



**NSS Life**

*Family Matters...*

**May Art Contest**

**Deadline May 31st, 2018**

**See Pages 6 & 15 for Details**



**Youth Achievement Award  
& Fraternalist Of The Year**

**Nominations Due April 1st, 2018**

**See Pages 22-23**

**National Slovak Society of the United States of America**

# Národné Noviny

**Fraternal Life Insurance Since 1890 • Happy St. Patrick's Day!**  
United Slovak Fraternalists Bowling Tournament Entry Form: See Page 8

## SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Applicants Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
**PVR Scholarship Program**  
**First Year Applications**  
**See Page 6 for Details**

Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

Date of \_\_\_\_\_

**COUNTDOWN TO THE**

**NSS LIFE**

**37TH QUADRENNIAL CONVENTION**

HERSHEY LODGE, HERSHEY, PA | JUNE 24-28, 2018

**116 Days Until Convention**

**NATIONAL NEWS**

**MARCH 2018 | NUMBER 3515 VOLUME 110**





# National Slovak Society

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## NATIONAL SLOVAK SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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351 Valley Brook Road, McMurray, PA 15317-3337  
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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

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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*

### ROCWMAS HONORARY OFFICER

Olga Kasnot, *President*

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

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## Activities At A Glance

### REGION 2

March 10  
April 15  
August 12  
October 14  
November

### Assemblies L075, 0617

Assembly L075, Delegate Meeting, Edwards residence, Duryea, PA at 1:00 pm  
Assembly L075, Meeting, Grande's Restaurant, Moosic, PA at 2:00 pm  
Assembly L075, Summer picnic, Mercatelli-Segilia Park, Moosic, PA at 1:00 pm  
Assembly L075, Meeting, Grande's Restaurant, Moosic, PA at 2:00 pm  
Assembly L075, Wilkes-Barre V A Bingo Party (Time/Date to be announced)

### REGION 5

March 3  
March 5  
March 12  
March 18  
March 24  
March 25  
May 6  
June 10  
June 23  
September 10  
October 28  
December 2  
December 3

### Assemblies P38A, 0039, 0100, L105, 0108, 0123, L161, 0377, 0434, 0441, 0588, 0737, 0774

Assembly 0737, Meeting, Carol Godor's residence, North Huntingdon, PA at 1:00 pm  
Assembly 0588, Meeting, Panera Bread, Pittsburgh, PA at 6:30 pm  
Assembly 0039, Meeting, Eat'n Park Community Room at 6:00 pm  
Region 5, Meeting, Home Office, McMurray, PA at 1:00 pm  
Assembly 0123, World Vision Warehouse, Sewickley, Pa at 9:30 am  
Assembly 0377, Meeting/Bowling, Tan O'Belle Lanes, Bentleyville, PA at 3:00 pm  
Assembly 0377, Meeting, Hibachi Buffet, Belle Vernon, PA at 3:00 pm  
Assembly 0039, Summer Barbeque, Knights of Columbus Picnic Shelter at 1:00 pm  
Assembly 0039, Relay For Life Walk, Fayette Campus, Penn State at 10:00 am  
Assembly 0039, Meeting, Eat'n Park Community Room at 6:00 pm  
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

### REGION 8

March 18  
April 8  
April 18

### Assemblies 0004, 0070, 0160, 0432, 0595

Assembly 0070, Meeting, Dr. Martin Luther Church, Brooklyn, OH at 12:00  
Assembly 0004, Scotch Doubles (Time/Place to be announced)  
Region 8, Convention/Semi-Annual Meeting, Dr. Martin Luther Church, Brooklyn, OH at 6:30 pm

### REGION 14

March 24  
March 29  
April 29  
June 3

### Assemblies R059, L102

Assembly L102, Easter Egg Hunt, Wesnak's residence, Whitehall, PA at 2:00 pm  
Assembly L102, Easter Bake Sale, Marge Ferri (610-866-8945)  
Region 14, Meeting, Location to be determined - Time - 2:00 pm  
Assembly R059, Meeting, Keysock residence, Bethlehem, PA (TBA)

### REGION 15

March 7

### Assemblies L002, 0028

Assembly L002, Meeting, Marticek's residence, Stratford, CT at 7:30 pm

### AT LARGE

March 4  
March 11  
April 1  
September 2  
November 4

### Assemblies R019, L040, 0110, 0236, 0267, 0381, 0554, 0568, 0586, 0705, 0731, 0800, 0813

Assembly 0110, Meeting, Time/Place to be announced  
Assembly 0731, Meeting, Fox's residence, Lowellville, OH at 2:00 pm  
Assembly 0554, Meeting, Jim Stricek's residence, DuBois, PA (TBA)  
Assembly 0554, Meeting, Jim Stricek's residence, DuBois, PA (TBA)  
Assembly 0554, Meeting, Jim Stricek's residence, DuBois, PA (TBA)

## From The President's Desk...



David G. Blazek, FIC  
President, CEO

Greetings from the desk of the President. The weather has been a little unpredictable in the northeast part of the country this year. We have had very cold weather and then very mild weather followed by very cold weather. Hopefully March will come in like a lamb and go out like a lamb. Remember to turn your clocks forward on March 11th.

Although Easter will fall on April 1st, I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of my family, the Board of Directors and the Home Office Staff, to wish you a very Blessed Easter. The office will be closed on March 30th and April 2nd in observance of the Easter Holiday.

Looking over the activity schedule for the month of March, I see many assembly and region meetings being held in preparation for the upcoming convention in June.

## News of Narodniars

Celebrating birthdays this month are Director John Payerchin, Home Office Staff member Lori Korte, Peter Longstreth who will be 91 years young on the 11th, Carole Koches, and Kelsey Marshall. Happy Birthday to these NSS members and to all other members celebrating birthdays or anniversaries in March.

## Things You Should Notify NSS About

1. Change of address and/or phone number.
2. Change of name if you get married or divorced.
3. Beneficiary change, if one of your named beneficiaries has passed.
4. Any change in banking information, if you receive payments or make automatic payments.
5. The addition of a named POA (Power of Attorney).

## Tax Deadline Fast Approaching

It's that time of year and we are a little over one month away from the tax filing deadline which is also the deadline for making contributions to an IRA for the 2017 tax year. If you haven't made your 2017 contribution, now is the time.

Also, to maximize the power of compounding, it's a good idea to make the 2018 contribution early to help enhance your IRA's accumulation potential.

## Attention!

Please clearly designate on your check, the **tax year** on any IRA/Roth contributions you make through April 15, 2018.



## NSS Donations in 2017

Each year we like to share with our membership some of the organizations that we have helped throughout the year, both on the national as well as local level, with monetary donations through our Matching Funds projects or approved donations by our Board of Directors. These donations help us support our Mission Statement which reads: To provide our fraternal family with a sustainable measure of financial security via life and annuity products; while offering charitable cultural, social and educational opportunities that benefit our members and their communities.

The following are some of the organizations that NSS Life has supported in 2017:

Prince of Peace Parish, Cardinal Tomko Chapter of the Slovak Catholic Federation, Honey Creek Civic Club, Operation Support Our Troops, The Miracle League, Disabled American Veterans, Kiwanis, Verna Montessori Parents' Auxiliary, Habitat for Humanity, Johnstown Slavic Festival, Youngstown Sister Cities Program, Benedictine Order of Cleveland, The Duttine-Cavatio Fund, Big Brothers Big Sisters, GBU Foundation Scholarship Program, Peters Township Chamber of Commerce, Brother's Brother, Lehigh Conference of Churches, Greater Cleveland Food Bank, The Watchful Shepherd, Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, St. Michael's Cemetery, City Mission, Senior Transportation Connection, Rescue Mission of the Mahoning Valley, The Salvation Army, Catholic Charities of Cleveland, Al's Toys For Tots Bike Drive, Camelot for Children, and Venetia Heritage Society.

Thanks to all our members and assemblies that help us to fulfill our mission by holding Matching Funds Projects and making contributions to organizations in their communities.

### Punography Of The Month:

*A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blown apart.*

# A Page From My Notebook...

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

Email: [lstrom@nsslife.org](mailto:lstrom@nsslife.org)



## Convention, Convention, Convention.....

Notice I didn't say Linda, Linda, Linda!! This VERY frequently used chant was introduced at our 2014 Convention and believe me I have heard it at least 50 times since then.

## Convention Update-to-the-Minute

1. The first Convention packet was mailed to all Assemblies, Regions, Board Members and Officers the first week of January. This mailing contained the Delegate Verification Form which states the name of the member elected as a delegate along with signatures of Assembly or Region Officers. This form must be returned to my office **NO LATER than March 23, 2018**.

2. Don't Forget – Assembly and Region Delegate Election meetings must be published in the newsletter.

3. We have opened discussions regarding a youth "FunFest" to be held during the Convention. These discussions are in their infancy as we are working with Hershey in our planning. More information to come in the Delegate Registration packets which will be mailed the first week of April.

4. By-Law Committee meetings will soon take place to begin reviewing the current By-Laws to determine if changes are necessary. Periodically changes are required due to regulatory revisions from our state of domicile.

5. Board of Directors Convention Reports and Board Candidate Biographies (with photo included) must be submitted to my office **NO LATER than April 25, 2018**.

6. Moving forward, as with prior Conventions, ALL reservations (Lodge, events, transportation, excursions) will be handled through the Home Office. **Delegates ARE NOT** to call the Hershey Lodge to make any kind of reservations.

7. Plans for Fraternal Day activities are being finalized. So far it looks like there will be excursions to Gettysburg, Lancaster, HersheyPark and a day called "All Things Hershey" which may include a tour of the Butterfly Museum, a tour of the Hershey Gardens and a morning filled with tasting the best chocolate in the world!! More information to come in the next packet.

## Reminder

Just a reminder to all Assembly and Region Officers that the 2018 Annual Reports, received in your annual assembly packets, are due in to my office by **March 1, 2018**.

## Simple Formula For Living

Sometimes we need to step back and remind ourselves what is important to us; FAMILY, GOOD HEALTH, CHILDREN, FRIENDS....

- Live beneath your means.
- Return everything you borrow.
- Stop blaming other people.
- Admit it when you make a mistake
- Give clothes to charity.
- Do something nice and try not to get caught.
- Listen more; talk less.
- Every day take a 30 min. walk.
- Strive for excellence, not perfection.
- Be on time. Don't make excuses.
- Don't argue. Get organized.
- Be kind to unkind people.
- Let someone cut ahead of you in line.
- Take time to be alone.
- Cultivate good manners.
- Be humble.

- Realize and accept that life isn't fair.
- Know when to keep your mouth shut.
- Go an entire day without criticizing anyone.
- Learn from the past. Plan for the future.
- Live in the present.
- Don't sweat the small stuff.
- It's all small stuff.



## NSS Royalty Director Michael Czarney



We are proud to announce that one of our very own, **Director Michael Czarney**, from Lorain, OH has been named **PACZKI KING!** The 'crowning and presentation of the Paczki' was held Saturday February 3rd, 2018 at the Paczki Ball at DeLuca's Place in the Park in Lorain, OH. The Paczki Ball is a family-friendly ball, with a traditional Polish dinner and all of the paczki you can eat.

**Congratulations Mike!**



## Fraternal Matters...

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



## PVR Scholarships

### Attention 2018 Graduating Seniors.

NSS is accepting requests for applications for the PVR Scholarships. The scholarship is for \$2,000 payable in \$500 installments over four years. Below are the guidelines that you must meet in order to be eligible.

**The student must be a member of the National Slovak Society (NSS)** for a minimum of two (2) years prior to receiving a PVR Scholarship Grant. Membership will be verified by the Home Office.

The minimum amount of insurance required for eligibility is \$10,000.00 of **PERMANENT** life insurance or 5,000.00 of **annuity deposits**. The insurance must be in force at time of application and be maintained throughout the scholarship period.

Please contact me, Pam Blum, at 724-731-0094 or email me at pblum@nsslife.org to see if you qualify to request an application. Deadline for Applications is **May 1, 2018**.

## 2018 United Slovak Fraternal Bowling Tournament

This year's tournament will be held **April 20 & 21, 2018** at the Eastway Lanes, Erie, PA. Hotel accommodations will be provided by the Courtyard by Marriott, Erie, PA.

Please see the entry form and rules elsewhere in this publication. It is sure to be a weekend of fun and fraternalism!!

## 2018 Fraternalist of the Year

As a fraternal benefit society our mission calls us to "reach out to touch lives" in concern for those in need around us through our families, churches and communities. The purpose of this award is to recognize those members of the NSS that have gone that "extra mile" in volunteer fraternal services (i.e. meals on wheels, hospital work, visiting shut-ins, etc.). We are encouraging **all assemblies** and for the NSS membership to nominate a fellow member who is deserving of consideration for this award. The application for this is on Page 23 of this issue. Or if you prefer visit our website at [www.nsslife.org](http://www.nsslife.org) under "Forms" click on "Fraternal".

## 2018 National Golf Tournament

The 2018 National Golf Tournament will be held **July 13-15, 2018** at Tam O'Shanter Golf Club located in Hermitage, PA with accommodations at Park Inn by Radisson. Would you like to get on the mailing list for updates? Email me at pblum@nsslife.org and get your name added!

## Congratulations

The 5 winners from February's "Find Reese's" were:

*Teri Tuminello, Assembly 123*

*Marian Vaughn, Assembly 737*

*Theresa Ricci, Assembly L161*

*Karen Paich, Assembly 123*

*Carol Lako, Assembly L161*

Congratulations and Good Luck on this months Word Search.

*"What do you get when you cross poison ivy with a four-leaf clover?  
A rash of good luck." -  
Unknown*

## 2018 NSS Youth Achievement Award

In 1998 The National Assembly voted to establish a "Youth Achievement Award" that is similar to our "Fraternalist of the Year Award" for adults. The contest is open to all NSS Youth Members 18 and under. The award is directed at youth who do outstanding fraternal work in one of the following areas: School/work, community, church and their local assembly. If you know of a youth member who is deserving of consideration for this award please visit our web site at [www.nsslife.org](http://www.nsslife.org) under "Forms" click on "Fraternal" or you can also find the application on Page 22 of this issue.

## May Art Contest

The Poster Category is "**My Favorite NSS Activity is ....**". The deadline is **May 31st, 2018**.

**Fraternal Note:** The Greeting Card Category has been eliminated this year. See rules on page 15.

## 2018 Board Meeting Schedule

March 2 ----- Spring Meeting  
June 22 & 23 ----- Hershey  
August 25 ----- Teleconference  
November 10 & 11 -- Home Office

# Count Down to Convention...

This month's activity is a Hershey Chocolate Word Search. In order to give everyone a fair chance, we will pick 5 names from all correct entries received in the Home Office by March 15th. The 5 names drawn will be added to the winners from last month for a drawing to be held at the 37th Quadrennial Convention in Hershey. The winner need NOT be present to win. Note: Officers, Board Members, Employees and their immediate families are **NOT eligible**. Mail your completed word search to:

**NSS Life Word Search**  
**c/o Pam Blum**  
**351 Valley Brook Rd**  
**McMurray PA 15317**

If you wish to scan and email your entry please send to [pblum@nsslife.org](mailto:pblum@nsslife.org)



## Hershey Chocolate Candies



### Easter Surprise!

Easter eggs,  
 Yellow and blue.  
 Easter eggs  
 For me and you.

Easter eggs,  
 Candy sweet,  
 Easter eggs  
 Are good to eat.

Easter eggs  
 Pretty and funny.  
 But ....

**WHERE OH WHERE IS  
 THE EASTER BUNNY?**

### Note of Appreciation



**Roberta Jordan**

Congratulations to Roberta Jordan who walked 1000 miles last year and has visited Tel Aviv, Israel in her warm NSS Jacket. She thanks the NSS for encouraging her to walk, it made her trip with sighthseeing much easier.

**Quote: "let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream." Amos 5:24**

Air Delight	Kisses	Mounds	Skor
Almond Joy	Kit Kat	Mr Goodbar	Special Dark
Bliss	Krackel	Nutrageous	Symphony
Cookies N Creme	Milk Chocolate	Peanut Butter Cups	Whatchamacallit
Drops	Miniatures	Reeses Pieces	York

Requests - Please circle choice times		
Event	Date	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice
TEAM		2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice
DOUBLES & SINGLES		

**2018**  
 April 20 - 21, 2018  
 Entries Close  
 March 15, 2018

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 League: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_

Captain Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

# BOWLING ENTRY BLANK

Please Read Carefully

## The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual United Slovak Fraternal's

### Men's and Women's

## Tenpin Handicap Bowling Tournament

Hosted by First Catholic Slovak Union and  
 National Slovak Society  
 A/k/a the United Slovak Fraternal's

**Eastway Lanes**  
**Buffalo Road, Erie, PA**

Courtyard by Marriott (You must identify FCSU  
 bowling to receive group  
 rate - \$129 plus tax)  
 7792 Peach St  
 Erie PA 16509  
 814-860-8300

Mail Entry Fee Payable to:  
**NSS Life**

Mail to: **NSS Life**  
 c/o Rudy Ondrejco  
 234 Ilion St  
 Pittsburgh PA 15207

**Entry Fees - Members**  
 Prize Fee.....\$7.00  
 Bowling Fee (3games).....\$9.00  
 Tournament Fee.....\$3.00  
**Total Each Event.....\$19.00**

**Entry Fees - Non-Members**  
 Prize Fee.....\$14.00  
 Bowling Fee (3games).....\$9.00  
 Tournament Fee.....\$3.00  
**Total Each Event.....\$26.00**

*Optional Events*

All Events .....\$3.00  
 Senior Singles Event (60+) .....\$5.00

*Social Fees*

Member ..... FREE  
 Non-Member ..... \$30.00

Total Included.....\$\_\_\_\_\_

All Events (X)	Attend Social (X)	CORRECT TEAM LINEUP (Print or Type)	HIGHEST AVERAGE	USBC NO.	ADDRESS	CERT./POLICY NO. MUST BE FILLED IN	BRANCH/ ASSM NO.
		1.					
		2.					
		3.					
		4.					
Singles (X)	Attend Social (X)	TWO-MAN EVENT (Print or Type Full Names)	HIGHEST AVERAGE	Seniors (X)			
		1.					
		2.					
		1.					
		2.					

**Friday, April 20**  
 Registration 6:30 PM  
 Bowlers: 7:30 PM Team Events

**Saturday, April 21**  
 Bowlers: 8:30 AM 1<sup>st</sup> Doubles/Singles  
 Events 12:30 PM 2<sup>nd</sup> Doubles/Singles

ALL BOWLING AND ENTRY FEES MUST ACCOMPANY THIS FORM

FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH COMPLETE INFORMATION

INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL BE RETURNED TO TEAM CAPTAIN AND MUST BE RESUBMITTED

Substitutes **must** bowl in the position vacated by the original entrant as per USBC.



## PVR Scholarship Fund Donations

In Loving Memory of our **Nephew and Godson, Kevin J. Semelsberger:**  
 Honorary Director Ed Koches  
 and wife, Carole 100.00  
 Donations:  
 Assembly 110 250.00  
 Rudolph Pallan 200.00  
 Donald & Eleanor Lemmon 50.00



### Memorial Tree Acorn Donations January, 2018

In Honor of my wife,  
**Janet Selter Nolder** 1,000.00

## 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

## OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS January, 2018

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Amick, Sylvia	Leivasy, WV	12/08/2017	0774
Balas, Kathryn	St Clairs Shores, MI	11/23/2016	0039
Bardi, Ladislav	Chesapeake, VA	11/09/2017	0110
Baum, Richard C	Pittsburgh, PA	05/20/2017	0100
Baylor, Ruby A	Kingwood, WV	01/11/2018	0774
Bedrick, Anna	Voorhees, NJ	01/06/2018	R059
Bolton, Dorothy	Aston, PA	10/07/2017	R059
Borsa, Joseph D	Dover, PA	01/06/2018	0774
Breit, Shirley A	Alliance, OH	11/15/2017	0731
Brown, Margaret	Greensboro, NC	12/02/2017	0774
Bugusky, Stanley H	Palos Hills, IL	12/28/2017	0586
Bukovac Sr., Edward J	Dunbar, PA	12/22/2017	0039
Chippie, Martha	Newark, DE	12/13/2017	L102
Cole, Dolores	North Versailles, PA	11/22/2017	0108
Cook, Roy J	Glenshaw, PA	11/29/2017	L161
Daun, Esther	Chilton, WI	01/08/2018	0774
Desrosiers, Catherine	Stratford, CT	03/08/2017	0028
Evans, Dena	Middletown, DE	02/11/2014	0774
FilippinI, Christina	Avonmore, PA	12/14/2017	L105
Francis, Dolores	McKees Rocks, PA	01/12/2018	L161
Fry, Betty	Lower Burrell, PA	11/20/2017	L105
Gerber, Ann	Bethel Park, PA	07/25/2017	0434
Glass, Marlene	Franksville, WI	12/19/2017	0774
Gregg, Barbara	Washington, PA	12/05/2017	0588
Grundke, Paul	Newtown, PA	11/04/2017	R059
Hartos, Arthur	West Mifflin, PA	01/08/2018	0441
Hastings, Albert	Cheswick, PA	12/01/2017	L161
Hudak Jr., John	Toms River, NJ	05/12/2017	0813
Huffman, Charles	Waynesburg, PA	03/02/2015	0377
Huson, Thomas	Meadville, PA	07/06/2017	0731
Javorsky, Florence	Homestead, PA	10/03/2017	0108
Joachim, Iris M	Laguna Woods, CA	07/17/2017	0568
Konkol, Vance	Belle Vernon, PA	12/23/2017	0737
Koper, Stanley	Monessen, PA	01/02/2018	0377
Kostelnick, John	West Mifflin, PA	12/28/2017	0108
Kovac, Joseph L	North Huntingdon, PA	12/14/2017	0737
Krishak, Anna	Windber, PA	04/29/2017	0774
Lembke, Arlene	Mascoutch, IL	10/29/2017	0705
Lukac, George	Pittsburgh, PA	01/18/2018	0434
Manns, Hazel	Saint Albans, WV	01/08/2018	0774
Mastowski, Louise	Acme, PA	09/25/2017	0039
Mc Gary, Marian	Claysville, PA	11/15/2017	0588
Mc Grew, Arthur	Buena Vista, PA	12/07/2017	0441
Mc Henry, Richard D	Tarentum, PA	12/30/2017	L161
Mc Laren, Margaret	South Bend, IN	11/23/2017	0705
Mixis, Violet	Rhinelander, WI	01/04/2018	0774
Mlynek, Vladimir	Parma, OH	09/06/2017	0004
Montes, Josefina	La Mirada, CA	09/20/2017	0568
Morgan, Marliene	Las Vegas, NV	11/12/2013	0777
Morris, Robert H	Clearwater, FL	10/29/2017	0813
Mosoryak, Mary	Charlevoix, Mi	12/24/2017	0381
Neal, Arlis	Oak Hill, WV	12/05/2017	0774
Neilson, Francis	El Monte, CA	10/03/2017	0568
Niemann, Robert	Sun Prairie, WI	01/05/2018	0774
Norkiewicz, Olga	Baltimore, MD	12/27/2017	0774
Painter, Naomi R	Rillton, PA	12/12/2017	0737
Pauley, Mary	South Charleston, SC	12/17/2017	P38A
Postie, Frederick	Barnesville, PA	10/12/2017	L102
Roethlein, Anthony G	Hermanie, PA	12/26/2017	0737
Ruby, Barbara	Sod, WV	10/09/2017	P38A
Santini, Anna	North Charleroi, PA	11/04/2017	0377
Shaw, Eleanor	White Oak, PA	12/22/2017	0108
Vidonic, Albert	Pittsburgh, PA	01/19/2018	L161
Walder, Marcella	Aurora, OH	09/12/2017	160
Warren, Charles E	Sewickley, PA	11/13/2017	L105
Weaver, H Linn	Amity, PA	11/04/2017	0588
Weir, Mary	McKees Rocks, PA	12/23/2017	L161
Weitman, Lynore	Boca Raton, FL	12/12/2017	0800
Zozula, Sophie	Scottdale, PA	12/08/2017	0039

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

## Did you know....

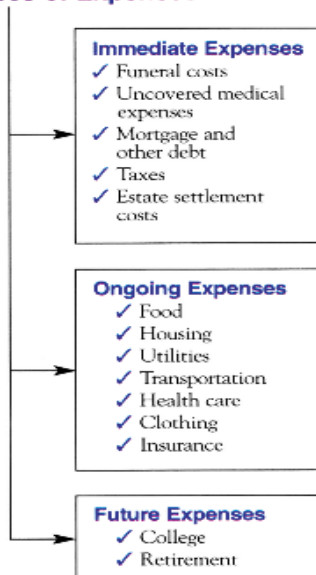
You can add money to almost any Annuity with NSS-just send us a check.

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

### How Much is Enough?

The average insured adult American has roughly \$110,000 in life insurance coverage, or about three times his or her gross annual income. When you consider all the things that life insurance proceeds need to fund and how long the money will be needed, you begin to realize that your true need for coverage is often 10, 15 or even 20 times your gross annual income.

### Life Insurance Proceeds Can Help Fund Many Types of Expenses



# OPEN AN IRA

with  **NSS Life**  
Family Matters...

✳ Tax Advantages

✳ Competitive Interest Rates

✳ You can make a Deposit for 2017 up until April 17th, 2018

## Current Interest Rates

Effective since January 1, 2013

<b>Preferred Choice</b>	<b>1.00%</b>
<b>Optimum 3</b>	<b>2.00%</b>
<b>Preferred 5</b>	<b>3.00%</b>
<b>Preferred 8</b>	<b>3.50%</b>

\*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



### A Roth IRA and You

This past January was the 20th anniversary of the Roth IRA. This wonderful and potentially tax-free program is available to most working people. There are some guidelines to make the Roth program work:

- Earned income guidelines: Up to \$199,000 for married, filing joint. (\$73,000 for singles)
- To receive tax-free proceeds the account must be at least five years old and the person must be at least age 59½.
- There are no RMDs at age 70½ like there are with traditional IRAs.
- Contributions are limited to a maximum of \$5,500 per year. If age 50 or older than the maximum would be \$6,500.
- Contributions may be withdrawn any time without incurring an IRS 10% penalty.

The goal of the Roth program is to help people build funds for retirement but there is flexibility. Contributions going into a Roth are not tax-deductible. Ultimately, the strength of this program is the tax-free interest that your account may earn.

For people under the age of 59½, the Roth has a special advantage. Account holders are allowed to withdraw their funds while not being subjected to a 10% IRS penalty. For example: a 35 year old puts \$2,000 per year into their Roth account for five years. After the five years, this person has about

\$11,000 in their account (\$10,000 principal + \$1,000 interest.) Now this person wants to use \$10,000 from their account. They could withdraw that amount, pay no taxes, leave the interest in the account and use the \$10,000 for whatever they want. This kind of versatility makes the Roth an effective way to save some money for anything including: college funding, new home, starting a business or anything else.

Another idea to consider is a Roth conversion. This involves moving traditional IRA assets to a Roth. Please consult with your tax adviser about this move since there will probably be some taxes due. Also, as of this year once you decide to convert to a Roth there is no going back or changing your mind. Converting IRAs to Roth's does a couple of things that may prove valuable in the long run. First, since the money is in a Roth you will not have to worry about any RMDs at age 70½. Also, any withdrawals will no longer be taxable. This may be important considering your tax bracket, taxes on Social Security, qualifying for some government programs (PACE), etc.

NSS can help you get started with your Roth IRA. Call your local representative or Joe Elliott in the Home Office for more information.

An advertisement for life insurance. At the top, the text "This is Love" is written in a red, cursive font. Below this, a paragraph of text reads: "Big, small, old, young, fast, slow...Our love comes in endless combinations. And we'd do anything to take care of those we love. That's why getting life insurance just makes sense. It helps protect our loved ones. In case something happened to us. That is love, too." The bottom half of the ad features a photograph of a young girl with blonde hair smiling next to a white dog with its tongue out. In the bottom left corner of the photo, there is a logo that says "LIFE HAPPENS INSURE YOUR LOVE" with a red heart icon.

## The Story Of Life Insurance

There is an old story about three horsemen riding across the desert one night. A voice from out of the heavens told them to stop, dismount, and fill your saddlebags with rocks. They did as they were instructed and then the voice told them, tomorrow you will be both sad and glad. The next morning when they awoke they looked in their saddlebags and the rocks had magically transformed into valuable gems i.e.; diamonds and rubies. And yes they were both sad and glad. Glad they had taken as much as they did and sad that they had not taken more.

This is the story of life insurance. When something happens we will be glad we have what we bought but sad that we didn't get more. Believe it or not most people are under insured. They have excuses such as: insurance is complicated, too expensive, too hard to get, they are too old or some other reason. None of these are valid reasons and in fact most people would like to get more life insurance but they need a little guidance. The three horsemen is a story but you can write your own story by making sure that you and your family are properly insured.

NSS can help you with a half dozen different plans. We have low cost plans. We have plans that build cash values or limited payment plans. You know you will never be any younger than you are today - so your insurance rate will be the best you can get. So why not call your local NSS representative or Joe Elliott in the Home Office for a free quote. We'll be glad to help you just like we have been helping other NSS members for the past 128 years.

### Thought for the Month

*We can't do everything at once, but we can do something right now.*

*Calvin Coolidge  
(1872-1933)*

*30th President of the U.S.*

## ASSEMBLY L002

### Bridgeport, CT

A meeting will be held on **March 7, 2018** at the home of Thomas Marticek, 225 Bunnyview Drive, Stratford, CT, at 7:30 pm. Election of delegates to attend our 2018 National Convention in Hershey, PA (June 24 - 28, 2018) will be held. All members are welcome to attend.

**Kristin Toman**  
Treasurer

## ASSEMBLY 039

### Uniontown, PA

Our first quarterly meeting will be on Sunday, **March 12th, 2018** at the Eat'n Park Restaurant Community Room starting at 6:00 pm. This is a very important meeting as we will be electing delegates to the 2018 NSS Quadrennial Convention. Come enjoy a *FREE* meal and great fraternal fellowship.

Please mark on your calendar **Saturday, May 12th**. We will be assisting the local *U. S. Letter carriers* in their food collections to combat hunger. We meet at the rear of the main post office in downtown Uniontown at 10:00 am.

Don't forget to plan for our *Summer Bar-B-Q* on Sunday, **June 10th** at the picnic pavilion of the Knights of Columbus starting at 1:00 pm. We will be honoring our flag in anticipation of Flag Day.

Region 5, the region our Assembly is in, will hold a meeting on Sunday, **March 18th** in the Home Office at 1:00 pm. National officers will be available to speak about the upcoming convention in Hershey. Stop by the Slovak Museum to see the beautiful wood carving.

Senior scholarships for those fifty-five years, or older are available if you wish to improve your life. Seniors are eligible, twice a year, for a \$100.00 scholarship upon successful completion of the course. Contact the home office for more information.

Please take advantage of the new "*NSS Life Anniversary Insurance Offer*". This Twenty Year Life program ends on March 31st. The maximum face amount depends on your age. The insurance rate tables are elsewhere in this magazine. Increase your coverage or those of members of your family. Maybe even share it

with a friend. We can always use new members!

We are looking for volunteers for the "*Relay For Life*" walk, for the American Cancer Society, at the Fayette Campus of Penn State on Saturday, **June 23rd**. Starts at 10:00 am and continues until 10:00 pm. More information at our March meeting.

Don't forget to turn your **clocks AHEAD** on Saturday evening, **March 11th!**

Blessings on your Lenten journey!

**John Payerchin**  
President

## ASSEMBLY 0070/C070

### Brooklyn, OH

A meeting will be held on **March 18, 2018** at Dr. Martin Luther Church, 4470 Ridge Road, Brooklyn, Ohio at 12:00. Agenda will include election of delegates to the June Convention and planning for our picnic in June.

**John Karkosiak**  
Secretary

## ASSEMBLY L075

### Duryea, PA

Any member from Assembly L075 who wishes to become a delegate to the convention in Hershey, Pa in June, 2018 should attend the special delegate election meeting on Saturday, **March 10th** at 1:00 pm at the home of President Gary Edwards, 65 Chittenden St., Duryea, PA. For more information call 570-457-8402.

Future meetings for **2018** are:

**April 15** - Grande's Restaurant Birney Ave. Moosic, PA at 1:00 pm.

**August 12** - Summer picnic at Mercateli-Segilia Park, Birney Ave. 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.

**October 14** - Meeting at Grande's Restaurant Moosic at 2:00 pm.

**November** - Date to be announced for the Wilkes Barre V A Bingo Pizza Party

**Lehrae Ann Edwards**  
Secretary

## ASSEMBLY L102

### Schnecksville, OH

The month of March is the Matching Funds for the Backpack Program. Please send donations to Assembly L102, c/o Sharon Wesnak, 1727 Elmhurst Drive, Whitehall, PA 18052.

**March 24th** - An Easter Egg Hunt will be held at the Wesnak's residence, Whitehall, PA at 2:00 pm.

**March 29th** - Matching Funds for The Cardinal Tomko Chapter Easter bake sale. Please call Marge Ferri at 610-866-8945 to place your orders.

**April 29th** - Region meeting at 2:00 pm, location to be determined. President David Blazek and Secretary, Linda Strom will be in attendance.

**Sharon Wesnak**  
Secretary

## ASSEMBLY 110

### New York, NY

A meeting will be held on Sunday, **March 4th, 2018** to vote on our convention delegates. For place and time of meeting please call either John Sokolovic, Assembly President (516-746-7644) or Richard De Sanctis, Assembly Financial Secretary (914- 631-1418). Thank you.

**Rich DeSanctis**  
Secretary

## ASSEMBLY 123

### Coraopolis, PA

Well the Steelers didn't make it to the Super Bowl but they have a chance again next year. The Penguins have a shot at the Stanley Cup but for this I'm sure the Pirates will not make the World Series this year.

March 8th is International Women's Day so I would like to salute all the women in Assembly 123 and thank them for their great contributions especially our Treasurer, Joan Smith and Activity Director, Mary Maniecki who both do a wonderful job.

But I know the day you have all been waiting for is March 11th when daylight saving time begins; maybe some for March 17th, St. Patrick's Day, all Slovaks can be Irish for a day; or maybe our more urbane members will want to celebrate March 21st, World Poetry Day. No, what



we have all been waiting for is March 20th, Spring begins. What a wonderful time of the year. Let's put winter behind us.

It is with sadness that after last month writing to honor one of our centenarians Rose Matsook of Beaver Falls I find out she has passed this past December. May she rest in Peace.

Congratulations to one of our young members, Jackson Ghaly who was a winner in the Ornament Contest. Way to go Jackson!

How about this, members Joy & Tony Bieltz are celebrating their Platinum 70th Wedding Anniversary. Our hardest of congratulations, best wishes and may you continue to be blessed in your long life's journey together!

Usually twice a year, once in March and again in October our assembly volunteers at the World Vision warehouse in Sewickley for a few hours to help with the packing of clothes to be sent to those in need overseas. It has been difficult to get volunteers so once again I'm asking any of our members who can spare a few hours on Saturday, **March 24th** from 9:30 am to 11:30 am to please join in. The work is not difficult at all and afterwards we go as a group to Eat'n Park for lunch, The cost of which is paid by the assembly. If you think you can spare a couple of hours please call Mary Maniecki 412-264-3546. She can give you more details and directions. It is important that you call her.

Since Easter comes so early this year (April 1st) let me wish each of you a blessed Easter.

**Bill Knoll**  
President

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## ASSEMBLY 377

### Bentleyville, PA

Mark your calendars for our meetings in 2018:

**March 25, 2018**- Meeting/bowling at 3:00 pm at Tan O'Belle Lanes, 1220 Main Street, Bentleyville, PA. Convention discussions will be held along with the usual assembly business. Please plan to attend this fun event and give suggestions for activities. I hope to see you there and if you have any questions, call me at 412-439-2795. New members welcome!

**May 6 2018**- Meeting/lunch at Hibachi Buffet, 160 Sara Way Belle,

Vernon, PA. at 3:00 pm. Help us plan other activities for our assembly. Hope to see you there!

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

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

**Suzanne Skrypak**  
President

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## ASSEMBLY 554

### Curwensville, PA

A meeting will be held on **April 1, 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](mailto:assembly554@gmail.com) if you are attending this meeting.

Other meetings this year will be on September 2, and November 4, 2018.

**Jim Stricek**  
Secretary

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## ASSEMBLY 0588

### Slovan, PA

A meeting will be held on Monday, **March 5, 2018**, at the Community Room of Panera Bread, 250 McHolme Drive, Pittsburgh, PA (North Fayette) at 6:30 pm. The election of delegates to the 37th Quadrennial Convention from Assembly 588 will take place at the meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting but wish to be considered for election as a delegate, please send a letter requesting your election to Recording Secretary Annette Stefka at: 5007 Old Orchard Lane, Gibsonia, PA 15044 by March 1, 2018. Please try to attend the meeting to elect our representatives to the convention which will be held in Hershey, Pennsylvania, June 24th through June 28th, 2018.

**Annette Stefka**  
Secretary

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## ASSEMBLY 731

### Lowellville, OH

A meeting will be held on Saturday, **March 11, 2018**, at Mike & Laurie Fox's home, 6656 Lowellville Rd., Lowellville, OH at 2:00 p.m. to elect officers and convention delegates.

Since the last convention in 2014, Assembly 731 has gained many new members from Assemblies 8 and P09A when they became inactive and merged with us. We encourage any members who would like to be considered to be a delegate at the 2018 NSS Convention to submit their name and address to Laurie Fox (email: [lamlfox@zoominternet.net](mailto:lamlfox@zoominternet.net) or phone: 330-536-8850 or US mail: 6656 Lowellville Rd., Lowellville, Oh 44436) prior to March 10th. Following the elections, we will plan our calendar for the year and ask everyone to come prepared with ideas and information. Some suggested activities that will be discussed and planned include: a dinner & dance, bus trip to see outdoor play "Passion of Christ", picnic, movie & game night, hayride, Christmas party, fundraiser for charity, Join Hands community activity and of course any new ideas presented. Youth members are invited to join the adults during the calendar preparation to share their ideas and suggestions for youth activities.

**Laurie Fox**  
Secretary

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## ASSEMBLY 737

### Westmoreland County, PA

A meeting will be held on **March 3, 2018** at the home of Carol Godor, 9280 Clubview Drive, North Huntingdon, PA at 1:00 pm. All assembly business will be discussed at this time including delegates to the convention. Anyone wishing to be a delegate and cannot attend the meeting, please call 724-863-9662 right away as there is a deadline for this notice.

Refreshments will be served following the meeting.

**Carol Godor**  
Treasurer

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## ASSEMBLY 774

### McMurray, PA

A meeting will be held on **March 6, 2018** at the Home Office, 351 Valley Brook Road, McMurray, PA at 9:00 am.

Election of delegates to attend the 2018 National Convention in Hershey, PA will be held. Any members interested in being a delegate should contact Secretary, Linda Strom at [Istrom@nsslife.org](mailto:Istrom@nsslife.org).

**Linda Strom**  
Secretary

## REGION 5 Pittsburgh, PA

### Delegate Election

The Spring meeting will be held on **March 18, 2018** at the Home Office, 351 McMurray, PA at 1:00 pm. The election of the Region 5 delegate to the upcoming 37th Quadrennial Convention will take place.

**Joseph Stefka, Jr**  
President

## REGION 8 Cleveland, OH

### Delegate Election

**ATTENTION:** Members of Assemblies #4, 70, 160, 432.

A semi-annual meeting and special Convention meeting hosted by Assembly #432 will be held on **April 18, 2018** at Dr. Martin Luther Church, 4470 Ridge Road, Brooklyn, Ohio at 6:30 pm.

Officers from the Home Office in Pittsburgh will be attending this meeting to discuss the upcoming Convention which will be held at Hershey Lodge in Hershey, Pa.

Assemblies must call either John Karkosiak at 1-216-741-6990 or Carole Koches at 1-440-238-8287 with the number of people attending from each assembly so we can plan accordingly! Food will be served!

**Deadline for reservations is April 9, 2018.** Hope to see everyone at this special meeting!

**Carole Koches**  
Recording Secretary

## Assembly 377



Many members attended our annual Christmas Party held in December 2017 and had a wonderful time.

## Assembly 588 Completes National Fraternal Project



**Assembly 588 Officers and Avella Area High School National Honor Society members at the recent check presentation: First row (Seated l-r): Julia West, Kenna Hixenbaugh, Sarah Dzurko, Emerson Rice, Alexandra Cilia, Julianne Latynski Second Row (Standing l-r): Lynn Akins – Avella NHS Advisor, Madison Dubich – Avella NHS Vice-President, Joseph Stefka, Jr. – Assembly 588 Financial Secretary, Paige Allen – Avella NHS President, Keith Kucherawy – Assembly 588 Vice-President, Amaya Cox – Avella NHS Secretary, John Scott – Avella NHS Treasurer.**

As part of the National Slovak Society's National Fraternal Project for Blessings in a Backpack, the members of Assembly 588 recently completed a successful matching funds project in the Avella Area School District. The Avella Area School District is a small, rural school district serving 670 students in grades K-12 located in Washington County, Pennsylvania. The Blessings in a Backpack program in the Avella Area School District is conducted by the Avella High School Chapter of the National Honor Society as part of their service to the local community. The Avella Chapter of the National Honor Society currently provides food filled backpacks each Friday to ten to fifteen students at Avella Elementary School who are at risk of not being fed over the weekend. The Blessings in a Backpack program at Avella has been conducted by the Avella High School Chapter of the National Honor Society since the 2012-2013 school year. National Honor Society Advisor Mrs. Lynn Akins commented on the importance of donations to the Blessings in a Backpack program, "Fundraising alone does not provide enough financial support. The Avella Chapter of the NHS depends on donations from businesses and organizations to continue the program each year." Mrs. Lynn Akins and the National Honor Society members were extremely grateful for the matching funds donation from Assembly 588 and the Home Office.

## News from Assembly R059

Our first meeting of 2018 was held on January 21, 2018 at the home of Alexandra and Bill Keysock in Bethlehem, PA. The agenda included election of officers:

President - Alexandra Keysock  
Treasurer - Michael Slivka  
Secretary - Michele Guydan

A donation will be made to Aaron's Acres and we will take out a half page ad in the 37th Quadrennial Convention Booklet. Delegates to the convention were elected. Our meeting schedule for the rest of year was also set. The next meeting will be held on June 3rd, 2018 at the Keysock residence.

Members would like to sincerely thank Nancy Sabol for her dedication as assembly secretary. Our Best Wishes!

**Michele Guydan**  
Secretary



# Happy St. Patrick's Day



# 2018 CONVENTION CAMPAIGN

Here is an exciting opportunity for you to help NSS while earning some extra cash. Here is our pre-convention contest for all recommenders and fraternal agents only to celebrate our 2018 Quadrennial Convention in Hershey, PA.

From **December 1, 2017** through **May 31, 2018 (6 months)** every eligible recommender or application written will earn you prize chances. NSS will award four prizes: one for the person with the most recommenders or applications. Then three random prize winners will be chosen by drawing at the convention. You earn one chance for the first recommender/app, two for the second one, three for the third, and so on. (i.e. 5 recommenders would get you 15 chances)

So the more recommenders/applications you submit the greater the number of chances you will have to earn a prize:

**1st Prize.....\$500**  
**2nd, 3rd & 4th Prize.....\$250 per person**

Only one convention campaign prize per person. To submit fill out the Recommender form on the back cover of this newsletter. Winners need not be present.

All eligible recommenders will receive \$25 (\$10 on youth term apps). This is a great time to share your NSS experiences with family and friends. Good luck to you!



## May Art Contest

The rules are as follows:

1. Contest is open to all members of the National Slovak Society between the ages of 5 and 16.
2. Only one entry is permitted **per member, per category**.
3. Contestants may create their artwork using:
  - a. Paint (pastels, watercolor, oil, tempera, and cesium)
  - b. Crayons (wax or liquid)
  - c. Ink/Pencil
  - d. Charcoal
  - e. Glue, construction paper, glitter
4. The Artistic and Posters categories may be ANY size up to 11x14 inches and must be mounted on a mat board or poster board for display purposes. (Paint by numbers, stencils or tracing will not be accepted)
5. The Greeting Card category **has been eliminated**.
6. Each year a theme will be announced in the April Issue of the National Newsletter for the Poster.
7. All entries must include; name, address, phone number, age, policy number, assembly/circle number, along with your t-shirt size. This information should be clearly printed on the back of each entry.
8. Please indicate t-shirt size by the following size chart available:
  - a. Youth sizes - YS and YM
  - b. Adult sizes - AS, AM, AL and AXL

9. Winners in each category will have their artwork displayed in the National News and will be published on the NSS website.

10. Contest shall be judged under the following levels and ages for all 3 categories:

- a. Picasso Level - Ages 5, 6 & 7
- b. Rembrandt Level - Ages 8, 9 & 10
- c. Michelangelo Level - Ages 11, 12 & 13
- d. Van Gogh Level - Ages 14, 15 & 16\*

11. Prizes awarded in each level of every category shall be as follows:

- |                 |         |
|-----------------|---------|
| a. First Place  | \$50.00 |
| b. Second Place | \$25.00 |
| c. Third Place  | \$15.00 |

12. All entrants will receive a NSS Life T-shirt.

### **BE SURE TO FOLLOW THE RULES CAREFULLY SO YOU DO NOT LOSE POINTS IN THE JUDGING PROCESS**

Deadline for entries to the Home Office is May 31st. Either mail or deliver artwork to: NSS Life, c/o Fraternal Department, 351 Valley Brook Road, McMurray PA 15317

Decisions of the judge(s) shall be final in all cases.

**\*In the event the First place winner in the Artistic Category - Van Gogh Level either enters an accredited Art School or pursues Art as a career in college, he/she will be awarded a one-time \$250.00 Art Scholarship provided that the student meets all the NSS PVR Scholarship rules and regulations.**

**\*\*The National Elder of the National Slovak Society reserves the right to keep all displays or winning entries. Artwork will only be returned by request.**

# This Month in National Slovak Society History

Joseph Stefka, Jr. Chairman of the Board

## March, 1939

The first issue of a column entitled "N.S.S. Champions Speak" appeared in the March 8, 1939 issue of the Narodne Noviny. The column was written by Joseph Stefka and John Chuchiak and was described in the National Slovak Society 100 Year History 1890-1990 as "a curious-but effective blend of sports news and Slovak nationalism."

## March, 1945

Supreme Elder Joseph Suchon resigned from his position. He was elected as Supreme Elder at the XVIII Convention held in New York, New York in 1941.

## March, 1965

Betty Sakosky of Assembly 207, Osceola Mills, Pennsylvania, was named the Queen of the National Slovak Society 75th Anniversary Year. She earned the honor by enrolling 57 new members in the NSS as part of the Diamond Anniversary Campaign.

## March, 1988

The Society reported its assets at the end of the fiscal year ending December 31, 1987, as \$15,757,904. The Society also indicated its goal was to reach \$20,000,000 in assets by its 100th Anniversary in 1990.

*NSS National Convention - June 24th - 28th*

## ANNUAL SLOVAK MASS & EASTER CUSTOMS BREAKFAST

Saturday, March 24, 2018  
St. Adalbert Church  
160 South 15th Street, South Side

**10:45 am** - Recitation of Rosary (in Slovak)

**11:00 am** - Slovak Mass

**12:15 pm** - Sample Slovak Easter Food

sunka(ham) sirek (egg cheese) hrin (beets & horseradish) Kolbasy (sausage) paska (sweet bread) kolace (baked goods)

### Prince of Peace Parish Center

81 South 13th Street, South Side

- \*Homemade Baked Goods
- \*Craft Demonstrations
- \*Cultural Displays
- \*Imported Slovak gifts
- \*Slovak "Auction"/Raffles



ADMISSION FREE  
Donations Gratefully Accepted  
For more information call  
412-481-8380



### Easter Slovak Style:

Remembering the Priceless Treasures of Easters Past and an Inspiration for Easters of the Future

\$12 (includes postage and handling)

To Purchase items shown on this page,  
Make checks payable to NSSHM  
351 Valley Brook Rd.  
McMurray, PA 15317

## Egg - in - Wrap

Choose from



Slavic Pin Art



or Old World Designs

Sleeve of 6: \$2.00  
Sleeve of 12: \$3.50

1. Use large raw, hardboiled, blown, ceramic or plastic eggs.
2. Slide egg into egg wrap.
3. Place egg on spoon.
4. Dunk into boiling water until wrapper shrinks around egg.





# Marec



Marec je mesiac kedy sa všetko prebúdz a nie len príroda a zvieratá v nej ale aj mi ľudia. Konečne si môžem ísť zabehať či zakorčuľovať a nie je mi zima. Konečne môžem byť dlhšie vonku. A najlepšie na tom všetkom pre mňa je, že sa vraciam domov po svetle. Vidíte, aj takáto maličkosť dokáže človeka potešiť. A čo viac slniečko začína viac hrať.

**Oznámenie členom NSS:** *Láskave oznamujeme našim členom NSS, že tohto roku 2018 sa zjídeme na 37 konvenciu ktorá sa prevedie v Hershey Lodge, Hershey, PA, od 24-do28 júna.*

Vyzývame všetky assembly našej organizácie aby zvolili svojich delegátov a ich prihlášky zaslali do hlavného úradu do 23 Marca.

### Pre študentov

V tomto čase roka naši mladí ktorý tohto roku ukončia High School si vyberajú vysokú školu —college a odbor čo budú študovať. Pripomínáme, že našim členom NSS ponúkame štipendium za návštevu vysokej školy a dobré známky. Viac info je na Webb. NSSLIFE.ORG.

Zas vy ktorý ste finančne v dobrom stave môžete prispieť na PVR Peter V. Rovnianek Scholarship čo pomôže mladej generácii.

### Veľkonočné raňajky v Pittsburghu, PA

V sobotu 24. marca budú v Pittsburghu, PA tradičné veľkonočné raňajky. Sponzorom podujatia je Slovak Custom Group/Cultural Diversity Committee of Prince of Peace Parish. O 11.00 hodine bude v Kostole sv. Adalberta, 160 South 15th Street slovenská svätá omša, po ktorej budú v Prince of Peace Parish Center (81 South 13th Street) slovenské veľkonočné raňajky. Vstupné je dobrovoľné. Usporadatelia pripravujú výstavu o slovenskej kultúre, živote a tradíciách na slovenskej dedine. Na predaj budú rôzne dovezené výrobky, ručné práce a domáce koláče. Prítomní sa budú môcť oboznámiť so slovenskými veľkonočnými zvykmi, dekoráciou kraslíc, prípravou veľkonočných špecialít a podobne. Zisk z podujatia bude venovaný na charitatívne účely na Slovensku. Pre Františkánske sestry v Ružomberku a Barlička Center v Prešove. Bližšie informácie: Connie Zatek, telefónne číslo: 412-657- 6364.



### Tohto roku si pripomínáme 79 výročie od vzniku Prvej Slovenskej Republiky

14 Marec je významný dňom v Slovenskom Kalendári keď pomocou Amerických Slovákov v roku 1939 vtedajší novozvolený prezident Slovenskej Republiky Dr. Jozef Tiso vyhlasil Slovensko za samostatný štát, čo trval iba počas druhej svetovej vojny do roku 1945.

### Medzinárodný deň žien 8. marec



Tento sviatok dával mužom skvelú príležitosť, ako sa odmeniť ženám za ich celoročnú „drinu“, veď ŽENA je slovo, ktoré skrýva v sebe čarokrásu, duchaplnosť i zmyselnosť. Bez našich žien by bol svet pústy ako lúka bez kvetov, ako nočná obloha bez hviezd či ako srdce bez lásky.



**2018**  
330-teho výročia narodenia ľudového hrdinu, zbojníka Juraj Janošik

Na Kvetnú nedeľu (25.3) ľudia svätili rozvité vrbové prútiky – bahniatka, ktoré sa neskôr používali na liečenie chorých, pri búrke sa dávali do ohňa, aby do domu neudrel blesk, ochraňovali dom pred pohromou a chorobami.



### Morena naša, kde si prebyvala...

Morena symbolizovala zimu, preto ak ľudia chceli, aby prišla jar, museli ju utopiť v potoku alebo upáliť. Mala podobu slamenej figurí oblečenej do ženských šiat, ktorú niesli mladé devy so spevom k potoku.





# NSS LIFE ANNIVERSARY OFFER PROGRAM



**NSS Life**

*Family Matters...*

We are pleased to introduce this new and exciting opportunity for you to purchase additional life insurance protection for you and your family.

This simplified issue NSS Life Anniversary Offer is available to all members, their families, and friends.

The maximum amount of insurance being offered will depend on your age:

ISSUE AGES	MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF INSURANCE
0-50	\$10,000
51-65	\$7,500
66-75	\$5,000

*\*See following page for complete rate listings.*

*There is a limit of one policy per person. Anyone previously declined since 1/1/16 is not eligible for this program. Also excludes terminally ill, permanently disabled, those on SSI and any mentally impaired individuals. If you purchased this plan last year you are excluded from this year's offer. Other exclusions may apply. Rates are based on age nearest birthday.*

## OFFERING QUALITY LIFE INSURANCE FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY!

FEBRUARY 1ST, 2018 TO MARCH 31ST, 2018

The NSS Life Anniversary Offer uses our twenty-pay life plan (however you may use the single premium plan as well). The advantages of a permanent plan include cash/loan values, reduced paid-up insurance options, dividends and more.

To recommend someone for this offer, please fill out the Recommender section on the back cover of this newsletter.



## Twenty Year Life Insurance Policy Rates (Rates based on Age nearest Birthday)

Twenty Pay Life (\$10,000)		
Age	Male Annual Payment	Female Annual Payment
0	68.70	58.20
1	70.30	59.50
2	72.10	61.00
3	73.80	62.50
4	75.90	64.20
5	78.00	65.80
6	80.40	67.00
7	82.90	69.60
8	85.60	71.70
9	88.30	73.70
10	91.10	75.90
11	94.20	78.40
12	97.40	80.80
13	100.50	83.20
14	103.70	85.90
15	106.70	88.50
16	109.90	91.30
17	113.00	94.10
18	116.30	97.00
19	119.70	100.10
20	123.00	103.20
21	126.50	106.70
22	130.20	110.00
23	134.20	113.60
24	138.40	117.40
25	142.90	121.30
26	147.50	125.40
27	152.40	129.60
28	157.70	134.20
29	163.30	138.70
30	169.00	143.40
31	174.90	148.60
32	181.30	153.70
33	187.80	159.20
34	194.90	164.80
35	202.00	170.70
36	208.00	175.90
37	214.30	180.80
38	221.10	186.50
39	227.90	192.00
40	234.70	197.40
41	241.90	203.10
42	249.70	209.10
43	257.20	215.10
44	265.30	221.30
45	273.50	227.40
46	281.90	233.80
47	290.90	240.70
48	300.20	247.50
49	309.10	254.50
50	317.80	261.80

Twenty Pay Life (\$7,500)		
Age	Male Annual Payment	Female Annual Payment
51	244.58	202.05
52	250.20	207.83
53	256.05	214.13
54	262.13	220.65
55	268.20	226.80
56	274.73	232.65
57	281.85	237.60
58	289.20	242.55
59	297.30	248.10
60	305.78	253.80
61	314.78	260.03
62	324.75	267.00
63	335.03	274.13
64	346.05	281.78
65	357.83	290.03

Twenty Pay Life (\$5,000)		
Age	Male Annual Payment	Female Annual Payment
66	247.05	199.25
67	256.20	205.70
68	266.40	213.15
69	277.55	221.40
70	289.25	230.25
71	302.00	240.10
72	316.10	251.25
73	330.70	263.10
74	346.70	276.45
75	363.20	290.45
76	380.65	305.70
77	399.80	322.75
78	419.95	341.15
79	441.70	361.40
80	465.40	383.75

Other modes of payment are available including: **Semi-Annual (.52) • Quarterly (.265) • Monthly (.09) (Rate x Annual Premium)**

## 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 click this link <https://aaron-sacres.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 out to “NSS”. Also, please write ‘Aarons Acres’ in the Note line at the bottom of the check.

This fund raiser 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.

*Visit our website at [www.nsslife.org](http://www.nsslife.org)*

## 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](mailto:jtsenko@aol.com) or 412-956-6000.

## 2018 Slovakia Heritage Tour

Experience Slovakia's culture and history, up close and personal on the 2018 Slovakia Heritage, **September 7-16, 2018**, small-group tour. Genealogical research and ancestral visits available.

For details: Visit [www.slovakiaheritage.com](http://www.slovakiaheritage.com) or contact Judith Northup-Bennett, 978-544-5144 or [slovakiaheritagetours@gmail.com](mailto:slovakiaheritagetours@gmail.com)

## Spotlight On Amanda Zinn Customer Service Assistant



Hi there! My name is Amanda Zinn. I have been working at NSS Life for over 2 years now. My primary role is working in the annuity department. I process new annuity applications,

transfer requests, and assist members/agents with any questions they may have. On the side, I also help our life insurance department with obtaining medical records. A major perk to my job is interacting with members via the phone. When I am able to help make someone’s day better, that is a great day for me! With this being said, another added perk for me is having the opportunity to work with my dad, Greg Felton. Even though we do not work in the same departments, it is such a joy to have him right across the hall from me. Sure, he likes to tease me about beating me to work in the mornings, but I would not have it any other way. We always start our mornings laughing!

I recently married the love of my life, Matt, on July 7, 2017. He is everything and more that I could ever want in a husband. His loving nature and ability to always make me laugh are just a few of his best qualities. I am so proud to be his wife. We have been blessed with two beautiful children, Gregory (9) and Giavonna (11). They are natural born entertainers and keep us laughing every day. They are absolutely precious and the center of our world.

## 2018 Scholarships

The United Slovak Societies at the American Slovak Club in Lorain, Ohio, announces 2018 scholarship availability to graduating high school seniors who are entering college and are five year members of the National Slovak Society, Assembly 160.

The one-time scholarship application and rules may be obtained by visiting [www.americanslovakclub.com](http://www.americanslovakclub.com). Deadline for completion is May 30, 2018.

*Happy Birthday*

*to my Dad -*

*Peter Longstreth*

*on his 91st birthday.*

*Love You Always,*

*Jill*



## Highlight on Assembly 731



Hi, I'm Laurie Fox, President of Assembly 731 since 1998. I have worked with our assembly officers and members to make our assembly busy and successful. Our goal has been to increase membership, to keep our members fraternally active, and to encourage our youth to keep active for the future generations. We invite family and friends of members to attend our events with hopes that they will realize the benefits of NSS Life that goes beyond a life insurance policy.

During planning meetings, we discuss the successes and failures of past activities so we can plan for our new events. We try to plan activities that will be interesting and fun for youth, as well as the adults, so we make sure that the youth are included in some of the planning. The majority of our activities are geared toward entertaining our youth because we know if we can keep them interested they will want to return and hopefully they will lead the way for the next generation to be the future of NSS. Over the past twenty years, I have watched our young children grow up and they now come to events with their children.

It seems that our most successful events involve outdoor activities such as fishing derby, picnics, pontoon boat rides, hayrides, scavenger hunts at the County Fair, and Easter Egg

hunts. Successful Join Hands Day activities are also held outdoors as we cleaned areas and planted flowers around public lots, parks, and churches. But since we can never rely on Northeast Ohio's weather to cooperate with outside activities, we also plan indoor activities that include Christmas parties, dances, bowling, potluck dinners, and family nights that include movies, crafts, and board games.

In addition to the NSS monthly newsletter, we have a group on Facebook for NSS Family & Friends for communicating about Assembly events and updates. We also use our Facebook page to encourage members to participate in Home Office contests and events. This would be a perfect communication tool if more members were able to follow the page. We do realize that everyone does not use Facebook, so we are looking to change our format to reach out to more members. Over the past few years, our assembly has gained new members from Assemblies 8 and P09A and we want to encourage those members to participate in the assembly activities.

No event can be successful without the interest of the members, especially the team of members who help plan, organize, set-up, and clean-up for the events. I am proud to be a part of an assembly with a great team that keeps our assembly active and happy.

# Happy Easter!



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# NSS Youth Achievement Award Nomination Form



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## ~ RULES AND REGULATIONS ~

The National Fraternal Congress of America, through their "Americas Promise" Program, has encouraged their member societies to increase their awareness of the contributions of youth to the fraternal benefit system. In response to that challenge, the National Assembly, in 1998, voted to establish a "Youth Achievement Award" that is similar to our "Fraternalist of the Year Award" for adults. The contest is open to all NSS Youth Members 18 years of age and under.

### RATIONALE:

The award is directed at youth who do outstanding fraternal work in these four (4) areas:

- a) At their school/work      b) In their community      c) In their church      d) In their local assembly

### NOMINATION:

Youth members can be nominated by any adult member of the NSS or through their local assembly. A document detailing the qualifications of the Youth Member being nominated must be attached to this form and submitted to the Home Office. A Youth Member may be nominated each year up through and including their eighteenth (18th) birthday or until they are selected to receive this award. Nomination forms are available from the Home Office or on our web site at [www.nsslife.org](http://www.nsslife.org) under "Forms".

### DEADLINE:

**Deadline for nominations** to be in the Home Office is **April 1st** of each year. The winner will be selected by a non-member judge.

### AWARD:

The winning youth will receive \$500.00 and will be announced in the "National News", the "Youth Circle Magazine" and listed on our web site at [www.nsslife.org](http://www.nsslife.org) under "Youth Achievement Award". Their name will be displayed on a plaque in the Home Office.

### JUDGING:

An independent judge, appointed by the National President, will review all nominations and make a determination of the winner. The National President, or an appointee, shall be the final authority on all matters involving this fraternal benefit.

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## ~ The following must be signed by Nominating Member ~

I wish to nominate \_\_\_\_\_  
to receive the National Slovak Society "Youth Achievement Award" for outstanding service to their school/work, community, church and local assembly. I believe that this individual should be awarded the "Youth Achievement Award" due to their service in the above categories.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NSS Member or Assembly Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Assembly #

**IMPORTANT: SUPPORTING DOCUMENT HIGHLIGHTING THE NOMINEE MUST BE ATTACHED AND SUBMITTED TO THE HOME OFFICE INCLUDING RECENT PHOTOGRAPH**

The winner of the NSS "Youth Achievement Award" will be notified by the Home Office of their selection.

**DEADLINE: April 1st of Each Year**



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# NSS Fraternalist of the Year Nomination Form



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## ~ RULES AND REGULATIONS ~

### PURPOSE:

As a fraternal benefit society our mission calls us to "reach out to touch lives" in concern for those in need around us through our families, churches and communities. The purpose of this award is to recognize those members of the National Slovak Society that have gone that "extra mile" in volunteer fraternal service (i.e. meals on wheels, hospital work, visiting shut-ins, etc.). We encourage all assemblies to seek a worthy candidate from within your assembly and for the NSS membership to nominate a fellow member who is deserving of consideration for this award.

Those worthy of nomination are NSS members who have given of their time, talents and abilities in ways that would be designated as "extra-ordinary". Through their unselfish and tireless volunteer efforts those around them have benefited significantly. These people are those that rarely say "No!" and are always willing to lend a hand. We know that they are out there and you can find them for us.

The NSS "Fraternalist of the Year" Award is a fraternal program offered by the society for the benefit of our membership and the fraternal benefit system. You as members of the NSS are encouraged to seek a deserving nominee for the highest fraternal award offered by the NSS.

### ELECTION PROCESS:

Any member of the National Slovak Society can nominate a fellow NSS member to be the "Fraternalist of the Year". Nomination forms are available from the Home Office or on our web site at [www.nsslife.org](http://www.nsslife.org) under "Forms". Nominations can be made by any adult member of the NSS or through their local Assembly. This will allow more deserving members the opportunity to be recognized for their efforts to make a difference in the lives of others.

### DEADLINE:

**Deadline for nominations** to be in the Home Office is **April 1st** of each year. The winner will be selected by a non-member judge.

### RECOGNITION:

The recipient will be announced in the "National News" and listed on our web site at [www.nsslife.org](http://www.nsslife.org) under "Fraternalist of the Year", receive a congratulatory plaque and designate a charitable organization as benefactor of a \$500.00 donation. The Winner's name will be displayed on a plaque in the Home Office.

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## ~ The following must be signed by Nominating Member ~

I wish to nominate \_\_\_\_\_  
to receive the National Slovak Society "Fraternalist of the Year" Award for touching the lives of those in need in their family, church and community. I believe that this individual should be awarded the "Fraternalist of the Year" for going that "extra mile".

\_\_\_\_\_  
NSS Member or Assembly Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Assembly #

**IMPORTANT: SUPPORTING DOCUMENT HIGHLIGHTING THE NOMINEE MUST BE ATTACHED AND SUBMITTED TO THE HOME OFFICE INCLUDING A RECENT PHOTOGRAPH.**

**The winner of the NSS "Fraternalist of the Year" will be notified by the Home Office of their selection.**

**DEADLINE: April 1st of Each Year**

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