



NSS Life

Family Matters...

PVR Scholarship Program

Renewal Transcripts

Due July 15th, 2017

NSS National Golf Tournament

Friday-Sunday, July 14th-16th, 2017

See Pages 7-8 For Details

National Slovak Society of the United States of America

National News

Fraternal Life Insurance Since 1890

Youth Poetry Contest

Deadline: August 15th, 2017

NÁRODNÉ NOVINY

JUNE 2017 | NUMBER 3506 VOLUME 109



National Slovak Society

Periodical Postage Paid at McMurray, Pennsylvania and Additional Mailing Offices
Owned and Published by the



NATIONAL SLOVAK SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Organized February 16, 1890
351 Valley Brook Road, McMurray, PA 15317-3337
USES 0371-140 - ISSN: 0027-7940
Phone: (724) 731- 0094 -- E-Mail: info@nsslife.org
NSS Web Site: www.nsslife.org
Fax No: 724-731-0145

Founder and Honorary President, Peter V. Rovnianek

EDITOR

LORI CROWLEY

Published Monthly

Send articles for publication to:

351 Valley Brook Road
McMurray, PA 15317-3337

Deadline: 5th of preceding month.

"POSTMASTER" SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO:
NATIONAL SLOVAK SOCIETY

351 VALLEY BROOK ROAD, MCMURRAY, PA 15317-3337

NSS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

David G. Blazek, *FIC, President, CEO & Elder*

Joseph Stefka, Jr., *Chairman of the Board*

Linda M. Strom, *Secretary/Treasurer, CFO*

NSS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alan Burns
Michael Czarney
Andrea Garbon
Abigail Gross
Robert Katricak
Susan Ondrejco
John Payerchin
Joseph Stefka, Jr.
Drew Wesnak

NSS HONORARY OFFICERS

Sophia Hudak, *Tribunal Member*
Anthony Beno, *Director*
Dean Burns, *Vice-President*
Mary Jo Holker, *Director*
Edward Koches, *Director*
Joseph Tomaskovic, Jr., *Director*

FSWFE HONORARY OFFICERS

Justine Wesnak, *President*
Reverend Monsignor Thomas V. Banick,
Spiritual Advisor

PBU HONORARY OFFICER

Henri O. Albert, *President*

ROCWMAS HONORARY OFFICER

Olga Kasnot, *President*

FSWFE and PBU merged with NSS in 1997
ROCWMAS merged with the NSS in 1998

Inside this Issue...

Assembly Activities

Activities at a Glance 3

From the Executive Officers

President's Column..... 4

Secretary/Treasurer 5

NSS Financial Matters

Annuity Interest Rates 10

NSS Sales Department

National Sales Director..... 11

NSS News/Activities

Fraternal Activities Coordinator 6

Bowling Application 7

Bowling Rules/Regulations 8

Assembly Activities/Photos12-13

Spotlight on NSS Employee 16

NSS History 16

Assembly News

Departed Members 15

PVR Donations 15

Assembly Meetings12-13

Národné Noviny

94 Slovenský deň Západnej

Pennsylvanie 18

Gratulujeme18

Deň Otcov 18.618

Zo staroslovanských tradícií 18

CORRECTION

In the May issue the phone number for the golf hotel was incorrect. The number for the Das Dutch Inn is 330-482-5050. Sorry for any inconvenience.

**Das Dutch Inn
330-482-5050**

Activities At A Glance

REGION 2 June 17 July 27 August 6 August 20 October 22	Assemblies L075, 0617 Assembly 0617, Meeting, Grotto Pizza, Edwardsville, PA at 1:00 pm Assembly 0617, Fraternal Day, Knoebels Amusement Park Assembly L075, Picnic, Mercatelli-Segelia Park, Moosic, PA Assembly L075, Bingo/Pizza Party, Wilkes Barre, V A at 2:00 pm Assembly L075, Meeting, Grande's Restaurant, Moosic, PA at 1:00 pm
REGION 5 June 11 June 16 June 16 June 25 August 5 September 10 September 18 November 6 December 3	Assemblies P38A, 0039, 0100, L105, 0108, 0123, L161, 0377, 0434, 0441, 0588, 0737, 0774 Assembly 0039, Picnic, (Summer Bar-B-Q) Knights of Columbus Picnic Pavilion at 1:00 pm Assembly 0377, Meeting, PNC Park at 7:00 pm Region 5, NSS Night at PNC Park Assembly 0123, Hartwood Acres Tour at 12 Noon Region 5, Picnic, Cedar Creek Park Assembly 0039, Meeting, (Stuffers Club-9/11 Dinner) Eat'n Park, Uniontown, PA at 6:00 pm Assembly 0588, Meeting, Time/place to be announced Assembly 0588, Meeting, Time/place to be announced Assembly 0039, Christmas Party, Knights of Columbus Hall, Uniontown, PA at 2:00 pm
REGION 8 June 25 June 20	Assemblies 0004, 0070, 0160, 0432, 0595 Assembly 0004, Miniature Golf Tournament Assembly 0432, Meeting, Pytel's residence, North Olmsted, OH at 7:30 pm
REGION 14 July 30 October 1	Assemblies R059, L102 Assembly R059, Meeting, Sawarynski's residence at 1:00 pm Assembly R059, Meeting/Fundraiser, St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, following Divine Liturgy
REGION 15	Assemblies L002, 0028 No activities at this time
AT LARGE June 18 June 25 July 2 August 13 September 3 September 17 September 17 November 5 November 5 November 5 December 24	Assemblies R019, L040, 0110, 0236, 0267, 0381, 0554, 0568, 0586, 0705, 0731, 0800, 0813 Assembly 0568, Father's Day Mass/Meeting, John Paul II Polish Ct., Jorba Linda, CA @ 1:30 pm Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm Assembly 0554, Meeting, Jim Stricek's residence, DuBois, PA at 2:00 pm Assembly 0586, Summer Outing, Joliet Ballpark Assembly 0554, Meeting, Jim Stricek's residence, DuBois, PA at 2:00 pm Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm Assembly 0110, Meeting, Bohemian Hall, Astoria, NY at 3:00 pm Assembly 0110, Christmas Luncheon, (Time/place to be announced) Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm Assembly 0554, Meeting, Jim Stricek's residence, DuBois, PA at 2:00 pm Assembly 0705, Christmas Eve Party at Butwin Residence at 6:00 pm

12th Consular Tour of Slovakia ----- July 29th to August 11th, 2017

Slovak Honorary Consul Joe Senko and his Slovak born wife, Albina, have assembled a deluxe tour of Slovakia which includes history-rich cities of Bratislava, Sastin, Skalica, Trencin, Bojnice, Rajecke Teplice, Cicmany, High Tatras, Levoca, Kezmarok, Zdiar, Stara Lubovna, Kocise, Bardejov, Jedlinka and Presov. As you travel through the various regions of Slovakia, arrangements can be made for you to visit relatives or family towns and villages for an additional cost. At no extra cost, Joe and Albina have included a tour of Vienna and Poland. While in Poland, we will visit the famous shrine of Czestochowa, Zakopane and Krakow, as well as Auschwitz and Wieliczka salt mine.

The tour includes airfare from Pittsburgh or Newark, two meals daily, four-star hotels, airconditioned bus, a professional guide and more. For cost and a more detailed itinerary, contact Joe Senko at jtsenko@aol.com or 412-956-6000.

From The President's Desk...



David G. Blazek, FIC
President, CEO

Greetings from the President's Office of the National Slovak Society. We have reached the month of June which signals the beginning of Summer on June 21st. The first week of the month, the Board of Directors will meet at our Annual Spring Meeting. On June 16th, Region 5 will once again host a night at the ballpark when the Pittsburgh Pirates will host the world champion Chicago Cubs, and Assembly 0039, Uniontown PA will hold a picnic on Sunday, June 11th. June 14th we celebrate Flag Day which doesn't always get the respect it deserves. Flag Day celebrates the adoption of the flag itself, an event that happened early in American history on June 14, 1777. Although the American flag became the country's official banner in 1777, it took almost 150 years for it to get its' own holiday. There is some debate over who first suggested the holiday, but what is important is that a lot of people worked very hard to make it happen.

Flag Day is not considered a federal holiday which is why we don't get a day off from work or school. The flag coincidentally shares the same birthday as the United States Army.

America isn't the only country to celebrate the creation of their flag. Australia celebrates Flag Day in September, Argentina in June and Canada in February. The whole inspiration of our life as a nation flows out from the waving folds of this banner.

I Am Your Flag

*I was born on June 14, 1777.
I am more than just a cloth shaped
into a design.
I am the refuge of the world's oppressed.
I am the silent sentinel of freedom.
I am the inspiration of which American
patriots gave their lives and fortunes.
I have led your sons into battle from
Valley Forge to the bloody jungles
in Vietnam.
I walk in silence with each of your
honored dead to their resting place.
Beneath the silent white crosses,
row upon row.
I have flown through peace and war, strife
and prosperity; and amidst it all,
I have been respected.
My red stripes symbolize the blood spilled
in defense of this glorious nation.
My white stripes signify the burning tears
shed by Americans who lost their sons.
My blue field is indicative of God's
heaven under which I fly.
My stars are clustered together, unifying
50 states as one, for God and country.
"Old glory" is my nickname, and
proudly I wave on high.
Honor me, respect me, defend me
with your lives and your fortunes.
Never let my enemies tear me down for
my lofty position, lest I never return.
Keep alight the fires of patriotism, strive
earnestly for the spirit of democracy.
Worship eternal God and keep
his commandments.
And I shall remain the bulwark of peace
and freedom for all mankind.*

Author Unknown



**Be Sure To Fly Your Flag This
Flag Day and July 4th!**

Punography Of The Month:

• Broken pencils are pointless.

News of Narodniars

Happy Birthday to Honorary Officers Mary Jo Holker, Justine Wesnak, and Olga Kasnot, National Directors Bob Katricak and Mike Czarney, Home Office staffers Janine Harman and Jill Grover, former staff members Nina DiLelio and June Comfort; also to Joey Palko, Blaze Farrell, Dave Jancisin, Karyn Chojnicki, Joshua Marshall, and Christina Eubank.

Wedding Anniversary wishes go out to Shannon and Edwin Woods, Justine and Bucky Wesnak, Mary Lou and Tony Chojnicki, and to Marge and George Leasure. Congratulations to all others celebrating a special occasion this month.

As you read in last month's issue, we lost a longtime and dear friend in Paul Godor. My article for May was already written and I was out of town when Paul passed on. I just want to extend my condolences to Carol and the entire Godor Family at this time. Paul was my mentor when I first took the position of President upon the passing of Joe Stefka Sr. in 1993. He inspired me during the short time we worked together as Officers of the Society and was always there for me when I needed him over the years. May your soul rest in peace Paul. We will never forget you.

WHAT KIND OF A FATHER ARE YOU?

**Real fathers don't run away
Real fathers are responsible
Real fathers don't look away
Real fathers are nurturing
Real fathers don't walk away
What kind of a father are you?**

**They are selfless and not reckless
They are mentors and not cowards
They speak more wisdom and
less words
They are resilient and ambitious
They obtain but not complain
What kind of father are you?**

**Mentor me and guide me
Protect and mold me
Teach me and build me
Make me smile and make
me shine**

A Page From My Notebook...

Linda M. Strom, Secretary/Treasurer

Email: lstrom@nsslife.org



2017 Winter Board Meeting Minutes

The 2017 Winter Board Meeting was opened and called to order at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, March 24, 2017 by Chairman of the Board Joseph Stefka, Jr. at the Home Office in McMurray, PA. He then turned the meeting over to President David G Blazek for the remainder of the meeting. The roll call showed that all Board members and Executive Officers were present. Also present were Legal Counsel P. Ronald Cooper, CPA Donald Reddinger and Sales Director Greg Felton.

All Bond Sales, Exchanges and Purchases through December 31, 2016 were ratified and all Mortgages reviewed. Minutes of the 2016 Fall Board Meeting were also approved. Previous votes taken by the Board of Directors for donations to the Pittsburgh Slovaks and the Slovak Gardens were ratified. On behalf of the Pittsburgh Slovaks Anna Ondrejco thanked the Board for their generous donation that made it possible for the group to travel to Florida and perform at the Slovak Gardens and Disneyworld. She presented a framed picture of the group in Florida signed by its members. On behalf of the Pittsburgh Slovaks, Director Susan Ondrejco also thanked the Board for their generous show of support.

The report of the Fraternal Activities Co-

ordinator Pam Blum recapped 2016 fraternal activities since the Fall Board Meeting and those that are upcoming in 2017.

CPA Donald Reddinger presented an overview of our 2016 Year End Results and once again congratulated the NSS for surpassing \$1 Billion in Assets in the Third Quarter of 2016. Sales Director Felton followed with his report recapping sales and membership and added that there has been an increase in Agency interest in the NSS.

AQS Investment Advisor Larry White presented his report and spoke at length about RBC and the data that affects various components of the RBC. This year's RBC number increased to 489. He also touched upon cash flow projections, portfolio yield and current crediting rates.

Legal Advisor P. Ronald Cooper followed with his report on current litigation.

President Blazek reported on the status of the family of the slain officer from Canonsburg, PA and that we have received acknowledgment of our offer of support from the mother of the young children.

Under New Business President Blazek commented on the Assembly Officers Seminar and thanked the committee for their work in planning the seminar and also those that volunteered overall. A discussion was held on the status of our Youth Ambassadors Program and the cost of the program to date. All petitions received were presented and acted upon.

Director Katricak moved to reaffirm the interest rates stating that they remain the same for the 2nd Quarter 4/1/17 – 06/31/17. The motion was unanimously carried.

President Blazek stated that the AFA Branding Project has gained the needed support by member organizations to move forward.

With nothing further to be acted upon the meeting was adjourned.

In closing...

Happy Birthday to those of you celebrating a birthday this month and a very special Birthday wish to my brother Joe Palko and my partner-in-crime Ed Krall. Boy are you two getting old !!

Happy Fathers Day to all "Dads" everywhere, both near and far including those that we carry in our hearts.



Honorary Director Joseph Tomaskovic celebrates 92nd birthday



Assembly 586 met on April 30 at Hackney's in Palos Hills to meet and celebrate Joe Tomaskovic's 92nd birthday. A big crowd attended and birthday cake was passed around after our business meeting.

Fraternal Matters...

By: Pam Blum
Fraternal Activities Coordinator
Email: pblum@nsslife.org



6th United Slovak Fraternal Bowling Tournament

This year's tournament was once again a great success!! Kudos to Rudy Ondrejco, husband of NSS Board member Sue Ondrejco, who did a great job organizing the tournament on behalf of FCSU. Also, a huge thanks to the entire Ondrejco family for all of their hard work to make this event a success. Don't know what we'd do without you!! The results of the tournament and pictures of the event will be in the July issue of the magazine. If you'd like a sneak peak of the pictures check us out and "like" us on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/nsslife.

NSS Fitness Matters.....

Sign up for NSS Life's Fitness Matters Walking Club by sending your name, mailing address and Assembly number to Pam Blum, Fraternal Activities Coordinator at pblum@nsslife.org or by calling me at 724-731-0094. You will receive a free NSS Life pedometer and a mileage chart to help you track your progress. You are responsible for keeping track of your own mileage.

Happy Father's Day

*"The older I get the more I can see
How much he loved my mother and my brother and me
And he did the best that he could
And I only hope when I have my own family
That every day I see a little more of my father in me."
—Keith Urban*

Upcoming Deadlines

PVR Scholarship Renewals	July 15th
NSS Golf Entries	June 20th
Youth Poetry Contest	August 1st
Photo Contest	October 1st
Christmas Ornament Contest	December 1st

NATIONAL

GOLF



TOURNAMENT

JULY 14-16, 2017

THE LINKS AT FIRESTONE FARMS

105 St. Andrews
Columbiana, OH 44408

**Friday Fraternal Hospitality Night:
6:00PM - 9:00PM**

Saturday ONLY Competition: \$55.00
Saturday & Sunday Competition: \$110.00

Accommodations by: Das Dutch Village Inn
150 E. State Route 14
Columbiana, OH 44408

Room Rate: \$108.00+Tax Per Night
Deadline for NSS Block Rate is 06-15-17

Banquet price included for member golfers
Non-golfer and guest banquet price: \$30.00

National Slovak Society
52nd Annual Golf Tournament
 July 14 – 16, 2017
 Hospitality Night Friday 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
 Das Dutch Village Inn Outside Gazebo

The Links at Firestone Farms
 105 St Andrews
 Columbiana OH 44408
Room accommodations provided by
 Das Dutch Village Inn
 150 E. State Route 14
 Columbiana, OH 44408
 330-482-5050

Please mention NSS to receive the **discounted rate**
 Room Rates: \$108 + tax per night
Deadline for Hotel Reservations is June 15th, 2017

	Name	Address	Phone	E-mail	Assembly
1					
2					
3					
4					

GOLFERS: Please choose ALL that apply & indicate number participating

- ___ Saturday only Competition - \$55.00
- ___ Saturday and Sunday Competition - \$110.00
- ___ Skins (Saturday Only) - \$5.00 (Optional)
- ___ Par 3 Challenge \$10.00 (Optional)
- ___ Senior Flight Men 65+ (Optional)
- ___ Will attend Friday Hospitality Night (**Das Dutch Village Inn Outside Gazebo**)
- ___ Will attend Saturday Banquet (list dinner attendees)

1. _____ 3. _____
2. _____ 4. _____

Deadline is **June 20, 2017**

Please make checks payable to: **NSS Life**

NSS Life
 Attn: Pam Blum
 351 Valley Brook Road
 McMurray, PA 15317

NON-GOLFERS:

Please Choose ALL that apply & indicate number attending

- ___ Adult **Guest Dinners** @ \$30.00 (Golfers meal included in entry fee)
- ___ Youth (13-17) **Guest Dinners** @ \$20.00
- ___ Child (12 & under) **FREE**
- ___ Will attend Friday Hospitality Night

___ **Hole Sponsor @ \$100 per hole**

Name for sign: _____

\$ _____ **TOTAL INCLUDED WITH THIS FORM**

Friday Practice Tee Times Available at 12:00 p.m.

Call the Pro Shop at 330-482-7888

Annual NSS National Golf Tournament

Men's and Women's Official Rules and Regulations

1. The tournament is open to all members and guests of the National Slovak Society and its Youth Circles. There must be at least four Youth golfers officially entered to have a youth class. To protect the amateur standing of these youth, no prize money will be collected from nor paid to them.
2. United States Golf Association (USGA) and host golf course rules will govern play.
 - Play ball as it lies. No improving lie.
 - Lost Ball; play from area where ball was last seen and take 1 stroke penalty.
 - Out of Bounds; play from where ball goes out and take 1 stroke penalty.
 - Ball in Water Hazard; drop where ball went in and take 1 stroke penalty.
3. Handicaps will be determined as follows:
 - A. All male regular division golfers will play in three flights as determined by handicap. The golfer's first handicap will be determined after he has completed 72 holes of tournament play in the NSS National Golf Tournament. The golfer's handicap will be recalculated every year based on the golfer's best 72 holes in tournament play within the last five years. The handicap will be calculated on a 90% basis. The maximum handicap will be 40 strokes for 18 holes.
 - B. Any male golfer who has not completed 72 holes of tournament play in the NSS National Golf Tournament will be entered in the Callaway division using the NSS version of the Callaway scoring system.
 - C. Senior Men's Division (65 and over) will also play using handicaps as determined above. There will be only one flight in the Senior Division.
 - D. All female member golfers will compete with the handicap determined as above. The maximum handicap will be 40 strokes for 18 holes.
 - E. Any female golfer who has not completed 72 holes of play in the NSS National Golf tournament will be placed in the Callaway division.
4. Classifications:
 - A. A medal play champion will be determined for 18 holes and 36 holes in each of the following Divisions:*)
 1. Men's A flight
 2. Men's B flight
 3. Men's C flight
 4. Women's A flight
 5. Women's B flight
 6. Senior flight (age 65 and above)
 7. Callaway Flight

*Flight handicaps will be determined by number of entries and their handicaps. Champion's for each flight will receive an NSS Jacket, and Prize money. Prize money will depend on the number of participants in each flight. An individual winning his flight in both the 18 hole and 36 hole tournament will only receive one jacket but will receive the prize money for both tournaments.
5. In case of a tie for first place in any flight, both in the 18 hole and 36 hole tournament, a sudden death playoff will be used starting on a hole acceptable to the golf course management. If weather or darkness does not permit an actual playoff, a match of cards will be used starting with the number 1 handicap hole and proceeding with number 2, 3, 4, etc. until the tie is broken.
6. All other ties will split the applicable prize money. (e.g., two people tied for second will split second and third prize money. Three people tied for second would split second, third and fourth place prize money.)
7. The prize list will be determined by the tournament manager using the money contributed by the contestants and matching money contributed by the NSS for all member golfers. As nearly as possible, there will be one prize for each four entries. NSS does not match guest prize contributions.
8. The tournament manager will schedule tee times and pairings.
9. The Joseph Stefka Sr. Memorial plaque will be awarded to the low net winner of the 36 hole tournament. In case of a tie, the lower handicap will be the winner.
10. Golfers with long distances to travel will be given some preferential treatment for Sunday tee times, providing that the scheduling will not disrupt the efficiency of the tournament.
11. **ENTRIES WILL CLOSE – JUNE 20, 2017.**
12. Please make checks payable to: NSS
Attn: Pam Blum
351 Valley Brook Road
McMurray, PA 15317



Assembly L161 Member

Charles Boone wears his Boy Scout sash with pride. In the history of the Boy Scouts, Charles did what only a handful of scouts have done. Charles earned every merit badge – he earned 137 of them, plus 1. The plus one represents that Charles earned the Computer merit badge before it was discontinued in 2014. He then earned its replacement, the Digital Technology badge, giving him an extra one. If you name a badge, he has it. Robotic, his first. Explorations, his last. Some fellow scouts started calling Charles ‘Mr. Boy Scout’. By the time he was 14 he had approximately 100 badges. He took a couple years off from working on badges as he experienced other parts of scouting like the high adventure camps. At 16, with the encouragement from his scoutmaster, Charles aimed his sights to earn all the badges. Each badge provided him knowledge. A number of badges he would not have experienced if it

wasn't for earning them. The Woodcarving badge showed that he needed to improve his knife skills. For the Whitewater merit badge, in a split second and without realizing how quickly you may not have a chance to respond, he fell out of the boat. With his life jacket holding him above water, and his fellow scouts pulling him back on board, he gained a new respect for the water. Gardening proved to be a hard badge which he worked on for years. The first year, he didn't realize how many animals walked through our yard. They found the yard and garden as a good feeding ground, with only stems, if that, remaining.

Pottery could be Charles' new craft hobby. The bowl he made won a ribbon at the Washington County Fair. Through rifle shooting and shotgun shooting he learned to respect fire arms. The Animal Study merit badge provided an opportunity of a lifetime when Charles helped and worked with the cows as he visited the Twin Brook Dairy Farm. Charles found that he was able to experience a ‘little bit of everything’, by working on the badges. People can encourage you on what they think you should do, and merit badge counselors can guide you on how to work on a badge, but the only way he earned the badges was for Charles to put the hours in, and sometimes months, to work on the badges.

When Charles was a patrol leader, he organized a program so that his patrol can earn the Horsemanship merit badges. It was completely different than their day to day tasks and every scout loved working on this one. By the end of the program, each scout wanted to move the car out of the garage and move a horse in. Genealogy was the badge which Charles learned a lot about his own family. In being a descendent of Squire Boone, brother of Daniel Boone, he learned much from a family member who already did a long history of the family back to the 1700's. Charles researching his Slovak maternal family immigration in the 1900's, found ship records, naturalization papers, draft records and wrote down the stories to piece together interesting facts of the of coming to the States and the early life of a Slovak immigrant. With Charles being a second generation American Slovak, he wrote down the facts, heard and sang the songs, learned the translation of Hej Slovaci and the hardships. He enjoyed learning of his heritage and the music and dance so much that he wanted to join the Pittsburgh Slovaks. His merit badge counselor said that Charles' family account was the most interesting one which he read, and to hold on to it. The memories of people may fade but the information was a treasure. Although the boy scouts do not keep a separate record on the number of badges each boy earns, one private website not affiliated with the scouts, lists under 350 boys in the history of Boy Scouts have earned all of the badges. Millions of boys have been in scouts since it began in 1910. Charles made history by being one of the few to earn all of the current merit badges. Congratulations Charles on such a historic achievement.

Charles is the son of Monica Rodacy Boone (Assembly L161) and Ronald Boone of Dormont.

SCHOLARSHIP FOR SENIOR MEMBERS A Fraternal Program

PURPOSE ~

To encourage our older members to continue their education and to make fuller use of their leisure time.

MEMBER ELIGIBILITY ~

Any life insurance or annuity member, fifty-five (55) years or older, who has enrolled and successfully completed a continuing education or adult education course. Members may submit up to two (2) applications in one calendar year.

COURSE ELIGIBILITY ~

Vocational schools, community colleges and universities offer a variety of short-term courses which may include areas like computer training, cake decorating, photography, landscaping, small engine repair, ballroom dancing, etc. This program does not cover courses that assist you to maintain your current full or part-time job. (Example: We will not reimburse life insurance or real estate agents who take continuing education credits to maintain their licenses.)

PROCEDURE ~

Members should enroll and pay for the course of their choice. Once the member has finished the class, they must submit an application, along with verification that the class was successfully completed, to the Home Office for approval by a National Officer. If the scholarship application is approved, the NSS will reimburse one-half (1/2) of the tuition for the course up to, but not to exceed, one hundred dollars.

INFORMATION & APPLICATION ~

For an application or additional information on this NSS Scholarship for Seniors Fraternal Program, contact Pam Blum at pblum@nsslife.org or call the office at 724-731-0094, ext. 1010. The National Officers are the sole authority in any decisions regarding this scholarship program. Their decision is final in all cases.

Access your account values 24/7 by going to the website:
www.nsslife.org and log in/register as a member.



*Love comes in all shapes
and sizes.
Life insurance protection
does too!*

Advantages of an NSS Annuity/IRA.....

- Competitive interest rates
- Guaranteed minimum interest rate
 - Tax-deferred earnings
 - Avoids Probate
- Liquidity/Withdrawal features
- Flexible retirement income options
 - No sales charges or fees

Did you know....

You can add money to almost any Annuity with NSS-just send us a check.

Any additional funds will not increase the time period on early withdrawal penalties.

Current Interest Rates Effective since January 1, 2013

Preferred Choice	1.00%
Optimum 3	2.00%
Preferred 5	3.00%
Preferred 8	3.50%

*Preferred 7 and Flex earning 4%, these plans are no longer available.

Please contact your NSS Life financial service representative or
Joe Elliott in the Home Office at 1-800-488-1890.

From the Sales Department...

By Greg Felton, CLU, ChFC
Sales Director



Estate Planning and You

Estate planning sounds like something complicated but it doesn't have to be. This kind of planning is so important. To prove this point we will look at a recent story from the news. The artist, known as Prince, was 57 years old and died in 2016. His estate is estimated to be around \$100 million dollars. Now it is hard to feel bad for someone that leaves a \$100 million dollar estate but let's break this down a little further. This estate would be subject to federal estate taxes of approximately \$40 million. The state of Minnesota also has a tax of 16% or \$16 million. Prince had no will, no spouse and no clearly defined heirs. After his death, his only sister and five half-siblings filed a claim against the estate. In addition over 700 other people have come forward filing a claim stating they were relatives or descendants. This once significant estate is already down to \$46 million and after further deductions by attorneys and years of administrative costs it will be down a lot more. Could this disaster have been avoided? Absolutely – yes!

First, a will and/or trust should be in place. Next, a beneficiary(s) should be named. This is so important and especially so for retirement accounts and IRAs. Then a family meeting or discussion should take place to outline your desires and wishes. No one wants to talk about death but it is inevitable. At least face it head on and make it a little easier on your family.

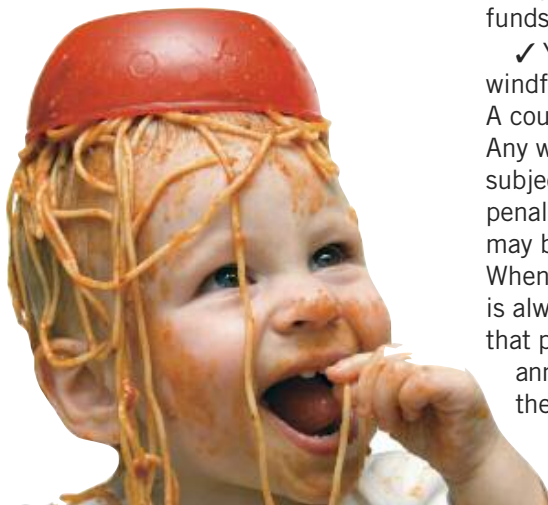
Finally, a life insurance plan would definitely be a smart move. For pennies on a dollar you can be insured for thousands - immediately. Insurance proceeds are really just money and therefore can be used for anything. NSS has some of the best plans and rates available.

Call your local representative or Joe Elliott in the Home Office for more information. We would be glad to help you and your family.

Thought for the Month:

*The weak can never forgive.
Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong.*

**Mahatma Gandhi
(1869 – 1948)**



Life Happens That's why there's life insurance

Life can take unexpected, unpredictable turns. Toward the amusing, annoying, and unfortunately even the tragic. So every day, you take little steps to improve the odds that good things will happen and to guard against the bad. You wear seatbelts and you lock your doors at home. You buy life insurance for the same reason-to protect your family financially. It ensures that your loved ones will have the kind of lifestyle and opportunities you always hoped they'd have. Will your family be okay when Life Happens?

Reasons to Open an Annuity

Here is a great idea - open a non-qualified (not an IRA) annuity with NSS and here is why. First, the interest earned can be as much as 3.5% on the Preferred 8 product. We also have several other options if a shorter time frame is needed. The guaranteed minimum rate is 2.0% on the Preferred 5 and 8 products. There are no taxes due on the interest until you make a withdrawal. And the number one reason to open an account is to get the surrender charge clock running. So if you open a Preferred 5 now, in five years the surrender charges are done. A \$1,000 minimum (\$83/month) is needed to open an account. Deposit and withdraw at your convenience. Here are some situations that may work well for an annuity.

✓ Your savings account or CDs are not earning much because bank rates are so low?

✓ While downsizing homes, the profits from the sale should be deposited somewhere.

✓ The required minimum distributions from an IRA are not needed to live on - so a person would like to deposit these funds in a non-IRA account.

✓ You are the recipient of a financial windfall (lottery, inheritance, gas well) A couple of key points to keep in mind. Any withdrawal prior to age 59½ may be subject to a 10% early withdrawal penalty from the IRS. In addition there may be an NSS early withdrawal penalty. When taking money out of your annuity it is always interest out first and of course that portion is taxable. Call us for an annuity information packet and review the material for yourself.

ASSEMBLY 039

Uniontown, PA

As you plan your summer schedule, be sure to mark on your calendar our annual “**Summer Bar-B-Q**” on Sunday, **June 11th**. We will meet at the Knights of Columbus Picnic Pavilion, on Gallatin Avenue Extension at 1:00 pm. This is a free event to members and non-members alike.

Members, now you have the opportunity to view your insurance and annuity accounts via the NSS website. Go to www.nsslife.org and log in/register as a member.

Those assembly members who are currently receiving an NSS scholarship are reminded that the renewal deadline for this fall is July 15th. No renewal checks will be issued after September 15th for any reason.

Seniors! Take advantage of the NSS Senior Scholarship Program. The NSS will pay ½ of your course fee up to \$100.00. You can apply for two scholarships each calendar year. Rules and eligibility are on the NSS Website: www.nsslife.org.

Our deepest sympathies go out to the Paul Godor family. Paul was a former Secretary-Treasurer of the society.

Youth members become a member of the NSS Ambassadors. More information is on the NSS website.

Remember dad on Father’s Day and give thanks and prayer for those who have died. Happy Father’s Day!

John Payerchin
President

ASSEMBLY R059/RC59

Whitehall, PA

Mark your calendars for our next meetings:

July 30, 2017 - Meeting at the Sawarynski’s residence at 1:00 pm.

October 1, 2017 - Hot Dog Fundraiser to benefit the Allentown Rescue Mission at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church following Divine Liturgy.

Call Nancy Sabol at 610-266-7346 for directions and/or additional information. Members are urged to attend.

Elizabeth Sabol
Treasurer

ASSEMBLY 0070/C070

Brooklyn, OH

A picnic and meeting will be held on **Saturday, June 10th, 2017**. Call John or Mary Ann Karkosiak at 216 741-6990, if you plan to attend. Side dishes or desserts would be appreciated.

John Karkosiak
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0110

New York, NY

A meeting will be held on Sunday, **September 17, 2017** at the Bohemian Hall, Astoria, NY at 3:00 pm. Mark your calendars for **November 5th, 2017** for our Christmas luncheon, place and time to be determined.

Richard DeSanctis
Secretary

ASSEMBLY L075

Duryea, PA

Our fraternal summer picnic will be held on Sunday, **August 6th, 2017** at the Mercateli-Segelia Park, Moosic, PA. Members will bring a covered dish and items for the Chinese auction, conducted by Marlin Petro Wesnak Region 2 President. Fraternal Director Bill Wesnak and President Gary Edwards will cook up hamburgers and hotdog’s for the members. The Margaret Pilosi Scholarship winner will be announced and bingo will be played for prizes. Any questions, please call Lehrae Edwards at 570-457-8402.

We will host a bingo and pizza party for the veterans at the Wilkes Barre V A 2nd floor recreation room on **August 20th, 2017** at 2:00 pm.

Our final meeting of the year will be on **October 22nd, 2017** at the Grande’s Restaurant, Moosic, PA at 1:00 pm.

Lehrae Ann Edwards
Secretary

*How many
new members did
you sign up
last month?*

ASSEMBLY 123

Coraopolis, PA

Have you heard the saying “The third times the charm”? Well, for the third time our assembly members and guests are certainly welcome to a tour of **Hartwood Acres**. Actually, we will be touring the furnished mansion which is the centerpiece of the park. The park itself is 629 acres of scenic beauty located in Hampton and Indiana Townships north of Pittsburgh. The date selected is Sunday **June 25th, 2017** at 12 noon. Call Mary Maniecke at 412-264-3546 if you plan on coming. She will fill you in on all the details and directions. After the tour, we would encourage those attending to gather for lunch at a fine local restaurant for good food and fellowship.

Summer begins June 21st, how time flies, this should show the gardens at Hartwood in full bloom. We would love to have many members and their guests join us for what should be a lovely day.

It has to be mentioned that June 18th is Father’s Day. Congratulations to all the fathers in our assembly. As our culture and life style changes, the duties of fathers and mothers seem to be getting blurred. I remember my father, now deceased twenty six years, as no nonsense guy who worked hard long hours. His family was his number one priority and he was a bit of a jokester and I miss him still.

Something you may not be aware of, I certainly wasn’t, June 19th is World Sauntering Day. You find many interesting things on the internet. I consider myself lucky, because I know what sauntering means. A slow walk or stroll at a leisurely pace. Well how perfect is it that this comes right before a trip to Hartwood Acres. We can all saunter around the grounds and the beautiful gardens at Hartwood. Hope to see you there.

Bill Knoll
President

ASSEMBLY 377

Curwensville, PA

A meeting will be held on **June 16, 2017** at PNC Park. The game starts at 7:00 and food will be provided. We will discuss future plans for our assembly.

Please call me for any questions.

Susan Skrypak
President

ASSEMBLY 432

Fairview Park, OH

A meeting will be held on Tuesday, **June 20th, 2017** at the Pytel's, 25680 Timber Cove, North Olmsted, OH 44070.

Our Assembly's youngest member, Gabriella Pytel will be in attendance, and by then she will be 16 MONTHS OLD! It is time to start involving more of our youth. If you know anyone with young children, there has never been a better time than now to sign them up for a policy! Hope to see more than the "regulars" on June 20th!

Shawn Pytel
Publicist

ASSEMBLY 554

Curwensville, PA

Our next meeting will be held on **July 2, 2017** at the home of Jim Stricek, 135 McCullough Street, DuBois, PA at 2:00 pm.

For information and directions contact Jim at (814) 590-7021 or assembly554@gmail.com

Jim Stricek
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 568

LaCanada, CA

A meeting and our Annual Father's Day Mass will be held on Sunday, **June 18th** at John Paul II Polish Center, 3999 Rose Drive, Jorba Linda CA. Mass will begin at 1:30 p.m. and a Slovak lunch will be served after mass. Come and join us in celebrating The Slovak Spirit of Father's Day.

Also following the festivities members will hold a meeting to review officers reports and discuss assembly activities.

We hope to see you there and would like to wish everyone very special FATHER'S DAY.

Milan Konkol
President

ASSEMBLY 586

Chicago, IL

A summer outing is being planned as our next activity. Sam Tidaback, 586 member, is catching for the Joliet Jack-

hammers baseball team and we will organize a trip to the Joliet ballpark on Sunday, August 13. Hope to see many 586'ers there!

Janet Tomaskovic
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 617/C617

Ashley, PA

Includes Assembly 0146

Our assembly will hold our meeting on **June 17, 2017** at the Grotto Pizza, Edwardsville, Pa. at 1:00 pm.

We would like to invite and welcome members from the former Assembly 0146, Glen Lyon, to this meeting. We will discuss and plan for our future events including our Join Hands Day at St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen and our Fraternal Day at Knoebels Amusement Park on July 27. All members of Assembly 617 and new members from the former Assembly 146 are all welcomed to join us.

Reservations are required by calling Rose Mary Strish at 570-825-3681 by June 11th.

Rose Mary Strish
President

Assembly 432 Matching Funds Event



Assembly 432's Elderess Martí Pytel presenting our check to STC's Executive Director Janice Dzigiel.

Assembly 432's Matching Funds donation went to a VERY deserving cause this year.

Senior Transportation Connection received a check for \$400.00. Senior Transportation provides exactly as their name states, transportation for seniors.

No matter what our senior citizens need a ride for, STC provides affordable, reliable and safe transportation to and from their destination. Senior Transportation currently provides their services for senior citizens and people with disabilities in 28 cities, with over 12,000 enrolled passengers. If anyone is interested in STC's services, you can contact them at (216) 265-1489 for more information, or to schedule a ride!

Shawn Pytel
Publicist

Assembly 588 Members Assist with Toys for Tots and Food Drive



George and Margie Leasure, Assembly 588, preparing to distribute donated toys to needy families in Washington and Greene Counties.

Volunteers of Assembly 588 George and Margie Leasure assisted with the Toys for Tots Campaign prior to the Christmas Holiday. For the fourth consecutive year, the campaign was hosted by the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church of Washington, Pennsylvania. Toys were collected, packaged, and distributed to children of both Washington and Greene County by the volunteers. The children also received hot chocolate and cookies.

George and Margie assisted with the packing and distribution of the bags of toys. They volunteered their time in the true fraternal spirit to make the Christmas Holiday a more special time for the less fortunate families of Washington and Greene County.

In addition, George and Margie also donated items and participated with the Church and Lagonda Homemakers in packing shoeboxes to send to needy children during the Holiday Season.



SEPTEMBERFEST 2017

Saturday, September 23, 2017

Presented by the National Slovak Society Heritage Museum

11 AM—4 PM **** FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

This has been a very successful event over the last 5 years. This year will mark our 6th annual event at the museum. We would like to have as many of our Assemblies and Regions be involved in helping to make this year's event another successful experience.

We are looking for volunteers to help in various ways throughout the day. Here are some ways you and/or your Assembly can help: **Donate homemade baked goods ** Volunteer an hour or two ** Publicize the event at your meetings or local papers**

Be a Sponsor —help defray cost of demonstration supplies, entertainment, paper products etc..

\$100 ...Gold \$50....Silver \$25.....Bronze

Send your donation to: NSSHM

351 Valley Brook Rd

McMurray, PA 15317

Vendor spaces are available although limited. For more information please contact Sue Ondrejco at (412) 421-1204.

*Slovak cooking & craft demonstrations
Slovak Dance Performances
Slovak food, vendors and more!*

Also featuring the largest animated wood carving in the United States!



Assembly 0004

Scotch Doubles Bowling Results

On April 2nd our 7th Scotch Doubles Tournament was held at Yorktown Lanes. We had 12 couples take part. The scores again were lower. There were 3 games of 200 or above this year.

	<u>Total w/handicap</u>	
1st Place	Michelle & Angelo Samerigo	664
2nd Place	Ken & Rich Durcansky	623
3rd Place	Gail Di Giovine & Chris	619
4th Place	Stephanie & Bob Sir Louis	587
5th Place	Jan & Tony Lecznar	584
6th Place	Justin & Dick Topola	569

The couples and guests enjoyed pizza, pop, coffee and socializing after bowling. Prizes were given out. Thanks to all who participated and hope everyone comes back next year. When you read this our Sunday League will have completed another season.

Our Miniature Golf Tournament is tentatively planned for **June 25th**. Anyone that is interested in playing can contact Bob or Bud Sir Louis at (440) 845-2616.

Bob Sir Louis
League Secretary

Assembly 0004

Sunday Mixed League

On April 9th the N.S.S. Bowling League concluded another season at Yorktown Lanes. That day was the roll-off, singles tournament and banquet.

The roll-off was between 1st and 2nd half winners. The Rolling Pins, Violet Lunder, Ed and Tim Stawicki and Dan Redmond won the 1st Half. The 2nd Half was won by The Misfits, Sonia Vorell, Dick Topola and Stephanie and Bob Sir Louis were defeated by The Rolling Pins.

The Singles Tournament winners, for the women, Lauren Hayek and Ed Stawicki was the top men's bowler.

After bowling was the banquet, where the awards and trophies were passed out. Thanks to Julie and Bud Sir Louis for taking care of the banquet arrangements and Mike Cottrell for a delicious meal.

Bob Sir Louis
League Secretary

**94th Annual Slovak Day at Kennywood
July 20th, 2017**

PVR Scholarship Fund Donations

In Memory of **Paul J Godor** from:

James & Barbara Stoker	50.00
Bettie & John Capets, Allan Quear, Louella & Jay Miller, Carolyn Quear, and Brenda Gorski	100.00
Charles & Virginia Lundquist & Bob & Ella Griffith	50.00
Joe & Annette Stefka	100.00
Ed & Nick DePersis	50.00
The Good Family	100.00
Millie Fulmer	20.00
David & Fran Blazek	100.00
Earl & Marlene Pottinger	25.00
Andrew, Martha, & Andrea Garbon	75.00
Paul & Susan Payerchin	50.00
NSS Life Board Member Donations	500.00

NSS Heritage Museum Donations

In Loving Memory of **Paul J Godor**:

From Assembly 0441 50.00

DONATE TO THE PVR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

YES, I want to help our young members attain their academic goals. Here is my donation of \$ _____.

Name: _____

Assembly: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Please issue your check to:

NSS PVR Scholarship Fund

And send to:

National Slovak Society
351 Valley Brook Road
McMurray, PA 15317

OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS April, 2017

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Adams, Wilson	Colerain, OH	04/04/2017	P38A
Beno, Emil	Lakewood, OH	03/31/2017	0432
Bolibrush, John	Parma, OH	03/19/2017	0004
Brown, Damien	Avoca, PA	04/02/2017	L075
Damiata, Mary	Cromwell, CT	03/04/2017	0774
DeLuca, James	Aliquippa, PA	01/04/2017	0108
Demma, Lenore	Orland Park, IL	01/31/2017	0586
Detar, Louise	Turtle Creek, PA	02/23/2017	L105
Dickenson, Elnore	Bay City, MI	03/06/2017	0381
Diesing, Leona	Pittsburgh, PA	04/06/2017	0123
Doak, Juanita	Hurricane, WV	03/24/2017	0774
Duchock, Bradley	Birmingham, AL	03/03/2016	0100
Erzen, Mary Ann	Pittsburgh, PA	10/01/2016	L105
Fech, John	St. Petersburg, FL	03/07/2017	0813
Friend, Roscoe	Cottageville, WV	12/06/2016	0774
Garretson, Elizabeth	Woodbridge, VA	03/02/2017	0039
Godor, Paul	North Huntingdon, PA	04/04/2017	0737
Good, Donna	Chillicothe, OH	08/11/2016	0595
Heintz, Carol	Erie, PA	04/07/2017	0774
Holleran, Robert	Fredericktown, PA	03/25/2017	0377
Horai, Robert	Staten Island, NY	10/17/2016	0110
Lemma, Francesca	Lorain, OH	02/09/2017	0160
Jarrell, Alma	Naoma, WV	01/26/2017	0774
Kudron, Tammy	Brooklyn, MI	03/09/2017	0774
Kwiatkowski, Eleanor	New Castle, PA	03/03/2017	0731
Lachhab, Sarah	Turtle Creek, PA	04/03/2017	L105
Lamy, Patricia	Pittsburgh, PA	04/02/2012	0434
Lang, Josephine	Pittsburgh, PA	03/18/2017	0700
McCormick, John	Hurricane, WV	03/22/2017	0774
McNansky, Mary	Washington, PA	03/08/2017	0434
McNeal, Mary Ann	New Vienna, OH	03/20/2017	0731
Milam, Joseph	Charleston, WV	03/18/2017	0774
Miller, Ruth	Murrysville, PA	03/06/2017	0434
Mroczenski, Edward	Athens, WI	02/24/2017	0774
Pellegrino, Carmen	Pittsburgh, PA	03/22/2017	0434
Penksa, William	Old Bridge, NJ	03/08/2017	0110
Pento, Donate	Hicksville, NY	11/08/2016	0813
Pingley SR., Randolph	Berkeley Springs, WV	03/22/2017	0774
Powell, Magdalena	Apollo, PA	03/28/2017	0774
Reed, Roy	Chillicothe, OH	03/17/2017	0595
Rimlinger, Joseph	Pittsburgh, PA	02/27/2017	0100
Rogacki, Steve	Chicago, IL	06/20/2016	0586
Rutter, Pauline	Herminie, PA	03/18/2017	0737
Sanchez, Alexander	Pittsburgh, PA	12/13/2016	0377
Semler, Gloria	Allison Park, PA	03/16/2016	0434
Sheptak, Anna	Gary, IN	06/15/2012	0586
Shero, Lois	Pittsburgh, PA	12/21/2016	L161
Skellie, Robert	Cambridge, NY	11/18/2016	0110
Smith, Edward	Minersville, PA	03/27/2017	0774
Smith, Evelyn	West Palm Beach, FL	04/10/2017	0813
Taylor, William	West Middlesex, PA	09/17/2016	0731
Turner Jr., George	Wheeling, WV	03/02/2017	0774
Vesely, Marcella	Mosinee, WI	02/08/2017	0774
Wolfe, Stella	Weirton, WV	03/19/2017	0774
Yurko, James	Valencia, PA	03/31/2017	0123

This Month in National Slovak Society History

Joseph Stefka, Jr. Chairman of the Board

June, 1903

The Ninth Convention was held at Bayonne, New Jersey, from June 8-11, 1903. The Convention reelected Anton Ambrose as Supreme President. The Convention also mandated that the Supreme Recording Secretary serve on a full-time basis at the Home Office in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. All full-time officers would now be serving the Society from the Home Office.

June, 1969

Assembly 432 member, Al Zbin, captured the Net Singles Title, Net Doubles Title, Net All Events Title, Gross All Events Title, and was a member of the winning team at the Second Annual NSS Bowling Tournament.

June, 1969

The Peter V. Rovnianek Scholarship Fund reached a balance of \$5,247.43.

June, 1986

Former Supreme President Thomas G. Gmitter died on June 18, 1986. Brother Gmitter served as Supreme President from 1975 – 1978 and as a Trustee (Director) from 1979 until the time of his death.

June, 2014

The 36th Quadrennial Convention was held at Hershey Lodge in Hershey, Pennsylvania, where the delegates voted to adopt new By-Laws changing the governance structure of the National Slovak Society, incorporating Board Governance. The nine newly elected Board of Directors members would be responsible for hiring the President and Secretary-Treasurer for the next four years.



Members of Assembly 123 visiting Phipps Conservatory.

Spotlight On Rick Toth, FLMI, FIC Underwriter



Hello, my name is Rick Toth and I work for NSS Life as an Underwriter. I have been working in the Fraternal Benefit System for the past 33 years and have been a fraternal member my entire life. Prior to my employment with NSS Life, I was employed for 29 years as an Officer

and Chief Life Underwriter at another Fraternal Benefit Society. Over the years, I have received the following insurance related designations: Fraternal Insurance Counsellor (FIC) and Fellow, Life Management Institute (FLMI). I have been fortunate to go through the chairs and become President of the Fraternal Society of Greater Pittsburgh (FSGP) and President of the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance (PFA). OOf it was also an honor and privilege to have been chosen to receive the distinguished FSGP Fraternalist of the Year Award and the PFA John Jordan Upchurch Award for my services to the fraternal benefit system.

As an Underwriter, we are responsible to underwrite life applications in a timely, efficient, and professional manner. When underwriting, we gather necessary information to verify evidence of insurability in order to make an insurance offer. With quality life underwriting, NSS Life continues to offer competitive life insurance rates to you and your family. We truly value our sales force and our membership. I am happily married to my lovely wife Nancy for the past 31 years. We have been truly blessed and grateful to have four sons Richard, Christopher, Matthew and Zachary. Our oldest son Richard recently graduated as a doctor and is doing Residency in Family Medicine, Christopher is employed as a United Airlines Mechanic, Matthew is a sophomore attending Slippery Rock University in Accounting and Zachary is a junior in high school and presently working on his Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scout Project. In my spare time, I enjoy sports, the outdoors, and spending time with my family. It is such a great pleasure to work with innovative and successful leadership at NSS Life as evidenced by Total Assets surpassing \$1 Billion. What an outstanding accomplishment! Thank you for allowing me to share this with you and May God bless you!

Happy Father's Day from NSS Life

NSS Ambassadors

SUMMER LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP

Join us for a day and a half of team building, skill building and giveback!

FRIDAY, JULY 28 FROM 9:00 AM
TO SATURDAY, JULY 29 AT 1:00 PM

National Slovak Society-USA
351 Valley Brook Road
McMurray, PA 15317

For more info & to RSVP visit:
<http://evite.me/A8TedNDtjW>



Júnové Radosti

Prichádza mesiac jún, o ktorom je známe, že je mesiacom najdlhšieho dňa, najkratšej noci, kvitnutia lipy a letného slnovratu. Kto z nás by nemal rád jún? Prvý letný mesiac prinášajúci zázračné kúzla svätójánskej noci, rozmarný a Nevyspytateľný ako znamenie blížencov, ktorému vládne...

Pripomenme si aspoň niekoľko pranostik, ktoré sa spájajú s týmto mesiacom. Tu sú:

1. Na Božie telo skoč do vody smelo.
2. Medardova kvapka štyridsať dní kvapká.
3. Na Jána dost' dlhý deň, a predsa mu je koniec.
4. Ladislav huby sial, Peter, Pavol ich pozbieral.
5. Jún mokrý a studený robí rok hubený.



94 Slovenský deň Západnej Pennsylvanie

Dávame na vedomie slovenskej verejnosti v Pgh.a okolí, že tohtoročný 94 Slovenský deň Západnej Pennsylvanie bude 20. tohto Júla v známom Kennywood Parku. Vstupné lístky sú v predaji od členov pripraveného výboru tie si rezervujte u Sue Ondrejco na čísle 412 421-1204. Po tomto kontakte možno vložiť aj váš pozdrav alebo ohlášku do pamätnice Slovenského dňa.

Jún - Mesiac Božského Srdca Ježišovo



Sv. Margita Mária Alacoque sa narodila 22. júla 1647 vo Francúzsku v dedine Lauthecour pri mestečku Verosvres. Margita bola piata zo siedmich detí. Meno Mária dostala pri birmovaní. Ako dvadsaťštyriročná vstúpila do kláštora rehole Navštívenia Panny Márie, v meste Paray-le-Monial v burgundskom kraji. V roku 1672 zložila prvé sľuby. Dňa 27. decembra 1673 sa jej zjavilo v osľňujúcom lesku Božské Srdce. Práve vtedy kľáčala pred Sviatosťou Oltárnou. Srdce bolo ovinuté trními a ozdobené križom. Podľa jej vlastných slov sama bola naplnená nevýslovnou láskou.

Gratulujeme...

V tomto mesiaci sa končí školský rok, deti postupujú o triedu vyššie, a tí dospeljší maturujú z vysokých škôl. Všetkým študentom gratulujeme k úspešnému ukončeniu štúdia a k výborným výsledkom. Naša organizácia je zvlášť hrdá na našich členov študentov ktorým prispievame finančne na vysokoškolské štúdia. Veríme, že z nich budú prikladný Americký občania a aktívny členovia v našej organizácii NSS.



Zo staroslovanských tradícií:

Pred svätým Jánom sa všetci mládenci poschádzali a pripravovali si vatru, znášali drevo a raždie. Keď sa zotmelo, všetci z dediny išli k vatrám. Tam sa všetci veselili, pohostili a zabávali, tancovali až do bieleho rána. Svätójánska noc mala veľkú moc. Ľudia verili, že všetky rastliny, ktoré kvitnú na Jána, majú liečivý alebo magický účinok.

*“Na Svätého Jána nebýva noc žiadna.”
“Do Jána sa deň dlží, po Jánovi kráti.”*

Deň Otcov 18.6

Nezabudnite v tento deň na svojho otca, venujte mu možno malú pozornosť, fotografiu v rámčeku, čokoládku... Alebo sa na neho len milo usmejte a porozprávajte mu o tom, ako veľmi ho milujete, ako mu ďakujete za všetko, čo pre vás urobil, otvorte svoje srdce a do hĺbkosti svojho pohľadu prelejte všetku svoju lásku, ktorú cítite k človeku, ktorý vám spolu s vašou mamou darovali to najdrahšie - ľudský život.

Nezabúdajme ani na tých otcov, starých otcov, ktorí už nemôžu sledovať vaše kroky, tešiť sa z vašich úspechov, zahojiť rany na duši, lebo nás už predišli do večnosti. Venujme im spomienku i modlitbu.

A samozrejme, nezabúdajme ani na nášho Nebeského Otca, lebo od neho pochádza všetko, on je začiatok i koniec. "On obráti srdce otcov k synom a srdce synov k otcom..." (Mal 3,24)





Youth Circle Page

Youth Circle of National Slovak Society • 351 Valley Brook Road, McMurray, PA 15317

PVR Scholarship Renewal Applicant Continuation Rules

Students must submit verification of continuing education enrollment from attending school by submitting a transcript of their grades indicating you have maintained a 3.0 GPA, to the NSS Scholarship Department at the conclusion of EACH school year before they will be considered eligible to receive payment for a second, third, or fourth year grant. These transcripts must be received by **JULY 15TH. NO EXCEPTIONS, THIS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.** Do not rely on parents, friends, or your agent to get your information in. If your paperwork is not in the home office by the deadline you will not receive a check!

If you are transferring to another school, you **MUST** notify the NSS Home Office **IN WRITING** by sending in an acceptance letter to prove you will be attending a new school full time, by **JULY 15TH, BEFORE** checks are issued. No renewal checks will be issued after September 15th of each year for any reason.

Junior Pittsburgh Slovakians

*We'd like you to become a part of our
performing ensemble!*

- * Learn to sing, dance and/or play the violin.
- * No experience necessary, we'll show you!
 - * Meet new friends
 - * Learn about your Slovak Heritage!
- * Perform at the Pittsburgh Folk Festival, Slovak Day, Slovak Heritage Festival at Pitt as well as other events!

We are now accepting new members and would like to invite you to come and find out what we are all about! For more information, call **Sue Ondrejco at 412-421-1204** or e-mail: sue.ondrejco@gmail.com

2016 YOUTH POETRY CONTEST

Deadline: August 15th, 2017

This is a great opportunity for parents and assembly officers to encourage our youth to utilize their thinking caps, sharpen those pencils and put those poetic thoughts on paper. The poetry submitted should display an honest and true effort of creativity and unique artistic vision. The rules are as follows:

1. Contest is open to all NSS Youth members ages 5 to 16.
 2. Poem may be any length up to two pages double spaced.
 3. Topic is chosen by individual.
 4. Each poem submitted **MUST** be an original work created by the member and should be typed or hand written clearly.
 5. All entries must include: name, address, phone number, age, assembly/circle number, along with your t-shirt size chosen by the following sizes available:
 - Youth Sizes - YS and YM
 - Adult Sizes - AS, AM, AL and AXL
 6. Winners in each category will have their poetry printed in the National News, and on the NSS Website.
 7. Contest shall be judged under the following ages:
 - Keats - Ages 5, 6, 7
 - Angelou - Ages 8, 9, 10
 - Frost - Ages 11, 12, 13
 - Shakespeare - Ages 14, 15, 16
 8. Prizes awarded in each level shall be as follows:
 - First Place- \$50.00 & Certificate of Achievement
 - Second Place- \$25.00 & Certificate of Achievement
 - Third Place- \$15.00 & Certificate of Achievement
 9. Deadline for entries to the Home Office is August 15th. Entries must be mailed or delivered to:
 - National Slovak Society
 - c/o Fraternal Department
 - 351 Valley Brook Road
 - McMurray, PA 15317
 10. Entries will be judged by an outside professional. Decisions made by the judge will be final in all cases.
 11. The National Slovak Society reserves the right to keep all the poems.
- Please contact Fraternal Activities Coordinator Pam Blum at pblum@nsslife.org or call the Home Office at 724-731-0094 if you have any questions.

*Congratulations to the
Graduating Class of 2017*

**Don't forget Dad on
June 18th**

Could you use a little extra “green?”

Recommender

As a proud member of NSS Life, there is no better time than now to share your experience with family and friends. Best of all, you will receive a cash reward for recommending someone that we issue a policy to. You will receive a \$25 recommender fee (\$10 on the youth term product) for each person that becomes a member.

Recommender Information:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Prospect Information:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____



Send form to Joe Elliott at the Home Office.

Change of Address

Please use this form to register your change of address for the National News and mail to the Home Office. Upon receipt of this form completed in its entirety, the staff will immediately implement the change. *Thank you.*

Name _____

Assembly No. _____

New Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Former Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

DEADLINE FOR PUBLICATION

Please be advised that all articles, notices, etc., **MUST BE** received by the Home Office no later than the 5th of the month. Every effort will be made to publish the article and photos in a timely manner and space permitting. Also, all articles should be typewritten in regular type.