



Slovak Fraternals *March for Life*

*"United on the Life Principles to
Overturn Roe v. Wade and With Love
Protect Mothers and Preborn Children.
No Exception! No Compromise!"*



In This Issue

Spiritual Advisor's Message	3	Cooking Corner	14
Message from Our Episcopal Protector	4	Slovak Fraternal March for Life	15
Easter Greeting	4	ScriptSave Report	15
Slovak Summer Institute Courses	5	Convention Donations Notice	16
Why's Your Mother/Father Special?	5	Ferri Family Spans Four Generations	16
Monsignor Beeda Marks Anniversary	5	Call to the 40th National Convention	16
LPSCU Catholic High School Award	5	Info. for Members Running for Office	17
Branch and Okres News	6-8	Pittsburgh Members Attend Vilija	17
Branch 90/213 Delegate Elections	8	Board Conference Call Minutes	18
Mother's/Father's Day Tributes	8	LPSCU Annuities Report	18
Branch 79 Members Tour Slovakia	9	Signatura to Hear Church Appeal	18
New Insurance Issued	9	Lehigh Valley Okres Baseball Outing	18
FSNEPA Holds Christmas Social, Election	9	PAS Florida Performances	19
Join Hands Day is May 5th	10	2012 Tour of Slovakia	19
Member Receives Certificate from NASA	10	Convention Memorial Service	19
EFC Meeting Minutes	11	SCF Seeks <i>Good Shepherd</i> Contributors	20
Letters	12, 14	Sts. Cyril & Methodius Annual Appeal	20
Convention Souvenir Book	12	United Slovak Fraternal Tournament	21
Bishop Grutka Scholarship Award	13	In Memoriam	21
Cardinal Tomko Chapter Food Drive	13	Okres Holds Matching Fund Project	21
The Importance of Life Insurance	13	Junior Branch Journal	22-23
Two Slovak Heritage Tours Set	14	Slovak League Awards Scholarships	24

Calendar of Events

MARCH

- 1** — Deadline to apply for the 2012 LPSCU College Award.
- 1** — Deadline to apply for the 2012 Anne (Shinal) Cichy Memorial Award.
- 1** — Deadline to nominate a member for the 2012 Fraternalist of the Year Award.
- 1** — Deadline to nominate a young member for the 2012 Youth Achievement Award.
- 4** — 60th Anniversary of the Slovak Gardens' Annual Slovak Day at 3110 Howell Branch Road, Winter Park, Florida. PAS Slovak Folk Ensemble will perform, among other planned events. Doors open at 10:00 a.m. Call 407-677-6894 to make reservations.
- 8** — LPSCU Audit
- 9-11** — LPSCU Annual Board Meeting at the Home Office, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.
- 13** — Msgr. Beeda District Meeting at Perkin's Restaurant, Route 93, West Hazleton, Pennsylvania, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Call Anita Gregory (570-788-3263) by March 8 if you plan to attend.
- 17** — Lehigh Valley Okres Meeting at Paprika's Restaurant, 1180 Main Street, Hellertown, Pennsylvania, at 12:30 p.m. If you plan to attend, call Okres Secretary Mary Shannon (610-866-1625) before March 14.
- 20** — Deadline to submit a message for our Mother's/Father's Day Tributes to appear in the May/June issue. *Details on page 8.*
- 20** — **Deadline to submit articles for May/June Zornicka.**

APRIL

- 1** — Pittsburgh District Meeting at Eat 'n' Park, Homestead Waterfront, beginning at 1:00 p.m.
- 13** — Deadline to return completed Intent Form to the Home Office for those members wishing to run for the office of National President at the upcoming Convention. *See page 17.*
- 13** — Deadline to submit an application form to apply for a donation from the LPSCU National Convention. *See page 16.*
- 13-14** — 55th Congress of the Slovak League of America, Bridgeport, Connecticut.
- 14-18** — President/Secretary Section, American Fraternal Alliance.
- 15** — Rev. Dianiska District Meeting at Holy Trinity Church, Hughes Street, Swoyersville, Pennsylvania, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Branches 7 and 214 will host.

continued on page 10



(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: lpescu@lpescu.org
Website: www.lpescu.org**

SECRETARY/TREASURER

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

Rev. Philip A. Altavilla, V.G., St. Peter's Cathedral Rectory, 315 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, PA 18503-1237; 570/344-7231, Fax 570/344-4749; frfrosty@gmail.com

PRESIDENT

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

VICE PRESIDENT

Anita Gregory, 304 Turkey Path Road, Sugarloaf, PA 18249; 570/788-3263; anitag13@hotmail.com

CHAIRPERSON OF TRUSTEES

Mary Ann Ewasko, 9 Shannon Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702; 570/823-6432; maryann6@ptd.net

TRUSTEES

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

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

Margaret Jollimore, 1001 SR 292E, Harveys Lake, PA 18618-7829; 570/760-9790; jollimore.m@juno.com

Elizabeth Melko, 100 Bryn Mawr Court West #513, Pittsburgh, PA 15221; 412/242-0419; bam0208@comcast.net

FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

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

PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR

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

Spiritual Advisor's Message

"Regret City"



Fr. Altavilla

Recently, while reading through a website devoted to sharing motivational stories (www.motivational-well-being.com), I came across a story that I had never seen before. It was simply entitled "Regret City," and is attributed to an anonymous author. As we journey through this holy season of Lent, a time of spiritual growth and new beginnings, please allow me to share this story with you. I encourage you to read this story very carefully and slowly . . .

I had not really planned on taking a trip this time of year, and yet I found myself packing rather hurriedly. This trip was going to be unpleasant and I knew in advance that no real good would come of it. This is my annual "Guilt Trip."

I got tickets to fly there on "WISH-I-HAD" airlines. It was an extremely short flight. I had my "personal baggage," which I could not check. I chose to carry it myself all the way. My baggage was loaded down with a thousand memories of "what might have been." No one greeted me as I entered the terminal to the Regret City International Airport. I say international because people from all over the world come to this dismal town.

As I checked into the "Last Resort" Hotel, I noticed that they would be hosting the year's most important event – the annual "Pity Party." I was not going to miss that great social occasion. Many important families and individuals would be at the party.

First, there would be the "Done" family; you know – "Should Have," "Would Have," and "Could Have." There would be the "I Had" family – good old "Wish" and his clan. Of course, the "Opportunities" family, "Missed" and "Lost," would be present. The biggest family there would be the "Yesterday's." There are far too many "Yesterday's" to count, but each one would have a very sad story to share.

Of course, "Shattered Dreams" would surely make an appearance. The "It's Their Fault" family would regale us with stories (excuses) about how things had failed in their lives because of others. Each story would be loudly applauded by the "Don't Blame Me" and the "I Couldn't Help It" clans.

To make a long story short, I went to this depressing party, knowing full well there would be no real benefit in doing so and I became very depressed. But as I thought about all of the stories of failures brought back from my past, it occurred to me that this trip and subsequent "pity parties" COULD be cancelled by ME!

I started to realize that I did not have to be there. I did not have to be depressed. One thing kept going through my mind: *I cannot change yesterday, but I do have the power to make today a wonderful day!* I can choose to be happy, joyous, fulfilled, encouraged, as well as encouraging to others.

Knowing this, I left Regret City immediately, and did not leave a forwarding address. Am I sorry for mistakes I have made in the past? YES! But there is no way to undo the mistakes; yet I can learn from them, so as not to commit them again.

So, if you are planning a trip back to Regret City, please cancel all those reservations now. Instead, take a trip to a nice place called "Starting Again." I like it so much that I made it my permanent residence. My new neighbors, the "Been Forgiven" and the "We're Saved" families, are so very helpful.

By the way, you do not have to carry around the heavy personal baggage anymore either. That load is lifted from your shoulders upon arrival. But don't take my word for it, find out for yourself.

It is probably safe to say that all of us, at one time or another, have embarked on a trip to Regret City and we have encountered the various situations and "families" that are described in this symbolic story. We have all thrown "pity parties" for ourselves and have looked back, with regret, on things that we have said or done that have been hurtful and harmful. Some of us have blamed others, unwilling to accept personal responsibility for what has happened in our lives.

Towards the end of this story, the "traveler" begins to realize that he has the power to begin to change how he approaches his situation in life. The traveler can choose to allow himself to be overwhelmed by feelings of guilt, regret, or sadness, or the traveler can choose to allow a more positive attitude about life guide him as he journeys to a much more healthy and safe destination. Certainly there are some "externals" about life that we cannot control or change, but we can control the approach or attitude that we take to what we experience in life and, where necessary, make the appropriate self-changes that can help us experience more joy and happiness in life.

During the season of Lent, we are given an opportunity to learn from our past and open our hearts and lives to the transforming power of God's mercy. Lent affords us the opportunity to "begin again" in our various relationships. Most importantly, through the Sacrament of Reconciliation or Confession, we are invited to embrace the gift of new life that comes from the experience of forgiveness. When we approach the Sacrament of Reconciliation, voicing and expressing our sins allows us to talk about what we have said or done to harm relationships, not to simply relive the past, but to learn from past hurts and mistakes.

Sacramental confession is a chance to talk about what may be tearing us up inside. In order to experience true forgiveness, we must be honest and vulnerable about who we are and what we have done...the good and the bad. Some people believe that if they just pretend that something never happened, maybe it will all just go away. While this may sound nice, it is not true. Sometimes we need to be honest

continued on page 24

An Easter Message

from

Most Reverend Joseph V. Adamec
Bishop Emeritus of Altoona-Johnstown



Most Rev. Adamec

Dear Sisters and Brothers
of the LPSCU:

The Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union is one of two Slovak fraternals that list me as its Protector. I value that honor and distinction very much. Such a position is intended to provide a somewhat official connection with the Church – to intercede for the Society, if necessary. Conversely, it is to assure that the society functions in a way that it merits the distinguishing characteristic of being Catholic. Slovak Catholic fraternals are not the only organizations to have such

an association with a particular bishop.

During the Easter Season, we celebrate a special Protector; one that intercedes for us in the Heavenly Kingdom. When we wish to approach the Divine Throne in prayer, we do so through Christ, our Lord. It is He who stands up for us as those with whom He has a special relationship. Jesus won a victory that gives him the right to claim us as his own. His victory is ours, thus enabling us to have access to a loving God.

We rejoice that the love of God prompted him to save us through his Son's suffering, dying, and resurrection. By our acceptance of the Savior's dominion when we are baptized and confirmed, and our subsequent lives reflecting that acceptance, we merit the distinguishing characteristic of being Christian.

Not every organization feels a need to have a "protector." Nor does every individual feel a need for an intercessor with God. Christians, however, do. Therefore, we celebrate the Easter Season with great joy, for it is the reason for our special status. It is a status of those redeemed from Satan, of those anointed in the Holy Spirit, and of those belonging to Christ's Community.

I pray that, during this Easter Season, all of you will be abundantly blessed with signs of the Lord's favor in your regard. Alleluia!

Fraternally yours in the Risen Lord,

+ *Joseph*

(Most Rev.) Joseph V. Adamec
Bishop Emeritus of Altoona-Johnstown
Protector, LPSCU



*The National Officers
of the
Ladies Pennsylvania
Slovak Catholic Union
wish our members
and their loved ones
a Blessed and Joyous Easter!*



*Veselá veľ'ka noc
Radostné Aleluja*



*Šventu Velyku
Linkejimai*

SIGN UP A NEW MEMBER

TODAY!

Slovak Summer Institute Schedules Slovak Courses

The intensive Slovak Summer Institute will again be held at the University of Pittsburgh from June 4-13, 2012. Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Slovak will be offered. This course is open to students of any age, including juniors and seniors in high school, undergraduate and graduate students, as well as persons of any age not currently enrolled in a college or university. Partial and full scholarship aid is available. (Apply by March 16 for scholarship consideration.)

The Summer Language Institute consists of intensive instruction (five hours daily), allowing students to make the greatest possible progress in Slovak during the time available. SLI's Intensive Slovak courses, which carry six college credits, are a thorough introduction to the basic categories of Slovak pronunciation, grammar, and syntax. Emphasis is placed on the communicative competence, the active use of new structures in dialogues, unstructured conversation, reading, and listening comprehension. Guest students may choose to stay in a dormitory or in a subletted apartment.

A four-week intensive Slovak language program at the intermediate level will be offered through SLI in 2012 in Bratislava, Slovakia, following the six-week program in Pittsburgh. This course includes travel and cultural programs in Slovakia. Applicants with some prior knowledge of Slovak may also be considered for participation in this program.

For further information and applications for the 2012 Slovak Summer Institute, contact Christine Metil, Slavic Department Summer Programs, University of Pittsburgh, 1417 CL, Pittsburgh, PA 15260, call (412) 624-5906, or download an application at <http://sli.slavic.pitt.edu>.

What Makes Your Mother/Father So Special?

Every year, as Mother's Day and Father's Day approach, we ask our members to tell us in a few words what makes their Mom or Dad such a special person in their lives. This request isn't limited to just our young readers. I'm sure many of our adult members out there have special feelings or memories about one or both of their parents. We'd encourage you to take a minute or two to jot them down and share them with our membership as a special tribute to those who are so important but so often overlooked in our busy lives... our Mothers and Fathers.

Please share your thoughts – and a photo if possible – **by March 25**. We'll print your comments in our May/June issue.

Fraternal Activities Director Cecilia Gaughan

325 Florida Avenue
Whitehall, PA 18052
Email: cbgaughan@msn.com

Visit with Monsignor Beeda Marks Special Occasion



Several LPSCU officers and members recently visited LPSCU Honorary Spiritual Advisor, Monsignor Francis J. Beeda in recognition of his 50th Anniversary of ordination. Pictured from left are President Theresa Kluchinski, Eleanor Kluchinski, Chairperson of Trustees Mary Ann Ewasko, Monsignor Beeda, Secretary-Treasurer Mary Jo Savidge, and Vice President Anita Gregory. Those wishing to send congratulatory greetings to Monsignor can address them to: Msgr. Francis J. Beeda, 200 South Meade Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702-6299.

LPSCU 2012 Catholic High School Award

\$150 One-Time Award

The LPSCU is offering a Catholic High School Award Benefit, which is a \$150 one-time award to our members who are attending a Catholic high school during the 2012-2013 academic year. Members may only receive this award one time.

The following are the guidelines for applying for the Catholic High School Award:

- Must be a member of the LPSCU for two (2) years with \$2,000 permanent reserve life insurance certificate (excludes term insurance).
- Must be a Catholic high school freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior.
- Must provide a wallet-size color photo.

Applicants must meet all criteria and provide data indicated above 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 must be postmarked by June 30, 2012.**

Applications are available from the LPSCU Home Office or our website.

Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union
Educational Benefit Committee
P.O. Box 32

Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703

Phone: 570-823-3513 ♦ Toll free: 888-834-6614

Fax: 579-823-4464

E-mail: lpscu@lpscu.org ♦ Website: www.lpscu.org

REVEREND DIANISKA DISTRICT

The annual Christmas party of the Reverend Dianiska District of the LPSCU was held on Sunday, December 4, 2011, at The Ramada Inn, Public Square, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Branch 19 hosted the event.

Debbie Adamchak welcomed 54 members and guests and 12 young members. District President Mary Ann Ewasko thanked all members for their cooperation throughout the year and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

Jean Kapral and youth member Daniel Edwards offered a Christmas Blessing before everyone exchanged Christmas wishes by sharing *Oplatky* with one another.

National President

Theresa Kluchinski wished everyone a Merry Christmas on behalf of the LPSCU.

A fruit and cheese tray was served as a starter, followed by a delicious family-style dinner and a variety of desserts and beverages.

Members and guests joined in a special gift raffle. Proceeds were donated to the Wyoming Valley Red Cross in Wilkes-Barre to aid the flood victims of Hurricane Irene. Canned goods and other non-perishable food items brought by both members and guests were donated to the Holy Family Parish Food Pantry in Luzerne, Pennsylvania.

President Ewasko announced that District members Scott Napkora (Branch 6), Elizabeth Nace (Branch 7), and John Ignatovich (Branch 19) are all recipients of 2011 LPSCU Scholarships.



District President Mary Ann Ewasko (right) with Marge Zinkavich, recipient of a special drawing prize for recommending a new member.

Marge Zinkavich was the recipient of a special drawing for recommending a new member to her Branch Secretary.

The members of the Reverend Dianiska District wish everyone a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year!

Susan Worth



LPSCU 2011 Scholarship winners from the District receive their awards - From left, Sue and Loren Napkora accepting for their son, Scott, and recipient John Ignatovich and his mother, Tammy. (Recipient Elizabeth Nace was not able to be present.)



Non-perishable food items members and guests donated to the Holy Family Parish Food Pantry.

LEHIGH VALLEY OKRES

The Lehigh Valley Okres held its annual Holiday Luncheon on Sunday, December 4, 2011, at the Lehigh Room of the Best Western Lehigh Valley Conference Center in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. A punch reception commenced at noon, followed by the luncheon at 12:30 p.m. Fifty-five Okres members and guests attended.

Okres President Jean Kosalko extended a warm welcome to all present. Rev. Stanley Moczydlowski, administrator of Incarnation of Our Lord Parish in Bethlehem, offered a prayer before the meal.

Members brought unwrapped toys to be donated to the Marine Corps "Toys for Tots" program, which distributes them to needy children. Members also donated 21 themed baskets as a raffle for the benefit of the Allentown Diocesan Soup Kitchen as an LPSCU Matching Fund Project.

At the conclusion of the luncheon, President Kosalko introduced the Okres officers, Secretary Mary Shannon and Treasurer Margaret A. Ferri (who also serves as National Public Relations Director), National Fraternal Activities Director Cecilia B. Gaughan, Honorary Vice President Mary Ann Ackerman, and former National Public Relations Director Mary Ford. She also introduced the officers of



Some of the young members who attended the District's Christmas party.

Allentown Branch 38/40, Bethlehem Branch 83/130, and Hellertown Branch 196, as well as Monica Anthony, a member of the FCSLA Court of Appeals.

As the members were singing Christmas carols, everyone was delighted to see Santa Claus (in the person of John Ferri) enter the room ringing his jingle bells. The children were especially excited to see Santa and as they gathered around him, he presented gifts of a musical nutcracker to each boy, jewelry to each girl, and a plush toy to each infant. Each adult attendee received a bayberry candle as a favor.

The themed baskets were chanced off together with two beautiful afghans which were handmade by Erica Latch of the Pioneer Club in Allentown and the sum of \$250 was realized from this Matching Fund project. Special prizes in the annual holiday raffle were won by Theresa Kluchinski, Frances Sefranek, Rev. Philip A. Altavilla, V.G., Eddie Sloski, Jeffrey Kosalko, Adria Geiger, Regina Polaha, Rita Marie Knecht, Elizabeth Melko, and Susan Alfier.

President Kosalko thanked everyone for attending and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. She concluded the festivities by offering a prayer. A delightful time was had by all who attended.

PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

The Pittsburgh District's annual Christmas party was held at the Westwood Golf Club, West Mifflin, Pennsylvania, on December 11, 2011. Members donated canned goods to be distributed to needy families in the area, as well as door prizes. A Chinese auction was also conducted. A pork chop dinner with all the trimmings was enjoyed by the 45 members and their guests. Musicians led everyone in singing Christmas songs, and the high-stepping "LPSCU dancers" added to the entertainment.



As Cole Geiger of Branch 130 is interviewed by Okres President Jean Kosalko, he is not shy in stating what he would like Santa to bring him for Christmas.



Benjamin Kosalko of Branch 196 peeks into his gift bag while sitting on Santa's lap.



Some of the Pittsburgh District members who attended the Christmas party.



Some of the members who attended the District Christmas party.



At Santa's direction, children prepare to place toys in the Toys for Tots container. They are Cole Geiger (in front), Alexandria Kosalko and Benjamin Kosalko (in front of their father, Eric), and, standing next to President Kosalko, Brigitte Marrero-Guempel and Christopher Shannon.



District members who entertained with a dance routine are, L-R, Sylvia Goda, Marge Joschak, Mary Heckel, Flo Wackowski, and Dolores Sakal.

BRANCH 52, BRADDOCK, PENNSYLVANIA

Members of LPSCU Braddock Branch 52 attended their annual Christmas party on Sunday, December 4, 2011, at the Grandview Golf Club of North Braddock in western Pennsylvania. A crowd of nearly 40 Branch members and their families attended. The group included children from the age of one to great-grandparents over the age of 88.

A tasteful buffet brunch was served with sufficient variety to satisfy everyone's palate. All the children and adults received gifts from the Branch and numerous door prizes were awarded.

All attendees enjoyed a memorable time and are looking forward with anticipation to another great LPSCU year.



A group of Branch 52 members who attended the Christmas party.

MSGR. BEEDA DISTRICT

The Msgr. Beeda District of the LPSCU will hold a meeting on Tuesday, March 13, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. at Perkins Restaurant, Route 93, West Hazleton, Pennsylvania. Any member wishing to attend is asked to contact Anita Gregory at 570-788-3263 by March 8th.

REVEREND DIANISKA DISTRICT

The Reverend Dianiska District will meet on Sunday, April 15, 2012, at 1:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Hughes Street, Swoyersville, Pennsylvania. The meeting will be hosted by Branches 7 and 214.

The District will be planning events for the remainder of 2012 at this meeting, so bring your ideas! Members are asked to call their Branch Secretary with reservations by April 7, 2012.

**Branch 90 and 213
Election of Delegates**

Members of Branches 90 and 213 interested in representing their Branch as a Delegate to the Convention at the Inn at Pocono Manor, Pocono Manor, Pennsylvania, to be held June 24-27, 2012, are instructed to contact Branch Secretary Theresa Kluchinski. You may call 570-829-5410, e-mail tkluchinski@aol.com, or write to 446 Mountain Oaks Drive, Laurel Run, PA 18706. **Requests must be received or postmarked by April 1, 2012.**

*LPSCU Mother's Day/Father's Day
2012 Tribute/Memorial Program*

The LPSCU will once again be offering an opportunity for members to honor/remember their mothers and fathers in our May/June 2012 issue through our Tribute/Memorial Program. Good will donations raised through this annual activity go to the Breast Cancer Research Center (Mother's Day) and American Diabetes Association (Father's Day). Donations (which are tax deductible) should be made by check **payable directly to either the "Breast Cancer Research Center" or "American Diabetes Association."**

Because space is limited, Tributes/Memorials cannot be more than 2 or 3 lines and should not exceed 20 words. A few examples follow:

In honor of our mothers
Mary Jones and Susan Clark
Given by George and Christine Clark

In loving memory of Joseph Smith, Sr.
Given by his children and grandchildren

Happy Mother's Day to Betty J. Winston
With love from her grandchildren

If you would like to take part in this annual fraternal activity, please fill out the form below and send it, along with your \$5.00 donation (per greeting) to: Cecilia B. Gaughan, Fraternal Activities Director, 325 Florida Avenue, Whitehall, PA 18052

Greetings can also be emailed to Ceil at cbgaughan@msn.com and you can follow-up with your donation by mail.

Deadline for submitting Mother's/Father's Day messages for the May/June Zornicka is March 20, 2012.

Thank You for your participation in this tribute and for your contribution to these very worthy causes!

Name _____

Phone or E-mail* _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____ Branch No. _____

**In case we have questions about your submission*

MY TRIBUTE/MEMORIAL

(Please limit to 2 or 3 lines and no more than 20 words):

Whiting Branch 79 Members Tour Slovakia

In July of last year, Youngstown-Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities sponsored its 20th Annual Slovak Heritage Tour of the Slovak Republic. Two members of Whiting, Indiana LPSCU Branch 79, Eleanor Lukacsek and her daughter Carol Burgan, traveled to Slovakia with hosts James and Kay Bench of Derry, Pennsylvania, on the extensive 14-day tour. Gisele Bacon, whose late husband Steve started the Youngstown Sister Cities program, also accompanied the group.

Highlights of the tour included meeting with Sister Viliana in Ruzomberok and a meeting with Mayor Jan Volny of Youngstown's Sister City, Spisska Nova Ves. Members of the group were treated to entertainment by local students and a luncheon hosted by the Mayor.

Eleanor and Carol visited with their aunt and her family in the Orava region. Both also visited with cousins in the Saris region. Eleanor studied the Slovak language in grade school at the Immaculate Conception School in Whiting, and was instrumental in English-Slovak communications with family and friends. Many others in the group also visited relatives and the towns and villages of their heritage.

The trip's tour guide in Slovakia, Viera Marecova and her husband Tony, taught the travelers many folk songs, history, and language of the Slovak people. The trip was a wonderful taste of Slovak culture, food, family, and new friends that will be remembered for many years to come.

Carol M. Burgan
Branch 79, Whiting, Indiana



Pictured are the travelers from the 20th Annual Slovak Heritage Tour of Slovakia sponsored by Sisters Cities Youngstown-Spisska Nova Ves in July 2011. Branch 79 members Eleanor Lukacsek (front row, seventh from left) and her daughter Carol Burgan (second row, second from left) enjoyed the trip as part of the tour group.

FSNEPA Holds Christmas Social, Installs Officers

December 14, 2011, marked the annual Christmas social of the Fraternal Societies of Northeast Pennsylvania. This year's event was held at the Ramada Inn in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Attendees were from the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, Polish Union of the U.S. of N.A., Polish National Union of America, Polish Women's Alliance of America, Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, and Luzerne County Domestic Violence Center.

Everyone enjoyed a delicious luncheon. A raffle followed the meal, with proceeds going to the Luzerne County Domestic Violence Center.

Installation of the 2012 officers was performed by LPSCU Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Philip Altavilla, V.G. Good luck to all in the year to come!



Newly elected FSNEPA officers are pictured left to right: Secretary/Treasurer John Andrzejewski, III, Polish National Union; Second Vice President Bernard Kolodziej, Polish Union of the U.S. of N.A.; First Vice President Mary Ann Ewasko, LPSCU; and President Martha Iskra, FCSLA, with Rev. Altavilla at the podium.

New Insurance Issued

Branch	Branch Representative	Nov.-Dec. 2011	Year-to-Date Total
7/8			
197/214	Christine Zak	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 118,000.00
38	Cecilia B. Gaughan	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 111,000.00
83/130	Mary Ann Ackerman		\$ 89,000.00
213	Theresa Kluchinski	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 63,000.00
6	Mary Ann Ewasko	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 51,000.00
213	Mary Jo Savidge		\$ 46,000.00
*7/9/19	Maureen Grohowski		\$ 40,000.00
60	Anita Gregory		\$ 40,000.00
77	Ethel Bozik	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
64	Elva E. Silay		\$ 20,000.00
14	Verna Prawdzik		\$ 10,000.00
19	Deborah Adamchak		\$ 10,000.00
202	Eleanor Papst		\$ 10,000.00
52	James E. Tomasic		\$ 8,000.00
130	Margaret A. Ferri		\$ 7,000.00
42	Dolores Sakal		\$ 7,000.00
156	Joan Ellen Friendak		\$ 7,000.00
76	Celeste Palscey		\$ 5,000.00
17	Marion DiCalogero		\$ 2,000.00
194	Ann Dobias		\$ 2,000.00
19	Regina Kapral		\$ 1,000.00
		\$136,000.00	\$ 667,000.00

*Sold through Home Office, not included in the Campaign

Join Hands Day is Set for Saturday, May 5

On Saturday, May 5, 2012, fraternalists and non-fraternalists will join together on JOIN HANDS DAY to make a difference in their communities through helpful projects.

JOIN HANDS DAY is a program of the American Fraternal Alliance. The 124-year-old organization unites 70 not-for-profit fraternal benefit societies that operate in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Canada.

If you are a young person, consider getting involved. Through participation, you will develop your leadership skills and help make important decisions affecting your community. If you are an adult, this gives you an opportunity to use your abilities to fix local problems, learn to work effectively with young people, and show you care.

The LPSCU encourages the youth and adult members of our Branches and Districts to partner with other volunteer groups in their community to organize JOIN HANDS DAY projects to be undertaken on Saturday, May 5. These can include such varied activities as conducting a food drive for a homeless shelter, picking up litter in a community playground or park, visiting the residents in a nursing home, or cleaning up gardens and planting flowers for an elderly neighbor.

Show your true volunteer spirit and promote your local JOIN HANDS DAY project. Be sure to register your project on www.joinhandsday.org.

We look forward to hearing from you about your group's JOIN HANDS DAY activity. Write a short article and send it, along with a group photo or two, to the LPSCU Public Relations Director so it can be shared with our members in the *Zornicka*.

John A. Ferri Receives Shuttle Program Certificate

John A. Ferri of New Market, Maryland, received a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of his dedication and commitment to excellence and his achievements in support of the Space Shuttle Program. The Space Shuttle Program seal on the certificate was flown aboard the *Atlantis* on STS-132, which launched from the Kennedy Space Center on May 14, 2010. *Atlantis* traveled more than 4.8 million miles and made 186 orbits around the Earth in 11 days, 18 hours, and 26 minutes. The certificate was signed by John Shannon, manager of the Space Shuttle Program, and was presented by the entire NASA Agency to NASA employees and contractors on the occasion of the retirement of the Space Shuttle Program. John is a consultant in architecture for NASA in Washington, D.C.

John and his wife, Christie, are parents of two daughters, Angelina Ferri of Frederick, Maryland, and Nicole Ferri of New Market. They have one granddaughter, Carmella Nicole San Severino, of New Market. All are members of LPSCU Branch 83/130, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, except for Carmella, whose membership application has been recently submitted to the LPSCU.



John A. Ferri holds the Certificate of Appreciation presented to him by NASA.

Calendar of Events continued from page 2

24-25 — Slovak Catholic Federation Meeting, Hazleton, Pennsylvania.

MAY

1 — Deadline to return completed Intent Form to the Home Office for those members wishing to run for National Office at the upcoming Convention (with the exception of the office of National President, which has an earlier filing deadline).

5 — Join Hands Day

6 — Lehigh Valley Okres Mother/Daughter Luncheon at the Best Western Lehigh Valley Conference Center, Routes 512 & 22, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, beginning at 12 noon. To make a reservation, call Marge Ferri (610-866-8945) by the May 2nd deadline.

20 — **Deadline to submit articles for July/August *Zornicka*.**

JUNE

1 — Deadline to submit articles for the SCF's *Good Shepherd*. See page 20.

1 — Deadline to submit names of deceased Branch and/or District officers to be honored at a Memorial Service at the LPSCU's National Convention.

2 — LPSCU Telephone Conference Meeting

4-13 — Intensive Slovak Summer Institute at the University of Pittsburgh. See page 5 for further information.

24-27 — LPSCU 40th National Convention, The Inn at Pocono Manor, Pocono Manor, Pennsylvania.

JULY

20 — **Deadline to submit articles for September/October *Zornicka*.**

22 — The Lehigh Valley Okres hosts its members to a day at the ballpark at an IronPigs baseball game at Allentown's Coca-Cola Park. See page 18 for details.

SEPTEMBER

10-11 — Slovak Catholic Federation Meeting, Youngstown, Ohio.

Minutes of the Executive Finance Committee

Home Office, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

October 19, 2011

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; and Mary Ann Ewasko, chairperson of trustees. Mary Jo Savidge, secretary-treasurer, was excused. The committee reviewed and accepted the Minutes from the August 17, 2011, Executive Finance Committee meeting.

Requests

The following requests were approved:

- ❖ Slovak Benedictine Fathers donation for Mass intentions for deceased members of the LPSCU. *Approved \$25.00.*
- ❖ Draugas Gala Banquet Program Book. *Approved \$100.00 ad.*
- ❖ Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour 29th Annual Dinner Dance. *Approved \$100.00 ad and \$240.00 for 6 tickets.*
- ❖ University of Pittsburgh 21st Annual Slovak Heritage Festival. *Approved \$60.00 ad.*

Financial Statement

The committee reviewed the following checking accounts as of August 31, 2011, and September 30, 2011: M&T Bank – General Operating Account, M&T Bank – Home Office Checking Account and Smith Barney Checking Account.

Bond/Stock/Pension Portfolio

The committee was provided copies of all reports from August 31, 2011, and September 30, 2011, reviewing all activity, including CDs, Common Stocks, Preferred Stocks, Bonds, and International Investments. The Employee Retirement Plan was also reviewed.

Home Office

President Kluchinski reported on the following:

- ❖ Renewed two CDs for minor beneficiaries
- ❖ Paid a minor beneficiary in October and closed the account
- ❖ Purchased a Lexmark multifunction fax/copier/printer/scanner

Budget

The committee was provided and reviewed the budget for August 31, 2011, and September 30, 2011. President Kluchinski will prepare a budget for 2012 for approval.

The next meeting will be December 21, 2011.

There being no further business, the EFC adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Theresa A. Kluchinski
National President

December 21, 2011

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

MARCH/APRIL 2012

accepted the Minutes from the October 19, 2011, Executive Finance Committee meeting.

The committee acknowledged all the correspondence read and approved the following requests:

- ❖ Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh requesting a donation for the Children's Hospital Drive. *Approved thru e-mail \$100.00.*
- ❖ Slovak American Cultural Center requesting an ad in their 20th annual Slovak Ball program book and tickets to the event. *Approved \$60.00 ad.*

Financial Statement

The committee reviewed the following checking accounts as of October 31, 2011, and November 30, 2011: M&T Bank – General Operating Account, M&T Bank – Home Office Checking Account and Smith Barney Checking Account.

Bond/Stock/Pension Portfolio

The committee was provided copies of all reports from October 31, 2011, and November 30, 2011, reviewing all activity, including CDs, Common Stocks, Preferred Stocks, Bonds, and International Investments. The Employee Retirement Plan was also reviewed.

Home Office

Secretary-Treasurer Savidge reported the renewal of a CD for a minor beneficiary and the renewal of flood insurance.

Budget

The committee was provided and reviewed the budget for October 31, 2011, and November 30, 2011.

The next meeting will be January 18, 2012.

There being no further business, the EFC adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Jo Savidge
Secretary-Treasurer

January 18, 2012

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 December 21, 2011, Executive Finance Committee meeting with one change.

The committee acknowledged all the correspondence read and approved the following requests:

- ❖ Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association requesting dues of \$250.00. *Approved.*

Financial Statement

The committee reviewed the following checking accounts as of December 31, 2011: M&T Bank – General Operating Account, M&T Bank – Home Office Checking Account and Smith Barney Checking Account.

Bond/Stock/Pension Portfolio

The committee was provided copies of all reports from December 31, 2011, reviewing all activity, including CDs, Common Stocks, Preferred Stocks, Bonds, and International Investments. The Employee Retirement Plan was also reviewed.

continued on page 15

Letters

Dear Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union,

I would like to extend my gratitude for having been selected to receive the monetary award following completion of my Doctor of Psychology (Psy.D.) degree within the field of Clinical Psychology from La Salle University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This award comes at a time following years of dedication and perseverance in striving towards one of my core values in life: education. The road towards obtaining the Psy.D. degree has undoubtedly given me a unique perspective on life's many challenges. Through this experience I have learned that no matter how formidable the task, there must exist a yearning and courage to face these challenges within an optimistic framework. I find that I utilize this same approach throughout my current clinical work as a Post-Doctoral Fellow within the Program in Human Sexuality at the University of Minnesota Medical School.

Life is truly filled with challenges that may appear insurmountable. However, I have found living one's life in accordance with one's chosen values can make those seemingly insurmountable challenges more navigational. I see the completion of my Psy.D. as not an end, but rather as a new beginning towards providing mental health care to individuals, couples, and families through the promotion of healthy sexuality. Therefore, I would like to thank the LPSCU for your generous award at this career milestone in my life.

Brad R. Nederostek, Psy.D.
LPSCU Branch 62
Northampton, PA

Dear Margaret,

Many thanks and much gratitude for publishing in *Zornicka* the announcement for the sale of *Oplatky* and Slovak Christmas cards at Jankola Library. This year responses from your readers were phenomenal.

Our Slovak traditions continue to live on. Praise God!

**Sister Catherine
Laboure, SS.C.M.**
Jankola Library
Danville, PA

Dear Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union,

I want to express my sincere thanks to the LPSCU for the Post Graduate Award I received. I am grateful for the recognition and support the LPSCU has given me as I pursued my medical career, both with the Anne (Shinal) Cichy Scholarship

and with this educational benefit award. I am excited to start my residency in Emergency Medicine.

Thank you again for your generosity.

Sincerely,
Dr. Jesse Schafer
Branch 172, Pittsburgh, PA

More Letters on page 14

CONVENTION SOUVENIR BOOK

The committee preparing the LPSCU's Convention Souvenir Book requests the assistance of all Branch and Okres officers to solicit their members to become Patrons in this book which will highlight the LPSCU's 40th Nation Convention in 2012. Upcoming Branch and District meetings afford excellent opportunities for members to sign up as Patrons. Information relating to Patrons and a Patron Order Form follow.

40th National LPSCU Convention

June 24-27, 2012

CONVENTION BOOKLET

Patron Category	Rate Schedule	Patron Category	Rate Schedule
Platinum	\$ 100.00	Silver	\$ 25.00
Diamond	\$ 75.00	Bronze	\$ 10.00
Gold	\$ 50.00	Memorials	\$ 20.00

EXAMPLES OF PATRONS

Platinum ~ Diamond ~ Gold ~ Silver ~ Bronze:

**Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union Branch XX
City, State**

Or

**John and Mary Smith, LPSCU Br. XX
City, State**

MEMORIAL PATRON:

**John and Mary Smith by Daughter, Ann (Smith) Jones
LPSCU Br. XX, City, State**

40th NATIONAL LPSCU CONVENTION

June 24-27, 2012

Patron Order Form — *Please type or print*

Patron's Name _____

Branch and/or City/State _____

Patron Memorial Amount enclosed \$ _____

If you wish to have more than one Patron listing, please fill out a separate Order Form for each. You may, however, write one check to cover all listings. Just be sure to enclose them all in one envelope.

Make check payable to: LPSCU

Remit payment with Patron Order Form by April 2, 2012, to:

Mary Jo Savidge, Secretary/Treasurer, Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union,
P.O. Box 32, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701-0032

Please complete the following for LPSCU Home Office use:

Patron Order given by _____

Address _____

Telephone (_____) _____ Date _____

Bishop Andrew G. Grutka Memorial Scholarship Award

\$1,000 AWARD (Maximum of \$2,000 per member)

The LPSCU is proud to offer the Bishop Andrew G. Grutka Memorial Scholarship Award for lay persons between the ages of 18 to 35. This award, implemented at the 37th National Convention held in Merrillville, Indiana, in August 2000, is given in memory of Bishop Andrew G. Grutka, an outstanding Slovak leader who was the founding bishop of the Diocese of Gary, Indiana.

Those applying for the Bishop Andrew G. Grutka Memorial Scholarship Award must meet the following criteria:

- Be a member of LPSCU for two (2) years with \$5,000 permanent reserve life insurance certificate (excludes term insurance).
- Be a lay person between 18-35 years of age.
- Be of the Catholic religion (Latin Rite or Byzantine).
- Be initiated fully into the Church (Baptized, Eucharist, and Confirmed) and continuing to be eligible to receive the sacraments of the Church.
- Be a member of a Catholic parish.
- Be active in parish/diocesan/campus ministry as a lector, extraordinary minister of Holy Communion, adult altar server, catechist/aide, member of parish RCIA/C Team, youth minister, member of the Parish Pastoral Council, Finance Council, and/or other parish committees or organizations.
- Be active in an organization or activity that promotes awareness of our Slovak heritage, culture, and traditions.
- Be endorsed by their 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.

Applicants must meet all criteria and provide data indicated above 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 must be postmarked by June 30, 2012.**

Applications are available from the LPSCU Home Office or its website.

Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union
Educational Benefit Committee
P.O. Box 32

Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703

Phone: 570-823-3513 ♦ Toll free: 888-834-6614

Fax: 570-823-4464

E-mail: lpscu@lpscu.org ♦ Website: www.lpscu.org

SCF Cardinal Tomko Chapter Participates in Food Drive

On Sunday, December 18, 2011, members of the Cardinal Tomko Chapter of the Slovak Catholic Federation delivered a large supply of non-perishable food to the Allentown Diocesan Soup Kitchen located at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church Hall in Allentown, Pennsylvania. To collect the items, the Chapter held a food drive at its annual meeting and Christmas party on Saturday, December 10, 2011, at Incarnation of Our Lord Church Social Hall in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. The food drive is an annual charitable project undertaken by the Cardinal Tomko Chapter. Many members of the Chapter are also members of the LPSCU.



L-R: Justine Wesnak and Margaret A. Ferri, Chapter treasurer and president, respectively; Millie Scrak, Allentown Diocesan Soup Kitchen coordinator; Mary Ann Ackerman, Mary Shannon, Cecilia B. Gaughan, captain of the food drive, and Jean Kosalko.

Our Scholarship Recipients Explain . . .

The Importance of Life Insurance

Life insurance, in my opinion, is a necessity for the following reasons:

First off, I feel that the best time to get life insurance is at my age when you are young and healthy and can keep the same premium until much later in life, saving a bundle of money.

Second, if a financial crisis arises such as a job loss, which is extremely common in the economy today, life insurance gives the family the ability to pay off some bills and stay on top of the financial situation.

I know that someday not too many years from now, I will be getting married and starting a family. Therefore, my third point is this: If I would pass on for some reason, life insurance would help defray the cost of my mortgage and student loans, putting my family in a better financial situation. Life insurance would also provide a way for my children to have part of the estate.

In conclusion, life insurance is full of financial resources and really benefits those who invest in it.

Letters

Dear Fraternalist of the Year Committee,

I wish to express my gratitude and thanks to you for the honor of being selected as the Fraternalist of the Year for 2011.

Each year I am in awe of the recipients and all of their accomplishments and feel humbled to be now numbered among them.

Thank you also to the LPSCU for the beautiful plaque and the monetary donation in my name which was sent to St. Joseph's Center in Scranton, Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

Jean Kapral

2011 Fraternalist of the Year

Branch 19, Swoyersville, PA

To Whom It May Concern:

I want to thank you for naming me as a recipient of the post-graduate scholarship offered by the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union. In addition, I want to thank all of those who so generously made this scholarship available to me and other graduates. It is sincerely appreciated and the money will certainly help me as I begin my career as an attorney.

Through the support of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, I have continued to achieve my educational goals. With my law degree, I hope to make a difference for others in a meaningful way.

Thank you again for your continued generosity. I will certainly not forget all that you have done for me throughout my educational career.

Warmest regards,

Ryan M. Turner

Branch 8, Jessup, PA

Dear Ms. Kluchinski and LPSCU Members,

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Allentown gratefully acknowledges your generous gift of \$200.00 to the 2011 annual Thanksgiving Appeal for the Ecumenical Kitchen. Your donation was received on January 24, 2011. Catholic Charities, Diocese of Allentown provided no goods or services for your contribution.

With your help Catholic Charities will continue to serve over 40,000 meals as we did last year at Our Lady of Mount Carmel site in Allentown.

Your support helps "our neighbors," the working poor, the unemployed, elderly, disabled, and homeless to subsist with a hot, nutritious meal served by many dedicated and caring volunteers.

Thank you for your continued support and for helping to ensure that no one should ever have to go hungry.

Sincerely,

Helen P. Kelleher, LSW

Executive Director

To the Lehigh Valley Okres:

A special *Thank you* for doing a fundraiser to benefit our Ecumenical Soup Kitchen. Catholic Charities and especially the needy appreciate your generosity.

Many families will enjoy a hot meal and will get the help that they need for a very long time. These families are so lucky to have you as their guardian angel.

God bless you.

Marie-France Warman

Administrator Assistant

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Allentown

Two Heritage Tours Explore Slovakia's Heart and Heartland

Two 2012 Slovakia Heritage Tours will offer participants a chance to explore Slovakia up close and personal as part of a small-group, relaxed-pace, 10-day tour.

From June 29-July 8, the **Two Festivals, One Heritage Tour** will step off with the lively traditional folk music at the Vychodna Folklore Festival of Dance and Music nestled in the Tatry Mountains. It will finish at the Detva International Folk Festival, well-known as a place where visitors can experience traditional dance, music, and crafts first-hand.

From September 7-16, the **Slovakia Heritage Tour** will celebrate the beautiful fall weather and harvest season with a visit to the Modra/Pezinok Harvest and Wine Festival in the small Carpathian Mountains outside of Bratislava. A day trip to Budapest will highlight the thousand-year influence of the Hungarian empire on Slovakia.

For a packet and more information on the September tour, contact Judith Northup-Bennett at Slovakia Heritage Tours, 978-544-5144 or at connectionswork4u@hotmail.com; or visit the web site at: <http://slovakiaheritage.com> where there are detailed itineraries of each tour.

Cooking Corner

SEAFOOD LASAGNA

8 lasagna noodles	1/8 tsp. pepper
1 cup chopped onions	22 oz. cream of mushroom soup
2 Tbsp. butter	1/3 cup milk
8 oz. softened cream cheese	1/3 cup dry white wine
12 oz. creamed cottage cheese	1 lb. shrimp, cooked & halved
1 beaten egg	7 1/2 oz. crabmeat, drained, flaked & cartilage removed
1/4 cup Parmesan cheese	1/2 cup sharp cheese, shredded
2 tsp. crushed basil	
1/2 tsp. salt	

Cook noodles. Place 4 noodles on 13x9x2 inch greased dish. Saute onions in butter. Blend in cream cheese. Stir in cottage cheese, egg, basil, salt and pepper. Spread one-half of mixture on top of noodles. Combine soup, milk, and wine. Stir in shrimp and crab. Spread one-half over cottage cheese layer. Repeat layers of noodles, cottage cheese, and seafood mixture. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese. Bake uncovered at 350 degrees for 45 minutes. Top with shredded cheese and bake 2 to 3 minutes more. Let stand 15 minutes before serving.



Slovak Fraternal March for Life



UTILIZATION REPORT

	For Dec. 2011	Year-to-Date 2011
Prescriptions Filled:	27	239
Normal Retail Pricing:	\$1,393.82	\$10,834.74
ScriptSave Pricing:	\$ 654.81	\$ 5,078.83
Total Dollars Saved		
by LPSCU Cardholders:	\$ 739.01	\$ 5,755.91
Average Saved per		
Discounted Prescription:	\$ 30.79	\$ 30.62
Overall LPSCU Discounted		
Prescription Savings:	54.08%	55.55%

December 2011 was a big savings month for our ScriptSave® card members. Our group's discounted prescription savings for the month amounted to 54.08%. With our group's year-to-date 2011 discounted prescription savings averaging 55.55%, or \$30.62 per discounted prescription, it's easy to see how our members benefit from the program every day. It is amazing to note that 239 prescriptions for our ScriptSave® card members were filled in 2011, with an overall discounted prescription savings of 55.55%. This is a remarkable savings for the year.

The ScriptSave® Prescription Drug Savings Program is available at **NO COST** to you. 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 instant savings on brand name and generic prescriptions at over 62,000 participating pharmacies nationwide.

If you do not have health insurance coverage, use the 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 the ScriptSave® card for everyone in your household and for any prescriptions that are excluded by Medicare Part D law. In addition to prescription savings, the ScriptSave® card also provides savings on vision care, hearing care, daily living products, and diabetes care and supplies.

If you do not have a ScriptSave® card, you may enroll online by visiting www.scriptsave.com and logging in with Group #195. On that web site, you can also find a participating pharmacy near you, look up drug pricing, and view the Preferred Medications List, health information, and more! Any LPSCU member (including the membership of LCA) can receive a ScriptSave® card at no cost. 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 at any time by contacting Customer Care.

**An LPSCU insurance policy
makes the perfect gift!**

The 39th Annual March for Life was held on Monday, January 23, 2012, in our nation's capitol, Washington, D.C. Members from the four Slovak Catholic fraternal – Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Slovak Catholic Sokol, and First Catholic Slovak Union – met in Washington, joining together to demonstrate our support of the Pro-life movement.

Despite the dense fog and rain, tens of thousands of supporters made their way peacefully through the streets of the capitol city towards the Supreme Court building in a show of commitment and solidarity on behalf of the unborn.

LPSCU National President and Branch 213 Secretary-Treasurer Theresa Kluchinski, along with the Slovak Catholic Sokol's Supreme Chaplain, Reverend Andrew S. Hvozdivic, have been coordinating bus transportation to this event for over 10 years. Reverend Hvozdivic and students from Epiphany School start the trip in Sayre, Pennsylvania, stopping in Wilkes-Barre to pick-up additional supporters.

Spiritual Advisor Reverend Philip A. Altavilla, V.G., President Kluchinski, and Court of Appeals member Barbara Kalish are the LPSCU officers who attended this year's march.



EFC Minutes

continued from page 11

Home Office

Secretary-Treasurer Savidge reported the renewal of a CD for a minor beneficiary and support contract with QuickBooks.

Other Business

President Kluchinski updated the committee on the visit with the Pennsylvania Insurance Department. Discussion occurred on the upcoming convention in June.

Meeting Dates

The following meeting dates have been set: March 21, May 16, and July 18.

There being no further business, the EFC adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Jo Savidge
Secretary-Treasurer

Convention Donations Notice

The LPSCU Convention, to be held June 24-27, 2012, in Pocono Manor, Pennsylvania, will consider applications for donations.

Donation applications are available upon request through the Home Office. Qualified representatives of organizations seeking donations may contact the Home Office for an application. Applications are also available on the LPSCU website, www.lpscu.org.

All requests for donations from the Convention must be submitted on an LPSCU Donation Applications Form and must be returned to the Home Office with a postmark of **no later than April 13, 2012**.

Ferri Family Spans Four Generations

John and Margaret Ferri of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, enjoyed a special Christmas 2011 with their first great-granddaughter, Carmella Nicole San Severino of New Market, Maryland. Carmella is a 4th generation member of the Ferri family. She was born on St. Nicholas's Feast Day, December 6, 2011, at Frederick Memorial Hospital, Frederick, Maryland, weighing in at 8 lbs. and 21 inches long.

Carmella's parents are Nicole Marie Ferri and Dominic San Severino of New Market. Her grandparents are John A. and Christie Ferri of New Market and Rick and Gabriella San Severino of Myerstown, Pennsylvania. Carmella's other great-grandparents are Frank and Millie San Severino of Long Island, New York.

The entire Ferri family are members of LPSCU Branch 83 and 130 in Bethlehem, and an application for Carmella's membership in the LPSCU has been submitted.



Enjoying spending Christmas together are 4 generations of the Ferri clan, from left: John A. Ferri, grandfather; Nicole Marie Ferri, mother, holding Carmella Nicole San Severino; and John Ferri, great-grandfather.

CALL TO THE 40TH NATIONAL LPSCU CONVENTION

JUNE 24-27, 2012

POCONO MANOR, PENNSYLVANIA

In accordance with Article 50 sub-section (k), I hereby issue a call for the 40th National Convention of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union to convene on Sunday, June 24, 2012, at the Inn at Pocono Manor, Pocono Manor, Pennsylvania. Registration of delegates will begin Saturday, June 23, at a time to be announced.

CONVENTION

Article 60. The Convention is the highest legislative body of the organization.

Article 61. The Convention shall consist of the Board of Directors, Honorary Officers, Court of Appeals, and the delegates sent by various Branches.

DELEGATES

Article 64. Each Branch in good standing, which has at least 10 members, shall be entitled to have a delegate at the Convention who shall receive traveling expenses and such allowance per day as the Branch shall fix. Any one Branch may have no more than fifteen (15) delegates.

Article 65. Each Branch sends its delegates to the Convention at its own expense. The LPSCU, however, shall pay their hotel and meals during the time spent at the Convention. Each Branch having between 10 and 50 members, inclusive, is entitled to one delegate; 50 plus 1 members – two delegates; 100 plus 1 members – three delegates; 150 plus 1 members – four delegates, etc. The delegate must be elected by a majority of the members present at a regular Branch meeting. The delegate's application must be returned by the time designated. The number of members in good standing is designated according to the membership list held by the Secretary-Treasurer from the third month previous to the Convention.

Article 66. Each Branch shall have the opportunity to elect alternates to represent its Branch at the National Convention in the event of unforeseen circumstances preventing an elected delegate from attending the Convention.

Article 67. No person shall be recognized as a delegate unless the member is 18 years of age, an active member in good standing, and duly elected at the regular or special meeting of the Branch the member represents.

Article 68. The Convention shall be the sole judge of the qualifications of its delegates and may refuse or grant any person the right to sit as a delegate. However, the Credential Committee shall sit one day before the Convention and submit a report to the Convention.

Fraternally,

Theresa A. Kluchinski
National President

ATTENTION: ALL MEMBERS ASPIRING FOR LPSCU NATIONAL OFFICE

According to the Official Minutes of the Board of Directors' Semiannual Meeting held in Las Vegas, Nevada, on November 6-8, 2007, it is required that any member with aspirations for National Office must request an Intent Form from the Home Office. According to the LPSCU Bylaws, the qualifications for candidates are set forth in the following Articles:

Article 16. A candidate for office must be at least 21 years of age, an active member with participation in LPSCU Branch or District activities for at least five years, and be present as a delegate at the Convention.

Article 17. No two immediate family members shall serve as an Officer of the LPSCU during the same term of office. Immediate family is defined as: grandparent, parent, spouse, or sibling.

Article 18. A member or delegate, who is a National Officer/Director/Board Member of another fraternal benefit society, may not hold office of the LPSCU.

Article 26. No hired employee of the LPSCU shall be eligible to hold any National Office in the LPSCU while so employed, with the exception of the office of Secretary-Treasurer.

Article 27. Since the office of President is full time, nominations for this office will not be made from the floor. Nominations for the office of President shall be by written application which states the nominee's qualifications, personal background and history, as well as past experience. Nominee applications are to be submitted to the Home Office two months prior to the Convention. The Board of Directors shall verify these qualifications. They may use personal interviews, a professional investigating company, or any other means in order to verify the qualifications. From these applications, the Board of Directors shall recommend to the Nominating Committee candidates qualifying for the office of President.

Article 28. While nominations from the floor are to be accepted for all National Offices, excluding the office of National President and the hired position of Secretary-Treasurer, upon acceptance of the nomination, nominee will provide a resume to the delegates of the National Convention, containing personal background and history and past experience to prove their qualifications for the office to which they have been nominated.

The completed Intent Form must be returned to the Home Office with a postmark no later than May 1, 2012, with the exception of the Intent Form for the President's position, which must be returned to the Home Office with a postmark no later than April 13, 2012.

Pittsburgh District Members Attend Vilija

Pittsburgh District members and guests are pictured at the annual Vilija dinner hosted by Prince of Peace Parish in South Side Pittsburgh on December 17, 2011. The traditional Christmas Eve dinner, which is enjoyed by Slovak families around the world, consisted of mushroom soup, pirohi, fish, vegetables, bobalki (dough balls and poppy seed) and buchti (donuts). The junior and senior Pittsburgh Slovaks performed a reenactment of the arrival of St. Nicholas. Founders of the Pittsburgh Slovaks, Sue and Rudy Ondrejco, gave an inspiring and joyful presentation to usher in the holiday season.



The Senior Pittsburgh Slovaks perform at the Vilija.



Members of the Pittsburgh Slovaks present a musical number.



The Junior Pittsburgh Slovaks perform, to the delight of the crowd.

Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union

Minutes of the Board Conference Call

December 3, 2011

Call to Order – Prayer

President Kluchinski called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. and offered a prayer that was prepared by Rev. Philip Altavilla.

Roll Call

Secretary-Treasurer Savidge was excused.

Welcome Remarks

President Kluchinski welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Approval of Agenda/Minutes

The agenda was approved, along with the Minutes from the September 23-25, 2011 meeting, with five changes.

There was no correspondence or requests.

Financial Report

Board members were provided and reviewed the following information:

- ❖ Quarterly Statement — September 2011
- ❖ Month End Balance Sheet/Revenue & Expenses Accounts
- ❖ Budget
- ❖ Summary Market Value 2011
- ❖ October 2011 Custodial and Clearbridge Advisors Dividend Strategy
- ❖ Smith Barney Checking Account, Anne (Shinal) Cichy and Bishop Grutka awards, and the First Eagle Fund
- ❖ Employee Retirement Plan
- ❖ Transaction Summary Report

Home Office Update

Secretary-Treasurer Savidge provided a report on the new copier/scanner that was purchased.

The annuity rate was discussed and approved.

Convention

The following information on the Convention was provided and discussed:

- ❖ Tasks
- ❖ Committee Guidelines

National/State Congress Meetings

The Board was provided reports on State Fraternal Congress meetings from President Kluchinski and Secretary-Treasurer Savidge.

Committee Reports

The board was provided and reviewed the report from Fraternal Activities Director Cecilia Gaughan.

LPSCU Annuities

Br.	Branch Representative	Month(s) July/Aug. 2011	Year-To-Date Total
64	Elva E. Silay	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
19	Deborah Adamchak	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
122	Theresa Kluchinski	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 8,292.59
6	Mary Ann Ewasko	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
60	Anita Gregory	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
		\$ 36,000.00	\$ 53,292.59

Calendar of Events

The Board was provided the calendar of events for 2012. President Kluchinski asked if anyone had anything else for the good of the union. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Jo Savidge
National Secretar-Treasurer

Signatura to Hear Sacred Heart Appeal

The Apostolic Signatura (the highest court in the Vatican) agreed to hear the appeal to keep Sacred Heart of Jesus Church of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, open. A preliminary letter sent by the Secretary of the Apostolic Signatura concluded with the simple statement: “Please note that the recourse regarding the Church of the Sacred Heart is proceeding.”

Historically, few appeals are accepted to be heard by this “Supreme Court of Rome.” The appeals are studied when they arrive in Rome and the decision to allow the case to proceed is determined by a group of canon lawyers. Most are rejected “at the doorstep” (*e limine*). The Foundation will receive a formal announcement of the details of the hearing within two weeks. The only laity allowed in the court will be the Foundation’s canon lawyers, Alessa and Carlo Gullo.

Mary Jean Tarantini
Sacred Heart Wilkes-Barre Foundation

ATTENTION

Lehigh Valley Okres Junior and Adult Members

This summer, the Lehigh Valley Okres will host a day at an IronPigs Baseball game at Coca-Cola Park in Allentown, Pennsylvania, for LPSCU Junior and adult members. The game will be played against the Columbus Clippers on Sunday, July 22, at 5:35 p.m. The Lehigh Valley Okres will subsidize the \$10.00 entrance ticket for Junior members, who must be accompanied by a parent or adult member. Adult tickets for our group cost \$10.00 each, which includes the game ticket and a \$2.00 ballpark credit on each ticket, redeemable for food, beverages, or merchandise inside Coca-Cola Park.

Reservation deadline for tickets is June 15, 2012. Call Marge Ferri at 610-866-8945 or Ceil Gaughan at 610-433-4610 for more information and/or to make reservations. **We only have 50 tickets, so please make your reservation as early as possible!**

PAS to Perform at Disney World, Slovak Gardens

The Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble will debut its new program at Disney World on the Waterside Stage in Downtown Disney on Friday, March 2, 2012, at 12:30 pm. The new program is from the Horehron region of Slovakia and features the beauty of their stamping, precision and rhythmic movement. The program comes alive with the *Horehronsky Dupak* in which the young men and women impress each other with unique stamping and dancing skills. A romance often evolves, as the stamps are a call to one another.

The Disney Performing Arts Onstage Program provides an opportunity for ensembles from around the world to entertain an international audience at its world famous attraction. After successfully auditioning, PAS received the honor of providing a special performance on the Downtown Disney Waterside Stage, which is the premier venue at Disney World in Orlando, Florida. Because of Disney's high standard of expectations, it is a tremendous honor for any group to be chosen to participate.

"PAS" also represented the United States in Detva, Slovakia, at the 44th Annual *Folklorna Slavnostpod Polanou v Detve* (Folklore Celebration Below Polana Mountain) in July 2009. The most recent local invitation came in October of 2011, when the Pittsburgh Philharmonic Symphony requested PAS to join them in a series of concerts.

On Sunday, March 4, "PAS" will continue its Florida performing tour at the Slovak Gardens complex at 3110 Howell Branch Road, Winter Park, at the 60th Anniversary of the Gardens' Annual Slovak Day. The new program from the Horehron Region of Slovakia will be featured. Festivities will begin with a Mass celebrated in Slovak. Following the liturgy, a luncheon including a variety of homemade Slovak culinary specialties will be served in the social hall. Music for dancing and listening will be provided throughout the day and the Slovak Museum will be open for everyone to enjoy.

Reservations for the event can be made by contacting the Slovak Gardens at 407-677-6894. Doors open at 10:00 a.m.



The PAS Slovak Folk Ensemble



LPSCU 2012 National Convention Memorial Service

A Memorial Service will be held during the LPSCU's 2012 National Convention, June 24-27, 2012, in Pocono Manor, Pennsylvania. Any individual who has passed away since the last Convention, and who held an office in an LPSCU District and/or Branch, can be recognized during the Memorial Service if their name is submitted.

Please return the completed form, **postmarked no later than June 1, 2012**, to:

LPSCU MEMORIAL SERVICE
P.O. Box 32
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703-0032

Please print or type

Individual's Name: _____

Position Held: _____

In Branch/District: _____

Individual's Name: _____

Position Held: _____

In Branch/District: _____

(Additional names may be attached on a sheet of paper, following the format above.)

2012 Tour of Slovakia

Join us as we host the 15th Youngstown/Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities Heritage Tour of Slovakia July 10-24, 2012, visiting such cities as Bratislava, Piestany, Trnava, Presov, Banska Bystrica, Nitra, Sliac, Spisska Nova Ves and more. Spend time in the Tatras, raft ride on the Dunajec River, visit historical sites, and see many beautiful churches and castles while enjoying cultural performances. Discover your roots —side trips to ancestral villages are available with advance notice.

For more information contact Jim and Kay Bench, 428 West 4th Avenue, Derry, PA 15627, phone 724-694-5101; cell phone 724-858-5843; e-mail jmbench@yahoo.com or contact Adventure International Travel, P.O. Box 770410, Lakewood, OH 44107; phone 216-228-7171; toll free 800-542-2487; e-mail paul@aits.webmail.com.

SCF Seeks Contributors for 'Good Shepherd' Annual

Dobry Pastier (The Good Shepherd), edited by Sister Bernadette Marie Ondus, SS.C.M., and published annually by the Slovak Catholic Federation, compiles articles focusing on topics which are of interest to Slovak-American Catholics. The Federation is currently accepting articles for inclusion in the 2012 edition. Potential contributors should note that while the scope of the publication is broad, articles solely political in nature will not be accepted.

The deadline for all articles is **June 1, 2012**. **Due to the publication schedule, articles received after the deadline will not be included in the annual.** The annual will be available for distribution in the Fall of 2012.

In order to facilitate the editing and printing of *The Good Shepherd*, the following guidelines are established for authors who would like their work to be considered for inclusion in the annual:

GENERAL INFORMATION

- All articles must be type-written, double-spaced, in Microsoft WORD format in 12 point, Times New Roman font.
- It is strongly preferred that **English** articles be e-mailed to Sister Bernadette Marie Ondus, SS.C.M, Editor, at: bernsscm@yahoo.com. In this age of modern technology, it is faster and more cost effective to work from a text that is provided digitally instead of having to retype the entire article.
- If it is not possible for an article to be e-mailed, a "hard copy" may be mailed to Sister Bernadette at Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, PA 17821-1698. **Please do not send photocopies of articles.**
- To be accepted for publication, articles must be between three and ten typewritten pages. Articles fewer than three pages or beyond ten pages will not be accepted.

USE OF PHOTOS

- If at all possible, kindly send photos to accompany articles. **Photos must be included at the same time the article is sent to the Editor.** (If sending photos digitally, save as separate JPGs to accompany the article.) Please indicate where photos are to be placed within the body of the article. Be sure to properly identify the persons, places and/or situations depicted in the photo(s). **If no indication is given as to where, within the article, the photos are to be inserted, the photos will not be used.**
- In the event that an article is e-mailed and photos are not included as attachments, the actual photographs, along with a hard copy of the article, must be mailed to Sister Bernadette Marie for inclusion in the article. (If more convenient, photos can also be saved to a CD which the printer can then link up with the article.) Once again, please be sure that the photos are properly identified and note where, within the article, the photos are to be inserted. Photos must always accompany the article for which they are intended.
- Captions must be included with the photos. This allows readers to better understand the relationship of the photo to the content of the article.

ARTICLES IN SLOVAK

- It is preferred that articles be written in English. Articles submitted in Slovak will be sent to a third party for editing. **Please note:** Articles submitted in Slovak that need to be typeset are set by a person who does not read Slovak; therefore, it is imperative that the author include all appropriate accent marks, diacritical letters, and other special characters. Correct punctuation is essential. Use commas and periods where appropriate, **not dashes**. **ALL SLOVAK ARTICLES NEED TO BE CHECKED FOR CORRECTNESS BEFORE THEY REACH THE TYPESETTER.**
- Slovak articles **can** be e-mailed to Sister Bernadette Marie, but a hard copy (including all accents) must **also** be mailed to her. (Please indicate that the article was both mailed and emailed.) Frequently, accent marks, diacritical characters, and other special characters do not come through properly when articles are e-mailed. Having a hard copy of the article, appropriately marked, will save valuable time and minimize errors.

As Editor, Sister Bernadette Marie retains the right to correct grammatical errors, delete repetitions, rearrange ideas to make them clearer, etc. Sister Bernadette Marie also retains the right to determine the appropriateness of articles for the publication. However, she will not substantially change the author's ideas without first consulting the author.

Our sincere thanks to all the faithful contributors to *The Good Shepherd*! Your contributions, year after year, ensure that the Slovak Catholic Federation is able to provide a quality annual which helps celebrate our Catholic faith, preserves our Slovak heritage, and allows our readers to stay in touch with what's happening in the Catholic Church, in Slovakia, and in the Slovak-American community.

We are looking forward to your contributions again this year.

Reverend Philip A. Altavilla, V.G.
National President, Slovak Catholic Federation

34th Annual Slovak Catholic Federation SS. Cyril & Methodius Appeal

When our ancestors came to these shores more than a century ago, they brought with them few monetary assets. However, their most precious possession was their faith. The seeds were nurtured by the Slovak priests who came with the immigrant people and helped build our Slovak Catholic fraternals, religious communities of men and women, and nearly 300 Slovak parishes. Today, in response to this legacy, the Slovak Catholic Federation will sponsor its **34th Annual SS. Cyril & Methodius Appeal**.

The Church in Slovakia has enjoyed a great renaissance since the fall of Communism in 1989. We in America and Canada take pride in the fact that the Slovak Catholic fraternals, our parishes, and individuals of Slovak ancestry have responded generously to assist the Church in our ancestral homeland. The 2012 Annual Appeal began during the month of February in churches of Slovak descent across the United States and Canada and will continue to the end of the year.

The 2011 Appeal collected \$39,749.25.

Since its inception, this Appeal has raised \$2,272,737.74!

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

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

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

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

Thank you for your continued support!



United Slovak Fraternal 1st Annual Bowling Tournament

May 4 – May 6, 2012

FREEWAY LANES, WICKLIFFE, OHIO

Friday, May 4

5:00 p.m. — Registration: Freeway Lanes, 28801 Euclid Avenue, Wickliffe, OH 44092

5:45 p.m. — Opening Ceremonies

6:00 p.m. & 9:00 p.m. — Team Events

7:00 p.m. — Hospitality Reception

Saturday, May 5

8:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. — Doubles and Singles: Freeway Lanes

5:30 p.m. — Mass

6:30 p.m. — Tournament Banquet: Embassy Suites Hotel, 3775 Park East Drive, Beachwood, OH

Sunday, May 6

9:00 a.m. — Doubles and Singles (if needed): Freeway Lanes

Every LPSCU member participating in the event will receive \$40.00 towards the cost of the tournament. Please contact the Home Office for Rules/Regulations and Entry Forms.

Friday:

Teams Event — Opening Ceremonies to begin at 5:45 p.m. with team events starting at 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. at Freeway Lanes.

Hospitality Night — Hospitality Night beginning at 6:00 p.m. at Freeway Lanes in Wickliffe, OH. Enjoy food, refreshments, and socializing.

Hotel — Embassy Suites of Beachwood, OH will be housing our guests for the weekend. The direct phone number for the hotel is (216) 765-8066. You must identify yourself as a member of **United Slovak Fraternal Bowling Group** to receive the rate of \$99 (includes tax). **Deadline for hotel reservations is March 16th.**

Saturday:

Doubles/Singles Event — To begin at 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Mass — Will be scheduled for 5:30 p.m. and be held at the Embassy Suites.

Banquet — Will be held at the Embassy Suites beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday:

If needed, scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m.

Freeway Lanes

28801 Euclid Avenue
Wickliffe, OH 44092
(440) 585-5800

Embassy Suites

3775 Park East Drive
Beachwood, OH 44122
(216) 765-8066



In Memoriam

Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted. — Matthew v.5

Name	Branch	Location
John J. Skuban	27	Taylor, PA
Edward T. Roach	27	Taylor, PA
Herbert Atchley	28	Joliet, IL
Petronele Novikas	32	Pana, IL
Anthony J. Osisek	38	Whitehall, PA
Michael T. Chatary	42	Pittsburgh, PA
*David J. Nilles	60	West Hazleton, PA
Margaretha M. Zilavy	64	Pittsburgh, PA
Anna M. Jones	64	Pittsburgh, PA
Mary Ann Hajduch	79	Whiting, IN
*Lynda Skopelja	109	Hammond, IN
Sister Grace Yaneka	124	Hazleton, PA
Michael J. VanKulick, Jr.	132	Campbell, OH
Jane F. Dowling	156	Coaldale, PA
Joseph Sholtis	159	Youngstown, OH
Anthony Chiginsky	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
James B. McCusker, Sr.	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Vosylius Antanas	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Wilhemina A. Degarmo	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Joseph McCracken	1'97	Wilkes-Barre, PA
George Harvilla	214	Duryea, PA

*Multiple certificates

Lehigh Valley Okres Holds Matching Fund Project

On Sunday, December 18, 2011, Lehigh Valley Okres officers and members presented a \$250 check to Millie Scrak, soup kitchen coordinator of the Allentown Diocesan Soup Kitchen. The presentation was made at the soup kitchen, located at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church Hall, 179 Chew Street, Allentown, Pennsylvania. The funds were derived from a themed gift basket raffle held by the Okres at its Holiday Luncheon at Best Western Conference Center in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, on December 4, 2011. The raffle was an LPSCU Matching Fund Project for the benefit of the soup kitchen.



L-R: Lehigh Valley Okres President Jean Kosalko presents a check to Millie Scrak, Allentown Diocesan Soup Kitchen coordinator, in the presence of Mary Ann Ackerman, Okres Treasurer Margaret A. Ferri, Okres Secretary Mary Shannon, Cecilia B. Gaughan, and Justine Wesnak.

Dear Junior Members,

March is Red Cross Month, as proclaimed each year by the President of the United States. But do you know how this tradition came about?

From its creation by Clara Barton in 1881, the American Red Cross was largely dependent on the generosity of people who came forward to donate to the organization upon hearing of a catastrophic event that occurred somewhere in the country. Donations of supplies, money, and time were strictly based on the good will of citizens touched by the misfortune of their fellow Americans. This changed in 1917 with the U.S. involvement in World War I. After war was declared, President Wilson ordered the Red Cross to raise funds to support its aid to those affected by the war, military and civilians alike. This resulted in the Red Cross's first national War Fund drive with a goal to raise \$100 million. Although this was an astonishingly large amount of money at the time, the public responded swiftly and generously. The drive was so successful that the Red Cross made it an annual event, combining it into a membership and fundraising drive.

With the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and the subsequent U.S. entrance into World War II, the Red Cross established a War Fund campaign, raising more than \$66 million between December 1941 and June 1942. It was in 1942 that President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the honorary chairman of the Red Cross, declared the whole month of March 1943 to be "Red Cross Month." The Red Cross set a goal of \$125 million, the largest amount ever requested in one campaign by any American organization. Again, the American people responded generously and the goal was reached in less than six weeks. Every year since, each American president has issued a similar proclamation.

You have seen stories of how the Red Cross has helped victims of Hurricane Katrina, and countless other tornadoes, storms, floods, fires, and other natural disasters. Maybe you even know someone on your own community who has been helped by this wonderful humanitarian organization.

But how did all this start?

Clarissa Harlowe Barton – Clara, as she was known – was a true pioneer and humanitarian. Born on Christmas Day in 1821 in North Oxford, Massachusetts, she was a shy and fearful child with a lisp, the youngest of five children in the Barton family. Her parents sent her to a boarding school, but she had such a difficult time adjusting that her parents brought her home. When she was 11, her brother, David, fell from a barn roof and was seriously injured. Clara surprised her parents by offering to care for him. She nursed him for two years, learning much about medicine in the process.

After her brother recovered, Clara tried school again. This time she overcame her fears and had a wonderful time with her classmates. They called her "little nurse" for her help with injured animals and sick cousins during a diphtheria epidemic.

Clara followed the lead of her older sisters and became a school teacher at 17. At a time when most people had to pay to send their children to school, Clara later founded one of the first public schools in New Jersey so that even the



children of the poor would be able to get an education. However, Clara taught school in an era when most teachers were men, and when a man was chosen over her to be principal at the school she had established, she left teaching to take a job as one of the first women clerks in the U.S. Patent Office in Washington, D.C., making her one of the first women to gain employment in the federal government.

At nearly 40 years old, Clara risked her life to bring supplies and support to soldiers in the field during the Civil War. It was here, caring for wounded and dying soldiers, that she received the name "the Angel of the Battlefield." She also worked to identify the bodies of dead soldiers so their families could have closure.

After the war, she visited friends in Geneva, Switzerland, to recover her spirits and her health. While she was there, the founders of the International Red Cross asked her to help start an American branch. She returned home at age 60 to establish the American Red Cross in 1881, and served as its first president for 23 years.

With Clara at its head, the American Red Cross devoted itself largely to disaster relief for the first 20 years of its existence. The Red Cross flag was flown officially for the first time in this country in 1881 when Clara issued a public appeal for funds and clothing to aid victims of a devastating forest fire in Michigan. In 1884, she chartered steamers to carry needed supplies up and down the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to assist flood victims. In 1889, she and 50 volunteers rode the first train into Johnstown, Pennsylvania, to help the survivors of a dam break that caused 2,200 deaths. By the personal example she set, she opened paths to the new field of volunteer service.

From a shy little girl who lisped, Clara Barton became a teacher, government worker, battlefield nurse, finder of missing persons, and founder of one of the country's largest humanitarian organizations. She died on April 12, 1921, at the age of 91. The American Red Cross – her greatest achievement – lives on.

Cecilia B. Gaughan, Fraternal Activities Director

Celebrating Earth Day

We will celebrate Earth Day on April 22. This is the day on which people around the world gather to participate in activities and demonstrations aimed at raising public awareness about a variety of environmental issues, including air pollution, water pollution, and habitat destruction.

This year's observance marks the 42nd anniversary of Earth Day and will concentrate on building the environmental movement and engaging new activists around the world. To learn more about Earth Day activities and how you can get involved, go to www.earthday.org/earth-day-2012.



Arts and Crafts

MAKING FAMILY MEMORIES

Creating this family tradition will be fun. You can start with a small family gathering and it will grow nicely. You will need a plain white cloth tablecloth or a large white sheet. Make sure it is washable.

After a holiday meal or family gathering, have each person present sign the tablecloth lightly in pencil or with a washable fabric marker. Encourage them to add comments or simple line drawings about the event – an Easter egg, a birthday cake, a Valentine heart, etc. And pencil in the date of the gathering.

Before washing the tablecloth, embroider over the pencil marks with thread or fine yarn. Make sure to use thread/yarn whose colors will not run when they get wet. Use all the same color for a single event. Then wash the tablecloth to remove the pencil marks.

Now you have started a special family tradition. Pull the tablecloth out for the next family get-together and have those present again sign it and draw a design. Again, use all one color of thread to embroider over the markings from that gathering. Be sure to add the date.

Over time, you will have a colorful remembrance of many happy times shared with your family.

Did You Know?

Easter is always the 1st Sunday after the 1st full moon after the Spring Equinox. This dating of Easter is based on the lunar calendar that Hebrews used to identify Passover.

In 2008, Easter fell on March 23rd. That was the earliest Easter any of us will ever see for the rest of our lives. Only the most elderly of our population have ever seen it fall that early. The last time it was this early was 1913, so if you're 95 or older, you are among the very few who have seen this occurrence twice in your lifetime. The next time Easter will be on March 23rd will be the year 2228 (216 years from now).

The next time Easter will be a day earlier – March 22nd – will be in the year 2285 (273 years from now). The last time it fell on March 22 was 1818. No one alive today has or ever will see it any earlier than it was in 2008.

Palm Sunday is celebrated the week before Easter. This year it falls on April 1st. It is the first day of Holy Week, the day we celebrate the story of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. This can be traced back at least to the 4th century.

Easter Sunday is on April 8th this year. Easter is a Christian holiday commemorating the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. It is a legal holiday in most countries with a significant Christian tradition. Many countries celebrate Easter on Sunday as well as Easter Monday.



Easter Food Traditions

When our Slovak ancestors arrived in this country a century ago, they brought with them beautiful and meaningful traditions. Among the most popular is the tradition of blessing Easter food.



After a Lent of strict fasting and abstinence, Slovaks enjoyed specially prepared foods on Easter morning. Prepared in advance, these Easter breakfast dishes were placed in a basket and covered with a special, hand embroidered cloth. They were then taken to the church to be blessed before the family enjoyed them at home.

The basket contained . . .

- brightly colored **eggs**, the symbol of new life, the life Jesus gave by rising from the dead.
- **Pascha**, a sweet yeast bread rich in eggs and butter.
- Other breads including nut and poppy seed rolls known as **kolac**.
- **Klobasa** and **ham**, a hearty main dish much enjoyed after a month of abstinence. To Slovaks, this dish is a sign of abundance. Some people prefer **lamb** or **veal**.
- An Easter cheese is known as **syrek**, with a rather bland, but sweet taste.
- **Horseradish**, a tall plant with a white, hot tasting root. This is ground and mixed with **beets** to make a dish called **chren**, to remind us of how bitter life would be without Jesus, and also of the bitter drink given to Jesus on the cross.
- **Butter** which is shaped into the figure of a lamb representing Jesus who is the Lamb of God.
- **Salt** is also blessed because it was used to preserve food and this symbolizes the fact that Jesus preserves us to eternal life.



This custom of blessing Easter food is still observed today in many Slovak and Slavic churches.

Kids in the Kitchen

A SALAD FOR ONE

- 1 apple
- 2 tablespoons cottage cheese
- 5 or 6 raisins
- 2 or 3 nuts, chopped
- 1 teaspoon low fat mayonnaise

Cut the top off the apple. Core it almost all the way through, leaving the bottom skin over the hole. Scoop out the pulp of the apple and chop it up with cottage cheese, raisins, and nuts. Mix with mayonnaise. Stuff the mixture into the apple shell and put the top on it. This recipe is for one, but you can increase this to as many as you want.

PERIODICAL

Slovak League Awards Scholarships to Two Members

Evan W. Martino of Bethesda, Maryland, and Elizabeth A. Nace of Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, were each recently awarded a \$1,000 college scholarship from the Slovak League of America. All together, the Slovak League awarded fourteen \$1,000 college scholarship grants for 2011 to deserving American students of Slovak ancestry. Each applicant was required to submit a scholarly essay (minimum of 5 pages) on a theme relating to Slovak history or culture.



Evan W. Martino

Evan is a member of LPSCU Branch 19, Swoyersville, Pennsylvania. He is currently a Junior at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he is pursuing a double major in Romance Languages and Economics. The essay he submitted for the award was titled "Slovak Immigration to America: The Saga of My Slovak Family." He is the grandson of the late Cecilia Wysocki, who was National Secretary-Treasurer of the LPSCU for many years.



Elizabeth A. Nace

Elizabeth is a member of LPSCU Branch 7, Exeter, Pennsylvania. She is currently a sophomore at Gettysburg College in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, where she is pursuing a double major in Health Sciences and Pre-Optometry. Her essay was about Slovak wedding traditions.

The 2011 SLA grants honored the memory of the late Leo J. Danihal, a prominent American of Slovak ancestry

who was a successful businessman and promoter of Slovak culture and heritage in the United States. He was a past president of the former Slovak World Congress. His widow, Mimi Danihal, vice president of the Slovak League for California and the Western States, made a generous donation in memory of her husband, which funded the 2011 grants.

The Slovak League of America, a civic and cultural federation of Americans of Slovak ancestry, was founded in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1907. In 1972 it established a scholarship program to assist American students of Slovak ancestry to achieve their educational goals. Over the years, hundreds of students have received scholarship grants to assist them in their quest for a college education.

The LPSCU congratulates Evan and Elizabeth on receiving scholarship grants from the Slovak League of America. We wish them both continued success in their educational endeavors.

"Regret City"

continued from page 3

about how we have messed up and accept the consequences of our behavior.

Being honest about who we are and what we have done allows us to stand before God as an imperfect person, admitting that we have made mistakes in life. Our belief in the gift of God's mercy allows us to experience freedom so that we can move on from the past, enabling us to enjoy the here and now.

Through our acknowledgement of where we have failed and through our true sorrow for our failures, we are invited by God to let go of our sins. We are encouraged not to hold on to unhealthy guilt. Sacramental absolution allows us to bury the past and grants us a new beginning, a fresh chance to live the life we are called to live as children of God. God's forgiveness is the gift which enables us to see ourselves and others as valuable human beings.

During our "travels" this Lent, may we avoid visiting Regret City or attending an unhealthy "Pity Party" and, through the power of God's mercy, may we frequently visit the land of "Starting Over," knowing and believing that we are forgiven and that we are saved!

Rev. Philip A. Altavilla, V.G.

NOTICE

REGARDING SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES & PHOTOS

When submitting articles and photos for publication in *Zornicka* to the Public Relations Director, Margaret A. Ferri, please **include a phone number or email address** with your name. That way, if there is any question regarding the material you submit, it will make it easier to contact you.