



National Slovak Society

Where "Family Matters"

NOVEMBER 2014 | NUMBER 3475 VOLUME 106



125th

Anniversary

IN CELEBRATION OF
THIS HISTORIC MILESTONE,
WE ARE KICKING OFF A
FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN
FOR A NEW SCHOLARSHIP:

THE
125TH ANNIVERSARY
PERPETUAL
SCHOLARSHIP

PVR SCHOLARSHIP
TREE OF LIFE



"Supporting the futures of so many with the celebration of our past"



National Slovak Society

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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*
Linda Strom, *Secretary/Treasurer*

NSS NATIONAL DIRECTORS

Alan Burns
Keith Czarney
Andrea Garbon
Keith S. Godor
Abigail Gross
Robert Katricak
Susan Ondrejco
Joseph Stefka, Jr.
Drew Wesnak

NSS HONORARY OFFICERS

Sophia Hudak, *Tribunal Member*
Anthony Beno, *Director*
Dean Burns, *Vice-President*
Edward Havir, *Director*
Mary Jo Holker, *Director*
Edward Koches, *Director*
Paul J. Godor, *Director*
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Reverend Monsignor Thomas V. Banick,
Spiritual Advisor

PBU HONORARY OFFICERS

Henri O. Albert, *President*
Reverend George Virchick

ROCWMAS HONORARY OFFICER

Olga Kasnot, *President*

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

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Activities at a Glance...

REGION 2	<p>Assemblies L075, 0146, 0617</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No activities at this time</p>
REGION 5	<p>Assemblies P38A, 0039, 0100, L105, 0108, 0123, L161, 0283, 0377, 0434, 0441, 0588, 0700, 0737, 0774</p> <p>November 11 Assembly 0039, Dinner/Meeting, IHOP Restaurant, WalMart Plaza, Uniontown, PA at 6:00 pm November 17 Assembly 0588, Meeting, Stefka Residence, Slovan, PA at 6:00 pm December 7 Assembly 0039, Christmas Party, Knights of Columbus Social Hall, Uniontown, PA at 2:00 pm December 7 Assembly 0377, Christmas Party/Meeting, Atria's, McMurray, PA at 3:00 pm December 7 Assembly 0123, Frick Mansion Tour, Point Breeze, PA at 3:00 pm</p>
REGION 7	<p>Assemblies P09A, 0008, 0731</p> <p>December 4 Assembly P09A, Christmas Party, Yankee Kitchen, Boardman, OH at 5:45 pm December 6 Region 7, Christmas Party, Holy Family Parish Hall, Poland, OH at 1:00 pm</p>
REGION 8	<p>Assemblies 0004, 0070, 0160, 0432, 0595</p> <p>November 16 Assembly 0004, Meeting, Havir Residence, Westlake, OH at 2:00 pm November 18 Assembly 0160, Toys for Tots Night December 7 Assembly 0070/C070, Christmas Party/Meeting, Dr. Martin Luther Ch, Brooklyn, OH at 12:15pm December 14 Assembly 0432, Christmas Party, Gemini Center, Fairview Park, OH at 12 Noon December 16 Assembly 0432, Christmas Meeting, 7:30 pm, Location TBD December 16 Assembly 0160, Fun Frolic Night January 20, 2015 Assembly 0160, Annual Dinner/Meeting at 6:00 pm</p>
REGION 14	<p>Assemblies R059, L102</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No activities at this time</p>
REGION 15	<p>Assemblies L002, 0028, L145</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No activities at this time</p>
AT LARGE	<p>Assemblies R019, L040, 0110, 0236, 0267, 0381, 0554, 0568, 0586, 0705, 0800, 0813</p> <p>November 7 Assembly 0554, Meeting, Stricek's Residence, DuBois, PA at 2:00 pm November 30 Assembly 0381, Officers Meeting, Hungarian Rhapsody Restaurant, Southgate, MI at 2:00 pm November 30 Assembly 0586, Christmas Party, Bohemian Garden Restaurant, Downers Grove at 1:00 pm December 11 Assembly 0586, Stedraky Christmas Luncheon, Sts. Peter & Paul Lutheran Church, Riverside, IL December 14 Assembly R019, Basket Raffle/Luncheon December 24 Assembly 0705, Annual Christmas Eve celebration March 22, 2015 Assembly 0381, Welcome Spring Lunch/Meeting, Time/Location TBD</p>

To celebrate Thanksgiving, our offices will be closed on Thursday, November 27th and Friday, November 28th.

From The President's Desk...



David G. Blazek, FIC
National President

Greetings from McMurray Pennsylvania, home of the National Slovak Society, the oldest Slovak Fraternal in the U.S.A. This month, don't forget to set your clocks on November 2nd to fall back or you will be early for every event you need to attend. Also on the 2nd, the University of Pittsburgh will be holding its annual Slovak Day at the Cathedral of Learning. November 4th is Election Day; make sure you go to the polls and cast your vote for candidates that will work for the betterment of the country. This election will be a very important election that will decide who controls the Senate and the House. The weekend of the 8th/9th is our Reorganizational/Fall Board meeting which will bring the new Board together for the first time to conduct the business of the society.

November 11th is Veterans Day; a day to honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice to help make the USA the country it is today, and to thank those who served and are currently serving in the armed forces. And last but not least, we will be celebrating Thanksgiving Day on the 27th of the month. On behalf of my entire family, along with the staff and board members of the NSS, I would like to wish each of you a very Happy Thanksgiving!

In looking at the NSS activities calendar I see Assembly 0586 will be

holding the first Christmas Party of the season on November 30th, and Assembly 0554 will be holding a meeting on November 7th.

News of Narodniars

We were saddened to hear of the recent passing of Tony Pytel, a longtime member of NSS and for many years one of our premier golfers at the NSS Golf Tournaments. Deepest sympathies go out to the entire Pytel Family.

Happy Birthday wishes to Editor Lori Crowley, Home office staff member Patti Kropf, former National Director Brian Medved, Sarah Payerchin and Shirley Brindzak.

Celebrating wedding anniversaries are Honorary Director Tony Beno and wife Linda, National Director Joe Stefka and wife Annette, and Jodi and Rick Onder.

Congratulations to all others celebrating in November.

Friends of Slovakia

Part of our NSS mission statement is providing cultural opportunities for our members that keep the ties to Slovakia. One way that we fulfill this is through our ties with Friends of Slovakia. Friends of Slovakia is a Washington based non-profit organization of volunteers founded 2001. Their mission is to strengthen friendship with mutually beneficial cooperation between the United States and Slovakia, as nations sharing similar values of freedom, democracy and a market economy. FOS seeks to promote this cooperation in economic, business, political, security, cultural, educational and humanitarian fields and to improve mutual understanding between our two countries.

There are three main areas of focus for the Friends of Slovakia:

Political Ties: Friends of Slovakia seeks to promote a greater understanding of Slovakia and its domestic, foreign and security policies by Americas decision-makers. Primary areas of activity include building networks and increasing Slovakia's visibility in the U.S. through a series of roundtables on major topics of interest.

Economic Ties: Friends of Slovakia works with Slovak and American companies and entrepreneurs to explore and advance bilateral economic ties of trade and investment.

Academic, Cultural and Social Ties: Friends of Slovakia is committed to enabling Slovaks and Americans to share with each other the rich and diverse artistic and cultural heritage of both countries. In this area, FOS brings young Slovak leaders to the United States through a summer Slovak Scholars program and promotes a variety of cultural exchanges.

Since the Republic of Slovakia opened the first Embassy in its history, in Washington, D.C., in 2001 one of the most notable and popular features has been the Friends of Slovakia Wall of Honor. Located alongside the Embassy's beautiful back patio, the wall provides a prominent place for individuals, companies and organizations to be permanently recognized for their commitment to the goals of Friends of Slovakia. The NSS has a plaque on the wall and is proud of our support for FOS.

Adult Truths:

You never know when it will strike, but there comes a moment when you know that you just aren't going to do anything productive for the rest of the day.

A Page From My Notebook.....

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



Oh, No It's November....

I really thought that by this time of the year I would be all caught up with my day-to-day responsibilities now that the Convention is over. NOT! And, it's now time to begin getting the Assembly/Region Annual Packets ready for mailing.

We Need YOUR Help!

We are planning a SPECIAL EVENT next year and we need your help (Hint: something is 125 years old).

Go to the Fraternal Activities Coordinator's Page to read all about it.

Fraternal Tracking

Just my annual reminder to send in your forms for your 2014 Assembly and Region activities to earn fraternal tracking points. These points are accumulated and may earn your assembly a Diamond or Platinum Award. 75 to 99 points earns your assembly the Platinum Award, 100 points and over earns the Diamond Award. Good Luck.

2014 Bylaws and Convention Minutes

The newly adopted Constitution and Bylaws approved and adopted at the 36th Quadrennial Convention have been mailed to all Delegates and Officers of the Assemblies that did not have representation at the Convention. If I have missed anyone please let me know.

2014-2018 National Directors

As I write this article we are preparing for our Reorganizational Board of Directors Meeting November 8-9, 2014.

Four (4) new members of the Board will take their seat at this meeting. Welcome aboard Alan T Burns, Michael J Czarney, Andrea I Garbon and Abigail Gross.

Sadly, three of our previous Board members will retire along with Vice President Dean A Burns. They are: Anthony J Beno, Mary Jo Holker and William Knoll who have given their dedication and expertise unselfishly year after year to the Board of Directors and to the NSS.

In recognition of the years of dedication to the NSS (over 50 combined) the Board of Directors and the Delegates of the 36th Quadrennial Convention bestowed the title of "Honorary" upon Vice President Dean A Burns, Director Anthony J Beno and Director Mary Jo Holker. Congratulations and thank you for all you have given to the NSS.

Summer Executive Committee Mtg Recap

Members of the Executive Committee met on Saturday, September 13, 2014 at the Home Office. All members of the committee were in attendance. Items addressed during the meeting are as follows:

Investments and mortgages were reviewed and ratified.

The **Investment Report**, presented by Larry White, AQS, covered Portfolio Metrics; Trailing Reinvestments; Annuity Average Credited Rate and Balance; Gross Margin; Investment Quality, Sector and Municipal Distribution; Projected Forward Cash Flow; Purchases; Treasuries and a final Commentary.

Sales Director Greg Felton presented the **Sales Directors Report** highlighting: 2014 Second Quarter Sales; Top States for Sales; Quarterly year to year comparison for Policies; New Members and Premium; NSS Membership; NSS Agents and a new offer for our 125th Anniversary.

After discussion it was the consensus of the committee that Annuity Crediting Rates remain the same. (elsewhere in this issue is a recap of our current annuity crediting rates.)

Fraternal Report - The report of the Fraternal Activities Coordinator provided information on the 2015 National Golf Tournament, PVR Scholarships granted or renewed for 2014 and a brief recap of the actions of the Convention Fraternal Committee.

The following **Old Business** was addressed: 125th Anniversary celebration; NSS History Book update; a status report on our Admin System conversion; the status of our PA Insurance Department Examination; Home Office Personnel update and attendance at the September 2014 American Fraternal Alliance Annual Meeting.

President Blazek presented a verbal Convention Wrap-up report highlighting convention week. The new governance structure was unanimously passed and immediately adopted by the PA Insurance Department. Convention Minutes and the new Bylaws have been published and will be sent to all delegates.

The following **New Business** was presented: President Blazek presented several petitions received; New Board Member orientation planned, NSS Heritage Museum Christmas in September event.

Two Convention Petitions were revisited at this time. After discussion the Executive Committee approved a \$1,500 donation to the Slovak League of America and a \$1,000 donation to the Youngstown Sister Cities;

Under **Good of the Order** President Blazek announced that our Fall Board Meeting will be held November 8-9, 2014 with the Bond Audit on the 7th.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING !!!

DONATE TO THE PVR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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

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

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

Name: _____

Assembly: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Please issue your check to: **NSS PVR Scholarship Fund**

And send to: **National Slovak Society
351 Valley Brook Road
McMurray, PA 15317**

PVR SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATIONS September, 2014

In Memory of **Joseph & Elizabeth**

Resovsky:

From McEvoy Family 25.00

In Memory of husband, **Baird Holker:**

From Mary Jo Holker 100.00

Donation to Museum:

In Memory of my mother,

Mary Burns:

From Mary Jo Holker 100.00

Donations:

Region 5 Picnic 124.00

Matching Funds from

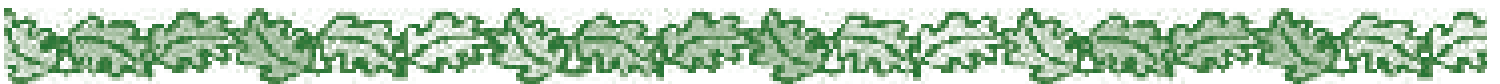
Region 5 Picnic 124.00

John & Flo Bebo,

(Thanks to Pam Blum) 25.00

Nancy H Hauser 100.00

Walter & Jan Kosiba 25.00



Letters of Appreciation

Dear Mr. Blazek:

This letter is to acknowledge my receipt of the approved PVR Scholarship Grant. Please extend my sincere appreciation to the membership for this award. I am honored to receive this scholarship which will help me financially at Penn State Behrend for my education in the field of engineering.

Michael Stumpf

Dear PVR Committee:

Thank you for your scholarship given to me through out the past few years that I have attended Penn State University. I am a pre-med major and by awarding me this scholarship you have helped with the financial burden and inspired me to one day help others achieve their goals, as you have helped me. Thank you again for your generosity and support.

Daniel Reynolds

Dear Mr. Blazek,

I would like to say thank you for the PVR Scholarship Grant and the Dr. John Gulash Perpetual Award which I have received. I consider this to be an honor and am very grateful for receiving them. This monetary award will be providing assistance toward my academic studies in the field of Biology at West Chester University.

James Thomas Flint

Dear Members:

I would like to thank you for the scholarship awarded to me. I transferred to Western North Carolina from Pittsburgh two years ago and left my family to avoid losing my job. After moving here, I was downgraded to part-time, working 12 hours a week. Facing financial hardship I knew I had to make a career change. Without the award of financial aid and your generous scholarships, this change would

not be possible. Once again thank you from the bottom of my heart. I look forward to another year of learning at Haywood Community College.

Tracey L Phillips

Dear Mr. Blazek:

Thank you for the PVR Scholarship Grant which I have received during my four years of college at the University of Scranton. I will be completing my major in Biology Pre-Medicine and minors in Psychology and Philosophy in May, 2015. I look forward to sharing my future endeavors upon graduation and will send a letter to the PVR Scholarship Department.

Matthew L Flint

Editors Note: In the October issue a Thank You letter from Allison Hosko was printed. The last name printed was Williams instead of Hosko. Sorry Allison for the inconvenience.

In Memory Of Calvin W. Kanyuck

Region #2 Treasurer

Assembly 0146 Secretary/Treasurer

Calvin W. Kanyuck, 88, of Newport Township, PA. passed away September 7, 2014. He was born in Glen Lyon, PA son of the late John & Louisa Sutter Kanyuck. He graduated from Newport Township High School, received a bachelor's degree from Bloomsburg State College and a Master's of Education Degree from the University of Virginia. He served on the faculty of Lake Lehman School District as a science teacher from 1954 until his retirement in 1993. Calvin proudly served his country with the U.S. Navy during World War II as a minesweeper in the Pacific Theater of Operations. He was an active member of the American Legion Post Glen Lyon serving as quartermaster and funeral honors detail. He was very active in his community, serving as a commissioner for four years, a member of the Newport Township Radiological Unit for the Susquehanna Nuclear Power Plant, active with the Volunteer Ambulance Association, a life long member of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church and served on the church council.

Calvin was a member of the NSS since childhood. His father, John, was an officer who was then president for years and passed down the love and dedication to the NSS to Calvin. He became Secretary/Treasurer for his dad and continued the Assembly 0146 until his death. He also was very active in Region #2 and in 1996 became Treasurer of Region #2 until his death. He will be greatly missed by those who worked with him in the NSS.

Surviving are his wife of 53 years, Ruth Kanyuck, son, Dwight Kanyuck and his wife Barbara, Rochester N.Y., daughter, Karen and her husband, Josh Ginsberg, Quakertown, PA, sisters Louise Blanco, Maryland, Natalie Stelmack, Larksville, PA and Athea Yenchak, Pittsburgh.

OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS

September, 2014

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Alimena Jr, Albert J	Sewickley, PA	09/12/2014	0123
Almes, Muriel	Saltsburg, PA	08/26/2014	C105
Anderson, Keith J	Baraboo, WI	07/04/2014	0774
Arnold, Margaret	Toms River, NJ	06/23/2014	P31M
Azare, Jeannette C	East Millsboro, PA	08/12/2014	0377
Babbitt, Susan	Linden, NJ	08/28/2014	P31M
Bartolomucci, Barbara	Murrysville, PA	09/05/2014	0737
Bianchi, Jean	New Eagle, PA	08/25/2014	0377
Bishop, Sarah J	Punxsutawney, PA	09/02/2014	0554
Brady, Larnce R	Winter Haven, FL	08/29/2014	0381
Casario Jr, John	Brownsville, PA	08/01/2014	0039
Cassidy, Edith W	Burgettstown, PA	09/15/2014	0588
Cullen, Thomas G	North Canton, OH	08/02/2014	0008
Danko, Michael D	Osceola Mills, PA	10/26/2013	0774
Drake, June A	Kirkwood, NY	08/13/2014	L075
Figole, Frances D	Pittsburgh, PA	05/23/2014	0100
Foltz, Ruby	Inwood, WV	08/20/2014	0774
Gazella, Frank T	Carnegie, PA	09/13/2014	0434
Gresock, Marjorie	Grove City, PA	08/15/2014	0731
Heir, Margaret	Pittsburgh, PA	06/30/2014	0737
Hubert, Mary J	Montello, WI	05/22/2014	0774
Hughes, Betty J	Belva, WV	07/03/2014	0809
Hvisc, Albert	Hudson, FL	07/21/2014	0813
Kompan, Arline	Avon, OH	08/24/2014	0432
Leal, Maria E	Toledo, OH	08/03/2014	0160
Madea, Pauline	Bayonne, NJ	07/09/2014	0161
Marlowe, Paul A	Kennerdell, PA	07/07/2014	0267
McHenry, Ronald	Murrysville, PA	08/30/2014	C105
Mehal, Margaret	North Olmsted, OH	08/20/2014	0039
Michalek, Robert D	Parker, CO	07/03/2014	0236
Misher, George L	Rices Landing, PA	07/29/2014	0039
Mottle Jr, Edward	Homosassa, FL	08/21/2014	0813
Nester, Fred	Charleston, WV	09/01/2014	0774
Noofita, Nancy	Pittsburgh, PA	08/12/2014	0123
Pleva, Frank P	Strongsville, OH	05/22/2014	0432
Rhodes, Dorothy	Charleston, WV	08/14/2014	0774
Ricci, Pasqualino	Tarentum, PA	08/17/2014	0700
Sadler, Patricia A	Donora, PA	09/13/2014	0377
Scott, William J	Scott Depot, WV	08/15/2014	0774
Sterback, Margaret	Trumbull, CT	07/31/2014	0028
Swankler, Marie	Pittsburgh, PA	08/31/2014	L161
Valasek, Elizabeth I	Ford City, PA	08/25/2014	0700
Ward, Lucille M	Dunmore, PA	08/02/2014	L102
Yanni, Anthony S	Washington, PA	08/22/2014	0588

In Loving Memory of Assembly 432 Member Tony Pytel

Tony Pytel was born on September 4th, 1932, to Stefan and Stella Pytel immigrants of Poland. Along with Tony's NSS affiliation, he was also a member of the Knights of Columbus, The Holy Name Society, and VFW Post 9520. Tony and his beloved wife Dottie were married for 59 years and had 4 children. Tony, seeing the benefits of the National Slovak Society, advised his family to join. Their eldest child (Dave Pytel) is currently President of Assembly 432. Dave's wife Marti and sons Chris, Shawn and Matt and Tony's children, Debbie and Doug are members as well as Tony's sister (Helen Zbin) and her family. Tony enjoyed attending Assembly, District and National Events such as Assembly 432's Annual Reverse Raffle, picnics, golf, Christmas parties, National Bowling Tournaments and the National Golf Outings. Tony was a man of family and faith. He spread his love to many people throughout his life. Here is a poem that has always been displayed in Tony's home:

FAMILY

*Family is something, you cherish for life,
Family comes first, no matter the price.*

*Family consists of a husband and wife,
And thoughtful minds, that give advice.*

*Family is a word, that means too much to me,
To write down on paper, for you to see.*

*But family what we are happy to be,
When times get rough, you can lean on me.*

*But in case you don't know what to do,
Family will always be there for you!*

-Shawn-

Tony will be missed by his family and many friends that he made throughout his experiences in the National Slovak Society.

Christmas Oplatky 2014

Oplatky, the traditional Slovak Christmas wafers, will be available this holiday season from Jankola Library. Orders will be accepted until December 19, 2014.

The Oplatky, five in one package are thermal-sealed and can be purchased for \$4.00. In addition, the minimum cost of shipping and handling is \$5.75 and upwards depending upon the number of packets ordered and the rising costs of priority mailing. Customized requests can be filled to meet your needs. Payment to **Jankola Library** is expected before receiving an order.

For more information or to place an order contact Sister Catherine Labouré Bresnock, SS.C.M. at 570-275-5606 or write to:

Jankola Library and Slovak Museum
580 Railroad Street
Villa Sacred Heart
Danville, PA 17821-1698



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. Also, all articles should be typewritten in regular type and original photos submitted. Home Office Phone Number 724-731-0094

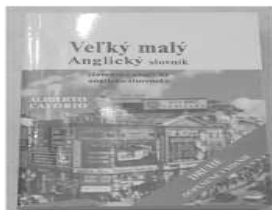
Available from the NSSHM Gift Shop while supplies last!

OPLATKY:

Package of 5 large wafers **\$2.00**
Small wafer with Christmas Blessing
ideal for placing inside Christmas cards.
Available in **English OR Slovak.**
Please specify. **\$1.00 ea.**



Slovak-English; English-Slovak Dictionary
Pocket size edition by Aliberto Caforio
566 pgs. Great for travelers! **\$12.00**



EXCLUSIVE! Slovak Christmas CD
Sung and produced by the Carmelite
Fathers in Lorinčik, Slovakia. Features 21
traditional carols.
Limited Supply Available \$12.00

Make checks payable and mail to:
NSS Heritage Museum
351 Valley Brook Rd.
McMurray, PA 15317



Fraternal Matters...

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



Thanksgiving dinners take eighteen hours to prepare. They are consumed in twelve minutes. Football Half-times take twelve minutes. This is not coincidence. ~Erma Bombeck

17th of November Struggle for Freedom and Democracy Day –

This day reminds Slovaks about the student demonstration against Nazi occupation in 1933. It also commemorates the demonstration in Prague in 1989 which was the beginning of the Velvet Revolution. It is one of the most important days in modern Slovak history. It symbolizes the beginning of the radical transformation in each of the spheres of Slovak society.

Now Thanksgiving is right around the corner and you know what that means...CHRISTMAS!!!! By the way... the deadline (December 1st) is fast approaching for our ornament contest, so hurry and get your entries in.

Photo Contest

The results along with the winning pictures will be featured in the December issue. I am sure the Judge is having a very difficult time choosing winners. Good luck and thank you to all of our members that took the time to submit an entry.

Helping Futures Blossom from the Seeds of Our Past

Dear Fellow Fraternalists,

As many of you know, The National Slovak Society will be celebrating its 125th year of fraternalism on Saturday, March 7th, 2015 with the 125th Anniversary Banquet. As members of the oldest Slovak fraternal in the United States, it brings us great pride and honor to be involved in this celebration. To mark this achievement, we should remember the past by looking forward to our future.

Every year the PVR Scholarship Program provides many of our members with the opportunity for a bright financial future by providing the means to further one's education.

It is in that spirit that we are asking all members, assemblies, regions, and organizations to contribute to a special initiative in honor of our 125 years of fraternalism. The National Slovak Society will be conducting a fund raising effort to form a new Perpetual Scholarship for the PVR Scholarship Program with the goal of forever commemorating this monumental anniversary. Our goal is to reach the unique number of \$12,500 to mark the occasion. With this new Perpetual Scholarship, we will add a new "Stone" below our Tree of Life to forever memorialize this contribution in our fraternal's history.

Each week, on the NSS Life web site home page (NSSLife.org), we will update the donations received on a visual thermometer that will be placed in the lobby of the Home Office, next to the Tree of Life. All those contributing to the 125th Anniversary Scholarship will be acknowledged at the anniversary banquet.

Please send your donations to our Fraternal Activities Coordinator, Pam Blum, noting that this contribution is specifically for the PVR 125th Anniversary Scholarship. Please make checks payable to PVR Scholarship Fund. We request that all donations be submitted no later than February 28th, 2015. Be sure to include the name(s) of those contributing and/or those who this contribution is in memory of. Also remember, no amount is too small, nor too big.

Thank you all in advance for supporting the futures of so many with the celebration of our past.

Fraternally Yours,
PVR Scholarship Board of Directors



Announcing the 2015 NSS Life Annual Tournament Sites

Bowling

We are extending an invitation to all of our members to join us the weekend of May 1-3, 2015 as NSS, in conjunction with the United Slovak Fraternalists, host our Annual Bowling Tournament. The tournament will be held at Eastway Lanes, located in Erie PA. The Hilton Garden Inn Erie will handle our overnight accommodations as well as the Saturday banquet.

Please mark your calendars and invite a guest to accompany you. We are always looking to showcase our event and introduce NSS and all we have to offer.

Golf

In 2015 we will travel back to a familiar site during the weekend of July 10-12, 2015. Tam O'Shanter Golf Course located in Hermitage, PA is the venue chosen to host the golf tournament. Park Inn by Radisson Sharon will handle our accommodations and the Saturday banquet. Don't forget to mark your calendars.

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

Did you know....

You could make an additional deposit to almost any Annuity with NSS-just send us a check.

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

Current Interest Rates

Effective January 1, 2013

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

**Preferred 7 and Flex earning 4%, these plans are no longer available.
Please contact your NSS Life financial service representative or
Joe Elliott in the Home Office at 1-800-488-1890.*



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

From the Sales Department...

By Greg Felton, CLU, ChFC
National Sales Director



Year End Tax Tips

With the end of 2014 quickly approaching there is still time to take some steps to reduce your tax liability. Increasing your withholding is a simple step that allows you to put some more money aside to cover your tax bill. Another important step is to keep good records. Whatever system you use is fine as long as you do it. Make sure you keep all receipts.

Here is a quick list of items that you should visit if you want to reduce your tax liability:

- Defer any income until next year. This would include bonuses, etc.
- Be sure to plan for your deductions and get receipts.
- Sell any “loser” investments to off set gains.
- Contribute the maximum to your IRA and your 401k.
- Be sure and use all your funds in your flexible spending account.
- Give freely and as much as possible to charity.

This last point is really something worth considering. So many fine charitable organizations need help especially today. The list is endless and whoever you choose to help will be grateful.

One worthwhile organization that you might want to consider is the PVR scholarship program. This fantastic program has given more than 2,200 NSS youth members more than \$1 million dollars in aid. The scholarship can pay up to \$500 per year for four years for a total of \$2,000. You can help continue this tradition by making a tax-deductible donation to the PVR scholarship program.

Double Your Pleasure

If you have reached your maximum contribution level on an IRA or Roth IRA perhaps you can get a little help by opening an account for your non-working spouse. These spousal accounts can be opened and fully funded even though your spouse does not work outside of the home.

There are some guidelines but here is an example: You are age 61 and make \$13,000 a year working part time and your spouse age 60, does not work. You decide to put \$6,500 in a Roth or an IRA. You can also put \$6,500 in your spouse's account. Obviously any funds in your spouse's account becomes their money.

Let's examine whether it should be an IRA or a Roth IRA. If you need a tax deduction then pick the IRA. For the upfront deduction then any monies withdrawn are completely taxable. There is also the minimum distribution rules that start at age 70½ .

If you chose the Roth IRA then there is no tax deduction but all withdrawals are tax-free as long as the account is at least five years old and you are age 59½ or older. There are no required distributions with a Roth IRA. Both accounts will help you save money.

You can start a Roth or an IRA with NSS with as little as \$100 per month or \$1,000 contribution. After that the payments are flexible you can add as much or as little as you want. An NSS Preferred 8 annuity is currently paying 3.50% interest and has a 2.0% minimum guarantee. For more information please contact your local NSS representative or Joe Elliott in the Home Office.

Thought for the Month

*Your current condition does not reveal
your ultimate potential.*

Anonymous

2014 3rd Quarter Sales Leaders

Congratulations to our two top producers for their hard work and dedication to the Society.



Our top producer for the third 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. Any questions regarding life insurance you may contact Der at (828) 514-6522 or email her at: kristi2974@yahoo.com

Our top **PREMIUM PRODUCER** for the second quarter is **Howard C. Bluhm MSFS, ChFC** of Maumee, OH. Howard has been in the insurance profession for 36 years and is a 35 year life and qualifying member of the Million Dollar Round Table. Howard has been married for 37 years to his college sweetheart, Karen. They have been blessed with 2 children – Andrea & Brian and a daughter-in-law, Betsy and grandchildren. To contact Howard, please call his office at 419-893-2233 or email him at hcbbluhm@bex.net.



ASSEMBLY 004

Parma, OH

A meeting will be held on Sunday, November 16, 2014 at the residence of Edward and Mildred Havir, 1744 Westhill Boulevard, Westlake, Ohio at 2:00 p.m.

Sonia Vorell
Secretary

ASSEMBLY P09A

Youngstown, OH

Our Christmas Party will be held on Thursday, December 4, 2014 at the Yankee Kitchen, 6635 Market Street, Boardman, Ohio at 5:45 p.m.

Deadline for gifts for the Rescue Mission is December 11th. Call Betty DeArcangelis at 330-799-0144 by November 30th to let her know if you will be attending the Christmas Party.

Betty DeArcangelis
Secretary

ASSEMBLY R019

Buffalo, NY

Our assembly was happy to help make the 120th anniversary of SS. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church, Buffalo, NY a memorable one. Our NSS adult Matching Fundraiser will be a basket raffle/luncheon event and is scheduled for December 14, 2014. It will keep us busy making that a success.

Irine Zinter
Fraternal Director

ASSEMBLY 039

Uniontown, PA

"Win a 32" HDTV"

How would you like to have a 32" HDTV for Christmas? You can be that lucky person if you attend the annual assembly Christmas party on Sunday, December 7th at the Knights of Columbus Social Hall, on North Gallatin Avenue Ext. starting at 2:00 p.m. The

party is free for members with a delicious dinner, door prizes, giveaways, a Chinese auction for the NSS Scholarship Program and plenty of fraternal fellowship. Mark your calendar today!

Congratulations to our youth members, Valentina Gulino, Casey Lako and Giavanna Gulino that were winners in the recent NSS Poetry Contest. We are very proud of your efforts!

Adults and youth members are reminded about the NSS Christmas Ornament Contest with a deadline of December 1st. There have been some rule changes, so check them out in the recent edition of the "National News". We have had many winners from our assembly, so be sure to send in your entry.

We are inviting all members of the assembly "Stuffers Club", that's you, to come to a dinner/meeting to prepare a mailing for our annual Christmas party. We will meet on Tuesday, November 11th at the IHOP Restaurant in the WalMart Plaza on West Main Street. We start at 6:00 p.m. and dinner is free for those that attend.

To all of our members and friends, we wish you a most blessed Thanksgiving celebration with your families. If you are traveling, may your journey be safe. Happy Thanksgiving to all!!

John Payerchin
President

ASSEMBLY 070

Brooklyn, OH

A Christmas Party & Meeting will be held on December 7, 2014 at the Dr. Martin Luther Church, 4470 Ridge Rd, Brooklyn, Ohio at 12:15 p.m. Election of officers will also be held. Call John or Mary Ann Karkosiak if you plan to attend, since the lunch will be catered, at 216-741-6990. If you can bake something for the Bakery Table it would be appreciated. We are also accepting donations of caps, scarves, or gloves for the DML Sunday School Mitten Tree.

John Karkosiak
Financial Secretary

ASSEMBLY 123

Coraopolis, PA

For our Christmas get-together our assembly has decided to do a tour of the Clayton, which is the Frick Mansion in Point Breeze on Sunday, December 7th, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. The tour will last about an hour. Afterwards, dinner will be at Applebees Restaurant, Edgewood Town Square. If you are interested in joining the group, please call Mary Maniecki at 412-264-3546 to make your reservation and information if needed. Call as soon as possible so we can get an accurate count.

Don't forget to give thanks this month for all of the wonderful blessings each of us has. There is so much negativity and it is easy to forget just how great life is.

I want to thank all those who have helped me with our assembly activities this year. I want you to know how much I appreciate it.

Bill Knoll
President

ASSEMBLY 160

Lorain, OH

Assembly 160, Lorain, Ohio, has set dates for our annual fall and winter events.

November 18th will be our Toys for Tots night. Each member is asked to bring an unwrapped gift or monetary donation to help spread a little holiday cheer to needy children in the area. Last year, we were able to raise over \$400 in gifts and donations. Please help us do even better this year!

December 16th is our annual "Fun Frolic" Night. December's meeting will also be our annual charity event, a new tradition that once again gives our members a chance to show their generosity.

Our Annual Dinner will be held on

January 20, 2015, starting with a brief meeting at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be followed by hors d'oeuvres and cocktails, and then a sit down dinner. We hope to see many familiar faces (and some new ones!) at this event.

John P Katricak
Vice-President

ASSEMBLY 377

Bentleyville, PA

Our annual Holiday Party and meeting will be held on Sunday, December 7th at Atria's, Washington Road, McMurray, Pa. at 3:00 p.m. Please bring a dozen of your favorite cookies for a cookie table. Please RSVP to me at 724-207-0410. We look forward to seeing you there and discussing upcoming plans for the new year!

Suzanne Skrypak
President

ASSEMBLY 381

Grosse Ile, MI

There will be an officer's meeting on Sunday, November 30, 2014 at the Hungarian Rhapsody Restaurant, Northline Road, Southgate, Michigan at 2:00 p.m.

Members, please mark your calendars for an upcoming "Welcome Spring" lunch and meeting to be held on Sunday, March 22, 2015. Details to follow in upcoming newsletters.

Happy Thanksgiving to all members of Assembly 381.

Joanne Medved
Treasurer

ASSEMBLY 432

Fairview Park, OH

Our annual Christmas Party will be held on Tuesday, December 14, 2014 at the Gemini Center, 21225 Lorain Road, Fairview Park, Ohio 44126. Our Assembly will gather in the Event Room from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Swimming will be from 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. and admission to the swimming area will be \$2.00 per person. The Center's rules for swimming are: children ages 7-9, a parent must be on the pool deck while their child is in the pool, and ages 6 and under must be accompanied by a parent in the water.

Our Christmas Meeting will be held on December 16, 2014 (location TBD) at 7:30 p.m. Election of officers will be held at this meeting. If you are interested in a position, you need to attend this meeting. Officer's will be elected for a 2 year term.

Shawn Pytel
Publicist

ASSEMBLY 554

Curwensville, PA

A meeting will be held on November 7, 2014 at the home of Jim Stricek, 135 McCullough St., DuBois, PA at 2:00 p.m.

Jim Stricek
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 586

Chicago, IL

Our assembly congratulates its new first year PVR scholarship recipients, Jason Shipbaugh, Tyler Christensen and **SPECIAL** congrats to Marc Shipbaugh, honored with the Mary B. Burns Perpetual Award. Alisa Christensen was awarded a big prize in this year's poetry contest. We're pretty proud of our 73 youth members.

We've decided to hold the next business meeting at our favorite place, Bohemian Garden, to try to help our friend Anna, its owner, who has been having challenges with the economy, extensive road repairs in front of her restaurant and the village of Downers Grove, whose zoning commission mandates unfunded regulations as if it is an office of the federal government. We'll meet there on Sunday, October 26, after the Bears game at 4:00 p.m. for a great meal and a fun activity. Our Christmas party is scheduled at the same location on November 30 at 1:00 p.m.

Please plan to attend the annual Christmas Stedraký lunch on Thursday, December 11, at Saints Peter and Paul Lutheran Church at 31 Street and Des Plaines Avenue in Riverside for a home cooked Slovak meal. This event will be our matching funds event for the year so we encourage members to bring family and friends. There is no charge for 586 members and guest cost is \$15.00. **NO TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR AND FINAL DATE FOR RESERVATIONS IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7th.** Remember Pearl Harbor and then call Millie Mendel, 708-387-7244 for reservations.

Once again, we're proud of our scholars, poets, artists and ornament-making youth and always encourage them to join in our activities.

Janet Tomaskovic
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 588

Slovan, PA

A meeting will be held on Monday, November 17, 2014 at the Stefka residence, 52 Spring Valley Street, Slovan, PA. at 6:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting will be to plan events and activities for the members of our assembly for 2015. Please try to attend and become active in our assembly.

Annette Stefka
Secretary

News from NSS Agent Ron Sturga



The Bochert family of Edinboro, PA smiles for their NSS Life Agent, Ron Sturga, not long after Autumn arrived in NW Pennsylvania. Michael holds their daughter, Emma, and Heather cradles their most recent addition, daughter Sofia, who was 17 days old. Big sister, Madison, beams proudly out front!

Michael and Heather contacted Ron after the birth of each of their daughters to purchase identical policies for them...the NSS 20 Pay Whole Life with a \$25,000 face amount and a \$95 annual premium. They have been impressed with the NSS Illustration showing great guaranteed cash value along with projected dividends and a reasonable premium for only 20 years of payments. They were also pleased to know that the policies makes each of the girls eligible for the PVR Scholarship of \$2000 payable over 4 years. (Eligibility requirement of a 3.0 GPA of course must be met.)

Ron has expressed many times “how thankful and proud he is to be an NSS agent for many faithful policy holders like the Bocherts”! He feels confident when he visits families that the products from NSS that he presents have their best interest in mind. After all, NSS has been in service since 1890. In addition, Art, Poetry, Photography and Christmas Ornament Contests are offered each year to encourage and reward creative effort. Yes, many parents (and grandparents as well) have taken the opportunity to do something special for the future of those who are special to them! As NSS states...“Family Matters.”

Another true classic example of “Family Matters” is the Weaver family of Waterford, PA. Both parents, John and Sandy have policies with NSS as well as their three children Hayden, Kolee, & Kolton. All of the Weaver children have qualified and received the PVR Scholarship with NSS Life.

Christmas Eve Dinner

United Slovak Societies will host a Vilija, traditional Slovak Christmas Eve dinner, on Sunday, December 7th, 2014 at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Avenue, Lorain, Ohio at 5:30 p.m. The cost of dinner which includes the award winning Ladies Auxiliary perch is \$20.00 and will include all the traditional delights.

Advanced tickets sales please contact Len Zilko at 440/988-3236. The dinner is open to the public.

Michele Mager
United Slovak Societies

*Visit our website at
www.nsslife.org
Have you Signed
Up A New
Member Recently????*

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.

My Slovakia Tour - Part II

(Continued from last month)

Our first and second days were extremely demanding. We left Cleveland and flew an hour and a half to Washington D.C., and then we underwent an eight hour flight to Vienna, Austria. Upon arrival the six hour time difference, mixed with the flights, really took its toll. Once our luggage was transferred to the bus, we departed to Old Downtown Vienna. Vienna is spectacular and somewhat over whelming. American history started in approximately the 1700's where Vienna's history dates back to over 500 years earlier. Viera, our tour guide, took us to the main sights, including the beautiful castle that housed the King and Queen of the Hungarian Empire. The city deserves more sightseeing time as it is beautiful and enormous. After visiting Vienna, we transferred to a boat and traveled up the Danube River to Bratislava, Slovakia. By now, most of us were up for 24 hours and found the trip relaxing. Unfortunately, most of us fell asleep; it was unavoidable. The river trip lasted a little over an hour with the captain informing us of the sights along the river. Austria was to the right with Slovakia to the left. We saw many castles and hundreds and hundreds of wind mills. We were told Austria's electrical energy comes from these wind mills where Slovakia gets its power from Hydro Plants. The boat trip was little taxing but our excitement of reaching Bratislava overcame our many hours of traveling. The Danube River is a wide, beautiful, large, fast flowing river. Along the way we saw and passed many river cruise ships, such as those in the Viking Fleet. Our wide eyed and bushy tailed tour confederates arrived in Bratislava, Slovakia and we were taken to our accommodations at the Radisson. After checking in, after which most of us took a nap, we had dinner and toured the Old Town Square. Some of us socialized in one of the many beer gardens and we got to know each other. Regardless of the reasons for taking the tour, we all developed a friendship that carried on throughout the tour. As mentioned previously, our accommodations were modern with all the amenities, including private bathrooms (in Slovakia they are called "water closets"). This was the first time many of us were ever in Europe, not to mention Slovakia. We were all in awe of the cobblestone and narrow streets, electric trains, and town squares. We needed to retire and get some sleep but we were tested even further because the Casino was now open. It was a dilemma but sleep won out.

Donald Kolecky Sr.



Assembly 123



Members of Assembly 123 get together for a Gateway Clipper cruise of the river.

Summertime C731

The youth from C731 enjoy a variety of summer activities such as baseball, soccer, horseback riding, swimming and many family activities. It's a hard time of year to gather our youth members together for assembly activities but we did have a very successful NSS family picnic with adventures in the playground, fishing, hiking and creeking.

We also gathered together at Mahoning County's Canfield Fair in the camping area throughout the week long Fair.

Even though we didn't have the success of past Scavenger Hunts, we enjoyed time together.



From the Convention - Ashlynn and Hershey Bar: After being chosen from the audience to be a contestant on a game show at Hershey Park, Ashlynn Mason was given a giant Hershey Bar as a prize.



At the Canfield Fair - Kids at the Fair: L-R Samantha Williams, Tod Applegarth, Mikayla Hanley, Jake Williams, Marlie Applegarth, Shae Hanley, Dustin Brown, Josie Applegarth, and JJ Williams.



Beth Mason shares safety tips about creek walking to Kaylee Brenner, Ashlynn Mason, Zachary Martini and Cameron Mason as they venture out in their creeking experience.

November



Advent

Advent, advent, štyri sviece,
prvá z nich sa zatrbliece.

Za ňou druhá, tretia zhorí,
prinesieme stromček z hory.

A keď štvrtá horí stíška
tešíme sa na Ježiška.



*Pane a Bože náš, pomôž nám
starostlivo sa pripraviť na
príchod tvojho Syna Ježiša
Krista; a keď príde a zaklope,
nech nás nájde bdieť v modlitbách a jasat' na jeho
slávu.*

(Modlitba zo svätej omše z pondelka prvého ad-
ventného týždňa.)

Svätý Martin je patrónom chudobných

Doposiaľ nie je známe, v ktorý deň sa 11. novembra pripomínaný sv. Martin z Tours narodil, bolo to však údajne v roku 316 v Sabarii (dnes Szombathely v Maďarsku). Na prianie svojho otca sa stal dôstojníkom rímskeho jazdeckta v Gálii. Jeden mrazivý večer však zmenil jeho život, keď sa podelil so žobrákom o svoj plášť, ktorý rozťal mečom. V noci sa mu potom zjavil Kristus odedý v darovanej polovici plášťa. Martin opustil armádu, nechal sa pokrstiť a stal sa pustovníkom.

Skromný, múdry a vážený Martin bol v roku 371 vysvätený za biskupa v Tours a diecézu doviedol k nebývalému rozmachu.

Martina nazývali biskupom chudobných a keď zomrel, na jeho pohrebe 11. novembra sa zišli davy ľudí, medzi nimi asi 2-tisíc mníchov. K jeho atribútom patrí žobrák, plášť, malomocný, kôň a hus (podľa legendy sa vraj ukryl medzi krdeľ husí, keď nechcel prijať hodnosť biskupa). Je patrónom okrem iného aj vojakov, jazdcov, kováčov, tkáčov, krajčírov, vinárov, pastierov, hostinských, cestujúcich, chudákov a žobrákov, zajatcov, abstinentov, domácich zvierat a husí. —Pravda.sk

Všetko na svete môže človek zastaviť. Každý pohyb, každý nepokoj, čo však nezastaví, nespomalí, je čas. Čas plynie ako rieka nášho života. Míňa sa deň za dňom, rok za rokom a my sa v určitých chvíľach zastavíme.

Je to ozaj krásou, že v Amerike si berieme jeden deň v roku a zasväcujeme ho Bohu ako vďaku za všetko jeho dobrodenia a za požehnanie ktoré z jeho štedrosti požívame každý deň. V tento deň sa schádzajú za stôl plný rôzneho jedla a lásky celé rodiny.

Bože všemohúci ďakujeme ti za jedlo, za krajinu, za jedlo, i za požehnanie tvoje. Amen.

*Želame všetkým našim čitateľom
radostný deň vďakyzdania.*

ZIMNÉ OBDOBIE - Bátovce, Nitriansky kraj

Zimné obdobie, tak ako všade na dedine, je obdobím oddychu od prác na poli a v záhrade. Ale aj toto obdobie má svoje čaro. Muži chodili do hory pripravovať drevo na kúrenie a opravovali si svoje pracovné náradie, aby bolo pripravené, keď ho bude treba vziať na jar do ruky. Ženám zas pripadalo popárať perie, priať konope a utkať plátno.

Páranie peria



Gazdiná, ktorá mala menej peria, si ho popárala sama. Mala na to čas počas celej zimy. Tam, kde bolo peria viac, volali sa páračky. Gazdiná si ich chodila pozývať sama. Páralo sa večer, keď už bol dobytok nakrmený. Pri páraní sa všeličo pospomínalo aj poklebetilo. Počas párania sa nemohlo nič jesť, aby sa do peria nedostala nijaká omrvinka, lebo by perie mohlo zmol'aviet. Po skončení, asi okolo desiatej hodiny večer, domáca páračky pohostila koláčmi – materákmi, a tiež čajom, kávou alebo vareným vínom. Čím viac bolo páračiek, tým skôr sa perie popáralo a išlo sa pomôcť párať ďalšej gazdinej. Kde sa na páračky zišlo viac dievčeniec, tam nechýbali ani chlapani, ktorí veľakrát gazdovi narobili zle alebo mu odniesli nejaký pracovný nástroj alebo ho z padláša, keď vchádzal do vnútra, obliali vodou. Neraz gazdinej pri šantení i rozfúkali perie alebo hodili vrabca do peria.



Inšpirácia

Viac času venuj rodičom a súrodencom, usiluj sa byť k nim za každých okolností láskavý.



Youth Circle Page

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

NSS Welcomes Our Newest Member



Elliot Patricia Boehm was born on August 10, 2014 and is the daughter of Becky and Michael Boehm. Proud grandparents are home office employee Kristen Boehm

and her husband Michael. Congratulations to Becky and Michael.

Junior Pittsburgh Slovaks

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 Christmas Ornament Contest

Before you know it, the deadline for the Christmas ornament will be here. 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 each region, assembly, 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 in the Winter issue of the "Youth Circle Magazine", as well as 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 and 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.

Kids Helping Kids

As part of the YouthFest held at our recent 36th Convention in Hershey, Pa., the participants made no-sew fleece blankets for Project Linus. Project Linus, is a non-profit organization which provides homemade blankets to children in need who are seriously ill, traumatized or otherwise in need of a sense of security, warmth and comfort. To make the project even more meaningful, 8 of the blankets made by the YouthFest participants were used in a raffle to raise funds for Klub Forresta Gumpa in Košice, Slovakia at the convention. This non-profit organization helps handicapped children and adults who need constant care. This volunteer organization also helps the families connect with the appropriate social agencies so that they can receive special equipment or other medical and social support.

Through the generosity of the delegates and guests at the convention \$356.00 dollars was raised through the raffle. Showing their support for the good intentions of the YouthFest participants, the National Assembly unanimously agreed to make it a matching funds project, thus a total of \$712.00 dollars was sent to Klub Forresta Gumpa!

In a letter received from Klub Forresta Gumpa President, Darina Pištejová, she stated that the monies donated were very much appreciated and were used to replace old windows and add insulation to their building, which will greatly help with the high cost of heating the old building. She also extended an invitation to President Blazek and members of the NSS to visit Klub Forresta Gumpa.



Before



After



KLUB FORRESTA GUMPA, n. o.
Kvetná 16, 040 15 Košice - Šaca
SLOVAKIA

IČO: 457 37 584
DIČ: 282 0018 575

David BLAZEK
President
National Slovak Society

Vaša značka	Naša značka 292014	Vybavuje Pištejová Darina	Košice 16.09.2014
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Vec
Poďakovanie

Vážení členovia organizácie National Slovak Society!

Dovoľte, aby som Vám v mene našej organizácie Klub Forresta Gumpa, n.o., vyjadrila svoje poďakovanie za finančnú pomoc, ktorú ste nášmu zariadeniu poskytli v čase, keď sa naša organizácia ešte len rozbieha.

Vážime si najmä prácu dievčat, ktoré s veľkým srdcom finančnú zbierku zorganizovali a venovali svoj voľný čas dobrej veci. Ich príchom podporili našu komunitu, ktorá sa venuje mládeži a dospelým so zdravotným postihnutím.

Vyjadrujeme Vám preto jedno veľké **ĎAKUJEME!!!**

Nakoľko máme vysoké náklady na energie, poskytnuté finančné prostriedky sme použili na výmenu starých okien za nové plastové, aby sme znížili tepelné straty v priestoroch, v ktorých prevádzkujeme denný stacionár.

Boli by sme nesmierne šťastní, keby ste nás niekedy v budúcnosti pocítili svojou návštevou, aby ste mohli osobne spoznať našich klientov a ich činnosť.

S úctou a vďakou
Darina Pištejová, predsedníčka správnej rady

www.klubforrestagumpa.webnode.sk

2014 Poetry First Place Winners

KEATS GROUP AGES 5, 6 & 7

Pippin and Merry

by: Abigail Herbster
Age 7 - Circle 434

I love my cute soft Pippin.
She is a fluffy kitten.
She likes to purr and lick my face,
And chase the chipmunks all over the place.

I love my tabby Merry.
She's fuzzy cute and hairy.
She likes to run and jump and race,
And chase her sis Pip all over the place.

ANGELOU GROUP AGES 8, 9 & 10

If I Were a Monarch Butterfly

by: Ben Ostrowski
Age 9 - Circle 617

If I were a butterfly,
I would never, ever, ever lie.
If I were a butterfly,
I would fly in a city sky.
If I were a butterfly,
I'd migrate from home to home.
From the U.S. to Mexico I'd roam.

FROST GROUP AGES 11, 12 & 13

The Sky

by: Meghan Jezik
Age 11 - Circle 299

My friend the sky is mostly blue, or gray,
Or pink in the late noon.
And he is the path for a fly away balloon.
He hosts shows for the fireworks,
lighting up the sky
He jumps when lightning strikes
And shivers when the thunder claps,
He allows airplanes passing through to
figure out his maps.
The sky and sun are best buds,
and help each other out.
The rain and sky are enemies,
Mr. Sky wishes a drought.
My friend the sky is mostly blue,
or gray, or sometimes pink.
Whatever color, doesn't matter,
I will not make a stink.

SHAKESPEARE GROUP AGES 14, 15 & 16

Summer Time

by: Katherine Ostrowski
Age 16 - Circle 617

Glittering waves at the beach twinkle merrily
At your tanned face that is smiling contentedly.
Marshmallows oozing out of crackers
As the fire crackles near
While the stars shine bright and clear.
Water splashes in friend's faces,
Laughter bursts from all places.
Summer is the time to relax and smile
To gaze at God's creations
To go on vacation!

**In the next issue we will print the 2nd
Place Winners and 3rd Place will be in
the January, 2015 issue.**

National Slovak Society
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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.

