



NSS Life
Family Matters...

BREAST CANCER

AWARENESS MONTH



National Slovak Society of the United States of America

National News

Fall Youth Circle

Fraternal Life Insurance Since 1890 • Photo Contest Deadline
Extended: October 15th, 2018



Visit our New Online Store
NSS Life Brand Apparel
See Page 16 for More Info



Region 5 Picnic
See Page 17 for Photos

NÁRODNÉ NOVINY

OCTOBER 2018 | NUMBER 3522 VOLUME 110



National Slovak Society

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

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Activities At A Glance

<p>REGION 2</p> <p>October 14 November 4 November 18</p>	<p>Assemblies L075, 0617</p> <p>Assembly L075, Meeting, Grande's Restaurant, Moosic, PA at 2:00 pm Region 2, Bon Appetit, Woodlands Inn & Resort, Wilkes-Barre, PA at 4:00 - 7:00 pm Assembly L075, Wilkes-Barre VA Bingo Party, Recreation Room at 2:00 pm</p>
<p>REGION 5</p> <p>October 6 October 14 October 21 October 28 November 3 November 10 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, Godor's residence, North Huntingdon, PA at 1:00 pm Region 5, Meeting, NSS Home Office, McMurray, PA at 1:00 pm Assembly 0123, Aviary, North Side, PA at 1:00 pm Assembly 0377, Halloween Party, Toscana Brick Oven, Canonsburg, PA at 3:00 pm Assembly 0123, World Vision Warehouse, Sewickley, PA at 9:30 am Assembly 0123, Blithe Spirits (play), Beaver High School at 7:30 pm Assembly 0377, Holiday Party, Canons Chop House, Canonsburg, PA at 3:00 pm Assembly 0039, Christmas Party, Knights of Columbus Hall, Uniontown, PA at 2:00 pm</p>
<p>REGION 8</p> <p>October 14 October 17 December 18 December 31 February 17, 2019 May 25, 2019</p>	<p>Assemblies 0004, 0070, 0160, 0432, 0595</p> <p>Assembly 0432, Cuyahoga Valley Railroad at 12:30 pm Region 8, Semi-Annual Meeting, American Slovak Home, Lorain, OH at 7:30 pm Assembly 0432, Meeting/Election, Tony K's at 7:30 pm Assembly 0432, New Year's Eve Party, Bill & Sue Shuttleworth's Assembly 0432, Tobogganing, Strongsville Chalet 6:00 - 9:00 pm Assembly 0432, Weekend Camping, Rustic Lake</p>
<p>REGION 14</p> <p>October 7 October 26 October 28 October - November 7</p>	<p>Assemblies R059, L102</p> <p>Assembly R059, Meeting, Slivka's residence, Bethlehem, PA at 3:00 pm Assembly L102, Kids Halloween Party, Drew & Sharon Wesnak's, Whitehall, PA at 6:00 Assembly R059, Hot Dog/Coffee Hour, St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church at 3:00 pm Assembly L102, Cardinal Tomco Chapter bake sale, call Marge Ferri at 610-866-8945</p>
<p>REGION 15</p>	<p>Assemblies L002, 0028</p> <p>No activities at tis time</p>
<p>AT LARGE</p> <p>October 7 October 14 October 21 November 3 November 4 November 10 December 1 December 2 December 24</p>	<p>Assemblies R019, L040, 0110, 0236, 0267, 0381, 0554, 0568, 0586, 0705, 0731, 0800, 0813</p> <p>Assembly 0586, Collect for our Troops activity, Hackney's, Palos Hills Assembly R019, Fundraiser/Ham Dinner, SS Peter & Paul Orthodox Church, Buffalo, NY Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck's residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm Assembly 0731, Fall Fun Get Together, Lowellville, OH Assembly 0554, Meeting, Jim Stricek's residence, DuBois, PA (TBA) Assembly 0381, Meeting, Mom's at 12:00 pm Assembly 0731, Christmas Party, Stambaugh Room, Boardman, OH at 1:00 pm Assembly 0586, Christmas Activity/Meeting at 2:00 pm, place TBA Assembly 0705, Annual Christmas Eve Celebration, 6:00 pm (Fraternal Fund Activity)</p>

Notice: The deadline for the Photo Contest has been extended to October 15, 2018.

From The President's Desk...



David G. Blazek, FIC
President, CEO

Greetings from the Desk of the President. Now that summer is officially over, fall is with us and all our young members are back in school. I see more meetings of our assemblies and regions scheduled over the next couple of months. This time of year is probably the most beautiful season in the Tri-State Pittsburgh area with the changing of the leaves. For those that have yards that need taken care of, you are nearing the end of grass cutting, weed pulling and shrub trimming until next spring.

This month there are numerous state fraternal alliance meetings at which we will be represented by our officers and board members. Ohio, New Jersey/New York, and Pennsylvania all conduct their annual meetings in October. These meetings are educational for our Board members and provide a learning experience through brainstorming, with the leadership of other fraternalists.

October brings with it Columbus Day and Canadian Thanksgiving Day on the 8th of the month and Halloween is on the 31st of the month.

News Of Narodniars

Celebrating Birthdays this month are Honorary Officer Dean Burns, Honorary Director Tony Beno, Irene Tomaskovic, Bob Kapp, George Batyko, JoAnna Lloyd, Cathy Fox, Carson Bernardo, Home Office staff members Joe Elliott and Rick Toth and daughter Nicole Kearney.

Happy Anniversary wishes to Barb and Tod Wilcock, Susan and Paul Payerchin, Carole and Ed Koches, and Melinda and Keith Chojnicki. Best wishes to all other members celebrating a special occasion this month.

Our prayers and thoughts go out to our Administrative Assistant Pam Blum and her entire family on the passing of her mother, Doris Dudt. May God surround you with his love and comfort as you go through this difficult time.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery go out to Mary Lou Chojnicki who recently underwent open heart surgery and also to Dan Kralik and Bernie Vukelich who is recovering from shoulder surgery.

And last but not least, congratulations to Ashley and Brett Bernardo on the birth of their daughter Caroline, who was born August 16th. Caroline is the 4th grandchild of Chairman of the Board Joe Stefka and his wife Annette.

Five Undeniable Facts Of Life

1. Don't educate your children to be rich. Educate them to be happy, so when they grow up, they will know the value of things not the price.
2. Eat your food as your medicine. Otherwise you have to eat medicines as your food.
3. The one who loves you will never leave you, because even if there are 100 reasons to give up, he or she will find one reason to hold on.
4. There is a big difference between a human being and being human. Only a few really understand it.
5. You are loved when you are born.

You will be loved when you die. In between, you have to manage! If you want to walk fast, walk alone! But if you want to walk far, walk together!

Six Best Doctors In The World

1. Sunlight
2. Rest
3. Exercise
4. Diet
5. Self Confidence
6. Friend

Punography Of The Month:

When cannibals ate a missionary, they got a taste of religion.

SCHOLARSHIP FOR SENIOR MEMBERS A Fraternal Program

PURPOSE ~

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

MEMBER ELIGIBILITY ~

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

COURSE ELIGIBILITY ~

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

PROCEDURE ~

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

INFORMATION & APPLICATION ~

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

A Page From My Notebook...

Linda M. Strom, Secretary/Treasurer

Email: lstrom@nsslife.org



Reminders

Required Minimum Distributions

In order to ensure that Required Minimum Distribution(s) are processed in a timely manner we ask that all **RMD requests be submitted to the Home Office by no later than December 1, 2018.**

Beneficiaries

It's important that your beneficiaries on file are up-to-date and reflect those of your choosing. Life events sometimes cause us to have to update our beneficiary records on file so just as a reminder, please let us know of any changes you wish to make. Log on to the web portal to view your current beneficiaries, or, if you don't have online access, we can provide you with that information by calling the Home Office.

Halloween Night

*When days grow short and nights get cold
And autumn trees turn red and gold,
Move, we may, through sun drenched days
'Midst leaves and berries and bales of hay.*

*In our hearts we feel the lure
Toward darkness, shivers, and things
not pure,*

*While ghostly shadows creep slowly by,
Spying on witches and brooms that fly.*

*Icy fingers that grab their prey
And do bad things 'til night turns to day.
Heed this plea to stay inside.
Find covers and blankets and sheets
to hide.*

*Slowly this night will fade to day
And fiends and monsters will crawl away.
Once a year, on this dank night,
We'll shake and shiver 'til morning light.*

Pretend That You Are Living in the Year 1918

"One hundred years ago."

- The average life expectancy for men was 47 years.
- Fuel for cars was sold in drug stores only.
- Only 14 percent of the homes had a bathtub.
- Only 8 percent of the homes had a telephone.
- The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.
- The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower.
- The average US wage in 1910 was 22 cents per hour.
- The average US worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year.
- A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2000 per year.
- A dentist, \$2500 per year.
- A veterinarian between \$1500 and \$4000 per year.
- A mechanical engineer about \$5000 per year.
- More than 95 percent of all births took place at home.
- Sugar cost four cents a pound.
- Eggs were fourteen cents a dozen.
- Coffee was fifteen cents a pound.

- The five leading causes of death were:
 1. Pneumonia and Influenza;
 2. Tuberculosis;
 3. Diarrhea;
 4. Heart Disease; and
 5. Stroke
- The American Flag had 45 Stars.
- The population of Las Vegas, Nevada was only 30.
- Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and iced tea hadn't been invented yet.
- There was neither a Mother's Day nor a Father's Day.
- Two out of every 10 adults couldn't read or write.
- And, only 6 percent of all Americans had graduated from high school.

And likewise, for the NSS

- There were 9,759 Youth Members
- Adult Members totaled 41,983
- The society was engaged in combating an epidemic of Spanish Fever which claimed the lives of 522 members.
- May 30, 1918 saw the completion of the "Pittsburgh Agreement (Pact)" which declared that Slovakia would have its own administration, parliament, and school system independent from Czechoslovakia.



Slovak Heritage Programs

The programs are held on the first Monday evening of each month, starting at 7:00 pm at the Mt. Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Boulevard, Mt. Lebanon, Pa 15228. 412-531-1912. It is free to both members and non-members.

October 1, 2018 - "Slovak Genealogy" - Lisa Alzo, an expert in Slovak Genealogy, will show you some time saving tips on researching your Slovak ancestors.

November 5, 2018 - "You Shall Leave Your Mother and Father" - Fr. Peter Haladej, pastor of Holy Trinity Parish in East Liverpool, Ohio will explore the complexity of transitions in religion, culture and life when moving from Slovakia to the U.S.

December 3, 2018 - "Show - N- Tell" Because of the popularity of this program in prior years, we are again asking you to bring your memorabilia from Slovakia - photos, books, souvenirs, etc. This is an opportunity for everyone to participate.

2018 2nd Quarter Financial Statement Recap

statement as of June 30, 2018

	Jun 2018	Dec 2017
Net Admitted Assets:		
Bonds	\$1,134,010,046	\$1,088,694,577
Preferred Stocks		
Common Stocks	1,523,235	1,730,363
Mortgage Loans on Real Est	6,387,282	6,125,112
Certificate Loans	914,582	818,069
Real Est Occupied by Society	691,641	702,319
Cash on Deposit	11,884,194	15,967,814
Electronic Data Equipment		
Uncollected Premiums	199,427	168,063
Investment Income Due	13,659,699	12,953,285
TOTALS	\$1,169,270,106	\$1,127,159,602

Liabilities & Unassigned Funds

Aggregate Reserve	\$1,037,848,000	\$1,001,227,000
Deposit-type Contracts	61,260,536	60,415,042
Certificate Claims	300,000	250,000
Commissions Due	75,000	265,000
Refunds Due and Unpaid	465,000	465,000
General Exp Due	2,005,500	1,964,000
Retained by Society as Trustee	238,300	84,431
Asset Valuation Resv (AVR)	7,156,000	6,678,000
Interest Maintenance Resv (IMR)	5,312,099	5,185,212
Contingency Reserve	150,000	150,000
Unassigned Funds	54,459,671	50,475,917
TOTALS	\$1,169,270,106	\$1,127,159,602

Surplus Account:

Beginning Surplus	\$50,625,917	\$43,563,074
Net Income	4,453,802	8,011,135
Change in Net Unrealized Capital Gains or (Losses)	7,952	191,914
Change in Nonadmitted Assets		(5,706)
Change in Valuation Reserve	(478,000)	(1,134,500)
Aggregate Write-ins for Gains and Losses in Surplus		
Net Change in Surplus	3,983,754	7,062,843
Surplus At Statement Date	\$54,609,671	\$50,625,917

Summary of Operations:

INCOME:

	Jun 2018	Dec 2017
Premium & Annuity Considerations	\$74,350,945	\$150,814,114
Net Investment Income	26,464,284	49,226,217
Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve	239,869	606,572
Income Sub-Total	\$101,055,098	\$200,646,903

EXPENSES:

Death Benefits	\$3,078,020	\$5,414,182
Matured Endowments	9,730	27,264
Annuity Benefits	51,877,320	89,490,907
Disability Benefits	5,571	4,074
Surrender Benefits	237,175	785,066
Interest On Deposit Type Contr Increase In Aggregate Reserve for Life Contracts	1,241	7,856
Commissions On Direct Business	36,621,000	87,344,000
General & Fraternal Expenses	1,865,999	4,180,466
Insur, Taxes, Licenses, Fees	2,505,241	4,654,343
	121,008	184,388
Expense Sub-Total	\$96,322,305	\$192,092,546

SUMMARY:

Net Gain From Operations Before Refunds To Members	\$4,732,793	\$8,554,357
Refund To Members	(230,529)	(453,909)
Net Gain From Operations After Refunds To Members	4,502,264	8,100,448
Net Realized Capital Gains	(48,462)	(89,313)
TOTAL NET INCOME	\$4,453,802	\$8,011,135

Linda M Strom
Secretary/Treasurer,CFO

A Valuable Lesson I Learned

by Topher Otake

My mother was my best friend. She was my mentor and my companion. Despite the 400 miles between my school and hometown, we remained close and spoke every day about my new experiences as a first-year college student.

“My mom didn’t have any life insurance, so the financial burden of her death fell onto the shoulders of my brothers and me.”

Then came the morning of Parent’s Weekend. I was excited to hear that my mom was arriving, but instead I received a call from a state patrol officer. My mom had a heart attack in the car and had been rushed to the university’s hospital. Later that evening I held my mother’s hand as she took her last breath.

The months that followed have been the hardest of my life. In addition to the extreme emotional, intellectual and physical turmoil that comes with the loss of a parent, I was caught in a very difficult financial situation. My mom didn’t have any life insurance, so the financial burden of her death fell onto the shoulders of my brothers and me.

I was forced to move out of my college dorm room and get a job that offers housing and a meal plan, as well as a job serving tables to pay for school expenses and bills. I work 50+ hours a week while attending school full time. Now I worry whether I’ll be able to afford school next year.

The experience has taught me a valuable lesson. While we could never prepare for the profound emotional pain of losing a parent, we could have been better prepared for the financial burden. Life insurance would have eased the transition of life without my mother by taking the financial weight off of our shoulders.

Topher Otake received a **Life Lessons Scholarship** from Life Happens, which assists students who are struggling financially to get an education due to a parent dying with little or no life insurance.



NSS Life
Family Matters...



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To start your own planning, go to www.lifehappens.org/LI

Current Interest Rates

Effective since July 1, 2018

Preferred Choice	1.00%
Optimum 3	2.00%
Preferred 5	3.25%
Preferred 8	3.75%

*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.

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.

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

Facts About Life

Interesting Life Insurance Statistics

- Top two reasons why Americans own life insurance:
 - Burial and final expenses (91%).
 - Help replace lost income of main wage earner (66%).
- 50 million households recognize they need more life insurance.
- One in five Americans with life insurance say they don't have enough coverage.
- 40% of Americans don't know their coverage needs or what to buy, Millennials in particular (60%).

Source: Facts About Life, September 2018, LIMRA.



From the Sales Department...

Greg Felton, CLU, ChFC, Sales Director

Email: gfelton@nsslife.org



Clearly these rates show an affordable plan of insurance at any age. So if something happened to you – your family would have some peace of mind in knowing that the life insurance proceeds could be used to pay bills or current expenses. The proceeds could also be used to generate about \$1,000 a month in income for the next ten years? We would be happy to work with you to make this figure fit your situation.

So what's holding you back? Call your local NSS representative or Joe Elliott in the Home Office for more information.

Aretha Franklin and Your Estate Plan

Aretha Franklin recently passed away. Her estate has been estimated around \$80 million and she died without a will or trust. She has four sons and a niece who have come forward to lay claim to her estate. Of course they will be next in line after the federal government and the state of Michigan take their share. The estate tax from the federal government is at least \$32 million. What her heirs will ultimately receive is anyone's guess since there will be delays and added costs.

Fortunately or unfortunately, most of us will not have this kind of financial problem to worry about upon our demise. However, that does not mean that proper steps should not be taken regardless the size of your estate. It is each person's duty to minimize taxes, preserve assets, and enhance the value of your loved one's inheritance. At a minimum a person should at least have a will, a durable power of attorney and a health care directive. A trust would be the next logical step in the planning process. A trust gives you privacy and control. Next, it would be a good idea to review all beneficiaries. Make sure you have everyone listed that should be listed. Sometimes well-meaning parents leave off the last child born because all of the paperwork was done prior to that one's birth. Or names are not updated to reflect marriage and divorce. What about planning for the blended family. So many people get married again and each spouse has children from a previous marriage. How will they be treated – equitably or ignored? Again this is another planning point that could and should be addressed.

Finally no discussion about estate planning would be complete without touching upon life insurance. This unique financial product allows people to buy any amount of protection for pennies on a dollar. For estate planning purposes it is always better to use a permanent plan of insurance such as whole life since it has no expiration and should be in force regardless of age. In addition to using life insurance for liquidity in your estate it can also be used for the following and much more:

- Funeral costs (average \$8,500)
- Pay taxes (estate, federal, state, local, income, and others)
- Medical expenses especially those associated with a last illness
- Current bills or loans
- Pay college expenses
- Leaving a legacy, retirement planning, business opportunities and more

In its simplest terms when you buy life insurance – you are ordering a box of money to be delivered to your family someday. Think about that thought for a minute. Then let us know how much you would like to order? Contact your local NSS representative or Joe Elliott in the home office for more information or a free quote.

Life Insurance Can Be Affordable

Sometimes on the TV or radio there are ads for life insurance. These usually involve smaller amounts of insurance for seniors or large amounts of insurance for young people. Basically there are two types of life insurance: permanent and term. Permanent plans include whole life and single premium. Term plans would be our youth term, ten, or twenty year term.

A recent survey showed that many people need more life insurance but they don't have it because they think it is too expensive. So here is a quick little chart to put that misnomer to rest. Here are the monthly rates for a \$100,000 of ten year term insurance for both male and female, non-tobacco users.

\$100,000 ten year term plan

	Male	Female
25	\$ 9.18	\$ 8.28
35	\$10.53	\$ 9.63
45	\$18.00	\$14.76
55	\$33.30	\$22.32

Thought for the Month

The past cannot be changed.
The future is still in your control.

Slovak proverb

ASSEMBLY RO19

Buffalo, NY

We are holding a fundraiser to benefit SS. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church, 44 Benzinger St., Buffalo, NY on Sunday, **October 14, 2018**. There will be a ham dinner as well as a raffle for a basket of cheer. All are welcome to attend.

Any questions can be directed to Linda Mucyn at (716) 912-6343, either by voice mail or text.

Linda Mucyn
President

ASSEMBLY 039

Uniontown, PA

Twenty members came out to our September dinner/meeting to commemorate the events of 9/11, especially remembering those that died on Flight 93 that came down in a field near Shanksville, PA. Delegates to the NSS Quadrennial Convention gave a report of their impressions of the convention. Members of the "Suffers Club" joined the meeting to prepare the mailing for our annual Christmas Party.

Adults, the deadline for the "NSS Christmas Ornament Contest", is **December 1st**. Your participation earns our assembly points in the "NSS Assembly Growth Program". In 2017, we became a "Diamond" designated assembly because of the participation of our members. We are trying to do the same in 2018.

Seniors. Any member fifty-five years, or older is eligible to enroll in the NSS Senior Scholarship Program. The purpose of the program is to encourage seniors to enroll in continuing education classes at vocational schools, community colleges or universities. The NSS will reimburse the one-half the tuition costs up to \$100.00. Contact Pam Blum at 724-731-0094, ext. 1010 for more information or an application.

Mark your calendars! Our Annual Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, **December 2nd** at 2:00 pm in the social hall of the Knights of Columbus facility in Uniontown. We will be giving away a 40" HDTV along with a "Chinese Auction" to raise funds for the PVR Scholarship Program. Dinner is **FREE** for all members and their guests.

Watch out for those little ones "trick n' treating" for Halloween.

John Payerchin
President

ASSEMBLY RO59

Bethlehem, PA

Summer is now well underway! Members continue to be involved in church projects/functions, and visiting family and friends!

The remainder of our schedule is:
October 7 - Meeting at Michael and Francine Slivka's residence, 1741 Greenleaf Street, Bethlehem, PA. at 3:00 pm.

October 28 - Hotdog/Coffee Hour Social at St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church, 980 Bridle Path Road, Bethlehem, PA. following Divine Liturgy (approximately at 11:15). Proceeds will go to the Allentown Rescue Mission.

Michele Guydan
Secretary

ASSEMBLY L075

Duryea, PA

Mark your calendars for our future meetings:

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 123

Coraopolis, PA

Well last month I was so wrong in hoping the rainy summer was over. It just continued and continued. What do they say as winter approaches "thank goodness it wasn't snow". If any of our members have suffered flooding problems let me know, the assembly may be able to offer a little relief.

I want to congratulate the PVR scholarship recipients from our assembly; Joseph Bastaroli, Noah Brosovic, Madalynn Eger, Andrew Jeffrey, Mariah Jeffrey, Michael Kanavy, Richard Novak, Theresa Novak, Ashley Robbins, and Dakota Volzer. We wish you all the best and much success. It was heartening to receive thank you cards from several of

you. I'm sure the others will also send them once they get a gentle reminder from their mothers.

It is hoped that many of you will come to the assembly outing at the Pittsburgh National Aviary Sunday **October 21st** at 1:00 pm. The general admission ticket will be paid for by the assembly. The Aviary is located at 700 Arch St. on Pittsburgh's North Side. There are two hundred species and six hundred animals to be seen. Besides exotic birds, some of which will talk to you, there are penguins, butterflies, and a sloth. This is a most interesting and unique place and it is right here in your back yard. It would be nice to see you there and bring a friend, a camera and hats are a must. If you plan on attending please call Mary Maniecki at 412-2264-3546.

Once again we are scheduling a volunteer service project at the World Vision Warehouse in Sewickley. It will be Saturday, **November 3rd** at 9:30 am. This will be two hours of very easy sorting of clothes. Afterwards we will have lunch at Eat'n Park compliments of the assembly. It would be so nice of you who enjoy taking part in our activities to join us for a little volunteer work. This work at the World Vision is ideal for students who need to get hours of community service.

Also in November the assembly will be going to see the play Blithe Spirits, a comedy by Noel Coward at Beaver High School performed by the Bobcat Players. This will be Saturday, **November 10th**. The play starts at 7:30 pm. Maybe you can do two Saturdays in a row, **November 3rd** at World Vision and **November 10th** with a play. Give Mary Maniecki a call to let her know you are attending.

October 8th is Columbus Day so salute to our Italian members. It is also Thanksgiving Day in Canada.

October 9th is Leif Erikson Day so we salute all our Scandinavian members.

October 31st is naturally Halloween and by the way I see so many places decorated you would think it is a national holiday. Enjoy it if you are a kid or just young at heart.

Birthday and Anniversary wishes to all members celebrating this month, may you be blessed. Go Pens!

Bill Knoll
President



Halloween



Autumn
Bat
Black Cat
Blood
Brew
Broom
Candy
Carnival
Cemetery
Costume
Fun
Ghost

Ghoul
Goblin
Goodies
Graves
Hag
Haunted House
Hay
Jack O Lantern
Mask
Monster
Party

Pirate
Pranks
Pumpkin
Scarecrow
Scary
Skeleton
Spooks
Tombstones
Trick Or Treat
Vampire
witch

Did you know in Slovakia Halloween isn't celebrated at all. On November 1st they celebrate All Saint's Day, like in Poland.

Halloween Jokes

Q: What did the witch do when her broomstick broke?

A: She witch-hiked!

Q: How did the yellow wizards go in the Quidditch competition?

A: They swept the other teams away!

Q: What has six legs and sits on a broomstick?

A: A witch with her cat!

Q: Why did the wizard fly the broomstick over the mountain?

A: Because he couldn't go under it!

Q: Why did the kids give all their candy to the witch?

A: She had a big broom stick!

Q: What does a red neck do when they see a witch flying on a broomstick?

A: They shout "fire!"

Q: What do witches ring for in a hotel?

A: B-room service!

Q: How do you picture yourself flying on a broom stick?

A: By witchful thinking!

Q: How does a witch ask a wizard to take a ride on her broomstick?

A: Voodoo like to ride with me?

Q: Why don't witches buy broomsticks from Australia?

A: They always broomerang back there the first chance they get!

Q: What do you call a witch that flies in a jet?

A: A broomless witch!

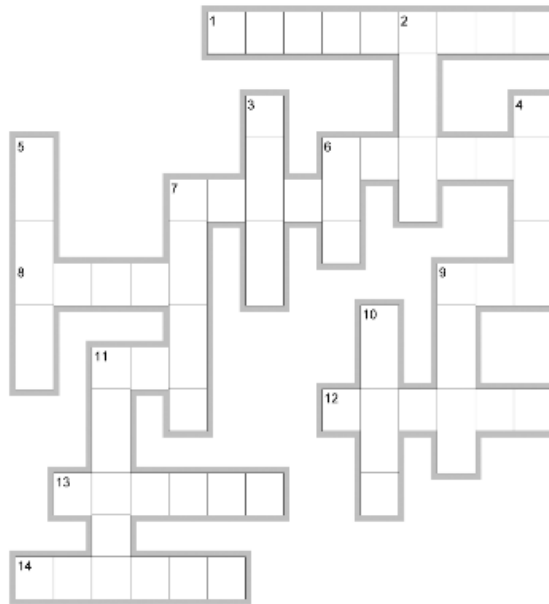
Starts With the Letter A

How many words do you know that start with the letter A? You probably know a lot! Be sure to **ask** someone if you need help reading the clues or spelling the **answers**.



Across

- 1. A large reptile with strong jaws and sharp teeth
- 6. The opposite of *awake*
- 7. It grows into an oak tree
- 8. A grown-up
- 9. A large animal related to monkeys
- 11. The part of the body between your shoulder and your hand
- 12. A person who is skilled at painting or drawing
- 13. Person who writes a book or story
- 14. A bony growth on the head of a deer (See picture.)



Down

- 2. The place where your foot joins your leg
- 3. Opposite of *below*
- 4. A firm, round fruit that is good to eat. It can be red, green or yellow.
- 5. Opposite of *never*
- 6. A small insect that lives in colonies
- 7. The season between summer and winter
- 9. The space in a house just under the roof
- 10. A line with a point on one end that shows a direction
- 11. The eighth month of the year

Brain Teasers

Q: I'm tall when I'm young and I'm short when I'm old. What am I?
A: A candle.

Q: In a one-story pink house, there was a pink person, a pink cat, a pink fish, a pink computer, a pink chair, a pink table, a pink telephone, a pink shower – everything was pink! What color were the stairs?
A: There weren't any stairs, it was a one-story house.

Q: Which weighs more, a pound of feathers or a pound of bricks?
A: Neither. They both weigh one pound.

Q: How many months have 28 days?
A: All 12 months.

Q: What starts with the letter "T," is filled with "T," and ends in "T?"
A: A teapot

Q: A girl is sitting in a house at night that has no lights on at all. There is no lamp, no candle, nothing. Yet she is reading. How?
A: The woman is blind, and she is reading Braille.

Q: How can you throw a ball as hard as you can, to only have it come back to you, even if it doesn't bounce off anything?
A: Throw the ball straight up in the air.

Q: My name is Ruger. I live on a farm. There are four other dogs on the farm with me. Their names are Snowy, Flash, Speedy, and Brownie. What do you think the fifth dog's name is?
A: Ruger.

Q: Imagine you're in a room that is filling with water. There are no windows or doors. How do you get out?
A: Stop imagining.

Q: Using only addition, how do you add eight 8's and get the number 1,000?
A: $888 + 88 + 8 + 8 + 8 = 1000$.

Q: I am an odd number. Take away one letter and I become even. What number am I?
A: Seven (take away the "s" and it becomes "even").

New Slovak Phrases To Learn

Happy Thanksgiving	Šťastné Vďakyvzdanie
Do you have enough money?	Máte dosť peňazí?
Long time no see	Dlho sme sa nevideli
Do you want to go for a drink sometime?	Chcete niekedy nejaký drink
Hi	Ahoj
What day are they coming over?	V aký deň prichádzajú?
Are you comfortable?	Ste pohodlný?
What are you going to do this weekend?	Čo budeš robiť tento víkend?
You have a very nice car	Máte veľmi pekné auto
Nice meeting you	Tešilo ma
I'll teach you	naučím ťa
Enjoy your meal	Dobrú chuť
Here's my number	Tu je moje číslo
Your daughter is so sweet	Vaša dcéra je taká milá
Your to kind	Si veľmi láskavá
Are you on Facebook?	Si na Facebooku?
We are having a family reunion	Stretávame sa s rodinou
See you tonight	Uvidíme sa večer
What's the address?	Aká je adresa?

Milk Jug Halloween Decorations

Supplies you will need:

- 4 litre milk jugs
- black felt pen marker
- scissors
- orange food colouring (to make pumpkins)
- tea lights or string lights (to make lighted ghost heads)
- white cloth or crepe paper (to make full body ghosts)

First make sure all your milk jugs are clean and the labels have been removed. I run my milk jugs through the dishwasher with my supper dishes and the labels come right off.

One of the easiest decorations to make is pumpkins. All you need to do is draw your pumpkin faces on the outside of your milk jug with black felt pen markers, fill up the milk jug with water, add orange food colouring, put the lid back on, shake and Voila! - you're done.

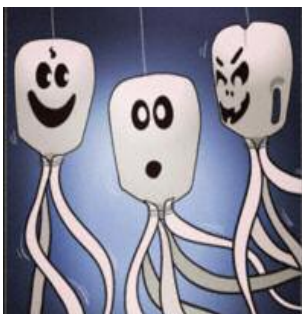
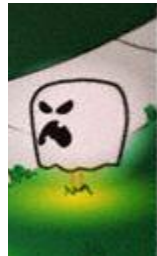


Milk jugs also make great ghost heads. You can draw your ghost face on the front of the milk jug, either with the milk jug up or inverted, depending on what you're going to do with it, and then light it up in a number of different ways.

If you have solar lights lining your walk, all you need to do is cut the top off the milk jug

(large enough to fit over your lights) and invert it over each solar light. You'll have to remove them from the lights during the day so that they can recharge, but they will make an eerie glowing walkway of ghost heads at night.

Another way to illuminate your ghost heads is to cut a small hole at the bottom of the jug under the handle and place a battery operated tealight on the floor of the jug. Real candles are not recommended for safety. If you have a string of clear Christmas lights, you can also push them inside your milk jug. This works good if you have a long string of lights and a couple of ghost heads that you are grouping together, say on the stairs.



You can also make a more elaborate ghost by inverting the the milk jug, and bunch up some white material or white crepe paper around the neck of the milk jug to make a body. Hang by the handle in a tree or on a hook in your porch. If you use white crepe paper streamers tied around the neck and hanging down, they will dance with the slightest breeze.

*Have a safe Halloween and a
Blessed Thanksgiving*

Make Me Laugh

"Dad, why do you write so slow?" asked Dennis.

"I have to," replied his father.

"I'm a slow reader."

Teddy came thundering down the stairs, much to his father's annoyance.

'Teddy,' he called, 'how many more times have I got to tell you to come down the stairs quietly?'

Now, go back up and come down like a civilised human being.' There was a silence, and Teddy reappeared in the front room.

'That's better,' said his father.

'Now will you always come down stairs like that?' 'Suits me,' said Teddy.

'I slid down the bannister.'

At dinner, Seth said to his father, "Dad, I got into trouble at school today and it's all your fault." "How's that?" asked the master of the house. "Remember I asked you how much \$500,000 was?" "Yeah, I remember." "Well, 'a helluva lot' ain't the right answer."

The lifeguard told the mother to make her young son stop urinating in the pool.

"Everyone knows," the mother lectured him, "that from time to time, young children will urinate in a pool." "Oh really?" said the lifeguard, "from the diving board!?!?"

Once upon a time there were five apples.

Which was the cowboy?

None - because they were all red-skins.

What do you get if you cross an apple with a shellfish?

A crab apple !

What lives in apples and is an avid reader?

A bookworm !

If it took six pigs two hours to eat the apples in the orchard, how many hours would it take three pigs? None, because the six pigs have already eaten them all.

Thankful Turkey Box

Supplies you will need:

- empty small tissue box
- brown, red, orange and yellow paint
- paint brush
- brown cardstock paper
- white cardstock paper
- glue stick
- clear packing tape
- googly eyes
- small piece of yellow and red paper
- scissors



1. Start by painting an empty, small tissue box with brown acrylic paint.

2. For the feathers paint card stock paper red, orange and yellow. Then use the same paint to splatter the different paint colors on each sheet of paper. Just make sure you do this step outside or cover your table with newspaper because it gets messy. Or you can use just colored card stock for the feathers if you want.



3. After the paint on your tissue box is completely dry, cut out a bowling ball type of shape out of brown card stock for the turkey head and body and glue it to the tissue box.

4. When your painted sheets of cardstock are dry, trace a feather shape on the back of them. Cut them all out.



5. Glue the feathers around the back of the tissue paper box and then use packing tape to secure them at the back.



6. To finish the turkey, glue on some wiggly eyes, a beak made out of a diamond shape bent in half, and a red wattle.

Place a stack of thankful cards next to your turkey, and every day or every couple of days you and your family members can write what you are thankful for and place it in the box.

Hope you have a month full of Thanks!!

Poke A Pumpkin Game



We've seen versions of this game but they all involved popping balloons. And we all know how loud and annoying balloon-popping can be. Especially in a room filled with excited kids, hopped-up on sugar and the excitement of Halloween. So we opted for a quieter version. We put prizes inside orange cups with napkins rubber-banded over the tops. Then we hot glued the cups to a piece of black foam core. The kids simply had to poke their finger through the orange napkin on the cups and pull out either a TRICK or a TREAT. Some of the tricks included: toothpaste, socks, and fake ketchup & mustard bottles. Some of the treats included: candy, inflatable Halloween decorations, and toys.

Answers



ASSEMBLY 377

Bentleyville, PA

Join us for our future events:

October 28- Halloween party at Toscana Brick Oven, 1800 Main Street, Canonsburg, PA at 3:00 pm. Costumes optional.

December 2- Holiday party at Canons Chop House, 1900 Main Street Canonsburg, PA at 3:00 pm. We would also like all members to bring a dozen of cookies to share with everyone.

Suzanne Skrypak
President

ASSEMBLY 381

Grosse Ile, MI

There will be a meeting Saturday, **November 10, 2018** scheduled at Mom's at 12 pm. RSVP Joanne T. Medved at jtm1849@gmail.com.

Joanne Medved
Treasurer

ASSEMBLY 432

Fairview Park, OH

Our assembly will be going to the Cuyahoga Valley Railroad on **October 14, 2018**. We will meet at Rockside Depot at 12:30 pm and the cost is \$10 per person. Children 3 & Under are FREE! RSVP By 10/7/18 as tickets need to be purchased in advance. I hope to see you all there, as this is a new event, and if enough people do not respond, we will have to find another event next year. RSVP to Tony Beno - 216-226-7501, Bill Shuttleworth - 440-331-6997 or Dave Pytel 440-777-4054.

Mark your calendars for the following events:

12/18/2018 - Meeting and Election of Officers to be held at Tony K's at 7:30 pm.

12/31/2018 - New Year's Eve Bash! Join us for Cheer in the New Year! We will be bringing in 2019 at the home of Bill and Sue Shuttleworth.

2/17/2019 - Tobogganing at the Strongsville Chalet from 6pm-9pm.

5/25/2019 - Camping at Rustic Lake for the weekend. Come for the day, or stay the entire weekend.

Shawn Pytel
Publicist

ASSEMBLY 554

Curwensville, PA

A meeting will be held on **November 4, 2018** at Jim Stricek's, 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.

Jim Stricek
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 705

Seelyville, IN

Please mark your calendars for future events in 2018:

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 586

Chicago, IL

A meeting will be held on **October 7, 2018** at Hackney's, Palos Hills for a Collect for Our Troops activity.

We've also set aside **December 2, 2018** for our annual Christmas meeting and activity at 2:00 pm.

Janet Tomaskovic
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 731

Lowellville, OH

Don't forget about our Christmas Party on **Saturday, December 1st** at the Stambaugh Room, Boardman Park, 375 Boardman-Poland Road, Boardman, OH from 1:00 to 3:00 pm

Laurie Fox
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 737

Westmoreland County, PA

A meeting will be held on **October 6, 2018** at the home of Carol Godor, 9280 Clubview Drive, North Huntingdon, PA at 1:00 pm. A date for our Christmas meeting will be set at that time.

Carol Godor
Treasurer

REGION 2

Hazleton, PA

Matching Funds

Our Region will sponsor an event to raise money for the SPCA of Luzerne County. The event "Bone Appetit" will take place on **November 4, 2018** from 4:00 to 7:00 pm at the Woodlands Inn and Resort PA-315 Wilkes Barre, PA. Cost is \$45 a person or \$75 couple or \$350 to reserve a table for 8 people. This event highlights fabulous food from local restaurants and wineries throughout our community and live music. Please come out and help us support this "Purr-fect" event. Also in support of the function Assembly L075 will be sponsoring a table. The SPCA will place our Name and Logo at the event and in its video presentation.

For tickets you may contact Marlin Petro Wesnak via email at: marlinsamimadi@yahoo.com. Deadline is October 14, 2018.

Marlin Petro-Wesnak
President-Region 2

REGION 5

Pittsburgh, PA

The fall meeting of Region #5 will be held on Sunday, **October 14, 2018**, at 1:00 pm at the NSS Home Office in McMurray, PA. A Convention recap as well as plans for Region #5 activities for the remainder of 2018 will be discussed. All assemblies in Region #5 are requested to send representatives to the meeting. A luncheon will be served following the meeting.

Joseph Stefka, Jr.
President-Region 5

REGION 8

Cleveland, OH

The semi-annual meeting of Region #8 will be hosted by Assembly #160 (Lorain, Ohio) on **October 17, 2018** at the American Slovak Home, 2915 Broadway, Lorain, Ohio at 7:30 pm.

Plans for upcoming events for 2019 will be discussed. Hope to see all assemblies from our region at this meeting.

Carole Koches
Secretary-Region 8

Fraternal Matters...

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



Personal Note of Thanks

I would like to thank my NSS family and friends for their care, understanding and kind words and prayers after the recent passing of my Mom, Doris Dudt. Mom had a wonderful life and we were so fortunate to have her for so long, she was 93 years young. She will be dearly missed.

Trick or Treat

NSS has a supply of Halloween Trick or Treat bags available. If your Assembly or organization is having a Halloween Party, and would like some bags for the ghosts and goblins to collect their goodies, just give me a call or email me at pblum@nsslife.org.

Think Pink - The Best Protection is Early Detection!!

The fight against breast cancer takes place every day. National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, in October, is an opportune time to renew your commitment to raise awareness, honor and support patients, survivors and their families, and further the efforts of caregivers and researchers dedicated to treating and curing this disease.

All women can get breast cancer – even those with no family history of the disease. Learn about breast cancer and take control of your health by following the American Cancer Society's breast cancer screening guidelines:

- Age 40 and over: Mammogram and clinical breast exam yearly
- Age 20's and 30's: Clinical breast exam about every 3 years
- Starting in 20's: Choose whether or how often to do breast self-exam.

If you think you are at a higher risk for Breast cancer, talk with your doctor about your history and what options are right for you.

Photo Contest Deadline Extended

We have extended the deadline for the Photo Contest to October 15th. Be sure to use this extra time to get your entry in.

Ornament Contest

As I write this article (in September) I can NOT believe I'm addressing the Christmas Ornament Contest. I am one of those people that Christmas tends to sneak up on every year. So, with that being said, we're giving you plenty of time to get your "crafty" on and submit an ornament. Rules about the contest can be found elsewhere in this publication. (Note – Please only submit original handmade ornaments not ones made from "kits".)



SHOW YOUR SPIRIT

**SAVE 10%
DISCOUNT CODE:
NSS10**

NSS Life
Family Matters...

SHOP OUR ON-LINE STORE TODAY!

The new NSS Life on-line store features men's and women's apparel, including polos, t-shirts, and zip jackets, as well as baseball caps, athletic bags, drinkware, and more! Purchase your spirit ware today.

TO SHOP VISIT NSSLIFE.ITEMORDER.COM/SALE

For questions please contact Pam Blum, Fraternal Activities Coordinator at pblum@nsslife.org or call (724) 731-0094

2018 Butwin Family Reunion



Grandchildren of John & Anna Butwin, founding members of Assembly 705



Food collected at the Butwin Family Reunion and donated to Catholic Charities food bank

A fraternal activity for Assembly 705, the Butwin Family Reunion, was held in Seelyville, IN on June 30/July 1, 2018. Over 130 descendants of John & Anna Butwin joined to celebrate family togetherness and their Slovak heritage. A theme of the reunion was looking back to our Slovak ancestors as Mary Ellen Buck conducted a search that found several generations back in Slovakia. John & Anna Butwin started their family in 1907 in Pennsylvania and settled in Seelyville, Indiana in 1910. Their descendants met this year on the land that they settled and raised their family. Many activities made up the day long affair. The family picture taken on the front porch of the family home (now the home of Mary Ellen & Dorothy Buck) got things started. The First Cousins, the grandchildren of John & Anna Butwin, had a picture taken with towels showing what family they belonged to and where they were born in birth order. Twenty-Nine of the thirty-seven grandchildren were in attendance. A corn hole tournament, euchre tournament, bocci matches, a Bounce House, slip-n-slide, water balloons, a fish pond with prizes, an egg hunt and scavenger hunt, a photo booth and bingo were just some of the activities throughout the day. Lunch & Dinner were served. A game show and video presentation were the highlights of the evening. As a community service project, everyone brought canned goods to the reunion. These were donated to a local Catholic Charities food bank. On Sunday morning, a breakfast was served followed by clean-up and good byes. A successful Butwin Family Reunion was over.

Dorothy Buck
Secretary

Region 5 Picnic A Success

Region #5 of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, held its annual picnic on Sunday, August 19, 2018, at Cedar Creek Park in Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania. The event was attended by 60 members from the assemblies located within Region #5 and guests. In addition, Paul and Sue Wesnak from Assembly L102 were in the Pittsburgh area attending the Pittsburgh Steelers Fan Fest and stopped by to take part in the picnic. The event was held at the Activity Center in Cedar Creek Park adjacent to the Youghiogheny River. The weather was beautiful and the picnic was enjoyed by all in attendance. Joseph Stefka, Jr., President of Region #5 welcomed everyone to the picnic and introduced the Region #5 Officers present along with the National Officers and Directors. Invocation was provided by Annette Stefka. Region #5 auditor Carol Godor celebrated her birthday on the day of the picnic and was presented with a birthday cake followed by the singing of Happy Birthday by all in attendance. A catered picnic style meal followed with plenty of delicious desserts provided by the members.

Janine Hannan provided a variety of games for the children in attendance. The children were excited to play the games and were awarded prizes for their efforts. Assembly 737 provided several baskets for a "Slovak Auction" which was held following the meal. The proceeds from the sale of tickets for the auction raised \$350 which benefitted the PVR Scholarship and the NSS Heritage Museum. Region #5 Secretary and National Secretary-Treasurer Linda Strom called Bingo games to conclude the festivities of the day. Director Sue Ondrejco reminded everyone in attendance that Septemberfest would be held on September 22nd at the Home Office.



News From Assembly L075 and Region 2



Members of Assembly L075 Duryea, Pa held their fraternal summer picnic meeting on August 12, 2018 at the Mercatelli-Segilia Park on Birney Ave. Moosic Pa. An unexpected visit by National Director Drew Wesnak and Sharon was a great surprise. Members brought food for the table and our chefs for the day were Director Bill Wesnak, President Gary Edwards, and Adam Lazar who cooked up hamburgers and hot dogs for the members. A basket raffle followed dinner which was a big hit and then bingo was enjoyed by all. The next meeting is set for October 14 at Grande's Restaurant, Birney Ave, Moosic at 1:00 pm. A bingo pizza party for the veterans at the VA in Wilkes Barre will be held at 2:00 pm on the 2nd floor rec room on Sunday, November 18. Parade of Baskets will take place in July, August and September and we donated a cooler and digital camera basket. Members will assist at the ticket sales at the Luzerne County fair on Saturday, September 8th from 5:00 pm to closing.

Shown are 1st row: Tommy, Dominic and Lucy Piccoletti-Vice President, Patricia Gorgol, Gary and Dorothy Collins. 2nd Row: Matthew & Maxwell Edwards, Region 2 President Marlin Petro-Wesnak, Adam & Allie Lazar, Madison Petro and Secretary/Treasurer Lehrae Ann Edwards. 3rd row: Samantha Wesnak, Adam Edwards, President Gary Edwards, Karen Richardson and Stephanie Piccoletti. 4th row: Sharon & Drew Wesnak, Director, and Debbie and Bill Wesnak-Fraternal Director.



Assembly L075 members participated in the Geisinger Heart Walk around the PNC Field on April 28 in Moosic, PA. Shown are members in attendance: Kneeling: Stephanie Piccoletti, our coordinator; Julianna Ciuccio, Secretary/Treasurer Lehrae Ann Edwards. Standing: Michael Piccoletti, Laura Knecht, Dominic, Tommy and Lucy Piccoletti, Vice-President. Jo Ann Ciuccio, Region 2 President Marlin Petro-Wesnak, and Judy Bohn. Assembly coordinator Stephanie wants to get more people involved for next year's walk in April.

Region 2

Attention all members of of Region 2 (Assembly L075 and O614). We have a fully functional web page on Facebook for our Region Members. Find out what events and meetings are happening. Add some photos and family news. Any member may join by request, just search for NSS Life Region 2 and I will gladly accept you.

Marlin Petro-Wesnak
President-Region 2

NSS Assembly L075 members participated in the Join Hands Day program with the US Postal Carriers for the Greater Pittston Meals on Wheels in May at the Knights of Columbus Meals on Wheels Center in Pittston. Shown are: Adam Edwards, Adam Lazar, Dorothy & Gary Collins, Allie Lazar, President Gary Edwards, Karen Richardson and S/T Lehrae Ann Edwards. Members assisted with unloading the mail trucks of food, sorting them and checking on expiration dates for the center.

Assembly 123 Golf Outing



Angela DeSarro and daughters
Lina and Ali



The Kamenar Family



Guests golfers from
Assembly 161



Mary Maniecki, Bill Knoll
and Bill & Valerie DeMonaco

Assembly L102 Summer Outing

As you can see it was a great turnout and a beautiful night to see the Iron Pigs play a double header.

Also, the assembly will be having a **Halloween Party for the kids to go trick n treating at Sharon and Drew Wesnak's home on October 26th at 6:00 pm.**



Assembly 731



Youth members visit the Fox campsite at the Fair:
Jack, Valerie, Cameron, Jessica, Ashlynn, Jimmy, Ben
and baby Logan in the window.

Once again, NSS members enjoyed visiting the campsite of Mike & Laurie Fox at the Canfield Fair. It was an extremely hot week for the fair this year and we spent much time inside the air conditioned camper. But all visitors still enjoyed the excitement and fun provided by Mahoning County's Canfield Fair.

Assembly 731 is taking a break from their annual Halloween Hayride this year. Instead, we are planning an indoor Fall Fun Get Together on Saturday, **November 3, 2018** at

the Lowellville Rod & Gun Club, 6225 Quarry Rd., Lowellville, OH. Fun activities will include games, dancing, refreshments, and a craft area where members can make something for fall or work on a NSS Christmas ornament for the contest. Weather permitting, we will have outdoor activities. Also, we will have a basket raffle. Each family is asked to bring a filled basket, gift card, or a nice item to raffle. Proceeds from the raffle will help support a local "Blessings in a Backpack" project.

Reminder that our Christmas party this year will be held on Saturday, **December 1, 2018**, 1:00-3:00 pm, in Boardman Park's Stambaugh Room, 375 Boardman-Poland Road, Boardman, Ohio. A 50-50 raffle will be held.

At least one week prior to an event, please RSVP to Laurie Fox 330-536-8850 or email lamlfox@zoominternet.net



PVR Scholarship Fund Donations

In Memory of Paul Braun: From Assembly 0123	20.00
In Memory of Edward Ekas: From Assembly 0123	20.00
In Memory of William Lavery: From Assembly 0123	20.00
In Memory of Shirley Petrucci: From Assembly 0123	20.00
In Memory of Eleanor Yoho: From Assembly 0123	20.00
In Honor & Memory of Living and Deceased Members: From Cynthia Maleski, Pres. FCSLA	100.00
Donations:	
R.D. Hoag & Associates	2,000.00
Anonymous	200.00
Rosemary Rozycki-Frati Assembly 0731	15.00 100.00
NSS 2018 Golf Outing Region 5 Picnic	3,200.00
Basket Raffle	175.00
Matching Funds for Region 5 Basket Raffle	175.00

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

August, 2018

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Adragna, Angelo	Belle Vernon, PA	02/15/2013	0108
Amore, Rosemary	Fenton, MI	06/21/2018	0381
Barnhart, Sandra	Portage, PA	08/07/2018	0737
Berdar, Frank	Uniontown, PA	07/16/2018	0039
Blair, Pauline	Webster Springs, WV	07/13/2018	0774
Braun Jr., Thomas M	Washington, PA	05/31/2018	0588
Brent, Sally	Danville, PA	07/20/2018	0146
Broda, Julia	Campbell, OH	06/27/2018	0731
Bukosky, Grace	Wheeling, WV	07/29/2018	0108
Canut, Mary Louise	Greensburg, PA	06/19/2018	0737
Conner, Hazel	Oak Hill, WV	10/10/2017	0774
Copenhaver, James	Summersville, WV	07/18/2018	0774
Corteal, Bernard	Vanderbilt, PA	07/12/2018	0039
Detling, Kody	Cape Coral, FL	08/07/2018	0595
Dudt, Doris	Pittsburgh, PA	08/12/2018	0434
Enfield, Frederick	Greensburg, PA	08/04/2018	0737
Harrington, Shauna	Taylor, PA	07/05/2018	L075
Havrilla, Louis P	Lenexa, KS	07/06/2018	0432
Hawkins, Darlene	York, PA	04/15/2018	0267
Hesh, Donald	Pittsburgh, PA	02/28/2018	0123
Israel, Dorothy	Paw Paw, WV	04/29/2018	0774
Jarrett, James Garfield	Charleston, WV	08/06/2018	0774
Johnson, Bernice	McKeesport, PA	11/04/2017	0108
Kacprowski, Dolly	Kittanning, PA	12/06/2017	0100
Kasey, John P	South Charleston, WV	07/19/2018	0774
Keyser, Virginia	Seminole, FL	06/02/2018	0813
Knouse, Karen	McKees Rocks, PA	07/05/2018	L161
Kurutz, Michael	Scranton, PA	08/06/2018	L075
Lebo, Roy	Pittsburgh, PA	06/26/2018	L105
Lewis, Mary Louise	Glen Ellyn, IL	07/21/2018	0586
Mac Williams, Mildred	Philadelphia, PA	07/29/2018	0774
Mason, Virginia	Peebles, OH	07/19/2018	0595
Mc Neil, Edward	North Fork, WV	07/18/2018	0774
McWhorter, Donald	McDonald, PA	08/11/2018	0123
Mergen, Mildred	Jacksonville, FL	06/23/2018	0039
Miller, Antoinette C	Pittsburgh, PA	07/03/2018	L161
Mizzer, Joseph G	Shavertown, PA	07/19/2018	0617
Murrin, Lawrence	South Park, PA	06/18/2018	0434
Myers, Barbara Jean	Greenville, MI	06/22/2018	0381
Neidermyer, Helen	Ephrata, PA	08/01/2018	L102
Nestvogel, Dieter	Matthews, NC	06/18/2018	0774
Noll, Arlene	Stouchsburg, PA	07/19/2018	L102

(Continued on page 21)

Departed Members

(Continued from page 20)

OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS August, 2018

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Oravets, Mildred	Smithfield, PA	07/11/2018	0588
Peterman, Cecil	Sault Sainte Marie, MI	07/29/2018	0381
Pocchiari, Maria	Butler, PA	10/21/2017	L161
Rudwell, John	Tallmadge, OH	04/17/2018	0004
Rusnock, Regis E	Greensburg, PA	03/31/2018	0039
Scalamogna, Giuseppe	Glenshaw, PA	07/03/2018	L161
Scanlon, John A	Bridgeville, PA	07/31/2018	0434
Schaming, Gary	Pittsburgh, PA	08/21/2018	0100
Simpson, William F	Brookeville, MD	09/05/2017	0731
Smolley, Anthony J	Hopwood, PA	07/18/2018	0039
Tabone, Esther	Burgettstown, PA	03/11/2017	0588
Tipton, Donald	Fort Myers Beach, FL	06/21/2018	0381
Tomajko, Anna	Macomb, MI	08/08/2018	0381
Troll, Alexis	Irwin, PA	05/23/2018	0737
Wasielewski, Stanley	Gibsonia, PA	07/27/2018	L161
Westlake, Shirley	Lititz, PA	07/12/2018	R059
Wright, Twila	Blairsville, PA	07/22/2018	L105
Yeveinez, Kathryn	Covington, LA	08/12/2018	0377
Zale, Gerold	Cottage Grove, WI	07/18/2018	0774
Zamborsky, George	Barrington, NH	08/09/2018	0434

This Month in National Slovak Society History

Joseph Stefka, Jr. Chairman of the Board

October, 1978

Former Supreme Secretary and Honorary Society Secretary Rudolph J. Pallan died on October 10, 1978. Brother Pallan was born on December 19, 1892, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He was elected as Supreme Secretary of the Society at the 17th Convention held in Hazelton, Pennsylvania, in 1937, was re-elected at the next eight Conventions, and remained in the position until December 31, 1974. Brother Pallan was named Honorary Secretary of the Society at the 26th Convention in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in September, 1974.

October, 1988

On October 9, 1988, Assembly 39 of Uniontown, Pennsylvania, held a gala banquet to honor its members achieving at least 50 years of membership in the National Slovak Society. National President Joseph Stefka and National Secretary-Treasurer Paul J. Godor presented an NSS 50-year pin and a certificate to each of the members being honored for their National Slovak Society membership.

October, 2002

National President David G. Blazek was named the recipient on the John Jordan Upchurch Award by the Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress at its annual meeting. The award is the highest fraternal honor that is given by the Congress for distinguished leadership and service to the Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress and the fraternal benefit system.

Letters of Appreciation

We have received many Thank You's from our PVR recipients in regards to their scholarships. Below are just a few of the names:

*Sara Holden
Anne Kolicius
Joe Bastaroli
Alexander Dickopf
Emily Dickopf
Ryleigh Testa
Sara Getsy
Hannah Dean
Gregory Gurcak
Kalsie Walker
Maddie Eger*

We welcome any highlights during your college years, (internships, grades or an activity you are partaking in) and we will place it in our newsletter. Good Luck in your college years.

Deadline For Publication

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



**L-R: Greg Felton, Sales Director;
Dave Blazek, President; and
Jeff DeSantes**

A booth was set up at the Messer Top Producer Summit, Charlotte, North Carolina to discuss NSS products and benefits.

Keď Pride Október



Keď zaklope mesiac október na dvere a otvoríme stránku života zbadáme, že prišla "jeseň". Jeseň roka v ktorom žijeme, a pre niektorých z nás "jeseň" života. Aj my raz sme nový- malý- neskôr dozrievame v živote. Október nám pripomína je čas na kontrolu aj nášho života "jeseň."

Či máme dostatok obyvia v komore na prichádzajúcu zimu.

Či máme dostatok financii na prichádzajúce roky nášho života ktoré čím ďalej budú menej produktívne.

Či máme dostatočne uložené dobre skutky, pokoru, lásku veci ktoré budeme potrebovať ku spaseniu našej duši.

Ak niekto z týchto bodov nie su až je "jeseň" ešte máme nejaký čas aby sme si to doplnili. Čo nám k tomu môže pomôcť cez mesiac október je meditácia—modlitba veď večere sú už zdlhavé. Desiatok, či venček sv. Ruženca venujme denne Matke Božej ukončiac veršíkom:

***O Mária ružencova naša patronka, my sa k tebe utiekame čista panenka.
Tys Matka dobrotiva patronka ľutostiva, oroduj vždy za nás všetkých u svojho syna.***

Nový veľvyslanec SR vo Washingtone bude

Ivan Korčok

Štátny tajomník Ministerstva zahraničných vecí a európskych záležitostí (MZVaEZ) SR Ivan Korčok, ktorý na čele rezortu zastupoval Miroslava Lajčáka počas jeho mandátu predsedu 72. Valného zhromaždenia OSN, sa stane od jesene veľvyslancom SR vo Washingtone. – TASR



Október - mesiac úcty k starším.

Starí rodičia to je dar z neba, dávajú viac ako nám treba. Sú to naši anjeli, ktorí nás vždy chránia, vďaka nim sa nebojíme žiadneho skúšania. Aj keď nás zabolí päťka z diktátu, vždy nás chránia od rodičovského záchvatu.

Zato Vám ďakujem babka i dedko, že ste mi z lásky vždy dali všetko...



Zabíjačková večera v Slovenskej záhrade

vo Winter Park, FL

SLOVAKFEST 2018 bude v sobotu 20. októbra o 2.00 hodine v malej spoločenskej hale v Slovenskej záhrade, 3110 Howell Branch Road, vo Winter Park, FL. Podávané budú zbojnica pečienka so zemiakmi, kyslá kapusta, klobásy a slovenské koláče. Vstupné je \$20.00. Počas popoludnia bude hrať slovenská ľudová hudba. Bližšie informácie a rezervácie na tel. č. 407-677-6894, alebo slovakgarden@centurylink.net.

Dožininkové vence na slovensku



Prinášanie a ozdobovanie posledného snopu, viazanice, kytice či venca odpradáva symbolizovalo ukončenie žatvy. Tento obrad stáročiami prerástol do osláv "dožinok". Dojímavosť ich vo svojich Spievankách opisuje aj Ján Kollár: „Mládenec nesie zástavu. Bývala to najčastejšie veľká hodvábná šatka na žrdi. Jej vrchol bol vyzdobený kytkou z kvetia a klasov. Popri ňom ide panna, ktorá má na hlave veniec z najkrajších stebiel obilia a kláskov.“

Slovensky Festival pri Univerzite Pittsburg

Pozývame, slovákov a slovenky na slovenský festival pri pittsburghskej univerzite ktorý bude 4-teho novembra. Pripravuje ho Slavik Department a študenti Slovenského štúdia.

Vieme, že PGH univerzita je jediná v Amerike čo dostáva grant na vyučovanie štúdia slovenského jazyka kde študenti môžu získať kredity k maturite.

Pri tejto univerzite je založená i slovenská základňa ktorú financuje 5 slovenských organizácii vrátane našej NSS.

Vstupné na festival je zdarma, prebieha od obeda do 5-tej po obede. Môžete obdivovať výstavu slovenských vecí, ochutnať jedlá na slovenský spôsob a prípadne si i zaspievať počas vystúpenia slovenských súborov.



Anglický jazyk pre dospelých



Ak niektorý z našich čitateľov radi by sa zdokonalil v Anglickom jazyku odporúčame Vám sa skontaktovať cez e-mail LearnESLpittsburgh@gmail.com, alebo cez telefon na čísle 878-222-0506.





Youth Circle Page

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

2018 Christmas Ornament Contest - Deadline December 1st, 2018

Now is the time to start thinking and making your Christmas Ornament. Get out your glue guns and glitter and create a winning ornament today! The rules are as follows:

1. The contest is open to all NSS members. In addition, we are inviting our Home Office Staff, and even our Board Members to participate.
2. Entries should be no larger than 5" High; 5" Wide and 5" Deep. The base can be in any shape so long as it stays within the above measurements. You can glue objects to make your ornament decorative (we encourage you to be creative!) Some examples are: glitter, ribbon, stars, cotton balls, etc... **Please submit original handmade ornaments only. Ornaments made from kits will be disqualified.**
3. All entries must include your name, address, age, youth circle number or assembly number and phone number on a separate sheet of paper. **Youth members** should also list their shirt size (Youth: YM, or Adult: AS, AM, AL, AXL).
4. All winners in each group will have their names appear in the "National News". In addition a picture of your ornament will appear on the website. All entries will be distributed to a local nursing home to be placed on a Christmas Tree. You can send in more than one ornament for distribution purposes--the more we have the prettier the tree will be! In the event you send more than one, please note which ornament you would like to have entered into the contest to be judged.
5. The contest shall be judged under the following categories and prize awards:

Our Youth Members

- Frosty's Group - Ages 5, 6, & 7
- Rudolph's Group - Ages 8, 9 and 10
- Snowflake Group - Ages 11, 12 and 13
- Santa Group - Ages 14, 15 and 16

Prize Awards

- First Place - \$25.00
- First Place - \$25.00
- First Place - \$25.00
- First Place - \$25.00

Our Adult Members

Prize Awards

- First Place \$50.00
- Second Place \$30.00
- Third Place \$20.00

6. Entries must be mailed, or hand-delivered to the NSS Home Office by the **deadline of December 1st** of each year. Please mail to: **National Slovak Society ATT: Ornament Contest, 351 Valley Brook Road, McMurray, PA 15317-3337. BE SURE THAT YOU FOLLOW THE RULES CAREFULLY SO YOU DO NOT LOSE POINTS IN THE JUDGING.**

Junior Pittsburgh Slovaks

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

Assembly 731 New Member



Assembly 731 welcomes Logan Mason to the NSS Family. Logan was born on July 31, 2018 to Beth and Matthew Mason. His big sister, Ashlynn, and big brother, Cameron, are excited to have this beautiful new addition to the family. Logan joins NSS continuing a family tradition of six generations over the past 100 years. In addition to his parents and siblings, this also includes grandparents, Peggy &

Mark Mason and Laurie & Mike Fox; great-grandmothers, Ruth Burns and Margaret Fox and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins. Past generations included his great-great grandmothers, Mary Burns and Elizabeth Ferry and great-great-grandparents, Mary & John Bolash.

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 _____



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

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Send form to Joe Elliott at the Home Office.