



**NSS Life.**  
*Family Matters...*

**2020**  
VISION

Announcing the  
NSS Life 130th Anniversary  
PVR Fundraising Campaign  
See Page 8 for Details



2019 Photo Contest  
See Page 9



The National Slovak Society of the United States of America

# Národné Noviny

Fraternal Life Insurance Since 1890 • Happy New Year!



*Congratulations!*

NSS Life Sales Director, CLU, ChFC  
Greg Felton  
2020 F.S.G.P. Fraternalist of the Year

NSS Life **2020**  
*Family Matters...*

## IMPORTANT DATES

2020 NSS Important Dates Insert Inside

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JANUARY 2020 | NUMBER 3537 VOLUME 112



# National Slovak Society

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## NATIONAL SLOVAK SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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Phone: (724) 731-0094 -- E-Mail: info@nsslife.org  
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Founder and Honorary President, Peter V. Rovnianek

### EDITOR

LORI CROWLEY

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### 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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John Payerchin  
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### ROCWMAS HONORARY OFFICER

Olga Kasnot, *President*

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

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## Activities At A Glance

### REGION 2

January 12, 2020

### Assemblies L075, 0617

Assembly L075, Holiday Party, Terry's Diner, Birney Avenue, Moosic, PA at 2:00 pm

### REGION 5

February 29  
March 8  
April 4  
June 14  
September 13  
December 6

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

Assembly 0123, Buffet Dinner/Play, Crafton American Legion at 5:00 pm  
Assembly 0039, Lenten Dinner, Eat n' Park Restaurant at 6:00 pm  
Assembly 0737, Meeting, Carol Godor's residence, North Huntingdon, PA at 2:00 pm  
Assembly 0039, Summer Bar-B-Q, K of C Picnic Pavilion  
Assembly 0039, Remembering Flight 93, Eat n' Park Restaurant  
Assembly 0039, Annual Christmas Party, K of C Social Hall

### REGION 8

January 19  
January 19  
February 16

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

Assembly 004, Meting, Sonia Vorell residence, Strongsville, OH at 2:00 pm  
Assembly 160, 125th Anniversary Banquet, American Slovak Club, Lorain, OH at 1:00 pm  
Assembly 432, Tobogganing, Strongsville Chalet, Strongsville, OH

### REGION 14

January 12

### Assemblies R059, L102

Assembly L102, Holiday party, Gross's residence, New Tripoli, PA at 2:00 pm

### REGION 15

### Assemblies L002

No Activities at this time

### AT LARGE

March 1

### Assemblies R019, L040, 0110, 0236, 0267, 0381, 0554, 0568, 0586, 0705, 0731, 0800, 0813

Assembly 0586, Meeting, (tentatively) @ 4:00 pm (Place TBA)

## Beginner Language Classes

In early 2020, we will once again offer Slovak language classes. The classes will be for intermediate and advance students only. Tuition is free for everyone. The class schedule will be as follows:

When: Every Wednesday from February 19 thru April 8th 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm  
Where: Mt. Lebanon Public Library  
16 Castle Shannon Boulevard  
(412) 531-1912  
Instructor: Bozena Hilko  
Reservations: Contact Bozena at bozi@comcast.net

## 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! I hope everyone had a nice Christmas and a fun time New Year's Eve. This year our organization will celebrate it's 130th Anniversary in February; not a small achievement. I have been honored to serve as President for the past 26 years. The many members that I have met and become friends with, and the experiences I have had over the years, will be with me forever. The preceding sentence makes it sound like I'm retiring but that is not the case; I hope to be here through 2022.

Looking at the calendar of events for January, the only event I see listed is a Holiday party in Region 2 being held by L075 and O617 on January 12th. Other dates note this month are Martin Luther King Jr. Day on the 20th and Chinese New Year on the 25th.

## News Of Narodniars

Happy Birthday wishes to former Home Office staff members Karen Lynne Orban and Cathy Lydic, also to Else Resosky, Tod Wilcock, Susan Payerchin, Monica Stanitski and to daughter Shannon Woods. Best wishes to all other members celebrating a special day this month.

Wishing Annette Stefka, a speedy recovery from her recent shoulder surgery she had done on her birthday last month. Get well soon!



## PVR Scholarship Applications Available

This is a reminder to all 2020 High School Graduating Seniors that NSS is accepting requests for applications for the PVR Scholarships. The scholarship is for \$500 per year for a total grant of \$2,000. Below are the guidelines that you must meet in order to be eligible.

The student must be a member of the National Slovak Society (NSS Life) for a minimum of two (2) years prior to receiving a Grant. Membership will be verified by the Home Office.

The minimum amount of insurance required for eligibility is \$10,000 of a permanent life plan or \$5,000 in an NSS annuity. The insurance must be in force at the time of application and must remain in force through the scholarship period.

Please contact Pam Blum at 724-731-0094 or email her at pblum@nsslife.org to see if you qualify to request an application. Deadline for Applications is May 1, 2020. NO EXCEPTIONS.

## Senior Member Scholarships

Just a reminder to our seniors that we have a fraternal program geared for you. If you take an adult enrichment class, we will pay ½ of the tuition up to \$100.00. The purpose of the program is to encourage our older members to continue their education and make fuller use of their leisure time. 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 is eligible. Members may submit up to two (2) applications in one calendar year. 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, to name a few. 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.)

### Punography Of The Month:

*Police were called to the day care center. A 3 year old was resisting a rest!*

## CFU 125th Anniversary Banquet



Recently while representing the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance at the Croatian Fraternal Union of America's 125th Anniversary Banquet, Chairman of the Board Joseph Stefka, Jr. and his wife Annette had the honor of meeting the President of the Republic of Croatia Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic.

Photo Courtesy of the Office of the President of the Republic of Croatia.

# National Slovak Society Privacy Notice

## Introduction:

Recognizing the trust you have placed in the National Slovak Society/NSS Life ("NSS") regarding your private personal information, one of our foremost concerns is to maintain its confidentiality. In addressing that concern and in compliance with federal law set forth in the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, NSS has adopted a comprehensive privacy policy applicable to our members' personal information and its use in our operations. In the context of this policy, any reference to NSS includes its affiliated entities, such as the PVR Scholarship Fund and the Heritage Museum, together with any directors, officers, employees, appointed medical examiner and/or legal advisor, or licensed agents of NSS or its affiliated entities.

## Personal Information:

In your application for membership or the purchase of a fraternal benefit offered by NSS, you most likely provided us with non-public personal information about yourself, your family members, or your beneficiaries. This would include any information identifiable to an individual such as their name, address, age, date of birth, gender, social security number, or marital status. You may have also provided, either directly or by your written authorization, information pertaining to your finances, employment, health, medical treatment, or similar data that is private in nature and not available to members of the public.

## Protecting Your Personal Information:

NSS maintains the utmost confidentiality regarding your personal information. Only those individuals in NSS having access to this information are those having a need to know in providing services to you, such as processing, administering or reviewing a transaction you have requested or initiated. In addition, each has been trained as to the do's and don'ts of our privacy policy and the importance of maintaining confidentiality.

## Disclosure of Your Personal Information:

NSS does not sell any personal information to third parties for any reason. However, NSS may disclose your personal information where such disclosure is permitted or required by law. NSS may disclose your personal information to (i) a non-affiliated third-party business associate of NSS, such as business administrators, billing companies, or data processing companies who assist NSS in better serving you; (ii) a non-affiliated third-party involved in the processing, administering or enforcing a transaction on your behalf, such as responding to a request from a credit reporting agency; or (iii) a non-affiliated third-party to which a financial institution commonly makes such disclosures, such as attorneys, accountants, auditors, governmental regulators, and companies hired to assist in the prevention of fraud. However, in each case, those to whom the information is being disclosed are either bound by their own duties of confidentiality and nondisclosure or have entered into a written agreement with NSS by which they have agreed to abide by the NSS privacy policy, thereby maintaining confidentiality and prohibiting further disclosure of your personal information. There are no other non-affiliated third parties who will be given access to your personal information, unless you have signed an authorization allowing us to do so.

NSS Life Privacy Policy

Adopted January 23, 2019

## 2020 Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh's Fraternalist of the Year

We would like to take a moment to congratulate one of our own, NSS Life Sales Director Greg Felton, for recently being announced as the 2020 Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh's Fraternalist of the Year. Congratulations Greg!



Greg Felton and his wife Rhonda attending a recent FSGP luncheon.

# 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.



## 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](http://www.nsslife.org)  
and login/register as a member.



## OPEN A ROTH IRA

with  **NSS Life**  
Family Matters...

- \* Tax Advantages
- \* Competitive Interest Rates

# From the Sales Department...

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



## Life Insurance Rates Going Up?

Say it isn't so, how could life insurance rates go up? Believe it or not we will be rolling out new rates this month and they are based on the latest mortality table (2017 CSO). Generally speaking, the rates for middle aged or older people has improved as this group continues to show gains in mortality. This decrease in cost can be attributed to the fact that older people are living longer. This may be attributed to greater access to health care, new advanced/experimental treatments, better prescriptions and enhanced physical therapy. Also, seniors are more active, making better food choices, exercising and overall enjoying a better quality of life. All of this is good news.

On the other side of the coin, the rates for younger people, especially those under the age of 25, are going to increase. Part of this increase is due to the opioid crisis which has affected many of our young people. However, we can also lay blame to some other factors including; other drug use, vaping, smoking, poor driving habits of young people, suicides, and a greater propensity for risky behaviors.

Another element in the pricing risk of life insurance is the current low interest rate environment we are operating in. An insurance company cannot make much money on premium deposits when the fed fund rate is around 2.50%. All of these factors plus a few more are put together to create the 2017 table. Every insurance company

in the country has to use this new table starting January 1, 2020.

Here is the important point in this article. It doesn't really matter how much the insurance costs? It might be a few dollars more or less over time. What matters is what life insurance does. It provides people with peace of mind, security and the knowledge that their heirs will be taken care of if they aren't here to do it themselves. Life insurance may very well be the greatest financial invention ever devised.

NSS offers some of the best rates and plans that money can buy. Call your local representative or Joe Elliott in the Home Office for more information. Let us help you and your family build a secure future together.

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## Who Wants to be a Millionaire?

No, not a contestant on the TV game show but someone that really wants to retire with a significant amount of money. It is possible to accumulate that kind of money. A couple of things would help in reaching this goal. One, would be time, start early. The sooner you begin the more interest can help you achieve your goal. Next, decide to put some money away no matter what happens along the way. This is easier said than done so a real desire to accomplish your goal will help keep you on track.

As a guide, here is the amount of money that should be set aside on a monthly basis to accumulate a \$1 million by age 65 using our Preferred 8 annuity.

Monthly deposit	Goal at age 65	
Age 15	\$542	\$1 million
Age 20	\$739	"
Age 25	\$916	"
Age 30	\$1,190	"
Age 35	\$1,500	"
Age 40	\$2,125	"
Age 45	\$2,750	"
Age 50	\$3,667	"
Age 55	\$4,585	"

Granted these are some big numbers, but keep in mind the big goal of \$1 million. Your goal doesn't have to be a \$1 million, it could be \$500,000 and then only half the amount shown would need to be save. And what if the goal was a \$100,000 then only one tenth of the amount shown would be needed. And the reverse is true to, if you want \$2 million double the figures. Obviously, this is the money side of the equation where time and interest can work to help achieve this goal.

Here are some successful tips to help along the way. First, have a plan. Studies show that people with a written plan are more likely to achieve their objectives. Next, live below your means. That difference can be used for savings and accomplishing the long term purpose. Avoid credit cards unless they are paid off each month. Finally, start your own business. Statistics show that people with their own business or entrepreneurs tend to do better in life than others.

NSS Life has some of the products that can help you reach your goals. We offer traditional IRAs, Roth accounts and annuities that can help you. Our representatives are among the best in the business. They are true professionals that can plan, implement, review and guide you on your journey.

### Punography Of The Month:

*It is better to look ahead and prepare than to look back and regret.*

*Jackie Joyner-Kersey, Olympic medal winner*

## Fraternal Matters...

**Pam Blum, Fraternal Activities Coordinator**

Email: pblum@nsslife.org



Greetings and Happy New Year from the Fraternal Department! This year, NSS Life celebrates its 130th Birthday. In honor of this wonderful milestone, our theme for the PVR Scholarship this year is **"2020 Vision"**, and our fund-raising goal is \$130,000. To put this figure into perspective, in 2019 we have received approximately \$12,100 thus far in donations to the PVR Scholarship, which we are so grateful. However, we paid out \$104,500 in scholarships for 2019.

As you can see, it is difficult to keep replenishing the PVR fund without the help from our members. If you have assets and would like to donate to a worthy, charitable donation, please consider the NSS Life PVR fund. This is a way to help fund the cost of educational expenses for 200+ students. Another way to help support the PVR fund is by listing it as a beneficiary on any annuity or life insurance policy you may have with us. If you would like your legacy to carry on through the generations, consider naming the PVR Scholarship fund as one of your beneficiaries.

Our Tree of Life, located in our home office lobby, is a special tree honoring those who have made a substantial donation to the NSS Life PVR Scholarship Fund. The following designs are engraved with your name and proudly displayed in the lobby for all to see:

- Leaf – Donation of \$250**
- Acorn – Donation of \$1,000**
- Stone – Donation of \$5,000**

**Perpetual Scholarship** – Donation of \$10,000+. A scholarship with your name will be awarded to one of our lucky PVR scholarship recipients. This individual receives an extra \$100 on top of the \$500 given by NSS Life, for going above and beyond, and excelling in his/her given areas of interest. Please keep in mind that any donations to the PVR Scholarship Fund may be tax-deductible.

## PVR Scholarship Reminder

### Attention 2020 Graduating Seniors!

NSS is currently accepting requests for applications for the PVR Scholarships. The scholarship is worth \$2,000 made payable in \$500 installments over four years. Below are the guidelines you must meet in order to be eligible for the scholarship.

1. The student must be a member of the National Slovak Society (NSS) for a minimum of two years prior to receiving a PVR scholarship grant. Membership will be verified by the Home Office.

2. The minimum amount of insurance required for eligibility is \$10,000 of permanent whole life insurance, or \$5,000 in an annuity. The insurance must be in force at the time the application is received and be maintained throughout the scholarship period.  
**\*\*\*The deadline for applications is May 1, 2020\*\*\***

We are looking forward to many fun events this year to kick off our "2020 Vision" campaign. Please check them out in this issue of the National News. Mark your calendars now so that you will be able to join in the festivities with us. We hope to see you at all of the events. We would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy new year.

## Board Meeting Dates for 2020

Winter Meeting  
Spring Meeting  
Summer Meeting  
Fall Meeting

## New Year's Eve (Silvester) and New Year's Day

The last day of December is called Silvester in Slovak calendar. It is because this day is the name day of those men named Silvester. Slovaks like to celebrate the New Year's Eve usually in a hotel, in the mountains, or at home with their relatives or friends and by watching TV shows. They also attend Silvester dances or go and welcome a New Year by watching fireworks and making a toast to the New Year in the city or town squares. Slovakia follows the Gregorian calendar with January 1st as the first official day of the new calendar year.



March 6, 2020  
March 22-24, 2020  
August 8, 2020  
November 13-15, 2020





# 2019 Photo Contest Winners



**Photo Contest Overall Winner**  
David Jaster - Assembly C381



**Animal Category: 1st Place**  
James Cessna, Jr. - Assembly 731



**Animal Category: 2nd Place**  
Maggie Semego - Assembly 108



**Animal Category: 3rd Place**  
Leslie O'Donnell - Assembly 123



**Hometown Pride Category: 1st Place**  
Sharon Wesnak - Assembly L102



**Hometown Pride Category: 2nd Place**  
Marti Pytel - Assembly 432



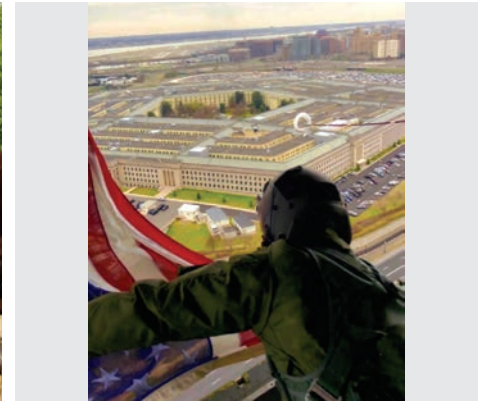
**Hometown Pride Category: 3rd Place**  
Joseph Stefka, Jr. - Assembly 588



**Patriotic Category: 1st Place**  
Mariah Scalise - Assembly 123



**Patriotic Category: 2nd Place**  
Leah Wray - Assembly L105



**Patriotic Category: 3rd Place**  
Niko Scalise - Assembly C123



**Scenic Category: 1st Place**  
Dan Farrell - Assembly 813



**Scenic Category: 2nd Place**  
Mary Jo Holker - Assembly 813



**Scenic Category: 3rd Place**  
Drew Wesnak - Assembly L102

## This Month in National Slovak Society History

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

### January, 1970

District #10 staged its 10th Annual Spelling Bee and Holiday Party on January 4, 1970. The spelling bee was conducted by S.J. Hletko NSS Director of Activities. The winners of the Age 5-6 Division were Diane Barboras, John Tomaskovic, and Jimmy Nast who remained deadlocked and were declared co-winners. Joe Nast won the Age 7-9 Division. Eric Tomaskovic won his third straight title in the Age 10-12 Division.

### January, 1970

Ann Buc and Bruno Budz captured the First Annual District #10 Mixed Twosome Tenpin Bowling Jamboree championship held on January 24, 1970, at Jay Bee Recreation Center. Sixty men and women bowlers participated in the event.

### January, 1980

NSS President Joseph Stefka attended a White House Conference at the invitation of President Jimmy Carter on January 15, 1980. The conference focused on a newly formed Ethnic Affairs Commission. Also invited to the conference were other leaders of ethnic groups from across the United States.

### January, 1980

Twenty-six people representing five Slovak fraternalists met on January 20, 1980, to formulate plans to establish a Slovak Radio Club. The purpose was to make sure the Slovak language, culture, and heritage would be broadcast in the Pittsburgh area.

## OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS November, 2019

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Abelovsky, Dorothy	Lehighton, PA	10/27/2019	L102
Andes, Harry	Pittsburgh, PA	10/08/2019	0441
Bogacki, Dennis	Reynoldsville, PA	03/28/2018	0774
Bowen, Thelma	Five Points, AL	10/01/2019	0774
Bozinko, Carl	Ashley, PA	11/18/2019	0617
Bredl, Helen	West Park, FL	09/07/2019	0100
Brown-Johnson, Dolores	Plainfield, NJ	10/15/2019	0774
Bunch, Opal	Pennsboro, WV	03/15/2019	0774
Bungert, Roger	Kewaskum, WI	10/21/2019	0774
Dobies, Eleanor	Escondido, CA	09/29/2019	0441
Ebersole, Ralph	Reading, PA	07/26/2019	0813
Esenwine, Neva	Parkersburg, WV	10/26/2019	0774
Flower, Frank	Smithton, PA	10/19/2019	0039
Frolo, Alice	Monessen, PA	10/12/2019	0377
Garasimowicz, Lydia	Stratford, CT	10/05/2019	0028
George, David	Baden, PA	10/27/2019	0123
Goralka, Anthony	Tarentum, PA	09/27/2019	L161
Gries, Mary	Northampton, PA	10/29/2016	L102
Hamilton, Jean	Greensburg, PA	10/11/2019	0737
Hastings, Patricia	Tucson, AZ	10/02/2019	0774
Hemmis, Myra	Canonsburg, PA	01/12/2019	0434
Jackson, Hettie	Clendenin, WV	10/08/2019	0774
Jenkins, Edith	Martinsburg, WV	03/26/2019	0774
Kanuch III, Steve J	Crescent, PA	10/08/2019	L161
Kapelusz, Hessa	Morristown, NJ	09/17/2019	0110
Kish, Mary	Leechburg, PA	03/07/2018	L040
Kline, Terry	Forest Hills, MD	10/06/2019	0737
Knopick, Mary	Bridgeport, CT	11/12/2002	0028
Kornbauer, Marie	Carlisle, PA	11/02/2019	0774
Krolak, Michael	Orland Park, IL	10/09/2019	0586
Kuzmich, Dorothy	Pittsburgh, PA	10/10/2019	0100
Lawryk, Elaine	Aliquippa, PA	08/30/2019	0588
LeGates, Martha	Pittsburgh, PA	04/29/2019	0100
Light, Betty	Westover, WV	03/31/2019	0039
Loya, Jack	Shellsburg, PA	10/02/2019	0774
Mace, Stephen C	Blandon, PA	10/24/2019	L102
Mazur, Jr., Michael	Lilly, PA	11/05/2019	0737
Megale, Donald	Wheeling, WV	09/14/2019	0108
Meres, Philip	Hopewell, PA	10/21/2019	0108
Milne, William	Rochester, PA	11/08/2019	0123
Niemann, Coletta	Sun Prairie, WI	02/11/2019	0774
Novotny, Helen	Greensburg, PA	10/07/2019	0737
O Connor, Lawrence	Hartland, WI	03/27/2018	0774
Olney, Jr., Richard E	Grove City, OH	10/24/2019	0595
Orr, Catherine	Philadelphia, PA	11/13/2019	R059
Orton, Daniel	Duquesne, PA	10/20/2019	0108
Owen, Barbara	Plantsville, CT	09/13/2019	0813
Palya, John	Uniontown, PA	10/24/2019	0039
Petrick, Ramon	Wisconsin Rapids, WI	06/28/2019	0774

(Continued on Page 19)



## Washington's Birthday



### Find the answers in the puzzle above.

- He was America's first president.
- George Washington was born in the colony of \_\_\_\_\_.
- As a child, Washington supposedly chopped down his father's \_\_\_\_\_ tree.
- Even as a child, Washington was \_\_\_\_\_. He told his father, "I cannot tell a lie."
- Washington fought in the American \_\_\_\_\_.
- Washington was the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Continental Army.
- Washington led the troops through a bitterly cold winter at \_\_\_\_\_.
- Washington's wife's name was \_\_\_\_\_.
- Washington is called the "\_\_\_\_\_ of his Country."
- Someone who fights for his or her country.
- America's highest government official.
- A short-handled ax.



Use these words if you need help answering the questions:  
 cherry, father, George Washington, hatchet, honest, leader, Martha, president, Revolution, soldier, Valley Forge, Virginia

## Questions About Countries & Sports

Which is the only American state to begin with the letter 'p'?

Pennsylvania.

Name the world's biggest island.

Greenland.

What is the world's longest river?

Amazon.

Name the world's largest ocean.

Pacific.

What is the diameter of Earth?

8,000 miles.

Where would you find the world's most ancient forest?

Daintree Forest north of Cairns, Australia.

Which four British cities have underground rail systems?

Liverpool, Glasgow, Newcastle and London.

What is the capital city of Spain?

Madrid.

Which country is Prague in?

Czech Republic.

Which English town was a forerunner of the Parks Movement and the first city in Europe to have a street tram system?

Birkenhead.

What color jersey is worn by the winners of each stage of the Tour De France?

Yellow.

Name the only heavyweight boxing champion to finish his career of 49 fights without ever having been defeated?

Rocky Marciano.

Which sport does Constantino Rocca play?

Golf.

Name the country where you would find the Cresta Run.

Switzerland.

How many times was the Men's Tennis Singles at Wimbledon won by Bjorn Borg?

Five.

In 2011, which country hosted a Formula 1 race for the first time?

India.

Name the game played on a lawn called a 'crown green'.

Bowls.

Which chess piece can only move diagonally?

A bishop.

## No Sew Sock Craft Snowman

Fill a plain white sock with rice, decorate this jolly snowman. Using a colored sock for a hat will keep him looking cozy.



### What you need:

- 1 White sock
- 1 Sock in color for the hat
- Rice
- Rubber bands (or thread)
- Colorful buttons
- Ribbons
- Glue gun
- Markers or paint
- Orange pom poms

The first few pictures show a black sock – you need to use a white one, the procedure is the same.

Start by filling your white sock with rice. You will need a hefty amount (we were quite surprised to see how much rice can go into one sock).

Once you are happy with the amount (and size) of your sock snowman tie the top with the rubber band.

Take another rubber band and place in the middle – more to the upper side – of the rice filled sock to form the head shape.

Now glue the buttons to the bottom side by using a glue gun (glue dots do a fairly good job too).

Draw the mouth and eyes with a black marker or with black paint.

You can also add pink cheeks (Crayola washable paints were great for the job). Make the nose out of two orange pom poms and it turns out amazing.

Add a ribbon for the scarf. Glue dots and a glue gun work best for ribbons, while other glues kind of fail miserably. You can cut off excess white sock (or you can tuck it in the hat).

Cut the colored sock (cut the foot part, without heel). Roll it a bit and place it on the head of your snowman. You can leave it as it is or you can secure it with some glue. Your sock snowman is ready to rock.

---

## Snowflakes on a String

### Items needed:

- Coffee filters; scissors; old newspaper; glue; paintbrush, iridescent glitter; white curling ribbon; and tape.
- Fold a coffee filter in half. Fold in half again then fold in half one more time.
- Cut small triangles and half circles along the folds.
- Unfold the coffee filter to reveal your paper snowflake.
- Repeat steps 1 through 3 to make four other snowflakes.
- Place old newspaper on a flat work surface.
- Lay snowflakes over the newspaper and apply a light layer of glue with a paintbrush.
- Sprinkle on glitter then shake off excess on newspaper.
- Let snowflakes dry.
- Cut a 3 foot section of ribbon.
- Stretch ribbon across a table then line up snowflakes over the ribbon, positioned one underneath the other. Tape in place.
- Hang from a sliding door or long window to create a snowy scene.

# Popsicle Stick Snowman Magnet

## What you'll need:

- Eight popsicle sticks
- Black paint
- White paint
- Paintbrush
- Scissors
- Tacky glue
- Magnet
- Two googly eyes
- Small piece of orange foam
- Five to eight gemstones



## How to make your popsicle stick snowman magnet craft

Glue six popsicle sticks side by side. Attach a stick on magnet to the back of the glued sticks. Paint the glued sticks approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the sticks white. Paint the rest of the glued sticks black. Paint the remaining two popsicle sticks black and glue across the glued sticks where the black paint meets the white paint. Glue google eyes under the two black sticks. Cut a small triangle from orange foam to create a nose. Glue under eyes. Glue gemstones onto two black popsicle sticks. Dip the end of the paint brush (not the brush but the other side) into black paint and make a series of dots under the nose to create a mouth.



# Cinnamon Roll Butterflies

## Ingredients:

- 1 can (12.4 oz) Pillsbury refrigerated cinnamon rolls with icing
- 16 maraschino cherries with stems



Heat oven to 400°F. Spray cookie sheet with cooking spray. Separate dough into 8 rolls. Cut each in half cross-wise. On cookie sheet, place 2 halves with rounded edges touching to form butterfly shape. Slightly flatten each "butterfly."



Bake 11 to 17 minutes or until golden brown. Remove stems from cherries. At top of each "butterfly" where "antennae" would be, make 2 small holes with toothpick; insert 2 cherry stems into each roll. Remove lid from icing. Microwave icing on High 10 to 15 seconds or until of drizzling consistency. Drizzle icing over rolls; decorate with cherries. Serve warm.

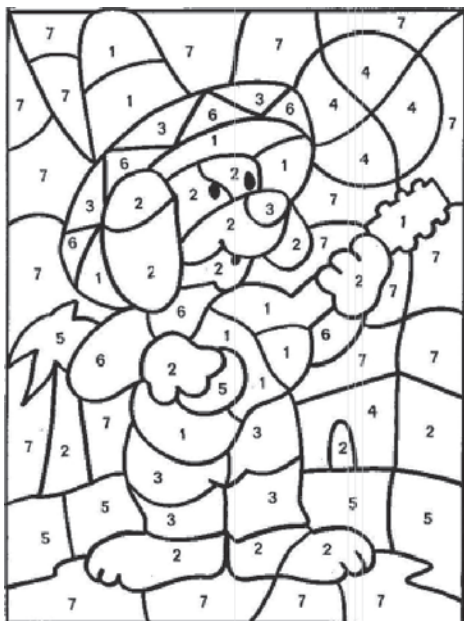
# Number Fill In Puzzle

Work out which of the numbers goes in each space in the puzzle below. Two of the numbers have been done for you.

5									
6									
2									
9									
7									
1									
				9	7	0	2		

3 DIGITS	4 DIGITS		5 DIGITS		6 DIGITS
187	1098	6279	18091	53784	159304
260	1947	7386	23765	67037	562971
365	3265	7649	25971	87197	
705	4671	8063	35876	94102	
729	5069	9702	39678	95471	
963	5934	9746			
973					

# Color By Number



1. Orange
2. Brown
3. Red
4. Yellow
5. Green
6. Pink
7. Blue

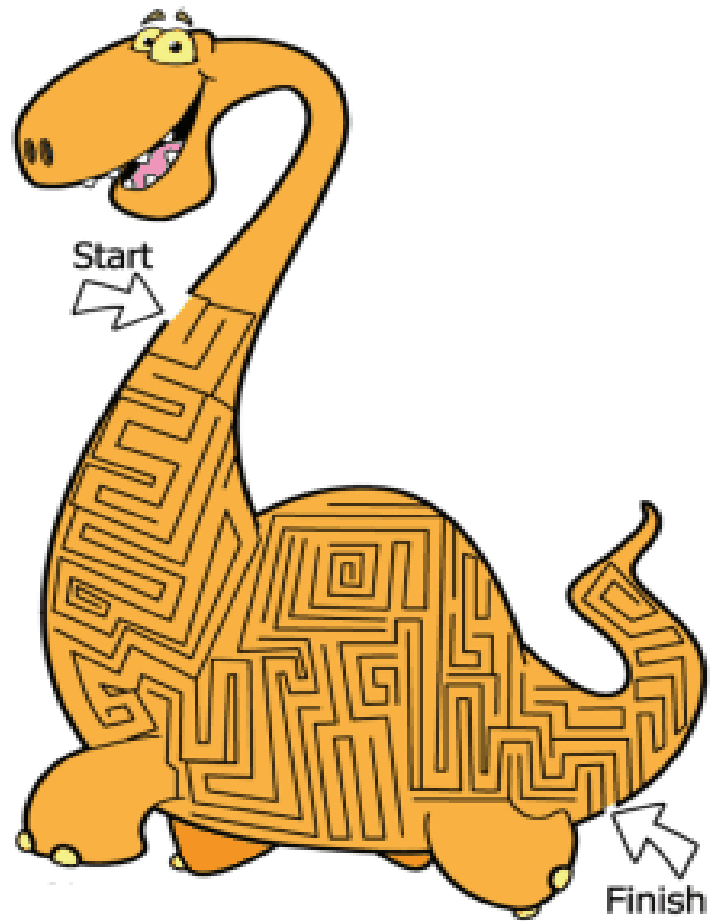
Now you can hang this beautiful colored picture on grandma/grandpa refrigerator.

# Ten Incredible Facts About Animals Who Hibernate

As the cold sets in, we're beginning to bundle up, cook, and freeze massive casseroles, and spend long periods of inactivity marathon-watching television series online. Not surprisingly, our animal counterparts are doing the same. Okay, so the television-watching might be a stretch, but for some mammals and rodents in our Canadian forests it's time to bunker down for winter hibernation.

Here are 10 incredible hibernation facts of what it takes for some creatures to survive winter in the wild.

1. Animals can survive without oxygen while hibernating. During hibernation, an animal's body temperature drops, their heart rate lowers, and their breathing rates are reduced by 50 to 100 percent. (Yes, you read that right—100 percent.)
2. Animals that are true hibernators wake up every few weeks to pass waste and eat. However, it's estimated that up to 90 percent of store energy reserves are used for these brief periods of alertness.
3. Arctic Squirrels can lower their body temperature to below freezing during hibernation. In one study, the rodents' body temperatures were recorded at minus 2.9 degrees Celsius, which may be the lowest core body temperature ever recorded in a mammal.
4. Hibernation can occur during the summer months. Known as "aestivation," this is a period of animal dormancy, usually by insects, reptiles, and amphibians, which occurs during dry months to retain water and conserve energy.
5. Animals don't dream during hibernation. During their long winter sleep, an animal's body is too cold to produce the electric currents related to dreaming. The exception to this rule is the fat-tailed dwarf lemur, the only primate known to hibernate. Unlike their rodent counterparts, they enter long periods of REM sleep.
6. You might have owned a hibernating animal at one point in your life. Both domesticated goldfish and hedgehogs hibernate.
7. Bears don't hibernate. Unlike "true" hibernators, bears can be easily awoken from their winter lethargy and their body temperature doesn't drop substantially. However their heart rate does drop from 55 to 9 beats per minute and their metabolism is reduced by 53 percent. They also don't defecate or urinate all winter long, instead turning urine into protein.
8. Bears give birth and nurse their young while "hibernating." Wouldn't it be great to wake up from a deep sleep and to realize that the hard part was already over with?
9. Groundhog Day is actually a fairly accurate predictor of spring. Groundhogs wake up early from hibernation to get a head start on reproduction.
10. Hibernaculum is Latin for "winter quarters" and refers to where an animal hibernates, such as a den or cave. So the next time you're getting ready to spend your cold Friday night at home watching Netflix, just tell your friends that you're "hanging out in your hibernacula."



## Answers to Number Fill In Puzzle

5		8		9	4	1	0	2			9
6	7	0	3	7		0		3	2	6	5
2		6		4		9		7			4
9		3	9	6	7	8		6			7
7			7		6		2	5	9	7	1
1	5	9	3	0	4		6			3	
	0				9	7	0	2		8	
4	6	7	1			2			3	6	5
	9		8	7	1	9	7		5		9
9			0		9		0		8		3
6	2	7	9		4		5	3	7	8	4
3			1	8	7				6		

## Houses Made of...

**Riddle:** If a red house is made of red bricks, and a yellow house is made of yellow bricks, what is a greenhouse made of?

**Solution:** Glass, all greenhouses are made of glass.

## ASSEMBLY 004 Parma, OH

A meeting will be held on Sunday, **January 19, 2020** at Sonia Vorell's, 18088 Boston Road, Strongsville, Ohio at 2:00 pm.

This is our Annual Audit Meeting and all reports are due at this time.

Our assembly would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year.

**Sonia Vorell**  
Secretary

## ASSEMBLY 039 Uniontown, PA



### Slovak Dancers perform for our dinner guests

Over fifty assembly members and friends came out on Sunday, December 1st to our Annual Christmas Party at the Uniontown Columbian Association Social Hall.

The feature event of the celebration was a Slovak heritage presentation by NSS Board Member and NSS Slovak Museum Curator, Sue Ondrejco and her husband Rudy. The program included costumed Slovak dancers from the Pittsburgh Slovaks, of all ages; stories of Slovak history and unique Christmas customs.

Following the spirited and informative presentation, a free delicious Christmas meal was served to all that attended.

The annual meeting of the assembly followed which included a memorial service that remembered all of our faithful members that died during this past year.

The election of officers for 2020 was conducted and the following were elected:

*President: John Payerchin*  
*Vice-President: Timothy Schwer*  
*Secretary: Paul M. Payerchin*  
*Treasurer: Nancy Schwer*  
*Trustee: Rita Leonard*  
*Trustee: Anthony Bartok*  
*Trustee: Thomas Kocis*  
*Trustee: Mackenzie Ziegler*

A Slovak/Chinese Auction was held and \$340.00 was gathered. The membership voted to double that amount as our 2019 Christmas gift to the NSS PVR Scholarship Fund. It was also decided to give a "Thank You Gift" to Sue and Rudy Ondrejco for their outstanding program to continue to preserve our unique Slovak heritage.

The assembly donated a 50" HDTV to be given to one of the lucky dinner attendees: Regina Hanzely held the winning ticket. Beautiful poinsettia plants and gift cards were also provided from the assembly treasury. Baskets for the Slovak/Chinese auction were donated by assembly officers.

We wish to offer a special "thank you" to the NSS Home Office for providing unique giveaways and beautiful door prizes for the dinner. Also, special thanks goes to Anthony Bartok for his efforts with our programming this year.

Our first meeting in 2020 will be on Sunday, **March 8th** at the Eat'n Park Restaurant starting at 6:00 pm. This will be our "Annual Lenten Dinner." Come and enjoy the fraternal fellowship and a delicious meal.

May 2020 be a year that brings you and your family gifts of good health and a rich life.

**John Payerchin**  
President



### Young people sing traditional Slovak melodies

## ASSEMBLY RO59 Bethlehem, PA

Welcome 2020! Best Wishes for Peace, Good Health, and much Joy!

We will hold our first meeting of the new year soon, place and date to be determined. Election of officers will take place. For more information call: 610-262-2045.

**Michele Guydan**  
Secretary

## ASSEMBLY L102 Schnecksville, PA

Our assembly will hold their annual holiday party on **January 12, 2020** at the home of Mike and Abby Gross, 7118 Springhouse Road, New Tripoli, PA at 2:00 pm. Please call Abby for directions at 610-709-4990.

**Sharon Wesnak**  
Secretary

*Happy  
New Year  
2020*

## ASSEMBLY 0123 Coraopolis, PA

A new decade begins 2020. Let us hope that historically it is remembered as one of peace and prosperity. Let us make it a worthwhile decade for our assembly and that is up to each of us.

If there is an event or matching fund project that you think would be something we should pursue please let me know. Let's make this first year of the decade one to remember. The office will be meeting this month to plan out the year and we welcome your input.

The assembly is doing a matching fund event Saturday, **February 29th**. This benefits the American Legion Auxiliary. Members cost is \$15. This includes a delicious buffet dinner and a delightful play (Robin Hood Isn't Lookin Too Good"). Doors open at 5:00 pm, dinner at 6:00 pm. Call Jill Grover at 412-638-7060 for tickets. This is being held at the Crafton American Legion.

Best wishes to all members having a birthday or anniversary this month. If you know of any member who should be recognized for a special occasion or outstanding performance please let me know so I can be sure they receive a deserved notoriety.

**Bill Knoll**  
President

## ASSEMBLY 160 Lorain, OH

Our assembly is celebrating its 125th Anniversary. We will hold our Anniversary Dinner at 1:00 pm on Sunday, **January 19, 2020**, at the American Slovak Club, 2915 Broadway Ave., Lorain, Ohio.

Members of Assembly 160 and their guest will be treated to dinner. Reservations are a must and are due by January 14, 2020. For reservations or if you have questions, call or text Bob Katricak at 440-320-6916 or Mike Czarney at 440-420-0995.

**Bob Katricak**  
Secretary

## ASSEMBLY 432 Fairview Park, OH

Join us for our annual event that includes food, drinks, friends, family and fun! Tobogganing at Strongsville Chalet, 16200 Valley Parkway, Strongsville, Ohio on **February 16, 2020**.

Remember, no more carrying your toboggan up the hill as of the last few years, so multiple rides are much easier than before. Please RSVP to one of the officers below by February 10th.

Bill Shuttleworth - 440-465-6024  
Teri Hudak - 440-888-8595  
Dave Pytel - 440-777-4054

**Shawn Pytel**  
Publicist & Social Media

## ASSEMBLY 586 Chicago, IL

A meeting has been tentatively scheduled for **March 1, 2020** at 4:00 pm. Place to be announced.

**Janet Tomaskovic**  
Secretary

## ASSEMBLY 737 Westmoreland County, PA

A meeting will be held on **April 4, 2020** at the home of Carol Godor, 9280 Clubview Drive, North Huntingdon, PA at 1:00 pm.

All business matters for 2020 will be discussed.

**Carol Godor**  
Treasurer

## Matching Funds Project - Assembly 813

Our assembly recently completed a Matching Funds project to benefit the Englewood Elementary Lunch Angels. This endeavor ran from September 2nd to November 1st, 2019 to collect money to provide a fund for those children who can not afford to buy lunch and are not qualified for free lunch under the established guidelines. To spare these children the embarrassment of being singled out as "poor" their lunch is covered by the Lunch Angels fund.

Donation tins were placed in each classroom, the cafeteria, and various offices at the school. Students, staff, parents, PTA and volunteers all contributed. Donations are still being accepted as this is an ongoing project. No child should go hungry!



**Michelle Browder**, EES bookkeeper, **Ellen Ziarnicki**, vice-principal, **Kathy Mason** registrar, **Mary Jo Holker**, NSS Assembly 813, **Mark Grossenbacher**, principal, **Lourdes Rodriguez-Baez**, head of food services.



**Mary Jo Holker** presenting Matching Funds check to **Ruth Hill**, Director of Jubilee Hills for their Blessings in a Backpack Program

## Appreciation Letter To Assembly L075

Dear National Slovak Society,

We would like to extend our warmest thanks and appreciation to you and to the National Slovak Society for your generous support of the Catherine McAuley Center's 2019 Parade of Baskets. Your donation of the Summer Fun basket helped to generate critically needed funds for our programs serving homeless women and children.



Our Parade of Baskets remains one of our most important fund raising initiatives, and this year we are happy to announce that this project generated \$13,393.00 in total revenue in support of the Catherine McAuley Center. Traveling to different venues in Northeastern Pennsylvania also gives us the opportunity to raise awareness about our mission and services as well as educate the public about volunteer opportunities. We are grateful that two of your members, Lehrae Edwards and Dorothy Collins, volunteered their time at the 2019 Parade of Baskets booth at the Luzerne County Fair/The overwhelming support of people like you helped to make the 2019 Parade of Baskets a tremendous success. You have truly made an immeasurable difference, and we thank you for all that your generosity continues to make possible.

**Krista Somers**  
Executive Director





## Assembly L102 Can Drive



Mike and Francine Slivka and Drew Wesnak getting can goods ready for delivery to the Allentown Rescue Mission.

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## Assembly 617

Assembly 617 held a Join Hands Day at St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen in Wilkes Barre PA on October 30, 2019. Members helped prepare, and serve the evening meal. After the meal members helped clean the kitchen and washed



dishes. Assembly 617 also donated \$125.00 to help defray the cost of operating St. Vincent De Paul Kitchen for a day.

Pictured are NSS volunteers presenting the donation to St. Vincent's are:

John Kurilla, Stephanie Kurilla, Gail Mangan, Joanne Kovalski, and Frank Colleran St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen.

## Assembly 586 Christmas Party



service members overseas by going to their website and filling in that information.

Our next business meeting is tentatively scheduled for **March 1, 2020**, at 4:00 p.m., place TBD.

Our Assembly 586 members enjoyed attending our annual Christmas party, this year at Jen's Guesthouse in Willow Springs, IL. The restaurant is a new find for us and we highly recommend it.

At the party we collected more items for one of our favorite charities and matching fund recipient, Operation Support Our Troops America. Anyone having a military post office address for a serving friend or relative can request a box of comfort items and treats for

## Assembly 586 News

My husband, Joe Tomaskovic, was a member of many fraternal societies and organizations, one of which is the Shriners. He enthusiastically participated in lots of charitable events, including ringing the bell for the Salvation Army at this time of year.

We received an email recently from my Joe's Shriners' assembly asking for donations for needy veterans of new and gently used clothing for the coming cold weather. Much of Joe's belongings remained here at our home even after we had donated to the Veterans Closet at the Illinois vets facility at Manteno. We were told some veterans were admitted lacking necessities and extras to make their lives better. There are some who might not have family members to provide things which the government did not. The nurses told us they appreciated being cared about.

Some of the Shriners' unit who entertain children being treated at the Shriners Hospital for Children in Oak Park, IL, took this on as their project. After collecting and packing up Joe's shoes, woolen socks, long underwear, warm flannel shirts and winter jackets, we hoped it could all fit in Janet's SUV. When we added the asked-for women's warm clothes, we indeed had a car full. We took it to the collection point at Medinah Shriners in Lombard on a Saturday in November.

We were so pleased that the recipient charity is Midwest Veterans Closet at the Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center near Naval Station Great Lakes, the Navy's only Recruit Training Command Center. The Closet provides free clothing, personal items and household goods and jobs as well as other assistance to the deserving men and women who have served our country. How fitting that the place where Joe Tomaskovic had his boot training during World WarTwo would benefit from things that Joe provided.

Our Assembly 586 has for many years donated to Operation Support Our Troops America for our military serving overseas in harm's way. The collection providing warm clothes to veterans at Great Lakes gave us another way to help the men and women here in America.

Irene Tomaskovic  
A-586

Janet Tomaskovic  
Secretary



## Assembly 731 Christmas Activities

Following a planning meeting for our Christmas Party in November at the Boardman Library, adults worked with the youth to make Christmas ornaments. Everyone had a good time sharing their crafty talents. Some decided to submit their ornament for the NSS ornament contest and some were excited to keep theirs to hang on their own tree. Sandwiches, chips, veggies and cookies were available throughout the afternoon. We're all looking forward to getting together again at our Christmas Party.

**Laurie Fox**  
President



**Kathy Cessna, Linda Estes, and Peggy Mason work together with Jimmy Cessna, Valerie Cessna, and Ashlynn Mason to help make ornaments.**



**Elijah Mason is happy with one of the ornaments he made while his cousin, Ashlynn Mason, works on her ornament.**



Another great Christmas Party was enjoyed by Assembly 731 youth and adults. Santa (Randy Estes) and Ms. Claus (Lindsay Estes) arrived shortly after the pizza & wings lunch bearing gifts for all the children. Thanks to the Home Office, he also had a stocking for each child filled with fun NSS items. In November, each child was given a metal lunchbox with instructions to decorate the box and fill it with 12 wrapped gifts. The lunchboxes were exchanged so each child went home with a box filled with 12 items to be opened one each day for the 12 days before Christmas. It would be fun to be able watch the kids enjoy their daily gift as they count down the days til Christmas. Hopefully, parents will share pictures and stories.

Each family was asked to donate a prize for a Chinese Auction conducted at the Christmas Party to raise money for our matching funds activity. We raised \$350.00 at the Christmas Party which will be used to help purchase a special needs swing for the Poland Township Park which currently has no equipment for special needs children. Our plans are to try to raise enough money to eventually be able to purchase at least 2 swings and the framework for the swings. It's absolutely amazing how expensive these swings are, but we plan to work hard to meet our goal for this worthy cause.

**Laurie Fox**  
President

## Home Office November Birthdays



**NSS home office employees: Amanda Zinn, Lori Crowley, and Patti Kropf celebrate birthdays together in November.**

# PVR Scholarship Fund Donations

In Memory of **James Gunion and Joseph A. Pail:**

From Assembly 123.....40.00

In Memory of **David Culbertson and John Klamar:**

From Assembly 0070.....40.00

**Donations:**

American Hearing Benefits ....700.00  
Joseph Chorney .....25.00

## DONATE TO THE PVR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Here are five 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.

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

## REMINDER



## 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.

## OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS November, 2019

(Continued from Page 10)

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Radu, Deborah	Glassport, PA	08/19/2019	0737
Ricciardi, Edgar	Surfside Beach, SC	07/13/2019	0774
Schrass, Elizabeth	West Palm Beach, FL	09/19/2019	0800
Schweinsberg, Paul	New Brighton, PA	11/14/2019	0123
Sivie, Elizabeth	Ellsworth, PA	01/26/1995	0377
Stroud Jr., Gurney L	Hight Point, NC	08/20/2019	0774
Stroyne, Helen	Pittsburgh, PA	10/13/2019	L161
Tomaskovic, Jr., Joseph	Darien, IL	08/05/2019	0586
Tryon, Robert	Fort Pierce, FL	08/30/2019	0813
Turan, Ruth	Cleveland, OH	11/02/2019	0432
Vaccariello, Anthony	Boardman, OH	09/24/2019	0731
Wirth, Denise	Greensburg, PA	10/29/2019	0737

## Trip of a Life Time July 9th - July 19, 2020 \$2,399 / \$5,99 Single

See Slovakia's Treasures - north to south, east to west - castles, historic cities, quaint villages, living folk culture. Marvel at ancient wooden churches, rare icon museum, glorious scenery. Taste Slovak specialties, toast slivovica, listen to the music, sing the songs, dance the dances! Touch the heart of Slovakia! Celebrating our 31st year of this trip!

Visit ancestral villages, reconnect with long lost family, proud of our 98% success rate! Experience the joy of Slovak weddings with festive events in the east and west. Enjoy a beloved folk festival, crafts fair. Explore magnificent Spis Castle, colorful Cicmany, spectacular mechanical Nativity and magical High Tatras. Explore Banska Bystrica's beautiful square, medieval walled Levoca and UNESCO treasure Bardejov.

Visit Presov's magnificent Cathedrals, Rusyn and Roman Catholic. Feel the peace at Litmanova, a major pilgrimage shrine; be immersed in beauty on a raft ride on the unajec; enjoy Kosice, with Singing Fountain and St. Elizabeth's cathedral. Bratislava's charming old town is a high, along with a Slovak wine tasting ... Na zdravi!

For more information or brochure please contact: [www.our-slovakia.com](http://www.our-slovakia.com) or Helene Cincebeaux

7 Walt Place  
Palm Coast, Florida 32164  
Phone (585) 342-9383 Email: [helenezx@aol.com](mailto:helenezx@aol.com)



# A Hibernation Celebration!

Sponsored by Region 5



## Saturday, February 8, 2020

### 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 2019 will be guests of Region 5**

**Deadline for Reservations is Friday, January 17, 2020**

Please make checks payable and mail to: NSS Region 5

234 ILION ST.

PGH, PA. 15207

Please indicate number of Adults attending \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10 \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate number of Children (under age 10) \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$5 \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate number of PVR Scholarship Recipients \_\_\_\_\_ (FREE) \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Name \_\_\_\_\_

\* Phone: or email \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*REQUIRED**

**\*\*REQUIRED**



*National Slovak Society Heritage Museum Presents:*

## Kráslice Class ~ Saturday, February 29, 2020

As the symbol of new life, Easter is the most important holiday in the Christian calendar. It has always been celebrated with joy and accompanied by numerous colorful traditions among the Eastern Slavs.

**Experience the tradition of creating a colorful Easter egg of your very own!**

Local artist, Mike Yanchak will guide you step by step through the process, while discussing the origin, techniques and symbolism used in creating "kráslice," as they are called in Slovak.

**Where:** National Slovak Society Heritage Museum  
351 Valley Brook Road McMurray, PA

**Time:** 10 AM - 2 PM

**Cost:** \$20 per person (includes all materials)

Class size is limited and designed for ages 12+.

**Deadline for registration is February 14, 2020**



*Veseliť Veľkú Noc*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

or

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit this form with your payment by February 14, 2020  
Make checks payable to NSSHM

Mail to: NSSHM  
234 Ilion St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15207




# 2019 NSS Heritage Museum "Christmas Around the World"



As a member of **National Slovak Society**, you and your family are eligible for exclusive American Hearing Benefits™.



Take advantage of your exclusive discounts now

-  Discounts on today's latest technology, including hearing aids and tinnitus options
-  FREE annual hearing consultations
-  60-day trial period\*...and MORE!

Call **(888) 705-6920**

to schedule your

**FREE CONSULTATION** and receive your discounts.

[www.americanhearingbenefits.com/partners/NSS](http://www.americanhearingbenefits.com/partners/NSS)

 **American**  
HEARING BENEFITS

A Starkey Hearing Technologies Program

 **AMERICAN**  
OWNED & OPERATED

\*Professional service fees may apply. © 2019 Starkey Hearing Technologies. All Rights Reserved. 12/19 TJAD3105-00-EE-HB

*Nech Božie požehnanie a radosť života naplní každý váš deň, nech vaša rodina nespozná v novom roku súženie starostí a problémov. Nech vaše príbytky navštívi šťastie, láska a zdravie, ktoré vás budú sprevádzať každým vašim krokom.*

*Dnes je prvý deň roka, prišli sme vám zavinšovať trochu, aby ste mali šťastia, zdravia stáleho a meštaka nikdy prázdneho!*

*Všetkým naším členom a čitateľom želá  
Hlavný úrad Narodného Slovenského Spolku*



### NOVOROČNÁ KAPUSTNICA



Keď sa lúčime so starým rokom a vítame ten nový, tešíme sa nielen veľkej oslave, ale aj hodom pri silvestrovskom či novoročnom stole. Ak náhodou neviete uvariť tú pravú novoročnú kapustnicu, s našim overeným najmamáckym receptom sa vám určite podarí.

**January is National soup month. Soup has been a staple of Slovak tables for generations. Ring in the New Year with the hearty Kapustnica soup. (Sauerkraut soup)**

#### **Ingredients:**

250 g of smoked meat, 200 g of klobasa, 500 g of sauerkraut, 10 g of mushrooms, 250 g of potatoes, 1 onion, 3 cloves of garlic, 1 bay leaf, 30 g plain flour, caraway, white and black pepper, red pepper, salt, marjoram, 800 ml water

Put the sauerkraut, meat, spices and dried mushrooms to cook in the water. When the meat is tender, remove it, thicken the soup with onion, red pepper and flour, add the smoked sausage and cook for about 20 minutes.

Shortly before cooking, season with garlic and marjoram. Cut the meat and sausage and put it back. Cook the potatoes separately.

Dobru Chut!

Najmama.sk

### AKO NA NOVÝ ROK...

Podľa našich predkov mali novoročné obrady a rituály odhaľovať budúcnosť, chrániť od pohrôm, prispieť k blahobytu a priniesť šťastie.

Na Slovensku sa doteraz udržiava stará povera, že šťastie prináša prasiatko, a preto sa na novoročnom stole nsmie objaviť ani hus či bažant, teda hydina, ktorá lieta, pretože v novom roku by sa rozletel aj všetok majetok. Zato nsmie chýbať bravčové mäso, alebo pre istotu pečené malé prasiatko.

Podávala sa aj šošovica a jedlá s makom, pretože symbolizovali peniaze. Na Nový rok, 1. januára sa v minulosti tradovalo, aby si ľudia zabezpečili bohatstvo, prosperitu a úrodu, platil zákaz vstupu ženy ako prvej do domu.

Nič dobrého neveštil ani príchod starého chlapa oblečeného v kožuchu. V každom dome však boli vítaní malí chlapci – vinšovníci. Ak do domu prišiel niekto cudzí, nsmel mať prázdne ruky a priniesť aspoň koláče, resp i peniaze, čo znamenalo, že prináša hojnosť a nie škodu.

Navyše musel zaželať: „Vinšujem vám šťastlivý nový rok, že ním dal Boh starý prežiť a nového dožiť!“ Na nový rok musel v celej domácnosti vládnuť čistota a poriadok, aby tak bolo po celý rok.

Ženy chodili do kostola v bielom odevu, aby si zabezpečili úrodu pekného a vysokého ľanu. Niekde zasa v tento deň varili halušky, aby malo obilie veľké klasy. Smeti sa von nevynášali z obavy, aby v rodine nikto nezomrel, ale aj preto, aby sa z domu šťastie nevynieslo.

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





# Youth Circle Page

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

## 11 Beautiful Words That Will Make You Fall in Love

With the Slovak is the official language of just one small country in Central Europe and has a total of around six million speakers. Slovak is similar to Czech, as they both evolved from the western division of the ancient Proto-Slavic language. Although it's not necessary to speak Slovak to get by while visiting Bratislava, knowing some of these beautiful words could help you to win favor with the locals.

### **Krásny (kraz-nee) / Lovely**

This incredibly important and frequently used word describes something or someone who is beautiful, lovely, wonderful, nice, or exquisite. You might have a krásny experience if you go skiing all day with your best friends at a mountain resort in the Tatra mountain range.

### **Kvietok (kiv-ee-tok) / Flower**

The Slovak word for flower sounds lovely. Slovaks often give each other beautiful flower bouquets in celebration of their name day, when a person is celebrated on the day of the saint for which he or she was named. Many Slovakian people dream of having a garden; community gardens and small plots are very common, as well.

### **-ko or -ka (-koh or -kah) / My dearest**

This is a diminutive suffix that is used as a term of endearment and is often attached to the end of a name. It is similar to calling someone "my dear." Someone with a friend named Andrej might call him Andrejko. A woman named Jana might have friends and family who use the -ka ending and call her Janka.

### **Dobrá chuť (doh-brew-chooch) / Good appetite**

This cute phrase is used before eating and means "good appetite" or "enjoy your meal." Slovaks and Czechs always wish each other "Dobrá chuť" before eating, whether they're with close friends or near strangers.

### **Fujara (Fu-har-a) / Traditional woodwind instrument**

The fujara is an important part of any Slovak folk music festival. Originally used by shepherds in Central and Northern Slovakia, today, learning the fujara is often a skill passed on from father to son. The fujara is on the UNESCO list of Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity. Listen to the fujara before visiting Slovakia so that you will quickly pick up on its unique sound at a summer folk music festival, such as the Pol'ana Folk Festival in Detva.

### **Láska (lah-ska) / Love**

Láska is the Slovak word for love, and the endearing term moja láska, or "my love," is also frequently said. It's used in many song lyrics, from Slovak pop songs to traditional folk choruses.

### **Milujem ta (meel-u-yem ta) / Adoration**

There is love, and then there is a higher level of loving that is described as close to adoration. Milujem ta is used to describe romantic love for a long-term boyfriend or girlfriend or a husband or wife.

### **Sedlák (seh-deh-lack) / Peasant**

This word stems from Slovakia's history as a nation that heavily relies on agriculture. Additionally, the similar "Sedliak" is a common last name in Slovakia and refers to a family whose original profession was working the land. The word might also describe a person who comes from a small rural village to a city and tries to fit the image of a city dweller. The term gained in popularity when many Slovaks were forced to move from the villages where they lived and worked to communist cities from the 1950s to 1980s.

### **Zábava (za-bah-va) / Fun, amusing**

Zábava means fun or amusing. Catching a summer music festival in Slovakia is certain to be zábava, as is rushing down the water slides at Tatrallandia.

### **Šťastný (ste-ash-nee) / Happy**

Šťastný means feeling happy. It's also a popular surname, as in the case of three famous brothers who played ice hockey in Slovakia: Marián Šťastný, Peter Šťastný, and Anton Šťastný. Anton was the first person born and trained in Slovakia to be drafted in the NHL. He played for the Quebec Nordiques.

### **Miláčik (mill-ak-zik) / Darling**

Parents often call their children miláčik, and partners often call each other miláčik, many times husband to wife. In 2008, a Slovak sitcom called Ano, miláčik, or Yes, darling premiered during mid-week primetime. Unfortunately, the funny show lasted only one season, but the phrase is still as popular as ever.

## Could you use a little extra “green?”

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