$15.00.

**Deadline for reservations is November 12th.**

Plan to join us as we celebrate this special event!

## Jankola Library Offers Oplatky, Christmas Cards

It's not too early to order *oplatky*. The traditional Christmas wafers are currently available through Jankola Library. The wafers are packaged five to a thermo-sealed packet for a donation of \$3.00 per pack. Postage (via Priority Mail) and handling is an additional \$5.50.

Slovak religious Christmas cards are also available at eight cards for \$5.00 plus postage and handling (unless they are mailed with oplatky).

To order and/or to make inquiries, please call 570/275-5606; e-mail [jankolalib@jlink.net](mailto:jankolalib@jlink.net); or write to: Sister M. John Vianney, SS.C.M., Jankola Library, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA 17821-1698.

## In Memoriam

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

— Matthew v.5

Name	Branch	Location
Maria (Mary) Jasonis	6	Wilkes-Barre, PA
John M. Senk	37	Plymouth, PA
Amber Kendzlic	42	Pittsburgh, PA
Martha Kollar	52	North Braddock, PA
* Helen Durica	65	Munhall, PA
Arlene Gostowski	76	White Oak, PA
Mildred Klochan	79	Whiting, IN
Lois M. Palenik	79	Whiting, IN
Christopher G. Clauser	83	Bethlehem, PA
Irene Gorgus	94	Larksville, PA
Richard Ference	109	Hammond, IN
Joseph O'Bell	132	Youngstown, OH
* Patrick Holter	132	Youngstown, OH
Margaret Horvat	132	Youngstown, OH
Mary Nicholls	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Genevieve C. Sharkness	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Pauline Hanko	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Joseph Yuravich	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Bertha Dvorscak	198	Whiting, IN
Christopher Kandalec	198	Whiting, IN

\*Multiple certificates



# Summary of the 39th National LPSCU Convention

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA – JULY 21-24, 2008

On Monday, July 21, 2008, approximately 150 delegates and guests arrived at Bally's Las Vegas for the 39th National Convention of the LPSCU. Registration of delegates and guests was held from 4:00-7:00 p.m. in the Las Vegas Foyer by the Credentials and Registration Committee, chaired by Dolores M. Evanko. Following registration, everyone enjoyed a hospitality reception in the Las Vegas Room.

## **Opening Session – Tuesday, July 22 at 9:00 a.m.**

At 9:00 a.m., the convention was called to order by President Theresa A. Kluchinski. Rev. Philip A. Altavilla, V.E., spiritual advisor, offered the opening prayer. Mary Ann Ewasko, chair of trustees, led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. The assembly sang the United States National Anthem and the Slovak National Anthem, and the Lithuanian National Anthem was played.

President Kluchinski extended a warm welcome to all present. A roll call of delegates taken by Secretary-Treasurer Mary Jo Savidge showed there were 85 delegates present. The Secretary-Treasurer also accepted new insurance applications from the delegates and read the procedures of the convention.

President Kluchinski introduced the respective convention committees. Preliminary committee reports were presented by Dolores M. Evanko, Credential Committee chairperson, and Joan T. Hladek, Nominating Committee chairperson.

The Minutes of the 38th National Convention were approved, as corrected, and all officers' reports were accepted.

Father Altavilla offered a closing prayer, after which this session adjourned at 10:30 a.m. to allow for committee meetings, lunch, a liturgy at 3:00 p.m., and the banquet at 6:00 p.m.

## **Second Session – Wednesday, July 23 at 9:00 a.m.**

A Liturgy preceded the session at 7:00 a.m.

President Kluchinski called this session to order at 9:00 a.m., followed by a prayer by Father Altavilla. Robert S. Kopec, CPA, of Kingston, Pennsylvania, certified public accountant for the LPSCU, presented a thorough financial report of our organization. Sam Urda of CPS Actuaries of Stamford, Connecticut, our actuarial firm, presented a detailed report and commended the operations of the LPSCU. He proudly reported that the society's solvency ratio (the ratio

of assets to liabilities) is 151%. Ellen Q. Bush and Karen B. Natishen, senior investment manager consultants of Smith Barney in Scranton, Pennsylvania, presented a detailed



**Chairperson Joan Hladek presents the Nominating Committee's report.**

portfolio review and explanation of investments and income as of June 30, 2008.

Credential Committee Chairperson Dolores M. Evanko reported that 85 delegates were present.

Chairperson Margaret A. Ferri presented the Salary Committee report. After a detailed explanation of the current salaries, percentage of proposed increases, and justifications for increases, the recommendation of officers' salaries as reported were accepted. (The Salary Committee's report will appear in the Convention Minutes to be published at a later date.)

Chairperson Joan T. Hladek presented the Nominating Committee report.

Cecilia B. Gaughan, chair of the Greetings Committee, introduced the following fraternal guests who extended personal greetings: Spiritual Advisor Msgr. Peter Polando, President Mary Ann Johaneck, and Secretary Irene Drotleff of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association; Spiritual Advisor Rev. Andrew Hvozdovic, Supreme President Larry Glugosh, and Supreme Secretary Steve Pogorelec of the Slovak Catholic Sokol; Spiritual Advisor Rev. Thomas A. Nasta and Secretary Kenneth Arendt of the First Catholic Slovak Union; President David Blazek and Secretary-Treasurer Linda Strom of the National Slovak Society; and Secretary Nina Holy of the Slovak League of America. Also extending greetings was Most Rev. Joseph V. Adamec, Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown, Pennsylvania, the Episcopal Protector of the LPSCU.

President Kluchinski expressed thanks to our fraternal greeters and to Bishop Adamec.

Father Altavilla offered a prayer, after which the session adjourned until 1:30 p.m.

## **Third Session – Wednesday, July 23 at 1:30 p.m.**

President Kluchinski called the session to order and Father Altavilla offered a prayer.

Chairperson Anita Gregory presented the Balloting Committee report. Officers elected were – Spiritual Advisor: Rev. Philip A. Altavilla; President: Theresa A. Kluchinski; Vice President: Anita Gregory; Chairperson of Trustees: Mary Ann Ewasko; Trustees: Dolores M. Evanko, Joan T. Hladek, Margaret Jollimore, and Elizabeth Melko; Fraternal Activities Director: Cecilia B. Gaughan; Public Relations Director: Margaret A. Ferri; Court of Appeals President: Deborah Adamchak; Court Secretary: Janice Mathews; Court Members: Mary Ann Kaylor, Patricia Stearney, and Barbara Kalish.

Rev. Philip A. Altavilla, chair of the Bylaws Committee, read

*continued on page 14*



**Mary Kish (left) of Hazleton Branch 124 is signed in by members of the Credentials and Registration Committee.**



# Highlights of the C



Officers with representatives of the FCSLA who greeted the convention.



Msgr. Beeda chairs the Resolutions Committee.



Greetings Committee members.



Fr. Altavilla offers an opening prayer.



President Kluchinski addresses the delegates.



Marge Ferri gives the Salary Committee report.



Members of the Nominating Committee.



The Recommendations Committee meets.



Officers with Slovak Catholic Sokol representatives.



Chuck Simalchik the Donations Co report.



Members of the Donations Committee.



Dolores Evanko reports on the new "Keep on Rolling" campaign.



Officers with FCSU representatives.



# Convention Sessions



Bishop Adamec offers a closing prayer after Thursday's session.



Mary Ann Ewasko chaired the Recommendations Committee.



Poster illustrates the "Roll the Dice" campaign results.



Members of the Balloting Committee.



Members of the Salary Committee.



presents committee



The Resolutions Committee meets.



CPA Robert Kopec reviews the financial report.



Actuary Sam Urda reports to the delegates.



Nina Holy (in white) extended greetings from the Slovak League.



Officers with National Slovak Society representatives.

# Convention Summary

continued from page 11



**Fr. Altavilla presents proposed amendments to the Bylaws.**

proposed Bylaws amendments and the reason for each change. Proposed Bylaws amendments were passed and will appear in the Convention Minutes to be published at a later date.

Bishop Adamec offered the closing prayer, after which the session adjourned.

## **Fourth Session – Thursday, July 24 at 9:00 a.m.**

A Liturgy preceded this session at 7:00 a.m.

President Kluchinski called the session to order at 9:00 a.m., and Father Altavilla offered a prayer.

Chairperson Charles Simalchick presented the Donations Committee report. The report was accepted and will appear as part of the Convention Minutes to be published at a later date.

Chairperson Anita Gregory presented the Balloting Committee's final report.

Chairperson Msgr. Francis J. Beeda presented the Resolutions Committee report, which was accepted and will appear in the Convention Minutes to be published at a later date.

Mary Ann Ewasko, chair of the Recommendations Committee, reported that no recommendations had been received.

Campaign Chairperson Dolores M. Evanko introduced the new campaign titled "Keep On Rolling" to coincide with the 110th Anniversary of the LPSCU celebrated in the year 2008. (Details of the campaign appeared in the September/October *Zornicka* on page 5.)

The lucky winner of the \$300 drawing from insurance referrals resulting in approved policies was Patricia A. Kienzle of Malvern, Pennsylvania, a member of Bethlehem Branch 83.

Attorney Joseph VanJura, attorney for the LPSCU, also addressed the convention. He was pleased to note that the convention was very well organized and made favorable comments about the manner in which the sessions were conducted. He concluded that our convention was highly successful.



**LPSCU attorney Joseph Van Jura addresses the convention.**

A motion was made and passed that a committee of the Board of Directors be authorized to read and correct the Minutes of the 39th National Convention.

After a closing prayer by Father Altavilla, the session adjourned at 12:00 p.m. and the convention closed. Msgr. Francis J. Beeda, honorary spiritual advisor, then installed the elected officers who will serve from

September 26, 2008, until two months following the 2012 National Convention.

## Illinois and Indiana Branches to Hold LPSCU 110th Anniversary Celebration

In recognition of the 100th Anniversary of the LPSCU, Branch 28 of Joliet, Illinois, Branch 109 of Hammond, Indiana, Branches 158 and 194 of Chicago, Illinois, and Branch 198 of Whiting, Indiana, will hold a joint celebration on December 13, 2008, at 4:30 p.m. at the Glenwood Oaks Restaurant, 106 N. Main Street, Glenwood, Illinois. We extend an invitation to the LPSCU National Officers and all area LPSCU members to attend this special event.

Reservations are required. Branch 28 members should contact Joan Hladek at 815/895-0431; Branch 109, 158, 194, and 198 members should contact Ann Dobias at 219/865-1925. We look forward to seeing you there!

## North Braddock Branch 52 Plans Anniversary Celebration

In conjunction with the 110th Anniversary of the LPSCU, Branch 52 of North Braddock, Pennsylvania, will hold a Family Christmas Party on Sunday, December 7, 2008, at Grandview Golf Club in North Braddock from 12:00 noon until 3:00 p.m. A buffet luncheon will be served. There will be gifts for children and favors for all. For reservations, please contact Jim Tomasic, Branch 52 Secretary, at 412/824-0390 **by November 17, 2008.**

### Dear LPSCU Members ~

May your Thanksgiving Day be blessed with every joy, your heart filled with cheer, and your home abound with the happiness of having loved ones near.

We wish you  
a Happy and  
Blessed  
Thanksgiving!

The Board of Directors





# Illiana Okres to Host LPSCU Anniversary Celebration

In conjunction with the 110th Anniversary of the LPSCU, the Illiana Okres will hold a celebration on December 13, 2008, at 4:30 p.m., at the Glenwood Oaks Restaurant, 106 N. Main Street, Glenwood, Illinois.

We extend an invitation to all LPSCU members and LPSCU National Officers to attend this festivity. Reservations are required. Please call Joan Hladek at 815/895-0431 or Ann Dobias at 219/865-1925.

## Christmas Eve Supper in Lithuania

In Lithuania, preparation for Christmas Eve takes all day. The family busily cleans the house and prepares the foods that will be served at the evening's special supper, called *kucios*. People fast all day and abstain from eating meat on Christmas Eve.

In preparation for the Christmas Eve celebration, the house must be thoroughly cleaned, all the bed linen must be changed, and all the members of the family must bathe and put on clean clothes before the evening meal. The dining table is carefully prepared. A handful of fine hay is evenly spread on the table as a reminder that Jesus was born in a stable. The table is then covered with a white cloth. Candles and fir boughs may adorn the table but live flowers such as poinsettias are considered inappropriate. A small plate with Christmas wafers is placed in the center of the table, one wafer for each person present.

All the members of the family make an effort to come home for the Christmas Eve supper. It is not just the meal, but also the sacred family ritual that draws Lithuanians home. If a family member has died during the year or cannot attend the Christmas Eve supper, an empty place is left at the table.

Long ago, the principal dish served was *kucia*, a mixture of various cooked grains, wheat, barley, oat, peas, and beans. It used to be eaten with honey diluted in warm boiled water. The word *kucia* means porridge of dried grain. Twelve different dishes are served on the table because Jesus had twelve apostles. These may include fish, mushrooms, boiled or baked potatoes, cranberry pudding, sauerkraut, and bread. All of the dishes are strictly meatless.

Everyone gathers at the table when the first star appears in the sky. After a prayer by the head of the family, the wafers are shared and greetings are exchanged, beginning with the father and mother. Then the food is eaten. It is essential to at least taste a bit of every offering as it is said that whoever skips a *kucios* dish will not survive until the next Christmas Eve.

*Our thanks to George Norvilas  
for contributing this article.*

## Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union 2nd Quarter Report

Assets	2nd Quarter 2008	2nd Quarter 2007
Investments .....	\$ 13,434,995.00	\$ 14,337,378.00
Certificate of Deposit .....	\$ 1,343,000.00	\$ 1,360,899.92
Cash on Deposit .....	\$ 847,666.00	\$ 323,165.08
Mortgage Loans .....	\$ 25,188.00	\$ 37,970.00
Real Estate Owned .....	\$ 135,518.00	\$ 122,487.00
Other Assets .....	\$ 68,626.00	\$ 55,554.00
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>\$ 15,854,993.00</b>	<b>\$ 16,237,454.00</b>
<b>Liabilities &amp; Fund Balance</b>	<b>2nd Quarter 2008</b>	<b>2nd Quarter 2007</b>
Fund Balance .....	\$ 5,356,796.00	\$ 5,667,403.00
Interest Maintenance Reserve .....	\$ 333,066.00	\$ 393,142.00
Amt. Retained as Trustee .....	\$ 49,372.00	\$ 52,823.00
Aggregate Reserve-Life Certificates .....	\$ 9,645,665.00	\$ 9,459,251.00
Other Liabilities .....	\$ 470,094.00	\$ 664,835.00
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>\$ 15,854,993.00</b>	<b>\$ 16,237,454.00</b>
<b>Revenues</b>	<b>2nd Quarter 2008</b>	<b>2nd Quarter 2007</b>
Premium Income .....	\$ 97,794.00	\$ 110,986.00
Investment Income .....	\$ 336,372.00	\$ 387,019.00
Income - Other .....	\$ 35,904.00	\$ -
Profit/Loss - Sale of Bonds/Stocks .....	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>\$ 470,070.00</b>	<b>\$ 498,005.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>2nd Quarter 2008</b>	<b>2nd Quarter 2007</b>
Death Claims .....	\$ 196,957.00	\$ 111,242.00
Endowments .....	\$ 30,375.00	\$ 26,227.00
Cash Surrenders .....	\$ 29,711.00	\$ 21,141.00
Dividends .....	\$ 27,612.00	\$ 27,926.00
Increase in aggregate reserves .....	\$ 7,000.00	\$ -
Commissions (new and renewals) .....	\$ 26,369.00	\$ 27,757.00
General Operating Expenses .....	\$ 147,534.87	\$ 196,338.64
Officers and Committee Expenses .....	\$ 6,864.55	\$ 10,559.70
Actuarial/Accounting Expense .....	\$ 49,465.00	\$ 31,300.00
Investment Mgt. Fee .....	\$ 12,622.13	\$ 17,649.37
Official Publications .....	\$ 27,958.65	\$ 45,231.45
Travel Expense .....	\$ 5,976.86	\$ 5,555.16
Bureau and Association Dues .....	\$ 1,275.00	\$ 1,141.19
Donations .....	\$ 4,005.00	\$ 4,626.72
Scholarships .....	\$ (2,040.00)	\$ (1,060.00)
Fraternal Activities .....	\$ 6,024.94	\$ 10,692.77
Insurance Taxes, Licenses & Fees .....	\$ 15,656.00	\$ 14,771.00
<b>Sub Total .....</b>	<b>\$ 593,367.00</b>	<b>\$ 551,099.00</b>
Net Gain/Loss From Operations .....	\$ (123,297.00)	\$ (53,094.00)
Net Realized Capital Gain (Loss) .....	\$ (76,755.00)	\$ 6,458.00
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$ (200,052.00)</b>	<b>\$ (46,609.00)</b>

# Honoring

# Those Who Serve



**On this Veterans Day 2008, as we pause to remember and thank the men and women who have served – and who continue to serve and protect – our country in the military, we are so proud to honor them through the generosity of many of our members with a gift to the Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America. Thank you to all who participated in this tribute.**

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 Gluc, Jr.** Thank you! ~ Theresa

**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 loving memory of my uncle, **Pfc. Adam Holencik**, who served in the Army during WWI. Uncle Adam, you were a war hero, fighting in five major battles and receiving five Bronze medals. I am so proud of you and proud to be part of your family. ~ Your niece, Cecilia Gaughan

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, Ceily

In loving memory of **Seaman 1st Class Adam Holencik** who died aboard the *USS Hallegan* when the ship exploded after hitting a mine. Adam, you are always remembered lovingly. ~ Your cousin, Cecilia Gaughan

In loving memory of **Joseph Holencik**, who died in a North Korean prison camp. May you rest in peace, Joey. I am so proud to be part of this heroic family. ~ Your cousin, Ceily

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, WWI); *Served and/or Retired*: dad, **John A. Kurtz** (U.S. Army 10th Mountain Division, WWII), uncle, **James 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 the Middle East*: nephew, **John M. Kurtz** (U.S. Army), nephew, **James Kurtz** (U.S. Army) ~ With pride and love, The Kurtz Family

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

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

In honor of our dad, **Sgt. John A. Kurtz**, who served his country during WWII. ~ From your proud sons, Joe, Jack and Rich

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 pop-pop, **Thomas F. Gaughan**, who served in Pusan, Korea, during the Korean War. We are proud of our tank driver, 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

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 Navy. You are missed so very deeply by your sister, Ceily.

In loving memory of our brother-in-law, and uncle, **Corporal Joseph E. Schulter**, who served in the Aleutian Islands during WWII. We will never forget you. ~ The Gaughan Family

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 Ferri.

In loving memory of **Aviation Machinist 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 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 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! ~ Mary Ann 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** (U.S. Army, Retd., 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, **LTC 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

In honor of **Master Sgt. William Macek, Jr.**, U.S. Air Force, who has completed over 20 years of service with the Air Force and who is now serving his country in Iraq. We love and miss you very much. ~ Your mother, Anna Bonick, brothers, wife and children

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

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 sorely 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

God bless **all our veterans**. ~ Joan Hladek, National Trustee

In honor and memory of our parents, the late **Romanza Fairman Krajsa** ("The Chief") and **Joseph C. Krajsa**, who met while both serving in the U.S. Navy during World War II. ~ With love from your sons and family

In honor of our dad, **Fireman 3rd class Peter Papst**, who served in WWII. ~ Petra, June and Beth

In honor of my brother, **Richard J. Bogdan**, who served in the U.S. Navy in World War II. ~ Dolly Papst

**In tribute to all veterans** – Thank you for our freedom. God bless you. ~ Susan Lazur

In memory of **Andrew Kapolka**, U.S. Army. ~ Dorothy Kapolka

In loving memory of my husband, **John Zilavry**, who served in the U.S. Navy. ~ Love, Mike

In memory of **John J. Joschak**, who served in the U.S. Army. ~ From Margaret and Family

In honor of our father, **Ed Lutheran**, who served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. ~ Love, Eddie, Patti, and David

In memory of my husband, **Karl Lazur**, a medic during World War II, injured three times on the front lines. ~ Dorothy Lazur

In memory of my son, **John Zilavry**, who served in the U.S. Air Force. ~ Love, Mom

In loving memory of my dad, **Albert Durica, Sr.**, who served as a proud U.S. Marine during World War II. ~ From your loving daughter, Janice Mathews

In memory of our local hero, **Dave Wiggarr**, who made the ultimate sacrifice this spring in Iraq. You are missed. ~ The Mathews Family

In honor of **Patrick Kerr, Jr.**, who served in Afghanistan and thankfully returned home. ~ Elizabeth Melko

I am praying for the safe return of **all of our troops** serving in Afghanistan and Iraq. ~ Anna Melko

In honor of my brother, **Albert Durica, Jr.**, who served with the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. ~ Jan Mathews

In loving memory of **James E. Sakal, Sr.**, a veteran of the Korean War. ~ Dolores Sakal

In memory of **Michael Mancuso**, who served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. ~ Catherine Mancuso

For the safety of **all our troops** everywhere. ~ Elizabeth Melko

Honoring and thanking **all the men and women in uniform** for your dedicated and unselfish service to our country. Be safe. ~ Nancy C. Knoche

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

In memory of my dear brother, **George Legenza**, who served in the U.S. Marine Corps. May you rest in peace, dear brother. ~ From your sister, 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



# Honoring THOSE WHO SERVE

continued from page 17

In loving 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 **our dads** and all those who served so bravely and proudly. ~ Barbara Kalish

In memory of my dad, **Michael F. Guza**, who served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. ~ Sadly missed by daughter Anita and Family

In honor of our brother, **Vincent J. Guza**, who served in the U.S. Air Force. ~ With pride from your sister Anita and Family, and brother Jack

In honor of our dad, **John H. Gregory**, who served his country in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. ~ With love and pride from your sons, Chris and Jonathan

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 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 loving memory of my father, **Sgt. James R. Ford**, who proudly served in the United States Air Force 1954-1975. ~ Marie S. Ford-Clemens

In loving memory of my husband, **T/Sgt. James R. Ford**, who served his country 1954-1975 and was a Vietnam veteran. Love you! ~ Your wife, Mary

In honor of **all veterans** who have served this country both past and present. Our heartfelt thanks and prayers. God bless you! ~ From Branch 19, Swoyersville, Pennsylvania

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 proud daughters, Deborah, Laura, Cecilia, Theresa and Colette

In memory of my son and our brother, **Edward Pecukonis**, who served 16 years in U.S. Army Nurses Corps in Korea, Vietnam, and Japan. ~ Pauline Pecukonis (mother), Paulette (sister), and Paul and David (brothers)

In memory of **Corporal Thomas C. Zak**, Medic, U.S. Army, European Theater, World War II. You will always be our hero. We love you and miss you. ~ Chris, Ann and Michael Zak (grandchildren and great-grandchildren)

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

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

## Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius Begin Centennial Year

A Eucharistic Liturgy to open the 100th Anniversary Year of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius was held Sunday, September 14, 2008, at the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville, Pennsylvania. Most Reverend Joseph V. Adamec, D.D., S.T.L., Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown, Pennsylvania, and Episcopal Protector of the LPSCU, was the principal celebrant. He was joined by 22 other members of the clergy including LPSCU Spiritual Advisor, Reverend Philip A. Altavilla, V.E., and four deacons.

Reverend Altavilla, who was the homilist for the liturgy, presented an inspirational and beautiful homily which also reflected on some personal memories of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius from his childhood.

Sisters in the Entrance Processional included former general superiors, members of the current leadership team, the most senior member of the Congregation, and representatives of the Centennial Planning Committee.

Sister Linda Maria Bolinski, SS.C.M., current general superior, welcomed all to the opening liturgy, reflecting that "family, friends, SS.C.M. associates, sisters of other congregations, priests, bishops, members of Slovak organizations, parishioners, and students have walked some part of the one hundred years" with them.

A reception in the Motherhouse dining room followed.

Representing the LPSCU were National President Theresa Kluchinski and Vice President Anita Gregory.

## New Insurance Issued

State	Branch Representative	Aug./Sept. 2008	Year-to-Date Total
PA	Theresa Kluchinski	\$ 85,000.00	\$ 133,000.00
PA	Dolores Evanko	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 110,000.00
PA	Mary Ann Ewasko	\$ 23,000.00	\$ 43,000.00
PA	Janice Mathews	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 38,000.00
PA	Joan Ellen Frendak		\$ 33,000.00
PA	Cecilia B. Gaughan		\$ 32,000.00
PA	Agnes Janinek		\$ 30,000.00
PA	James Tomasic	\$ 29,000.00	\$ 29,000.00
IN	Joan Hladek	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
PA	Home Office	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 18,000.00
PA	Dorothy Lichman		\$ 20,000.00
PA	Margaret A. Ferri	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
PA	Elva Silay	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
PA	Cecilia Sarocky	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
PA	Deborah Adamchak	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 17,000.00
PA	Charles Simalchik		\$ 10,000.00
PA	Verna Prawdzik		\$ 10,000.00
PA	Margaret Jollimore	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
PA	Eleanore Papst	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
PA	David Palcsey	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
PA	Mary Agnes Stromberg		\$ 4,000.00
PA	Theresa Olszemski		\$ 2,000.00
PA	Barbara Janicko		\$ 2,000.00
PA	Marion DiCalogero		\$ 1,000.00
		\$ 259,000.00	\$ 647,000.00



# LPSCU 2009 Educational Benefits



## College Scholarship — \$500 One-Time Award

- Member of LPSCU for two (2) years with \$2,000 legal reserve life insurance plan.
- Must be high school senior, college freshman, sophomore, or junior to apply.
- High school senior must provide a letter of recommendation from a school representative (ex: teacher, guidance counselor, or principal).
- Submit official transcript from high school that includes test scores; college students must submit documentation indicating latest overall GPA.
- Provide detailed list of extracurricular activities, honors and awards.
- Provide detailed list of church, community, volunteer, and work activities including honors and awards, with reference(s) included.
- Attend an accredited college/university on a full time basis for the 2009-2010 academic year.
- Submit proof of acceptance/attendance for fall semester.
- Submit a brief essay (no more than 200 words) on the topic "Why is life insurance important?"
- Provide a wallet-size color photo.
- Application must be postmarked by **February 28, 2009**.

## Anne (Shinal) Cichy Memorial Award — \$500 (Maximum of \$1,000 per member)

- Must have a life certificate with LPSCU.
- Attend an accredited college/university in the fall of this year on a full time basis in the healthcare field.
- Provide proof of acceptance/attendance.
- Provide a wallet-size photo.
- Application must be postmarked by **March 25th**.

## Catholic High School Award — \$150 One-Time Award

- Member of LPSCU for two (2) years with \$2,000 legal reserve life insurance plan.
- Must be Catholic high school freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior.
- Provide a wallet-size color photo.
- Application must be postmarked by **June 30, 2009**.

## Bishop Grutka Award — \$1,000 (Maximum of \$2,000 per member)

- Member of LPSCU for two (2) years with \$5,000 legal reserve life insurance plan.
- Must be a lay person between 18-35 years of age.
- Must be of the Catholic religion (Latin Rite or Byzantine).
- Must be initiated fully into the Church (Baptized, Eucharist, and Confirmed) and continuing to be eligible to receive the sacraments of the Church.
- Must be a member of a Catholic parish.
- Must be active in parish/diocesan/campus ministry as Lector, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Adult Altar Server, Catechist/Aide, member of parish RCIA/C Team, Youth Minister, Parish Pastoral Council, Finance Council and/or other parish committees of organization.
- Active in organization or activity that promotes awareness of our Slovak heritage, culture, and traditions.
- Endorsed by your pastor and LPSCU branch secretary with additional endorsement provided by campus minister, youth minister, or pastoral associate.
- Attend or will attend an accredited college/university as a full time student.
- Provide a notice of acceptance or tuition receipt for the coming scholastic year.
- Provide a wallet-size color photo.
- Application must be postmarked by **June 30, 2009**.

## St. Theresa of the Little Flower, Blessed André, St. John Vianney — \$300 Annually

- Member of LPSCU for two (2) years with \$2,000 legal reserve life insurance plan.
- Must re-apply each year while attending/completing studies for Religious Life.
- Provide a wallet-size color photo.
- Application must be postmarked by **August 31, 2009**.

## Post-Graduate Award — \$300 One-Time Award

- Member of LPSCU for five (5) years with \$2,000 legal reserve life insurance plan.
- Degree must be awarded between July 1, 2008 and August 30, 2009.
- Provide photocopy of diploma received.
- Provide a wallet-size color photo.
- Application must be postmarked by **August 31, 2009**.

Applicants must meet all criteria and provide data indicated to be eligible. Incomplete applications or those missing data requirements will not be considered. All materials become the property of the LPSCU and will not be returned. Applications can be obtained by contacting the Home Office:

Phone — 570-823-3513 • Toll free — 888-834-6614  
Fax — 570-823-4464 • E-mail — [lpscu@lpscu.org](mailto:lpscu@lpscu.org)  
Website — [www.lpscu.org](http://www.lpscu.org)

Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union  
Educational Benefit Committee  
P.O. Box 32, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703



# PET

## Photo Contest Entrants



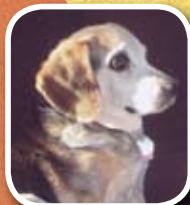
Our first-ever Pet Photo Contest was a huge summer's LPSCU Convention and the delegates one who participated in this fraternal activity. In addition to our winners – Wendell, Bubba, and Winnie, who were featured in last month's Zornicka – we thought our readers would enjoy seeing the other entrants.

success! All entries were displayed at this selected the winners. Thanks to every-



**BLIZZARD**

is owned by Jean Fetcho of Branch 8. He is a 10-year-old Cocker Spaniel-Spitz mix that Jean has had since birth. Blizzard is a faithful friend and very gentle with children. He likes to wait for the mailman. He cries on command and catches balls that are thrown in the air.



**GORASDZ & CLYDE**

Gorasdz, a twelve-year-old Beagle, loves to take morning naps with Clyde, a five-year-old rescue Springer Spaniel. They are the best buddies of Mike Krajsa.



**CHLOE & BAILEY**

a calico and an orange and gray tabby, belong to Nancy Knoche of Branch 130. The sisters, who are 14 years old, were strays adopted at 8 weeks old.



**SADIE**

is a Chow-Retriever-Lab mix who is 8 years old and belongs to Frances Kachmar of Branch 180. A very good watchdog, Sadie brings her bowl when it is empty. She also washes Frances's cat.



**MAGGIE**

(in her Halloween bumblebee costume) is an 8-year-old Terrier mix who loves to hunt for salamanders and lay in the sun. She keeps her "brother" Siris company.



**SIRIS**

is a five-year-old Labrador/Chow mix who loves to walk and swim in the creek. He is a great protector of the family. Maggie and Siris are owned by Bridget and Colleen Gaughan of Branch 38.



**CRYSTAL**

is a beautiful 12-year-old cat who joined the family of Mary Ford (Branch 83/130) when she was five weeks old. Although born deaf, Crystal does not realize she is different. She is as curious and precocious as any other feline.



**SAMUEL**

is a five-year-old who belongs to Veronica Martonik of Branch 1. Veronica says Samuel is cute and he is her friend. He loves to take walks. Veronica has had him since he was a puppy.



**GUS**

is a bunny who belongs to Bridget and Colleen Gaughan of Branch 38. The girls said he won't stand still for a photo so this is the best they could do. Gus is about two years old. He loves to hop and play with wooden toys.



**BOOTSIE**

is a five-year-old gray tabby belonging to Anne Altavilla of Branch 122. Bootsie was abandoned in a carrier at the door of Father Altavilla's rectory. She was about to have kittens and Father took care of the litter of four until they were adopted. Bootsie now lives with Fr. Phil's mom, who loves having her as a companion.





### MAGIC

is a seven-year-old Maltese belonging to Mary Ellen Berry of Branch 214. Magic prances and walks with his head up like a prince. Mary Ellen says he is "our angel."



### EDELWEIS & PEUTER

are seven-year-old sisters who belong to Sylvia Goda of Branch 42. Sylvia says they are her "masseuses and therapists." Blue-and-yellow-eyed Edelweiss is selectively deaf – meaning, says Sylvia, "she hears you when she feels like it."



### MAUI, KIELE & KOA

are the charming pets of Mike and Loraine Silay of Branch 64. They enjoy playing and spending time together and keep a good watch for their Mommy while waiting for their Daddy to come home from work.



### BOUNCE

is a one-year-old Cavalier King Charles Spaniel who belongs to Jeff Barto of Branch 132. Bounce loves to chase bubbles. The picture shows him caught between bubbles and his owner caught his ears flinging in the air.



### IZZY, BORIS & SASHA

Izzy is a short-haired tabby who weighed only .8 lbs. when rescued by Adelle Weiss of Branch 6. Izzy likes to watch over her two cockatiel siblings, Boris and Sasha.



### MILO

belongs to LPSCU President Theresa Kluchinski. This precious kitten was intended for Theresa's daughter but it didn't take long for Milo to worm his way right into Theresa's heart!



### KEZIA

is a six-year-old blue and tan female Yorkie. She also belongs to Adelle Weiss of Branch 6. Kezia loves to snuggle in a big pile of warm towels.



### CHIP

the hamster belongs to 11-year-old Elizabeth Donahoe of Branch 42. Elizabeth says Chip likes it when she reads to him "because it makes him smart!"



### GRETCHEN ROSE

is a very loveable dog who is "always into something," according to her owner, Barbara Deaton of Branch 1. Barbara says Gretchen keeps her on the go.



### JAKE

is a Rhodesian Ridgeback who has lived with Erin and Matt Joseph of Branch 38 since he was a four-month-old puppy. He is a sweetheart who is very protective of his family and always on alert. He loves to run and play hard, especially with his best buddy, Cooper (Roach).



### COOPER

belongs to Maryann and Danny Roach of Branch 38, who adopted him at 11 weeks old. He is a big sweetheart and loves to give kisses and go for walks. He greets every person he meets like a long-lost friend. Cooper loves to swim. He is constantly smiling and loves to play with his best friend, Jake (Joseph).



### MAKAI

belongs to Victoria and Jenna Kienzle of Branch 130. Tori says Makai is her best friend. He loves company, especially children; he is a very calm dog, very clean, and never bites. Jenna says Makai is nice to cuddle with and loves to give kisses. The girls have had him for 2½ years.



### TUNDE

(pronounced Tune-dee) is a Hungarian sheep dog breed known as a Puli. Owner Marian Krumhanzl of Branch 77 has had him since he was an 11-week-old puppy. Now 11, he still loves to play in her flower beds. His name means "fairy" in Hungarian. Tunde responds to words in Slovak, English and sometimes Hungarian.





## Dear Junior Members,

Summer days have passed and now we are approaching winter. The temperatures are very cold compared to the warm days and nights we had just a few months ago.

Everything seems so full of life in the summertime. Animals and birds are everywhere. But even though you don't see them, creatures are still very much alive in the dead of the winter. Those who cannot fly south for the warmth are here, hidden all around us, tucked away under Mother Nature's coverings. You may think these animals are dead because they appear to be, but they are only in a deep sleep from which they will awaken when they feel the warmth of spring.

This special deep sleep is called hibernation. When an animal hibernates, its body temperature drops and its heartbeat and breathing slow down. Animals prepare for hibernation in the late summer and fall by eating extra food which their bodies store as fat. This body fat supplies them with nutrients while they are hibernating.

During the fall, a raccoon will fatten up on acorns, nuts and berries. By the end of its hibernation in the spring, the raccoon will have lost nearly half its weight. Raccoons hibernate in groups so they can share body warmth.

The raccoon's hibernation is called "torpor." When an animal is in torpor, its body slows down. Its heartbeat and temperature lower. It's in a groggy state and doesn't seem to hear or realize what's going on around it. Torpor is not as deep a sleep as true hibernation, and so animals in torpor may wake up from time to time during the winter and may even go out to seek food. After they eat, they go back to their dens and go to sleep. Bears, badgers, skunks, chipmunks, and ground squirrels also experience torpor.

Other species have different ways of surviving the winter. Take, for instance, mourning cloak butterflies. They hide under the leaves or in the hollow of the tree. They are the very first butterflies that we see in the spring. The young survive the winter as pupae inside a covering called a chrysalis. In the spring, they develop into butterflies and break free of their chrysalises.

Water makes a good shelter for many animals. When the weather gets cold, the frogs, turtles, and many fish hide under rocks, logs, or fallen leaves. They become dormant. You will find them in colder ponds because cold water contains more oxygen than warm water.

A kind of catfish called a bullhead usually stops feeding in the autumn and wiggles itself down into the mud at the bottom of a river or pond. Even if the water is frozen, most bullheads are able to survive and become active when spring arrives.

Frogs also burrow into the soft muddy bottom of a pond or river. What little oxygen they need passes through their skin from the water. During the winter they freeze, but thaw out and wake up in the spring.

The garter snake seeks the shelter of an animal burrow or a rocky crevice. As the weather grows colder, dozens or even



hundreds of snakes may gather into one den. Although they are cold-blooded reptiles, they will gather together like ball of twine, conserving the heat they need to survive.

Insects seek winter shelter in holes in the ground or under the bark of trees. Insects look for a swelling on a plant called a "gall." This is formed by certain insects, fungi, or bacteria that produce a chemical that affects the plant's growth, causing a lump to form. The gall becomes the insect's home and also serves as a food source over the winter months.

Ladybugs gather together in great numbers in sheltered places. People collect them on the West Coast to sell to gardeners, since the beetles eat some insect pests. But ladybugs almost always fly for several miles after they "wake up" in the spring, so they don't stay very long in a garden where they have been released.

Ants cluster together, sometimes more than a meter underground, in tunnels they have dug. They also spend the winter in stumps or decaying logs.

Bumblebees all die in the fall. Each young queen bee finds a sheltered place in the ground or in a tree hollow where she spends the winter. A bumblebee you see visiting early spring flowers is a young queen bee and she is gathering pollen and nectar from the flowers for food. She then lays eggs that will develop into worker bees, and this forms the beginning of a new colony.

Animals know when to hibernate because they have something in their blood called HIT (Hibernation Inducement Trigger). Scientists are studying this mystery to uncover more about what makes creatures hibernate, but shorter days and a scarcer food supply seem to be contributing factors.

**Cecilia B. Gaughan**, Fraternal Activities Director

## Arts and Crafts

### TIN CAN ORNAMENTS

Make these easy ornaments to brighten up your tree! You will need tuna or sardine cans. Wash them thoroughly and when the cans are dry, paint them inside and out. To make them even prettier, sprinkle glitter inside and out while the paint is still slightly wet.

Next, create a pretty Christmas scene and put it inside the can. You can cut scenes from last year's Christmas cards or holiday magazines. Sleighs, Christmas trees, and manger scenes look pretty. Use your imagination when decorating. You can even glue little Christmas figures (snowman, Santa, etc.) inside – get these from your local crafts store.

Paste yarn on the outside top of the can to make a hanging loop or ask Dad to drill a small hole that you can thread a loop of yarn through.

These cute ornaments make great gifts. Personalize them with a name or the year to create a special memento.



# As Thanksgiving Day 2008 Approaches...

It may be a good time for all of us to reflect on how this uniquely American holiday came about. We all know that the 1621 settlers of Plymouth Colony are credited with beginning this traditional fall celebration. Although similar observances were held throughout the Colonies, the first recorded celebration to be held by proclamation was in Charleston, Massachusetts, on June 29, 1671.

The religious overtones of this holiday go back to its

## Kids in the Kitchen

Around the time the Pilgrims settled here, Quadequina, the brother of the Wampanoa chief, paid them a visit. With him he brought a sack full of “parched” corn. Today we call this “popcorn.” The early Pilgrims were charmed and fascinated by the popped kernels.



By the time the Europeans settled in the New World, more than 700 types of popping were being grown. Colonial housewives served the popcorn with sugar and

cream for breakfast; this was the first “puffed” cereal. It was also worn as jewelry and as ornaments in the hair.

The folklore of certain tribes told of spirits who lived inside each kernel of corn. These spirits were quiet unless you heated their homes. Then they became angry and would burst out of their protective coverings.

This tale is a good illustration of what really happens when the corn is heated. Each kernel contains a drop of water stored inside its starchy filling. When the kernel heats up and expands, pressure builds against the starch. The kernel explodes, inflating and bursting the starch while releasing the steam that accumulates inside the hard surface.

### OLD-FASHIONED POPCORN

Most of us are familiar with today’s method of popping corn by putting a bag of it in the microwave. But a very old fashioned and delicious way to pop corn is on the stovetop. With a grown-up’s help, heat an empty three quart saucepan for three minutes. Add one-quarter cup of vegetable oil and reduce to medium heat. To test, put two kernels of corn into the pot. When they pop, add another quarter cup of kernels and reduce heat to medium-low. Cover the pan, leaving a small crack for steam to escape. Gently shake the pan until all popping stops; about two to four minutes. Remove from heat and salt and butter as desired. Yields about 8 cups.



CLIP AND SAVE

very beginnings and are no more evident than in the Proclamation for a national holiday signed by George Washington on October 3, 1789. Here are some excerpts from that document:

“WHEREAS it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favour; and whereas both Houses of Congress have, by their joint committee, requested me “to recommend the people of the United States a Day of PUBLIC THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness.

“Now therefore, I do recommend and assign, THURSDAY, the TWENTY SIXTH DAY of November to be devoted by the people of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being who is the beneficent author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be: that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of this country previous to their becoming a nation...for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed...and in general, for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us...

“GIVEN under my hand, at the city of New-York, the third day of October, the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine.” — **George Washington**



## Slovak Christmas

Slovaks around the world celebrate Christmas in their own special way, depending on the region or village they come from. The Christian celebration of Christmas is linked with the pagan feast marking the winter solstice. Ancient Slovak forefathers ascribed magical powers to this special time of the year. They believed that the rites would serve to protect the crops and cattle from harmful demons, ensure a good harvest, and above all, bring happiness in love and in family life in the coming year.

All this changed with the rise of Christianity which subordinated the pagan feast of the solstice and instead brought the feast of Christ to the church calendar on Christmas day, December 25th. Of course, these old traditions and beliefs didn’t disappear entirely and today many of our Christian traditions are entwined with beliefs and practices that were held over from pagan days.

Here’s the calendar today with a Christian twist:

**November 11** – St. Martin’s Day, which in the agricultural calendar marks the beginning of the natural winter.

*continued on page 24*

# Who Are We Waiting For?

*continued from page 3*

1:3). Darkness could not stand against the God of light and life. This antiphon expresses our longing for the Light of God, Jesus Christ, to come into our world to dispel the darkness of sin and death. We long for the light of Jesus to shine in the hearts of all people! The world may be shrouded in the darkness of sin and evil, but Jesus is the light for our lives and union with him can overcome the darkness.

6. “O **King** of all the nations, the only joy of every human heart; O Keystone of the mighty arch of man; Come and save the creature you have fashioned from the dust.” This antiphon expresses the realization that Jesus is the joy of every human heart for through him, we come to know the Father and the Father’s love for us. This antiphon also acknowledges that we are made from the very dust of the earth, yet despite our lowliness, God desires to come to us and fill us with his joy. This is the TRUE joy of Christmas — that Jesus comes to us to save us. This joy will find its ultimate fulfillment in our resurrection from the dead. We will experience resurrection, if we allow Jesus to rule our daily lives — our thoughts, words, actions and all our desires.

7. “O **Emmanuel**, King and Lawgiver, Desire of the Nations, Savior of all people; Come and set us free, Lord our God.” Christmas is, above all, the feast of Emmanuel — “God-with-us.” As we read in the Letter to the Hebrews, “Therefore Jesus had to be made like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make expiation for the sins of the people.” (Hebrews 2:17). Jesus came to empower us to keep the commandments of God and to live holy and righteous lives. At Christmas, we are reminded that Jesus dwells with us to enable us to live authentic and fully human lives, freed from the power of sin.

On behalf of myself and the National Board of Directors of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, we pray that this Christmas, you may experience a true journey of the heart which will lead to a renewal of spirit and a rekindling of love and friendship! May you have the silence to hear Christ’s quiet coming. May you have the peace to feel his love subtly stirring. And, may you have the joy to respond with hope renewed. This Christmas, and always, we wish you laughter, joy and a happy heart; warmth of love and good friends. We wish you Christ’s peace in your life and his many blessings! Merry Christmas!

“Ó, sladké Betlehenské diet’a, dopraj aby sme v hĺbke našich srdc mali účasť na vianočných tajomstvách. Vlož do srdc ľudí tento pokoj, po ktorom tak niekedy zúfalo túžia a ktorý im môžeš iba Ty darovať. Pomôž im aby sa navzájom lepšie spoznali a žili ako bratia a sestry, deti toho istého Otca. Zjav im tiež svoju krásu, svätosť a čistotu. Prebuď v ich srdciach lásku a vďačnosť za Tvoju nesmiernu dobrotu. Zjednoť ich všetkých vo svojej láske a daruj nám Tvoj nebeský pokoj. Amen.” (*Pápež Ján XXIII*)

**Veselé Vianoce a šťastlivý Nový Rok!**

**Rev. Philip A. Altavilla, V.E.**

# Zornicka Welcomes Articles from Our Lithuanian Members

When the LPSCU welcomed the members of the Lithuanian Catholic Alliance into our organization several years ago, it was with the understanding that LCA members were afforded all the rights and privileges of LPSCU members. To that end, we’d like to remind all our Lithuanian members that they are most welcome to submit articles concerning Lithuanian customs, culture and heritage, as well as to share news about their families (members’ weddings, graduations, awards, births, etc.) with our readership. We strongly want to encourage our Lithuanian members to be a part of our fraternal family and one excellent way to do this is through the pages of our magazine. (Please be advised that articles that are political or editorial in content are not in keeping with the objectives and purposes of our magazine and are not acceptable, nor is copyrighted material unless proper permission for use has been granted.) Send your articles/photos to our Public Relations Director, Margaret A. Ferri, 428 East Frankford Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018 (Phone 610/866-8945; E-mail [margferri28@aol.com](mailto:margferri28@aol.com)).

## Slovak Christmas *from page 23*

**November 30** – St. Andrew’s Day. In some parts of Slovakia, an unmarried girl would write the names of potential husbands on pieces of paper, and stick these into *halusky*. When cooked, the first one to float to the surface of the water was said to reveal the name of her future husband.

**December 6** – St. Nicholas Day, the traditional day for Slovaks to exchange gifts. On St. Nicholas Eve all the children carefully polish their shoes to leave on the windowsill or at the doorstep. In the morning they hope to find a nice surprise and not the dreaded coal!

**December 24** – The Slovak words for Christmas Eve – *Stedry Vecer* – literally mean “bountiful eve” and the bounty of this sacred evening lies in the wide range of festive dishes, of which there must be 12 different kinds. Even today many Slovak families set their Christmas table with garlic, honey, wafers (*oplatky*), beans, dried fruit, and the main dish, cabbage soup with mushrooms and *opekance* – small pieces of dough with poppy seeds and honey. Fish is a more recent addition to the traditional Christmas Eve meal. (Their scales are said to bring wealth to the household.)

**December 25** – Slovaks celebrate Christmas with music and singing. Carols are sung in the family circle, reminiscent of the tradition of carol singing from door to door. This was popular in the towns and villages in days past.