



NSS Life
Family Matters...

2020 NSS Photo Contest
See Page 19 for Rules



NSS Life
"Fitness Matters..."
Walking Program
See Page 8
for Details



American
HEARING BENEFITS

See Page 9 for Details

The National Slovak Society of the United States of America

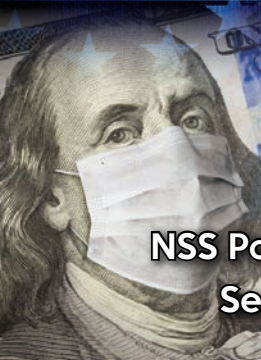
National News

Happy Birthday President Blazek!

Fraternal Life Insurance Since 1890 • Back to School Time!

CARES Act

Coronavirus Aid,
Relief, and Economic
Security Act



NSS Policies & The CARES Act
See Page 6 for Details



2020 NSS Scholarship Recipients



See Pages 10-11 for Details

NATIONAL NEWS

AUGUST 2020 | NUMBER 3544 VOLUME 112



National Slovak Society

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Founder and Honorary President, Peter V. Rovnianek

EDITOR

LORI CROWLEY

Published Monthly

Send articles for publication to:

351 Valley Brook Road
McMurray, PA 15317-3337

Deadline: 5th of preceding month

NSS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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

Joseph Stefka, Jr., *Chairman of the Board*

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

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Susan Ondrejco

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John Payerchin

Joseph Stefka, Jr.

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Mary Jo Holker, *Director*

Edward Koches, *Director*

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Reverend Monsignor Thomas V. Banick,

Spiritual Advisor

ROCWMAS HONORARY OFFICER

Olga Kasnot, *President*

FSWFE and PBU merged with NSS in 1997

ROCWMAS merged with the NSS in 1998

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Activities At A Glance

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, please check with your assembly president or secretary to be sure the event will still occur on the date shown.

REGION 2

August 9
October 18
November 15

Assemblies L075, 0617

Assembly L075, Fraternal Summer Picnic, Mercateli-Segilia Park, Moosic, PA
Assembly L075, Meeting, Grande's Restaurant at 1:00 pm
Assembly L075, Bingo Pizza Party with Veteran's at Wilkes Barre VA Center at 2:00 pm

REGION 5

September 13
September 21
September 26
October 23
November 7
November 16
December 6
December 6
December 6

Assemblies P38A, 0039, 0100, L105, 0108, 0123, L161, 0377, 0434, 0441, 0588, 0731, 0737, 0774

Assembly 0039, Summer Bar-B-Q, Uniontown Columbian Association (K of C) Pavilion 1:00
Assembly 0588, Meeting, Panera Bread Community Room, North Fayette, PA at 6:00 pm
Assembly 0123, Miniature Golf Outing, Neville Island Course, Time to be determined
Assembly 0731, Halloween Hayride, Countryside Farm in Poland Township
Assembly 0731, Make Christmas Ornaments, Location and time to be determined
Assembly 0588, Meeting, Panera Bread Community Room, North Fayette, PA at 6:00 pm
Assembly 0377, Annual Holiday Gathering at Canon's Chophouse, Canonsburg, PA at 3:00 pm
Assembly 0039, Annual Christmas Party, Uniontown Columbian Association Hall
Assembly 0731, Christmas Party, Elton Beard Cabin at Boardman Park at 1:00 pm

REGION 8

August 16
September 4-7
September 12
September 15
November 17
December 15

Assemblies 0004, 0070, 0160, 0432, 0595

Assembly 0004, Meeting, Location and time to be determined
Assembly 0432, Camping Labor Day weekend, Rustic Lake Campground, Sullivan, OH
Assembly 0070, Potluck Dinner/Meeting, Dr. Martin Luther Church, Brooklyn, OH
Assembly 0432, Meeting, Pytel residence at 7:30 pm
Assembly 0004, Meeting, Location and time to be determined
Assembly 0432, Meeting, Tony K's and Christmas Party to follow, Berea, OH at 7:30 pm

REGION 14

September 19

Assemblies R059, L102

Assembly L102, Matching Funds Basket Bingo, Emmaus Community Park at 1:00 pm

REGION 15

August 19

Assemblies L002

Assembly L002, Meeting, Old Towne Restaurant, Trumbull, CT at 12:00 pm

AT LARGE

August 16
September 6
September 17
October 18
October 25
December 19
December 24

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

Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm
Assembly 0554, Meeting, Stricek's residence, DuBois, PA at 2:00 pm
Assembly 0381, Meeting, Location and time to be determined
Assembly 0554, Meeting, Stricek's residence, DuBois, PA at 2:00 pm
Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm
Assembly 0381, Meeting, 4:00 pm - Location to be determined
Assembly 0705, Annual Christmas Eve Celebration at 6:00 pm



Happy Birthday to our President **Dave Blazek**
who will be celebrating on August 3rd!

From The President's Desk...



**David G. Blazek, FIC
President, CEO**

Greetings from the Desk of the President as we enter the 'Dog Days of Summer'. I know you have all heard the term 'Dog Days of Summer', but have you ever heard the definition? Simply put, it is the hottest, most uncomfortable part of summer in the Northern Hemisphere. They were historically the period following the heliacal rising of the star system Sirius, which Greek and Roman astrology connected with heat, drought, sudden thunderstorms, lethargy, fever, mad dogs, and bad luck. So now you know the rest of the story.

With so many events being cancelled due to the pandemic of Covid-19, there is not much activity to write about, so I am taking this opportunity to announce my retirement at the end of October. I have served the society to the best of my ability since 1986 as a Board member, Vice President, and for the past 27 years as your President/CEO. I have had the pleasure of working with so many good people in growing the organization from \$53 million to over \$1.3 billion in assets. I have also made so many friends over the years whether they were members, agents, consultants, or vendors.

I will always cherish the friendships that were developed. One of the hardest things about retiring will be leaving my NSS work family, most of whom I have personally hired over the years. Lori Crowley and Donna Tenney are the only two members of our staff who have been here longer than me - Lori for 46 years and Donna for 33 years (they both started when they were 12, LOL).

I want to thank all my current and former staff members, and the co-officers that I served with over the years. They have contributed so much in helping to make the NSS the fine organization it is today.

Over the past 27 years, I have had the honor of Chairing 7 quadrennial conventions and presided over 108 Board Meetings. By the end of October, I will have written 324 editions of 'From the Desk of the President' articles. Hopefully, you found some of them interesting. I also was heavily involved in supervising the move of the Home Office from the Southside of Pittsburgh to Southpointe, and finally to the current location of our office in McMurray, PA.

In retirement, Fran and I plan on doing more traveling, spending time with our grandchildren who reside in North Carolina, Virginia, and Eastern Pennsylvania, and improving our golf game. I will still be a licensed insurance agent so hopefully I can bring some more members into the society.

Looking back, I stop to wonder where has the time gone. I've always thought that when you are young, time moves slowly and you wish things would happen faster, and as I've aged, time has sped up and I wish it would slow down a little. Another observation of life I've had is that when you are younger there are many things you would like to do or see, but you don't have the money to do, but when you are older and have the money to do things, you don't have the ability or interest in doing them. In retirement, I think I will be able to slow down a little and do the things that I have always wanted to. Thanks for allowing me to serve the National Slovak Society! It has been a great part of my life.

News Of Narodniars

Happy Birthday wishes go out to Home Office staff member Ryan Strom, former staff member Jodi Onder, Carol Godor, Jim Amorose, Chelsey Eubank, Andrew Blazek, Pam Tabone, Jan Amick, Bella and Caroline Bernardo, Jeremiah Moore, and grandsons Logan and Brady Kearney, and Hudson Lavin.

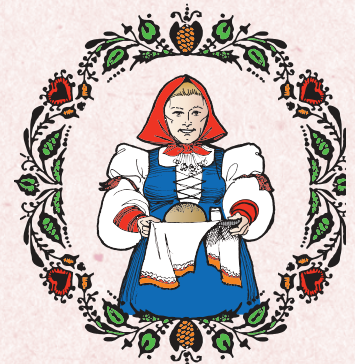
Happy Wedding Anniversary to Lori and Kevin Crowley, Danielle and Jeff Lavin, and to all others celebrating this month.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of the following Assembly 110 members who have been involved with the National Slovak Society for many years: Helen and Dominick Sokolovic, and Dorothy Hornik. The Sokolovic's were Assembly Officers for many years and Dominick attended many of the NSS conventions as a delegate. Dorothy was the wife of Milan Hornik who had previously served on the Board of Directors of the NSS. Deepest sympathies go out to the Sokolovic and Hornik families on their loss of loved ones.

Septemberfest 2020

Since the COVID-19 virus crisis has impacted the greater Pittsburgh area and the surrounding counties for the past few months, it is with tremendous regret that we have made the difficult and disappointing decision to **CANCEL the Annual "Septemberfest"** this year. We feel it was necessary to minimize possible exposure and health risks to you, our guests, and our volunteers. We sincerely appreciate that you have been supportive and cooperative of this festival over the years.

We look forward to hosting this popular event next year when the current health crisis will, hopefully, be behind us.



Punography Of The Month:

If a turtle doesn't have a shell is he homeless or naked?

Congratulations

This year “helping others” took on a whole new meaning. Our members raised funds for Blessings in a Backpack programs, supported food banks across the United States, supported a school needing repairs in Slovakia, and volunteered in their communities when called upon. This year the NSS also made major contributions to food banks, as recommended by the Board, to help supply food to families in dire need of help during the 2020 Pandemic. Those food banks supported are: Second Harvest Food Bank, Lorain, OH; Catholic Social Services, Hazelton, PA; The Greater Washington County Food Bank, Brownsville, PA; Westmoreland County Food Bank, Inc, Delmont, PA and the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank, Duquesne, PA.

And finally, following are those assemblies that have earned our Diamond, Platinum or Silver “Extra Effort” Awards for going above and beyond. Once again you all have outdone yourselves. Congratulations to the following Assemblies!

DIAMOND Award

0070 Brooklyn, OH
L075 Duryea, PA
L102 Schnecksville, PA
0123 Coraopolis, PA
0160 Lorain, OH
0434 McMurray, PA
0617 Ashley, PA
0731 Lowellville, OH
0813 Engelwood, FL

PLATINUM Award

0039 Uniontown, PA
L161 Pittsburgh, PA
0588 Slovan, PA

SILVER Award

0004 Parma, OH
R059 Whitehall, PA
0108 West Mifflin, PA
0377 Bentleyville, PA
0432 Fairview Park, OH
0586 Chicago, IL
0774 McMurray, PA

2020 1st Qtr Financial Statement Recap

Statement as of March 31, 2020

	Mar 2020	Dec 2019		Mar 2020	Dec 2019
Net Admitted Assets:			Summary of Operations:		
Bonds	\$1,300,878,228	\$1,267,124,662	INCOME:		
Preferred Stocks	1,000,000	1,000,000	Premium & Annuity Considerations	\$49,141,797	\$177,265,425
Common Stocks	3,853,306	4,102,008	Net Investment Income	14,824,802	56,411,081
Mortgage Loans on Real Est	8,385,122	6,425,306	Amortization of Interest		
Certificate Loans	931,123	882,616	Maintenance Reserve	122,726	448,541
Real Est Occupied by Society	654,270	659,609	Income Sub-Total	\$64,089,325	\$234,125,047
Cash on Deposit	14,037,607	22,955,087	EXPENSES:		
Electronic Data Equipment			Death Benefits	\$1,395,820	\$6,952,244
Uncollected Premiums	153,903	143,840	Matured Endowments	14,233	11,395
Investment Income Due	15,994,035	14,606,350	Annuity Benefits	29,669,701	108,950,633
TOTALS	\$1,345,887,594	\$1,317,899,478	Disability Benefits	825	6,025
Liabilities & Unassigned Funds			Surrender Benefits	209,182	947,973
Aggregate Reserve	\$1,202,890,700	\$1,175,308,000	Interest On Deposit Type Contr	2,482	10,768
Deposit-type Contracts	61,685,820	61,776,371	Increase In Aggregate Reserve		
Certificate Claims	425,000	450,000	for Life Contracts	27,582,700	97,953,021
Commissions Due	75,000	275,000	Commissions On Direct Business	1,178,450	4,905,195
Refunds Due and Unpaid	660,000	650,000	General & Fraternal Expenses	1,487,682	4,978,732
General Exp Due	1,592,062	1,712,000	Insur, Taxes, Licenses, Fees	119,915	557,156
Retained by Society as Trustee	40,959	105,154	Expense Sub-Total	\$61,660,990	\$225,273,142
Asset Valuation Resv (AVR)	8,351,100	8,832,000	SUMMARY:		
Interest Maintenance Resv (IMR)	5,209,535	5,339,330	Net Gain From Operations		
Contingency Reserve	150,000	150,000	Before Refunds To Members	\$2,428,335	\$8,851,905
Unassigned Funds	64,807,418	63,301,623	Refund To Members	(148,345)	(640,220)
TOTALS	\$1,345,887,594	\$1,317,899,478	Net Gain From Operations		
Surplus Account:			After Refunds To Members	2,279,990	8,211,685
Beginning Surplus	\$63,451,623	\$57,303,849	Net Realized Capital Gains	(182,056)	33,784
Net Income	2,097,934	8,245,469	TOTAL NET INCOME	\$2,097,934	\$8,245,469
Change in Net Unrealized					
Capital Gains or (Losses)	(1,068,393)	624,914			
Change in Nonadmitted Assets	(4,646)	5,370			
Change in Valuation Reserve	480,900	(1,885,000)			
Aggregate Write-ins for Gains					
and Losses in Surplus		(842,979)			
Net Change in Surplus	1,505,795	6,147,774			
Surplus At Statement Date	\$64,957,418	\$63,451,623			



A Page From
My Notebook...

Linda M. Strom
Secretary-Treasurer/CFO

News You Can Use Under The CARES Act

- A 2020 RMD does not have to be taken this year.
- Any RMD that you have already received may be rolled back into your IRA by 8/31/20.
- COVID-19 withdrawals may have the 10% early withdrawal penalty waived.
- COVID-19 withdrawals may be taxable over three years.



NSS recommends that you consult with your tax or legal professionals to see how these items and others may impact your particular situation.



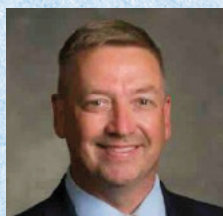
Current Interest Rates Effective January 1, 2020

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.



2nd Quarter Leaders for 2020



Joe Betten is our **TOP PREMIUM PRODUCER** for the 2nd Quarter of 2020. Joe is a wealth advisor with iFinancial Services. Joe has 20 years of experience with investments, insurance and retirement planning. His focus is his clients and he is also an Army veteran. He is married and enjoys all outdoor activities with his family. To contact Joe, call 412.535.8900 or email him at jbetten@ifinancialservices.us.

Congratulations to Nouchao Her on being the **TOP NEW MEMBER PRODUCER** for the 2nd Quarter of 2020. Nouchao lives in Oklahoma, but continues his business in the states of MI, WI, OH, PA, CA and CO. He has many years of life insurance experience and has been with the NSS since 2001. If you are looking for life insurance coverage for you or your loved ones, please contact him at his toll free number: **866-317-1514** or email him at: nouchaoher@gmail.com.



From the Sales Department...

Greg Felton, CLU, ChFC, Sales Director
Email: gfelton@nsslife.org



Why Should I Have An Annuity?

Everyone knows that our annuities are great ways to save money. These timeless programs have been around for quite some time. The key features of an annuity include: tax-deferral, safety of principal, competitive rate of return, liquidity, and probate free passing of assets at death.

Should I have an annuity instead of a traditional IRA or a Roth IRA? The answer is probably no. But what if you already have those, or don't want either of those products.

Then an annuity would work great. A person should have a regular annuity (non-qualified) for several good reasons:

- As a place to put any unwanted RMD money. Many times people with IRAs reach RMD age and don't want to take the money. They have to but with a non-qualified annuity they could put the money there and still earn interest. However, they would still get a 1099 from us for their RMD distribution and owe federal taxes on that RMD amount.
- For any bank CD money that may be renewing at .10% interest. That number isn't 10% or 1% - it is .10%. On a \$100,000 CD renewing at that rate you would receive \$100 of interest. Same money in our best annuity would earn more than \$3,000 of interest. That is a big deal!

- How about an inheritance from your late uncle. He left you \$50,000 – now where to put it?
Plus our annuities have a minimum guarantee of 2% interest. They may also be used to provide a life time income stream. In this example, you give up the lump sum and take monthly payments for what could be your entire life. Annuities have so many positive attributes. More people need to become familiar with these savings plans.

The minimum deposit to open an annuity is \$1,000 or \$90 per month. Why not get this plan started now. Call your local NSS representative or Joe Elliott in the Home Office for more information.

Why Should I Have Insurance?

This is a great question and the answer is simple. A person should have life insurance to protect their loved ones. Everyone knows that life insurance can be used to pay for the house, outstanding bills, last expenses, college education and so much more. But there is another side to life insurance. A good example might be the person who starts out buying insurance to protect their family. But later in life when the family is grown the insurance may serve another purpose. Here is an example using some of the columns from our life insurance proposal systems. This information is based on a female, age 35, non-tobacco user, buying a \$100,000 whole life plan of insurance and paying \$868 per year or \$78 per month:

Year	Annual Payment	Guaranteed Cash	Projected Cash value	Death Benefit
10	\$8,680	\$4,953	\$5,158	\$101,100
20	\$17,360	\$14,973	\$15,958	\$103,400
30	\$26,040	\$28,797	\$31,450	\$106,400

If she paid her payments for 30 years, she would have paid \$26,040 in payments. If she passed away during that 30 year period, we would have paid the death benefit which is \$100,000 plus the dividends. Here are a few other items for your consideration. What if she quits paying on this policy after 20 years? She has several options; A) she can take the cash (\$15,958), B) she could continue the policy as extended insurance and have \$100,000 of coverage for another 20 years, or C) she could take a paid-up policy for \$42,000+.

What if she keeps the policy for 30 years and now at retirement age; decides she does not want the insurance but would like to have some cash for a safety net. There is \$31,450 available. What if she leaves that lump sum amount with us but decides to take a monthly income to supplement her Social Security. This amount would generate about \$300 per month for the rest of her life.

All of these options exist after the first few years of a policy start date. The longer the policy is in effect the greater these figures or options become. The beauty of life insurance is that it is flexible. It can become whatever you might need in the future. This plan has benefits whether you live, die, or quit paying. No other financial instrument can do as much as life insurance can!

What you need to do is call your local NSS representative or Joe Elliott in the Home Office and see how we can help you. The call is free. The quote is free, what are you waiting for?

Thought For The Month:

If you are willing to fail, then interestingly, you tend to succeed.

Edward Albee, American playwright (1928 - 2016)

Fraternal Matters...

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



Poetry Contest Deadline

August 15, 2020 is the deadline for the Poetry Contest. Adults and children are welcome to participate this year. Please keep in mind that you must have your own policy with NSS Life in order to enter.

Photo Contest

Now is the time to start gathering any amazing photos you may have taken over the past year and consider entering one into the annual NSS Life Photo Contest! This year we will have four categories total. The new categories will be Oh Baby (Ages 0 - 24 months), Home or Backyard (fun at home during social distancing), Nature (wildlife, flora, landscapes, waterscapes, etc.), and Pets (your precious furry friends). Again, please remember you must have a policy with us to enter. The deadline is **October 31, 2020**. We are looking forward to receiving many wonderful photos!

Six Little Stories with Lots of Meanings

1. Once all villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer, all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella.
That is faith.
2. When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them.
That is trust.
3. Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still we set the alarms to wake up.
That is hope.
4. We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future.
That is confidence.
5. We see the world suffering, but still, we get married and have children.
That is love.
6. On an old man's shirt was written a sentence 'I am not 80 years old; I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience.'
That is attitude.

Have a happy day and live your life like these six stories. Remember – Good friends are the rare jewels of life, difficult to find and impossible to replace!

NSS Life "Fitness Matters..." Walking Program

Fitness Matters is our walking program designed to promote healthy living. During this time of uncertainty and social distancing, walking is a great activity to partake in. It is both mentally and physically beneficial. If interested, please contact Pam or Amanda at the home office. We will send you a welcome kit that includes log sheets to track your mileage, as well as a pedometer. Once you have walked a specific amount of miles, we will send you a prize. Please consider investing in your health and wellness...you will feel better for it!



American Hearing Benefits

Reminder: NSS Life is partnered with American Hearing Benefits to offer our members discounts on select services. These include hearing aids, tinnitus treatment and hearing protection products. Additionally, free annual hearing consultations are provided, access to a nationwide network of 3,000+ hearing locations, free one-year supply of batteries, one year of free office visits (limit of 6), plus more. If interested, please visit www.americanhearingbenefits.com.










 **American**
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 hearing aid wearers
 confirm wearing
 hearing aids has
 **positively impacted**
 **their quality of life.**

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*Patient benefits may vary by contract type. **Professional service fees may apply.
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2020-2021 Scholarships - Perpetual Award Winners



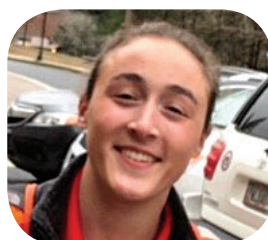
Emily Borges
Assembly L002
University of New Haven
Forensic Science
NSS Board of Directors Scholarship



Jeremiah Brosovic
Assembly 123
Robert Morris University
Sports Management/Business Admin.
Assembly 065 Scholarship



Clayton Coble
Assembly 554
Indiana Univ. of Pennsylvania
General Management
Assembly 065 Scholarship



Angelina Ferary
Assembly 774
Georgia State University
Nursing or Biology
Ann Marie Czarny Scholarship



Isabella Ferary
Assembly 774
Georgia State University
Undecided
Dr. John Gulash Scholarship



EdithAnna Malley
Assembly 731
Earlham College
Women's Studies
Mary Mravec Scholarship



Allissa Mulaski
Assembly L105
Bryan College
Health Science
Mary B. Burns Scholarship



Patrick Phillips
Assembly RO59
Arizona State University
Aerospace Engineering
Stephen J. Trusik Scholarship



Chloé Robison
Assembly L161
Nova Southeastern University
Exercise & Sports Science/Pre-Med
125th Anniversary Scholarship

2020-2021 - 1st Year Scholarships



Sophia Albers
Assembly 595
Bowling Green State University
Business/Accounting



Margaret Barrett
Assembly 705
Indiana State University
Elementary Education



Anna Bilitz
Assembly 774
Martin Luther College
Early Childhood Education



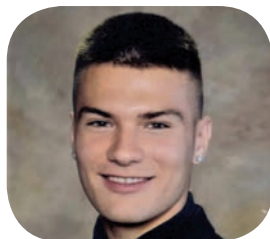
Aubrey Bloxdorf
Assembly 554
Penn State University
Landscape Architecture



Reese Bole
Assembly L105
Franklin & Marshall College
Bioinformatics



John Carlson
Assembly 774
College of William & Mary
Chemistry



Ethan Codeluppi
Assembly 377
Alderson Broaddus Univ.
Criminal Justice



Joel Dean
Assembly 731
California University of Pennsylvania
Wildlife/Fisheries Science



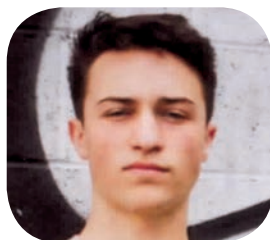
Sonya Demacek
Assembly L161
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Marketing



Teresa Dube
Assembly 737
Westmoreland Community College
Dental Hygiene



Emma Fox
Assembly L040
Jamestown Community College
Occupational Therapy



Roman Giacomin
Assembly 123
Kent State University
Biology/Pre-Medical



Jacob Green
Assembly 434
Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics
Aircraft Maintenance



Giavanna Gulino
Assembly 039
University of Pittsburgh
Pre-Medical



Lauren Harris
Assembly L161
Grove City College
Psychology



Rachael Harris

Assembly L161
Allegheny College

Computer Science and Political Science



Lauren Haylett

Assembly 731
Penn State University

Architectural Engineering



Logan Hering

Assembly 554
Penn State - Behrend

Undecided



Alyssa Hixson

Assembly L105
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Exploratory Humanities & Social Sciences



Courtney Kenderes

Assembly 110
Kean University
Biology



Nathan Kirsch

Assembly 123
John Carroll University

Business/Sports Management



Jacob Kovach

Assembly L102
Drexel University

Physics



Jakob Kropf

Assembly 434
Temple University

Architecture



Abigail Lherbier

Assembly 123
Ohio State University

Undecided



Alina Mayton

Assembly 588
Denison University
Communications/Theatre



Jack Merten

Assembly 381
Central Michigan University
Environmental Health & Safety



Ileen Moua

Assembly 568
University of California, Davis
Pre-Medical



Stephanie Orban

Assembly 774
Florida State University
Exercise Physiology



Melanie Pendel

Assembly 123
Brock University
Undecided



Gabrielle Plunkard

Assembly 731
Youngstown State University
Dental Hygiene



Elizabeth Principe

Assembly L105
Gannon University
Occupational Therapy



Elizabeth Reynolds

Assembly 123
Kent State University
Fashion Merchandising



Christopher Samek

Assembly L105
University of Pittsburgh
Neuroscience



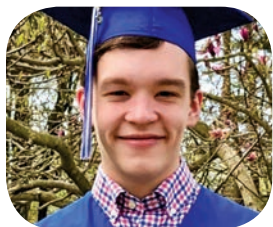
Dustin Shriver

Assembly 588
Slippery Rock University
Parks & Resource Management



Catherine Sims

Assembly 110
Louisiana State University
Mathematics/Mech Engineering



Parker Skelly

Assembly 774
Mercyhurst University
Environmental Science



Bria Small

Assembly 774
Clarion University of Pennsylvania
Chemistry



Alexa Triebisch

Assembly 588
Robert Morris University
Secondary Education



Ben Turi

Assembly 554
Edinboro University
Secondary Education



Jacob Williams

Assembly 731
College of Coastal Georgia
Business



Jeffrey Williams

Assembly 731
Youngstown State University
Computer Science



The time for life insurance is now.

Life changes and priorities shift. But one thing stays the same—how important family is and our desire to protect them. That’s why having life insurance is key. It means your loved ones would be OK financially if something happened to you.

You don’t need to wait for a big life moment to put this important protection in place. The time for life insurance is now. Get it today.

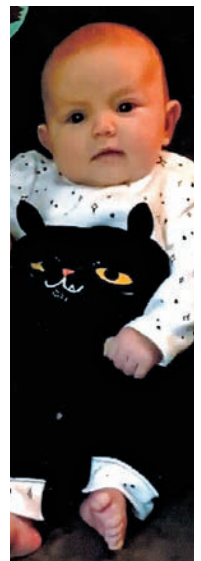
Sloane Gonzalez Reads Newsletter



We just had to publish these pictures in our newsletter. This is Sloane and she seems to love our Newsletter. Looks like she is getting ready for school as she studies the Crossword Puzzle and reads about our current Scholarship Winners. Thanks to dad, Stephen Gonzalez, AQS, for sharing these pictures with us.

Farrah Christine Whitehouse

Farrah Christine Whitehouse of Middletown, CT, was born August 30, 2019. She weighed 7 lbs., 10 oz., and was 20 inches long. Farrah is the daughter of proud parents Carly and Kane Whitehouse, and great-granddaughter of Esther Vlasak of Elroy, Wisconsin. Welcome to NSS Life sweet baby Farrah!



This Month in National Slovak Society History

Joseph Stefka, Jr.
Chairman of the Board

August, 1900

Four National Slovak Society assemblies were founded in August, 1900. Assembly 358, Chester, Pennsylvania, was founded on August 1, 1900. Assembly 359, Traveskyn, Pennsylvania, was founded on August 5, 1900. Assembly 360, Adena, Ohio, was founded on August 19, 1900. Assembly 361, Exeter Borough, Pennsylvania, was founded on August 19, 1900.

August, 1970

The 5th Annual National Slovak Society National Golf Tournament was held on August 1, 1970, at Evergreen Golf Course in Evergreen Park, Illinois, with 22 golfers participating in the event. Mickey Hamalak of Assembly 110 in New York, New York, won the scratch division in the tournament with a score of 79. The winner of the handicap division of the tournament was Tom VanKula of Assembly 553 of Detroit, Michigan.

August, 1994

The 31st Quadrennial Convention convened on August 15, 1994, at the Hyatt Hotel in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, with a total of 172 delegates attending. The delegates of the convention named Sophia Hudak, Emily Leo, Joseph Pavlik, and Irene Sippos as Honorary Tribunal Members.

August, 2002

At the 33rd Quadrennial Convention held in Grand Island, New York, the convention delegates named Paul J. Godor as an Honorary Officer and Joseph Tomaskovic, Jr. as an Honorary Director of the National Slovak Society.

Attention: Member and Agent Portal Users

The NSS will be making a few changes to improve how we protect your personal information online.

First, we are adding Multi-factor Authentication on member and agent portals as an additional layer of security. This will require each portal user to have a unique email address and phone number, so we can send you a one-time passcode before entering the portal. We will provide the passcode based on your preference (text message, phone call, or email). Note: If you are currently using the same email address and phone number to access family members' accounts, you will need to create a unique email address for each family member. Please update us with the correct information to avoid any delay when accessing your portal.

We will also be rolling out a stronger password policy for member and agent portals. Once implemented, you will be asked at your next login to update your password. The password will need to be at least 8 characters long and will require at least one lower case letter, one upper case letter, one number, and one special character.

As always, we take the security of our member's and agent's information very seriously. We recognize these changes create a slight inconvenience to you, but they are effective countermeasures against unauthorized access to your information.

Lisa Shriver

Member Service Supervisor and Assistant Controller

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.**

REMINDER



Slovak Festival Sterling Heights, MI

30th annual Parish Slovak Festival
Saturday, August 22 and
Sunday, August 23, 2020
Ss. Cyril and Methodius Parish
41233 Ryan Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48314
(25 miles northeast of Detroit)

Save the Date! Due to the COVID-19 pandemic we're not sure what the festival will look like this year, but we hope to still have some kind of heritage-celebrating event including Holy Mass in Slovak at 11:30AM on Sunday. (Note: Mass is celebrated in Slovak every Sunday at 11:30AM.) For more information and festival updates, please call 586-726-6911 or go to www.saintcyriils.church/discover/slovak-festival/

38th Annual Western PA Slovak Radio Hour Dinner Dance

The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour will celebrate its 38th Annual Dinner Dance on Sunday, October 11, 2020 at the Westwood Golf Club in West Mifflin, PA.

Cash Bar:

4:30

Buffet Dinner:

5:00

After dinner

Music by:

"Gypsy Strings"

For more information call Sue

Ondrejco at:

412-421-1204.



OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS

June, 2020

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Abbott, Audrey A	Rio Rancho, NM	04/15/2020	0813
Bliss, Angela	Pittsburgh, PA	03/23/2020	L105
Bolcavitch, Pauline	Jessup, PA	06/01/2020	L075
Bouch, Clyde	Creekside, PA	05/28/2020	0774
Boyer, Jane	Littleton, CO	04/18/2020	0236
Brennan, Michael	Blue Bell, PA	05/02/2020	R059
Brown, Danny	Monongahela, PA	06/09/2020	0588
Brown, William F	Melbourne, FL	10/31/2019	0813
Brueck, Rolland	Sturgis, MI	12/28/2018	0381
Bryan, Patricia	Pickerington, OH	04/14/2020	0705
Callahan, Joan	Fair Lawn, NJ	06/11/2020	0774
Campbell, Jeanette	Cheboygan, MI	06/12/2020	0381
Casto, Judith	Winfield, WV	05/27/2020	0774
Chapasko, Regina	Ashley, PA	05/17/2020	0617
Clement, Vera	Mendham, NJ	10/09/2019	0737
Coburn, Dennis	Traverse City, MI	05/06/2020	0381
Coulehan, Charles	Jefferson Hills, PA	11/28/2019	0441
DeBoard, Mabel	Indore, WV	03/26/2020	0774
DeGregory, Jane	Charleroi, PA	12/06/2019	0377
DeSabatine, Madeline	Export, PA	06/20/2020	0774
Dunn, Robert H	Allons, TN	03/03/2020	0774
Frederick, Marlene	Sun City Center, FL	05/30/2020	0813
Frost, Mary	Elizabeth, PA	05/21/2020	0441
Gaines, Ruby	Erie, PA	06/04/2020	0774
Galiardi, Michael	Connellsville, PA	04/25/2020	0737
Gardner, Joan	Dublin, OH	06/05/2020	0160
Getz, Andrew	McDonald, OH	05/10/2016	0731
Gibson, Jr. Lee A	Mooreville, NC	05/17/2020	0774
Gillingham, Toni	Meadville, PA	06/01/2020	0774
Glotnis, Elizabeth L	New Kensington, PA	05/04/2020	0434
Grala, John W	Trenton, NJ	05/20/2020	L075
Harris, Sandra	Huntington, WV	05/22/2020	0774
Hayduk, Marian	Beaver, PA	10/01/2019	0123
Higgins (Klinzing), Carol	Austin, TX	04/28/2020	0774
Hornik, Dorothy	Wethersfield, CT	03/02/2020	0110
Hrinya, Mary	DuBois, PA	03/24/2020	0123
Hudecek, Ann	Toledo, OH	06/26/2015	0381
Jackson, Janet	York, PA	06/02/2020	0267
Kasacjak, Martin	Leechburg, PA	04/23/2020	L105
Keddie, Russell	Allen Park, MI	03/25/2020	0381
Larkin, Catherine	Harrisburg, PA	05/24/2020	0774
Lavery, Dennis	Oil City, PA	06/10/2020	0731
Leaver, Marie C	Washington, PA	01/29/2020	0588
Mack, Lorraine	Scott Twp, PA	06/01/2020	L075
Markgraf, Cora	St Albans, WV	05/25/2020	0774
Meads, Charles	Red Lion, PA	02/05/2018	0267
Miller, Joanne	Pittsburgh, PA	01/08/2020	0100
Moore, Barbara	Pittsburgh, PA	06/16/2020	L161
Mullins, Margery	Charleston, WV	04/07/2020	0774
Nelson, Nels	North East, PA	12/25/2019	0731
No, Chaewan	Cranberry, PA	02/17/2020	L161
Overbay, Lorene	Montgomery, WV	04/25/2020	0774
Palahunik, Mike	McKees Rocks, PA	06/04/2019	L161
Pawlak, Sara	McMurray, PA	04/28/2020	0434

(Continued on Page 17)

PVR Scholarship Fund Donations

In Memory of **Vera Kioski**, mother of Diane Romatowski:
 From Jeanette Garcia 25.00

In Memory of my son **Shaun Crowley**:
 From Mom, Lori Crowley..... 20.00

In Memory of **Deported Members of Assembly 0123**:

- Jasrod Bowers 20.00
- Gene Fraiser..... 20.00
- William Howells..... 20.00
- Marlene Hudac 20.00
- Ann Lopic 20.00
- Margaret Pace 20.00
- Eva Valentik 20.00

Donations:

- John & Priscilla Bucek 500.00
- Bernadine Brown 50.00
- Lynda & Thomas Ritter 500.00
- Jean Babitt 50.00
- Day Insurance Agency 1,000.00
- Richard & Virginia McMudy 25.00
- Bernie & Cathie Vukelich..... 500.00



DONATE TO THE PVR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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

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

Here is my donation of:

\$ _____

Please issue your check to:

NSS PVR Scholarship Fund

And send to:

National Slovak Society
 351 Valley Brook Road
 McMurray, PA 15317

ASSEMBLY 0004 Parma, OH

Our next two meetings will be held on **August 16th** and **November 17, 2020**. For time and place, please call Oliver SirLouis at 440-845-2616.

Sonia Vorell
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0039 Uniontown, PA

ATTENTION! We have re-scheduled our "Summer Bar-B-Q" to Sunday, **September 13th** at the Uniontown Columbian Association (formerly K of C) picnic pavilion. We will be remembering the crew and passengers of "United Flight 93". Please mark your calendars!

"Septemberfest" at the home office is cancelled due to Covid-19.

For all of you poetry buffs; the home office has added an "Adult Category" to the upcoming "NSS Poetry Contest". The deadline is August 15th! Topic is of your choosing. Rules are in the recent issue of the "National News". Let your poetry juices flow!

Please note these fraternal events that have been moved to 2021:

...The "NSS Family Fun Day" scheduled at the Carnegie Science Center last April has been rescheduled for Saturday, April 3rd.

... The "NSS National Golf Outing" has also been moved to July 9-11 at the Kennington Golf Course in Canfield, OH.

Begin to gather your photographs for the upcoming "NSS Photo Contest". Four categories: Oh Baby, Home or Backyard, Nature, and Pets will be judged. Rules are on page 19 of this issue. The deadline for your entry is October 31st. Be sure to enter. Great prizes! Earn fraternal points for your assembly!!

The NSS Board of Directors have announced that a "2020 NSS Assembly Officers Seminar" will be held in the Month of November. More information to come.

REMEMBER: Our "Summer Bar-B-Q" has been moved to **Sunday, September, 13th at 1:00 pm.** at the Uniontown Columbian Association (formerly K of C) picnic pavilion. This will be our third quarter meeting. If you

have any questions, call me at (724) 366-4100 or our secretary at (724) 570 1301.

Practice social distancing, mask wearing and wash your hands!

John Payerchin
President

ASSEMBLY 070/C070 Brooklyn, OH

A Potluck Dinner & Meeting will be held on Saturday, **September 12, 2020** at Dr Martin Luther Church, 4470 Ridge Road, Brooklyn OH.

Call John or Mary Ann Karkosiak at 216-741-6990 if you plan to attend so we can make food arrangements. Side dishes would be appreciated.

John Karkosiak
Treasurer

ASSEMBLY L002 Stratford, CT

Our assembly will hold a business meeting at the Old Towne Restaurant, 60 Quality Street, Trumbull, CT on Wednesday, **August 19, 2020**, at 12:00 pm for all its members to discuss the status of the Assembly. All members are encouraged to attend.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Kristin Toman at (203) 888-0859 for more information.

Kristin Toman
Financial Secretary

ASSEMBLY RO59 Bethlehem, PA

Our thoughts and best wishes during this sad and uncertain time!

Regrettably, we did not hold our May and July meetings due to virus concerns and we have not rescheduled them yet. If all goes well, we will have our One Can, Can Help Food Drive in November.

Members have been working hard at staying well and safe! Hope the same is true for you, your family, and friends.

Michele Guydan
Secretary

ASSEMBLY L075 Duryea, PA

Please contact Lehrae Edwards to confirm they will occur on that date.

The assembly will hold their Fraternal Summer Picnic at the Mercatelli-Segilia Park in Moosic on **August 9, 2020**. Members are reminded to bring a basket for the raffle and a dish for the table. Hot dogs, hamburgers and drinks will be provided by the assembly.

The assembly will conduct a matching funds for the Catherine McAuley Center in Scranton. The assembly will purchase a cooler filled with Beach items like chairs, towels, snorkels and games. Members will sell tickets at the Luzerne County Fair in **September**.

The October meeting is set for **October 18, 2020** at Grande's Restaurant for nominations and election of officers at 1:00 pm.

Members will attend the Region 2 matching funds Bon Appetit for the SPCA at the Woodlawn in Wilkes-Barre in **November**. The St. Cats and Dogs fundraiser TBA.

The members will celebrate Veterans Day with the Veterans at the Wilkes-Barre VA Center on **November 15** at 2:00 pm with a bingo pizza party.

Lehrae Edwards
Secretary

ASSEMBLY L102 Schnecksville, PA

Our assembly will be doing a Matching Funds basket bingo to benefit St. John's Church for their handicap ramp. The bingo will be held at Emmaus Community Park on **September 19, 2020** at 1:00 pm. Tickets in advance are \$20.00 or 25.00 at the event. Contact Pam Schiaffo for tickets at 610-597-0341.

Sharon Wesnak
Financial Secretary

**STAY
SAFE**

**STOP
COVID
19**



ASSEMBLY 0123 Coraopolis, PA

Needless to say this has been one unusual year so far and it is hard to say when and how it will end. Let's hope for the best and try to be positive.

Mary K. Connell of our assembly is the Fraternalist of the Year. I hope you read about her in last month's magazine. She is so deserving. I first met her when our assembly was volunteering at the VA Hospital in Aspinwall. She was a dynamo in action; she simply does not slow down. Congratulations Mary, you have done our assembly proud.

Also, congratulations to Luna Salafanco, a winner in the Art Contest. Be thankful for this talent that God gave you.

Contest, did I say contest? Yes, everything is not canceled. The Photo Contest is still on. Get your photos in before the end of October to win a nice prize and help our assembly build up activity participation points. There should be some great pictures of people wearing masks.

Hope springs eternal. The assembly is planning a miniature golf outing on Saturday, **September 26th** at the Neville Island course. More details in next month's magazine.

If any of our members are in need of help during this time of the virus please let me know so that I can see what assistance can be provided.

Keep safe and be well. God Bless

William Knoll
President

ASSEMBLY 0377 Bentleyville, PA

Our annual holiday gathering will be held on **December 6, 2020** at Canon's Chophouse, 1900 Main Street, Canonsburg, PA at 3:00 pm. Please bring a dozen cookies for our famous cookie table.

Please RSVP to me at 724-207-3171 or if you have any questions.

Suzanne Skrypak
President



ASSEMBLY 0432 Fairview Park, OH

For the following events, please contact your assembly secretary to confirm they will occur on that date.

Camping Labor Day Weekend - Rustic Lake Campground from **September 4 - September 7, 2020**. 44901 New London Eastern Rd, Sullivan, OH 44880.

Meeting at the Pytel's on **September 15, 2020** at 7:30 pm.

Meeting at Tony K's on **December 15, 2020** at 7:30 pm and Christmas party to follow at 841 W Bagley Rd, Berea, OH 44017.

Shawn Pytel
Publicist & Social Media

ASSEMBLY 0586 Chicago, IL

Slovaks still at home

The word here is "careful." We were projecting in our minds being with our friends by this time in the summer. No such luck!

We have ventured out for necessary appointments but other than that we are appreciative of the comfort of air conditioning in our homes.

Seeing everyone masked with only their eyes in view is odd. Having your temperature taken is becoming commonplace when going into a building.

A point of pride for us of Slovak heritage was a full page article in the Chicago Tribune about Marian Hossa, former Chicago Blackhawks hockey player. Hossa has been inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 2020.

"A former Chicago Blackhawk, native Slovak Richard Panik, visited our church in Naperville a few years ago. He took the opportunity at Our Saviour's annual Slovak fundraiser dinner to thank us for the help we have given his birth country." We began our mission trips in 1999 and have continued till now. Even though there are only a few members of Slovak descent among us, we think of Slovaks as our sisters and brothers.

As for us now, we're thanking God for helping us manage our new way of life. And we are hoping that we can be together with our 586 friends in the not too distant future.

Since outside dining and sitting 6 feet apart is now allowed we can start planning for our next meeting.

Life has been very different. We all hope it will be possible for our lives to get back to what was normal last year. God bless us and our America!

Irene Tomaskovic
Vice-President

ASSEMBLY 0588 Slovan, PA

Meetings will be held at Panera Bread Community Room located at 250 McHolme Drive, Pittsburgh, PA (North Fayette), on the following dates: Monday, **September 21, 2020**; and Monday, **November 16, 2020** at 6:00 pm.

Please plan to attend the meetings and become active Assembly 588 members.

Annette Stefka
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0813 Englewood, PA

Our assembly will be working with the Jubilee Center, an outreach program of St. David's Episcopal Church, to "Feed the Children". The Matching funds program will run from now to September 30th. Mary Jo Holker is the NSS representative assisting Ruth Hill, the Jubilee Center Administrator. We hope to have 150 bags of food packed each week for distribution to youngsters who might otherwise go hungry. Volunteers and/or donations are greatly appreciated. Call 941-473-0559 for more information.

Plans are underway for another Matching funds project, *A Shrimp Boil*, to benefit the Catholic Social Services. The date, tentatively set for September or October, will be forthcoming. Plans are for SAM bike clubs to join in support of the effort at The Thirsty Pig, where donations will also be accepted. Kerry Farrell will coordinate plans for this event. Call 334-718-2416 for more information.

All plans are subject to change at the whim of COVID-19 restrictions. We will be following the safe practices recommended by local authorities. Everyone stay safe, please.

Mary Jo Holker
Secretary

REGION 2 Wilkes-Barre & Hazleton, PA

Our next meeting will be held on **August 15, 2020** at Perkins Restaurant 304 Route 315, Pittston, Pa. 18640 at 1:00 pm. Election of Officers will take place at this meeting. All members are encouraged to attend this important meeting, however we are staying updated with the current situation so please check your news. Any additional information or directions needed contact Lucy Piccoletti at 570-479-4116.

Lucy Piccoletti
Recording Secretary

As Covid-19 continues to send patients to hospitals causing medical staff to become overwhelmed, our assembly continues to provide lunches for the ER & ICU medical staff at a local hospital.

We're still hoping to have a family movie night under the stars sometime later this summer. Members are encouraged to watch our assembly's Facebook page for details.

Our county's Canfield Fair event **Has Been Cancelled** so our assembly members will not be getting together at the Fairgrounds campsite this year.

Our assembly's Halloween Hayride has not been cancelled (as of July) and we're hoping to be able to have our hayride and Halloween fun on **October 23rd** at Countryside Farm in Lowellville, OH.

If we feel we cannot provide a safe environment with state recommendations, events will be cancelled.

Please contact Laurie Fox (330-536-8850) if you have questions about any of our planned activities.

Laurie Fox
Secretary

(Departed Members - Continued from Page 14)

News from Assembly 731

Most assembly activities have been canceled since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic but a few of our members worked in small group gatherings with others in the community to help with outside work at Poland Ohio's Little Red Schoolhouse Museum. We worked in smaller groups this year on three different days to plant flowers and mulch the gardens. During one of our work days, volunteers removed a tattered flag and replaced it with a new one in time to fly proudly at the Schoolhouse on Flag Day.



Mike Fox helps with the raising of a new flag at the Poland Historical Society's Little Red Schoolhouse Museum



Laurie and Mike Fox and others from the community practice physical distancing and wearing masks while helping with planting flowers at the Schoolhouse.

OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS

June, 2020

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Peters, Christine	North Huntingdon, PA	03/02/2020	0737
Poff, Charles	Fredericktown, OH	05/31/2020	0595
Price, Charlotte	East Bank, WV	05/15/2020	0774
Prichard, Paul	Narvon, PA	06/10/2020	L102
Raines, Howard	Lindside, WV	04/20/2020	0774
Rancik, Thomas	Camp Hill, PA	05/15/2020	0554
Reichert, Lena B	Hanover, PA	05/03/2020	L102
Saxe, Wilfred	West Brownsville, PA	05/24/2020	0039
Schaefer, Johanna	Leadville, CO	06/08/2019	0236
Schmalstieg, Patricia	Indiana, PA	06/14/2020	L105
Seaman, Evolyn	Warrenville, IL	05/18/2019	0586
Seigle, Robert	Frankfort, OH	05/12/2020	0595
Serafin, John	Nakomis, FL	01/14/2020	0737
Sinz, Charles	Renfrew, PA	05/30/2020	0731
Sklar, Beverly	Northbrook, IL	05/23/2020	0586
Smith, Georgia	Lexington, NC	02/05/2020	0774
Smith, Samuel	Newark, NJ	05/20/2020	0774
Soules, Dorothy	Tallahassee, FL	04/23/2020	L002
Soya, James	Dickson City, PA	02/18/2020	L075
Sparano, Josephine	Pittsburgh, PA	06/03/2020	L105
Spina, Joseph	Cazenovia, NY	06/01/2020	R019
Strcula, Mary R	Uniontown, PA	05/29/2020	0039
Tatar, Naomi	Finleyville, PA	04/17/2020	0434
Thomas, Josephine	Jacksonville, FL	05/23/2020	0774
Thompson, Gladys Jean	Ellwood City, PA	07/27/2019	0731
Troyer, Dorothy	Northeast, PA	05/31/2020	0774
Varchulik, Honora	Rostraver Twp, PA	05/27/2020	0377
Vignola, Michael J	Palm Harbor, FL	01/17/2020	0813
Vitus, Helen	Campbell, OH	01/29/2020	0731
Weil, Fred	Pittsburgh, PA	04/20/2020	L105
Welsh, Odessa	Rankin, PA	07/06/2019	0100
Williams, Brenda A	Erie, PA	05/19/2020	0774
Windsheimer, James	McDonald, PA	04/04/2020	0588
Yanchak, Helen	Canonsburg, PA	02/17/2019	0434
Zackey, Matilda	Philipsburg, PA	04/30/2020	0774

Rodný moj Kraj...

Slovensko je prírodným múzeom, v ktorom príroda na malom kúsku zeme medzi Tatrami a Dunajom nazhromaždila veľa krásy a bohatstva. Každý kúsok je iný a každý inak krásny. Ktorý je najkrajší? Zoznámte sa s niektorými našej vlasti.

Básnický pozdrav Slovensku

Kto si rád spomína na rodný kraj (slovensko) tu uvádzame krásnu báseň od Peter Bella, ktorý v mladom veku prispieval svojimi článkami do našich Národných Novín.

Aká si mi krásna, ty rodná zem moja! Krásne i tie hory, kôľ teba čo stoja; Krásne i to nebo nad tými horami: žehnám ťa, vítam ťa, vďačnými slzami.



Marián Hossa bol v najkratšom možnom čase uvedený do hokejovej Siene slávy NHL. Legenda!

Marián Hossa was introduced to the NHL hockey hall of fame in the shortest possible time. Legend!

Modlitba matky

Nebesky Otče, urob zo mňa lepšiu mamu...

Nauč ma chápať moje deti, počúvať trpezlivo to, čo musia povedať a s láskou odpovedať na všetky ich otázky.

Chráň ma od toho, aby som ich prerušovala alebo im oponovala.

Daj, aby som bola k nim tak vľúdna, ako by ony mali byť ku mne.

Nedopušť, aby som sa niekedy smiala na ich chybách, alebo sa uchýlila k zahanbeniu či zosmiešňovaniu, keď sa mi znepáči ich konanie.

Nech ich nikdy netrestám pre vlastné sebecké uspokojenie, alebo aby som ukázala svoju moc.

Nech ich nevystavím pokušeniu klamať alebo kradnúť.

Stále ma usmerňuj, aby som im každým slovom a skutkom ukazovala, že čestnosť prináša šťastie.

Prosím ťa, uzdrav ma môjho lakomstva. A keď nebudem vo svojej koži, pomôž mi, môj Pane, radšej byť ticho.

Nech si vždy uvedomujem, že moje deti sú deti, a že by som teda nemala od nich očakávať názory dospelých.

Daj, nech ich neokrádam o možnosť poslúžiť sebe samým a robiť vlastné rozhodnutia.

Obdaruj ma múdrosťou, aby som im vyhovelá vo všetkých ich rozumných žiadostiach, a odvahou odprieť im privilégia, ktoré by im uškodili.

Urob ma spravodlivou, pravdivou a láskavou.

Môj Pane, daj, aby si ma moje deti vážili, milovali ma a napodobňovali ma. Tak ako ja milujem a napodobňujem Teba. Amen

Abigail Van Buren

Žatva a žatevné pracovné náradie

Žatva je zber sezónnej úrody obilia. V dávnych dobách sa obilie po jeho dozretí vytrhávalo ručne, neskôr sa k tomuto pracovnému úkonu využíval srp so zubkovaným ostrím a od 18. storočia kosa alebo kosák. Zožaté obilie sa ukladalo do hrstí, ktoré



sa slamou uväzovali do menších celkov – snopov. Snopy sa ukladali do obilných kôp (kríž, mandeľ, hromádka, panák, kupka), v ktorých sa obilie nechalo voľne sušiť, až kým ho záprahom ne-

odviezli z poľa. Zväzanie obilia z poľa vyžadovalo dobrú organizáciu práce, pretože konský alebo volský záprah mali iba bohatší sedliaci, ktorí ho v tom istom období potrebovali na zväzanie svojho vlastného obilia. Po úspešnej žatve nasledovala veľká oslava – dožinky.



Horúce Augustové dni nás lákajú k vodám a do prírody na odpočinok. Veríme, že aj Vy sa zotavíte z horúčavy a každodenných starostí a načerpáte nových síl. Popritom si zanôťte:

**Ej leto leto, leto horúce
páslo dzevčatko volky na lúce
jak vola tak kriči
kto mi mojo štyri volky navraci.**

Pranostiky

10.august : Na svätého Vavrinca idú oriešky do venca.

15.august: Na Nebovzatie je obilie z poľa vzaté.

24.august: Aký Bartolomej, taká celá jeseň.



Youth Circle Page

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

2020 NSS POETRY CONTEST

Deadline: August 15, 2020

New - Adult Category

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

1. Contest is open to all NSS Youth members ages 5 to 16.
2. Poem may be any length up to two pages double spaced.
3. Topic is chosen by individual.
4. Each poem submitted MUST be an original work created by the member and should be typed or hand written clearly.
5. All entries must include: name, address, phone number, age, assembly/circle number, along with your t-shirt size chosen by the following sizes available:
Youth Sizes - YS and YM
Adult Sizes - AS, AM, AL and AXL
6. Winners in each category will have their poetry printed in the National News, Youth Circle Magazine and on the NSS Website.
7. Contest shall be judged under the following ages:
Keats - Ages 5, 6, 7
Angelou - Ages 8, 9, 10
Frost - Ages 11, 12, 13
Shakespeare - Ages 14, 15, 16
****NEW**** Poe - Adult
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
ATT: Pam Blum, Fraternal Activities Coordinator
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.

2020 NSS PHOTO CONTEST

Deadline: October 31, 2020

Contest Eligibility:

The NSS Annual Photography Contest is open to all members regardless of age. The photos, however, have to be taken by the member submitting it (no computer generated photos, other than digital ones).

Deadline:

October 31st is the deadline for all entries to be received. Judging is done by an outside professional.

Please mail to:

National Slovak Society

ATT: Pam Blum, Fraternal Activities Coordinator

351 Valley Brook Road

McMurray, PA 15317

Contest Rules:

- Must be a member before October 1st.
- One entry per category.
- Any size photo up to 8 x 10, unmounted in black and white or color (No touch-up or computer enhanced photos permitted).
- Name and address should be submitted on a separate sheet of paper, along with information where the photo was taken. **Do not write on your photo!**

Four Categories

Oh Baby

Home or Backyard

Nature

Pets

Prize List

1st Place - \$50.00	2nd Place - \$25.00
3rd Place - \$15.00	Best Overall - \$75.00

Could you use a little extra “green?”

Recommender

As a proud member of NSS Life, there is no better time than now to share your experience with family and friends. Best of all, you will receive a cash reward for recommending someone that we issue a policy to. You will receive a \$25 recommender fee (\$10 on the youth term product) for each person that becomes a member.

Recommender Information:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Prospect Information:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____



Send form to Joe Elliott at the Home Office.

Change of Address

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

Name _____

Assembly No. _____

New Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Former Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

DEADLINE FOR PUBLICATION

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