



## IMPRESSIVE CONVENTION LITURGY CELEBRATED

**Most Rev. Joseph V. Adamec, Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown and Episcopal Protector of the LPSCU (with staff), principal celebrant of the Convention Liturgy, surrounded by the LPSCU Board of Directors and honorary officers, officers of other Slovak fraternal, and concelebrating clergy in front of the Shrine of the Most Holy Redeemer where the Convention Liturgy was celebrated.**



**Bishop Joseph V. Adamec (4th from right) celebrates the Convention Liturgy with concelebrants, L-R: Rev. Phil Audet, Rev. Joseph Evanko, Rev. Philip A. Altavilla, Rev. Mr. Cyril Kowalchick, Rev. Msgr. Francis J. Beeda, Rev. Thomas Nasta, and Rev. Msgr. Peter M. Polando.**



# In This Issue

Spiritual Advisor's Message . . . . .	3	Recommenders Recognized . . . . .	11
Branch and Okres News . . . . .	4-5	Spectacular Convention Banquet . . . . .	12-13
New Insurance Campaign . . . . .	5	WPSCA to Host Testimonial Dinner . . . . .	14
Impressive Convention Liturgy . . . . .	6	LPSCU to Honor Military/Veterans . . . . .	15
EFC Meeting Minutes . . . . .	6	Branch 52 Plans Celebration . . . . .	15
Catholic High School Awardees . . . . .	7	Slovak Pastoral Seminar Slated . . . . .	15
Senko is Fraternalist of the Year . . . . .	7	A Salute to Our LPSCU Graduates . . . . .	16-19
Final Report: Roll the Dice Campaign . . . . .	8	LPSCU First Quarter Report . . . . .	20
Barbara Janicko Obituary . . . . .	9	Slovak Radio Hour Dinner-Dance . . . . .	20
Msgr. Beeda District to Celebrate . . . . .	9	Member is Accomplished Rider . . . . .	20
New Insurance Issued . . . . .	9	Pet Photo Contest Winners . . . . .	21
Benjamin Klophaus is Fraternal MVP . . . . .	9	Mary E. Bucha is Confirmed . . . . .	21
Minutes of the Annual Board Meeting . . . . .	10	Junior Branch Journal . . . . .	22-23
In Memoriam . . . . .	10	Make a Difference Day Info . . . . .	24
Mass and Luncheon Invitation . . . . .	11	Cooking Corner . . . . .	24

# Calendar of Events

## SEPTEMBER

- 1** — Deadline to submit matters for consideration by the Board of Directors at its Semiannual Meeting beginning September 26.
- 1** — Deadline to apply for a Youth Volunteer Award sponsored by the New Jersey Fraternal Congress.
- 7** — Deadline to apply for a Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress 2008 Scholarship.
- 10** — Deadline to make reservations to attend the liturgy/luncheon being held in conjunction with the LPSCU's Semiannual Board Meeting. *See page 11.*
- 14** — Testimonial Awards Dinner honoring five distinguished Slovak American leaders, hosted by the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association at the Greentree Radison Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. *See page 14 for details.*
- 24** — Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar at 1:00 p.m. at the Motherhouse of St. Casimir's, 2601 West Marquette Road, Chicago, Illinois. \$15.00 pre-registration; \$20.00 at the door. *See page 15 for details.*
- 25** — Deadline to submit tributes to our veterans/military. *See page 15.*
- 25** — **Deadline to submit articles for November/December Zornicka.**
- 26** — Semiannual Meeting of the LPSCU Board of Directors commences at the Home Office, 71 South Washington Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, at 8:30 a.m.
- 28** — The Rev. Dianiska District will host a Mass of Thanksgiving at Holy Trinity Church, Swoyersville, Pennsylvania, and brunch at the Ramada Hotel, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, in celebration of the 110th Anniversary of the LPSCU and the 65th Anniversary of the District.

## OCTOBER

- 4** — Slovak Radio Hour Annual Dinner-Dance at the Slovak Sokol Club, 2912 East Carson Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Cocktails at 5:00 p.m.; dinner at 5:30. Call 412/421-1204 for tickets.
- 25** — Make a Difference Day — What can *you* do to help? *See page 24.*

## NOVEMBER

- 17** — Deadline to make reservations to attend Branch 52's Family Christmas Party. *See page 15.*
- 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, Hazle-*ton*, Pennsylvania, immediately followed by a brunch in the church cafeteria. All LPSCU members are invited to attend. *See page 9.*
- 25** — **Deadline to submit articles for January/February Zornicka.**
- 30** — Rev. Baloga Okres Christmas Party at Holy Trinity Church, Struthers, Ohio,

*continued on page 14*



(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: [lpscu@lpscu.org](mailto:lpscu@lpscu.org)  
Website: [www.lpscu.org](http://www.lpscu.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

Charles J. Simalchik, 29 Valley View Drive, Mountain Top, PA 18707; 570/474-5713

#### 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

## God Has a Plan



Fr. Altavilla

Not long ago, I received an e-mail which contained a story known as **A Tale of Three Trees**. I can recall reading this story before, but in anticipation of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, September 14, 2008, I read it this time from a different perspective. The Feast of the Holy Cross celebrates the fact that a tree — the cross — became the instrument of our salvation. **A Tale of Three Trees** is a good reminder of the part that everyone plays in making the message of salvation known to others, especially in the ways that we use our God-given gifts and talents.

Once upon a mountaintop, three little trees stood and dreamed of what they wanted to become when they grew up. The first little tree looked up at the stars twinkling like diamonds above him. "I want to hold treasure," he said. "I want to be covered with gold and filled with precious stones. I will be the most beautiful treasure chest in the world!"

The second little tree looked out at the small stream trickling by on its way to the ocean. "I want to be a strong sailing ship," he said. "I want to travel mighty waters and carry powerful kings. I will be the strongest ship in the world!"

The third little tree looked down into the valley below where busy men and busy women worked in a busy town. "I don't want to leave this mountaintop at all," she said. "I want to grow so tall that when people stop to look at me they will raise their eyes to heaven and think of God. I will be the tallest tree in the world!"

Years passed. The rains came, the sun shone, and the little trees grew tall. One day three woodcutters climbed the mountain.

The first woodcutter looked at the first tree and said, "This tree is beautiful. It is perfect for me." With a swoop of his shining axe, the first tree fell. "Now I shall be made into a beautiful chest," thought the first tree. "I shall hold wonderful treasure."

The second woodcutter looked at the second tree and said, "This tree is strong. It is perfect for me." With a swoop of his shining axe, the second tree fell. "Now I shall sail mighty waters," thought the second tree. "I shall be a strong ship fit for kings!"

The third tree felt her heart sink when the last woodcutter looked her way. She stood straight and tall and pointed bravely to heaven. But the woodcutter never even looked up. "Any kind of tree will do for me," he muttered. With a swoop of his shining axe, the third tree fell.

The first tree rejoiced when the woodcutter brought him to a carpenter's shop, but the busy carpenter was not thinking about treasure chests. Instead his work-worn hands fashioned the tree into a feed box for animals. The once-beautiful tree was not covered with gold or filled with treasure. He was

coated with sawdust and filled with hay for hungry farm animals.

The second tree smiled when the woodcutter took him to a shipyard, but no mighty sailing ships were being made that day. Instead the once-strong tree was hammered and sawed into a simple fishing boat. Too small and too weak to sail an ocean or even a river, he was taken to a little lake. Every day he brought in loads of dead, smelly fish.

The third tree was confused when the woodcutter cut her into strong beams and left her in a lumberyard. "What happened?" the once-tall tree wondered. "All I ever wanted to do was stay on the mountaintop and point to God."

Many, many days and nights passed. The three trees nearly forgot their dreams. But one night golden starlight poured over the first tree as a young woman placed her newborn baby in the feed box.

"I wish I could make a cradle for him," her husband whispered. The mother squeezed his hand and smiled as the starlight shone on the smooth and sturdy wood.

"This manger is beautiful," she said.

And suddenly the first tree knew he was holding the greatest treasure in the world.

One evening a tired traveler and his friends crowded into the old fishing boat. The traveler fell asleep as the second tree quietly sailed out into the lake. Soon a thrashing storm arose. The little tree shuddered. He knew he did not have the strength to carry so many passengers safely through the wind and rain. The tired man awakened. He stood up, stretched out his hand, and said, "Peace." The storm stopped as quickly as it had begun. And suddenly the second tree knew he was carrying the King of heaven and earth.

One Friday morning, the third tree was startled when her beams were yanked from the forgotten woodpile. She flinched as she was carried through an angry, jeering crowd. She shuddered when soldiers nailed a man's hands to her. She felt ugly and harsh and cruel. But on Sunday morning, when the sun rose and the earth trembled with joy beneath her, the third tree knew that God's love had changed everything.

Clearly, each one of the three trees in our tale had a particular goal in mind. The first wanted to be a treasure box; the second wanted to be an ocean going ship; the third wanted to remain just a tree. God had a different purpose in mind — the first became a manger; the second became a small fishing boat; and the third became the cross. Each tree, and in different ways, ended up serving God. Each one found fulfillment by embracing the will of God. But, in order to truly embrace God's will, they each had to sacrifice their own will and dreams.

*continued on page 24*



**LEHIGH VALLEY OKRES**

The Lehigh Valley Okres provided coffee and donuts at two Lehigh Valley Slovak parishes in appreciation for their parishioners' support of the LVO's "Support Our Troops" JOIN HANDS DAY project held on May 3, 2008.

On Sunday, May 18, 2008, the Okres hosted coffee and donuts for parishioners of SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, in the school social hall after the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses. The hall was beautifully decorated in a red, white and blue patriotic theme. Approximately 250 parishioners enjoyed the refreshments.

Okres Treasurer Margaret A. Ferri, who coordinated the project, extended a warm welcome to everyone and thanked the parishioners for participating in the "Support Our Troops" project. She noted that 36 large packages were mailed to the military in Iraq and Afghanistan during the weeks of May 4 and 11. She read several e-mail messages she received from service personnel who thanked the Okres and parishes for the packages and especially for their thoughts and prayers.

Other Okres members who assisted with the social included Jean Kosalko, president; Mary Shannon, secretary; Mary Ann Ackerman, Kate Cassano, Ann Marie Motko, and John Ferri.

On Sunday, June 15, 2008, the Okres hosted coffee and donuts for parishioners of St. John the Baptist Church, Allentown, Pennsylvania, in the church social hall after the 10:00 a.m. Mass. The church hall was also decorated in a patriotic theme and approximately 60 parishioners attended the event. Again, the Okres Treasurer expressed a welcome to parishioners and thanked them for their support. She also read several thank you notes from the military.

Assisting with the refreshments were Mary Shannon, Margaret A. Ferri, Mary Ann Ackerman, Ceil Gaughan, Dorothy Lichman, Helen Glass, Tom Gaughan, and John Ferri.

Treasurer Ferri reports that she is still receiving "thank you" messages from the servicemen and women who received packages. She also notes that her former pastor, Msgr. Michael J. Chaback, has donated to the Okres approximately 50 booklets containing "Prayers for the Military." The Okres is currently mailing those prayer booklets to its military contacts.



**Volunteers from the Lehigh Valley Okres prepare coffee and donuts for the parishioners of SS. Cyril and Methodius Church.**



**Mary Ann Ackerman (standing) serves coffee to parishioners of SS. Cyril and Methodius after the Liturgy.**



**Preparing coffee and donuts to be served at St. John the Baptist Church are, L-R: Mary Shannon, Mary Ann Ackerman, Margaret Ferri, Ceil Gaughan, and Helen Glass.**



**Msgr. Michael Chaback (2nd from left), pastor at St. Cyril's, chats with life-long parishioner and LPSCU member Helen Polenchar, while Okres President Jean Kosalko (center) talks with some young parishioners.**



**John and Monica Anthony and their daughter (at right) join other St. John's parishioners in enjoying the refreshments sponsored by the Okres.**



**REVEREND DIANISKA DISTRICT**

The Reverend Dianiska District held its annual youth bowling party on Saturday, July 12, 2008, at Modern Lanes in Exeter, Pennsylvania. Hope and Lori Napkora co-chaired. Twenty-eight young members attended. Everyone bowled



**Two-year-old Jennifer Passeri and seven-year-old Marissa Jason from Branch 6 prepare to bowl.**

two games and enjoyed a lunch of hot dogs, pizza, nachos and cheese, and beverages. Thomas' Market donated a cake for dessert. Each child received a gift and a bag filled to the brim with delicious treats.

Over the years, this event has grown bigger and better, just like the youngsters who have been attending. Next year's bowling party, sponsored and paid for by the District, is expected to be bigger and better than ever, so plan to have your children attend. Parents, it's never too early to teach them to get familiar with fraternalism!

**Susan Worth**



**Group of young members of the Rev. Dianiska District at the 2008 District bowling party.**



**Officers and members of the Rev. Dianiska District pictured with a sheet cake donated by Thomas' Market.**



**ISSUE DATES:**  
**AUG. 1, 2008-DEC. 15, 2008**

*Help Celebrate 110 Years of Fraternalism!*

**Excludes the following policies:**

- Term
- Face amount less than \$2,000
- Any other programs

**Winners will be determined by the following point system:**

	\$2000- \$4999	\$5000- \$9999	\$10,000- \$14,999	\$15,000- \$19,999	\$20,000- \$24,999	\$25,000- \$29,999	\$30,000- \$34,999
Single Premium	5	10	15	20	25	30	35
Whole Life	8	16	24	32	40	48	56
20 Pay Life	10	20	30	40	50	60	70
20 Year End	10	20	30	40	50	60	70
3 Pay Plan	7	14	21	28	35	42	49

**PRIZES**

- 1<sup>ST</sup> PRIZE \$330.00**
- 2<sup>ND</sup> PRIZE \$220.00**
- 3<sup>RD</sup> PRIZE \$110.00**

**Campaign Committee**

- Dolores M. Evanko, Chairperson, National Trustee**
- Mary Ann Ewasko, National Chairperson of Trustees**
- Mary Jo Savidge, National Secretary-Treasurer**
- Theresa Kluchinski, National President**

# Impressive Convention Liturgy Celebrated at Shrine of the Most Holy Redeemer

An impressive Liturgy was celebrated at the 39th National Convention of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union held this summer in Las Vegas, Nevada. At 1:30 on Tuesday afternoon, July 22, approximately 150 officers, delegates, fraternalists, and guests traveled by chartered buses from Bally's, the Convention site, to attend the Convention Liturgy celebrated at the Shrine of the Most Holy Redeemer in Las Vegas. As everyone departed the buses at the Shrine, they were personally greeted by Rev. Phil Audet, rector of the Shrine.



**Giftbearers at the Convention Liturgy were LPSCU National officers, from right: Secretary-Treasurer Mary Jo Savidge, President Theresa Kluchinski, Vice President Anita Gregory, and Chair of Trustees Mary Ann Ewasko.**

of the LPSCU; Rev. Philip A. Altavilla, V.E., spiritual advisor of the LPSCU; Rev. Msgr. Peter M. Polando, J.C.L., chaplain of the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association; Rev. Thomas A. Nasta, chaplain of the First Catholic Slovak Union; and Rev. Audet. Rev. Andrew S. Hvozovic, supreme chaplain of the Slovak Catholic Sokol, was cantor, and Ken Lerum, Shrine organist, was director of music. Rev. Mr. Cyril J. Kowalchick of St. Joseph's Parish in Hazleton, Pennsylvania, served as deacon. David Palcsey, a member of LPSCU Branch 76, White Oak, Pennsylvania, served as acolyte. Mr. Michael La Rocca, master of ceremonies to the Most Reverend Joseph Pepe, Bishop of Las Vegas, served as the master of ceremonies for the Convention Liturgy, along with diocesan acolytes.

Following the processional hymn, "Sing With All the Saints in Glory," Rev. Audet, representing Bishop Pepe, welcomed everyone to the Shrine and expressed his delight at the Convention Liturgy being celebrated there.

Reader at the Liturgy was LPSCU National Fraternal Activities Director Cecilia B. Gaughan. The Gospel reading was proclaimed by Deacon Cyril and an inspirational homily was offered by Bishop Adamec. The Presentation of the Gifts was offered by LPSCU National Officers: President Theresa Kluchinski, Vice President Anita Gregory, Secretary-Treasurer Mary Jo Savidge, and Chair of Trustees Mary Ann Ewasko.

During the Offertory, the congregation sang a favorite Slovak hymn, "O Maria Ruzencova," translated into English as "Mary of the Rosary." A post-Communion thanksgiving hymn

was sung in honor of Saint Mary Magdalene, whose feast day was celebrated on July 22, the day of our Convention Liturgy.

Since Pope Benedict XVI dedicated the year 2008 to St. Paul the Apostle, all recited a Prayer for the Year of Saint Paul. The singing of the traditional recessional Slovak hymn, "Dusa Krestanska," concluded the beautiful service at the Shrine of the Most Blessed Redeemer.

## *Minutes of the Executive Finance Committee*

June 28, 2008

Home Office, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

President Theresa Kluchinski called the meeting to order and offered a prayer for those recuperating from illness — Secretary-Treasurer Mary Jo Savidge, Trustee Barbara Janicko, and Court of Appeals member Patricia Stearney — 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 May 21, 2008, Executive Finance Committee meeting.

### **Correspondence and Requests**

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

- ❖ Western Pennsylvania Slovak Day Association requesting an ad in the 85th Annual Slovak Day Souvenir Program Book. (*Approved \$120*)

### **Financial Statement**

The committee reviewed the following checking accounts as of May 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 May 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.

### **Bond/Stock/Pension Portfolio**

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

### **Other Business**

The committee discussed the following: Convention 2008, Property Insurance, and CPS Actuaries.

There being no further business, the EFC adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

**Mary Jo Savidge**

National Secretary-Treasurer

*The Executive Finance Committee did not meet in July.*



# 2008 Catholic High School Award Recipients

## MARY BUCHA

*Freshman*  
Allentown Central Catholic  
High School  
Allentown, Pennsylvania  
**BRANCH 38**  
Whitehall, Pennsylvania



## ZACHARY T. FOX

*Freshman*  
Allentown Central Catholic  
High School  
Allentown, Pennsylvania  
**BRANCH 38**  
Whitehall, Pennsylvania



## ERIN V. KREIDER

*Junior*  
Allentown Central Catholic  
High School  
Allentown, Pennsylvania  
**BRANCH 60**  
West Hazleton,  
Pennsylvania



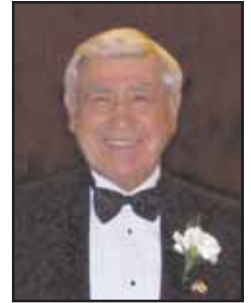
## MARTIN J. KURTZ

*Sophomore*  
Bishop Shanahan  
High School  
Downingtown,  
Pennsylvania  
**BRANCH 38**  
Whitehall, Pennsylvania



# Joseph T. Senko Named 2008 LPSCU Fraternalist of the Year

The Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union is proud to announce that Joseph T. Senko of Branch 42, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is our 2008 Fraternalist of the Year. Joe has been a member of the LPSCU for 6½ years. He was nominated for this award by Cecilia Sarocky, past president of the LPSCU and secretary of Branch 42.



**Joseph T. Senko**

As founder and director of the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association (of which the LPSCU is a sponsor), Joe has annually coordinated Slovak programs such as language, conversation, cooking, dancing, films, exhibits, and musical performances since the organization's inception 11 years ago. These cultural programs are undertaken to encourage and facilitate youth and adults to work together. Many of the attendees at these events are LPSCU members.

Periodically, Joe submits articles relating to Slovak heritage and customs for publication in our fraternal magazine, *Zornicka*. He is dedicated to the cause of fraternalism and participates in LPSCU activities that are held in the Pittsburgh area.

Joe is very active in his community where he is instrumental in promoting cultural programs. He has initiated a project whereby \$10,000 worth of medical equipment and supplies will be sent to two nursing homes in Slovakia. He also promoted a drive to collect storybooks for children from ages 6 to 14 to be sent to Kosice, Slovakia, to help young Slovak children learn and practice the English language. Additionally, he held a drive for used computers that were sent to 45 schools in Slovakia.

When Slovak exchange students arrive in Pittsburgh to attend school, Joe takes the time to host them and make them feel welcome to the United States. He sponsored a "Day at the Baseball Park with the Pirates" which was an enjoyable social activity for youth and adults alike.

On April 5, 2008, the Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh, which comprises 21 fraternal benefit societies representing over 1.1 million members, honored Joe as its 2008 Fraternalist of the Year. As a Certified Public Accountant for 35 years, Joe has been recognized by his peers and has received many awards. He is currently associated with the Pittsburgh firm of McKeever Varga & Senko, CPAs.

Joe is the husband of Albina Senko, who is also a member of LPSCU Branch 42.

Truly, Joseph T. Senko has exhibited extraordinary acts of fraternalism in his Branch, and outstanding volunteer service in his community to qualify for the distinct honor of being named the 2008 LPSCU Fraternalist of the Year.

Congratulations, Joe! The LPSCU is very proud of you.

# FINAL REPORT

## Roll the Dice Campaign

ISSUE DATES • JANUARY 1, 2007 – JUNE 15, 2008

Branch	Secretary	Included Total	Excluded Total	Branch	Secretary	Included Total	Excluded Total
1	Emily Degenhart	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	90	Theresa Kluchinski	\$ 13,000	\$ 5,000
6	Mary Ann Ewasko	\$ 17,000	\$ 62,000	92	Home Office	\$ 2,000	
7	Charles Simalchik	\$ 5,000	\$ 40,000	95	Dolores M. Evanko		\$ 5,000
8	Agnes Janinek		\$ 5,000	109	Joan T. Hladek	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,000
9	Mary Vesci	\$ 4,000	\$ 50,000	122	Theresa Olshemski	\$ 14,000	
14	Verna Prawdzik	\$ 20,000	\$ 50,000	124	Dolores M. Evanko	\$ 45,000	\$ 85,000
17	Marion DiCalogero		\$ 61,000	126	Theresa Kluchinski		\$ 5,000
19	Regina Kapral		\$ 2,000	130	Margaret Ferri	\$ 5,000	\$ 40,000
19	Deborah Adamchak	\$ 17,000	\$ 10,000	151	Charles Simalchik	\$ 15,000	\$ 50,000
28	Agnes McLaren		\$ 1,000	156	Joan Ellen Frendak	\$ 86,000	\$ 4,000
33	Helen Arlotto	\$ 10,000	\$ 30,000	159	Catherine Bozick		\$ 20,000
37	Joan Evan	\$ 5,000		160	Home Office		\$ 1,000
38	Cecilia B. Gaughan	\$ 76,000	\$ 131,000	163	Lucille Komorosky		\$ 11,000
39	James Yocum	\$ 15,000		170	Cecilia B. Gaughan		\$ 10,000
40	Dorothy Lichman	\$ 8,000	\$ 55,000	172	Mary Agnes Stromberg	\$ 25,000	\$ 30,000
42	Cecilia Sarocky	\$ 17,000	\$ 10,000	180	Mary Ann Strauss		\$ 21,000
48	Theresa Kluchinski	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	193	Home Office	\$ 2,000	\$ 5,000
54	Charles Simalchik		\$ 10,000	194	Ann Dobias		\$ 25,000
58	Margaret Jollimore		\$ 5,000	197	Home Office		\$ 1,000
60	Anita Gregory	\$ 5,000	\$ 60,000	198	Ann Dobias	\$ 8,000	
62	Bernadine Kurzeja		\$ 10,000	213	Theresa Kluchinski	\$ 55,000	\$ 50,000
64	Elva Silay	\$ 20,000	\$ 45,000	214	Ann Tirpak	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,000
64	Barbara Janicko	\$ 4,000	\$ 25,000	L0017	Home Office		\$ 10,000
65	Janice Matthews		\$ 53,000	L0057	Home Office		\$ 5,000
69	Home Office		\$ 30,000	L0155	Home Office		\$ 10,000
83	Mary Ann Ackerman	\$ 10,000		<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ 538,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,162,000</b>
				<b>TOTAL OF ENTIRE CAMPAIGN</b>		<b>\$ 1,700,000</b>	

### PRIZES

Anyone selling \$125,000 and over  
 Anyone selling \$100,000 - \$124,999  
 Anyone selling \$75,000 - \$99,999  
 Anyone selling \$50,000 - \$74,999

Cost of airline ticket or \$300  
 75% of airline ticket or \$200  
 50% of airline ticket or \$150  
 35% of airline ticket or \$100

### WINNERS

<b>Joan Ellen Frendak</b>	<b>\$86,000</b>	<b>\$150</b>
<b>Theresa Kluchinski</b>	<b>\$78,000</b>	<b>\$150</b>
<b>Cecilia B. Gaughan</b>	<b>\$76,000</b>	<b>\$150</b>

### \$100 AWARD FOR SELLING \$10,000 OR MORE OF INSURANCE

**Emily Degenhart**

*Thank you to all who participated in the Campaign  
 and we encourage you to continue selling for the next Campaign –  
 “Keep on Rolling”*

#### Campaign Committee

Dolores M. Evanko, Chairperson, National Trustee  
 Mary Ann Ewasko, National Chairperson of Trustees  
 Mary Jo Savidge, National Secretary-Treasurer  
 Theresa Kluchinski, National President





## Barbara Ann Janicko LPSCU National Trustee

Barbara Ann (Bosko) Janicko of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, died on Monday, July 7, 2008. She was the beloved wife of Lawrence R. Janicko and mother of Raymond P. (Cynthia) Janicko and Mark D. Janicko. Barbara was the daughter of the late William and Elizabeth Bosko and the sister of Eleanore (Robert) Waselko, William (Janice) Bosko, and Christine (William) Warner. She is also survived by nieces and nephews.



**Barbara A. Janicko**

Family and friends were received on July 8 and 9 at the Thomas P. Kunsak Funeral Home in Pittsburgh. A Funeral Mass was held at St. Alexis Church in Wexford, Pennsylvania, on July 10 at 10:00 a.m.

Barbara was a long-time member of LPSCU Branch 64 in Pittsburgh. She served two terms as National Trustee, was President of the LPSCU's Pittsburgh District, and Past President of St. Gabriel Social Club. She was a Eucharistic Minister at St. Alexis Church. She also was an avid crafter.

The LPSCU members of her Pittsburgh group made a visit to the funeral home and attended the Funeral Mass as well. Also attending the funeral services were several LPSCU National Officers: President Theresa Kluchinski, Vice President Anita Gregory, Secretary-Treasurer Mary Jo Savidge, and Trustee Dolores Evanko.

The church service was a beautiful tribute to Barbara.

**Sylvia Goda**

*Editor's Note* — The officers and members of the LPSCU extend sincere sympathy to Larry, Raymond and Mark on the loss of their beloved wife and mother. We are deeply saddened at the loss of Barbara. She was a devoted and dedicated fraternalist and loved the LPSCU. We will miss her dearly. May she rest in peace.

## Msgr. Beeda District to Celebrate LPSCU's 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 in the church cafeteria immediately following the Mass.

The Msgr. Beeda District extends an invitation to the LPSCU Board of Directors and all adult and junior members of the LPSCU. Plan to join us as we celebrate this special event!

## New Insurance Issued

State	Branch Representative	June/July 2008	Year-to-Date Total
PA	Dolores Evanko		\$ 75,000.00
PA	Theresa Kluchinski	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 48,000.00
PA	Joan Ellen Frendak		\$ 33,000.00
PA	Cecilia B. Gaughan	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 32,000.00
PA	Janice Mathews		\$ 30,000.00
PA	Agnes Janinek	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
PA	Dorothy Lichman		\$ 20,000.00
PA	Mary Ann Ewasko		\$ 20,000.00
PA	Home Office	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 18,000.00
PA	Cecilia Sarocky		\$ 17,000.00
PA	Deborah Adamchak	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 16,000.00
PA	Margaret A. Ferri		\$ 15,000.00
PA	Charles Simalchik		\$ 10,000.00
PA	Verna Prawdzik		\$ 10,000.00
PA	Elva Silay	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
PA	Mary Agnes Stromberg	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
PA	Theresa Olshemski		\$ 2,000.00
PA	Barbara Janicko	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
PA	Marion DiCalogero		\$ 1,000.00
		\$ 70,000.00	\$ 388,000.00

## Benjamin Klophaus is NFCA 'Fraternal MVP'

The National Fraternal Congress of America (NFCA), the trade association of America's fraternal benefit societies, has named Benjamin G. Klophaus, a member of LPSCU Branch 38, Allentown, Pennsylvania, as a "Fraternal MVP" (Most Valuable Participant) for the week of June 23, 2008. Ben, who is our 2008 Youth Achievement Award winner, had his name submitted by the LPSCU as best representing "the spirit of fraternalism and volunteerism."



**Benjamin Klophaus**

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 Katharine E. Rounthwaite announced, "As a Fraternal MVP, Ben Klophaus 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 Benjamin — who selflessly, humbly, and anonymously volunteer millions of hours and dollars to help their communities and fellow citizens.

Ben's outstanding accomplishments, which set him apart as our 2008 Youth Achievement awardee, were featured in the July/August issue of *Zornicka*.

The LPSCU congratulates Benjamin G. Klophaus 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.

# Minutes of the Annual Board Meeting

March 28-31, 2008 – Home Office, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

**Friday March 28, 2008**

## **Call to Order – Prayer – Pledge**

President Theresa Kluchinski called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Spiritual Advisor Rev. Philip Altavilla held a morning prayer service, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Secretary/Treasurer Mary Jo Savidge was asked for roll call. All were present with the exception of Trustee Barbara Janicko, who was excused.

## **Submission of Insurance Applications**

Applications for insurance were received from Theresa Kluchinski, Dolores Evanko, Margaret Ferri, and Cecilia Gaughan.

## **Submission of Conflict of Interest**

President Kluchinski asked the Board members to submit completed Conflict of Interest Forms to Secretary/Treasurer Savidge.

## **Welcome/Remarks**

President Kluchinski welcomed the Board to the Annual Meeting and asked that we spend little time on the past and concentrate on the next four years. With the convention in July, changes to our Board are a possibility; however, we will move forward with the suggestions of this Board.

## *In Memoriam*

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

— Matthew v.5

<b>Name</b>	<b>Branch</b>	<b>Location</b>
Anna A. Lavix	14	Port Griffith, PA
Virginia M. Abromowski	21	West Lake, MA
Veronica Mikula	33	Hazleton, PA
Ann Werhun	37	Plymouth, PA
Virginia Domark	40	Allentown, PA
Dewey W. Detsch	40	Allentown, PA
Joseph P. Galgon	40	Allentown, PA
* Margaret Bravar	42	Pittsburgh, PA
Lillian Suhy	64	Pittsburgh, PA
* Barbara A. Janicko	65	Pittsburgh, PA
* Josephine S. Coles-Hickey	65	Munhall, PA
Barbara V. LeVan	131	Reading, PA
* Helen M. Ducar	153	Perth Amboy, NJ
Mary E. Kupec	156	Coaldale, PA
* Mary A. Rehatchek	156	Coaldale, PA
* Marie Price	156	Coaldale, PA
Helen M. Seaman	172	Pittsburgh, PA
John V. Barnoski	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Maria Lambert	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Anna Knapp	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Petranella Andrews	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
* Beatrice F. Hollibaugh	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Clarence F. Wallace	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Verna Sedauckas	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Dorothy Gladish	198	Whiting, IN
Terezia Jeschke	198	Whiting, IN
* Emma T. Abatta	202	McKees Rocks, PA
Euphemia Romana	210	Lacon, PA
Sr. Sylvester, OSF (Maria C. Ivan)	213	Dallas, PA
Augustinas Orentas	L0163	Chicago, IL
George Sankus	L0179	E. St. Louis, IL
Albinas Andrusaitis	L0230	Detroit, MI

\*Multiple certificates

## **Approval of Agenda/Minutes**

The agenda for this meeting and Minutes from the November 2007 meeting were approved.

## **Correspondence and Requests**

Secretary/Treasurer Savidge read the correspondence received since the previous meeting. The following donation was approved:

- Slovak Catholic Federation

## **Presentations**

President Kluchinski introduced Mr. Robert Kopec, CPA for the LPSCU. Mr. Kopec discussed Premium Income, Investment Income, and the Annual Statement.

President Kluchinski introduced Ellen Bush from Smith Barney CitiGroup who provided the Board with the LPSCU Capital Market Overview and Employees Pension report, 4th Quarter 2007 through March 2008. She also presented an overview on the following:

### *Capital Markets:*

- Asset Allocation
- Market Value
- Maturity Distribution Graph
- Top Holdings by Market Value

### *LPSCU Employee Pension*

- Asset Allocation
- Top Holdings by Market Value

President Kluchinski introduced Sam Urda, CPS Actuaries, Inc. Mr. Urda focused on keeping the surplus of the LPSCU in a good position, which would be used for future growth.

## **Resolutions**

The following existing resolutions were reaffirmed:

- Golden Age Benefit Resolution
- 80 Year Age Resolution
- Certificate Loan Resolution
- MBA Rate Resolution

## **Appointments**

The following appointments were reaffirmed:

- Mr. Robert Kopec, Certified Public Accountant
- Mr. Sam Urda, President; Mr. Allan Ferrone, Actuary, CPS Actuaries
- Dr. Robert Czwalina, Medical Examiner
- Attorney Joseph Van Jura, Legal Counsel
- Ms. Ellen Bush and Ms. Karen Natishan, Financial Consultants

## **Financial Report**

Board members reviewed and discussed the following information:

- 2007 Annual Statement
- Balance Sheet/Revenue and Expenses 2007
- Employee Retirement Plan 2007
- Transaction Summary Report 2007
- Attained Age Exhibit 2007
- Secretary Prompt Pay Report
- Balance Sheet/Revenue and Expenses through February 2008
- Management /Discussion Analysis Letter

## **Officers' Reports**

The following reports were provided to the Board for informational purposes, therefore no approval necessary:



- President's Report
- Secretary/Treasurer's Report
- Fraternal Activities Director's Report
- District Report

### **Home Office Report**

The following items were covered in the Secretary/Treasurer's Annual Report:

- Building Improvements
- Membership
- Hardware/Software
- Home Office Projects
- Financials

### **2007 Audit Report**

Chairperson of Trustees Mary Ann Ewasko provided President Kluchinski the Report of the Audit of 2007.

### **Unfinished Business**

The Board reviewed the following:

- 2001 CSO Based Rates Tables
- Current Plans of Insurance
- New Plans of Insurance

### **New Business**

The Board was provided information on the Code of Ethics.

The Board discussed the following:

- GEN (Group Exemption Number)
- EIN (Employer Identification Number)
- Planning Committee

The meeting adjourned until Saturday morning.

### **Saturday, March 29, 2008**

President Kluchinski called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. Rev. Altavilla led the Board in prayer.

### **Branch Procedures and Bylaws**

The Board was provided information and had a lengthy discussion on the following:

- Branch Procedures
- Branch Bylaws

### **Convention 2008**

The Board discussed the various committees for the convention, the proposed Bylaw changes, gifts, entertainment, and speakers for the convention.

The meeting adjourned until Sunday.

### **Sunday, March 30, 2008**

President Kluchinski called the meeting to order and offered a prayer. Rev. Philip Altavilla was excused.

President Kluchinski asked the committees to meet and then give their reports.

### **Committee Reports**

The following committees provided a report:

- Campaign Committee
- Youth Achievement Award
- Fraternalist of the Year Award
- Anne (Shinal) Cichy Award
- Educational Committee
- Membership and Benefit Committee
- Fraternal Activities

The meeting adjourned until Monday.

### **Monday, March 31, 2008**

President Kluchinski called the meeting to order, followed by a prayer.

The Board had a round table discussion on the concept of our name, ways to advertise our organization, and locations for the 2012 convention.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

**Mary Jo Savidge**, National Secretary/Treasurer

## **Mass of Thanksgiving and Luncheon**

A Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated at Holy Trinity Church, Hughes Street, Swyersville, Pennsylvania, at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, September 28, 2008. We respectfully invite LPSCU officers, members, and their families to attend this celebration.

Following the liturgy, members are invited to be our guests at a Brunch to be held at the Ramada Inn, 20 Public Square, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Reservations are required and can be made by calling our National Secretary/Treasurer, Mary Jo Savidge at 570/823-3513 or 888/834-6614 or by e-mailing [lpescu@lpescu.org](mailto:lpescu@lpescu.org). Cost for non-members is \$20.00.

The liturgy and luncheon is being held in conjunction with the LPSCU's Semiannual Meeting, the 110th Anniversary of the LPSCU, and the 65th Anniversary of the Rev. Dianiska District. The Rev. Dianiska District is hosting the Semiannual Meeting. Come and meet the LPSCU Board of Directors.

Deadline for reservations is **September 10, 2008**.

## **Roll the Dice Campaign Recommenders Recognized at Convention**

LPSCU members who were Recommenders of insurance policies in the Roll the Dice Campaign and were present as delegates at the 39th National Convention held at Bally's were recognized at a Champagne Breakfast on Thursday, July 24, 2008. Each Recommender received a pair of fuzzy dice and a calculator.

Delegates recognized at the Champagne Breakfast were:

Mary Ann Ewasko  
Charles Simalchik  
Verna Prawdzik  
Regina Kapral  
Deborah Adamchak  
Agnes McLaren  
Cecilia B. Gaughan  
Cecilia Sarocky  
Theresa Kluchinski  
Margaret Jollimore

Anita Gregory  
Bernadine Kurzeja  
Elva Silay  
Mary Ann Ackerman  
Dolores M. Evanko  
Joan Hladek  
Margaret Ferri  
Lucille Komorosky  
Mary Ann Strauss  
Ann Dobias

# Spectacular Convention Banquet Held

The 39th National Convention Banquet held at Bally's in Las Vegas, Nevada, on Tuesday, July 22, 2008, proved to be a spectacular fraternal event for approximately 150 delegates, fraternalists, and guests in attendance. An open bar reception commenced at 6:00 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:00.

Rev. Philip A. Altavilla, LPSCU spiritual advisor, served as Toastmaster for the program. Msgr. Francis J. Beeda, honorary spiritual advisor, offered the Invocation. The singing of the National Anthems of the United States and Slovakia were led by the LPSCU Honorary Officers, Msgr. Francis J. Beeda, Cecilia Sarocky, honorary president; Mary Ann Ackerman, honorary vice president; and Ann Dobias, honorary trustee. The National Anthem of Lithuania was played on CD.

National President Theresa A. Kluchinski extended a warm welcome to all. Mary Ann Ewasko, chairperson of trustees, offered a toast for a successful Convention. A delicious dinner of grilled petit filet and salmon was then served.

At the conclusion of the meal, National Vice President Anita Gregory introduced the Board of Directors and honored guests. Joseph J. Annotti, president and CEO of the National Fraternal Congress of America, of which the LPSCU is a member, was the principal speaker.



**Delegates from Pittston, Pennsylvania.**



**Enjoying the "Chicken Dance" are, L-R, Raymond Ivanitch and Mary Shannon of Bethlehem, and Elaine Molchany and Bernadine Kurzeja of Northampton, Pennsylvania.**

As the newly hired President and CEO of the NFCA, Mr. Annotti outlined his plans to implement various programs for the benefit of fraternal organizations. He stressed the importance of fraternal members' participation in volunteer programs. He said he plans to contribute to the expansion of the fraternal system and to make certain that public policy-makers at all levels understand the important economic contributions made by fraternal benefit organizations.

Dolores Evanko, national trustee and chairperson of the Campaign Committee, introduced the "Roll the Dice Campaign" display created by the committee. She reported that the campaign, which started on January 1, 2007 and ended on June 15, 2008, had produced a total amount of insurance of \$1,700,000 during that period. The Campaign Committee is to be commended for the beautiful campaign display chart, a unique and creative piece of artwork.

In her response, National President



**Delegates from Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.**



**Officers of several Slovak fraternal – Seated, L-R: Nina Holy, secretary of the Slovak League of America, with husband John; Kenneth Arendt, secretary of the First Catholic Slovak Union, and wife Theresa. Standing, from the Slovak Catholic Sokol, are Rev. Andrew Hvozdovic, chaplain; Steve Pogorelic, supreme secretary, and wife Anne; and Larry M. Glugosh, supreme president.**

Theresa A. Kluchinski praised the beautiful celebration of the Liturgy at The Shrine of the Most Holy Redeemer and thanked all for attending this joyous banquet celebration in conjunction with the 39th National Convention.

Bishop Joseph V. Adamec, Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown and Episcopal Protector of the LPSCU, offered the Benediction.

The program concluded with the singing of "Hej, Slovaci!" and "God Bless America."

Musical entertainment was provided by "The Dummkopfs," a local band. The crowd really enjoyed the music, listening and dancing until the evening concluded at 10:00 p.m.



**Delegates from the Lehigh Valley and Hazleton, Pennsylvania.**



**Seated at the banquet are, from left, Supreme Court members Patricia Stearney, Mary Ann Kaylor, and Deborah Adamchak with Mary Jo Savidge, LPSCU secretary-treasurer.**



**Mary Ann Ackerman (left), honorary vice president, with her sister Barbara and brother-in-law from the Las Vegas area, and daughter, Annette Ackerman, a first-time delegate.**



# at Bally's in Las Vegas, Nevada



Delegates from the Pittsburgh District.



Delegates from Pittston, Pennsylvania, and Ohio.



The banquet's principal speaker, Joseph J. Annotti, president and CEO of the National Fraternal Congress of America, focused his talk on the fraternal benefit system.



L-R: Tom Siska, LPSCU photographer at the Convention, with wife Nancy, daughter Mallory, and parents, Mary Ann and George Siska of Chicago, Illinois.



Rev. Msgr. Francis J. Beeda, LPSCU honorary spiritual advisor, chats with delegates from Hazleton and Pittsburgh.



LPSCU President Theresa A. Kluchinski extends a warm welcome to clergy, delegates, and guests at the Convention Banquet.



Delegates from Illinois and Indiana.



Seated at the head table are, L-R, Anita Gregory, vice president; Joseph J. Annotti, NFCA president and CEO; Mary Ann Ewasko, chair of trustees; Dolores Evanko, trustee; Ann Dobias, honorary trustee; and Rev. Msgr. Francis J. Beeda, honorary spiritual advisor. John Ferri and Trustee Joan Hladek are seated in the foreground.



LPSCU Honorary Officers, from left, Ann Dobias, Cecilia Sarocky, Rev. Msgr. Francis J. Beeda, and Mary Ann Ackerman, led the assembly in singing the National Anthems.



L-R: LPSCU Spiritual Advisor Fr. Philip A. Altavilla with Mary Ann Bowman, Elizabeth Melko, and Sylvia Goda of the Pittsburgh District.



Seated L-R: Robert Kopec, LPSCU CPA, and wife Helen, Mary Ann Urda, and Ellen Q. Bush, LPSCU financial advisor. Standing: Sam Urda, LPSCU actuary, and Karen B. Natishan, LPSCU financial advisor.

# WPSCA to Host Testimonial Dinner

The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association will hold its fourth biennial Testimonial Awards Dinner on Sunday, September 14, at the Greentree Radisson Hotel in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Igor Pokojny, the Slovak Consul General from New York, will bring greetings from the Slovak government. Charles Dougherty, president of Duquesne University, will be the keynote speaker. Musical entertainment will be provided by Andrei Pivnicka and Friends. To purchase tickets (\$55 per person), purchase an ad in the program book, or donate to the silent auction, contact Joe Senko at 412/531-2990 (office) or 413/343-5031 (home).

The WPSCA will be recognizing five honorees who by their distinguished leadership and service have enriched the Slovak culture and heritage. The awardees for this year are as follows:

## **WPSCA Business Award — Frederick N. Frank**

Mr. Frank serves as a director of the Slovak American Enterprise Fund, having been appointed to the post by President Clinton in 1998. The fund's purpose is to support emerging small and medium sized businesses in Slovakia by operating as a private venture capital fund with U.S. tax dollars. The Fund has invested tens of millions of dollars in Slovak-owned companies. In this capacity, Mr. Frank has made over 40 trips to Slovakia. He has been recognized for his service by receiving awards from President Bush in 2006 and from the Slovak Ambassador to the U.S. in 2007. The directors serve without pay.

## **WPSCA Government Award — Gregory C. Fajt**

Greg Fajt was appointed Chief of Staff to Governor Edward Rendell in 2007. As Chief of Staff, Fajt (pronounced "fight") serves as the top advisor to the Governor and manages the day-to-day activities of the executive branch of state government, including 18 cabinet agencies and the Governor's Office. Prior to that he served as Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue from March 2003 through February 2007. He also served as State Representative for the 42nd District in Allegheny County from 1991 to 1996. Greg is a resident of Mount Lebanon for the past 25 years. His paternal grandparents both came from Slovakia at the turn of the century.

## **WPSCA Religion Award — Bishop David A. Zubik**

The Most Reverend David A. Zubik, Bishop of Pittsburgh, is a native of Sewickley, Pennsylvania. He attended St. Paul Seminary in Pittsburgh. He received his undergraduate degree from Duquesne University in 1971 and a degree in theology from St. Mary Seminary and University in Baltimore, Maryland in 1975. He also earned a master's degree at Duquesne in 1992. Bishop Zubik was consecrated a bishop in 1997, and was appointed auxiliary bishop to the Diocese of Pittsburgh. In 2003, Pope John Paul II, named the Most Reverend David A.

Zubik as the Eleventh Bishop of the Diocese of Green Bay. On July 18, 2007, he was named Bishop of Pittsburgh. Both of Bishop Zubik's maternal grandparents were born in Slovakia.

## **WPSCA Lifetime Achievement Award — David G. Blazek**

Dave, a resident of Peters Township, Pennsylvania, is well known throughout the fraternal benefit system. His career with fraternal societies began in 1986 when he was elected to the National Slovak Society Board of Directors. He became president of the organization in 1993 and he has held this position for the past 15 years. Under his leadership, the National Slovak Society has more than quadrupled its assets. In addition to Dave's leadership role with the NSS, both the Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress and the New Jersey Fraternal Congress have elected him to the offices of director, vice president, and president. He has also served in several key positions with the National Fraternal Congress of America. Locally, Dave has served as the president of the Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh.

## **WPSCA Heritage Award — Rudy & Sue Ondrejco**

The Pittsburgh Slovaks folk dance group was formed in 1956 by Roman Niznik. Rudy and Sue Ondrejco succeeded him in 1977. Between the junior and senior group, they have 40 dancers. They perform approximately 20 times a year in the Pittsburgh area. Over the years, they have performed at the Slovak Embassy in Washington, D.C., as well as many cities in Slovakia. Rudy, Sue, and all four of their daughters were dancers in the group. Rudy and Sue Ondrejco began hosting the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour in 1979. Their radio listeners were within a 100-mile radius until they began broadcasting on the internet. Now they have listeners scattered throughout the U.S. and the entire world. The program, which is broadcast every Sunday from 3:00-4:00 p.m. on WPIT (89.3 AM), plays Slovak music for its listeners as well as updating news from Slovakia.

## *Calendar of Events*

*continued from page 2*

beginning at 1:00 p.m. Branches 163 and 180 will host. 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. See page 15.

2009

### **JANUARY**

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

*Have you signed up a new member lately?*



## LPSCU to Honor Our Military and Veterans

*Once again this year, the LPSCU is sponsoring a Veterans' Day Honorary/Memorial Program to appear in the November/December issue. If you missed this wonderful tribute to our veterans and active military in past years, don't pass up this chance to participate.*

Through our Veterans' Day Honorary/Memorial listings, the LPSCU is affording our members an opportunity to honor loved ones, co-workers, friends, and neighbors who are presently serving in our military, and to remember those veterans who have served in any branch of the service in the past.

Tributes will be limited to 2-5 lines and should not exceed 25-30 words.

There is no charge for placing a message, but a good will donation of \$5.00 per listing would be appreciated.

In keeping with the benevolent and fraternal nature of our Catholic organization, all proceeds from these tributes will again be donated to the **Catholic War Veterans**, an organization whose primary objective is to make the entire nation aware of the struggle and needs of many veterans, their widows and children. The CWV cooperate fully with all veterans organizations to better serve the interests of the men and women who served in each of the wars in which our nation has been involved. Further, as a Catholic organization, the CWV strives to serve God by demonstrating love and respect for individuals without regard to race, creed, color, or national origin. They also seek to instill in today's youth a respect for our flag, our national anthem, and our country's great traditions. The CWV was founded in May of 1935 by a Catholic priest and former Army chaplain, Msgr. Edward J. Higgins of the Diocese of Brooklyn, New York. It was officially recognized as a veterans organization by the Veterans Administration in Washington in July of 1940. To learn more about the CWV and their mission, visit their website at [www.cwv.org](http://www.cwv.org).

A few examples of Honorariums/Memorials follow:

*In honor of our son serving in Iraq,  
Marine Gunnery Sgt. Jack Gibbs*

*We pray every day for your safe return home.  
Your loving parents, John and Mary Gibbs*

*In honor of my husband,  
Lt. Harmon Elliott*

*presently serving his country in the U.S. Navy.  
With love and pride from your wife Sara*

*In memory of our father,  
Pfc. Arthur Bauer  
who served with the U.S. Army in Korea.  
We love and miss you – Tom and Chrissy*

Tribute messages, along with all donation checks (made payable to "Catholic War Veterans"), should be mailed to Fraternal Activities Director Cecilia B. Gaughan, 325 Florida Avenue, Whitehall, PA 18052. If you have any questions, contact Ceil at 610/433-4610 or e-mail [CBGaughan@msn.com](mailto:CBGaughan@msn.com).

**Deadline for submitting a veterans/military tribute is September 25, 2008.**

We hope that many of our members will participate in this worthwhile fraternal activity which allows them to honor their family members, friends and neighbors who were members of the armed forces and/or those who are presently serving our country in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kosovo, and other parts of the world. This is a wonderful way to show our love and appreciation to those serving our country and to show the concern and compassion the LPSCU has for our fellowman.



## 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.

## Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar Scheduled for September 24

The Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar, under the auspices of the Slovak Catholic Federation, will host its annual presentation on Sunday, September 24, 2008, at the Motherhouse of St. Casimir's, located at 2601 West Marquette Road, Chicago, Illinois.

Susan Marcinkus will present a 45-minute DVD on Slovakia entitled "Pictures of the Old Country." The film has been shown on PBS. A question and answer session will follow the showing.

The seminar will commence at 1:00 p.m. At 1:45, Geraldine Hletko will welcome and introduce our speaker. A buffet luncheon will be served at 3:00 p.m.

Attendees may pre-register for this event for \$15.00. (On site the cost will be \$20.00.) Prepaid registration can be arranged through John Jurcenko at 773/763-0810. Please contact him no later than **September 17, 2008**.

For more information, call Geraldine Hletko at 708/387-7812.

**SUPPORT  
Your Local Branch  
Participate in  
Branch Activities**



# A SALUTE

## to our 2008 Graduates



### KAYLA C. BENCH

Derry, PA – Branch 42

Kayla graduated from Derry Area High School. She will attend Westmoreland County Community College in August 2008 and plans to transfer to Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Dear Kayla,

Now that you have graduated, a new life you will make; let faith, love and wisdom be your guide each step that you take. We love you!

Mom, Matthew, Nanny, and Pop



### JOSEPH BUCHA

Bel Air, MD – Branch 38

Joseph graduated from The John Carroll School in Bel Air and will attend St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He will major in Chemistry and plans to join the Air Force ROTC program.

Dear Joe,

Congratulations on your successful completion of high school. You have grown into a wonderful person and we will always be very proud of you.

Love, Mom and Dad



### MEGAN BIGLEY

West Chester, PA – Branch 153

Megan graduated with Honors from West Chester Rustin High School and will attend Lehigh University in the College of Engineering.

Congratulations and best of luck at Lehigh!

Much love, Mom, Dad, and Laura



### MARY BUCHA

Center Valley, PA – Branch 38

Mary graduated from St. Michael the Archangel School in Colesville, Pennsylvania, with a myriad of awards including the President's Education Award. She will be attending Allentown Central Catholic High School.

Mary,

We are so very proud of all your achievements and we wish you God's blessings in all your future endeavors.

Love, Mom, Dad, Ann and Anthony



### AMY BUCHA

Macungie, PA – Branch 38

Amy graduated from Emmaus High School with Honors. She will attend the University of Delaware, pursuing a degree in Bio Medical Engineering.

Dear Amy,

We are blessed to have such a special daughter. You have so many gifts and always use them to help others. We are very proud and wish you the best at University of Delaware.

Love, Mom and Dad



### ALYSSA M. CIPRIANO

Hazleton, PA – Branch 60

Alyssa attended Bishop Hafey High School until its closing and graduated from Hazleton Area High School. She will attend Misericordia University School of Nursing, Dallas, Pennsylvania.

Dear Alyssa,

Congratulations on your achievements at Bishop Hafey and Hazleton Area High School! God bless you as you begin a new chapter at Misericordia University School of Nursing!

Love from your family





## REBECCA CRABB

Allentown, PA – Branch 38

Rebecca graduated from Bishkek International School, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

*Good luck at Berklee School of Music!*  
Mom, Dad, and Philip



## JACKIE HRIBAR

Phoenix, AZ – Branch 77

Jackie graduated from Arizona State University with a Master's degree in Early Childhood Education.

*Love and Best Wishes from*  
Your Ohio Family



## MATTHEW DEGENHART

Nazareth, PA – Branch 1

Matthew graduated from Shippensburg University in Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration, majoring in Finance.

*We're proud of you, Matt!*  
Love, Grammy and Pops Degenhart,  
Mom, Dad, Mike and Melissa



## EDWARD KALISH III

Tunkhannock, PA – Branch 7

Edward graduated from Colgate University with a Bachelor of Arts in Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution.

*Congratulations, Edward!*  
Love, Dad, Mom, and Sarah



## ZACHARY TAYLOR FOX

Whitehall, PA – Branch 38

Zach graduated from 8th grade at St. Elizabeth Regional School and will attend Allentown Central Catholic High School.

*Zach we are so proud of you! You have maintained honors throughout Middle School and now moving on to High School. Best of luck! These will be the best times of your life. Think Big and you will go far.*

Love, Mom and Dad



## KATRINA KLOCHAN

Whiting, IN – Branch 79

Katrina graduated from Andrea High School with Honors. She will attend Chicago's Loyola University, College of Arts and Sciences, to pursue a degree in Biology and Neuro Science.

*We are so proud of your high school achievements. You are well prepared for the challenges of college.*

Love, Mom, Dad, Shelly, and Cocoa



## COLLEEN E. GAUGHAN

Martinez, GA – Branch 38

Colleen graduated from Lakeside High School with Honors and will attend the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia.

*Colleen,*  
*We are so proud of all your accomplishments.*

*You have worked so hard. We pray you will stay safe and have many happy college memories.*

Love, Mom, Dad, and Bridget



## BENJAMIN KLOPHAS

Pipersville, PA – Branch 38

Ben graduated with Honors from Lansdale Catholic High School and will attend the Smeal College of Business at Penn State's University Park Campus.

*Congratulations, Ben! Remember all your good work; we know the future will bring more. Keep alive that generous spirit! We are very proud of you. God bless!*

Love, Mom, Dad, and Michael

*(continued on page 18)*

*Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined.*

Henry David Thoreau





## JONATHAN KNOLL

Catlin, IL – Branch 202

Jonathan graduated with Honors from Catlin High School and will major in Engineering at Eastern Illinois University.

*Always follow your dreams, Jonathan. May God bless you and your future accomplishments.*

**Dad, Mom, Grandma, Steven, Kevin, Keith**



## MEGAN NONNEMACHER

Hazleton, PA – Branch 124

Megan graduated from Marywood University in Scranton, Pennsylvania, as co-valedictorian of the Undergraduate Class of 2008. She received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree Summa Cum Laude in Illustration with a minor in Graphic Design.

*We are so very proud of you, Megan!*

**Your Loving Family**



## BRITTANY MAKOSKY

Campbell, OH – Branch 132

Brittany graduated from Campbell Memorial High School and will attend The Ohio State University majoring in Veterinary Medicine.

*To our beautiful daughter Brittany, we are very proud of you and hope all of your dreams*

*come true. We love you very much and thank you for being our amazing daughter!*

**Love, Mom and Dad**



## JESSICA PIPON

Windber, PA – Branch 24

Jessica graduated from Windber Area High School and was in the National Honor Society. She will attend St. Francis University. She has an undeclared major but is considering Business.

*Congratulations, Jessica, for a job well done! We are very proud of your accomplishments. Good luck in all your future endeavors!*

**Love and support, Mom, Dad, Ashley, Grandma and Pappy**



## ADRIAN (WYSOCKI) MARTINO

Bethesda, MD – Branch 19

Adrian graduated in June from Norwood School, Bethesda, Maryland.

*We love you and are so very proud of you.*

*Congrats and much success as you join your brother, Evan (the senior!), at Landon School in Bethesda, in September. Glad you enjoyed Spain!*

**Your Family**



## MATTHEW TIRPAK

Tom's River, NJ – Branch 214

Matthew graduated from Tom's River High School North and will begin studies in a Professional Golf Management program at Eastern Kentucky University. (Matthew is the grandson of Ann and John Tirpak. Ann is a retired LPSCU Trustee.)

*Matthew,*

*We are very proud of you. Work hard to fulfill your goal of a career in golf.*

**We love you ~ Dad and Mom**



## SHELBY NAUGHTON

Allentown, PA – Branch 19

Shelby graduated from Salisbury Township High School in June and will be attending Marywood University this fall.

*We're proud of you, Shelby!*

**Love Mom, Dad, and Stacey**



## MICHAEL P. WILLIAMS

Austintown, OH – Branch 132

Michael graduated from Ursuline High School, completing 12 years of Catholic school. He was an Honor Society member and will be attending the University of Northwestern Ohio.

*Congratulations, Michael! We wish you all the success that life can give you along with God's blessings.*

**Love, Your Family**





## KARLA ZIMA-DOYLE

Downingtown, PA – Branch 38

Karla graduated from kindergarten at Octorara Primary Learning Center. She will attend the same school in the fall. She enjoys gymnastics, playing with her dolls, bike riding, playing baseball, and going to Disney World.

*To our dearest and most precious Karla, we wish all good things in your future with all of God's blessings.*

**Love, hugs and kisses,  
Grandmom Mary Jo and Grandpop David Zima**

*The greatest results in life are usually attained by simple means and the exercise of ordinary qualities. These may for the most part be summed in these two: common sense and perseverance.*

Owen Feltham

## These members graduated prior to 2008 but missed out on our Salute at that time, so we're congratulating them now...



## MICHAEL P. HUDAK III

Sidman, PA – Branch 81

Michael will be a sophomore at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown.

*Michael, we are so proud of you.*  
**Love, your family and friends**



## JONATHAN ROYER

Larksville, PA – Branch 37

Jonathan is an Honors graduate of Wyoming Valley West High School and is beginning his second year at Luzerne County Community College studying Automotive Technology.

*Dear Jonathan,  
Congratulations and best wishes on all your future endeavors. Your hard work and dedication toward your future profession is outstanding. We are very proud of you!*  
**Love, Mom, Dad, David, Pop and Grandma Royer**



## CHRISTINA NYPAVER

Northville, MI – Branch 90

Christina will be entering her sophomore year at the University of Notre Dame. She's majoring in Biology.

*Congratulations, Christina,  
on your academic success!*  
**Love, Mom, Dad, Neil, and Grandma Helen**



## DANIEL RUTHRAUFF

Bethlehem, PA – Branch 130

Daniel graduated with Honors from Freedom High School where he was in the top 10% of his class and lettered in volleyball during his four years there. He just completed his freshman year at Lehigh University where he is majoring in Computer Engineering.

*Dan, we just want you to know how proud we are of you.*  
**Love, Mom, Dad, Ryan and Khira  
Autuman and Foxy too!**

# Congratulations, Grads!



# Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union First Quarter Report

<b>Assets</b>	<b>1st Quarter 2008</b>	<b>1st Quarter 2007</b>
Investments .....	\$ 13,420,051.00	\$ 14,347,003.00
Certificate of Deposit .....	\$ 1,534,000.00	\$ 1,360,899.92
Cash on Deposit .....	\$ 814,555.00	\$ 311,205.08
Mortgage Loans .....	\$ 27,864.00	\$ 40,763.00
Real Estate Owned .....	\$ 137,518.00	\$ 122,487.00
Other Assets .....	\$ 68,198.00	\$ 56,955.00
<b>Totals</b> .....	\$ 16,002,186.00	\$ 16,239,313.00

<b>Liabilities &amp; Fund Balance</b>	<b>1st Quarter 2008</b>	<b>1st Quarter 2007</b>
Fund Balance .....	\$ 5,497,837.00	\$ 5,669,598.00
Interest Maintenance Reserve .....	\$ 333,066.00	\$ 393,142.00
Amt. Retained as Trustee .....	\$ 48,678.00	\$ 51,996.00
Aggregate Reserve-Life Certificates .....	\$ 9,643,665.00	\$ 9,459,251.00
Other Liabilities .....	\$ 478,940.00	\$ 665,326.00
<b>Totals</b> .....	\$ 16,002,186.00	\$ 16,239,313.00

<b>Revenues</b>	<b>1st Quarter 2008</b>	<b>1st Quarter 2007</b>
Premium Income .....	\$ 50,531.00	\$ 58,257.00
Investment Income .....	\$ 178,567.00	\$ 161,928.00
Income - Other .....	\$ 35,725.00	\$ -
Profit/Loss - Sale of Bonds/Stocks .....	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Totals</b> .....	\$ 264,823.00	\$ 220,185.00

<b>Expenses</b>	<b>1st Quarter 2008</b>	<b>1st Quarter 2007</b>
Death Claims .....	\$ 82,063.00	\$ 42,429.00
Endowments .....	\$ 18,080.00	\$ 13,912.00
Cash Surrenders .....	\$ 9,587.00	\$ 7,245.00
Dividends .....	\$ 14,070.00	\$ 14,108.00
Increase in aggregate reserves .....	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
Commissions (new and renewals) .....	\$ 1,715.00	\$ 1,270.00
General Operating Expenses .....	\$ 57,415.42	\$ 83,621.07
Officers and Committee Expenses .....	\$ 1,030.42	\$ 3,615.86
Actuarial/Accounting Expense .....	\$ 28,095.00	\$ 39,250.00
Investment Mgt. Fee .....	\$ 6,648.79	\$ 11,654.83
Official Publications .....	\$ 19,062.61	\$ 22,643.06
Travel Expense .....	\$ 3,518.46	\$ 825.09
Bureau and Association Dues .....	\$ 1,125.00	\$ 715.00
Donations .....	\$ 2,610.00	\$ 3,220.00
Scholarships .....	\$ (1,340.00)	\$ (200.00)
Fraternal Activities .....	\$ 2,656.30	\$ 2,097.09
Insurance Taxes, Licenses & Fees .....	\$ 8,426.00	\$ 11,735.00
<b>Sub Total</b> .....	\$ 259,763.00	\$ 258,141.00

Net Gain/Loss From Operations .....	\$ 5,060.00	\$ (37,956.00)
Net Realized Capital Gain (Loss) .....	\$ (45,482.00)	\$ (6,458.00)
<b>Total</b> .....	\$ (40,422.00)	\$ (44,414.00)

## Member is Accomplished Rider

Paige DiSora, a member of LPSCU Branch 172, is an accomplished equestrian who has competed in horse shows in Ohio, New York, Kentucky, and her home state of Pennsylvania. She recently qualified for a national competition held in Massachusetts and holds many trophies and ribbons in her sport.

Paige is a freshman in the North Allegheny School District near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Her proud mother, Stephanie DiSora, and grandmother, Dolores Moravec, are also members of Branch 172.

Paige's future goals include owning a horse and working with animals in some capacity.

Congratulations, Paige. We wish you continued success in your competitions and as you strive to achieve your goals.



**Paige DiSora competes in a jumping competition.**

### HAVE ANY NEWS?

We welcome any news concerning honors, awards, or out-standing achievements received by our members, news on a Branch/Okres social, or any letters, articles, or information of interest to our members.

Contact Margaret A. Ferri  
Public Relations Director  
428 East Frankford Street,  
Bethlehem, PA 18018  
Phone 610/866-8945  
or e-mail [margferri28@aol.com](mailto:margferri28@aol.com)

## Slovak Radio Hour Annual Dinner-Dance

The Slovak Radio Hour Annual Dinner-Dance will be held on Saturday, October 4, 2008, at the Slovak Sokol Club, 2912 East Carson Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Cocktails begin at 5:00 p.m. and dinner will be served at 5:30. Entertainment will be provided by the Kontakty Band from New Jersey.

For tickets, call 412/ 421-1204.





# Congratulations to Our Pet Photo Contest Winners



The Delegates to the 39th Convention have voted and the winners are in for our first ever Pet Photo Contest. It was a tough choice to make from among all the great photos we received from our members. Thanks to all who sent in pictures and write-ups on their pets.



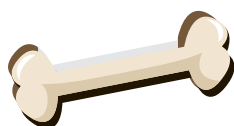
**The Number 1 choice of the delegates is:**

## Wendell

Wendell is half Maltese and half Shi-Tzu. He is 6 years old and very personable — can't you tell from this photo of



Wendell in his Easter Bunny slippers? Wendell loves any attention; since he was abandoned early in life, he can't get enough attention. His tail wags continuously. Wendell belongs to Sarah Schimeneck of Branch 18. When Sarah found him in the streets he weighed only 11 pounds; he now weighs 17 pounds.



## Bubba & Winnie tied for 2nd place.

Bubba is a German Shepherd. He is pictured here with Thomas Halko of Branch 158, godson and nephew of the late Anna M. Morris, former LPSCU chairperson of trustees. Tom is with the Ohio State Highway Patrol stationed at the Norwalk Post. Bubba will be 4 years old on September 27. He loves people and is very loyal.



Winnie (named for Winnie the Pooh) is a



Cairn Terrier who belongs to Michael DeFazio of Branch 38. Winnie believes she is everyone's dog and won't hesitate to jump on your lap and ask for a belly rub. If you give her a treat, you will be her friend forever. Winnie is 5 years old and Michael has had her since she was born.



## Mary Elizabeth Bucha is Confirmed in Limeport

Mary Elizabeth Bucha, a member of LPSCU Branch 38, received the Sacrament of Confirmation with her classmates in February of this year. Bishop Edward Cullen of the Allentown Diocese administered the sacrament in St. Joseph Church, Limeport, Pennsylvania.

Mary graduated in June from the 8th grade at St. Michael the Archangel School with a myriad of awards including Honor Roll, Conduct and Effort, The Rev. James Hanlon Award (for exemplifying Christian values and principles of honesty, courage, respect, and generos-

ity), and the President of the United States Education Award (in recognition of outstanding academic excellence). She will be attending Allentown Central Catholic High School this fall.

Mary is pictured here with Bishop Edward Cullen, Mrs. Carla Uribe (her sponsor) and Rev. Thomas Buckley. Mary chose Therese as her confirmation name.

Mary's brother Anthony and sister Anne are also members of LPSCU Branch 38. They are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Bucha of Center Valley, Pennsylvania.



**Member Mary Elizabeth Bucha (second from left) on her confirmation day.**

## Dear Junior Members,

Every year on the Sunday nearest the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, which is October 4th, Catholics and other Christian churches around the world host services where animals are blessed. These services are a powerful way to celebrate St. Francis's compassion for all living creatures. The Catholic Church honors St. Francis as the patron saint of animals and the environment.

St. Francis, whose given name was Giovanni Francesco Bernardone, was born at Assisi in Umbria in 1181 or 1182. His father was a prosperous cloth merchant who expected Francis to follow him in his trade. A privileged and carefree young man, Francis in 1201 joined a military expedition attacking Perugia, and was taken prisoner. It is suspected that his year-long captivity began to turn his thoughts to more serious pursuits, including religious ones. After his release, Francis resumed his carefree life, but more and more he spent time alone, seeking God's enlightenment. After a pilgrimage to Rome, Francis had a vision in which he felt that God called him to his service. Francis interpreted his vision as a request to repair the crumbling Church of San Damiano just outside Assisi, and so he sold his horse and other possessions to assist the priest in that task.

As Francis gradually left his friends and privileged life behind, choosing instead to help the poor and forgotten, his father became increasingly angry and embarrassed by his son's behavior. In the end, Francis renounced his father and gave up all his rights and possessions, choosing instead to live as a beggar and restoring several ruined churches in the Assisi area.

Later Francis felt himself called to preach. As his following grew, he received approval from Pope Innocent III

## Arts and Crafts

### PRESERVE YOUR SUMMER MEMORIES

When you were at the beach this summer, you probably found many treasures that you would like to keep. Here's a great way to display your summer memories all year long.

Go to a crafts store and buy a fish bowl or glass vessel. The size you choose will depend on how much you want to put into it. Then buy a package of fine sand in a natural color and add your treasures. You may also want to add a small lighthouse among the shells and sand dollars in your display. Be creative — add some beach pebbles, beach glass, small pieces of driftwood.

Your seashore keepsakes won't be forgotten when you turn them into a decorative display that will remind you of summer all year long.



to form a brotherhood, which he called the Friars Minor. Although choosing not to be ordained as a priest (in keeping with his simple life), Francis was ordained a deacon, allowing him to read the Gospels in the church.

St. Francis's impact on religious life has been enormous. No saint has affected so many in such profound ways as the gentle Saint of Assisi. Although born to wealth, he devoted his life to poverty and concern for the poor and the sick, and delighted in God's work as was revealed in nature. It is little wonder that he is one of the best-loved saints.

Have you ever been in Mexico around Easter? At this time the Blessing of the Animals is celebrated in a quaint and beautiful way. The people of Mexico prepare their animals and pets for this great event by adorning them with flowers and ribbons. Children and grown-ups dress in their finest clothes and assemble in the town square. When the church bells begin to ring the people form a procession with their animals and head to church. You will see cows decorated with roses. Goats, lambs, rabbits, roosters, cats, dogs, horses, burros, birds — any animal you can think of — all proceeding down the narrow streets. Musicians line the way and play soft music as the procession passes by. The padre is on the church steps and blesses the animals one by one as they pass by him. As he sprinkles Holy Water on each he says these words: "Bless, O Lord, these animals so all will be well with them." It is an event much anticipated every year.

On a local level, it should be noted that our Honorary Chaplain, Msgr. Francis Beeda, also blesses the animals on the Sunday closest to St. Francis's October 4th Feast Day. This custom takes place at his parish, St. Joseph's in Hazleton, Pennsylvania. Many Catholic and non-Catholic parishes have adopted this custom. Because October is also the month dedicated to the "Respect for Life," by getting their animals blessed, children learn to respect their pets as a gift from God.

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

## Slovak Lesson

### NAŠA ŠKOLA — OUR SCHOOL

My sme Slováci.  
*We are Slovaks.*

Moji rodičia sú Slováci.  
*My parents are Slovaks.*

Kde ste vy boli?  
*Where were you?*

V škole sa učíme.  
*In school we learn.*

Učíme sa písať.  
*We are learning to write.*

To je slovenská kniha.  
*That is a Slovak book.*

To je naša nová škola.  
*This is our new school.*

Amerika je naša krajina.  
*America is our country.*

My sme boli v škole.  
*We were in school.*

Čo sa v škole učíte?  
*What do you learn in school?*

Anna môže čítať.  
*Anna can read.*

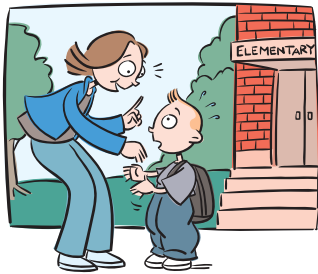
Kde je moja ceruza.  
*Where is my pencil?*

Reprinted with permission from *LET'S LEARN SLOVAK II*, Hrobak Family Publications, Little Ferry, NJ 07643.



## School Tips for Parents

Yes, it still feels like summer, but the new school year is about to begin. It is a new year for you and your children, complete with new teachers, new classrooms, new routines, and new school resolutions.



A new school year means you have a chance to start off right. You may want to take your children to the library to brush up on some of their skills. A kindergarten child may need practice tying his shoelaces. You may want to read to the younger children or have the older ones practice their reading skills.

Your teenager may need help to develop new study strategies. If teens are going to a new school they may be feeling anxious and this is a chance for you to acknowledge these fears and encourage them to tell you about how they're feeling. Above all, be a good listener.

There are many resolutions you may want to jot down and review, like eating a healthy breakfast, getting their clothes ready the night before, preparing healthy lunches, and making sure you know what is going on at school.

By planning ahead and communicating openly, you and your children can start the new school year off on the right foot.

## Kindness Counts

It is September and you are back in school. Here's something for you to consider. We hear so much about violence in the world today, let's think about the other side of things – like being kind. It doesn't take much effort. Just keep in mind the Golden Rule and put yourself in other people's shoes. How would you want to be treated? Here are some simple things you can do . . .



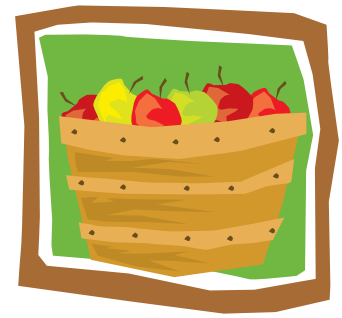
- Make an effort to call someone by his or her first name.
- Make someone feel better if he's been hurt or is having a bad day.
- Be friendly with the new kid and try to help him/her make friends.
- Stand up for your friends.
- Respect your friends and their property.
- Include the left out kids in your activities.
- Try to help a classmate who's been absent and may have missed assignments.
- Be quiet in class so others are able to concentrate.
- Be polite and listen when others are speaking.
- Show your appreciation toward your fellow classmates.

And here are some things NOT to do — **Don't . . .**

- Deliberately hurt your classmates' feelings.
- Talk about others and spread rumors.
- Ever make fun of anyone who has special needs.
- Pick on other students or boss them around.
- Laugh at others when they have been disciplined.
- Forget to say "Please" and "Thank you," "Nice try" or "You're doing great."

## A is for Apple

We all love apples but how much do we know about this favorite fall fruit? Here are some interesting facts.



- 7,500 varieties of apples are grown throughout the world, with some 2,500 varieties grown in the United States. The top apple producing states are Washington, New York, Michigan, Pennsylvania, California and Virginia.
- The crabapple is the only apple native to North America.
- The pilgrims planted the first U.S. apple trees in the Massachusetts Bay Colony.
- Have you ever bobbed for apples at a Halloween party? Ripe apples are made up of 25% air. That is why they float.
- Apple varieties range in size from just larger than a cherry to as large as a grapefruit. The world's largest apple picked weighed 3 pounds.
- Apples are a member of the rose family.
- A medium apple is about 80 calories and is a great source of fiber.
- Apples ripen 6 to 10 times faster at room temperature than when they are refrigerated.
- It takes the energy from 50 leaves to produce one apple.
- October is National Apple Month.

## Kids in the Kitchen

### AFTER SCHOOL APPLE SNACK

Here's an easy-to-prepare, nutritious snack made with apples, peanut butter, and honey sandwiched between graham crackers.

You'll need:

- 2 Red Delicious apples
- Lemon juice
- ½ cup chunky peanut butter
- 2 tablespoons honey
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- 6 whole graham crackers

Core apples and cut each in half; cut each half into 3 wedges to make a total of 12. Dip wedges in lemon juice to prevent browning and place in a single layer on microwave-safe plate or baking dish. Cover loosely with waxed paper and microwave on high (100 percent) 3½ to 4 minutes or until apples are tender and hold their shape. (If microwave does not have carousel, rotate dish halfway through cooking.) Drain apples on paper towels.

In a small bowl, combine peanut butter, honey, and cinnamon. Snap graham crackers in half to make 12 square crackers. Spread a layer of peanut butter mixture on each of six square crackers; top each with 2 apple wedges. Top with remaining graham cracker squares to make a tasty apple sandwich.



# God Has a Plan

continued from page 3

This story from American folklore reminds us that God has a plan for each of us. There may be times when we lose sight of our dreams, and we may not understand the things that take place in our lives. We must remember that God loves us, has a plan for us, and is in control; we can always trust God.

Not only is this story a reminder that God has a plan for each of us, it is also a reminder that we have been gifted with certain talents and abilities that are to be used in loving service of God and others. How generous are we in sharing our gifts?

As we honor the wood of the cross, we also celebrate the fact that we have been immersed into Jesus' life-saving death and resurrection, thanks to our baptism. Because of the life of faith given us at baptism, we must place ourselves at the service of God's plans and dreams for his creation. Through this life of faith, we are called to offer ourselves in humble service, believing, like the third tree, that God's love can change everything!

"We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you! Because by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world!"

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

## Make a Difference on October 25, 2008

Each October, millions of Americans participate in "Make a Difference Day." This year's day of community outreach takes place on Saturday, October 25th. Everyone wants to help make the world a better place, so why not see what YOU can do to reach out to others? We encourage all our LPSCU members to volunteer for this worthwhile project, whether as individuals, or through their Branch's or District's participation.

Select a project that suits your interests and abilities and make the necessary arrangements to see it through. Don't know what to choose? Volunteer to cook or serve a meal at a homeless shelter. Shop for a neighbor who is homebound. Repair something, wash windows, or do yard work for an elderly or handicapped person. Visit someone in a nursing home or veterans' hospital. Read to a vision impaired person. Write an encouraging letter or send a care package to a serviceman or woman serving in Iraq or Afghanistan. There are literally thousands of small ways each of us can help make a difference in the lives of those around us. And the reward of knowing that your good deed helped to brighten someone's day is priceless.

We would like to hear from everyone who "makes a difference" on October 25th. Please send a brief article about your project, along with your name, Branch number and/or District, and a photo to Public Relations Director Margaret A. Ferri. We will report on your volunteer efforts in the *Zornicka*.

**Remember — One person can make a difference!**

## Cooking Corner

### YUMMY CHOCOLATE CAKE

½ cup (1 stick) unsalted butter	
4 oz. unsweetened chocolate, broken up	
2½ cups flour	2¼ cups sugar
1 cup cocoa powder	2 tsp. baking soda
½ tsp. baking powder	1½ tsp. salt
1½ cups sour cream	3 eggs
1 cup water	2 tsp. vanilla extract

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Grease and flour three 9-inch round cake pans. In a glass bowl, melt butter and chocolate together in microwave on High until melted and smooth, 1 to 1½ minutes, stirring halfway through. Set aside. On low speed, mix flour, sugar, cocoa, baking soda, baking powder, and salt in a large bowl until blended. Add sour cream, eggs, 1 cup water, chocolate mixture, and vanilla; beat 30 seconds on low, until dry ingredients are moistened. Increasing to medium, beat 2 minutes. Pour into prepared pans. Bake at 350 degrees for 40 minutes or until cake springs back when pressed. Cool layers in pans on rack 10 minutes. Remove cakes to rack to cool.

### Frosting

4 oz. unsweetened chocolate, broken up	
½ cup solid vegetable shortening	
½ cup (1 stick) butter, softened	¼ cup sour cream
⅓ cup milk	2 tsp. vanilla extract
¼ tsp. salt	1 box (1 lb.)
½ cup cocoa powder	confectioners' sugar

In a small glass bowl, melt chocolate in microwave on High for 1 minute. Stir until smooth. Set aside. Melt shortening, butter, sour cream, milk, vanilla, salt, 1 cup of sugar, and the cocoa powder in a medium-size bowl until creamy. Gradually beat in remaining sugar and melted chocolate until thick and smooth. Place a cake layer on a pedestal. Spread with about ⅔ cup frosting. Top with second layer; spread with about ⅔ cup frosting. Top with remaining layer. Frost top and sides, swirling decoratively. Garnish with chocolate curls.

