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### NATIONAL SLOVAK SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Founder and Honorary President, Peter V. Rovnianek

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

### Inside this Issue...

Assem	Ы	y	Ac	ctiv	it	ie
		7				

Activities at a	Glance
notivition at a	didiloo

.3

### From the Executive Officers

President's Column	4
NSS Disaster Relief Fund	5
Secretary/Treasurer's Column	6

### NSS Financial Matters

Alliuity liitelest Nate 1	Annuit	y Interest	Rate	1	(
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### NSS Sales Department

Mational	Calac	Director	1
Mationai	Sales	Director	L

### NSS News/Activities

Fraternal Activities Coordinator	8
Ornament Contest Winners	8
American Hearing Benefits	9
NSS History	14
Assembly Photos14-1	5-16-17
Third Place Poetry Contest Winners	19

## Assembly News

PVR Donations	12
Departed Members	12
Assembly Meetings	

## Národné Noviny

Novoročné Vinšovanie	18
Vyznanie dni	18
Vyzváňajte Zvony K Novému	
Roku 2019	18



### Activities At A Glance

•	_	•	ı	n	M	2
τ	Е	u	ı	u	I	/

February 16

### Assemblies L075, 0617

Meeting/Luncheon, Pierce Street Deli, Kingston, PA at 12:00 Noon

### **REGION 5**

February 23 March 2 March 3 March 10 May 5 May 12 June 9 July 8 August 4 September 8 October 6

December 1 December 1

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

Region 5, Hibernation Celebration, Slovak Sokol Hall, Southside, PA at 11:00 am Assembly 0737, Meeting, Carol Godor residence, N. Huntingdon, PA at 1:00 pm Assembly 0377, Meeting, King's Restaurant, Bentleyville, PA at 3:00 pm Assembly 0039, Meeting (Lenten Dinner), Eat'n Park, Uniontown, PA at 6:00 pm Assembly 0377, Meeting/Bowling, Tan O'Belle Lanes, Bentleyville, PA at 3:00 pm Assembly 0039, Stamp Out Hunger, U.S. Post Office, Uniontown, PA at 10:00 am Assembly 0039, Summer Bar-B-Q at K of C, Uniontown, PA at 1:00 pm Assembly 0039, Join Hands Day, Tony Bartock Golf Outing at 8:00 am Assembly 0377, Meeting/Picnic, Richardson's Park, Bentleyville, PA at 3:00 pm Assembly 0039, Flight 93 Memorial Dinner, Eat'n Park, Uniontown, PA 6:00 pm Assembly 0377, Meeting, Grand China Buffet, Washington, PA at 3:00 pm Assembly 0039, Annual Christmas Party, K of C Hall at 1:00 pm

Assembly 0377, Annual Holiday Party, Cannons Chophouse, Canonsburg, PA at 3:00

### **REGION 8**

February 17 May 25

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

Assembly 0432, Tobogganing, Strongsville Chalet 6:00 - 9:00 pm Assembly 0432, Weekend Camping, Rustic Lake

### **REGION 14**

January 13 January 20

### Assemblies R059, L102

Assembly L102, Annual Christmas Party, Drew & Sharon Wesnak's residence at 2:00 pm Assembly R059, Meeting, Election of Officers, Keysock residence at 2:30 pm

### **REGION 15**

### Assemblies L002, 0028

No activities at this time

### AT LARGE

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

No Activities at this time





# From The President's Desk...



David G. Blazek, FIC President, CEO

Greetings and Happy New Year from the Home Office of the National Slovak Society. On behalf of the Officers, Board of Directors and our staff, I wish you a very healthy and prosperous 2019. As we begin our 129th year of existence, we look forward to another successful year in protecting our member's financial security and continuing to offer charitable, cultural, social and educational opportunities that benefit you, our members, and the communities that you live in.

## News of Narodniars

Wishing a very Happy Birthday to former Home Office staff members Karen Lynne Orban and Cathy Lydic, and to Else Resosky, Tod Wilcock, Susan Payerchin, and Monica Stanitski and to daughter Shannon Woods. To all others celebrating in the month of January, Happy Birthday!!

We were saddened to hear of the passing of George T. Zifchak, former Sales Director of the NSS. George served the NSS in the late 1980's to early 90's. Our deepest sympathies go out to the Zifchak family. May God comfort you at this most difficult time.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to Shaun Crowley, son of Editor Lori Crowley. Also get well wishes go out to Home Office employee Tracey Bastaroli who is recovering from shoulder surgery.

# The 100 Man Story

Take any group of 100 people at the start of their working career and follow them for 40 years until they reach retirement age and here's what you'll find according to the Social Security Administration:

- Only 1 will be wealthy.
- 4 will be financially secure.
- 5 will continue working, not because they want to, but because they have to.
- 36 will be dead.
- 54 will be dead broke dependent on meager Social Security checks, relatives, friends and even charity for a minimum standard of living.
- That's 5% successful, 95% unsuccessful. Let's take a look at how the 5% got there.

#### There are:

- Millionaires with college degrees, and millionaires with little education.
- Millionaires who were born rich, and millionaires who went from homelessness to wealth.
- Millionaires in developed countries, and millionaires in poor nations.

As you can see, there is not a single quality that stands out among the wealthy except ONE. Wealthy and financially secure people understand what is really going on with their money and how to create wealth. In other words, they're the same as us but they have a better and deeper understanding of the principles of financial success. They understand that abundance is there for the taking. It is not a win-lose situation - there is enough for everyone. We can all be well off.

But first you must learn to harness the correct financial thought process. The 59% still working in retirement or those who are broke, especially need to KNOW what the financially secure know. We are here to help you with our Life and Annuity products, so contact your NSS agent or call our inside sales guru, Joe Elliott.

# Things You Should Notify NSS About

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

## **Punography Of The Month:**

Two fish swim into a concrete wall.

One turns to the other and says, "Dam!"





### Letter from the President

Re: NSS Disaster Relief Fund

Dear NSS Member,

As a valued member of the NSS Family, I reach out to you and your family with concern over the impact you may have experienced from the destruction we have witnessed in various news reports over the last several months related to hurricanes and/or wildfires. Given the enormous size of these catastrophes, I felt the best way to reach out to you would be through our monthly publication and our website. Please give us a call or drop us a line to let us know you are okay and whether any of these disasters have affected you directly. Also feel free to share this information with any of your family or other NSS members who may have suffered a loss but did not receive this message.

If you suffered a financial loss not covered by insurance, NSS has established a Natural Disaster Relief Fund available to all members as a fraternal benefit. The total dollar amount in the fund is limited, so the number of awards available and the amount of each award will depend on the total claims submitted. However, we trust that any amount awarded will be welcomed. We have included a summary below outlining the qualifications and criteria necessary to be considered for an award from the NSS Natural Disaster Relief Fund and we encourage you to seek this relief if you qualify.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you, as well as your family, your friends and others who may have been harmed by these disasters.

Fraternally, David G. Blazek, FIC President/CEO

# Information Pertaining to the NSS Natural Disaster Benefit

Members who live in areas affected by natural disasters may be eligible to receive this Disaster Relief Fraternal Benefit upon meeting the following criteria:

Natural disasters include, but are not limited to:

- Hurricanes
- Tornadoes
- Floods
- Earthquakes
- Wildfires
- Forest fires

The following qualifications apply:

- Must be federal or state declared disaster
- Member must be in good standing
- Maximum benefit per family is \$1000 regardless of number of calamities suffered by the family and/or the number of adult members affected.
- Benefit is for "out of pocket" expenses not reimbursed by insurance and/or relief from FEMA or other agencies
- Photos and/or documentation of loss must accompany application
- The NSS shall have sole discretion in determining payees and the dollar amounts of any awards
- Disaster Relief Benefit does not cover damage resulting from water entering basement due to sewer backup or sump pump failure
- Assemblies and Regions shall be notified and encouraged to add to the award.

Please contact Pam Blum at the Home Office for additional information about how to apply for this benefit.

Call Toll Free at: 1-800-488-1890

# A Page From My Notebook...

Linda M. Strom Secretary-Treasurer/CFO



# Happy New Year

During the Holiday season we focus on family and the many blessings that have been bestowed upon us. I hope you had a wonderful Christmas Season and are blessed with a Happy and Healthy New Year.

The Holiday is also a time where we turn to helping those less fortunate and in need. Some of you may have seen one of our most recent Television Commercials where we say that NSS is "so much more than an Insurance Company" and it continues with showing photos of our members helping others. Since 2006. the Board of Directors approved various types of support to over 100 individuals, churches and organizations. The NSS has donated to or in support of: Friends of Slovakia; Habitat for Humanity; Project Bundle-up WTAE; Slovak Gardens in FL; The Pittsburgh Slovakians and the Pittsburgh Slovak Radio Hour; Czech Voice of Cleveland; Prince of Peace Parish; various donations to other Fraternal Organizations; Slovak League of America; University of Ottawa Chair Mark Stolarik, Youngstown Sister Cities; Pittsburgh Folk Festival; Make a Wish Foundation; Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank; and Children's Hospital to only name a few. Sadly we also lent our support to the children of several fallen officers in our area by providing them eligibility for an NSS PVR Scholar-

the NSS Matching Funds Program also support and lend a hand in their communities. Matching Funds have

supported events/organizations such as: Catholic Charities St Elizabeth Center in Lorain, OH; SPCA of Luzerne County in Wilkes Barre, PA; Allentown Rescue Mission in Allentown, PA; Dr Martin Luther Church and Youth Group in Brooklyn, OH; Northampton Area Food Bank in Northampton, PA; Operation Support Our Troops America in Naperville, IL; American Legion Auxiliary Unit #82 Workcamp Project Fund in Carnegie, PA; Giving Back to Vets in Dothan, AL; SS Peter and Paul Orthodox Church in Buffalo, NY: Breast Fundraiser Ever in Emmaus, PA: Bentworth Blessings in a Back Pack in Bentleyville, PA and Guardian Angels Medical Service Dogs in McMurray, PA; just to name a few.

I always like to leave something special for last. Over and above the funds raised by our Assemblies and Regions, this year, three of our Agents/ Agencies have generously donated \$500.00 each to the PVR Scholarship Fund to help our youth with their posthigh school education. In addition, each \$500.00 donation will continue for the next 3 years making available three (3) full scholarships! THANK YOU to Agents Bernie Vukelich, Executive Brokerage Services, Inc.; Steve Day Sr., Day Insurance Agency, Inc.; and Dennis Biava for your fraternal support of our youth and the NSS.

# 2019 Assembly/Region Forms

As you know each year you receive Assembly and Region packets which contain all the forms for the upcoming year. The compilation of these packets take a great deal of time to put together to be mailed. I once again ask that you use the forms that you receive in the packets and not old ones that you received in past mailings. There is updated information each year, and if you send in an old form then you miss any of the new information which may mean the loss of tracking points.

# 2018 Assembly Reports

The Preliminary Fraternal Tracking Report and an Assembly Member List-Our Assembly and Regions, through ing will be mailed this month to each Assembly. These should reflect tracking points and membership through 12/31/2018.

# Scholarship For Senior Members A Fraternal Program

### **PURPOSE** ~

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

#### MEMBER ELIGIBILITY ~

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

### **COURSE ELIGIBILITY ~**

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

### PROCEDURE ~

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

### INFORMATION & APPLICATION ~

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

# National Slovak Society Privacy Notice

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

### Meeting Your Financial Needs While Respecting Your Privacy

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

### **Protecting your information:**

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

### Information that we collect about you from the following sources:

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

### Third parties to whom we may disclose your information:

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

### How we protect your non-public information:

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

# Dr. Martin Votruba Passes On



It is with great sorrow that we announce the death of Martin Votruba, Senior Lecturer and Head of the Pitt Slovak Studies Program (Slavic Department, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences). A Memorial service will be held on January 13, 2019.

Martin Votruba was born on March 6, 1948 in Vysoke Tatry, Slovakia, Czechoslovakia. Son of Radmir and Viera (Nepozitkova) Votrubaand he came to the United States in 1985 and married Elena in1986.

Martin's favorite pastime was mountain climbing and hiking in lofty places. His specialties were Slovak studies — language, history, literature, culture; Slovak and West Slavic linguistics; Communism and its collapse in Central Europe.

The courses he regularly taught were Slovak, Czech, and Central European Cinema; Slovak Transatlantic Cultures; The Year Communism Crumbled; A Survey of Slovak History and Culture; Slovak language.

His career was Assistant professor, Institute Translate & Interpretation, Bratislava, Slovakia, 1973-1974; assistant professor, Comenius U., Bratislava, Slovakia, 1974-1985; editorial staff, Ornciment Quarterly, Los Angeles, 1985-1988; editor, Radio Free Europe, Munich, Bavaria, 1988-1990; assistant professor Slovak studies program, U. Pittsburgh, since 1990. Board directors Academia Istropolitana, Bratislava, Evaluator Berlitz transactions Superior vena cava syndrome, Los Angeles, since 1990. He was also Member Slovak collection committee West Pennsylvania History Society, Pittsburgh, since 1990.

Martin will be sadly missed.

## Fraternal Matters...

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



# New Year's Resolutions For 2019!

A New Year's resolution is a tradition, most common in the Western Hemisphere but also found in the Eastern Hemisphere, in which a person resolves to change an undesired trait or behavior, to accomplish a personal goal or otherwise improve their life.

### **6 Healthy and Realistic Resolutions** for 2019.

We all tell ourselves that in the coming year we're going to completely stop eating junk food, workout 4-days a week at the gym, and walk to work every day even when it's 8-miles away. However, making health vows that are too big may be the very thing that ruins your efforts.

Experts note that around half of us make New Year's Resolutions, and only 1/2 of that group makes it past mid-January. So, instead of deciding to lose 50-pounds by March, here are six realistic goals that can improve your well-being and that you can build on...

- 1. Cut Down on Smoking If you're a pack-a-day smoker, it's probably a lot to ask to cut out smoking completely by February. Cold turkey may work for some, but reducing cigarettes gradually may make it more manageable for you (without the associated rage or grumpiness).
- 2. Take a Daily Walk You don't have to sign up for an expensive gym membership to get some exercise, when you have 2-feet and endless pavement outside. If you're finding it difficult to get out of your seat at the office, set aside 15 to 20-minutes of your lunch break to step outside. NSS Fitness Matters walking program could help. Contact Pam Blum for your free pedometer and welcome kit and start walking for a healthier you!!
- said you can't have the occasional bowl while when we've achieved something.

of ice cream or a greasy burger, but having them every day might start to add up. If you're biting your fingernails trying to get through a food craving, then the key is to focus on how to deal with the cravings.

- 4. Have Your Hearing Checked A study by Johns Hopkins University reports that people with hearing loss are significantly more likely to develop dementia over time than those who retain their hearing. NSS has partnered with American Hearing Benefits so that our members may enjoy the benefits of hearing help at a discounted rate. (Additional information on page 9).
- 5. Worry Less Yes, this can be easier said than done, but a big part of worrying is coming up with worst-case scenarios in our head that probably won't happen. Worrying can be a necessary thing to avoid getting you into a bad situation, but overdoing it will prevent you from thinking it through clearly. Stress can really have a bad affect your overall health.
- 6. Celebrate Successes Instead of changing a bad habit, why not start acknowledging the things you're doing right? We're so programmed to think (pblum@nsslife.org or 800-488-1890). we're falling short that we forget to give 3. Reduce Junk Food Intake - No one ourselves a pat on the back once in a

# Christmas Ornament Contest Winners



Frosty Group - Ages 5-7 Piper Weber - Assembly 737



Rudolph Group - Ages 8-10 Micheala Tenney - Assembly C105



Snowflake Group - Ages 11-13 Addison Draa - Assembly C731



Santa Group - Ages 14-16 Adam Lazar - Assembly C075



Adult Group - 1st Place (Tie)



Adult Group - 1st Place (Tie)



**Adult Group - 2nd Place** 



**Adult Group - 3rd Place** Jessica Semego - Assembly 108 Charles Boone - Assembly C161 Maggie Semego - Assembly 108 Janine Hannan - Assembly 434

# Make Hearing Health Your Priority in 2019!



People with hearing difficulty who use hearing aids get more pleasure in doing things and are more likely to exercise and socialize.

### **Attention National Slovak Society Members:**

You and your family are eligible to receive benefits through American Hearing Benefits

### YOUR BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- **Discounts on today's latest technology**, including hearing aids and tinnitus options
- Access to a nationwide **network of 3,000+ hearing professionals**
- 60-day trial period"

ss\$\$ Financing plans available (subject to credit approval)

Find out about your complete hearing benefits today!

Call (888) 705-6920 to reach one of our Hearing Care Advisors.

We are here to walk you through each step and ensure your satisfaction.



\*Patient benefits may vary by contract type. \*\*Professional service fees may apply.
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www.americanhearingbenefits.com/partners/NSS

# **Current Interest Rates Effective July 1, 2018**

**Optimum 3** 2.00%

Preferred 5 3.25%

Preferred 8 3.75%

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



# Did you know...

You can add money to almost any
Annuity with NSS, just send us a check.
Any additional funds will not increase the
time period on early withdrawal penalties.

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



# Donate to the PUR Scholarship Fund

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

- Every penny donated goes directly into the PUR Scholarship Fund.
- Your contribution will help our young members achieve their academic goals.
- Your donation may benefit your own son, daughter, niece or nephew.
- Your donation is tax deductible.
- 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:

\$

Please issue your check to:

NSS PVR Scholarship Fund

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

# From the Sales Department...

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



# What is an Annuity?

We do millions of dollars of business in annuities every year but we always get this question, what is an annuity? It is a funny word and it would have been so much easier if it was called something else. Some people say that an annuity is like a savings account at an insurance company. The actual definition of an annuity is a contract between you and the insurance company. For example let's discuss the Preferred 5 annuity. A person deposits money into a Preferred 5 account and earns interest. The current rate of interest is 3.25% and that is guaranteed for the current calendar quarter. The rate can change each quarter but over the years we have proven ourselves to be very consistent. We have a long, steady history of paying members a competitive rate in good times and bad. If rates are increased (which happened in July 2018) then everyone with that account moves up or they could also move down. The downside protection is the minimum guarantee which means that no matter how low rates may go your account can only go to 2.0% on current accounts. Some older accounts have a minimum guarantee of either 3 or 4% interest.

What if a member wants their money during the first five years? One of the nicest benefits of an annuity is that your account is liquid. An account can be cashed in at any time. An early withdrawal fee may apply but if you absolutely need your money - it is available. From the NSS perspective; a person could always take their 10%

penalty free amount from their account.

The IRS is also a factor. Since they gave some tax-deferred earnings up front, later they will want their taxes on IRAs and annuity interest. They may also levy a 10% early withdrawal penalty if you take money prior to age 59½. Of course, we always recommend that you consult with your tax advisor before withdrawing any funds since they will know your situation the best.

What happens after the five year period on my Preferred 5 account? Really nothing – other than the penalty period is over. You may continue to add money to your account and any subsequent deposit does not increase or extend the original penalty period of five years. The account will continue to earn the stated rate of interest that we are paying on all Preferred 5's. Many other companies lower your rate after the first year or the end of the penalty period but we don't.

Annuities are a safe, conservative savings programs. Every day you will earn interest and your account value will be greater than the day before. Some other advantages of annuities; may avoid probate and can be used to generate a monthly income (for life in some cases). Our annuities may be used for IRAs, Roth IRAs and non-qualified accounts.

Call your NSS representative or Joe Elliott in the Home Office to see how these wonderful programs can help you and your family.

## If & When Insurance

Can you imagine requiring people to buy insurance? Why that's awful, someone telling you that you have to do something? We live in America – home of the free and the brave. Nobody is going to tell me what to do. Well, believe it or not there are two types of insurance. One is something called your "if" insurance and the other is your "when" insurance. Let's talk about "if" insurance first. "If" insurance is "if" your house catches fire, "if" you are in an auto accident, or "if" you are hospitalized. All three of these are required: homeowners by the mortgage company, auto insurance by the state, and health insurance by the federal government. Interestingly "if" insurance is required in case your house burns (odds are 1 out of 1,000), car is wrecked (1 out of 77) or hospitalized (1 out of 4). Some other insurances that are "iffy" include flood, hurricane, disability and long term care. Yet we would never think of not having these types of insurance. The loss should it occur would be too great to recover from.

What about "when" insurance? This would be for "when" you die (odds are 1 to 1.) There is no "if" on death – since it is inevitable. So why isn't life insurance mandatory? Because we live in a free society and each of us is responsible for our own and our families welfare. Those "if" insurance items are required because businesses and government don't want to get stuck paying for your losses so they insist on insurance for buildings, cars, floods and other things. However, those same entities have no problem with your family getting stuck with no life insurance proceeds because it won't affect them. Knowing this fact alone should make you better prepared. The risk of no life insurance is really the greatest risk of all. Your income is everything and allows you to purchase and pay for all that you do - without income your family is lost?

Life insurance is the greatest financial product ever devised. It has never been more affordable. Rates are low and the product is certainly needed. NSS makes it easy to apply. We can insure more people than ever – even those with some health impairments. Call your local NSS representative or Joe Elliott in the Home Office for more information or a free quote. We will be glad to help you – "if, I mean "when" you are ready.

### Thought For The Month:

The greatest room in America is the room for self-improvement.

Anon

# **PVR Scholarship Fund Donations**

In Memory of James Campbell	20.00
In Memory of Patricia Genevie	20.00
In Memory of Josephine	
Malagise	20.00
In Memory of Irma Zech	20.00
In Memory of Charlie Burchell	
From his Mother,	
Caherine Burchell	50.00

### **Donations:**

Assembly 0160	400.00
Matching Funds from	
Assembly 160	400.00



# November, 2018 Leaf Donation

In Memory of Member **Daniel Stein**, Victim of Tree of Life Synagogue Shooting

From NSS Life 250.00



# OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS November, 2018

November, 2018					
Name	City and State	Date of Death	<b>Assembly</b>		
Ackerman, James	Cheboygan, MI	11/03/2018	0381		
Barber, James	Philadelphia, PA	10/29/2018	R059		
Becker, Colleen	Altoona, PA	05/16/2018	0267		
Benne, Edith	Shelton, CT	10/19/2018	0028		
Brosius, Howard	Kittanning, PA	04/05/2018	0774		
Checovich, Ronald	Bradenton, FL	10/14/2018	0432		
Claybaugh, Ruth	Cornwall, PA	07/23/2018	L102		
Cox, Ernest	Davidson, NC	10/01/2018	0774		
Dane, Elizabeth	Washington, PA	10/25/2018	0588		
Davis, Mark	Media, PA	10/20/2018	R059		
DeBlasio, Jane	McMurray, PA	02/24/2018	0774		
Dewhirst, Ruth Ann	Monaca, PA	10/09/2018	0123		
Dunkin, Mary	New Oxford, PA	06/02/2017	0267		
Earnest, Jewell	Houston, PA	10/24/2018	0588		
Gallik, Shirley	Washington, PA	10/29/2018	0377		
Gerda, Gerald	Donora, PA	11/11/2018	0377		
Gill, Judy	South Salem, OH	10/01/2018	0595		
Gusky, Nancy	Mifflin, PA	10/31/2018	0774		
Hayhurst, Marie	Little Birch, WV	09/06/2018	0774		
Holton, Nathaniel	Havana, FL	09/03/2018	0813		
Janco, Edward	Rices Landing, PA	10/12/2018	0377		
Kirby, Lewis	Romney, WV	10/24/2018	0774		
Krolick, Carol	Clearfield, PA	11/05/2018	0554		
Lewis, Orval	Connellsville, PA	10/11/2018	0039		
Mayernick, Edward	Bridgeport, CT	08/23/2018	0028		
McKrush, Richard	Johnstown, PA	10/29/2018	L040		
Molochko, Helen	Virginia Beach, VA	02/09/2018	0774		
Pavlo, John A	Clearwater, FL	01/08/2008	0432		
Pettke, Thomas	Galien, MI	10/24/2018	0586		
Polomchak, Elizabeth	Crown Point, IN	06/26/2018	0586		
Pupava, Joan	Granite City, IL	08/10/2018	0705		
Repko Jr., Robert	Lorain, OH	11/01/2018	0160		
Scott, Eloise G	Lithonia, GA	08/22/2018	0774		
Sloan, Betty	Clendenin, WV	11/02/2018	0774		
Stoker, James	Pittsburgh, PA	09/18/2017	0434		
Summers, Betty Jo	Davin, WV	10/27/2018	0774		
Talpas, Arthur	Burgettstown, PA	10/07/2018	0434		
Tantlinger, Carl	Latrobe, PA	10/21/2018	0737		
Tkach Sr., Joseph M	RuffsDale, PA	11/21/2018	0737		
Trowhill, Donald	Sandusky, MI	07/22/2018	0381		
Ulery, Lanny	Donegal, PA	11/09/2018	0377		
Valo, Doris	Boardman, OH	10/08/2018	0731		
Vircsik, Mary G	Phoenixville, PA	08/26/2018	R059		
Wayne, Mary	Lehighton, PA	12/01/2017	L102		
Weis, Jane	Pittsburgh, PA	12/10/2017	0434		
Whetstone, Jerry	Philadelphia, PA	09/19/2018	0774		
White, Mayme	Huntington, WV	06/13/2018	P38A		
Wilke, Nancy	Clearwater, FL	09/28/2018	0813		
Williams, Linda J	Piketon, OH	11/16/2018	0595		
Winer, Ruth	Pittsburgh, PA	08/01/2018	L161		
Yoak, Arnold	Big Bend, WV	10/23/2018	0809		
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	-			

# ASSEMBLY 039 Uniontown, PA

Mark your calendars! A beautiful spring like day greeted our members as they attended our annual Christmas Party at the Knights of Columbus Social Hall. Over sixty adults and children enjoyed a delicious meal provided by the assembly.

A memorial service was conducted by Secretary, Paul Payerchin and Vice-President Timothy Schwer as we remembered all of those from the assembly that died in 2018.

During the annual meeting the following officers were elected for 2019:

> John Payerchin, President Anthony Bartock, Trustee Timothy Schwer, Vice President Rita Leonard, Trustee Paul M. Payerchin, Secretary McKenzie Payerchin, Trustee Nancy Schwer, Treasurer Tom Kocis, Trustee

A Chinese Auction was held with baskets donated by the assembly officers. Five hundred dollars was collected for the NSS PVR Scholarship. Members approved a motion to increase the donation to \$1000 and to purchase a leaf, on the NSS Memorial Tree, in loving memory of those members that died this past year.

Mr. Tom Kocis, our resident NSS field agent and trustee was the winner of the 32" Samsung HD TV that was donated by the assembly.

The 2019 Christmas Party is scheduled for Sunday, December 1st starting at 1:00 pm.

Our next meeting will be held in the Eat n' Park Restaurant on Sunday, March 10th. The meeting will be a Lenten Dinner remembering the Passion of our Lord. Dinner will start at 6:00 pm with a meeting to follow.

Don't forget to visit the new "NSS On-line Store" that features beautiful NSS wearing apparel as well as baseball caps, athletic bags, drink-ware and so much more. The address is: NSSLIFE.ITEMORDER.COM/SALE. For a 10% discount, use the promo code NSS10. Happy shopping.

A Joyous & Blessed New Year To All!

# **ASSEMBLY R059** Bethlehem, PA

Our first meeting of the year will be held on January 20, 2019 at Keysock's residence, 2072 Twelfth Street, Bethlehem, PA at 2:30 pm.

Election of officers and assembly activities will be on the agenda. Please call 610-262-2045 if you plan on attending.

Best wishes to all for a happy and healthy New Year.

> Michele Guydan Secretary

# ASSEMBLY L102 Schnecksville, PA

Our Annual Christmas party will be held on January 13, 2019 at Drew & Sharon Wesnak's, 1727 Elmhurst Drive, Whitehall, PA at 2:00 pm.

# ASSEMBLY 0123 Coraopolis, PA

Quickly looking back on 2018, I want to thank everyone who took part in any of our activities. It was a busy year and one that I hope offered a variety of activities and opportunities for many of you. Let's hope this year can be even better.

I offer my condolences to the families' friends of all the members who passed away this past year. May you have good memories of them. The assembly will be having a mass offered for them.

This year we will be in need of a new Secretary/Treasurer. Joan Smith who has faithfully and dutifully served in this office is stepping down. I can't thank her enough for the beautiful job she has done. But now I need one of our members to step up, speak up and decide that they would like to help. It does not demand a lot of time just the John Payerchin desire to continue to make Assembly President 123 one of the best and most active assemblies. I look forward to hearing from you. I can be reached at 724-242-5085. Thank you for your kind

consideration.

Mary Maniecki has done a tremendous job in planning and organizing a nice variety of activities and we can all look forward to what she has in store for us. If anyone has ideas or suggestions Mary will welcome your call at 412-264-3546. Member participation in any event is always welcome.

There are several activities sponsored by the home office that you can and should be aware of. One is the Matching Funds Program where the home office will match up to \$400 if you or your organization (e.g. school band, church group) has an event to raise money for a charity. This is a good way to double your money. Give me a call for details, 724-242-5085. Secondly there is the Senior Scholarship Program when any member over the age of 55, that's many of us, takes a paid course or activity that is not work related but for your personal enrichment the home office will reimburse you 50% of the fee up to \$100 twice a Sharon Wesnak year. Once again for more details give Secretary me a call.

> Our assembly will be making some cash donations to several charities. I'll report to you next month on which ones received the donations. We are always open to suggestions from members.

> Also, if there is something special that one of our members has participated in or accomplished please share it with me so I can acknowledge them in the magazine. Pictures are also welcome.

If you have a relative, friend or neighbor or you yourself have a need for life insurance or a quality annuity, please contact myself or Bill DelMonaco at 412-264-7268.

Let's make 2019 a memorable year for our Assembly.

Good luck in keeping your New Year's resolutions if you made any. If not, resolve to be a more joyful, generous person this year.

> **Bill Knoll** President



# ASSEMBLY 377 Bentleyville, PA

Please join us for the following meetings in 2019! All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Please call Suzanne at 724-485-2925 for any questions. We look forward to seeing you!

March 3, 2019 - Meeting at Kings Restaurant on Wilson Road, Bentleyville, PA at 3:00 pm for a luncheon and to elect officers for the year.

May 5, 2019 - Meeting & bowling at Tan O Belle Lanes in Bentleyville and lunch at 3:00 pm. At our meeting we will discuss assembly business and activities.

**August 4, 2019** - Picnic/Meeting at Richardson's Park, Bentleyville, PA at 3:00 pm.

**October 6, 2019** - Meeting at Grand China Buffet, 301 Oak Spring Road Washington PA. at 3:00 pm.

**December 1, 2019** - Our annual Holiday party will be held at Cannons Chophouse, Main Street, Canonsburg, PA at 3:00 pm. Please bring some cookies for our famous cookie table!

Suzanne Skrpak President

# ASSEMBLY 432 Fairview Park, OH

Mark your calendars for our events to be held in 2019:

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

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

Shawn Pytel Publicist

# ASSEMBLY 617 Ashley, PA

A meeting and luncheon will be held on Saturday, **February 16, 2019** at the Pierce Street Deli, Kingston, PA at 12:00 Noon.

We will have the Election of Officers. do our Annual Reports and discuss our upcoming events and donations, and preparations for our 110 Assembly Celebration. All members are encouraged to attend. Please call Rose Mary Strish for reservations and final details at 570-825-3681.

Rosemary Strish

# ASSEMBLY 737 Westmoreland County, PA

A meeting will be held on **March 2**, **2019** at the home of Carol Godor, 9280 Clubview Drive, N. Huntingdon, PA at 1:00 pm.

All assembly business will be dicussed at this time.

Carol Godor Treasurer

# Assembly 123 Members Volunteering at the World Vision Center



Assembly 123 Members - Amelia Cue, Mary Cepolloni, Diane & Gary Baranowski and grandson Brady Baranowski.



Bill Knoll, Joan Smith and NSS President David Blazek



Super volunteer Pete Longstreth and Mary Knoll from Virginia



President Natalie Fedorak and daughter Kaitlyn

# This Month in National Slovak Society History

Joseph Stefka, Jr. Chairman of the Board

### January, 1911

The Society purchased a tract of land in St. Mary's City, Maryland, to be used as a site for an orphanage, an old folks' home, and to build a Slovak community in the area. This action followed a mandate enacted by the First Special Convention in 1909.

### January, 1940

Cornelius D. Scully, Mayor of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, sent a congratulatory letter to National Slovak Society President Wendelin S. Platek on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of the Society.

### January, 1951

The 20th Convention of the National Slovak Society was held in Chicago, Illinois, from January 8 – 12, 1951. Wendelin S. Platek was re-elected as President of the Society.

### January, 1958

National Slovak Society President John H. Pankuch announced that other activities were being planned to coincide with the First Annual Bowling Tournament including a tour of the "New" Pittsburgh and the fabulous Golden Triangle.



Ava Kosta was a big help volunteering at the Veteran's Hospital.

# Honorary Commander Karry Farrell

The 23rd Flying Training Squadron calls Fort Rucker, Alabama its home. The 23rd Flying Training Squadron is the United States Air Force's primary source of helicopter pilots for special operations, combat search and rescue, missile support, and distinguished visitor airlift missions. It conducts specialized undergraduate helicopter pilot training, or SUPT-H. The 23rd develops and coordinates flying syllabi, academic lessons, and operating instructions for the SUPT-H and although stationed on an Army base, the USAF presence is highly regarded in the local military community.



Navy Aviator Michael Sutton, who works on an Army base (Ft. Rucker) teaching young Air Force men to fly helicopters, and Kerry Farrell



**Kerry Farrell enjoying the flight** 

When the 23rd chose a local community leader to be their Honorary Commander for the 2018-2019 year, they looked for someone who both personally and professionally supported the mission of the squadron. Ms. Kerry Farrell, owner of The Thirsty Pig craft beer taproom, has been supporting the 23rd through volunteer work, contributions and service for the past four years. When she organized community festivals, she made sure that the 23rd Squadron was involved in the community through volunteerism and by providing opportunities for the personnel to raise funds for their designated charities. Additionally, she has provided the use of her taproom for social events for the airmen, and has attended numerous ceremonies on base. Her support of the men and women of the 23rd Squadron has been second to none, and because of her dedication and support she has been named the Squadron's Honorary Commander for the current year.

As Honorary Commander, Ms. Farrell and her husband, Dan Farrell, were seated in a place of honor at the Squadron Christmas Party at the Enterprise Country Club. During the Change of Command ceremony at Fort Rucker, Kerry and Dan were introduced along with a horde of high ranking officers including those representing the Belgium Air Force and the French Air force.

As Honorary Commander Kerry has been invited to all Squadron functions and participated in a "ride along" in a TH-1H Huey Helicopter, on November 16, 2018. After a pre-flight physical Kerry got into the co-pilot seat and they were

in the air. After landing and a tour of the helicopter facilities, Col. Brittingham, (the real commander of the 23rd Squadron) hosted a luncheon at the Squad's Heritage Room. Quite a day for Kerry!

The Air Force has a responsibility to establish and maintain personal contact with local civic leaders in order to increase public awareness of the missions, policies and programs of the United States Air Force and an understanding of the Department of Defense. The goal is to partner with members of the local community while exposing them to the missions of the armed services. The Honorary Commander's program is used to meet this objective The intent is to create one-on-one opportunities to inform and educate local community leaders about the missions of the USAF and local bases.

Assembly 813 is very proud of Kerry Farrell, an NSS member since birth, for receiving this great honor. She exemplifies the caring spirit which we all, as NSS members, strive to achieve.

Mary Jo Holker A-813 Secretary

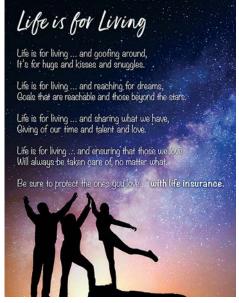
# News From Assembly A813

Members of Assembly 813 and friends gathered for the annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on November 24th. Great food by Chef Kerry was enjoyed by all as we discussed all the good times of the past year, and the current projects.

Spare change that had been saved for the last two months, plus donations of paper currency at the dinner, set a new record of \$130. This money was donated to the Brown Bag Program of the Wiregrass Food Bank as a Matching Funds event. The Brown Bag Program provides two bags of food each month for a year to a needy senior citizen to augment their meals.

The Toys for Tots program is a twopronged operation this year, serving both Englewood, FL and Dothan, AL. Kerry Farrell is in charge in Dothan, with toys being collected at The Thirsty Pig. Kerry organized (with the help of area Bike Clubs) a lighted bike parade on November 30th. Cost to enter was \$10 or a new unwrapped toy for the Toys for Tots campaign. Jo Holker was in charge in Englewood, with the collection site being Myakka Pines Golf Course. The 18 and 9 Hole Ladies Christmas Scramble encouraged participants to bring a Toy for Tots donation. Both events were well received and the collection boxes were overflowing. Santa and the kids were happy and we were blessed to be able to help.

> Mary Jo Holker Secretary



# A Hibernation Celebration!

Sponsored by Region 5



# Saturday, February 23, 2019

# Slovak Catholic Sokol Hall

2912 E. Carson St. Southside, PA 15203 11 A.M.

\$10/Adult member, \$5/Child includes Lunch and all activities
\*\*PVR Scholarship recipients who graduated 2016 thru 2018 will be guests of Region 5

Deadline for Reservations is Tuesday, February, 12, 2019

Please make checks payable and mail to: NSS Region 5
234 ILION ST.
PGH. PA. 15207

Please indicate number of Adul	ts attending	@ \$10	
Please indicate number of Child	lren (under age 10)		
Please indicate number of PVR Scholarship Recipients		(FREE)	
	_	TOTAL:	
Name	Phone: or email		



# Assembly 731 Christmas Get-Together



Ruth with some of her great-grandkids pose with Santa.



Our youngest member, Logan Mason, enjoyed his first Christmas party.



Ruth Burns, two of her great-grandchildren (Jimmy & Valerie) and a grandson (James) while waiting for others to arrive at the party, enjoyed watching the wildlife scurrying around outside.



Mike & Laurie with their grandchildren: Ashlynn, Cameron, Benjamin, Jackson, and Logan

Members of Assembly 731 enjoyed sharing the Christmas spirit together at their Christmas Party. Santa joined the fun bringing gifts and cheer for the kids.

As we end the year with good, positive memories we look forward to the New Year with new adventures for all.

**Laurie Fox** Secretary

# Matching Funds Event

Region 2 sponsored an event to raise money for the SPCA of Luzerne County. The event "Bone Appetit" took place on November 4,2018 from 4:00 to 7:00pm at the Woodlands Inn and Resort PA. This event highlighted fabulous food from local restaurants and wineries throughout our community and live music. We had a "Purr fect" time at this event. Attending were eight members from Assembly L075 and two members representing Region 2. The SPCA placed our name and logo on all publications at the event and in its video presentation.



President of Assembly L075
Gary Edwards with President of
Region 2 Marlin Petro-Wesnak



**Event Sponsors** 



NSS Members standing: Richard & Patty Ann Gorgol, Karen Richerson, Adam Edwards, and Stephanie Piccoletti. Sittting: Lehrae and Gary Edwards, Marlin Petro-Wesnak, and Lucy Piccoletti.

# Assembly L075

NSS Members came out to support one of their Local Volunteer Firehouses at the Taste of Moosic held at the Greenwood Hose Company. The event featured foods from local restaurants and a basket raffle. Assembly LO75



Pictured are Dorothy Collins and Lehrea Edwards

donated a Lottery Ticket Basket with NSS Brochures in it. NSS Members that came out to support this event on Nov 10, 2018 were: Region 2 President Marlin Petro-Wesnak, Lehrae Edwards and Dorothy Collins.

# Assembly L102 & R059 Events



Our young members had fun trick or treating this year. By next year our crawling littles will be able to join in the fun.



L102 and R059 teamed up again for a matching funds can drive for the benefit of the Allentown Rescue Mission.
Mike Slivka and Drew Wesnak unloaded one of the cars full of food.



L102 and R059 collected \$800.00 for the National Backpack program. Drew Wesnak helps load up the school van so the less fortunate kids will be taken care of over the holiday break.

Join us for our annual Christmas party on **January 13th** at Drew & Sharons Wesnak's residence at 2:00 pm.

# Matching Funds Event

Region 2 sponsored an event to raise money for St Cats and Dogs of Nay Aug Zoo. The matching funds event took place from November 3, 2018 to December 1, 2018. The event was held at The Central Station Marketplace in the Keyser Oak Shopping Plaza in Scranton. There were refreshments, baskets, giveaways and a 50/50 that all the proceeds benefited St Cats and Dogs.

Central Station Marketplace placed our NSS Business card in their shop along with posts on their Facebook thanking NSS.



Mary Beck owner of Central Station Marketplace, Region 2 President Marlin Petro-Wesnak, Lehrae Edwards, and Lucy Piccoletti



Region 2 President Marlin Petro-Wesnak selling a ticket to NSS member Lehrae Edward



NOVOROČNÝ VINŠOVNÍK - HEĽPA (HOREHRONIE)

### NOVOROČNÉ VINŠOVANIE

Dneska je prvý deň v roku, prišiel som vám zavinšovať trochu, aby ste mali po celý rok zdravia, šťastia, pokoja stáleho a pudelára nikdy prázdneho.

Pri akom zdraví Nový rok vítame, nech tak aj po dvanásť mesiacov ostane, ako pri stole, tak aj v rodine, a Bože daj aj na hospodárstve.

A ja vam viňčujem na ten Novi rok na poľu urodu, v dome zlahodu, v šercu pohodu, na Hodi hodu hodu, na dvore hudu hudu, žebi še vam dzifka vidala, parobek ožeňil a naj vešele i ščešľive budu!

Ja vam do noveho roku viňčujem, žebi sce maľi teľo urodi jag na jar vodi, teľo pecňoch v peci jag kameňoch na medzi a teľo laskavich slovoch lolo sebe jag chvizdoch na ňebe.

### Vyznanie dni

**1. január - Deň vzniku Slovenskej republiky -** Oslavujeme ho od roku 1993, na počesť vzniku samostatnej Slovenskej republiky.



**6. január**—Troch kráľov záverom vianočného obdobia bol sviatok. Typická bola aj koleda—obchôdzka kňaza so

sprievodom po domácnostiach. Počas nej sa nad izbové dvere kriedou písali posledné dve čislice letopočtu a iniciálky troch biblických mudrcov (kráľov) G.M.B. (Gašpar, Melichar, a Baltazár), podľa ktorých tento deň dostal svoje meno.

20 - G + M + B - 19

### VYZVÁŇAJTE ZVONY K NOVÉMU ROKU 2019

Pri novom začiatku venujeme pozornosť novým alebo obnoveným predsavzatiam. Často sa pri tom zastavíme a kladieme si otázku: Prečo sa stáva, že sa veľmi často novoročné sľuby oduševnene sľubujú ale o krátky čas sa ľahko zanedbávajú a zabúdajú? A to aj pri dobrej nálade a napriek dobrému úmyslu a hotovej odvahy dodržať si slovo.

Dajme si veci poradiť. Nerobme si nepotrebné ťažkosti. Na prvom mieste, hľadme, až sme sa zaviazali k pokroku v tom čo sa týka najviac našho každodenného života, našej obvyklej činnosti. Dajme si tiež záležať na tom, aby sme si určili pokrok a posilnenie pozitívnej stránky života.

Usilujme sa pravidelne navštevovať všetke schôdze svojho čísla. Všímať si čo sa deje v americko-slovenskom živote na našom okoli. Budeme mať z toho mnohé pekné, blahodarné a bohaté zážitky napríklad, vymeňme si kuchárske recepty s inymi sestrami pohovorme si o rodinnom živote vypočujme si čo iných zaujíma a ako zmýšľajú, potešme sa so šťastnými a podájme trocha útechy smútiacim. Miestny úrad a členstvo vás očakáva. Veď sme všetci jednotný.

Dobre si pamätajte: že bez vás, a bez jednotlivého členstva, nemalí by sme ten naš Národný Slovenský Spolok.

V tomto duchu, vyzváňajme široko-ďaleko veľkú radosť k Novému Roku a mimoriadnym nadšením každej našej sestre a bratovi prajeme hojné Božie požehnanie v Novom Roku 2019!

Do videnia pri najbližšej našej schôdzi!

Info o našej organizácii—Národného Slovenského Spolku, nájdete na vebovej stránke <u>www.nsslife.org</u>



Slovensko je malé, ale krásne. Je ideálne na zimnú dovolenku.



# Youth Circle Page

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

# Third Place Poetry Winners

# I Like Hershey

I like Hershey.
I rode on a roller coaster at Hershey Park.
We swam in the pools and played on the splash pad.
We stayed at the lodge.
Jacob and I did the Funfest
I played Putt-putt.
I caught a bird on my arm.
I took a picture with Reese's.
I got a giant Twizzler and my brother got
a giant Candy Kiss.
I had fun?

By Rose Katricak Assembly C160, Age 6

# Were I am From

I am from the beating rays in the summer From pizza shops and heater parties I am from the cozy peaceful home with tall hills, lush trees, and warm smiles I am from look-alike scarecrows, picking green beans, and tire swings I'm from going camping and playing outside From Nona and Nana I'm the trust in God and be kind to others From you're beautiful just the way you are and always try your best I'm from God, church I'm from Magee hospital Homemade pasta, bread and butter From me doing impressions wearing wigs and heels From Canonsburg to Canada From Chuck e Cheese pencils From Cookie with the cookie card

> By Ava Selva Assembly C588, Age 11

# My Best Friend

I have a friend,
Who is so very sweet.
She is always around me,
and even lives on my street.
We enjoy our time together,
while playing in the summer heat.
This best friend is my sister,
and our friendship can't be beat.

By Anthony Cherevka Assembly C108, Age 8

# My Mind Is The Ocean

The My mind is the ocean
Shallow, yet unfathomable deep
Instead of ships, I harbor
Detrimental thoughts that make me weep
My emotions are the tides
An everlasting, roller coaster ride.
Unlike the sturdy, stable piers that dangle fishing lines.

And house dishonest boardwalk games that use pretty lights to deceive and disguise.

Those boardwalk games are like my depression, separate from the ocean (my mind)

Although it appears, they are very much so intertwined.

Except, I don't need precious lights to help distract.

Oh no, of course not!

I have happy little pills for that.

Just as those boardwalk games, seem so unforgiving

The same goes for my depression
There seems to be no winning

And my thoughts, the ocean's waves

So powerfully destructive are they Flooding the path of happiness

I'm trying so desperately to pave

And the shore my self-esteem

Pounded mercilessly by my thoughts, the waves They're relentless I say! Can I go another day? Only this is just a mere fraction of my mind,

barely a ripple in the surface But lurking deep bellow the demons whisper:

"You are worthless! You are worthless!"
On the horizon it's almost serene,

displaying only a glimmer in insecurities.

I use the sun's twinkling reflection to try and hide my perceived impurities.

But the sun's rays only carry so deep

It does little to mask the self-loathing, destructive obscurities moaned and screeched beneath.

By Eva Vogt Assembly C377 Age 15 National Slovak Society (USES 0371-140) 351 Valley Brook Road McMurray, PA 15317-3337 Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Pittsburgh, PA Permit No. 1166

# Could you use a little extra "green?"

### Recommender

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

Recommender Information:  Name: Phone:			Section of the sectio
<b>Prospect Information:</b>			Digital Original Control of the Cont
Name:			
Phone:			
Address:			and the second s
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	
	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.