

# ZORNICKA

MORNING STAR

Ladies  
Pennsylvania  
Slovak  
Catholic  
Union



Vol. 77, No. 859

March-April 2018

## MARCH *for* LIFE 2018



On Friday, January 19, 2018, the 45th annual March for Life rally was held in our nation's capital, Washington, D.C. This yearly gathering is the largest pro-life event in the world, with this year's attendance estimate to have been in the hundreds of thousands. The March, a peaceful protest against both the practice and legality of abortion, is held on or around the anniversary of Roe v. Wade, a landmark decision which was issued in 1974 by the United States Supreme Court decriminalizing abortion.

As they have for many years, members of our Slovak Catholic fraternal societies, including the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, joined the marchers along the route running from the National Mall, along Constitution Avenue, and concluding at the steps of the Supreme Court.

It is truly an amazing experience, to the point of making one speechless, to see that many people in one place at one time supporting the same cause. People of all races and heritages, from newborns to those using walkers or in wheelchairs, come together in support of those unborn babies that never get an opportunity to voice their opinions. It was truly an unforgettable and powerful experience.



See page 12  
for photos from  
this year's March.

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# Calendar of Events

## MARCH

- 5** – WPSCA Slovak Heritage Program and demonstration on decorating Slovak honey cookies at 7:00 p.m. at Mount Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd., Mount Lebanon, Pennsylvania. The program is free and open to the public. *See page 7 for more details.*
- 12** – Msgr. Beeda District Meeting at Perkins Restaurant, Route 93, West Hazleton, Pennsylvania, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Please contact Anita Gregory (570-788-3263) by March 9th if you plan to attend.
- 14-15** – LPSCU Internal Audit
- 16-17** – LPSCU Board of Directors Annual Meeting at the Holiday Inn – East Mountain Inn, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.
- 20** – **Deadline to submit articles for May/June Zornicka.**
- 30** – Home Office closed for Good Friday.

## APRIL

- 1** – Deadline to nominate a member to be our 2018 Fraternalist of the Year. *See page 18 for details.*
- 2** – WPSCA Slovak Heritage Program on Slovak castles and castle ruins at 7:00 p.m. at Mount Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd., Mount Lebanon, Pennsylvania. The program is free and open to the public. *See page 7 for more details.*
- 15** – Reverend Dianiska District's 75th Anniversary Meeting and Luncheon at the North End Slovak Club, North Main Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Reservations are required. *See page 5 for details.*
- 23-25** – American Fraternal Alliance Executive Summit, Arlington, Virginia
- 30** – Deadline to apply for the 2018 LPSCU College Award. *See page 17 for details.*
- 30-5/1** – Slovak Catholic Federation Meeting, Danville, Pennsylvania

## MAY

- 2** – Join Hands Day. *See page 10 for details.*
- 7** – WPSCA Slovak Heritage Program on weddings in Slovakia at 7:00 p.m. at Mount Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd., Mount Lebanon, Pennsylvania. The program is free and open to the public. *See page 7 for more details.*
- 20** – **Deadline to submit articles for July/August Zornicka.**
- 22-24** – American Fraternal Alliance Spring Symposium, Rosemont, Illinois
- 28** – Home Office closed for Memorial Day.
- 30** – Deadline for Ohio LPSCU members to apply for a 2018 Scholarship offered by United Slovak Societies of Lorain. *See page 14 for details.*

continued on page 4



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### OFFICE HOURS AT NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

#### Monday through Friday:

**November 1 — April 30**  
**7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

**May 1 — October 31**  
**7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

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The National Officers  
of the  
Ladies Pennsylvania  
Slovak Catholic Union  
extend a most  
Blessed and  
Happy Easter to all!

Veselá veľká noc  
Radostne Aleluja

Šventu velyku  
Linkejimai

## A Message from Our National Spiritual Advisor

### CHRIST IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

The gospel says the women from Galilee went to the tomb at daybreak. They saw that the stone sealing Jesus's tomb had been rolled away, and then they saw an angel who said to them, "Do not be afraid."

Jesus Christ broke through the chains of death. The stone that sealed the tomb of Jesus was a door through which He passed into eternal life. Death does not have the final word. Jesus does. The stone is rolled away. Life is not taken away, but it is forever changed in Jesus.

The Church in the richness of its liturgy at the holiest of all nights – the Easter Vigil – quietly sits in solemn darkness and lies in waiting. The Easter fire is blessed and lit. The Paschal Candle (symbolizing the Risen Lord) is lit and carried in procession. Jesus is the light that dispels all the darkness.

We have died with Him on the cross and now we rise again filled with hope and joy. We are freed from the bonds of sin and death has been overcome. As the sun rises on Easter morning, churches throughout the world will resound with hymns of joy as we celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord, Jesus Christ.

*May the risen Lord,  
fill your heart with joy,  
bring you new hope,  
and bless you with His peace.*

Easter Blessings,  
Father Bob

### AN EASTER PRAYER

*God, our Father,  
by raising Christ your Son  
you conquered the power of death  
and opened for us the way to eternal life.  
Let our celebration today raise us up  
and renew our lives by the Spirit that is within us.  
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

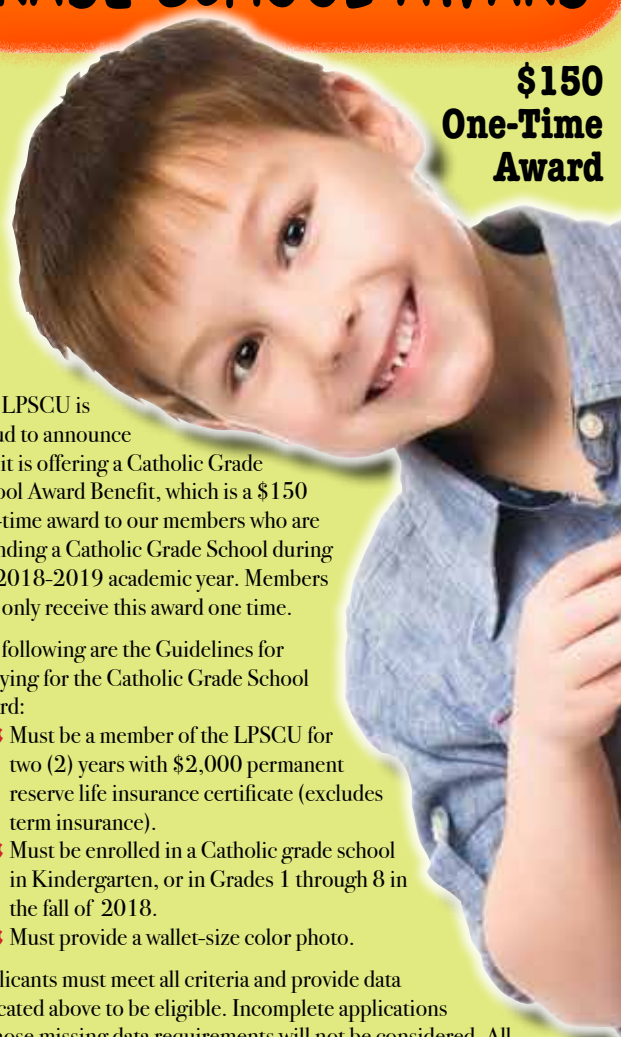
Remember to notify  
the Home Office  
if your address changes!

## JUNE

- 1 – Deadline to nominate a young LPSCU member for our 2018 Youth Achievement Award. *See page 10 for details.*
- 4 – WPSCA Slovak Heritage Program on the Pittsburgh Agreement at 7:00 p.m. at Mount Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Blvd., Mount Lebanon, Pennsylvania. The program is free and open to the public. *See page 7 for more details.*
- 8 – LPSCU Branch 213 hosting Flag Day at the Ballpark. *See page 15 for details.*

## 2018 LPSCU CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOL AWARD

### \$150 One-Time Award



The LPSCU is proud to announce that it is offering a Catholic Grade School Award Benefit, which is a \$150 one-time award to our members who are attending a Catholic Grade School during the 2018-2019 academic year. Members may only receive this award one time.

The following are the Guidelines for applying for the Catholic Grade 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 enrolled in a Catholic grade school in Kindergarten, or in Grades 1 through 8 in the fall of 2018.
- 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, 2018.**

Applications are available from the LPSCU Home Office or its website. Return completed application and supporting materials to:

Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union  
ATTN: Catholic Grade School Award  
P.O. Box 32 • Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703  
P: 570-823-3513 • TF: 888-834-6614 • F: 570-823-4464  
E-mail: [lpscu@lpscu.org](mailto:lpscu@lpscu.org) • Website: [www.lpscu.org](http://www.lpscu.org)

- 8 – Fraternal Societies of Northeast Pennsylvania hosting Flag Day at the Ballpark. *See page 10 for details.*
- 9 – LPSCU Mid-Year Meeting (Telephone Conference)
- 30 – Deadline to apply for a 2018 LPSCU Catholic High School Award. *See page 24 for details.*
- 30 – Deadline to apply for a 2018 LPSCU Catholic Grade School Award. *See this page for details.*
- 30 – Deadline to apply for the 2018 Bishop Andrew G. Grutka Memorial Scholarship Award. *See page 12 for details.*

## JULY

- 1 – Deadline to apply for the 2018 Anne (Shinal) Cichy Memorial Award. *See page 14 for details.*
- 4 – Home Office closed for Independence Day.
- 10-24 – Youngstown Sister Cities 20th Heritage Tour of Slovakia. Contact Jim Bench (724-858-5843; [jmbench@yahoo.com](mailto:jmbench@yahoo.com)) or Kay Bench (724-771-7900; [skbench@gmail.com](mailto:skbench@gmail.com)) for details.
- 20 – **Deadline to submit articles for September/October Zornicka.**

## AUGUST

- 13-26 – Consular Tour of Slovakia and Its Neighbors lead by Slovak Honorary Consul Joe Senko and his wife, Albina. *See page 21 for itinerary and details.*

## SEPTEMBER

- 3 – Home Office closed for Labor Day.
- 5-7 – American Fraternal Alliance Meeting, Minneapolis, Minnesota
- 17-18 – Slovak Catholic Federation Meeting, Youngstown, Ohio
- 20 – **Deadline to submit articles for November/December Zornicka.**
- 27-29 – LPSCU Semi-Annual Meeting, Cleveland, Ohio

## OCTOBER

- 10-12 – New Jersey/New York Fraternal Alliance Meeting, Atlantic City, New Jersey
- 21-23 – Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance Meeting, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- 28 – Rev. Dianiska District's meeting celebrating "Make a Difference Day" at North End Slovak Club, North Main Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Branch 7 will host.

## NOVEMBER

- 20 – **Deadline to submit articles for January/February Zornicka.**

## DECEMBER

- 2 – Rev. Dianiska District's Christmas Party at Genetti Hotel and Conference Center, Market Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Branch 19 will host.
- 8 – LPSCU Board Meeting (Telephone Conference)

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

## A Lenten/Easter Reflection

What does Lent mean for you? There are as many responses as there are people. Sin, sacrifice, fasting, more prayer, abstinence, meatless Fridays, works of charity, dieting, confession, contrition, repairing a broken relationship, service to those in need, almsgiving, ashes, Jesus carrying the Cross, suffering, crucifixion, death.



All these various aspects of Lent help us to re-think, re-focus, and re-discover the meaning of Lent which includes the strengthening our relationship with God as well as with others. By going through the discipline of Lent, whatever that is for you, we discard all the extra baggage in our lives which has accumulated over the years, that baggage of worldly things which turn our gaze and focus away from Christ. With each step, as we walk with Christ through His crucifixion, Christ leads us out of the darkness of our world into His light. With each step along the way, we begin to see more clearly Christ's light and presence in our lives and experience more strongly His love within us. Lent is the time which leads us to the Resurrection of Christ on Easter Day. As Christ rises to new life, we too rise with Him to a new life, that is, a life in which we truly become who God has created us and called us to be – the best version of ourselves, His daughters and sons!

As I reflected on this column about Lent and Easter, I looked around my room for inspiration that would tie both themes together. Then I saw it! The "Gift of the Spirit" Crucifix which has Jesus bending down to a troubled world, extending His hand to help lift us up. In His hand is his gift to us, His Holy Spirit. For through Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection we have the gift of eternal life with God in Heaven. Jesus gives us His Spirit to guide us along the way.

May your Lent be a fruitful one leading to the Risen Christ.

Peace,

**Abbot Gary Hoover, OSB**  
Spiritual Protector, LPSCU

## Rev. Dianiska District Plans 75th Anniversary Meeting

The Reverend Dianiska District of Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union will meet on Sunday, April 15, at 1:00 p.m. at the North End Slovak Club, North Main Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. After the business meeting, we will celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the District with a light luncheon.

Please call your Branch Secretary to make a reservation if you plan to attend.

**Susan Worth, District Secretary**

## Branch 39 Holds Matching Funds Event

On Sunday, November 5, 2017, members and guests of LPSCU Branch 39, Hazle Township, Pennsylvania, attended the 9:45 a.m. Mass together at the Church of Saint Joseph, Saints Cyril and Methodius Parish, in Hazleton, Pennsylvania. Following the liturgy, members and their guests enjoyed a breakfast buffet at Premier Catering, Route 309, Hazle Township. A Matching Funds event was held in conjunction with the breakfast to benefit the Jesuit Refugee Service/USA. Branch members collected donations and raised \$300 for the charity.



**Front row, L-R: Celia Nemeth, Jack Guza, Mary Ann Litchock, Dolores Evanko, and Mary Kish; back row, L-R: Jim Yocum, Jim Sharp, and Clare Sharp.**



**Front row, L-R: Gina Yocum, Makenzie Milot, Johanna Milot, and Stephanie Busher; back row: Donna and Jim Yocum.**

## New Insurance Issued

Branch	Branch Representative	NOV./DEC. 2017	Year-to-Date Total
39	James Yocum	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
64	Elva Silay	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 34,000.00
109	Joan Hladek	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
130	Margaret Ferri	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
197*	Mary Jo Savidge	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
213	Theresa Kluchinski	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
213	Mary Jo Savidge	\$ 67,000.00	\$ 137,000.00
		\$ 148,000.00	\$ 247,000.00

\*Sold through Home Office, not included in Campaign

**BRANCH 39, HAZLE TOWNSHIP, PENNSYLVANIA**

LPSCU Branch 39 held a Christmas party for Branch members on Sunday, December 17, 2017, at Grotto Pizza in Harveys Lake, Pennsylvania. Branch members enjoyed a variety of pizza and wings as well as each other's company. The restaurant was hosting its annual Parade of Trees, which benefits local non-profit organizations. Branch members viewed many of the beautiful trees decorated by local businesses and voted on which ones they liked the most. Everyone enjoyed themselves, leaving filled with pizza and holiday cheer.



**L-R: Donna, Nella, Jim, and Gina Yocum.**



**L-R: Donna, Jim, and Gina Yocum, and Makenzie, Zeke, and Fran Milot.**

**BRANCH 52, NORTH BRADDOCK, PENNSYLVANIA**

Members of LPSCU Branch 52 attended their annual Christmas party on Sunday, December 3, 2017, at the Grandview Golf Club of North Braddock in western Pennsylvania. This festive event was held in the spacious Kenywood Room. A crowd of nearly 40 members and their families attended.

The weather was perfect for a round of golf. It was bright, sunny, and very mild. Branch members greatly enjoyed the weather and the course. It was a great day for them and a great and wonderful day for us.

As always, a tasty buffet brunch was served with a sufficient variety of foods to satisfy everyone's palate. All the children and adults each received gifts from the Branch and numerous door prizes were awarded.

Another generous donation of groceries was collected and delivered to a local food pantry the following week.

Everyone enjoyed a memorable time and Branch members are looking forward with anticipation to another great LPSCU year.



**Young members of Branch 52 who attended the Christmas party.**



**Colorful bags hold Christmas gifts for Branch members.**

*In Memoriam*

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

Name	Branch	Location
Barbara Grula	6	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Helen Pendzinski	6	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Gerald Shinal, Sr.*	6	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Mary Pawloski	7	Exeter, PA
Margaret Zinkavich*	7	Exeter, PA
John Vanyo	19	Swoyersville, PA
Margaret Mazaleski	37	Plymouth, PA
Eleanor Syzdek	60	W. Hazleton, PA
Ethel Geosits	62	Northampton, PA
Margaret Mackowiak	64	Munhall, PA
Nora L. Dodson	77	Lorain, OH
William Klein, Sr.	81	Beaverdale, PA
Mary Kristoff	90	Johnstown, PA
Andrew Peerson	109	Hammond, IN
Geraldine Washney	122	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Ann E. Yates	172	Pittsburgh, PA
Joseph F. Guest	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Marianne Holup	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Florence Javorsky	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Tadas J. Vasaitis	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Alfred Walsh	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Richard Richmond	209	Cleveland, OH

*\*Multiple certificates*

## LEHIGH VALLEY OKRES

The Lehigh Valley Okres held its annual Holiday Luncheon on Sunday, December 3, 2017, 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 buffet at 12:45 p.m. Thirty adults, five children, and two honored guests attended this festive event.

Okres President Jean Kosalko extended a warm welcome to all present. Msgr. Robert F. Kozel, pastor emeritus of St. John the Baptist Church in Allentown, Pennsylvania, offered a special prayer as all partook of *oplatky* distributed before the meal. Members donated twenty themed gift baskets for a Matching Fund raffle to benefit the Carmelite Monastery in Lanark, Pennsylvania.

At the conclusion of the buffet luncheon, President Kosalko introduced the Okres officers and highlighted the various benefits and programs that the LPSCU offers to its members. Since the Okres collected donations for the Marine Corps Toys for Tots program, President Kosalko introduced Joseph M. Pokojni, District 3 Vice Commandant of Marine Corps League Det. 298, of Easton, Pennsylvania, who spoke on the history of the Toys for Tots Program. Okres members donated more than twenty unwrapped toys and the children present placed the toys into a special container for Mr. Pokojni to take back to the Marine facility for distribution to underprivileged children. Helen Bobeck, treasurer of LPSCU Branch 130 in Bethlehem, presented a monetary donation to Mr. Pokojni for the Toys for Tots program as well. He was very grateful for the donations and thanked both the LPSCU and Branch 130 for their generosity.

President Kosalko then called the children to the podium and asked them to sing some Christmas songs. As they were singing "Rudolph, the Red-nosed Reindeer," Santa Claus entered the room ringing his Christmas bells and hollering "Ho! Ho! Ho!" The children were very excited to see Santa, who called each one by name and spoke with each of them. He then presented them with gifts and a large candy cane filled with M&M's. Santa also gave gifts to the Okres



**Waiting to receive gifts from Santa are, from left, Alex Kosalko, Chase and Cole Geiger, and Alexandria Kosalko. Kira Geiger is being held by her father, Douglas.**

officers, committee members, and our honored guests, Msgr. Kozel and Rev. David Kozak, newly-appointed administrator of Incarnation of Our Lord Parish in Bethlehem. President Kosalko in turn presented Santa with a gift from the Okres.

Each attendee received a bayberry candle as a favor from the Okres. Door prizes provided by the Home Office were distributed to lucky winners. As a gift from the Okres, each woman present received a poinsettia plant and each man received a bottle of wine.

President Kosalko thanked everyone for attending the annual Holiday Luncheon and wished all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The festivities concluded with a prayer by Father Kozak. A delightful time was had by all.

## WPSCA Holding Spring Slovak Heritage Programs

The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association is once again hosting Slovak Heritage Programs at 7:00 p.m. on the first Monday evening of each month at the Mount Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Boulevard, Mount Lebanon, Pennsylvania. The programs are free to WPSCA members and the general public. The Library may be contacted at 412-531-1912. Here is the Spring agenda:

### **March 5 – Decorating Slovak Honey Cookies (*Medovníky*)**

Larry Kozlowski, a perennial presenter, will talk about the history of the popular honey cookies from Slovakia as well as demonstrate how to decorate them. Attendees will be able to decorate their own cookie to take home.

### **April 2 – Slovak Castles and Castle Ruins**

Otilia Golias will show pictures of and discuss the famous castles in Slovakia.

### **May 7 – Weddings in Slovakia**

Back by numerous requests, Otilia Golias will repeat her popular presentation on a Slovak wedding.

### **June 4 – History of the Pittsburgh Agreement**

Rich Kocur will give an in-depth presentation on the history of the Pittsburgh Agreement of May 31, 1918, between members of Czech and Slovak expatriate communities in the United States, including some little known facts.



**Joseph M. Pokojni, District 3 Vice Commandant of the Marine Corps League Det. 298 (left) accepts a monetary donation for the Toys for Tots program from Branch 130 Treasurer Helen Bobeck.**

**PITTSBURGH DISTRICT**

On Sunday, November 26, 2017, forty members and guests of the Pittsburgh District gathered to celebrate the start of the Christmas season. A delicious luncheon was served at Banquets Unlimited in Wilmerding, Pennsylvania.

District President Dolores Sakal welcomed everyone and then read a heart-warming thank you letter from the Magee

Women's Research Institute in Pittsburgh for the District's recent Matching Fund donation.

Entertainment was provided by Mickey Dee, a very talented accordionist from McKeesport, Pennsylvania. He played Slovak and Christmas favorites which included a few sing-alongs. Several members were so inspired by the music that they got out on the dance floor for a few polkas.

A Chinese auction was held along with a Share the Wealth raffle. Each member and guest went home with a beautiful glass ornament of the Nativity. It was a beautiful afternoon of celebration and fellowship.

**Donna Powell**



**Dolores Sakal (left) and Janet Lawrence.**



**Four Generations – Margaret Joschak holding Maggie Powell and surrounded by Tori Powell, Donna Powell, and Chrissy Recupero.**



**Ron Silay dances with his mom, Elva.**

**Branch 64 Members Visit Pittsburgh Gardens**

Members of LPSCU Pittsburgh Branch 64 spent an enjoyable day at Randyland. Located in the Mexican War Streets on Pittsburgh's lower northside, Randyland is known worldwide for its beautiful, artistic gardens.

Afterwards, members enjoyed a delicious lunch as well as the pleasure of each other's company.



**David and Celeste Palcsey.**



**L-R: Helen Lorinc, Mary Ann Kaylor, and her daughter, Rachel Bowman at Randyland.**



**REVEREND DIANISKA DISTRICT**

The annual Christmas party of the Reverend Dianiska District was held on Sunday, December 3, 2017, at Genetti Hotel and Conference Center, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Janet Marley from Branch 214 hosted.

Janet welcomed members and guests. District President Mary Ann Ewasko thanked all members for their cooperation throughout the year and offered the blessing and *oplatky* prayer. Everyone exchanged Christmas wishes by sharing their wafers.

National President Theresa Kluchinski welcomed everyone on behalf of the LPSCU and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.

Members and guests enjoyed a delicious buffet dinner, a dessert table, and a variety of beverages.

President Ewasko announced the District's 2017 LPSCU College Scholarship recipients: Paul G. Jason and Kevin Kinney from Branch 6 and Benjamin Drexler and Joseph Montante of Branch 7.

A check was presented to Christine Mackin, director of the Wyoming Valley Children's Association, from the special Matching Fund raffle held by the District earlier in the year. Members and guests donated canned goods for the St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen.

Santa Claus stopped by for a visit to our celebration. He greeted members at their tables, passing out gifts of candy while assisted by Junior members David and Abigail Worth. Santa then listened to the children's Christmas wishes and each child received a gift. Both children and adults had their picture taken with Santa. Janet thanked the Junior members who helped during the party.

After exchanging Christmas greetings with one another, members ventured home with the Christmas spirit in their hearts.

The Reverend Dianiska District wishes everyone at the LPSCU a healthy and happy New Year!

**Susan Worth**



**Presenting a donation check to Wyoming Valley Children's Association Director Christine Mackin (standing, center) are, standing from left, Margaret Jollimore, Mary Ann Ewasko, Debbie Adamchak, and Betsy Craig. Children seated are, L-R, Jennifer Passeri, David Worth, Abigail Worth, Emily Landmesser, and Arden Kiss.**

**Member Honored as 'Local Hero'**

On November 11, 2017, during the 10th Annual Fall Fest of the Tredyffrin and Easttown Townships CARE Banquet, "local heroes" were honored. The Townships' CARE definition of a local hero is a person who is admired for courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities. Tate Kienzle of Tredyffrin Township was one of 100 such "heroes" honored for his initiative to provide assistance to a family that suffered a sudden loss and for organizing his high school lacrosse team to collect and ship "Comforts from Home" packages to deployed servicemen and women from the local area. The Banquet Program noted Tate served his community "with enthusiasm and an infectious smile."

Tate, an LPSCU member, is a senior at Conestoga High School in Berwyn, Pennsylvania. He is committed to Gettysburg College where he will play lacrosse. He is the son of Dr. Rand and Patricia Kienzle and brother of Victoriana, Jenna, and Jace Kienzle, all members of Branch 83 and 130, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

The LPSCU congratulates Tate on his "Local Hero" Award.

# JOIN HANDS DAY

SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2018

JOIN HANDS DAY is a national day of volunteering that brings together young people and adults to begin a year-round process of building relationships and making great contributions to their communities. Youths and adults work together on an equal basis to plan, organize, and implement the day's activities.

The LPSCU encourages the junior 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 2. There are many reasons to participate, and lots of resources to help you plan your own project! 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.

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 LPSCU Public Relations Director Donna Perhach so it can be shared with our members in the *Zornicka*. And afterwards, you are encouraged to share your accomplishments and photos from the day on the American Fraternal Alliance's Facebook page.

Fraternal Societies of Northeastern Pennsylvania

is hosting

## FLAG DAY AT THE BALLPARK

Friday

June 8, 2018

Scranton/Wilkes-  
Barre RailRiders

Game Time ~  
7 p.m.



### PRICE

**LPSCU Members - \$20.00 per person**

**Non-members - \$35.00 per person**

*Includes:*

- Entry through the Mohegan Sun Club entrance.
- Dinner on covered deck/suite in right field.
  - Food served from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Watch as one member throws out the first pitch.
  - All the camaraderie you can get!

*Please make reservations by Wednesday, May 1, 2018*

*Ask for Theresa or Mary Jo:*

*570-823-3513 or 888-834-6614*

**RESERVATIONS MUST BE PAID FOR BY MAY 1, 2018**

Make checks payable to LPSCU

*Seating is limited! Sign up now!*

Who Will Receive Our

# 2018 YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT AWARD?



2017 Winner GABRIELLA KUPSHO

Let an outstanding youth know

## You Are Appreciated!

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

Help the LPSCU show an outstanding young member that they are appreciated by nominating him or her for the

**2018 YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

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

The postmark deadline for nominations is June 1, 2018

# Easter Traditions and Customs

Easter is the holiday that celebrates and commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ three days after his death. It is the oldest and most important Christian holiday. In fact, the entire year of worship is centered around the Easter holiday. It is celebrated on the Sunday following the first full moon after the spring equinox. This year, Easter will be celebrated on Sunday, April 1.

There is much symbolism in the traditions and customs surrounding Easter. Over the centuries, Easter religious observances have incorporated popular customs; in fact, many customs were integrated from the springtime fertility celebrations of European and Middle Eastern pagan religions.

Rabbits and eggs, for example, are widely-used pagan symbols for fertility. Christians view the Easter eggs as symbols of joy and celebration (as they were forbidden during the fast of Lent) and of new life and resurrection. Below are some Easter traditions, along with the customs with which they may have been associated.

**Easter Eggs** – For Christians, the Easter egg symbolizes the resurrection of Jesus. Painting or dyeing Easter eggs is an especially beloved tradition in the Orthodox and Eastern Catholic churches. Colors are said to represent certain symbols associated with Easter. For example, red eggs represent the blood of Jesus Christ that was shed on the cross. The hard shell of the egg represents the sealed Tomb of Christ, and cracking the shell represents Jesus' resurrection from the dead. Moreover, historically Christians would abstain from eating eggs and meat during Lent, and Easter was the first chance to eat eggs after a long period of abstinence. Some Orthodox Christians continue to abstain from eggs during Lent.

**Easter Egg Hunts and Egg Rolling** – These are two popular egg-related traditions. An egg hunt involves hiding eggs outside for children to run around and find on Easter morning. Eggs are rolled as a symbolic re-enactment of the rolling away of the stone from Christ's tomb. In the United States, the Easter Egg Roll is an annual event that is held on the White House lawn each Monday after Easter.

**Easter Bunny** – It is believed that the Easter Bunny landed on American shores with the arrival of German immigrants who settled in Pennsylvania and brought with them the tale of an egg-laying hare called "Osterhase" or "Oschter Haws." Nests were made by children so that the "bunny" could lay its colored eggs in them. As the custom spread across the U.S., the Easter Bunny also began to deliver chocolate as well as other candy and gifts, and decorated baskets replaced nests. In exchange for candy and gifts, carrots were often left out for the bunny just in case he got hungry.

## BLESSING OF EASTER BASKETS

A typical Eastern European Easter basket would include any of these symbolic foods:

- ❖ **Bacon/Ham** – A symbol of the abundance of God's mercy.
- ❖ **Bread** – Babka or Easter bread is a round loaf of rich, eggy, yeast dough with raisins, reminiscent of the risen Lord.
- ❖ **Butter** – Dairy products are included to celebrate the end of Lent and the richness of our salvation. Butter is often shaped into a lamb, symbolic of the Paschal Lamb.
- ❖ **Candle** – The candle symbolizes Jesus, the "light of the world," and can be lit when the priest blesses the baskets of food.
- ❖ **Cheese** – Called *cirak* in Slovak, cheese is a symbol to remind Christians of moderation.
- ❖ **Colored Eggs** – Both colored and uncolored hard-cooked eggs indicate hope, new life, and Christ rising from his tomb.
- ❖ **Sausage/Kielbasa** – As with the ham, these meats remind us of God's generosity.
- ❖ **Horseradish** – This represents the bitterness and harshness of the Passion of Jesus. The vinegar in the horseradish symbolizes the sour wine given to Jesus on the cross.
- ❖ **Salt** – Salt is represented to add zest to life and preserve us from corruption.
- ❖ **Kolachi (Nut Roll/Poppyseed Roll)** – Sweets suggest the promise of eternal life or good things to come.

These foods are customarily blessed on Holy Saturday and are typically eaten for breakfast or brunch on Easter Sunday.

In my family, it is very important to keep true to our traditions and customs. Passing down these traditions and customs to younger generations is also very important to me. I've already begun teaching my great-nieces and great-nephews how to prepare the many recipes used in our holiday meals. It is my wish that each carry on at least a part of what I have taught them and perhaps passes these recipes (our family treasures) on to their children and grandchildren.

You can find many of these recipes in our LPSCU cookbook, *The Art of Cooking, Heart of Our Family*, which may be purchased by visiting our website at <http://www.lpscu.org/> or on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/lpsc1898/>.

**Donna M. Perhach**  
Public Relations Director

## **BISHOP ANDREW G. GRUTKA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**

**\$1,000 AWARD**

**(Maximum of \$2,000 per member)**

The LPSCU is proud to once again 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 the 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.
- Provide a Sponsor Eligibility Form from their parish to show they are active Catholics.
- Be active in an organization or activity that promotes awareness of our Slovak heritage, culture, and traditions.
- Be endorsed by his or her 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, 2018.**

Applications are available from the LPSCU Home Office or its website. Return completed application and supporting material to:

Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union

ATTN: Bishop Grutka Award

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

## *Scenes from the 2018 March for Life*



**Participants await the start of the March on Constitution Avenue.**



**Thousands of March participants walk along Constitution Avenue, heading towards the Supreme Court.**



**Slovak fraternal leaders stand in front of the Supreme Court building – From left, LPSCU National President Theresa Kluchinski, Slovak Catholic Sokol Supreme President Michael Horvath, and SCS Supreme Chaplain Rev. Andrew Hvozdic.**

# Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union

## Minutes of the Board Conference Call Meeting

December 9, 2017

### **Call to Order – Prayer**

President Theresa Kluchinski called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Spiritual Advisor Rev. Robert Seeman offered a prayer.

### **Welcome Remarks**

President Kluchinski welcomed everyone to the meeting and extended condolences to Chairperson of Trustees Mary Ann Ewasko on the loss of her brother, Gerald.

### **Approval of Agenda/Minutes**

The agenda for this meeting was approved, along with the Minutes for the September 29, 2017 Board meeting.

### **Correspondence**

There was no correspondence or requests received.

### **Financial Report**

Board members were provided and reviewed the following information:

- ❖ Quarterly Statement – September 2017
- ❖ Month End Balance Sheet/Revenue and Expenses Accounts
- ❖ Summary Market Value 2017
- ❖ Budget 2017/2018
- ❖ Transaction Summary Report

### **Home Office Update**

Since the Board receives the Minutes from the Executive Finance Committee meetings, Secretary-Treasurer Mary Jo Savidge reported that there was nothing new from the Home Office since the last Executive Finance Committee meeting.

President Kluchinski provided the Board with information on the following:

- ❖ Membership mailing
- ❖ Campaign
- ❖ Public Relations Director Donna Perhach
- ❖ Fraternal Activities Director Susan Ondrejco

### **Unfinished Business**

The Board was provided with information on the following:

- ❖ Pension contribution
- ❖ Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International

### **New Business**

The Board was provided and discussed the following:

- ❖ Annuity rate
- ❖ Branch Deposit Program rate

### **Officers' Reports**

Reports were received from the following officers:

- ❖ Rev. Robert Seeman

- ❖ Vice President Anita Gregory
- ❖ Chairperson of Trustees Mary Ann Ewasko
- ❖ Trustee Dolores Evanko
- ❖ Trustee Joan Hladek
- ❖ Trustee James Yocum

### **Compliance Update**

The Board was provided information on the following compliance updates:

- ❖ Pennsylvania House Bill 1841 and 1842 – Rebates and Inducements by Insurance Companies/Producers
- ❖ Pennsylvania House Bill 1848 – Corporate Governance Annual Disclosure Act

### **National/State Alliance Meetings**

Reports were received from the following:

- ❖ President Kluchinski provided a report from the New-Jersey-New York Fraternal Alliance Annual Meeting.
- ❖ Secretary-Treasurer Savidge provided a report from the New Jersey-New York Fraternal Alliance and the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance Annual Meetings.
- ❖ Trustee Evanko provided a report from the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance Annual Meeting.

President Kluchinski congratulated Mary Jo Savidge on being elected President of the New Jersey- New York Fraternal Alliance and on continuing as a Director of the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance.

### **Convention**

The Board was provided the following:

- ❖ Constitution and By-Laws suggestions or changes.
- ❖ Site selection for the LPSCU 2020 Convention: The Double Tree by Hilton – Meadows, Washington, Pennsylvania, has been selected.

### **Calendar of Events**

The Board was provided the Calendar of Events for 2018.

### **Strategic Plan**

The Board was provided and discussed the following suggestions for the Strategic Plan:

- ❖ Return of premium policies
- ❖ Irrevocable Burial Trust
- ❖ Annuity rollover contributions
- ❖ Medicare Supplement Plan
- ❖ Premium calculator on the LPSCU website
- ❖ Alliance regarding financial planning
- ❖ Name, logo, and motto
- ❖ Independent agents

Deadlines were provided to the Board members.

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

**Mary Jo Savidge**

National Secretary-Treasurer

Get involved in the LPSCU  
Meet new friends!  
Attend Branch & Okres meetings!  
Sign up a new member!

An LPSCU Educational Benefit

## THE 2018 ANNE (SHINAL) CICHY MEMORIAL AWARD

**\$500 Award**

The LPSCU is proud to offer the Anne (Shinal) Cichy Memorial Award for students in the health-care field. This award, instituted in 2006, is given in memory of Anne (Shinal) Cichy, the first LPSCU public relations director. The award is made possible through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Francis A. Shinal.



Those applying for the Anne (Shinal) Cichy Memorial Award must meet the following criteria:

- Must have a life insurance certificate with the LPSCU.
- Must attend an accredited college/university in the **fall of 2018** on a full time basis, pursuing a degree in the healthcare field. Proof of acceptance/attendance must be provided.
- Must provide a wallet-size color photo.

The recipient of the 2018 Anne (Shinal) Cichy Memorial Award will receive \$500.

The recipient of this award shall be selected by a random drawing from among all the qualified applicants. No individual shall be eligible to receive this award more than two times.

Applicants must meet all criteria outlined above and provide data indicated on the application form to be eligible. Those applications with incomplete data or requirements will not be considered. All submitted materials become the property of the LPSCU and will not be returned.

Applications are available from the LPSCU Home Office or its website. **Applications must be postmarked by July 1, 2018.** Submit application to:

Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union  
ATTN: Anne (Shinal) Cichy Award  
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](mailto:lpscu@lpscu.org)

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

## Meet Our New Public Relations Director

Hello! My name is Donna M. Perhach and I am the newest member of the LPSCU leadership team. I was hired in August of 2017 as the National Director of Public Relations.

My goals as Public Relations Director are to maintain and strengthen our LPSCU "brand" by traditional means like our award winning *Zornicka* publication as well as through the use of various social media such as Facebook, Twitter, and our society's website, [www.lpscu.org](http://www.lpscu.org).



My Slovak heritage is a great source of pride for me. My family carries on our Slovak holiday traditions like the Christmas Eve *Vilija* and every year it seems we add someone new to our celebration. I bake our traditional nut and poppyseed rolls just like my mother and her mother before her so that the memory of my parents and grandparents and our rich traditions and heritage will be carried on long after I'm gone.

My educational background includes a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing from Misericordia University as well as an Associate's degree in Information Technology from Luzerne County Community College. I have been very fortunate to have worked in various industries, which have all added to my knowledge and skills.

I hope to be a great asset to the LPSCU and, like my desire to carry on our family traditions, I wish for our wonderful organization to be healthy and thriving for another 120 years!

I would encourage our members to contact me at any time to share stories, photos, and other information for our *Zornicka*. I can be reached at 110 Maltby Avenue, Swoyersville, PA 18704; phone 570-814-5626; or email [dperhach@lpscu.org](mailto:dperhach@lpscu.org). I look forward to hearing from you soon.

## United Slovak Societies Offers Scholarships

The United Slovak Societies at the American Slovak Club in Lorain, Ohio, announces the availability of 2018 scholarships. Applicants must be 2018 graduating high school seniors who are entering college and must be members for at least five years of one of our local lodges. Applicable local lodges include:

- National Slovak Society Assembly 160
- Slovak Catholic Sokol Wreath 111
- First Catholic Slovak Union Branch 228
- First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association Branch 114
- Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union Branch 77

Applicants may obtain the one-time scholarship application and rules by visiting [www.americanslovakclub.com](http://www.americanslovakclub.com). **Deadline for submission of applications is May 30, 2018.**

# Slovak Republic Marks 25th Anniversary of Independence

On January 19, 2018, the 25th Anniversary of the independence of the Slovak Republic was celebrated at a reception held in the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. Co-chairs of the event were United States Congress Representatives Rod Blum and Pete Visclosky, as well as Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs Mathew Palmer.

In speaking to those assembled at the celebration, Slovak Ambassador to the United States Peter Kmec highlighted several important milestones Slovakia commemorates this year, including the 100th Anniversary of the adoption of the Pittsburgh Agreement, as well as the 25th Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and the Slovak Republic.

Representative Rod Blum (R-Iowa), co-founder and co-chair of the Congressional Slovak Caucus, together with Slovak Caucus Co-Chair Peter Visclosky (D-Indiana), as well as the Congressional Czech Caucus co-chairs, introduced a draft resolution that commemorates the 100th Anniversary of the creation of Czechoslovakia and the 25th Anniversary of the independence of the Slovak and Czech republics, and reaffirms the strong alliance and friendship of the United States with the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

LPSCU National President Theresa Kluchinski was among those dignitaries attending the event.



Posing for a selfie are, from left, Slovak Catholic Sokol Supreme President Michael Horvath, Slovak League President Dan Tanzone, Slovak League Secretary-Treasurer Nina Holy; Slovak Catholic Federation President and SCS Supreme Chaplain Reverend Andrew Hvozdovic and LPSCU National President Theresa Kluchinski.



Slovak Ambassador to the United States Peter Kmec addresses the attendees.



L-R: SCF President Rev. Andrew Hvozdovic, LPSCU President Theresa Kluchinski, Slovak Ambassador Peter Kmec, SCS President Michael Horvath, and SLA President Dan Tanzone.

## LPSCU BRANCH 213

is hosting

# Flag Day at the Ballpark

Friday, June 8, 2018

Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders  
Game Time ~ 7:00 p.m.

### PRICE

LPSCU Members  
\$20.00 per person  
Non-members  
\$35.00 per person

### INCLUDES

- Entry through the Mohegan Sun Club entrance.
- Dinner on covered deck/suite in right field.
- Food served from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.
- Watch as one member throws out the first pitch!
- All the camaraderie you can get!



Please make reservations by Wednesday, May 1, 2018

Ask for Theresa - 570-829-5410 or 570-817-4657

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO LPSCU BRANCH 213

Seating is limited! Sign up today!

# LPSCU 15 Payment Life Plan

The LPSCU offers an economical and beneficial 15 Payment Life Insurance Plan for anyone from age 0 through 70. Under this plan, there is a minimum purchase amount of \$5,000 of life insurance. Premiums are payable for fifteen (15) years from issue date. If the insured dies within the 15-year period following the issue date, no additional premiums are due and payable, and the face amount of the certificate is paid to the named beneficiary/ies, except as provided within the contract regarding Suicide and Contestability.

The plan allows for premium payments to be made monthly, quarterly, semiannually, or annually. The certificate becomes fully paid at the end of fifteen (15) years, and coverage remains in full force and effect for the entire life of the insured without any additional premium payments required. Upon the death of the insured, the face amount of the certificate is paid to the insured's named beneficiary/ies.

A member with a 15 Payment Life Plan is entitled to all fraternal benefits of the LPSCU including educational

awards, youth and adult activities, newborn benefits, prescription discount card, official publication, and discount car rental.

The 15 Payment Life Plan is perfect for both youth and adults – especially anyone who prefers to have their life insurance paid within fifteen (15) years.

During these unstable economic times, the 15 Payment Life Plan offered by the LPSCU is economical and beneficial for estate planning and can especially help with the high cost of funeral expenses.

To apply for this specific plan, or any other insurance plan offered by the LPSCU, contact your Branch Secretary or the LPSCU Home Office.

Listed below are the Annual and Monthly Premium Schedules for the 15 Payment Life Insurance Plan. The premiums listed are based on \$1,000 of life insurance coverage.

Semiannual and quarterly premium rates are also available. Contact your Branch Secretary or the Home Office for more information.

## 15 PAYMENT LIFE ANNUAL AND MONTHLY PREMIUM RATES PER \$1,000 Based on 2001 CSO Male and Female Mortality Tables — Based on Age at Last Birthday

Issue Age	Annual		Monthly	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0	\$ 8.97	\$ 8.29	\$ 0.81	\$ 0.75
1	9.13	8.44	0.82	0.76
2	9.31	8.60	0.84	0.77
3	9.50	8.77	0.86	0.79
4	9.69	8.89	0.87	0.80
5	9.89	9.12	0.89	0.82
6	10.10	9.31	0.91	0.84
7	10.32	9.50	0.93	0.86
8	10.53	9.70	0.95	0.87
9	10.76	9.90	0.97	0.89
10	10.99	10.11	0.99	0.91
11	11.24	10.29	1.01	0.93
12	11.46	10.54	1.03	0.95
13	11.84	10.76	1.07	0.97
14	12.23	10.98	1.10	0.99
15	12.62	11.23	1.14	1.01
16	13.02	11.47	1.17	1.03
17	13.41	11.71	1.21	1.05
18	13.81	12.04	1.24	1.08
19	14.23	12.43	1.28	1.12
20	14.61	12.79	1.31	1.15
21	15.04	13.19	1.35	1.19
22	15.49	13.58	1.39	1.22
23	15.96	14.05	1.44	1.26
24	16.43	14.52	1.48	1.31
25	16.93	14.98	1.52	1.35
26	17.44	15.46	1.57	1.39
27	17.97	15.97	1.62	1.44
28	18.51	16.48	1.67	1.48
29	19.08	17.01	1.72	1.53
30	19.67	17.56	1.77	1.58
31	20.28	18.10	1.83	1.63
32	20.91	18.72	1.88	1.68
33	21.57	19.32	1.94	1.74
34	22.26	19.89	2.00	1.79
35	22.97	20.58	2.07	1.85

Issue Age	Annual		Monthly	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
36	23.72	21.18	2.13	1.91
37	24.48	21.90	2.20	1.97
38	25.27	22.64	2.27	2.04
39	26.09	23.37	2.35	2.10
40	26.95	24.05	2.43	2.16
41	27.82	24.83	2.50	2.23
42	28.72	25.73	2.58	2.32
43	29.66	26.56	2.67	2.39
44	30.62	27.40	2.76	2.47
45	31.61	28.25	2.84	2.54
46	32.63	29.24	2.94	2.63
47	33.68	30.13	3.03	2.71
48	34.77	31.16	3.13	2.80
49	35.90	32.11	3.23	2.89
50	37.09	33.17	3.34	2.99
51	38.35	34.26	3.45	3.08
52	39.67	35.39	3.57	3.19
53	41.05	36.55	3.69	3.29
54	42.48	37.74	3.82	3.40
55	43.97	38.97	3.96	3.51
56	45.51	40.25	4.10	3.62
57	47.12	41.56	4.24	3.74
58	48.81	42.91	4.39	3.86
59	50.60	44.32	4.55	3.99
60	52.49	45.78	4.72	4.12
61	54.47	47.28	4.90	4.26
62	56.54	48.85	5.09	4.40
63	58.70	50.50	5.28	4.55
64	60.99	52.24	5.49	4.70
65	63.40	54.08	5.71	4.87
66	65.96	56.02	5.94	5.04
67	68.71	58.07	6.18	5.23
68	71.69	60.27	6.45	5.42
69	74.92	62.62	6.74	5.64
70	78.44	65.13	7.06	5.86



## Branch 39 Makes Matching Funds Donation

LPSCU Branch 39 held a Matching Funds event late last year as part of the LPSCU Matching Funds program. A total of \$300 was raised from the event. This included a contribution of \$100 from Branch 39 along with donations received from members and guests who attended the Mass and Breakfast sponsored by the Branch on Sunday, November 5, 2017. The donations, along with a \$100 Matching Funds contribution from the LPSCU Home Office, were presented to Fr. James Martin, S.J., who accepted the gift on behalf of the Jesuit Refugee Service/USA.

Fr. Martin is a Jesuit priest, editor-at-large of *America* magazine, consultant to the Vatican's Secretariat for Communications, and author of numerous books, including New York Times bestsellers. He spent two years working for the Jesuit Refugee Service in Nairobi, Kenya, helping East African refugees start small businesses. The mission of Jesuit Refugee Service/USA is to accompany, serve, and advocate for the rights of refugees and other forcibly displaced persons.



**Fr. James Martin, S.J. (fourth from left) accepts Branch 39's donation from, L-R, Nella, Gina, Jim, and Donna Yocum, and Fran, Makenzie, and Zeke Milot.**

### Our Scholarship Recipients Explain

## The Importance of Life Insurance

The passing of a loved one can be a very hard time. In personal experiences the cost of the passing of a loved one can be even harder to deal with than the emotional distress. The stress of dividing up their estate and not being able to communicate with them as you used to can add to this difficult situation. Sadly, everything in this world is driven by money, and a funeral home, grave, and casket alone are expensive enough; this is if the person doesn't have pending bills also. The nickel and diming with every little part can add up fast and to relieve the stress of medical bills and other costly expenses, life insurance adds a much-needed salvation from the money troubles of a passing friend or family member.

**Dane Seech**  
Branch 65, Munhall, PA

## LPSCU EDUCATIONAL BENEFIT 2018 COLLEGE AWARD

### \$500 One-Time Award

The LPSCU is offering a \$500, one-time College Award to our members who will be attending college during the 2018-2019 academic year. A total of 25 College Awards will be granted.

These are the guidelines for those applying for this award:

- ❖ Applicants must be a member of the LPSCU for two (2) years with at least a \$2,000 permanent reserve life insurance plan (excludes term insurance).
- ❖ Applicants must be a high school senior or college freshman, sophomore, or junior.
- ❖ High school seniors must provide a letter of recommendation from a school representative (ex: teacher, guidance counselor, or principal).
- ❖ High school applicants must submit an official transcript from their school that includes test scores; College students must submit documentation indicating latest overall GPA.
- ❖ Applicants must provide a detailed list of extracurricular activities, honors, and awards.
- ❖ Applicants must provide a detailed list of church, community, volunteer, and work activities including honors and awards, with reference(s) included.
- ❖ Applicants must be attending an accredited college/university on a full time basis for the 2018-2019 academic year and must submit proof of acceptance for the Fall 2018 semester.
- ❖ Applicants must submit a brief essay (no more than 200 words) on the topic "Why is life insurance important?"
- ❖ Applicants must provide a wallet-size color photo.



In order for an applicant to be eligible, all criteria outlined above must be met and all requested data provided. Applications with incomplete data or missing requirements will not be considered. All

submitted materials become the property of the LPSCU and will not be returned. The LPSCU reserves the right to publish the applicant's entire essay or excerpts thereof, at its own discretion, in its official publication, *Zornicka*.

Applications are available from the LPSCU Home Office or its website. **Applications must be postmarked by April 30, 2018.**

Submit applications to:

**Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union**

P.O. Box 32

Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703

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

Fax: 570-823-4464

E-mail: [lpescu@lpescu.org](mailto:lpescu@lpescu.org) | Website: [www.lpescu.org](http://www.lpescu.org)

We're looking for an extraordinary member of LPSCU to be our

# 2018 *Fraternalist* of the *Year*



Do you know a member who, through example and accomplishment, provides outstanding volunteer services?

Do you know a member who should be recognized for outstanding fraternal and volunteer efforts?

If you can answer "Yes" to the above, then you have an "Extra Ordinary" member to be nominated to be our 2018 LPSCU Fraternalist of the Year!

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

**HURRY!**  
The deadline for nominations is  
**April 1, 2018**

## Slovak Catholic Federation's SS.C.M. Appeal Report

Thank you to all who made a donation to the 2017 Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal. As many of you know, the funds raised in this annual Appeal are sent to the Pontifical Slovak College of Saints Cyril and Methodius to assist with its day to day operations. The College is the residence of priests from Slovakia who are sent to Rome by their bishops for graduate studies. After receiving their degrees, these priests return to their dioceses to work as seminary teachers, Tribunal officials, and in other ministries.

Donations to the Appeal are received from leadership gifts from the four Slovak Catholic fraternal benefit societies (First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, First Catholic Slovak Union, Slovak Catholic Sokol, and Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union), their districts and branches, clergy of Slovak heritage, collections from Slovak parishes, and individual gifts. Donations to the 2017 Appeal amounted to \$36,553.39. On behalf of the Pontifical College, thank you for your generosity and continued support.

Those who received a direct mailing for the 2017 Appeal should have received their letters for the 2018 Appeal by the end of January. Donations in any amount to the 2018 Appeal are deeply appreciated and can also be made by filling out the form at the bottom of this article and mailing it, along with your check payable to the Slovak Catholic Federation, to the address provided.

Once again, thank you for your goodness and generosity to the Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal. Donations received after November 30, 2018, will be credited toward the 2019 Appeal.

*The Slovak Catholic Federation was founded in 1911 by Rev. Joseph Murgas, founding pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Church, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. The Federation brings together under one banner both individuals of Slovak heritage as well as Slovak Catholic fraternal organizations for cultural, religious, and educational needs. Serving as Moderator is the Right Reverend Gary Hoover, O.S.B., abbot of St. Andrew Svorad Abbey, Cleveland, Ohio. National President is Reverend Andrew S. Hvozdic, V.F., supreme chaplain of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and pastor of Epiphany Parish, Sayre, Pennsylvania. Reverend Thomas A. Nasta, national chaplain of the First Catholic Slovak Union and pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Swedesburg, Pennsylvania, serves as First Vice President of the Federation and is the Appeal Coordinator.*

### 40th Annual SS.C.M. Appeal

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to  
**Slovak Catholic Federation** and mail to:  
Rev. Thomas A. Nasta  
First Vice President, Slovak Catholic Federation  
Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
120 Jefferson Street, Swedesburg, PA 19405

# Do you need a very special gift?

Purchasing a LEAF or STONE from the TREE OF LIFE Program makes a unique and perpetual gift.

# TREE OF LIFE

## RESERVATION FORM

Your inscription may be personalized to recognize a loved one or special event with "In honor of ...", "In memory of ...", or "In celebration of ...". Or you may also choose to simply have your name, the family name, or business name inscribed on a Leaf or Stone. Restrictions as to space and number of characters are listed below, based on whether you choose a fraternal Leaf (\$100) or larger Stone (\$500).

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

Please complete the Reservation Form below (a photocopy is also acceptable) and return it, along with your check, payable to LPSCU, to:

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

*All proceeds received  
fund our  
Scholarship Program.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is (please check one):

- My first donation toward my "Tree of Life," entitling me to an engraved Fraternal Leaf  Fraternal Stone  when fully paid. (Please check one) **(Minimum of \$20 per payment.)**
- My \$100 check as payment in full, entitling me to an engraved Fraternal Leaf
- My \$500 check as payment in full, entitling me to an engraved Fraternal Stone

### LEAF INSCRIPTION

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

### STONE INSCRIPTION

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

**PLEASE ENGRAVE MY FRATERNAL LEAF OR STONE AS FOLLOWS:**

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**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

## Members Pay Tribute

On Memorial Day 2017, Malcolm Bowman and his grandfather, Thomas Kaylor, volunteered to take part in the Memorial Day services held at Legion Park in Brighton Heights, North Side, Pennsylvania. Malcolm played Taps and Thomas participated as a member of the firing squad that offers the traditional 21-gun salute.

Malcolm is the grandson Mary Ann and Thomas Kaylor and the son of Mary Ann Bowman. All are members of LPSCU Branch 64.



**Malcolm Bowman (left) with his grandfather, Thomas Kaylor, at the Memorial Day ceremonies.**

## HAVE ANY NEWS?

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

Contact Donna M. Perhach  
Public Relations Director  
110 Maltby Avenue,  
Swoyersville, PA 18704  
Phone 570/814-5626  
or email [dperhach@lpscu.org](mailto:dperhach@lpscu.org)

## FLEXIBLE ANNUITY

### 1st Year's Interest Rate is 3.5%



- ◆ The LPSCU Flexible Annuity is a flexible-premium, deferred annuity that accepts ongoing deposits of as little as \$100 per month.
- ◆ An annuity is a long-term investment where the interest earned is accumulated and compounded.
- ◆ Annuities are used to supplement retirement income, whereby at some point you stop paying into the annuity and start taking out.
- ◆ Upon maturity, LPSCU offers a number of distribution options, giving our members the convenience of selecting the one that is best suited for them.
- ◆ LPSCU's competitive interest rate is reviewed quarterly by the Board of Directors; however, your rate will never go below the guaranteed minimum rate established by the annuity contract.
- ◆ You can become a member of the LPSCU by purchasing an annuity and you can own an annuity regardless of your health status.
- ◆ Deposits can be made at your convenience!
- ◆ Minimum deposit is \$100.00.
- ◆ After the sixth year, there is no LPSCU penalty on annuity withdrawals.
- ◆ If the annuitant dies prior to settlement, funds on deposit are payable directly to the named beneficiary(ies).

- ◆ Settlement Options:
  - Payment of a specified amount.
  - Payments for a specified period.
  - Life Annuity.
- ◆ Payment options can be monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually, depending upon your needs.
- ◆ Prior to settlement, annuitant may withdraw the Cash Surrender Value at any time; however, the minimum withdrawal amount is \$250.00.

NOTE: *Withdrawals taken prior to age 59½ may be subject to a 10% Early Withdrawal Penalty by the Internal Revenue Service.*



◆ ◆ ◆  
*For more information  
about our  
Flexible Annuity  
contact the LPSCU Home Office  
or your local Branch Secretary.*

71 South Washington Street  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701

◆ ◆ ◆  
Phone 888-834-6614  
Fax 570-823-4464

◆ ◆ ◆  
e-mail: [lpscu@lpscu.org](mailto:lpscu@lpscu.org)  
[www.lpscu.org](http://www.lpscu.org)

## Zornicka Celebrates 80 Years



The year was 1938; FDR was in his second term as President. A loaf of bread cost just nine cents and the average cost of a new house was \$3,900! World War II was looming and the music of the day was dominated by the likes of Artie Shaw, The Andrew Sisters, and Ella Fitzgerald.

Nineteen thirty-eight was also the year that the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union launched its new publication, *Zornicka* or "Morning Star." Intended to inform, entertain, and educate, *Zornicka* was published as a four page, tabloid-size newspaper printed in black and white and entirely in the Slovak language. It carried stories, articles, recipes, and religious activities, and allowed its members to stay informed. It also strengthened the bond of the Slovak community.

Today, 80 years later, *Zornicka* is still informing, entertaining, and educating its readers. With a new format as a 20- to 24-page magazine-style publication, it is printed in full color and in English. Today's *Zornicka* is filled with fraternal activities, recipes, Slovak and fraternal news, and an ever growing list of the LPSCU's financial solutions products.

*Zornicka* has also grown to include a Junior Branch Journal section which appeals to our younger members. This section contains interesting and informative articles, crafts, word puzzles and games intended to inspire and educate yet another generation of our readers.

Eighty years later, our *Zornicka* is still shining brightly and still strengthening the bonds of our community. Happy Anniversary to our "Morning Star" and here's hoping you continue to inform, entertain, and educate us for many years to come!

## Lehigh Valley Holds Matching Fund Event

Members of the Lehigh Valley Okres held a Matching Fund event on December 3, 2017, where themed gift baskets were raffled off at its Holiday Luncheon for the benefit of the Carmelite Monastery in Lanark, Pennsylvania. The sum of \$125.00 was realized from the raffle. On December 18, 2017, the Okres mailed a check to the Carmelite Monastery representing the \$125.00 Matching Funds. The LPSCU Home Office will be matching that amount and also sending a check to the Monastery. The Sisters at the Carmelite Monastery are a cloistered order and thus are never seen by the public. Therefore, the donation checks cannot be presented in person.

## 2018 Consular Tour of Slovakia and Its Neighbors

Slovak Honorary Consul Joe Senko has prepared a deluxe 15-day tour of Slovakia, Vienna, Poland, and Hungary from August 13-26, 2018. The itinerary for Slovakia includes the historic towns of Bratislava, Svaty Jur, Devin, Bojnice, Levoca, Kezmarok, Spisska Sobota, Spissky Hrhov, Zdiar, Stara Lubovna, Kosice, Bardejov, Jedlinka and Presov, as well as the Tatras. Some of the highlights in Slovakia include six castles, a mock wedding, two wine tastings, and rafting. This is the only tour that also includes welcome receptions by the U.S. Ambassador in Bratislava and by the Mayor of Presov. As you travel through various regions of Slovakia, arrangements can be made for you to visit your ancestral villages and families.

At no extra cost, the tour includes two nights in Poland and two nights in Hungary. While in Poland, we will visit the shrines of Blessed Faustina and the Black Madonna. We will also tour Pope John Paul II's birthplace, the famous Wieliczka salt mine, and Auschwitz. And, of course, we will shop in Zakopane. In Budapest, we will visit the ancient architectural sites including the Royal Palace, Citadella fortress, and Parliament.

The total price for this fantastic tour is just \$4,300 per person (double occupancy). This includes round trip airfare from either Pittsburgh or New York, two delicious meals daily, four star hotels, free admission to all the sites, air conditioned bus transportation, a professional guide, and more.

For a detailed copy of the daily itinerary or more information, contact Joe Senko at [jtsenko@aol.com](mailto:jtsenko@aol.com) or 412-956-6000.

## Cooking Corner

### PINEAPPLE TART

1 cup sugar	2½ cups flour
1 cup Crisco	1 tsp. baking soda
2 eggs	1 tsp. baking powder
1 cup sour cream	1 tsp. vanilla

Cream together sugar and Crisco. Add balance of ingredients and mix together. This is more of a batter and will be fairly wet.

#### **Pineapple Filling:**

2 cans crushed pineapple (not drained)	
¾ cup sugar	3 Tbsp. cornstarch
3 Tbsp. water	

Make a slurry of the water and cornstarch. Boil together with pineapple and sugar until mixture thickens. Let cool completely.

Spread dough in a large jelly roll pan, holding back 1 cup. Spread cooled filling on top of dough and drop remaining cup of dough on top by spoonfuls. Bake at 350 degrees for 30-35 minutes or until browned.

*Recipe from Margaret Mana*





# Junior Branch Journal

## Announcing the Winners of the 2017 LPSCU Coloring Contest

### Ages 4-6



**David Olson**  
Thornhurst, PA  
First Place



**Adelynn Powell**  
Monaca, PA  
Second Place



**Gavin Sauers**  
Sewell, NJ  
Third Place

#### Honorable Mention

Liam Andoga  
Emma Baer  
Sophia Baer  
Lillian Cerny  
Evangeline  
Chuckro-Willis  
Ava Collins  
Belle Foremny  
Tyler Frantz  
Chase Geiger  
Preston Gibbons  
Annalise Good  
Kenzie Korchnak

Grayson Line  
Kendall Macon  
Arianna McMahon  
Savannah Myers  
Franklin Shinal  
Alexis Shipton  
Andrew Yannotti  
Ashton Yeager  
Cara Zemelman  
Daniel Zemelman  
Max John Zentz

### Ages 7-9



**Addison Langs**  
Shorewood, IL  
First Place



**Grayson Adams**  
Suffolk, VA  
Second Place



**Lily Lutheran**  
West Mifflin, PA  
Third Place

#### Honorable Mention

Rylee Baer  
Lily Bowman  
Alayna Caris  
Lucas Caris  
Anthony  
Chuckro-Willis  
Cole Collins  
Cole Geiger  
Annabella Gibbons  
Benjamin Kosalko  
Damian Lazaro  
June Montante  
Abigail Myers  
Beckam Neil

Malaki Neil  
Lydia Schram  
Gabriel Selena  
Olivia Selena  
Jacob Vanderhoff  
Abby Worth  
David Worth  
Hannah Yeager  
Miranda Zima

### Ages 10-12



**Riley Knaub**  
W. Wyoming, PA  
First Place



(Photo not available)

**Connor Tomasic**  
Dameron, MD  
Second Place



**Frank Quinlan**  
Boardman, OH  
Third Place

#### Honorable Mention

JR Bedard  
Romen Costa  
Antek Evan  
Isabel Frantz  
Delaney Keenan  
Julia Kocis  
Anthony Korchnak  
Alexandra Kosalko  
Teresa Lucchetti  
Natalie Matthews  
Mike Montante  
Keifer Neil  
Eliana Parra  
Alex Porambo

Alyssa Porambo  
Carter Schram  
Alex Seymour  
McKenna Shovlin  
Danielle Ulicny  
Giada Ward  
Justin Wetterling  
Ashton Yeager

# Junior Branch Journal



## Krásna Hôrka Castle

Many Slovak castles were built on hills or mountains to provide visibility, protection, and a sense of dominance. Krásna Hôrka (Beauty of the Mountain) is one such castle. The lovely area surrounding it enhanced its beauty. An interesting story is associated with the castle.

A long time ago in the area around the castle lived an immeasurably wealthy shepherd. His vast fortune fueled the imagination of many. This is the story of how he acquired his first fortune.

One day as the shepherd led his sheep to pasture he stumbled upon a stone. Angrily he picked it up and threw it. The spot where the stone originally lay caught his eye. He began to dig and uncovered a large kettle.

He opened the lid and could not believe his eyes. The old kettle was filled with gold! He quickly re-buried the kettle and laid a branch on top to cover the re-arranged earth. Then he ran home to tell his wife what he had found.

His wife did not believe his wild story until she herself stared at the old kettle filled with gleaming gold. The rest of the day they carried the gold to their tiny cottage. As they lugged the last of it home, the shepherd tripped again on the very stone that had lain on top of the buried kettle.

"This stone does not want me to pass it by. Let's take it home," said the shepherd. Weeks later, a traveling merchant saw the couple's children playing with the unusual stone. He offered the shepherd a sizeable sum to buy it, but the shepherd would not sell the stone.

News traveled quickly and many outrageous bids were offered for the stone, but the shepherd never accepted any of them. Fearful that someone might kill them for the stone and satisfied that they had plenty of gold for themselves, the shepherd took the stone and presented it to the King. For this generosity, the King allowed the shepherd to build seven sheep farms. Later, the family built seven towering castles.

The shepherd, whose gift to the King turned out to be a large uncut diamond, attained the status of a powerful nobleman named Bebek. Many members of his family are praised for their gallantry, guaranteeing that the name continues to be proudly recognized. Even today children learn about this family in history class.



## Holy Thursday ~ Zelený Štvrtok

The Mass of the Lord's Supper is one of the most impressive Masses of the year as it is the "birthday" of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and the institution of the priesthood. One special tradition during this Mass is the



washing of feet. The root of this practice appears to be found in the hospitality customs of ancient civilizations, especially where sandals were the chief

footwear. A host would provide water for guests to wash

their feet, provide a servant to wash the feet of the guests, or even serve the

guests by washing their feet. On the last evening of His life, Jesus washed His disciples' feet. Their pride prevented their doing this service for each other.

Jesus, conscious of His divine dignity and against Peter's protest, performed for them this lowliest service. His act of humility actually cleansed their hearts of selfish ambition, killed their pride, and taught them the lesson of love.



## PERIODICAL



### 2018 LPSCU CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL AWARD

The LPSCU is offering a Catholic High School Award Benefit, which is a \$300 one-time award to our members who are attending a Catholic High School during the 2018-2019 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 in the fall of 2018.
- 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, 2018.**

Applications are available from the LPSCU Home Office or its website. Return completed applications to:

**Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union**

**ATTN: Catholic High School Award**

P.O. Box 32 • Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703

P: 570-823-3513 • TF: 888-834-6614 • F: 570-823-4464

E-mail: [lpescu@lpescu.org](mailto:lpescu@lpescu.org) • Website: [www.lpescu.org](http://www.lpescu.org)

**\$300 One-Time Award**

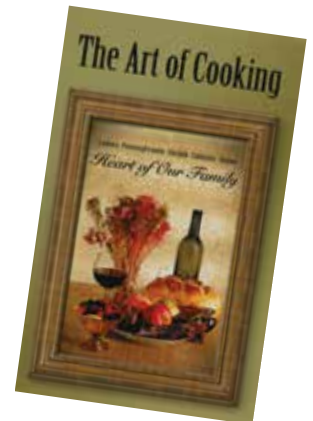
*Still Available!*

### The LPSCU Cookbook *The Art of Cooking - Heart of Our Family*

Our brand new cookbook is chockfull of over 400 cherished family recipes submitted by our members, in addition to helpful tips, hints, and measurements to aid you while cooking and baking these delicious favorites.

The spiral bound book is divided into sections which include:

- *Appetizers & Beverages*
- *Breads & Rolls*
- *Soups, Salads & Sauces*
- *Main Dishes*
- *Miscellaneous - Crock-Pot*
- *Ethnic Foods*
- *Vegetables*
- *Desserts*



The cost is just \$10.00, plus \$5.00 shipping and handling per copy. Send your check and order information to:

LPSCU Cookbook  
P.O. Box 32  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702-0032

*Hurry before they're gone!*

**SIGN UP A NEW MEMBER  
TODAY!**