



NSS Life
Family Matters...

National News



National Slovak Society's 37th Quadrennial Convention • June 24th-28th • Hershey, PA



★ Delegate Listing and Board of Directors Candidate Biographies Included in this Issue ★



National Slovak Society of
the United States of America

NÁRODNÉ NOVINY

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FRISE and PAU merged with NSS in 1997
ROMANAS merged with the NSS in 1998

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Activities At A Glance

<p>REGION 2</p> <p>August 12 August 18 October 14 November 18</p>	<p>Assemblies L075, 0617</p> <p>Assembly L075, Summer Picnic, Mercatelli-Segilia Park, Moosic, PA at 1:00 pm Region 2, Meeting, Perkins, Pittston, PA at 1:00 pm Assembly L075, Meeting, Grande's Restaurant, Moosic, PA at 2:00 pm Assembly L075, Wilkes-Barre VA Bingo Party, Recreation Room at 2:00 pm</p>
<p>REGION 5</p> <p>June 2 June 10 June 15 June 23 July 19 August 4 September 9 September 22 October 28 December 2 December 2</p>	<p>Assemblies P38A, 0039, 0100, L105, 0108, 0123, L161, 0377, 0434, 0441, 0588, 0737, 0774</p> <p>Assembly 0737, Meeting, Carol Godor's residence, North Huntingdon, PA at 1:00 pm Assembly 0039, Summer Barbecue, Knights of Columbus Picnic Shelter at 1:00 pm Region 5, NSS Pirate Night at PNC Park, Pittsburgh, PA Assembly 0039, Relay For Life Walk, Fayette Campus, Penn State at 10:00 am Slovak Day, Kennywood Park, West Mifflin, PA Assembly 0123, Minature Golf, Neville Island Assembly 0039, Meeting, Eat'n Park Community Room at 6:00 pm Septemberfest, Home Office, McMurray, PA Assembly 0377, Halloween Party, Time/Place to be announced Assembly 0377, Holiday Party, Time/Place to be announced Assembly 0039, Christmas Party, Knights of Columbus Hall, Uniontown, PA at 2:00 pm</p>
<p>REGION 8</p> <p>June 9 August 21</p>	<p>Assemblies 0004, 0070, 0160, 0432, 0595</p> <p>Assembly 070, Picnic/Meeting, Dr. Martin Luther Church, Brooklyn, OH at 5:00 pm Assemly 0432, Meeting, Pytel's residence at 7:30 pm</p>
<p>REGION 14</p> <p>June 3 July 22 September 16 November 3</p>	<p>Assemblies R059, L102</p> <p>Assembly R059, Coffee Hour/Meeting, Assumption of the Virgin Mary, North Hampton, PA Assembly R059, Meeting, Swarynski's residence, North Hampton, PA (TBA) Assembly R059, Meeting, Slivka's residence, Bethlehem, PA (TBA) Assembly R059, Hot Dog/Coffee Hour, St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church (TBA)</p>
<p>REGION 15</p>	<p>Assemblies L002, 0028</p> <p>No activities at this time</p>
<p>AT LARGE</p> <p>June 3 June 8-10 June 10 June 30-July 1 August 12 September 2 October 21 November 4 December 1 December 24</p>	<p>Assemblies R019, L040, 0110, 0236, 0267, 0381, 0554, 0568, 0586, 0705, 0731, 0800, 0813</p> <p>Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck's residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm Assembly 0110, Bi-Annual Fraternal Weekend, Woodloch Pines Resort, Hawley, PA Assembly 0381, Meeting, Hungarian Rhapsady, Southgate, MI at 3:00 pm Assembly 0705, Butwin Family Reunion, Seelyville, IN Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck's residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm Assembly 0554, Meeting, Jim Stricek's residence, DuBois, PA (TBA) Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck's residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm Assembly 0554, Meeting, Jim Stricek's residence, DuBois, PA (TBA) Assembly 0731, Christmas Party, Stambaugh Room, Boardman, OH at 1:00 pm Assembly 0705, Annual Christmas Eve Celebration, 6:00 pm (Fraternal Fund Activity)</p>

NSS National Convention - June 24th - 28th

From The President's Desk...



David G. Blazek, FIC
President, CEO

Greetings as we enter the first month of summer, a very busy month with the upcoming convention slated to convene on Sunday, June 24th. In this issue you will find a complete listing of all the delegates that will be attending the convention, along with Bio's of the candidates interested in running for the Board of Directors. Please take time to read the Bio's before coming to the convention and be prepared to elect a Board that will help continue the growth of the society both in dollars and number of members.

In addition to our 37th Quadrennial Convention being held there are three other dates of importance, June 14th is Flag Day, June 17th is Father's Day and June 21st marks the official start of Summer.

In addition to assembly meetings this month, Assembly 0110 will hold its Bi-Annual Fraternal Weekend on June 8-10, Assembly 0070 will hold a picnic on June 9th, Assembly 0039 will hold a Summer Barbecue on June 10th, Region 5 will hold its annual Pirate Night on June 15th, Assembly 0039 will participate in Relay For Life Walk on June 23rd, and Assembly 0705 will have their family reunion June 30th-July 1st.

News Of Narodniars

Birthday wishes go out to Honorary Officers Justine Wesnak and Olga Kasnot, Honorary Director Mary Jo Holker, Directors Bob Katricak and Mike Czarney, Home Office staff members Janine Hannan and Jill Grover, former staff members Nina DiLelio and June Comfort;

also to Blaze Farrell, Joey Palko, David Jancisin, Karyn Chojnicki, Joshua Marshall, and Christina Eubank.

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

We are saddened to report the passing of long time NSS member Tony Chojnicki who passed April 30th and was laid to rest in the Cemetery of the Alleghenies with a military burial.

Tony was a very active member in Region 5 of the Society attending many bowling tournaments and being chef at picnics along with son Phillip. He will be missed.

Deepest sympathies go out to the Chojnicki family on the passing of Tony and the Hesselink family on the passing of Brother Dane. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. May your loved ones rest in peace.

Best wishes for continued speedy recover from some major health issues go out to Annette Stefka, Sue Burns, Bob Triebsch, and Bucky Wesnak. May God grant you a return to good health.

Water and Aspirin

A cardiologist determined that heart attacks can be triggered by dehydration. Good thing to know. From the Mayo Clinic, how many folks do you know who say they don't want to drink anything before going to bed because they'll have to get up during the night? Drinking one glass of water before going to bed helps to avoid strokes or heart attacks. Something else I didn't know, I asked my doctor why people need to urinate so much at night time. The answer is gravity holds water in the lower part of your body when you are upright (legs swell). When you lie down and the lower body becomes level with the kidneys, it is then that the kidneys have an easier time removing the water. I knew you need your minimum water to help flush the toxins out of your body, but this was news to me.

Drinking water at certain times maximizes its effectiveness on the body:

2 glasses of water after waking up helps activate internal organs.

1 glass of water 30 minutes before a meal helps digestion.

1 glass of water before taking a bath helps lower blood pressure.

1 glass of water before going to bed avoids stroke or heart attack.

My physician told me that water at bed time will also help night time leg cramps. Your leg muscles are seeking hydration when they cramp and wake you up with a charlie horse.

Some thoughts on aspirin from a cardiologist from the Mayo Clinic. Most heart attacks occur in the day, generally between 6 a.m. and noon. Having one during the night, when the heart should be most at rest, means that something unusual happened. Doctors have been working for a decade to show that sleep apnea is to blame. If you take an aspirin or a baby aspirin once a day, take it at night. The reason is that aspirin has a 24-hour "half-life". Therefore, if most heart attacks happen in the wee hours of the morning, the aspirin would be strongest in your system. Aspirin lasts a really long time in your medicine chest - years. When it gets old, it smells like vinegar.

Why keep aspirin by your bedside? It's about heart attacks - There are other symptoms of a heart attack, besides the pain on the left arm. One must also be aware of an intense pain on the chin, as well as nausea and lots of sweating, however, these symptoms may also occur less frequently. There may be NO pain in the chest during a heart attack. The majority of people who had a heart attack during their sleep did not wake up. However it occurs, the chest pain may wake you up from your deep sleep. If that happens, immediately dissolve two aspirins in your mouth and swallow them with a bit of water. Afterwards, Call 911. Phone a neighbor or a family member who lives very close by; say "Heart Attack", say that you have taken 2 aspirins. Take a seat on a chair or sofa near the front door, and wait their arrival and.....**DO NOT LIE DOWN!** Pass the above information to your family and friends and it may save lives!

Punography Of The Month:

The midget fortune-teller who escaped from prison, was a small medium at large.

A Page From My Notebook...

Linda M. Strom, Secretary/Treasurer
Email: lstrom@nsslife.org



Happy Father's Day

I'd like to also wish all our NSS Fathers, Grandfathers, Uncles, and all others who are "fathers" to someone special, a Wonderful and Blessed Day.

Convention Update-to-the-Minute

1. By this time you should have received the final Delegate Packet with important information that you must bring with you to the convention. We will once again have binders that will hold this information once you register. In the final Delegate Packet you will have found a pamphlet which contains the list of all delegates to the convention and also the biographies of those running for the office of Director. Please read these thoroughly to get an insight into their qualifications.

2. National Officer Convention Reports were also included in the packet. These reports provide information about the activities of the Board over the past (4) four years as well as their vision for the future.

3. All Petitions, Grievances, Complaints & Resolutions are to be in my office by June 8, 2018. The committee will meet and report their recommendations to the delegates at the Convention.

4. The Bylaw Committee will be available for questions during the convention prior to the bylaw vote. Please take advantage of this opportunity to ask the committee any questions you may have pertaining to the bylaws.

5. The NSS Convention office is located on the main floor of the Hershey Lodge down the hall from the Gift Shop and Bears Den. It will be staffed daily to assist you.

6. It is important that you **DO NOT** arrive at the lodge before 3:30 pm on Sunday June 24, 2018. Hershey Lodge experiences a large number of late checkouts which delays the preparation of the rooms for the next guest. The normal check-in time is 4:00 pm. If you arrive before the normal check-in time you will most likely have to wait in the lobby or go in to the restaurants that are available for a snack while waiting for your room. Hershey has been gracious enough to provide us a room to check your luggage while waiting for your room so you don't have to drag your luggage around with you.

7. Finally, we ask that you **DO NOT** contact Hershey Lodge with questions or requests pertaining to our convention. We have been informed that they will only speak with Dave, Pam or me. If you have any questions, please call us at the home office.

8. The final delegate count as of May 16, 2018 is: **209**

9. We are very much looking forward to another great convention at the Hershey Lodge and with the outstanding management and staff you will definitely enjoy your stay. Thank you all in advance for letting us help you enjoy Hershey and most importantly, have a successful 37th Quadrennial Convention.

A Final Pre-Convention Quote.....

I leave you with my favorite quote from Tom Peters, author of "In Search of Excellence" which describes NSS Life. It reads "Excellent firms don't believe in excellence - only in constant improvement and constant change." We strive to do our best, change when the times require us to change and do all that we can for our members, their families and our communities.

How About These Numbers.....

2018 1st Quarter Results are in...
Net Admitted Assets- \$1,154,070,230
Surplus - \$58,337,626
Total Net Income - \$2,990,477

Birthday Greetings



On April 22, 2018, M. Mark Stolarik, of Ottawa, Ontario, celebrated his 75th birthday. Marián (Mark) Stolarik was born in central Slovak town of Turiansky Svätý Marti.

As the Russian front approached in the winter of 1945, Mark's parents decided to evacuate with their family of six children into Austria along with thousands of other Slovaks, to escape the fighting and possible retribution by Communists who were persecuting supporters of the first Slovak Republic (1939-1945). In 1951 they immigrated to Canada, first settling in Hull, Quebec and later in Ottawa, where Mark grew up and graduated from the University of Ottawa with honours in history (1965) and with an M.A. in history (1967). He subsequently published his M.A. thesis on "The Role of American Slovaks in the Creation of Czecho-Slovakia, 1914-1918," in the annual Slovak Studies, 8, 1968. Mark Stolarik's professional career began as a Lecturer in History at the Cleveland State University and as an Assistant Professor at the same university. In 1976 he decided to return to Canada, to work for the National Museum of Man (later the Canadian Museum of History). During this period he visited many Slovak communities in Quebec and Ontario, collected numerous material artifacts pertaining to Slovak history and culture and deposited them into the collections of the Museum, the National Library and the National Archives. He is a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union, the National Slovak Society and the Slovak Catholic Sokol, Stolarik has been a member of the Canadian Slovak League since 1958. In 1993 he was elected National President and served for two terms. In 2007 he was elected President of Branch 63 in Ottawa, a position which he still holds. In 2016 he was re-elected National President of the Canadian Slovak League. Officials in Slovakia have recognized Mark Stolarik's achievements with various awards. In 1992 the Matica slovenská gave him its silver medal. In 1998 the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic awarded him its silver medal. The President of the Slovak Republic awarded Stolarik the Presidential Medal in 2002. Finally, in 2013 the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic inducted Mark Stolarik as a "Goodwill Envoy" of the Slovak Republic. Mark Stolarik is married to the former Anne Ivanko of Oshawa and has two sons: Andrej and Matthew.

Life Insurance Needs Worksheet

This worksheet can help you get a general sense of how much life insurance you need to protect your loved ones, assuming that you died today. Before buying any insurance products, you should consult with a qualified insurance professional for a more thorough analysis of your needs.

Years Income Needed	Factor
10	8.8
15	12.4
20	15.4
25	18.1
30	20.4
35	22.4
40	24.1

Income

- Total annual income your family would need if you died today.** What your family needs, before taxes, to maintain its current standard of living (Typically between 60%-75% of total income). \$ _____
- Annual income your family would receive from other sources.** For example, spouse's earnings or a fixed pension.¹ (Do not include income earned on your assets, as it is addressed later in the calculation). \$ _____
- Income to be replaced.**
Subtract line 2 from line 1. \$ _____
- Capital needed for income.**
Multiply line 3 by appropriate factor in Table A. Factor _____. \$ _____

Expenses

- Funeral and other final expenses.** Typically the greater of \$15,000 or 4% of your estate. \$ _____
- Mortgage and other outstanding debts.**
Include mortgage balance, credit card balance, car loans, etc. \$ _____
- Capital needed for college.**
(2007-2008 average 4-year cost: Private, \$146,210; Public, \$61,499²).

	Estimated 4-Year Cost	Appropriate Factor in Table B	NPV		
Child 1	_____	X _____	= _____	+]	→ \$ _____
Child 2	_____	X _____	= _____		
Child 3	_____	X _____	= _____		

- Total capital required.** Add items 4, 5, 6 and 7. \$ _____

Assets

- Savings and investments.** Bank accounts, money market accounts, CDs, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, annuities, etc. \$ _____
- Retirement savings.** IRAs, 401(k)s, SEP plans, SIMPLE IRA plans, Keoghs, pension and profit sharing plans.³ \$ _____
- Present amount of life insurance.** Including group insurance as well as insurance purchased on your own. \$ _____
- Total income producing assets.**
Add lines 9, 10 and 11. \$ _____
- Life insurance needed.**
Subtract line 12 from line 8. \$ _____

¹ Social Security benefits, which may be available, have not been factored into this calculation.

² *Trends in College Pricing*, 2007, The College Board. Costs reflect total charges, which include tuition, fees, room and board.

³ Distributions from most retirement savings plans are subject to ordinary income tax rates.

Note: These tables help you determine Net Present Value (NPV), the amount of capital required today to satisfy future income or college cost needs, given an assumed investment return of 6%, inflation of 3% for living costs and 5% for college costs.

Prefer to Use an Online Calculator?

Visit the nonprofit LIFE Foundation's Life Insurance Needs Calculator at www.lifehappens.org/lifecalculator

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

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



Congratulations to our Graduating Class

Every year around this time of year a new group of graduates from both high school and college reach another plateau in their lives. We congratulate you on this milestone in your life and wish you all the best in the future. Rest assured that starting the next chapter in your life will be an exciting adventure. Don't worry too much about the future as things have a way of changing when you least expect them to but in the end everything seems to work out fine. As a younger person many years ago, my parents and other well-meaning adults passed along their financial wisdom to me in an effort to help make my life better. Paying it forward please allow me to share some helpful financial hints (rules) about money and your financial future.

Rule #1 - Spend less than you earn. Save something from every payday.

Rule #2 - Continuing education always pays off in the long run.

Rule #3 - Use credit cards wisely – first think about the purchase you are about to make.

Rule #4 - Create good habits for your life (healthy eating, daily exercise, volunteering, etc.)

Rule #5 - Give it 100% every day – even if you don't want to, other people will notice.

Bonus rule: A good attitude in everything you do; will go a lot further than most other attributes.

Armed with this road map for a good journey through life there is one more thing you should take care of right now and that is to protect your financial future. This can easily be done by buying purchasing some life insurance. NSS has several very good plans available from protection only to retirement and accumulation plans. We have a great youth term plan that can provide up to \$50,000 of insurance coverage for \$50 per year. This plan is available from ages 0 to 22.

Please contact your local NSS representative or Joe Elliott in the Home Office and we will be happy to help you get started.

What Kind of Annuity is Best for Me?

NSS offers three basic fixed annuities for our members; traditional IRAs, Roth IRAs and non-qualified annuities. The simple difference between each of them is this: one is tax-deductible (IRA), one is tax-free (Roth IRA) and the other is tax-deferred (non-qualified annuity). There are a few other rules that affect each of these products but that is the quick, simple and concise overview. All three plans are useful towards accumulation money for the long term and specifically for retirement. A recent article about retirement revealed some interesting facts that are worth sharing:

- You may think that normal retirement age is 65; however, more than 40% of people take their Social Security at age 62. The actual average retirement age is listed as age 63.
- At age 62, 46% of retirees left the workforce earlier than they expected. The number one reason was health concerns and disability; followed by layoffs and corporate downsizing.
- Some key ages to keep in mind in the retirement planning process include: ages 55, 59½, 60, 62, 66-67, 70 and 70½.
- Everyone knows that your maximum Social Security benefit is reached at age 70 – yet only 3% of those eligible wait and collect benefits at that age.
- 40% of retirees have less than \$10,000 saved and two thirds of all retirees have less than \$50,000.
- Because people are living longer it is quite reasonable to expect a retiree to live another 25 or 30 years. So the question is, will they have enough money to last that long?

These statistics all point towards using annuities as a way to help save money. Our annuities feature: tax advantages, pay a competitive interest rate, provide strong guarantees, simplicity and provide for probate free passage of assets to heirs. But one of the most under-utilized features of an annuity is the ability to create a lifetime income. This one, powerful provision means that a person can turn their account into a lifetime income stream that can't be outlived. What better way to protect your future especially if you live a long life? NSS can help you decide on the right plan with options for you and your family. Please contact your local NSS representative or Joe Elliott in the Home Office for more information. Let us help you live the long life you want.

Thought for the Month

Be the change you want to be, and most importantly, change before you have too.
Jack Welch (former GE CEO; Born Nov. 1935)

Fraternal Matters...

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



Margaret Truman

"It's only when you grow up and step back from him—or leave him for your own home—it's only then that you can measure his greatness and fully appreciate it."

According to The Old Farmer's Almanac, the first known Father's Day service occurred at the Williams Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church South in Fairmont, West Virginia, on July 5, 1908, thanks to the efforts of Grace Golden Clayton. Mrs. Clayton had asked her pastor, Dr. R. Thomas Webb, if a Sunday service could be held to honor fathers. While missing her own dad, who had died in 1896, she especially wanted to have a service in remembrance of the over 200 fathers who had died in the Monongah mining explosion that had occurred a few miles south of Fairmont on December 6 of the previous year. (It was the worst mining disaster in U.S. history, killing more than 360 men and boys, and leaving about 1,000 children fatherless.) Although the Fairmont service was the first known to honor fathers, it did not turn into an annual event, nor was the idea promoted (a large July 4th celebration in Fairmont and a tragic young death from typhoid fever having taken over the news at the time).

Several other people across the nation had similar ideas throughout the years, but Mrs. Sonora Smart Dodd is credited for being the one to popularize it, starting events that led to Father's Day becoming a U.S. national holiday.

Her story began as she sat listening to a Mother's Day sermon in 1909. Mrs. Dodd thought that it might be nice to honor fathers as well. Her father, William

Smart, had raised his **SIX children alone on his farm** in Washington after his wife died giving birth to their sixth child. Mrs. Dodd proposed to the Spokane Ministerial Association and the YMCA that they celebrate a "father's day." **She chose the 5th of June because it was her father's birthday.** The idea received strong support, but the good ministers of Spokane asked that the day be changed to give them extra time to prepare sermons on the unexplored subject of fathers.

The first Father's Day in Spokane, Washington, was observed on June 19, 1910 (the third Sunday in June), and became an annual event there. Soon, other towns had their own celebrations.

In spite of widespread support, Father's Day did not become a permanent national holiday for many years. The first bill was introduced in Congress in 1913, but in spite of encouragement by President Woodrow Wilson, it did not pass. In 1966, Lyndon Johnson issued a proclamation designating the third Sunday in June to honor fathers.

Finally, in 1972, when President Richard Nixon was president, Father's Day was signed a law declaring that it be celebrated annually on the third Sunday in June. It has been an official, permanent national holiday ever since.

2018 Poetry Contest

It's time to get those creative juices flowing and put pen to paper... the deadline for the Youth Poetry Contest is August 15th !!

Congratulations

The 5 winners from May's Hershey's 2018 word search were: Martha Dougher, Assembly L075; Betty Ann Kiestler, Assembly 381; Sharon Kosko, Assembly 100; Thomas Marticek, Assembly L002; and Frank Mulich, Assembly 039.

7th 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 of organizing the tournament on behalf of FCSU. Also, a huge thanks to the entire Ondrejco family for all their hard work to make this event a success.



National Slovak Society
53rd Annual Golf Tournament
 July 13 – 15, 2018
 Hospitality Night Friday 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
 Tam O'Shanter Golf Club

Tam O'Shanter Golf Course
 2961 South Hermitage Rd
 Hermitage, PA 16148
Room accommodations provided by
 Park Inn by Radisson
 3377 New Castle Rd
 West Middlesex, PA 16159
 (724) 528-2501
 Please mention NSS to receive the discounted rate
 Room Rates: \$94 + tax per night
Deadline for Hotel Reservations is June 14, 2018

Name	Address	□.S.□.A. Index	Phone	E-mail	Assembly
1					
□					
3					
□					

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 (**Tam O'Shanter Golf Course**)
- ___ Will attend Saturday Banquet (list dinner attendees)

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

Deadline is **June 20, 2018**

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 pm
 Call the Pro Shop at 724-981-3552

Annual NSS National Golf Tournament

Men's and Women's Official Rules and Regulations

1. The tournament is open to all members and one time 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, except the following:
 - Jungle Golf, improve lie within 12" except in hazards.
 - 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/she has completed 72 holes of tournament play in the NSS National Golf Tournament unless golfer has a U.S.G.A. index from their home course. 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 unless the number of participants warrants 2 divisions. Forward tees will be used.
 - 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	5. Women's B flight
2. Men's B flight	6. Senior flight (age 65 and above)
3. Men's C flight	7. Callaway Flight
4. Women's A 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, 2018.**
12. Please make checks payable to: **NSS**
Attn: Pam Blum
351 Valley Brook Road
McMurray, PA 15317

DONATE TO THE PVR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Here are four good reasons why making a donation makes sense...

- Every penny donated goes directly into the PVR Scholarship Fund.
- Your contribution will help our young members achieve their academic goals.
- Your donation may benefit your own son, daughter, niece or nephew.
- Every year, requests for grants increase, making more demands on 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

PVR Scholarship Fund Donations

In Loving Memory of **Ralph Burke:**

From Assembly 0123: 20.00

In Loving Memory of **Martha Parise:**

From Assembly 0123: 20.00

In Loving Memory of **Franklin Rape:**

From Assembly 0123: 20.00

In Loving Memory of **Lucy Edwards,**

Mother of Assembly 75 President:

From Gary Edwards and family from Assembly L075: 50.00



**Memorial Tree
Leaf Donations**

Donations:

Executive Brokerage
Services, Inc.

500.00



OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS

April, 2018

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Adzima, Elena	Pittsburgh, PA	02/21/2018	0100
Ansell, Myrtle	Milton, WV	02/19/2018	0774
Balberchak, Loretta	Nanticoke, PA	03/17/2018	0617
Bips, Herman	Fort Myers, FL	03/20/2018	0800
Blangger, Dean	North Canton, OH	03/23/2018	0731
Booth, Margaret	Barboursville, WV	04/03/2018	0774
Canfield, Doris	Largo, FL	03/20/2018	0813
Cheo, I-Deh	Raleigh, NC	05/15/2017	0774
Christeson, Patricia	McKeesport, PA	02/04/2018	0108
Cipoletti, Estella	Wellsburg, WV	03/30/2018	0774
Cook, Marie	Pittsburgh, PA	02/23/2018	L161
Davis, Maryann	Buena Vista, PA	11/13/2017	0737
Davis, Ruth G	Zelinople, PA	04/14/2018	0123
Deasy, Margaret	Glenshaw, PA	02/17/2018	L161
Dietz, Shirley	Buckeye, AZ	12/14/2017	0774
Dumm, Mary Grace	Pittsburgh, PA	03/22/2018	0100
Fordyce, Patricia	West Alexander, PA	01/03/2018	0774
Gorka, Helen	Pittsburgh, PA	01/29/2018	0108
Groenert, Robert	Rocky Point, NY	11/19/2016	0774
Gunnell, Anna	Laingsburg, MI	01/27/2018	0381
Guran, Elmer	Akron, OH	03/20/2018	0813
Hale, Janet	Elizabeth, WV	03/21/2018	0774
Hampton, Sr., Thomas	Glen Daniel, WV	03/02/2018	0774
Hanes, William	Linwood, NC	10/17/2017	0774
Hanus, Edna	Munhall, PA	01/01/2018	0108
Hargrove, Hattie	Norlina, NC	03/09/2018	0774
Hilbert, Robert	Dover, PA	01/20/2018	L102
Holbert, James G	Eighty Four, PA	04/08/2018	0123
Holt, Betty	Finleyville, PA	03/08/2018	0434
Howard, Kimberly	Springfield, OH	03/29/2018	0595
Jackson, Edward	Troy, AL	12/27/2017	0813
Jaraczewski, Theresa	New Berlin, WI	03/22/2018	0316
Krupa, Thomas	McDonald, TN	03/09/2018	0617
Ludrofsky, Bernice	Greensburg, PA	02/12/2018	0737
Macejko, Mary	Hazleton, PA	03/25/2018	L102
Mandola, Patricia	Carmichaels, PA	04/18/2018	0039
Markosky, John	Shenandoah, PA	03/29/2018	L102
Mazer, Mary	Bay City, MI	02/10/2018	0381
McKita, Bonnie	Monongahela, PA	03/25/2018	0377
Migut, Catherine	Ellwood City, PA	03/07/2018	0123
Minotti, Samuel J	Mingo Junction, OH	11/08/2017	P38A
Mrocza, Frank P	Jermyn, PA	01/30/2018	L075
Newman, James	Battle Creek, MI	04/17/2018	0381
Olek, Mary B	Herndon, VA	03/14/2018	L161
Outerbridge, William	Port Charlotte, FL	03/16/2018	0813
Palchak, Eleanor	Vernon Hills, PA	02/07/2018	0377
Pate Arlene	Murrells Inlet, SC	03/11/2018	0774
Penn, Renee	Philadelphia, PA	12/20/2016	R059
Pennington, Peggy	Jacksonville, FL	03/17/2018	0595
Petrosky, Edward	Irwin, PA	03/01/2018	0737
Petrosky, Patricia	Palm Coast, FL	03/24/2018	0774
Phillips, Cathy	Elk Grove Village, IL	11/25/2017	0586

(Continued on page 17)

ASSEMBLY 039

Uniontown, PA

Don't forget to plan for our Summer Bar-B-Q on Sunday, **June 10th** at the picnic pavillion of the Knights of Columbus starting at 1:00 pm. We will be honoring our flag in anticipation of Flag Day. Bring along a friend or two to enjoy good food and fellowship. Free!

Region 5 and Home Office Assembly 774 is sponsoring "NSS Night at PNC Park" on Friday, **June 15th**. The Pirates play the Cincinnati Reds. Free \$10.00 food voucher. Free t-shirt night. Price is only \$22.00, discount from \$42.00. Send your check payable to the NSS and include the names of those attending. Seating is limited! Go Bucs!

Assembly NSS scholarship recipients are reminded that July 15th is the deadline to renew your PVR scholarship. Even if you missed the deadline in the past, you are still eligible to renew for this coming Fall. All rules are on the NSS website: nsslife.org and in the "National News" magazine.

Youth, the Youth Poetry Contest is coming up quickly. Parents and grandparents are encouraged to have their children and grandchildren enter. Everyone receives a prize for entering! Deadline is **August 15th**. Contest rules are in the "National News".

Please put on your calendar our Third Quarter Meeting on Sunday, **September 9th**. See you at the Bar-B-Q.

Happy Father's Day.

John Payerchin
President

ASSEMBLY R059

Whitehall, PA

Our remainder of the year's schedule is as follows:

June 3rd - Sponsor a Coffee Hour at the Assumption of the Virgin Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 1301 Newport Avenue, North Hampton. Proceeds to go to the North Hampton Food Bank. **Meeting will immediately follow at the Assumption of the Virgin Mary Church.**

July 22 - Meeting at Michael and Martha Sawarynski's residence, North Hampton, PA.

September 16 - Meeting at Michael and Francine Slivka's residence, Bethlehem, PA.

November 3rd - Hotdog/Coffee Hour Social at St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church, 980 Bridle Path Road, Bethlehem, PA. For any information, you may contact Michele at 610-262-2045.

Michele Guydan
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 070/C070

Brooklyn, OH

A picnic and meeting will be held on Saturday, **June 9, 2018** at Dr. Martin Luther Church, 4470 Ridge Road, Brooklyn, Ohio at 5:00 pm.

Call John or Mary Ann Karkosiak at 216-741-6990 if you plan to attend so that we can plan accordingly. Side dish or desserts would be appreciated.

John Karkosiak
Secretary

ASSEMBLY L075

Duryea, PA

A meeting was held on April 15, 2018 at Grande's Restaurant Birney Avenue, Moosic Pa. Delegates to the convention in Hershey, Pa in June 2018 were reminded to fill out paperwork and return to NSS by April 30.

Parade of Baskets will take place in **July, August** and **September** and we will be donating a basket and assisting at the ticket sales at the Luzerne County Fair with a date to be announced. Audit committee presented their report. About 10 of our assembly members were sponsored for the Geisinger Heart Walk around the PNC Field on April 28 in Moosic. Members would like to send get well wishes to former assembly officer Rita Wesnak, who is recuperating at home after hip surgery.

Future meeting dates are:

August 12 - Fraternal Summer picnic at Mercateli-Segilia Park Birney Avenue, Moosic, PA at 1:00 pm. Members are asked to bring something for the table and a raffle basket item. Refreshments will be provided by the assembly.

August 18 - Region 2 meeting at Perkins Restaurant in Pittston at 1:00 pm.

October 14 - Assembly meeting at Grande's Restaurant, Moosic, PA at 1 pm.

November 18 - Wilkes Barre VA Bingo Pizza party at 2:00 pm, 2nd floor recreation room.

Lehrae Ann Edwards
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 110

New York, NY

Our bi-annual fraternal weekend will be held on Friday, **June 8th** to Sunday, **June 10th**, 2018 at Woodloch Pines Resort in Hawley, PA. A luncheon meeting will be held on the premises on the afternoon of Saturday, **June 9th**.

Additional information is available from Diana Voda (973) 857-8904.

Rick DeSanctis
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 123

Coraopolis, PA

Summer is here, well not officially until June 21st, but I'm not waiting. I hope all of our members have a most enjoyable summer. Don't overdo it in the sun especially us fair skinned Slovaks.

Let me remind you of some of the summer activities offered by NSS Region 5 which our assembly is a part of. They are sponsoring an outing at a Pirate game **June 15th**. Call Pam Blum at the home office 724-731-0094 for information. Are you surprised as I am that the Pirates are doing as well as they are? July we have the NSS Golf Tournament **July 13-15** at the beautiful Tam O'Shanter Golf Course in Hermitage PA. If any of our members want to participate please give me a call the assembly will help subsidize your fee. I can be reached at 724-242-5085. On Wednesday, **July 19th** is Slovak day at Kennywood Park. It is always a fun day if you are interested in going once again give me a call the assembly is subsidizing your ticket and the Region 5 is paying for the ticket for anyone age sixteen and under. There is also an opportunity for some to do a little volunteer work. Help is needed at the Slovak kitchen that day. Just a couple of hours of your time, call Judy Landa at 412-322-5168 for details.

Here is something that may interest you, Saturday **August 4th** miniature golf on Neville Island. This event is golf suitable for all young and old, skilled and unskilled, fee paid by our assembly. All our members welcome. Call Bill DelMonaco 412-264-7268 to register. Assembly 123 is trying to get some of our neighboring assemblies to send a team of four golfers for a challenge match of miniature golf that day.

Sunday **August 19th** is the NSS Region 5 picnic at Cedar Creek Park, all are welcome.

Back to **June**, the **17th** is Father's Day. I wish all the best to all fathers in our assembly. Be sure to do something special for or with your father. Note: to my three, a phone call would be nice.

Would you believe that on June 29, 2007 the first I (eye) phone was released? Eleven years ago and now they are all over the world and changing the way we communicate with each other. What's the next great thing to be invented? Things change but NSS has not changed. It still is providing solid life insurance protection and great interest rate on annuities. You can always call Bill DelMonaco, 412-264-7268, or I at 724- 242-5085 if you or family members or friends have any interest in life insurance or annuities.

Enjoy the summer and be safe!

Bill Knoll
President

ASSEMBLY 432 Fairview Park, OH

There will be a meeting on Tuesday, **August 21, 2018** at Pytel's residence, North Olmsted, Ohio at 7:30 pm.

Shawn Pytel
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 554 Curwensville, PA

A meeting will be held on **September 2, 2018** at the home of Jim Stricek, 135 McCullough St., Dubois, PA at 2:00 pm. Please contact Jim Stricek at 814-590-7021 or at assembly554@gmail.com if you are attending this meeting. Also, mark you calendar for our next meeting which will be on **November 4, 2018**.

Jim Stricek
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 705 Seelyville, IN

Please mark your calendars for meetings and events for 2018:

June 3 - 1:00 pm at the Buck home
Seelyville, IN

June 30/July 1 - Butwin Family Reunion
Seelyville, IN (Fraternal Fund Activity)

August 12 - 1:00 pm at the Buck home
Seelyville, IN

October 21-1:00 pm at the Buck home
Seelyville, IN

December 24 - 6:00 pm Annual
Christmas Eve Celebration (Fraternal
Fund Activity)

Dorothy Buck
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 377 Bentleyville, PA

Join us for our future events:

August 12 - Meeting/Luncheon at
Richardson's Park (large pavillion), Fry
Avenue, Bentleyville, PA. at 3:00 pm.

October 28- Halloween party at 3:00
pm. Location to be announced.

December 2- Holiday party at 3:00
pm. Location to be announced.

Please try to attend.

Suzanne Skrypak
President

ASSEMBLY 381 Grosse Ile, MI

There will be a meeting of delegates attending the convention in Hershey, PA on Sunday, **June 10, 2018** at the Hungarian Rhapsody, Northline Road, Southgate, Michigan at 3:00 pm.

Please contact Joanne Medved at 734-676-2199, or email: jtm1849@gmail.com to RSVP.

Joanne Medved
Treasurer

ASSEMBLY 731 Lowellville, OH

You don't want to miss the following event so mark your calendar for:

Saturday, December 1st - 1:00-3:00 pm
Christmas Party

Stambaugh Room, Boardman Park,
375 Boardman-Poland Road
Boardman, OH

Laurie Fox
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 737 Westmoreland County, PA

A meeting will be held on **June 2, 2018** at the home of Carol Godor, 9280 Clubview Drive, North Huntingdon, PA at 1:00 pm.

We will be finalizing plans for the convention as well as setting dates for our next meetings.

Carol Godor
Treasurer

REGION 2

Our next meeting will be on **August 18, 2018** at 1:00 pm at Perkins in Pittston, PA.

Rose Mary Strish
Secretary

This Month in National Slovak Society History

Joseph Stefka, Jr. Chairman of the Board

June, 1867

Peter Vitazoslav Rovnianek was born on June 27, 1867, in the village of Dolný Hricov, Trenčín County, the son of Slovak peasants.

June, 1902

At the yearly meeting held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, from June 9-14, 1902, the National Slovak Society agreed to sponsor honorary membership certificates.

June, 1906

The Tenth Convention was held June 11-16, 1906, in New Haven, Pennsylvania, near Connellsville, Pennsylvania. The delegates re-elected Anton Ambrose as Supreme President to serve his third term of office.

June, 1970

The three winners of the National Slovak Society Scholarship for 1970 were Marie Kathleen Divish, Veronica Lacey, and Joseph Stefka, Jr. The scholarships were awarded based on an essay submitted to the National Assembly.

Wills For Heroes

On April 14, 2018, National Director Abigail Gross volunteered with the "Wills for Heroes" program and spent the day drafting wills for first responders and military veterans in Pennsylvania. "Wills for Heroes" provides police, fire, emergency medical personnel, other first responders and military veterans - those on the frontlines for our personal safety - the tools they need to prepare adequately for the future. The program is staffed by lawyer volunteers and is a great way to give back to those who serve and protect our communities. Almost every county in Pennsylvania and Ohio offers the program. More information can be found at www.willsforheroes.org



Zornicka-Morning Star donated to the NSS Heritage Museum



President, Theresa Kluchinski and Secretary, Mary Jo Savidge of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union present Susan Ondrejco, Curator of the NSS Heritage Museum with a hardbound copy of their 1973-1974 publication Zornicka - Morning Star. They are joined by: Sales Director, Greg Felton, CEO Dave Blazek, Chairman of the Board, Joe Stefka and CFO, Linda Strom. We are delighted to add the entire hardbound collection to the museum which chronicles more than thirty years of the LPSCU's achievements and activities.

Our thanks to our sister fraternal for contributing to the resources available at the museum, and our sincere congratulations as they celebrate their 120th Anniversary later this year.

L-161 Matching Fund Bake Sale a Success

On Ash Wednesday (Feb. 14) and Friday, February 16 members of Assembly L-161 provided sweets for a matching funds event in conjunction with the Fish Fries held at St. Rosalia Parish in Greenfield. Even though many people promise to "give up" sweet treats for Lent, there were plenty of others that just couldn't resist the delicious cookies and cupcakes our talented L-161 members provided. As a result we managed to raise \$ 430.00 for the school which was matched with an additional \$400.00 from the Home Office.

Thanks to: Briann Allan, Pat Dynoske, Suzy Ondrejco, Carol Lako, JoAnne Lako, Mallory Collins, and Kristen Collins who either donated baked goods or came to help at the bake sales.

Annie Ondrejco
Activity Director



News from Assembly #813

Assembly #813 recently completed its Matching Funds project for the benefit of Habitat for Humanity South Sarasota County. This is the fifteenth year for our Make Every Can Count campaign. Aluminum cans are collected for recycling, which serves two purposes. Habitat receives money from the recycling and it keeps all the aluminum cans out of landfills. Although we didn't quite reach our goal, we did raise \$413 to be used to provide decent housing for a Habitat partner. Deidre Danmeyer of Habitat worked with Mary Jo Holker of the NSS for a successful fund raising project.

On April 24th the Loveland Center Chorus put on its Spring Concert and Assembly 813's Secretary, Mary Jo Holker worked with Sean McLaughlin, Chief Operating Officer of the Loveland Center and Ken Arambasick, Assembly 813 and the Director of the Loveland Center Chorus. The Loveland Center believes in building a community of dignity and respect where opportunity is not limited by disability. Education, enjoyment and expression through the arts enhances communication, promotes self-esteem and motivation to succeed. An audience of several hundred enjoyed a wonderful concert where the music was second only to the excited, happy faces of the chorus. This Matching Funds project raised \$1600 which included a \$100 check from Assembly 813.

The Assembly will have completed the Join Hands Day project, partnering with the Letter Carriers "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive on May 12th. Another project coming up is the NSS National Project, Blessings in a Backpack. It will start in August when school begins a new year and is an ongoing project for the entire school year. Fundraising will be done throughout the summer, coordinated by Pat Knox of the Jubilee Center of St. David's Episcopal Church and Mary Jo Holker. More information will be available later.

After all this hard work, we will celebrate with a Spring Social on May 26th at the Thirsty Pig. Food, music and fun will be the order of the day.

Mary Jo Holker
Secretary

Assembly 0004

Scotch Doubles Bowling Results

On April 8th our 8th Scotch Doubles Tournament was held at Yorktown Lanes. We again had 12 couples take part. The scores again were lower. There were 2 games of 200 or above this year.

	Total w/handicap	
1st Place	Denise DiGiovine & Dale Ferrell	711
2nd Place	Marilyn Genedick & Rich Durcansky	585
3rd Place	Sonia Vorell & Violet Lunder	582
4th Place	Diane & Tom Basic	572
5th Place	Jan & Tony Lecznar	571
6th Place	Stephanie & Bob Sir Louis	570

The couples and guests enjoyed pizza, pop, 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 24th. Anyone that is interested in playing can contact Bob or Bud Sir Louis at (440) 845-2616.

Bob Sir Louis
League Secretary



Blessings In A Backpack



In support of the National Slovak Society National Project, Blessings In A Backpack, home office employees and their family members volunteered to prepare and serve a spaghetti dinner in conjunction with Family Game Night held at Bentworth High School to benefit Bentworth Blessings.

The game night and dinner raised over \$24,000.00, the most money to date and is the second year that NSS employees have volunteered for the event. Not only does the Bentworth Blessings program provide food to students for the weekend, they also provide hygiene products, lice treatments, and have the capability to provide 2 weeks of food for a family in need when under unfortunate circumstances. They also provide Thanksgiving and Christmas meals and gifts to needy families.



Assembly 800 Spring Matching Fund Project

Assembly # 800 teamed up with All Saints Byzantine Catholic Church in Fort Myers, Florida a matching funds project to benefit the Church and its repairs to the church parking lot. A raffle ticket fundraiser was conducted and the drawing was held on April 10, 2018. The fundraiser was a great success and we want to thank everyone who participated in any way to help this worthwhile project.

Gary Cepko
President

Assembly 0004

Sunday Mixed League

On April 15th, the NSS Sunday Mixed League concluded another season at Yorktown Lanes. That day the rolloff, singles tournament and banquet took place.

The rolloff was between the first and second half winners. The first half winners were the "Rolling Pins". Violet Lunder, Dan Redmond and Tim and Ed Stawicki. The second half winners were the "Spares & Strikes". Sharon and Ken Durcansky, Barb Bartczak and Frank Szell. The "Spares & Strikes" emerged victorious.

The Single Tournament was won by Gail DiGiovine for the women and Rich Durcansky for the men.

After bowling was the banquet. Thanks to Bud and Julie Sir Louis for making the banquet arrangements. In addition thanks to Mike Cottrell and his staff for a delicious meal. After dinner trophies and awards were passed out and yours truly will remain secretary for next year.

Bob Sir Louis
League Secretary



Assembly 813



Ken Arambasick, member of Assembly 813 and Director of Loveland Center Chorus, expresses his thanks for the check from Assembly 813 given to Sean McLaughlin, CEO of Loveland Center by Mary Jo Holker.

Mary Jo Holker
Secretary

Wesnaks Celebrate 60th Wedding Anniversary



Slovak activist, Justine Wesnak and her husband, Andrew (Bucky) celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 12, 2017. They were married at St. Anne's Basilica in Scranton, Pennsylvania.

The couple has lived in the Lehigh Valley of Pennsylvania since their marriage. Bucky, President of his graduating class of 1957 at Johnson College in Dickson City; was recruited to work at the Allentown Works of the Western Electric Company. During his 42 years of employment he also served in Public Relations. He chaired many company events and all of those for his department. Although the company changed names over the years, he worked at the same location until his retirement from "Lucent Technologies" in 1999.

Justine, a nurse by profession, was educated in Scranton at Mercy Hospital and Marywood College. However, she spent most of her career as an elected National Officer of the First Slovak Wreath of the Free Eagle (FSWFE). She served as its President/CEO and Editor until 1997 when FSWFE merged with NSS. She then served as Director of Membership of our National Slovak Society for the next six years until her retirement in 2003. Justine is a life member of all Slovak Fraternal Organizations. She is an active member of our Assembly L102 and holds the title of Honorary President of FSWFE.

She also served as an elected officer, Vice President, of the Slovak Catholic Federation for over 20 years, Slovak League of America, Slovak World Congress and President of the Slovak Garden in Winter Park, Florida. She continues her Slovak affiliations and also serves as Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Islander Beach Resort, New Smyrna Beach, Florida.

The couple has devoted decades in volunteer work with Lehigh Valley youngsters. Bucky coached "Little League" football at Alton Park, basketball and baseball for 20 years for the West End Youth Center. Meanwhile, Justine coached cheerleaders and organized 30 girls for 2 teams to play in the Allentown City Kickball Program for girls in 1970. The following year 120 girls signed up and she successfully recruited help for an intermural Kickball Program.

Bucky and Justine have 3 sons, Drew, married to Sharon; Mike; and Paul, married to Sue. They have 11 grandchildren; 4 great grandchildren; and 2 great, great grandchildren. Their children hosted a quiet family dinner to honor the couple in celebration of this milestone anniversary.

Justine and Bucky had hoped to host a large party for their special day. Unfortunately, Bucky is still recouping from a broken back and other injuries and complications he suffered as a result of a fall over a year ago on November 7, 2016. Bucky's family is grateful that he actually survived. Justine thanks God for answering a barrage of prayers, especially during the 6 weeks Bucky spent in critical condition in intensive care. She also credits their sons and their families for their unending, willing and exceptional help, performed with great love and enthusiasm during Bucky's trauma over the past 16 months.

With God's help Justine and Bucky will celebrate many more years of marriage in good health and happiness.

News from Assembly 586

On the last Sunday in April our group took some advice from a fellow fraternal in Chicago, the Czechoslovak Society of America. After reading Alix and Vera Wilt's raves in the CSA Fraternal Life News about a local place, Irene Tomaskovic suggested that we make it a Pan-Slavic activity so we experienced a Serbian Balkan happening.

We traveled to Brookfield, IL, one of the predominantly Czech/Slovak-populated suburbs situated on the rail line to famous Western Electric, employer of thousands of immigrants in the 20th century. Our destination there was Skadarliya, named for a historic neighborhood in Belgrade. We were greeted by very tall people who parked our cars, greeted us in their restaurant and played impossibly intricate folk music. It was so much fun just passing through the door into all the buzz going on inside. Just like being in Europe again!

On all walls in the large restaurant were huge flat screens showing European soccer games except for one, which depicted scenes from the kitchen showing bread making (they had the best EVER round loaves,) grilling meats, slicing vegetables and other mouth-watering food preparations. We all chose the Sunday buffet which consisted of many cucumber, tomato, pepper and feta cheese recipes, cevaps and spicier sausages, fillo dough pies with different fillings, lots of meats and dainty desserts. Skadarliya advertises that they can deliver a whole roast beast to your party, given a couple days notice.

The music was provided by Tamburitza Haus Band, the regulars, with two accordion players, upright bass and small sized guitar which was supposed to simulate the folk tamburitza instrument (I think.) They played some amazingly fast and complicated music and we cheered and clapped. The band thanked us for our enthusiasm as we left. But before leaving this beehive of activity we held our business meeting and determined the date of July 15, 2018 for our next gathering at The Dancing Marlin in Frankfort, IL. Or maybe we'll decide to keep the pan-Slavic thing going and find a Polish or Lithuanian or Russian place to experience!

On another subject, Joe Tomaskovic celebrated his 93rd birthday on May 3 and wish my dad all the best!

Janet Tomaskovic
Secretary

2018 Consular Tour Of Slovakia

August 13 - August 26, 2018

Slovak Honorary Consul Joe Senko has prepared a deluxe 15 day tour of Slovakia, Vienna, Poland and Hungary. This is the only tour that also includes welcome receptions by the U.S. Ambassador in Bratislava and by the Mayor of Presov. At no extra cost, Joe has included two nights in Poland and two nights in Hungary. 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, a professional guide and more. Compare this itinerary with other tour packages. For a detailed copy of the daily itinerary or more information, contact Joe Senko at jtsenko@aol.com or 412-956-6000.

37th Quadrennial Convention Fund Raising Campaign in support of Aaron's Acres

Embracing Possibilities Beyond Disabilities



“Since 1998, Aaron’s Acres has provided children and young adults with special needs something very unique – possibility. The possibility to learn, to grow, and to succeed despite any challenges. With every family we serve, our goal is always the same: to provide social and recreational programs that nurture important socialization and communication skills. All children, regardless of ability can partake in the Aaron’s Acres experience.”

Each convention NSS selects a local charity to support in the area around the site of the Convention. This year we have selected Aaron’s Acres. Please go to this link <https://aaronsacres.org> to learn more about the organization and their amazing camp. If you can find it in your heart to be a part of this effort, please send your donation to Pam Blum or Linda Strom at National Slovak Society, 351 Valley Brook Road, McMurray, PA 15317. Checks should be made payable to “NSS”. Also, please write ‘Aarons Acres’ in the Memo line at the bottom of the check.

This fundraiser will run through the Convention where we plan to present a check for the funds raised to a local representative of the charity during the Convention.

2018 Slovakia Heritage Tour

September 7-16, 2018

Experience Slovakia's culture and history up close and personal on the 2018 Slovakia Heritage small-group tour. Genealogical research and ancestral visits available. For details: visit www.slovakiaheritage.com or contact Judith Northup-Bennett, 978-544-5144 or slovakiaheritagetours@gmail.com

OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS April, 2018

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Pronesti, Vincent	Rochester, PA	04/16/2018	0123
Ritzer, Ramonita	Monroeville, PA	03/30/2018	L105
Schock, Clara	Pottsville, PA	11/17/2016	0774
Schumacher, Mary	Hermitage, PA	02/23/2018	0123
Shovlin, Edward	Ashley, PA	04/26/2018	0617
Sims, Regina	Collingdale, PA	04/11/2018	R059
Sisko, Margaret	Homer City, PA	06/19/2017	L105
Skriba, Matthew	St. Johns, MI	03/21/2018	0381
Slosky, Edward	Washington, PA	04/05/2018	0588
Sorokis, Adeline	McKees Rocks, PA	03/12/2018	L161
Svancar, Barbara	Oviedo, FL	02/22/2018	0813
Swarmer, Lois	Tarentum, PA	03/10/2018	0123
Swineford, Dorinda	Summerville, PA	03/24/2018	0554
Swinker, Margaret P	Brownsville, PA	04/01/2018	0737
Terrett, Doreen	Punta Gorda, FL	06/05/2016	0813
Tetlak, Catherine	Oley, PA	01/09/2018	L102
Vidumski, Eugene	Wilkes Barre, PA	04/26/2018	0617
Wagner, Elizabeth	Hermitage, PA	03/02/2018	0731
Ward, Mary	Verona, PA	03/11/2018	L105
Watson, Helen	Yorktown, VA	03/30/2018	0813
Wheeler, Robert	Kenova, WV	11/23/2017	0774
Wheeler, Theresa	Crescent, PA	02/10/2018	0774
Williams, Elaine	Port Orange, FL	10/27/2015	0813
Williams, Harmoni	Tallahassee, FL	02/28/2018	0813
Wiseman, Betty	South Charleston, WV	02/24/2018	0774
Wonderling, David	Summerville, PA	07/22/2017	0554
Yadush, Eugene	White Haven, PA	03/23/2018	0617
Yagrik, Pauline	Smithmill, PA	03/29/2018	0267
Zak, Patricia	Pittsburgh, PA	07/29/2017	0100

Slovak Heritage Program

The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association presents the Slovak Heritage Program on **June 4, 2018** - *History of the Pittsburgh Agreement* starting at 7:00 pm at the Mount Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Boulevard, Mt. Lebanon, PA 15228 (412-531-1912). Rich Kocur will give an in-depth presentation of the history of the Pittsburgh Agreement with some little known facts.



Jún – Slniečko vysoko na nebi

Neskorá jar a leto patria medzi najkrajšie obdobia roka. Hoci v tom čase bývalo na dedine veľa práce, mladí ľudia – mládenci a dievčatá – si predsa vedeli nájsť čas, aby mohli byť spolu. Najmä pri sviatočných príležitostiach.

95 Slovenský deň Západnej Pennsylvanie

Dávame na vedomie slovenskej verejnosti v Pgh,a okolí, že tohtoročný 95 Slovenský deň Západnej Pennsylvanie bude 19. tohto júla v známom Kennywood Parku. Vstupné lístky sú v predaji od členov prípraveného 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.



najkrajší deň a veľa radosti v kruhu svojej rodiny.

Deň Otcov

V tretiu nedeľu v júni slávime deň otcov, osoba ktorá je hlavou rodiny. Všetkým otcom ku vášmu dňu želáme čo

Konvencia

V tomto mesiaci sa zjdeme na 37. Konvenciu Národného Slovensko Spolku v meste Hershey, PA od 24. do 28. júna.

Všetkým prajeme dobrého pohodlia a hlavné skvelú konvenciu.

Povestná Medardova kvapka



Svätý Medard (sviatok má 8. júna) je patrónom vinohradníkov, roľníkov, a dobrej úrody. Ikonograficky sa znázorňuje s biskupskou berlou, s úsmevom na tvári a so srdcom v ľavej ruke. Môže nad ním letieť orol a tri holubice. Medard pochádzal z francúzskej šľachtickej rodiny v 6. storočí posobil ako biskup v meste Noyon. Legenda zdôrazňuje jeho neobyčajnú dobrotu, vzácny súcit s nešťastnými, dobročinnosť a lásku k nepriateľom. Z jeho života sa zachovala legenda, ktorá hovorila o tom, že Medard rád hospodáril a mal aj včeli. Raz mu vraj zlodej chcel ukradnúť z úľov med, ale včely ho začali prenasledovať. Keď zlodej pribehol k Medardovi a požiadal ho o pomoc a odpostúpenie, biskup urobil nad ním znamenie kríža a včely ho už nechali na pokoji. Nielenže mu odpustil, ale ukradnutý med mu aj daroval. V legende sa tiež uvádza, že ako dieťa ho skryl pred prudkým dažďom orol pod svoje rozpäté krídla a že pri jeho pohrebe vyletela z truhly holubica. V ľudovom prostredí je známa pranostika o Medardovej kvapke, ktorá má kvapkať štyridsať dní. Naši predkovia z dlhoročných sledovaní chodu počasia získali poznatok, že tak ak na Medarda prší, dažď bude dlhodobý. Platilo, že "keď prší na

Medarda, namokne každá brázda."

Svadobné zvyky a tradície

Čo by malo byť neodmysliteľnou súčasťou svadby a čo to symbolizuje? Mnohé zvyky sme si uchovali už zo starovekého Ríma, niektoré sme prebrali z Ázie.

- Zvyk prenesenia nevesty cez prah poznali už v starovekom Ríme. Predchádzalo sa tým náhodnému potknutiu, čo by znamenalo nešťastie. Kedysi sa tiež verilo, že sa tým ochránila pred zlými duchmi striehnucimi pod prahom, ktorí si mysleli, že cez prah prešla len jedna osoba.
- Rozbíjanie taniera a jeho spoločné zametanie máva dva významy. Črepy prinášajú šťastie a zároveň mladomanželia ukazujú, že v manželstve budú vedieť spolupracovať. Rozbitím porcelánu sa tiež odháňajú duchovia, ktorí sa vraj boja hluku.
- Svadobnú tortu má krájať ako prvá nevesta. Inak bude manželstvo bezdetné. Každý z hostí by z torty mal aspoň trochu ochutnať, aby nepriniesol nešťastie sebe ani páru.



• Čepčenie nevesty býval u nás jeden z najdôležitejších svadobných rituálov a zvykne sa praktikovať dodnes. Robieva sa o polnoci a ide o premenu slobodného dievčaťa na vydatú ženu. Kedysi prebiehalo až po svadobnej noci, neskôr sa pre skracovanie svadby začalo robiť počas nočnej zábavy.

• Zvyk hádzania ryže na čerstvých mladomanželov pochádza z Ázie, kde ryža predstavuje plodnosť.

Tak ako hodená svadobná kytica rozhoduje o budúcej neveste, o ďalšom ženíchovi rozhoduje ženich hodením nevestinho podväzku medzi slobodných mládencov.



Youth Circle Page

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

2018 YOUTH POETRY CONTEST Deadline: August 15, 2018

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, Youth Circle Magazine 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.

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

National Slovak Society
(USES 0371-140)
351 Valley Brook Road
McMurray, PA 15317-3337

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Pittsburgh, PA
Permit No. 1166

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