



National Slovak Society

Where "Family Matters"

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Happy Fourth of July from NSS Life!



NSS Life
Family Matters...



National Slovak Society

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NATIONAL SLOVAK SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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NATIONAL SLOVAK SOCIETY

351 VALLEY BROOK ROAD, MCMURRAY, PA 15317-3337

NSS NATIONAL OFFICERS

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

Dean Burns, *FIC, Vice-President*

Linda Strom, *Secretary/Treasurer*

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Mary Jo Holker
Robert Katricak
William B. Knoll
Susan Ondrejco
Joseph Stefka, Jr.
Drew Wesnak

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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...

<p>REGION 2</p> <p>July 24 July 27 August 9 October 19 October 25</p>	<p>Assemblies L075, 0146, 0617</p> <p>Assembly 0617, Picnic, Knoebels Amusement Park, 12 Noon Assembly L075, Picnic, Mercateli-Segilia Park, Moosic, PA at 1:00 pm Assembly L075, Matching Funds Benefit, Viewmont Mall, Dickson City, 10am - 9 pm Assembly L075, Meeting, Grande Pizzeria, Birney Avenue, Moosic, PA at 1:00 pm Region 2, Meeting at Grotto Pizza, Edwardsville, PA at 12:30 pm</p>
<p>REGION 5</p> <p>July 12 July 13 July 20 August 8 August 16 October 18 December 7</p>	<p>Assemblies P38A, 0039, 0100, L105, 0108, 0123, L161, 0283, 0377, 0434, 0441, 0588, 0700, 0737, 0774, 0809</p> <p>Assembly 0588, Fraternal Night, Musical at Mt. Pleasant Township Com. Center at 7:30 pm Assembly 0039, Tony Bartock Golf Outing, Springdale Golf Club at 7:30 am Assembly 0377, Meeting, Ponderosa Steakhouse, Washington, PA at 3:00 pm Assembly 0774, NSS Pirate Night at PNC Park Region 5, Picnic, Cedar Creek Park at Noon Assembly 0737, Meeting, Godor's Residence, North Huntingdon, PA at 1:00 pm Assembly 0039, Christmas Party, Knights of Columbus Social Hall, Uniontown, PA at 2:00 pm</p>
<p>REGION 7</p> <p>July 17 August 3 August 28 September 6 October 11 November 2 December 6</p>	<p>Assemblies P09A, 0008, 0731</p> <p>Assembly 0731, Slovak Day Kennywood Park, West Mifflin, PA Assembly 0731, Family Picnic, Yellow Creek Park, Struthers, OH at 1:00 pm Assembly 0731, Scavenger Hunt, Canfield Fair, Canfield, OH at 1:00 pm Assembly 0731, Trip to Akron Zoo Assembly 0731, Halloween Hayride, Countryside Farms, Lowellville, OH at 5:30 pm Assembly 0731, Meeting, Ruth Burns Residence, Poland, OH at 3:00 pm Region 7, Christmas Party, Holy Family Parish Hall, Poland, OH at 1:00 pm</p>
<p>REGION 8</p> <p>July 12 July 18 August 22</p>	<p>Assemblies 0004, 0070, 0160, 0432, 0595</p> <p>Assembly 0160, Picnic, Days Dam, Lorain, OH at 11:00 am Assembly 0004, Meeting, Havar's Residence, Westlake, OH at 2:00 pm Assembly 0160, Pre-Game Picnic and Lake Erie Crushers Baseball Game at 6:00 pm</p>
<p>REGION 10</p>	<p>Assemblies 0065, 0586</p> <p>No activities at this time</p>
<p>REGION 14</p> <p>July 12 July 13</p>	<p>Assemblies R059, L102</p> <p>Assembly L102, Picnic, Wesnak's Residence, Whitehall, PA at 2:00 pm Assembly R059, Meeting, Sawarynski's Residence at 3:00 pm</p>
<p>REGION 15</p>	<p>Assemblies L002, 0028, L145</p> <p>No activities at this time</p>
<p>AT LARGE</p> <p>July 5-6 August 3 August 3 October 19 December 24</p>	<p>Assemblies R019, L040, 0110, 0236, 0299, 0381, 0554, 0568, 0705, 0800, 0813</p> <p>Assembly 0705, Butwin Family Reunion Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck Home, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm Assembly P09A, Picnic, Heritage Presbyterian Church at 12:30 pm Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck Home, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm Assembly 0705, Annual Christmas Eve celebration</p>

From The President's Desk...



David G. Blazek, FIC
National President

Greetings from the Home Office in rainy McMurray, Pennsylvania. By the time you read this the 36th Quadrennial will be but a memory and another piece of history of the National Slovak Society. Another chapter that will be added to the NSS History Book that Joseph Stefka Jr. has been diligently working on in preparation for our 125th Anniversary which will happen next year. The Convention we just attended reminds me a lot like Christmas when we were children. You look forward to it each year as a child and it comes and goes so quickly. All the preparation for the convention is much like what our parents did for us to make Christmas special. A special thanks goes out to our National Secretary/Treasurer Linda Strom and to Administrative Assistant Pam Blum for all they did to make the convention run smoothly and make it an enjoyable experience for all in attendance. I learned a long time ago that you can't make everyone happy all the time, but we keep trying and hopefully, we were in the upper 90% range in pleasing all in attendance.

This month we celebrate the 4th of July, which falls on a Friday and allows for a nice long weekend. Fran, my wife and I plan on celebrating the 4th in Cape May, New Jersey, a quaint little beach town that houses many bed and breakfasts, restaurants and little shops. It's a great place to get away to for some rest and relaxation. On Thursday, July 17th, the annual Slovak Day at Kennywood Park will be held and the NSS National Golf Tournament will be

held on the weekend of July 19-20 at Sawmill Creek Resort, the sight of our 35th Convention in 2010.

As far as Assembly activities for the month of July, I read in the calendar about many picnics, reunions and even a local golf outing, so check your Activities at a Glance page and make it to any event in your area.

News of Narodniars

Happy Birthday wishes go out National Directors Joseph Stefka Jr., and Keith Godor, to Honorary Board Member Edward Koches, former Vice President Betty Ann Sakosky, Home Office staff member Pat Glaser, former Home Office employees Stacey Boury Shun, Albert Suess, and Laverne Orban. Also to Dale Blazek, Terri Cooper, Dan Gimiliano, and Granddaughter Ella Woods, and John Martincheck.

Celebrating a wedding anniversary this month is Millie and Edward Havir. Best wishes to all who will celebrate a special day this month.

Communion on the Moon

Forty-five years ago on July 20, 1969, the Apollo 11 Lunar Module performed the first manned landing on the Moon in the Sea of Tranquility. Astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin were the first people to walk on the surface of the moon. Buzz Aldrin was the lunar module pilot on Apollo 11 that first lunar landing in history. But what happened before Buzz Aldrin and Neil Armstrong exited the Lunar Module is perhaps even more amazing. Buzz Aldrin took communion on the surface of the moon. Some months after his return, he wrote about it in Guideposts magazine.

Buzz Aldrin was an elder at his Presbyterian Church in Texas and knowing that he would soon be doing something unprecedented in human history, he felt he should mark the occasion somehow. He asked his minister to help him and his minister consecrated a communion wafer and a small vial of communion wine. Aldrin took them with him out of the Earth's orbit and on to the surface of the moon.

He and Armstrong had only been on the lunar surface for a few minutes when Aldrin made the following public statement: "This is the LM pilot. I'd like to take this opportunity to ask every person listening in, whoever and wherever they may be, to pause for a moment and contemplate the events of the past few hours and to give thanks in his or her own way." He then ended radio communication and there, on the surface of the moon, 250,000 miles from home, he read a verse from the Gospel of John, and he took communion.

Here is his own account of what happened: "In the radio blackout, I opened the little plastic packages which contained the bread and the wine. I poured the wine into the chalice our church had given me. In the one-sixth gravity of the moon, the wine slowly curled and gracefully came up the side of the cup. Then I read the scripture, I am the vine, you are the branches. Whosoever abides in me will bring forth much fruit. Apart from me you can do nothing."

I had intended to read my communion passage back to earth, but at the last minute they had requested that I not do this. NASA was already embroiled in a legal battle with Madelyn Murray O'Hare, the celebrated opponent of religion, over the Apollo 8 crew reading from Genesis while orbiting the moon at Christmas. I agreed reluctantly.

"I ate the tiny Host and swallowed the wine. I gave thanks for the intelligence and spirit that had brought two young pilots to the Sea of Tranquility. It was interesting for me to think: the very first liquid ever poured on the moon, and the very first food eaten there, were the communion elements."

It's amazing to think that some of the first words spoken on the moon were the words of Jesus Christ, who made the Earth and the moon - and Who, in the immortal words of Dante, is Himself the "Love that moves the Sun and other stars," AND IN THE WORDS OF PAUL HARVEY, "Now, you know the rest of the story."

Adult Truths:

How the heck are you supposed to fold a fitted sheet?

The Second Opinion from the Vice-President



Dean Burns, FIC
National Vice-President

The Second Opinion

The name of this article refers to the fact that I am Vice President hence, the second opinion...I can't be sure that the new bylaws passed (but I think they will (did) and there will not be a Vice President any more. Under the new way, if for one reason or another, the president is unable to serve, the Board will just hire a new president and there will not have to be any vice president. Someone asked who would act as interim president until a new president is elected. Trust me, the nine Board members would all be eager to fill the spot.

The next idea that occurs to me is that there will not be a Vice President's column in the paper, anymore. So after twenty years or so, my ideas will not be printed each month. That works out well because I do not know all that much to write a thousand words every month. Almost twenty years burns up material quickly. (No critical comments please.)

Success

NSS has been very successful in recent times. While some fraternal benefit societies are struggling, we have grown quickly. One of the reasons is that the membership trusts management to do the correct things to make the company successful. Another reason is that management listens to the advisors. We have an actuary, CPA, money managers, and state insurance department oversight.

Long ago, we learned to heed the advice of the experts. And we will continue to listen because we have found the right people to advise us. So your money is safe.

Life

Not all aspects of our lives are as easy as the financial parts. Relationships come to mind as one of the things we could stand to have some reliable advisors helping us. How do we find people we can trust and rely upon? Believe me, if I could answer that question, I would be writing a book to advise people rather than filling up a page a month. But it is not that easy.

First, you need to have good advise to dispense. Nobody needs any more people to give them bad advice.

An old Roman named Publicus was asked, "What was easy?" He replied, "To give advice."

When asked, "What was difficult?" he answered, "To know yourself."

That is how it works for most people we know exactly what you should do in every situation. But we can't figure out what we should do for ourselves.

If we could, thousands of lawyers would be out of work. The number of divorces would be drastically reduced because people would choose better in the first place. (Most people propose marriage in the dark but would not buy a suit in the dark.)

We attach little permanence to objects. We buy new things just to be buying. We all have closets full of

clothing, but we still go to the sales to get some more.

Cars are good for two or three years then need to be replaced. We disagree on the makes of cars and defend our choices. Not only are we Ford or Chevy people. But there are ten different models of each. So whose advice can you rely on?

In fact, people are going to disagree on whom you should ask for advice. So hang on to those you can trust!

Summer

Half of summer is gone and we have done very little in the way of enjoying ourselves. Same arguments I was mentioning above. Some like the beach, some like the mountains, etc. But pick one or something else and put a little relaxation into you lives. Something that you will recall fondly when you are back at the work schedule.

NSS has a golf tournament, assemblies have events. Take part, Join friends and relatives and have a little fun.

Enough

I apologize but the brain doesn't have it today. I am writing this column and I am thinking about the convention. I will try to make it up next month but too much is on my mind to do this justice.

Happy 4th of July



2014 1ST QUARTER ANNUAL REPORT - NATIONAL SLOVAK SOCIETY

Net Admitted Assets:

	<u>March 2014</u>	<u>December 2013</u>
Bonds	\$710,305,717	\$696,070,146
Preferred Stocks	587,999	587,999
Common Stocks	871,382	925,776
Mortgage Loans on Real Estate	8,772,209	8,821,721
Certificate Loans	473,412	432,546
Real Estate Occupied By Society	782,400	787,739
Cash On Deposit	15,277,217	11,018,128
Electronic Data Equipment	0	0
Uncollected Premiums	107,363	120,965
Investment Income Due	9,887,254	8,858,510
TOTALS	\$747,064,953	\$727,623,530

Liabilities and Unassigned Funds:

	<u>March 2014</u>	<u>December 2013</u>
Aggregate Reserve Deposit-type Contracts	\$674,621,100	\$658,141,000
	39,076,125	37,906,018
Certificate Claims	300,000	300,000
Commissions Due	401,200	290,000
Refunds Due and Unpaid	325,000	325,000
General Expenses Due	1,452,750	1,429,500
Retained By The Society As Trustee	107,386	243,509
Asset Valuation Reserve (AVR)	3,143,500	3,038,000
Interest Maintenance Reserve (IMR)	5,033,542	4,754,665
Contingency Reserve	150,000	150,000
Unassigned Funds	22,454,350	21,045,838
TOTALS	\$747,064,953	\$727,623,530

Surplus Account:

	<u>March 2014</u>	<u>December 2013</u>
Beginning Surplus	\$21,195,838	\$17,530,350
Net Income	1,504,640	4,213,271
Change in Net Unrealized Capital Gains or (Losses)	9,372	22,029
Chge in Nonadmitted Assets	0	184,188
Change in Valuation Reserve	(105,500)	(754,000)
Aggregate Write-ins for Gains and Losses in Surplus	0	0
Net Change In Surplus	1,408,512	3,665,488
Surplus At Statement Date	\$22,604,350	\$21,195,838

Summary Of Operations:

	<u>March 2014</u>	<u>December 2013</u>
INCOME:		
Premiums & Annuity Considerations	\$29,795,632	\$103,185,441
Net Invest. Income	9,153,914	33,995,892
Amortization Of Interest Maintenance Reserve	41,349	(237,101)
Income Sub-Total	\$38,990,895	\$136,944,232

	<u>March 2014</u>	<u>December 2013</u>
EXPENSES:		
Death Benefits	\$291,615	\$1,460,334
Matured Endowments	10,724	71,677
Annuity Benefits	17,965,149	61,849,026
Disability, Accident, Health Benefits	0	3,437
Surrender Benefits	850,173	2,668,062
Interest On Deposit Type Contracts	5,487	85,417
Increase In Aggregate Reserve For Life Contracts	16,480,100	59,099,740
Commissions On Direct Business	719,795	3,099,628
General & Fraternal Expenses	985,318	3,876,685
Insurance, Taxes, Licenses, Fees	60,688	119,343
Expense Sub-Total	\$37,369,049	\$132,333,349

	<u>March 2014</u>	<u>Decembe 2013</u>
SUMMARY:		
Net Gain From Operations Before Refunds To Members	\$1,621,846	\$4,610,883
Refund To Members	(70,463)	(346,212)
Net Gain From Operations After Refunds To Members	1,551,383	4,264,671
Net Realized Capital Gains	(46,743)	(51,400)
Total Net Income	\$1,504,640	\$4,213,271

Linda M Strom
National Secretary/Treasurer

National Slovak Society Privacy Notice

Adopted by the Board of Directors on May 19, 2001, find herewith our Privacy Statement as required through the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act adopted in Washington D.C. to protect the privacy of consumers. As has been the practice at NSS Life, we will not share information with other companies:

Meeting Your Financial Needs While Respecting Your Privacy

We understand that you expect privacy and security for your personal financial and health affairs, and we are committed to treating your information responsibly. We appreciate your trust and confidence in us, and we will reward that trust by protecting your information. This Privacy Policy describes the standards we follow in handling your information about you and your membership with the Society. We will print a copy of this policy annually in the "National News". We will also send you any changes to this policy should and when they occur.

Protecting your information:

We have policies, procedures, employee orientation and communication programs, in place, designed to protect your information. We expect our employees and elected officers to comply with this policy. This notice describes how we protect the privacy of your information.

Information that we collect about you from the following sources:

- Applications and other forms that you submit to us, this includes your age, gender, place of birth, health and financial information and beneficiaries.
- Information regarding your transactions with NSS Life via telephone, facsimile or internet.
- Health and financial information obtained from local, state and federal agencies.
- Health information received from physicians, hospitals and other health-care providers.

Third parties to whom we may disclose your information:

- Health information for review to our Medical Examiner or Commercial Underwriter who are under written contract and in agreement with this policy.
- Financial information, as required by law, to state and federal agencies.
- Financial or health information to our Legal Advisor who is in agreement with this policy.
- We do not share your non-public information with any other third party.

How we protect your non-public information:

- Providing information to you only after we have asked and received from you information that only you should know.
- We restrict access to your information to employees, officers and agents who need to know that information in order to provide you with the highest quality of professional service.
- We maintain physical, electronic and procedural safeguards that comply with federal regulation to guard your information.
- The Executive Officers are responsible for the oversight of our Privacy

Policy.

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 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 the National Slovak Society Home Office at 1-800-488-1890. The National Officers are the sole authority in any decisions regarding this scholarship program. Their decision is final in all cases.

PVR SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATIONS May, 2014

Marilyn M Keesey 10.00
Lodge P09A 100.00



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.

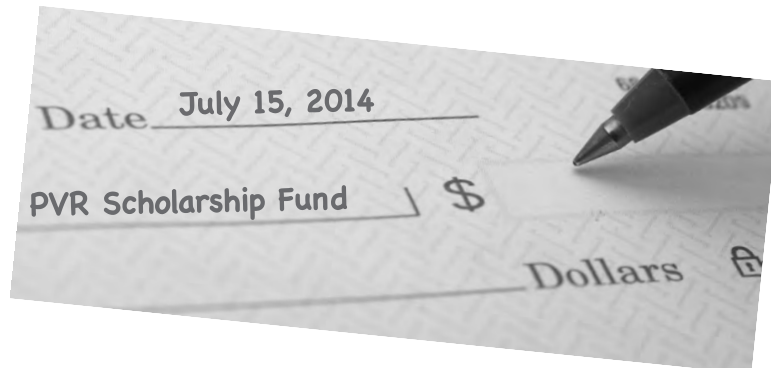
YES, I want to help our young members attain their academic goals. Here is my donation of \$ _____.

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 May, 2014

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Altmire, Carol Ann	Eau Claire, PA	03/27/2014	0554
Arambages, Constantine	Clearwater, FL	06/29/2013	0813
Barger, Mary T	Washington, PA	11/30/2013	0434
Cale, Janet	Washington, PA	04/01/2014	0588
Corosu, Paul	Plumville, PA	04/14/2014	0774
Halstead, Pauline	Putnam, WV	03/21/2014	0809
Horvath, Martha A	Passaic, NJ	04/14/2014	0299
Hughes, Maxine	Warren, OH	04/19/2014	P09A
Janega, Ann	Stratford, CT	04/20/2014	0028
Keleman, Joseph S	Elrama, PA	05/15/2014	0108
Kolonay, Andrew E	Bealeton, VA	04/29/2014	0038
Lepper, Doris E	Quincy, IL	04/18/2014	0065
Levine, Caroline B	Union Pier, MI	04/29/2014	0381
McElhose, Patricia	Wilkins, PA	01/28/2014	L105
Mestyaneck, Joseph E	Los Angeles, CA	01/11/1993	0568
Miller, Robert E	Penn Hills, PA	04/12/2014	L105
Milyo, Mary	Middlesex, NJ	09/02/2013	P31M
Monroe, Margaret M	Forest Hills, P	04/02/2014	L161
Montel, Kathleen Ann	Uniontown, PA	04/07/2014	0039
Nowak, Daniel	Bay City, MI	04/14/2014	0381
OKeefe, John M	Indiana, PA	04/18/2014	0038
Oseksy, Edward	Monroeville, PA	05/04/2014	L105
Pasterick, Helen	Belle Vernon, PA	05/11/2014	0377
Pawloski, Margaret	Lake Ariel, PA	04/13/2014	L075
Rowe, Patsy W	Cranberry, PA	04/01/2014	0283
Sims, Gloria J	Marshall, MI	02/13/2014	0381
Wisbith, Mary	Wampam, PA	05/04/2014	0731
Yachup, Olga	West Mifflin, PA	03/28/2014	0441
Zachewicz, Gerald J	New Bern, NC	03/06/2014	0774



Fraternal Matters...

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



2014 NSS Annual Golf Tournament

This year's golf tournament will be held the week of July 18-20, 2014 at Sawmill Creek Resort in Huron, OH. Friday's Hospitality Night will be poolside at the resort and the Banquet on Saturday will also be held at the resort. The Entry Form was published in last month's newspaper and was mailed out to past participants.



National Director Bob Katricak presents the 2013 Joseph Stefka Memorial Award to winner Mike Czarney of Assembly 160. The Joseph Stefka Memorial Award, established in 1994 by the Stefka Family, is presented annually to the NSS men's golfer with an established NSS Tournament Handicap with the lowest net score for the tournament. Mike won the Award with a net score of 61 at the NSS National Golf Tournament held at The Links at Firestone Farms. This year, golfers will compete for the Joseph Stefka Memorial

Award at the NSS National Golf Tournament at Sawmill Creek Resort in Huron, Ohio, over the weekend of July 19-20th in a two day 36 hole event.

Happy 4th of July

"Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, to assure the survival and success of liberty."

-- John Fitzgerald Kennedy

PVR Scholarship

This year the PVR Scholarship Program has received 37 applications for the 2014-2015 academic year. Based on last year's scholarships it is estimated that a total of 176 grants will be paid out if all eligible recipients renew. **It is up to the student to submit their transcripts to the Home Office no later than July 15th in order to maintain eligibility.**

2014 Fraternalist of the Year and Youth Achievement Award winners will be announced at the 36th Quadrennial Convention

Slovak Day at Kennywood

The 91st annual American Slovak Day will be celebrated on Thursday, July 17, at Kennywood Park. Tickets are available for \$25 (ages 3 and over) and senior tickets are \$15. NSS Home Office staff will be working in the Slovak Kitchen serving lunch starting at 12:30. Come out and meet us and enjoy a great day of food and fun!

2014 United Slovak Fraternal Bowling Tournament

This year's event was held on Friday and Saturday April 25 & 26 at the AMF Mt. Lebanon Lanes in Pittsburgh PA with hotel accommodations by the Crowne Plaza South Hotel where the Saturday Banquet was also held.

<u>Bowler</u>	<u>Event</u>
Donald Kolecky (NSS)	2nd Place Seniors 3rd Place Mens Singles
Mike Lako (NSS)	2nd Place Teams
Ray Lako (NSS)	3rd Place Doubles

“Looking for Something you can count on?”



Advantages of an NSS Annuity/IRA

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

At NSS Life we have a plan that fits your needs.



Current Interest Rates

Effective January 1, 2013

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

**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
National Sales Director

Life Insurance in Action!

Every year LIFE (Life Insurance Foundation for Education) sponsors a program to hear about life insurance in action. They get thousands of stories from all across this great country of ours. These are stories about how life insurance saved the small business, the family farm and the house from foreclosure. There are stories about parents that have tragically died and now the proceeds must be used to raise the children. Some stories talk about the relief a family had when the bills and other debts were paid. The one theme that caught my attention (and there were hundreds of stories on this topic) was the number of young people that were able to go to college and fulfill their dreams. All of this happened because someone loved someone. Mom or dad bought life insurance to protect their children. They bought enough to make sure there would be sufficient funds to pay for college. You see nobody plans on dying – had mom or dad lived they would have made sure that child had the privilege of higher education. They would have found a way to pay for this expense. They would have worked two jobs or borrowed the money but rest assured little Johnny or Mary was going to get an education. But, what happens if they die, who is going to step in and help then? Only life insurance can solve this problem easily. Take the first step now and talk to your local representative and see how we can help you. A little advanced planning goes a long way.

Since we are talking about higher education another item to consider is the NSS scholarship fund. This fantastic fraternal program has already paid out more than \$1.2 million dollars since 1998. A member can receive up



to \$500 per year for up to four years for a total of \$2,000. To qualify a person must be a member for at least two years, have a minimum of \$10,000 permanent insurance or \$5,000 in an annuity. A GPA of 3.0 is also required. Details about this program can be found on our website. The other story about life insurance is how one family used the proceeds to heal themselves. Recently

while on the NSS cruise we met Lucy. She was attending a make shift church services on board ship on a Sunday morning. After the service we talked to her and found out that her spouse had recently passed away. They had talked about taking a cruise and wanted the entire family to attend but because of the cost involved it didn't look like it was going to happen. After Lucy's husband passed away, she decided to use the life insurance proceeds to pay for that trip they always wanted to do. Lucy paid for a couple of children, their spouses and grandchildren. And she didn't do a one week cruise – she did a back to back two weeks in a row. Obviously, the family was mourning the loss of the patriarch of the family but I would like to think he was there in spirit with them. Every time I saw them they were together and enjoying each others company – they were supporting each other in their time of need. What better use of life insurance proceeds?

Life insurance really is the greatest financial tool ever devised. With the stroke of a pen and a check you can be insured for thousands of dollars. Let NSS help you and your family. Call your local representative or Joe Elliott in the Home Office for more information.

Thought for the Month

*Life is short, live it; Love is rare, grab it;
Anger is bad, dump it; Fear is awful, face it
and Memories are sweet, cherish it.*

Unknown

First Quarter Leaders in 2014

Congratulations to our top leaders for their continuous hard work and dedication to the Society.



Our top producer for the First Quarter of 2014 for the **MOST NEW MEMBERS** is **Der Her from NC.**

Der has been with the Insurance industry for 11 years. Her goal is to help achieve comfort in the homes of each of her clients, and be a part of their lives for what she does for them. It's hard to face the facts but no one can escape the hardship. I strive to gain knowledge and trust in my profession so I can continue service for many more years to come. Any questions regarding life insurance you may contact me at (828) 514-6522 or email her at: kristi2974@yahoo.com

Our top **PREMIUM PRODUCER** for the

First Quarter of 2014 is **Howard C. Bluhm MSFS, ChFC** of Maumee, OH. Howard has been in the insurance profession for 37 years and is a 36 year life and qualifying member of the Million Dollar Round Table. Howard is married and has 2 children, Andrea & Brian and a daughter-in-law, Betsy and two grandchildren. To contact Howard, please call his office at 419-893-2233 or email him at: hcbluhm@bex.net



ASSEMBLY 004

Parma, OH

A meeting will be held on Sunday, July 18, 2014 at the residence of Edward and Mildred Havir, 1744 Westhill Boulevard, Westlake, Ohio at 2:00 p.m.

This is our Semi-Annual Audit Meeting and all reports will be due at that time. See you there.

Sonia Vorell
Secretary

ASSEMBLY P09A

Youngstown, OH

Our annual picnic will be held on August 3, 2014 at Heritage Presbyterian Church at 12:30 p.m. All members are welcome.

Betty J DeArcangelis
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 039

Uniontown, PA

We Need Volunteers

Our "Join Hands Day" volunteer event will be the annual Tony Bartock Golf Outing for the benefit of Special Olympics of Fayette County. The event will be held at the Springdale Golf Club on Saturday, July 14th. We will join with the local Knights of Columbus Council and the Ford Dealership in Uniontown to host the event. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. with a shotgun start at 8:00 a.m. We and the special "Olympians" of Fayette County need your help.

SLOVAK DAY at Kennywood Park, in West Mifflin will be celebrated on Thursday, July 17th.

Those assembly college students that are receiving an NSS scholarship are reminded that the renewal date for your scholarship is July 15th!!

Youth members, ages 4 through 16 are reminded about the Youth Poetry Contest. Rules are regulations are in

the NSS Magazine and the new NSS website at www.nsslife.org. Deadline for entries is August 15th!!

For those of you that like to plan ahead, our annual Christmas Party will be on Sunday, December 7th, at the local Knights of Columbus Social Hall starting at 2:00 p.m.

Congratulations to you our members!!! With your help our assembly received a "Platinum Award" designation in the NSS Assembly Awards Program. Extra funds for fraternal projects are awarded with the designation. Again, thank you for your support of your assembly.

John Payerchin
President

ASSEMBLY R059

Whitehall, PA

A meeting will be held on Sunday, July 13, 2014 at the Sawarynski's home at 3:00 p.m. Please try to attend.

Nancy A Sabol
Secretary

ASSEMBLY L075

Duryea, PA

Members of our assembly will hold a matching funds benefit by selling tickets for the Parade of Basket to benefit the Catherine McAuley Center, Scranton, PA which will take place at the Viewmont Mall Dickson City on Saturday, August 9th from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Members are asked to wear their NSS shirts. The fraternal summer picnic will be held on Sunday, July 27th at the Mercateli-Segilia Park, Birney Avenue, Moosic, PA at 1:00 p.m. featuring an old fashioned cookout and basket raffle. Please bring a dish for the table and the Margaret Piloni Scholarship will be awarded at this meeting. Our last meeting for the year will be held on Sunday, October 19th at 1:00 p.m. at the Grande Restaurant Birney Avenue, Moosic, PA to nominate

and elect officers for 2015-2016. For more information contact Lehrae Edwards at 570-457-8402.

Lehrae Edwards
Secretary

ASSEMBLY L102

Schnecksville, PA

A summer picnic will be held on Saturday, July 12, 2014 at the home of Drew & Sharon Wesnak, 1727 Elmhurst Drive, Whitehall, PA at 2:00 p.m. Come and enjoy a day of true fraternalism.

Sharon Wesnak
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 123

Pittsburgh, PA

The United States is now 238 years old. It is a remarkable accomplishment in today's world. We should be so happy and proud to live in this great country.

Our society, NSS, will be 125 years old next year. This will be quite an accomplishment. We should be so happy and proud to be members of our organization that had done so much good for so many people.

I hope to see many of you at Slovak Day at Kennywood Park on Thursday July 17th. If you want discounted tickets call me at 724-242-5085 as soon as possible so I can get the tickets to you.

I do hope some of our members take advantage of our National Golf tournament, July 18th- 20th at Sawmill Creek Resort and Golf Club in Huron Ohio. You are sure to enjoy yourself.

Mary Maniecki, our activity director, is working on a cruise on the Gateway Clipper in September for our assembly. You will hear more details next month.

Enjoy your summer. Spend time with family and friends. Read a good book. Be safe and don't get too much sun.

Bill Knoll
President

ASSEMBLY 160

Lorain, OH

Summer Picnic

Please join us on Saturday, July 12th at Days Dam, 2720 East 31st Street, Lorain for a summer picnic. The Assembly will provide the burgers, dogs, and drinks. We ask that you please bring a side dish or dessert to pass. Lunch will begin at 11:00 a.m. and wrap up around 12:30 p.m. Bring the family and enjoy time with friends, climbing on the playground, and walking around the park.

Please RSVP to Erin Katricak at 440-773-0170 or ekatricak@gmail.com so we can get an accurate head count for food.

Erin Katricak
Activities Director

ASSEMBLY 160

Lorain, OH

Play Ball!

Please join us for Lake Erie Crushers baseball on Friday, August 22, 2014. The group outing includes home box tickets and a pregame picnic of hamburgers, hot dogs, sides, desserts, and soft drinks. The picnic is from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. with the game starting at 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$5 for members and \$10 for guests.

Please contact Erin Katricak at 440-773-0170 or ekatricak@gmail.com to reserve your ticket by August 1st.

Erin Katricak
Activities Director

**Have You Signed
Up A
New Member??**

ASSEMBLY 377

Bentleyville, PA

Our assembly will pay for our members attending Slovak Day on July 17th, 2014 at Kennywood. If interested, please call at 724-207-0410.

A meeting will be held on Sunday, July 20th at the Ponderosa Steakhouse, 1010 Trinity Circle, Washington, Pa. at 3:00 p.m. Please join us to discuss further plans for our assembly and some fraternalism. RSVP to me at 724-207-0410.

Suzanne Skrypak
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 588

Slovan, PA

Fraternal Night -

Old Schoolhouse Players Theater

Assembly 588 is sponsoring a fraternal night at the Mount Pleasant Township Community Center in Hickory, Pennsylvania to watch the Old Schoolhouse Players perform, *Jekyll & Hyde – The Musical*. Any member of Assembly 588 interested in attending *Jekyll & Hyde – The Musical* on Saturday, July 12, 2014, at 7:30 p.m., should contact Annette Stefka at 724-947-9471 by July 7, 2014, to reserve a ticket.

Assembly 588 will provide a ticket free of charge to any Assembly 588 member wishing to attend the performance. The Assembly has reserved a limited number of tickets for the musical. Tickets will be available on a first call basis. Remember – one ticket per member. **Don't forget to call prior to the deadline of July 7th to reserve your ticket.** Join us for a great night of theater and fraternal fun in Hickory, Pennsylvania on July 12th.

Annette Stefka
Recording Secretary

ASSEMBLY 617/C617

Ashley, PA

Knoebels Amusement Park is again the setting for Assembly #617/C617 picnic and park fun. All members are invited to come to Knoebels, Ellysburg, PA. on Thursday, July 24, 2014 from 12 noon to closing (rain or shine). Knoebels has no admission fee and free parking. Members will be given park tickets for the rides (this does not include the pool). We will also have water and hoagies for members. We ask everyone to bring a snack, treat, or salad to share and your favorite drink (non alcoholic).

All members are welcomed but you must have a reservation by July 17th. RSVP by calling Rose Mary Strish (570) 825-3681. At that time I will give you the pavillion # and you can give me your order for the hoagies.

A meeting for final preparation for the picnic will be July 18th at Rose Mary's home.

Rose Mary Strish
President

ASSEMBLY 737

Westmoreland County, PA

A meeting will be held on October 18, 2014 at the home of Paul J. Godor, 9280 Clubview Drive, North Huntingdon, PA at 1:00 p.m.

All assembly business will be discussed at this time.

All members are urged to attend.

Paul J Godor
Treasurer

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 preceding month**. Every effort will be made to publish the article in a timely manner.

USPS “Feed America”



Assembly 0039 President, John Payerchin is flanked by his son and one of the Fayette County Community Food Bank employees as they loaded food on the FCCFB truck.

Assembly 0039, in Uniontown, participated in the nationwide United States Postal Carriers food drive held annually every Saturday before Mother’s Day. Members formed teams that drove out into the community to relieve letter carriers of non-perishable items that they had collected and returned them to the main Uniontown post office to be weighed and loaded on a truck provided by the Fayette County Community FoodBank. Each year the assembly uses this as their “Feed America” project that is also

the National Project of the NSS. This year over 9,000 pounds of food was collected. Thanks to those members of the assembly that volunteered and for those members who placed food item out for their letter carrier to pick-up.



Assembly 617/C617 - Join Hands Day

After a stormy Friday, the weather cleared up and our assembly was able to meet at the Catherine McAuley House on May 17, 2014 for our Join Hands Project. We pulled weeds, trimmed bushes, planted flowers and used mulch to make the building a beautiful sight for spring and the upcoming Memorial Day Celebration. Our members brought cleaning supplies and grooming/personal items for the residents of the shelter and also gave a monetary donation. The work was hard since we are getting older, but it is a worthy cause and everyone was glad we were able to help.

Rose Mary Strish
Secretary



Region 2

A luncheon/meeting for Region #2 was held at the Grotto Pizza, Edwardsville, PA on May 17th. Members from Assembly #617 and L075 were present to discuss happenings in each of our assemblies and our upcoming convention in June. After our meeting we shared some stories and pizza for an enjoyable afternoon. Our next meeting will be on October 25, 2014 at the Grotto Pizza at 12:30 p.m.

Rose Mary Strish
Secretary

Assembly 617 News

Our assembly members met for a luncheon/meeting at the Grotto Pizza in April, 2014. We discussed our upcoming convention and voted on our donations we will give at the convention for the Wounded Warriors and the PVR Scholarship Fund. We also gave donations to our local St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen, Wilkes-Barre, PA for History Day at Holy Redeemer Height School, Wilkes-Barre and the Convention Program Book. We are looking forward to the convention and being with all the delegates again.

Rose Mary Strish
Secretary

Slovak Bowling Congress

Walt Strugala, Akron, OH is the winner of the 66th NSS All-Events Sweepstakes. He captured top spot in the 6th annual NSS All Events Bowling Sweepstakes staged for our society members in the 72nd Slovak Bowling Congress of America Tournament, held recently at Freeway Lanes in Warren, Ohio.

Walt's winning score was 2118. His actual series was 1848 plus 270 handicap pins over the nine game all events.

Congratulations to Brother Strugala. A sincere NSS "Thank You" to all who participated in this year's sweepstakes. Hope to see you in the Spring of 2015 at Midway Lanes in Akron, Ohio.

Region 15 - Pre-Convention Meeting

A meeting was held on Saturday, April 12, 2014 at the Holy Name of Jesus School Meeting Room, Stratford, Ct. under the direction of National President, David G. Blazek, FIC and National Secretary/Treasurer, Linda Strom. The meeting was productive, informative and extremely well-presented. The question/answer portion of the agenda gave all participants a much greater insight and overall view of the operations of our Society and upcoming Convention. Participants were from Assemblies L002, 0028, L145. We take this opportunity to individually and collectively to thank Dave and Linda for monetary prizes, NSS shirts, hats in which all participants had an opportunity to be a winner.

Our Care and Share portion of the meeting included a large portion of donations of non-perishable food items and the generous monetary donations from President Blazek, Secretary/Treasurer, Strom and Region 15 President, Joseph Goda allowed Eileen Wilson to purchase additional items and bring same to the designated recipient Sterling House Community Center in Stratford, CT.

A thank you letter from Louis D. Perno, ACSW Executive Director, Sterling House C.C. follows:

Dear National Slovak Society:

A heartfelt "thank you" for your generous donation of food to Sterling House Food Pantry. This act of kindness will enable us to provide emergency assistance to many families and individuals. We truly appreciate your thoughtfulness. Your support will enable Sterling House to nurture the body, mind and spirit of youth and adults in the heart of Stratford. Again, thank you so much.

Louis D. Perno ACSW, Executive Director



L-R: Secretary/Treasurer Linda Strom and President David Blazek, FIC participated in our Care and Share portion of the meeting (with generous monetary donations) with some of the non-perishable items donated by the participants at the meeting.



The distaff participants: Mary Ann Wuxcheck, Eileen Wilson, Linda Strom and Carole LaDue.



National Officers and Region 15 Officers at the meeting. L-R: front row - Mary Ann Wuchek, Vice-President; Linda Strom, and Carole LaDue, Treasurer. L-R: back row - Nelson LaDue, Board of Directors, David Blazek, Joseph Goda, President; George Vagasky and Bill Janega, Board of Directors, and Eileen Wilson, Secretary.



Our male participants at the meeting: L-R: Andy Wuchek, Joseph Goda, George Vagasky, Nelson LaDue, Bill Janega and Tom Marticek.

Assembly 731 News - Mother's Day Dinner

Several men in Assembly 731 prepared and served a delicious pasta dinner to give mothers and their families an opportunity to sit back, relax and enjoy a day without cooking. They also did the dishes and cleaned up after the dinner. We really appreciate their time, energy and thoughtfulness. We are also very grateful to the Poland Christian Church for letting us use their hall and kitchen for the dinner.



Mike Fox Jr., Mike Fox, Jim Cessna, and Randy Estes cooked and served the guests.



Randy Estes serving a plateful of pasta and meatballs.



Andrew and Nicholas Cessna were responsible for washing and drying the dishes, utensils, and pans. Mark and Matt Mason also helped with the set-up and clean-up but missed the photo op.

The 91st Annual Slovak Day At Kennywood Park Bishop David A. Zubik To Celebrate Liturgy

The 91st Annual Slovak Day will take place Thursday, July 17, 2014 at Kennywood Park, West Mifflin, PA. It will be an exciting day for Americans of Slovak descent to celebrate their heritage with each other while enjoying colorful displays, authentic costumes, a Slovak liturgy, spectacular Slovak Folk Dance performances, scrumptious Slovak food, special children's activities as well as foot-tapping music for dancing. These combine to build a treasure chest of memories—many to be remembered and still more waiting to be created.

A highlight of Slovak Day is the con-celebration of the Slovak Liturgy in the Main Pavilion directly behind "Garfield's Revenge" at 4:00 pm. The Main Celebrant of the Liturgy will be Bishop David A. Zubik, Bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, along with several Catholic priests from the Pittsburgh, Greensburg and Johnstown-Altoona Dioceses. Immediately following will be the vibrant repertoire of Slovak music, songs and dances presented by the "Pittsburgh Slovaks" and the "Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble" (PAS).

Tantalize your taste buds at the Slovak Kitchen where you will be able to enjoy holubky (stuffed cabbage), haluski (sweet cabbage and noodles), and kolbasy. Your sweet tooth can be satisfied with the homemade favorite –ceregi. Enjoy this delicious dinner or ala-carte foods and relax amid the echoes of Slovakia, as the strolling musicians play all of the "Slovak favorites". Food will be served in Pavilion #4 behind the ride "Garfield's Revenge" from 12:30 p.m. until the food is sold out.

In Pavilion # 3 you will be able to see an exhibit on "Slovak Easter" prepared by the "PAS" Jr. and Maly Ensembles. The exhibit will include Slovak heirlooms of folk treasures that show the incredible skill and artistry found in the Slovak villages.

In the Main Pavilion # 5 there will be Slovak Cultural Displays provided by the Slovak Fraternals as well as the popular "Kroj" Slovak National Costumes Exhibit.

A special youth area will feature activities just for children. The children's program will include games and treats beginning at 12:30 pm by the Main Pavilion. Every child participating in these activities will receive a free treat.

From 2 to 4 p.m., one can sit back and enjoy the music or kick up your heels dancing, grab a partner and twirl to traditional Slovak music of the George Batyi Ensemble at the Kitchen Pavilion.

For a day to remember, join all Slovaks on Thursday, July 17, 2014, Kennywood Park. The cost of tickets are \$25 for Fun Day General Admission, \$15 for those 55 years of age and over, plus a coupon will be available for those 70 years and over to be paid at the gate for \$10.50 + tax. Tickets and coupons are available by contacting Sue Ondrejco at (412) 421-1204 or Rev. Joseph Grosko at (412) 466-6545. For general information about the 91st Slovak Day contact Chairwoman Dolores Sakal at (412) 243-0438.

9th Annual Mahoning Valley Slovak Fest

The Mahoning Valley Slovak Fest in Youngstown, Ohio will take place on August 10, 2014 on the grounds of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, St. Matthias Church, 2800 Shady Run Road (in the Southside neighborhood of Lansingville.)

A Slovak Mass will start the celebration at 11:00 a.m. at St. Matthias Church and after the Mass the activities will move outside to the parking lot and inside to the Fr. Snock Hall. Slovak foods and baked goods will be available all day long, indoor displays of Slovak crafts, outfits, pictures and books. There will be information about various Slovak organizations and projects, cookbooks and recipes, and maps for you to locate your ancestral villages.

Food will be available all day outside including haluski, kolbassi, roast pork, pirohy and more. And of course, Slovak pivo (beer) will be available! Inside the school hall, for a taste of Slovakia dinners will be served from noon till 3.!

Musical entertainment will be provided outdoors by the Eddie Vallus Band and the Del Sinchak Orchestra and Living Traditions Folk Ensemble will play inside the hall where they put on great traditional Slovak singing and folk dances after the dinners are finished.

As usual, the Slovak Fest also has many Slovak items on display or for sale including a selection of beautiful Slovak crystal and pottery. There will be a silent auction of baskets filled with all sorts of items, and a raffle of \$2000 worth of Get Go/Giant Eagle gift cards for gasoline or food! There will be children's games and other activities throughout the day.

For more information you can contact Loretta Ekoniak at 330-549-3760 or loretta.ekoniak@gmail.com

*Visit our website at www.nsslife.org
for all current information.*



Počas mesiaca Júla ľud si oddýchuje od pravidelnej každodennej práce, a od horúčavy. Vieme, že mnohý z vás budete dovolenkovať či už doma v záhrade, či na kúpalisku alebo pri mori. Všetkým prajeme dobrého zotavenia sa, šťastia, radosti, a výborný relax.

KRÁSNE
PRAZDNINY!

V júly v júly krásny svet ku vode hneď každý z nás leť. Z výšav prúdi škovrančí hlas pozýva nás do letných krás kde vládne snečný jas.



Golfovy Turnaj

Naša organizácia v tento mesiac pripravuje Golfový turnaj od 18 júla do 20 júla. Podrobnejšie info nájdete v Anglickej časti, alebo na webovej stránke



Foto: TASR/Martin Bauman

Bratislava 9. júna (TASR) - Prvý tropický víkend (7. 6. - 8. 6.) prilákal na kúpaliská prevádzkované Správou telovýchovných a rekreačných zariadení (STARZ) hlavného mesta SR Bratislavy 7980 návštevníkov. Najväčšiu návštevnosť zaznamenal rekreačno-športový areál na Zlatých pieskoch, kam zavítalo 2487 ľudí.



Foto: TASR/Frantisek Ivan

Košice 9. júna (TASR) - Po necelých deviatich mesiacoch prevádzky linky Londýn – Košice – Londýn dnes na košickom letisku privítali 50-tisícovo cestujúceho. Šťastlivcom bol Timothy Cook. O linku, ktorú prevádzkuje spoločnosť Wizz Air, je od jej spustenia vlani v septembri vysoký dopyt na oboch stranách - v Košiciach i Londýne. Informovalo o tom Letisko Košice.



Pán Caplovič, minister školstva Slovenskej Republiky navštívil naše mesto Pittsburgh 20-teho mája. Recepciu k tomu podujatiu sponzorovalo US Steel a zišlo sa vyše 70 hostí, z ktorých mnohý su učiteľmi. Jeho zástavka v Pittsburghu, ho viedla aj na Univerzitu v Pittsburghu kde sa vyučuje slovenský jazyk, a tiež i na California Univerzity of Pennsylvania kde urobili dohodu s výmenou študentov medzi univerzitou Komenského v Bratislave a tiež výučbu Slovenského jazyka.

Slovenský deň v Kennywood Parku

Oznamujeme Slovákom a Slovenkám v PGH, a okolí, že 91 Slovenský deň západnej PA bude vo štvrtok 17 júla v zábavnom parku Kennywood.

Program Slovenského dňa sa začne od jednej budú detskej hry, o druhej vystúpia folklórom ti najmenší. Sv. Omša bude po anglicky o 4-tej po poludni a po bohoslužbe vystúpia folklórne súbory Pgh Slovákov a PAS.

Po celé poobede budú podávať chutné Slovenské jedla. Vstupenky do parku sú po \$25 dolarov môžete si ich zaobstarat' od Sue Ondrejco po telephone na čísle 412 421-1204.

Slovenský Vierozvestci

5 teho júla ako Slovenský národ oslávime sviatok vierozvestcov sv. Cyrila a Metóda ktorý doniesli vieru Slovenskému národu, v roku 863. Pre Slovenský národ zložili aj písmo známe ako Cyrilka a učili 'čítať' a písať našich predkov. Dnes sme radi že Vám môžeme napísať aspoň niekoľko riadkov po slovensky.

Nová webová stránka pre kresťanských manželov a rodičov

“...keď Boh ma miesto za rodinným stolom,” je motto novej webovej stránky pre kresťanských rodičov. Čitatelia na nej najdu články pre manželov, pre rodičov, tipy pre manželske a rodinne spoločenstvá, svedectva, rozhovory, recenzie. Tím autorov je tvorený prevažne z odborníkov v mladom veku, ktorí žijú v manželstve a vychovávajú deti, zameriavajú sa na témy : manželska spiritualita, manželska komunikácia, teológia tela, láska a plodnosť, výzvy manželstva ako bezdetnosť, rozvod, nesviatostné-manželstvo, materstvo, otcovstvo, výchova deti ku viere a slávenie sviatkov v rodine. TK KBS

Determination in Adversity



Inspiration in the form of courage and dedication can sometimes be found close to home, and few stories are as close as the difficult journey and achievements of Kevin Crowley, Jr. Kevin is a life long member of Assembly 441, past recipient of the PVR Scholarship, attended the last convention, and the son of Editor Lori and husband, Kevin. Today, he is a proud member of the Baltimore Maryland Police Department, and as

you read this you will know that much more is still to come. Kevin's childhood dream has been in law enforcement. His vision was clear and direct, but his path to where he is today and may well be tomorrow, was anything but. They say that what doesn't kill us makes us stronger, and this is a story of great strength. Graduating from high school, he was accepted in the field of criminal investigations at Penn State, then opted instead to go to WVU which by his own investigation offered a superior program. He graduated from WVU in 2009, interned in the Coroners office and in fugitive investigations. He was then accepted by a federal law enforcement agency and scheduled to begin training in 2010.

Prior to leaving, Kevin went to a doctor for a pain in his hip. Only weeks before he was to report, he was diagnosed with a rare condition called Avascular Necrosis; a disruption of blood supply that causes bone tissue to die and collapse. It was bilateral - meaning both hips. The condition is rare, and even more so for a 23 year old with a good health profile, but it was unquestionably destructive. The doctor told Kevin his dream was over. He would never be able to work in a field as physical as law enforcement. He would be fortunate just to walk. He had no intention of giving up his goals. Exploring different routes, Kevin found a doctor at Duke University Hospital that was willing to help him. Kevin's strengths, physically and mentally, and his firm determination made him an excellent candidate but the road ahead was rough and hard. There were possibilities, but they would be painful, long and difficult. Therapy would last a year for each operation. During this time, he always kept himself busy so there was no time to think of the pain. On his days off from therapy, with the help of a wheel chair, crutches, and family, Kevin volunteered every week at Children's Hospital. He was an inspiration to many, many people including our President, Dave Blazek when he had his accident in 2012. Following 707 days of medical distractions, Kevin was on his feet again and back after his original goal. He graduated from the police academy in March of this year and is now a proud member of the Baltimore Police Department. Also, while in the academy he was offered a position with the PA State Troopers.

The dream goes on, and having overcome and achieved so much, there's every reason to believe there's a lot more to come. May God keep you safe Officer Crowley.

NSS Heritage Museum Presents ...



As 2014 marks the 25th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution, the National Czech & Slovak Museum and Library has found a unique way to tell the story of the Communists' departure from Czechoslovakia.

To commemorate this milestone in Czech and Slovak history, the National Czech & Slovak Museum and Library curatorial team has created a traveling exhibit highlighting first-hand experiences of Americans who were in Czechoslovakia during this period. *Witness to the Revolution* will be on display July 12-18 at the NSS Heritage Museum.

Join us Saturday, July 12 for an opening reception from 1 to 3 p.m. RSVP to (412) 421-1204 or (412) 531-2990.

NSS Heritage Museum

351 Valley Brook Rd. McMurray, PA 15317

Tour to Slovakia

2014 Slovakia Heritage Tour

Experience Slovakia's culture and history, up close and personal on the 2014 Slovakia Heritage, September 4-14, 2014 eleven-day, small-group tour. Genealogical research and ancestral visits available.

For details: Visit www.slovakiaheritage.com or contact Judith Northup-Bennett, 978-544-5144 or connectionswork4u@hotmail.com

NSS Home Office is not responsible for reservations and has no information regarding trip. Please call the contact person listed above.



Youth Circle Page

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

Deadline for PVR Scholarship Renewals

Students must submit verification of continuing education enrollment from attending school by submitting a transcript of their grades indicating you have maintained a 3.0 GPA, to the NSS Scholarship Department at the conclusion of EACH school year before they will be considered eligible to receive payment for a second, third, or fourth year grant. These transcripts must be received by **JULY 15TH**.

NO EXCEPTIONS

THIS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

Junior Pittsburgh Slovakians

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

* Learn to sing, dance &/or play the violin.

* No experience necessary,
we'll show you how!

* 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, please call Sue
Ondrejco at 412-421-1204 or e-mail:
sue.ondrejco@gmail.com

2014 YOUTH POETRY CONTEST

Deadline: August 15th, 2014

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

1. Contest is open to all NSS Youth members ages 5 to 16.
2. Poem may be any length up to two pages double spaced.
3. Topic is chosen by individual.
4. Each poem submitted **MUST** be an original work created by the member and should be typed or hand written clearly.
5. All entries must include: name, address, phone number, age, policy number, assembly/circle number, along with your t-shirt size chosen by the following sizes available:

Youth Sizes - YS and YM

Adult Sizes - AS, AM, AL and AXL

6. Winners in each category will have their poetry printed in the National News, Youth Circle Magazine, and on the NSS Website.
7. Contest shall be judged under the following ages:

Keats - Ages 5, 6, 7

Frost - Ages 11, 12, 13

Angelou - Ages 8, 9, 10

Shakespeare - Ages 14, 15, 16

8. Prizes awarded in each level shall be as follows:

First Place- \$50.00 & Certificate of Achievement

Second Place- \$25.00 & Certificate of Achievement

Third Place- \$15.00 & Certificate of Achievement

9. Deadline for entries to the Home Office is August 15th. Entries must be mailed or delivered to:

National Slovak Society
c/o Fraternal Department
351 Valley Brook Road
McMurray, PA 15317

10. Entries will be judged by an outside professional. Decisions made by the judge will be final in all cases.

11. The National Slovak Society reserves the right to keep all the poems.

Please contact Fraternal Activities Coordinator Pam Blum at pblum@nsslife.org
or call the Home Office at 724-731-0094 if you have any questions.

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

Address Service Requested

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 friends and family. Best of all, you will receive a cash reward for recommending someone that we end up issuing a policy to. You will receive a \$25 recommender fee (\$10 on youth term) for each person that becomes a member.

Recommender Information:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Prospect Information:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send form to Joe Elliott at the Home Office.



Change of Address

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

Name _____

Assembly No. _____

New Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Former Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

DEADLINE FOR PUBLICATION

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