



# CONTESTERS

Rembrandt (Age 8-10)  
1st Place • Anthony Cherevka

**Michelangelo (Age 11-13)**  
1st Place • Allie Lazar

**Van Gogh (Age 14-16)**  
1st Place • Adam Lazar



asso (Age 5-7)  
 Place • Meradith Dillaman

Rembrandt (Age 8-10)  
 1st Place • Anthony Cherevka

Michelangelo (Age 11-13)  
 1st Place • Allie Lazar

1st Place •

The National Slovak Society of the United States of America

Memorial

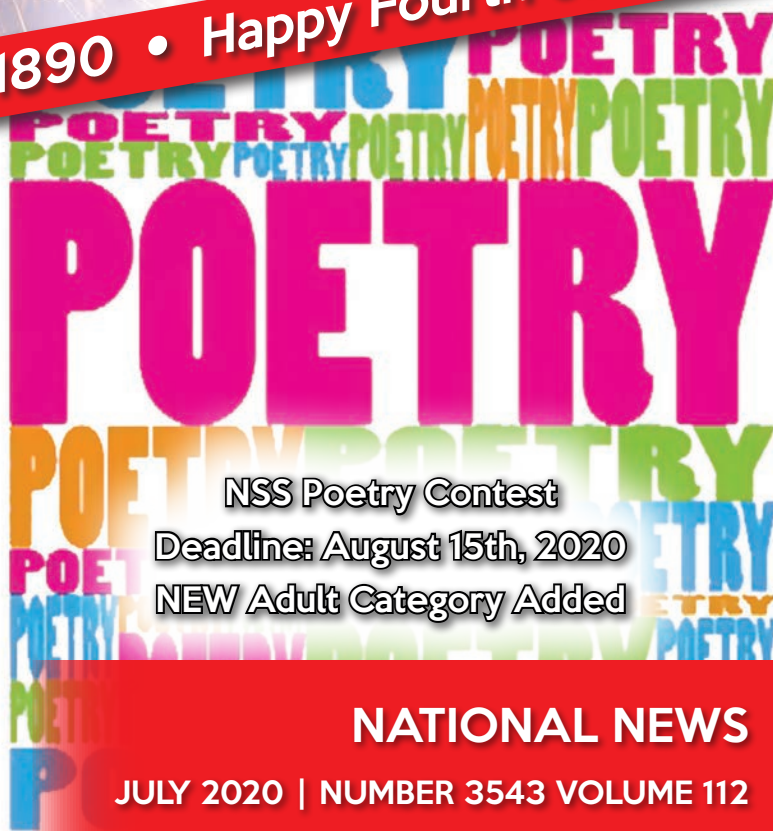
The National Slovak Society  
**Národné Noviny**  
South Circle

# Summer Youth Circle

Summer Youth Camp

Fraternal Life Insurance Since 1890 • Happy Fourth of July!

POETRY POETRY POETRY POETRY POETRY



1890 • Happy Fourth

**POETRY**

NSS Poetry Contest  
 Deadline: August 15th, 2020  
 NEW Adult Category Added

**NATIONAL NEWS**

JULY 2020 | NUMBER 3543 VOLUME 112

## NSS Poetry Contest

## Deadline: August 15th, 2020

## NEW Adult Category Added

**2020 Fraternalist of the Year &  
2020 Youth Achievement Award Winners  
See Pages 9-10 for Details**

## NATIONAL NEWS

JULY 2020 | NUMBER 3543 VOLUME 112



# National Slovak Society

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## NATIONAL SLOVAK SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Organized February 16, 1890  
351 Valley Brook Road, McMurray, PA 15317-3337  
USES 0371-140 - ISSN: 0027-7940  
Phone: (724) 731-0094 -- E-Mail: [info@nsslife.org](mailto:info@nsslife.org)  
NSS Website: [www.nsslife.org](http://www.nsslife.org)  
Fax No: 724-731-0145

Founder and Honorary President, Peter V. Rovnianek

### EDITOR

LORI CROWLEY

Published Monthly

Send articles for publication to:

351 Valley Brook Road

McMurray, PA 15317-3337

**Deadline: 5th of preceding month**

### NSS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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

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

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

### NSS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Michael Czarney

Andrea Garbon

Abigail Gross

Robert Katricak

Susan Ondrejco

John Payerchin

Joseph Stefka, Jr.

Drew Wesnak

### NSS HONORARY OFFICERS

Anthony Beno, *Director*

Mary Jo Holker, *Director*

Edward Koches, *Director*

Paul Payerchin, Jr., *Director*

### FSWFE HONORARY OFFICERS

Justine Wesnak, *President*

Reverend Monsignor Thomas V. Banick,

*Spiritual Advisor*

### ROCWMAS HONORARY OFFICER

Olga Kasnot, *President*

FSWFE and PBU merged with NSS in 1997

ROCWMAS merged with the NSS in 1998

## Inside this Issue...

### Assembly Activities

Activities at a Glance.....3

### From the Executive Officers

President's Column .....4

Secretary/Treasurer's Column.....5

### NSS Financial Matters

Annuity Interest Rates.....6

### NSS Sales Department

National Sales Director.....7

### NSS News/Activities

Fraternal Activities Coordinator .....8

Youth Achievement Award Winners .....9-10

Fraternalist of the Year Award Winner .....10

Summer Youth Circle Magazine.....11-14

NSS History.....15

Departed Members.....16-17

Slovak Day .....17

NSS Art Contest Winners.....22

NSS Poetry & Photo Contest Rules.....23

### Assembly News

PVR Donations.....16

Assembly Meetings.....18-20

### Národné Noviny

Slovenský deň v Kennywood Parku.....21

Výraznejšie dni v Júlí.....21

Príslovie .....21

Američania slovenského pôvodu.....21

Pranie v potoku.....21



## Activities At A Glance

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

### REGION 2

August 9  
October 18  
November 15

#### Assemblies L075, 0617

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

### REGION 5

July 8  
July 12  
July 23  
September 3  
September 13  
September 13  
September 21  
October 23  
November 7  
November 16  
December 6  
December 6  
December 6

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

Assembly L161, Meeting at Eat'n Park, Waterfront, Homestead, PA at 6:30 pm  
Assembly 0377, Annual Picnic at Richardson's Park at 300 pm  
Slovak Day, Kennywood Park, West Mifflin, PA  
Assembly 0731, Canfield Fair, Laurie & Mike Fox's campsite at the Fairgrounds  
Assembly 0039, Summer Bar-B-Q, Uniontown Columbian Association (K of C) Pavilion 1:00  
Assembly 0377, Meeting/Lunch, China City Buffet, Washington, PA at 3:00 pm  
Assembly 0588, Meeting, Panera Bread Community Room, North Fayette, PA at 6:00 pm  
Assembly 0731, Halloween Hayride, Countryside Farm in Poland Township  
Assembly 0731, Make Christmas Ornaments, Location and time to be determined  
Assembly 0588, Meeting, Panera Bread Community Room, North Fayette, PA at 6:00 pm  
Assembly 0377, Annual Holiday Gathering at Canon's Chophouse, Canonsburg, PA at 3:00 pm  
Assembly 0039, Annual Christmas Party, Uniontown Columbian Association Hall  
Assembly 0731, Christmas Party, Elton Beard Cabin at Boardman Park at 1:00 pm

### REGION 8

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

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

Assembly 0004, Meeting, Location and time to be determined  
Assembly 0432, Camping Labor Day weekend, Rustic Lake Campground, Sullivan, OH  
Assembly 0432, Meeting, Pytel residence at 7:30 pm  
Assembly 0004, Meeting, Location and time to be determined  
Assembly 0432, Meeting, at Tony K's and Christmas Party to follow, Berea, OH at 7:30 pm

### REGION 14

July 12

#### Assemblies R059, L102

Assembly R059, Meeting, Sawarynaski residence, time to be determined

### REGION 15

#### Assemblies L002

No Activities at this time

### AT LARGE

♣ July 5  
♣ August 16  
♣ September 6  
September 17  
♣ October 18  
♣ October 25  
December 19  
♣ December 24

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

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

♣ I, Lori Crowley, Editor neglected to put these meeting notices in the last two issues.  
My apologies to the members of those assemblies.

## From The President's Desk...



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

Greetings from the Desk of the President. As I write this month's article, we are still in the grips of the Covid-19 pandemic throughout the country. So many events and activities were scheduled for the summer months and most have been canceled or postponed. I think the hardest thing about the time we are going through, is the uncertainty of when it will end, and when we can get back to some normalcy.

Our gratitude goes out to all the health care providers and first responders, who have put their lives in danger to help take care of so many during the pandemic. I know we have many members who are these providers and we thank you very much for your service at this most difficult time.

Our staff at NSS came back to work on May 4th after five weeks of half of them working from home the entire time and the other half coming in one, two or three days a week to take care of business. Before we came back on the 4th of May, we took many precautions to protect the staff. We had the entire office sprayed with a disinfectant, we ordered boxes of masks for our staff to wear, and developed new day to day operating procedures to protect everyone.

In looking through the activities briefly, I see a few things scheduled but not sure if they will happen or not. One event that will happen no matter what is the 4th of July. Although many parades and community celebrations have been canceled, we will still celebrate the Declaration of Independence for our nation, which was declared on July 4, 1776. We have much to be

grateful for as citizens of a nation which had so many founding fathers who were strong in the Christian faith, and who intentionally anchored the foundations, institutions, and document of our nation in the principles of the Christian faith. In recent decades, much effort has gone into minimizing and discarding our religious heritage. Let us be diligent in prayer for our nation.



## The Liberty Bell

The bell is most famous for ringing on July 8, 1776 to call people to Independence Hall for the public reading of the Declaration of Independence. However, the Liberty Bell was actually designed in 1751 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of William Penn's 1701 Charter of Privileges, which was Pennsylvania's original constitution. The Liberty Bell was inscribed with a verse from the Bible which declared: "Proclaim liberty throughout the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." The Scriptural context of this verse was that in ancient Israel, God had instructed that every 50th year, everyone's debt was to be forgiven, land returned to original owners, and people who had been so impoverished that they had sold themselves into servitude, were to be set free! With this vision in mind, the founders (especially of Pennsylvania) of our nation saw a land of freedom and opportunity! (Unfortunately, however, this freedom was not envisioned by all founders to extend to those who were brought or born as slaves in this new land.)

As we celebrate our blessings of freedom, let us continue to pray for our nation, give thanks for those who have and who do sacrifice to secure our freedoms, and labor for the freedom of others.

## News Of Narodniars

Happy Birthday to Chair of the Board Joe Stefka, Jr., Honorary Director Ed Koches, Home Office staff members Pat Glaser, our Sales and Training guru Jeff DeSantes, former staff members Albert Suess, LaVerne Orban and Stacey Boury Shun, members Greg Blum and John Martincheck, brother Dale Blazek, father-in-law Dan Gimiliano, who will turn 97 this month and last but not least, granddaughter Ella Woods. Happy Wedding Anniversary wishes to Karyn & Jeremiah Moore.

Best wishes to all members suffering from any illness especially Greg Blum, husband of Pam, who serves as my Administrative Assistant and Fraternal Activities Coordinator of the NSS. Please keep everyone who is ill in your thoughts and prayers.

### **Punography Of The Month:**

*"Why do they lock gas station bathrooms? Are they afraid someone will break in and clean them?"*

## A Page From My Notebook...

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



## Minutes of the 2020 Special Board Meeting

The 2020 Special Meeting of the Board of Directors was opened and called to order on Thursday, January 30, 2020 by Chairman of the Board Joseph Stefka, Jr. Director Katricak gave the opening prayer followed by Secretary-Treasurer/CFO Strom reading the roll call. All members of the NSS National Assembly were present via teleconference as well as Legal Advisor P. Ronald Cooper, Esq.

Chairman of the Board Joseph Stefka, Jr. asked for a motion to formally accept a Letter of Retirement, effective October 31, 2020 presented to the Board by President/CEO David G. Blazek. Director Wesnak moved to accept the Letter of Resignation, seconded by Director Gross. A Roll Call vote was taken at this time. Results of the Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 1 Abstention. Motion carried.

Taking turns, each Director and Legal Advisor Cooper reflected on President Blazek's leadership, accomplishments and then extended their good wishes on his retirement.

At this time Director Payerchin moved to nominate Joseph Stefka, Jr. as the next President of the National Slovak Society of the USA, seconded by Director Garbon. All Board Members followed with comments on the choice of Chairman of the Board Stefka assuming the role of President/CEO of the National Slovak Society. Chairman of the Board Stefka asked for a Roll Call vote at this time. Results of the Roll Call Vote: 7 Yes, 1 Abstention. Motion carried. Chairman Stefka was unanimously elected as the next President/CEO of the National Slovak Society of

the USA. Chairman Stefka presented his personal comments on the Board vote selecting him as the next President of the NSS.

Chairman Stefka asked for a motion to move the Assembly Officers Seminar to March 2021 due to our venue at the Hilton Garden Inn at Southpointe not being available in November of this year 2020. Director Wesnak moved to hold the Assembly Officers Seminar in March 2021, seconded by Director Ondrejko. Motion carried. With motion and second, the Special Board Meeting was adjourned.

## Minutes of the 2020 Winter Board Meeting

The 2020 Winter Meeting of the Board of Directors was opened and called to order on Thursday, March 6, 2020 by Chairman of the Board Joseph Stefka, Jr. He welcomed all present and turned the meeting over to President & CEO David G. Blazek. Director Katricak gave the opening prayer followed by Secretary-Treasurer/CFO Strom reading the roll call. There currently is a vacancy on the Board due to the resignation of Director Alan Burns to take a full-time position at NSS as its CIO. Sales Director Greg Felton was also present. Legal Counsel P Ronald Cooper was present via dial in call. The agenda was accepted with the ability to move items around.

Investments and Mortgages through 12/31/2019 were reviewed and approved. Also approved were minutes of the 2019 Fall Board and the 2020 Special Board Meetings. Fraternal Activities Coordinator Pam Blum reported on and reviewed upcoming activities. Director Katricak moved to accept the Fraternal Report as presented, seconded by Director Payerchin. Motion carried. Sales Director Greg Felton announced that the NSS is now the 10th LARGEST Fraternal (by Asset Size) moving up from its prior 12th position. Membership has grown to over 33,000 members. This year brought us 501 new members, 632 new Life and Annuity policies and 40 new agents just in the 4th quarter. Currently NSS has 1,852 agents making up our sales force. Director Payerchin moved for the adoption of the Sales Director's report, seconded by Director Gross. Motion carried.

Legal Advisor P Ronald Cooper presented his report via conference call. A discussion was held pertaining to 1099's and Pre-Need policy holders. Director Czarney moved to accept the Legal Advisor's Report, seconded by Chairman of the Board Stefka. Motion carried. AQS Managing Director Larry White presented the Investment Report. After presentation Director Katricak moved for the adoption of the report, seconded by Director Payerchin. Motion carried. The 2019 Year in Review was presented by Director Katricak using our 2019 Financial Statement for detail. Director Czarney accepted the report of our 2019 Year End results as presented, seconded by Director Garbon. Motion carried.

Under Old Business President & CEO David Blazek reported that the NSS has received a BBB+ Rating from Kroll. After the document was reviewed it was found to have two editorial errors which will be fixed prior to final signature. After discussion Chairman Stefka moved to accept and publish the Kroll BBB+ Rating, seconded by Director Katricak.

The Assembly Officers Seminar will be rescheduled for 2021 and the ERM Framework discussion postponed. Director Wesnak moved to have CIO Alan Burns added as a member of the Enterprise Risk Management Committee, seconded by Director Czarney. Motion carried. The ERM Framework document will be revised accordingly.

President Blazek and Chairman of the Board Stefka each presented reports on the results of our PA Exam. President Blazek reported on the Vestibule remodeling that is expected to begin soon.

New Business began with acting upon Petitions received. They are: Prince of Peace Parish, Paul J Zatek - \$500; University of Ottawa, Mark Stolarik - \$500; and Beaver County YMCA - \$500. Motion carried.

NSS Interest Rates remain the same for the 2nd Quarter of 2020. At this time Chairman of the Board Joseph Stefka, Jr asked the Board to enter in Executive Session. Executive Session began 2:25 p.m. and ended at 2:50 p.m. After coming out of Executive Session Director Wesnak moved to approve the Board's selection of Karen Lynne Orban, Assembly 0774, to fill the vacancy left on the Board due to the resignation of Director Alan Burns. Seconded by Director Payerchin. Motion carried.

In recognition of NSS Sales Director Greg Felton being selected as the Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh's 2020 Fraternalist of the Year, President Blazek discussed what the Board would like to present to Greg from the NSS. We are very proud of Greg and are grateful that he remains the NSS Sales Director. Thank you, Greg! With this, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

# Current Interest Rates Effective January 1, 2020

<b>Optimum 3</b>	<b>2.00%</b>
<b>Preferred 5</b>	<b>3.00%</b>
<b>Preferred 8</b>	<b>3.50%</b>

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



## QCD - Qualified Charitable Donations from your IRA

As part of a permanent tax law provision, a person can make a charitable donation directly from their IRA by using their RMD. Previously a person would have to take their required minimum distribution, deposit the check into their account and then write a check to the charity. This has the effect of increasing your adjusted gross income. Then the tax deduction may or may not be available to you depending on a variety of other factors.

The QCD rules limit the amount you can give to \$100,000 per person per year. The money must go to a 501(c)(3) charity. Donations to a donor advised fund do not qualify. QCDs only apply to IRAs and not 401ks and other plans.

With this direct payment to charity it is possible to give up money to your favorite cause and the RMD will not increase your adjusted gross income. Since we are touching upon the subject of taxes, NSS always recommends that you discuss these ideas with your tax advisor or CPA to see how they may affect your particular situation. There are some real savings advantages when using QCDs.

- People that take the standard deduction and don't itemize.
- Individuals whose Social Security income is not fully 85% taxable.
- There may be a savings when

itemizing deductions. For instance medical expenses are phased out by a percentage of your AGI.

- Depending on your income your Medicare payments may be increased if you cross a certain threshold. Using a QCD may help keep you under that amount.
- Savings for higher income taxpayers that may be subject to the alter native minimum tax.

These are all specific situations that may or may not apply to your situation. The important point is to be aware of the advantages of making a QCD. NSS recommends that you check with your tax professional to see how this idea may work in your particular situation.

## The Magnificent Millennials

We currently live in a time where there may be five different generations at work. This would include the Greatest Generation, Baby Boomers, Gen X, Millennials and Gen Z. Much has been written about the Greatest Generation and the Baby Boomers. But move over because the Millennials are taking over. This group of people was born between 1980 and 2000. They would be between the ages 20 to 40. There are some interesting facts about this cohort. This generation is different than its predecessors. Millennials tend to be well educated, confident and ambitious. They want to control their lives and they may even have an attitude about themselves. In the workplace this group has high expectations of their employer. While they are happy to seek out new challenges they aren't afraid to question authority. This group has a propensity to participate in meaningful projects. They like to help others and get involved in community projects. Their lives are ruled by smart gadgets and they rely on technology.

A recent survey found that millennials had different financial goals than their parent's. Their top five goals in order of importance were:

- Debt repayment – the elimination of student loans and credit card bills.
- Travel – interested in pursuing adventures and new experiences.
- Concerned about saving enough money for retirement.
- Saving money for a home or a down payment.
- Concerned about starting or expanding a family.

Baby boomers used to comprise the bulk of the workplace. In the last few years as boomers retire and some die; the millennials have moved up. Now, millennials comprise the largest segment of the working population. This is a group to be reckoned with and embraced for the future.

So how can we help this group? By providing products and services that suit their needs. NSS offers a variety of life insurance and savings plans. We can design a plan to fit any budget.

We need to connect with millennials. We need to help them get the best possible advice. Their future path can be accomplished with the help of NSS. One way to get started is to contact your local NSS representative or Joe Elliott in the Home Office.

### Thought For The Month:

*Time is what we want most, but what we use worst. William Penn 1644-1718*

## LIFE'S NEW MILESTONES



**72% of Americans say financial security is an important act of love**

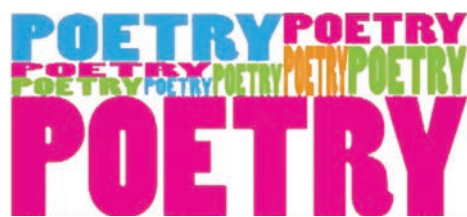
## Fraternal Matters...

**Pam Blum, Fraternal Activities Coordinator**  
Email: [pblum@nsslife.org](mailto:pblum@nsslife.org)



## PVR Renewal Transcripts

The deadline for PVR Scholarship renewals for 2nd, 3rd, and 4th year students is quickly approaching! The deadline is **July 15th**. If you have not done so already, please send in your transcripts as soon as possible. It is not necessary to pay the additional fee to overnight your transcript. We are happy to accept unofficial transcripts if your school charges for the official one. Also, if you would prefer to email the transcripts instead of mailing them, please feel free to do so. They can be emailed to Pam at [pblum@nsslife.org](mailto:pblum@nsslife.org), or Amanda at [azinn@nsslife.org](mailto:azinn@nsslife.org).



## Poetry Contest - New Adult Category added

Please keep in mind that the 2020 poetry contest deadline is August 15th. This year, we added an adult category. Now is the time to get your creative thinking cap on and submit your special poem. Remember, each poem submitted will earn two fraternal tracking points for your assembly, just for entering. Additionally, monetary prizes will be awarded for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each of the four youth categories as well as the adult category.

## Updated: Rescheduled Events

\*\*\*We have new dates for Carnegie Science Center, the NSS Life Golf Outing, and Phipps Conservatory. Please mark your 2021 calendars!

Family Fun Day at Carnegie Science Center:

Saturday, April 3, 2021  
(11am-5pm)

NSS Life Golf Outing:

Kennsington Golf Course (Canfield, OH):  
July 9, 2021 – July 11, 2021 (Friday- Sunday)

Phipps Conservatory:

Saturday, December 4, 2021  
(4pm-7pm)

## 2020 College Graduate Recognition

### \*\*\*Attention all 2020 COLLEGE GRADUATES!

We realize this final year of schooling has been one of uncertainty, and you may not have been recognized for your success the way you deserve. We would like to honor your academic success throughout the past 4 years by putting a spotlight on NSS members that graduated college in 2020 in the August issue of the National News. If you, or an NSS member you know of, graduated from college this year please submit a photo, the school they graduated from, and the degree earned. The deadline to submit a photo is **July 15th**. To all our graduates, *Congratulations on a job well done!*



## 4th of July

The Fourth of July is one of the best highlights of summer. As we celebrate our country's birthday, it is an important time to reflect on what a wonderful nation we live in. We have been blessed with an abundance of resources and freedom here in the U.S.A. We truly have so much to be thankful for. We would like to wish everyone a fun, safe, and healthy 4th of July. God Bless America!

## Covid-19 Is Transforming Us All

**By Dr. Kevin Gillilan, Clinical Psychologist**

**Transition Mentally** – Think about this as a chapter closing and another one starting. We are about to step into chapter two, and that is going to feel weird, but weird does not mean bad. Let yourself settle into this new phase.

**Avoid feeling overwhelmed by change** – Focus on what is the same but see if you can create space for the new things that are good, like family time and fun hobbies.

**Manage anxiety about going out again** – Take some deep breaths, settle in, and get the rational part of your brain back online.

**Deal with the grief of missing out on events and experiences** – Stay anchored to today and do not get too far into the future. We do not have the bandwidth right now to let our minds go there.

## NSS 2020 Youth Achievement Award Winners



**Emily E. Borges**

Honor Roll. She is a member of several clubs that include the Latin Club, Debate team, Drama Club-stage crew, Go Green Club, and annual Walkathon Committee. Additionally, she served as Co-Chair/Chair of the Youth and Government Club & currently serves as Event Coordinator of the Multicultural Club, where she also organizes educational lectures & topics of discussion. She has played on the Varsity Softball team since Freshman year & serves as a peer tutor helping fellow students with writing and history.

Emily is a well-rounded young lady who engages herself at school and within her local community. She was a member of the Lower Naugatuck Valley Boy's & Girls Club Keystone Club. She served as a Counselor-in-training for the Luralton Hall Summer Camp working with children in grades K-8 in the athletic & cooking groups. For the past 4 years she has volunteered with the Stratford Cat Project, an organization dedicated to the rescue of homeless and abandoned cats and kittens. In recognition of logging over 100 volunteer hours during the 2017-2018 school year she received the Frances Warde Award for Outstanding Community Service.

This past summer Emily traveled to Seicheprey, France to restore trenches used in World War I for the "Digging into History: Connecticut in World War I" international service project. This program was sponsored by the Connecticut State Library in conjunction with the American Legion and World War I Commission in recognition of the 100th anniversary of WW I. She was honored to be one of only 15 students chosen to take part in this prestigious program. The Connecticut students worked side by side with a group of 16 French students and a team of French & American historians and archaeologists to restore and rebuild the original trenches used by the American and French soldiers. The hard work of the students gave back to the Village of Seicheprey, established a memorial and preserved a part of the "World War I Trail". They resurrected and reinforced the bonds between the Village & the State of Connecticut. Emily was honored by her state & national government and received numerous awards from individuals such as Congressman Jim Himes, Senator Christopher Murphy, and the Connecticut General Assembly. Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro proposed a Congressional Proclamation detailing the program and recognized each student and their historical accomplishments. This Proclamation was filed in the Library of Congress and the Connecticut State Archives.

Emily is currently in the 12th grade at St. Joseph High School in Trumbull, CT. Throughout her academic career she has been in the Honors Program & has taken AP courses. In recognition of her academic success, she was inducted into the John F Kennedy-Dr. Thomas Dooley chapter of the National Honor Society. She has consistently been named to the President's

Emily is a member of NSS Assembly C002 and is proud of her Slovak heritage. She is enthusiastic about the study of history and was enthralled by the stories told to her by her Grandmother Mary Hricz who immigrated from Slovakia after World War II. Although she never met her Grandfather Joseph Hricz, she was proud to learn of his fraternal service as an officer of the First Slovak Wreath of the Free Eagle.

She has done a great deal of research on her Slovak ancestry and has been able to construct a family tree dating back several generations.

Emily is a member of St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church in Shelton, CT. She will be attending college at the University of New Haven. She will be majoring in Forensic Science.



**Vaylee A. Olack**

Vaylee Olack is a vibrant, intelligent and generous 12 years old. Her talents and visionary abilities are beyond her years. Vaylee's hobbies & special interests lie in helping others, designing bracelets, painting, DIY crafting, reading, spending time with family and friends, soccer, dancing, gymnastics, re-designing her room and secret room, going to

church, playing on the internet and watching TV. She is an amazing role model for youth of today and especially for her three year old sister.

At a young age, Vaylee has held a variety of leadership positions within her school and community. These include the following: Student Council Secretary, Student Council Member, South Spirit Show Choir, WOVI -TV Station Anchor, South Middle News Team TV Anchor, Olweus Club, Basketball Game Teachers vs. Students, Jump Rope for Heart, Relay for Life Fundraiser, Mud Run, Fellowship Christian Athletes,& Junior Dance Captain for South Spirit Show Choir.

Vaylee enjoys supporting her community in a variety of ways, which includes being an active member of her church. She actively participates in her Church Youth Group. She has lead services at the church and read scriptures. She delights in singing in the Youth Choir. She is an acolyte for the church. Vaylee participate in Youth Sundays where she has actively participated in sharing the message.

Vaylee has been a Girl Scout since she was in 1st grade. She is now a Girl Scout Junior. She bridged in Girl Scouts from Daisy to Brownie to Cadette to Junior. She earned all of her Daisy, Brownie and Cadette badges. She is continuing to earn the Junior Badges.

She has participated in four All American Soapbox Derbies coming in 2nd place in 2018. Vaylee has also participated in a variety of plays at the Martinsburg, WV, Apollo Civic Theatre. She has been in 15 shows and was the main character "Jojo" in Seussical. She has held a variety of supporting roles over the years and loves performing on the stage.

In 2013, Vaylee started her own initiative called "Feel Better Friend" to make kids in the hospital during the Holidays smile. She designs and sells bracelets to earn money to buy gifts to take to the kids in the hospital. Most recently she has created a special bracelet to sell to get funds for the local hospital to offset the increasing cost of basic needs during COVID-19.

Vaylee has received many academic achievements, awards & honors over the past few years. Some of these include the Teachers Spotlight Award, Armor Award, Teacher's Positive Reward, 1st Place at School Social Studies Fair, 1st Place at County Social Studies Fair and 2nd Place at Regional Social Studies Fair, Third Place in School Science Fair, Certificate of Excellence for All A's. Most Bubbly Award & Glowing Example Award, Published Poet for school

poetry contest, and Girl Scouts Bronze & Silver Awards. She earned the titles of 2017 Little Miss Berkeley County Schools & 2019 Junior Miss Berkeley County Schools. She was a part of the National Award Winning Show Choir that performed at the Grand Ole Opry. She received a crown and trophy for Little Miss Apple Harvest. She is at level six in gymnastics & currently a Senior Gymnast. Vaylee has received perfect attendance at Bible School. She was also a past Poetry Award winner for the National Slovak Society. And these are just to name a few!

This talented young lady has drive, commitment and the spirit to serve. She has proven her abilities and stretched her imagination to reach beyond her years to become a young entrepreneur, athlete, dancer, singer, performer, servant and so much more.

## *NSS 2020 Fraternalist of the Year*



**Mary K. Connell**

We are honored to announce, Mary K. Connell as the NSS Life 2020 Fraternalist of the Year! Mary is a member of Assembly 0123. She and husband, Ed, reside in Pittsburgh. They have 3 daughters and 6 grandchildren. She has also been an active member at her church, St. Philip Roman Catholic Parish. Mary portrays a spirit of fraternalism. She has even

been nicknamed 'The Energizer Bunny' by fellow assembly member, and friend, Jill Grover. Mary approaches all that she does for others with enthusiasm and selflessness: getting it done and inspiring others by example.

A member of the American Legion Auxiliary for 28 years, Mary has volunteered for many community and veteran activities and held various offices, including President. She is currently the secretary of Unit 145 in Crafton and is the 2nd VP of Allegheny County Council. She is also one of the hospital representatives for the state of Pennsylvania – a position she was first appointed to in 1999.

After many years of volunteering at the local VA hospital in Aspinwall (now called H. John Heinz Progressive Care Center), Mary was officially appointed to coordinate the Legion and Auxiliary volunteer activities as an official Hospital Representative. In this volunteer position, she has officially clocked over 15,000 hours, along with many 'off the clock' hours, tirelessly working for the betterment of the veterans in the hospital and their families. She does this while maintaining her responsibilities as bookkeeping, payroll administrator, and lottery manager of her brother's service station and mini-mart.

The following is a list of just some of what she does for the veterans: solicits and coordinates donations for comfort items, provides cupcakes and celebrations for birthday in both the hospital and adult day care unit, organizes weekly bingos, poker games and other entertainment, sponsors outings to baseball games and the Pittsburgh Symphony, sponsors and provides refreshments for families of deceased

veterans at quarterly memorial services, works clothing drives for those veterans who are enrolled in the hospital's domiciliary programs for drug and alcohol recovery program, purchases bus passes and new clothing for veterans in that program who enroll in schooling and are seeking employment, provides funding for things that enable those veterans to secure employment (CPR classes, background clearances, work boots, etc.), provides 'special days' such as soup day, smoothie day, and picnics. If there is a need to be met, Mary is on it.

One of the highlights of what she does for the residents is to hold a Santa Shop that provides these veterans with an opportunity to experience Christmas shopping on site. All year long she solicits cash donations and purchases much needed items and then combines these with donated items and converts the Rec Hall into a shopping mall. Each resident shops to select gifts for themselves and/or loved ones at no cost. The gifts are then wrapped and shipped if necessary, thus providing the Christmas experience for all. For veterans who are unable to leave their rooms, she provides a gift card so that no one is left out. While other VA hospitals have started to offer this, Mary's Santa Shop has been recognized as the model for others.

Mary looks for better ways to serve others. Seeing the need to properly serve those in the dementia unit, she stepped up to obtain the specialized training required to work in that unit. That door is now open to her to be able to bring the special little things into the residents there and most importantly spend time with those who are often overlooked.

The COVID-19 pandemic has not stopped her relentless volunteer efforts! She makes weekly trips to The VA hospital to meet the staff at the ambulance bay with supplies for the residents. When she heard how distraught the residents and their families had become with the absence of personal visits, she knew she needed to do something. Mary found a way to get the necessary funding and bought 5 electronic tablets that could be used to provide virtual visits.

What makes Mary special is her contagious enthusiasm in everything she does. She leads by example, always portraying a humble, selfless giving to others. We are incredibly proud to recognize Mary K. Connell as the 2020 Fraternalist of the Year. Congratulations Mary!



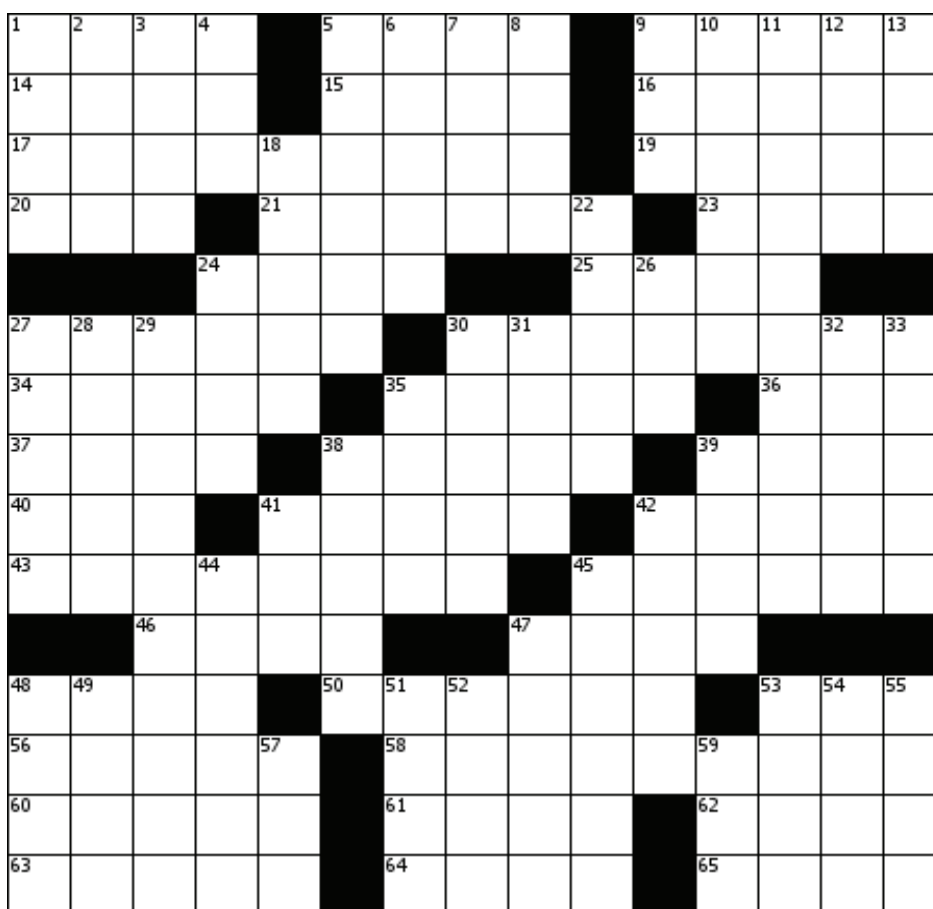
# Youth Circle Magazine-Summer 2020



## Crossword Puzzle

### Across

1. Eye amorously
5. Social slight
9. Stroke a guitar
14. Walk heavily
15. Part of TLC
16. The ones here
17. Like far-reaching plans (hyph.)
19. Positive responses
20. Have debts
21. Author \_\_\_\_ Hemingway
23. Metal bars
24. Bawdy
25. Whirl
27. Athens' country
30. Restore confidence
34. Lease again
35. "The Matrix", e.g.
36. Pekoe, e.g.
37. Impersonated
38. Coat part
39. Conks out
40. Beaver's creation
41. Radio receiver
42. Bullwinkle, for one
43. Makeup purchase
45. Worked for
46. \_\_\_\_ Valley (vineyard site)
47. Stiffly proper
48. Industrious insects
50. Food allotment
53. Groom's response (2 wds.)
56. Desist
58. Made more compact
60. Creepy
61. Muffle
62. Model \_\_\_\_ Macpherson
63. Laundry appliance
64. Greek god
65. Slippery creatures



### Down

1. Norwegian city
2. Gleam
3. \_\_\_\_ wolf
4. Hen product
5. Not abundant
6. Baby tender
7. Encourage
8. Stinging insects
9. Hog home
10. "\_\_\_\_ Something About Mary"
11. New Year's Day promise
12. Employed
13. Military cafeteria
18. Respond
22. Forest path
24. Swamp plant
26. Compass pt.
27. School division
28. Settle a debt
29. \_\_\_\_ school
30. Lariat user
31. Constantly
32. \_\_\_\_ Witherspoon of "Walk the Line"
33. Comforted
35. Lion's hair
38. Of the moon
39. Campus residence
41. Point
42. Bangor's state
44. TV collie
45. Eats away
47. Type of bean
48. Served perfectly
49. Not ever, in verse
51. Summit
52. Guided trip
53. \_\_\_\_ of Man
54. Valley
55. Lyric verses
57. Always, poetically
59. Originally named

## 5 Tips To Stay Safe Around Fireworks

On July 4th, we celebrate our nation's independence by lighting up the sky with fireworks. Follow these tips for a safe and enjoyable celebration with your family!

The display of bangs, bursts and sparkles are always a highlight of summer evenings, especially as our nation celebrates Independence Day. Fireworks are beautiful, but dangerous. Here are a few ways to help keep yourself safe.

### Leave Fireworks to the Pros.

The best way to protect your family is to not use any fireworks at home. Instead, attend public fireworks displays and leave the lighting to the professionals.

### Find a Substitute for Sparklers.

Little arms are too short to hold sparklers, which can heat up to 1,200 degrees. An alternative to sparklers can be glow sticks. They can be just as fun, and they don't burn at a temperature hot enough to melt glass!

### Take Necessary Precautions.

If you do decide to light fireworks yourself, be extra careful. Make sure you're not wearing loose clothing when handling matches or fireworks. Never use fireworks indoors. Outside, point them away from homes and people, and steer clear of brush, leaves, dry grass and flammable substances.

### Keep Your Distance.

Make sure everyone is positioned far back from where fireworks are being lit. If a device does not go off, do not stand over it to investigate or re-light them. Instead, have a bucket of water nearby to extinguish the dud!

### Be Prepared for Problem.

Keep a fire extinguisher nearby and make sure you know how to operate it properly. When you're finished with the fireworks, douse the remains with a bucket of water before disposing of them to avoid a trash fire. Generally, fireworks have inherent risks that can bring catastrophic results, including unintentional fires. and protect yourself and your family.

## Mini Marshmallow Shooters (or Pom Pom Poppers)

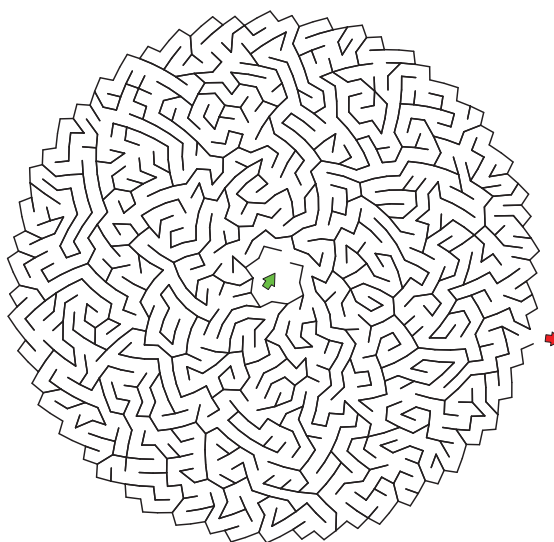
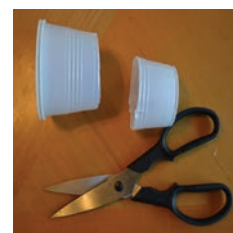
### You'll need:

- ☐ 9 oz. plastic cups
- ☐ 12" balloons
- ☐ mini marshmallows (or pom poms)
- ☐ scissors (not pictured)

### Directions:

1. Cut the bottom part off of your plastic cup. It works best to double up the cups and cut off the bottom third. See how there's two cups nestled together?
2. Tie a knot at the end of your balloon and cut off about 1/2" from the other end.
3. Now stretch the balloon over the end of the cup. Put the balloon on the top part of the cup where the lip is, otherwise the cup will bend. (UPDATE: A commenter said she used a empty yogurt container and it worked well.

That's it! Now it's time to do some launching! Just put your marshmallow or pom pom inside the cup on the knotted center, then aim the cup away from you, pull back on the outer knot and launch away!



Sit down, relax and see how long it takes you to do the maze?



## Tree Word Scramble



1. ogdowdo
2. ceehb
3. nlatwu
4. itraocp
5. urmelbyr
6. octootnodw
7. laceyuustp
8. hrcery
9. ibchr
10. uctthesn
11. hcirkoy
12. liwowl
13. pelpbraac
14. erdoowd
15. sutcol
16. lmepa
17. byukcee
18. iaonamlg
19. cdear
20. lmap

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## Patriotic Hat Craft



There is no better way to show your American spirit than with the patriotic hat craft. Use a red plastic bowl for the top of your hat, but feel free to use a white or blue bowl and adjust the colors of construction paper accordingly. Here is a list of supplies and directions for creating our patriotic your hat craft.

### Supplies:

- Paper plate
- Plastic bowl
- Red, white, and blue construction paper
- Foam letters (optional)
- White glue
- Scissors
- String or yarn
- Hole puncher

### Directions:

1. Punch a hole in the middle of the paper plate. Cut out the inside of the plate leaving the outer edge.
2. Use white glue to attach the plastic bowl to the outer edge of the plate and let dry.
3. Cut out a large blue star and white circle for the top part of the plastic bowl. Use white glue to attach these cutouts.
4. Cut out and glue smaller blue stars and white stripes to the rest of the hat. You can also use foam letters or construction paper to spell out USA if desired.
5. Use a hole puncher to punch 2 holes in the outer edge of the plate. Tie a piece of string or yarn through the holes to finish your patriotic hat.



## Did You Know?

Uncle Sam was an image created by cartoonist, Thomas Nast, used in recruiting posters by the U.S. Army during World War I. This historical image is thought to be first used in the late 1860s or early part of the 1870's.

## Summer Fun



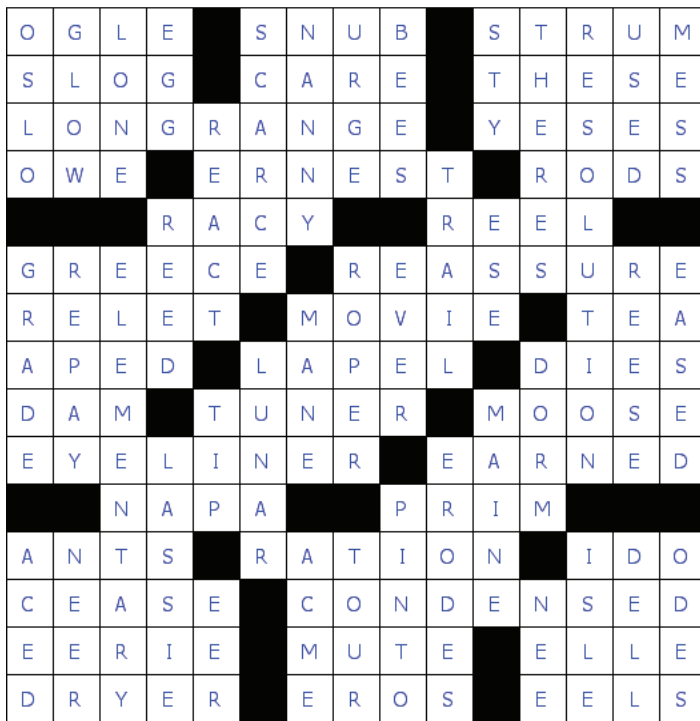
L	W	N	C	B	O	A	T	I	N	G	U	S	I	J	D	L	K
I	A	M	C	B	A	L	F	H	U	K	R	X	Q	B	I	K	E
J	R	O	O	T	S	R	D	X	C	I	L	M	V	E	G	N	D
X	J	F	C	W	U	D	B	Y	D	T	L	O	B	E	F	U	I
S	D	U	I	S	S	Z	C	E	C	B	A	S	E	B	A	L	L
T	M	N	M	N	N	K	H	F	C	O	B	W	A	S	E	E	S
G	G	K	H	P	D	O	A	B	S	U	Y	D	D	I	N	P	Y
J	O	C	M	C	R	S	R	T	H	Z	E	N	R	R	O	S	J
T	L	A	C	S	T	O	H	K	E	I	L	O	O	F	I	S	H
I	C	G	E	T	W	O	P	E	E	B	L	D	L	O	T	B	C
D	Y	S	G	U	B	T	C	E	L	L	O	C	L	A	A	C	G
F	M	Y	F	P	X	I	S	S	E	L	V	A	E	W	C	I	O
D	J	F	Z	I	X	L	J	R	P	F	S	N	R	X	A	N	T
P	J	W	A	T	E	R	S	K	I	O	G	O	B	D	Y	C	D
Y	Z	P	O	H	D	K	W	H	B	O	H	E	L	O	L	I	T
F	W	C	Z	E	A	T	I	C	E	C	R	E	A	M	V	P	Y
K	E	M	O	T	W	O	M	H	E	G	A	R	D	E	N	L	O
H	A	K	E	S	A	N	D	C	A	S	T	L	E	S	S	U	O

Barbecue  
Boating

Baseball  
Camp

Bike  
Canoe

Birdwatch  
Climb



## Holiday Vocabulary-Fourth of July

The United States gained its freedom from Great Britain after signing the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. Also called Independence Day, the Fourth of July is celebrated with fireworks, parades, games, and other ceremonies that recognize the history, government, and traditions of the United States.

Let freedom ring! Find the words that honor our country as we celebrate the Fourth of July in the flag pictured below. Hint: Not all the stripes have a word.



Stars	Fireworks	Parade	Colonies
Courage	Liberty	Flag	Freedom
Fourth	Barbecue	Hancock	Stripes

What is your favorite way to celebrate Independence Day?



Laughing Kids  
are Happy Kids

Q. Why did Peter Pan always fly and never stop?  
A. Because he could never land.

Q. What did the porcupine say to the cactus?  
A. "Are you my mommy?"

Q. What has a tongue but can't talk?  
A. A shoe!

Answer to Maze  
located on Page 12



## Answers to Tree Word Scramble

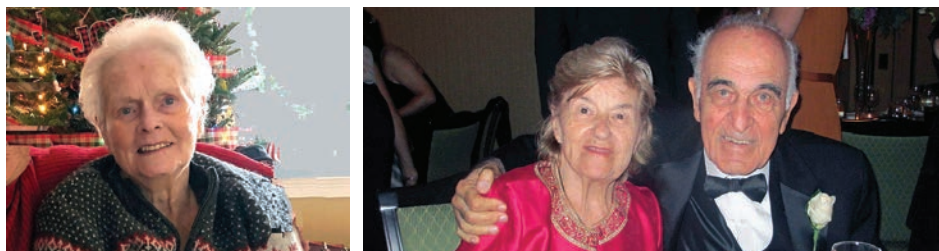


### Tree Word Scramble



- |               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| 1. ogdowdo    | dogwood    |
| 2. ceehb      | beech      |
| 3. nlatwu     | walnut     |
| 4. itraocp    | apricot    |
| 5. urmelbyr   | mulberry   |
| 6. octootnodw | cottonwood |
| 7. laceyuustp | eucalyptus |
| 8. hrcery     | cherry     |
| 9. ibchr      | birch      |
| 10. uctthesn  | chestnut   |
| 11. hcirkoy   | hickory    |
| 12. liowwl    | willow     |
| 13. pelpbraac | crabapple  |
| 14. erdoowd   | redwood    |
| 15. sutcol    | locust     |
| 16. lmepa     | maple      |
| 17. byukcee   | buckeye    |
| 18. iaonamlg  | magnolia   |
| 19. cdear     | cedar      |
| 20. lmap      | palm       |

## Assembly 0110 Mourns The Loss of Three Members



It is with great sadness that the Members of New York's NSS Assembly No. 110 mourn the recent passing of three long time active Members. On March 2, 2020 we lost Dorothy Anne Hornik (87) of Wethersfield Connecticut to natural causes. On May 3 we suffered the passing of Helen Sokolovic (91) followed by the loss of her husband, Dominick Sokolovic (94) on May 15. Dominick and Helen, only a few months past their 70th wedding anniversary, were tragic victims of the Covid-19 virus that has wreaked so much havoc across our nation and the world.

All three of them were active members of Assembly No. 110 through most of their lives. Today's Assembly Members owe them a debt of gratitude for the time and effort they gave to keeping the Assembly alive and thriving for future generations.

The heart of any Assembly is an active membership and it involves not just the time and commitment of individuals, but the inclusion of Family in all of its activities. Dorothy and her late husband Milan, and Dominick and Helen brought their children into our membership, and later, their children's spouses. The cycle of membership has continued through succeeding generations of grandchildren.

Dorothy and Milan, our former Financial Secretary, regularly made the long 100-mile trek to Astoria, New York from their home in Wethersfield, Connecticut to attend Assembly meetings. With children in tow they were a fixture in the Assembly's activities for many years. The Hornik Family - Dorothy, Milan, children and grandchildren - were long a part of the Assembly's bi-annual weekend outings.

Dorothy was a devoted mother as she raised her five children while being an active member of her community and church. The Hornik Family had grown considerably over the years. In the end, Dorothy was predeceased by her husband and one son and leaves her four remaining children, their spouses, and 15 grandchildren.

Dominick and Helen were a big part of the leadership of Assembly No. 110. Helen had served as Vice President and then President of the Assembly for several years. Dominick had a decades long tenure as the Treasurer. Both of them had represented our Assembly several times as Delegates at NSS Conventions. Although Dominick remained active at Assembly meetings up until his passing, it was only due to declining health issues in recent years that prevented Helen from attending as well.

Dominick had provided distinguished service to our nation through two wars with the US Navy. He served in the Pacific as a radio operator through World War II and then served in a similar role during the Korean War. Dominick and Helen went on to raise their six children in Astoria, New York. They devoted themselves to their children, instilling in them the lifelong values of Church, Family and Slovak Heritage. The Sokolovic Family has grown to be a large part of our active membership base and gives the Assembly vibrance and direction. Dominick and Helen were predeceased by two of their children and leave behind their four remaining children and their spouses, 15 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren.

The legacy of Family participation runs deep in Assembly 110 and the NSS can be thankful to the time and effort put forth by these three great individuals. They gave of themselves and they kept Family at the forefront of their lives. They included Family as a sacred value in everything they did and they have provided a great example for others to follow.

**Richard De Sanctis**  
Financial Secretary

## This Month in National Slovak Society History

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

### July, 1970

Judith Orolin of District #10 was crowned Queen of the National Slovak Society 25th Quadrennial Convention in Chicago, Illinois. She received a cash prize of \$250 and an expense paid trip to the Convention.

### July, 1975

Ladislav Demeter died on July 25, 1975. Ladislav was elected as 2nd Vice-President of the National Slovak Society at the 22nd Quadrennial Convention in Detroit, Michigan. He was elected as 1st Vice-President at the 23rd Quadrennial Convention in New York, New York, and re-elected as 1st Vice-President at the 24th Quadrennial Convention held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

### July, 1980

The 1980 National Slovak Society National Golf Tournament was held at Forest Oaks Golf Course in Southington, Ohio, on July 19-20, 1980. The winner of the 18 and 36-hole A Flight was Larry McGinnis. A total of ninety-four golfers competed in the tournament.

### July, 1990

The 1990 National Slovak Society National Golf Tournament was held July 21-22, 1990, at Avalon Lakes Golf Course in Warren, Ohio. The winner of the 18-hole A Flight was George Batyko. Alan Burns captured the 36-hole A Flight championship. Dan Kralik won the 18 and 36-hole B Flight Championship.

## OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS

April 15th thru May, 2020

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Allen, Harold	Normantown, WV	02/18/2020	0774
Armstrong, Roy	Dunlevy, PA	05/15/2020	0039
Ball, Sr., Noel	Point Marion, PA	04/27/2020	0039
Barlow, Mary	Marlinton, WV	03/10/2020	0774
Barrera, Edmundo	Houston, TX	04/06/2020	0774
Barrett, Marie	S Abington TWP, PA	04/18/2020	L075
Bland, Iva	Petersburg, WV	04/06/2020	0774
Bloomfield, Mary	East Jordan, MI	02/06/2020	0381
Borer, Gerald	Fremont, OH	04/02/2020	0160
Bowers, Jarrod	Seven Fields, PA	03/28/2020	0123
Brodhag, William L	Portage, PA	05/16/2018	0774
Brown, Frances	Beckley, WV	04/05/2020	0774
Burdette, Reba	Cottageville, WV	03/29/2020	0774
Cagle, Vennie	Eagle Spring, NC	04/03/2020	0774
Casdorph, Ray	Ripley, WV	04/03/2020	0774
Casto, Helen	South Charleston, WV	02/24/2020	0774
Covey, Randolph	Philadelphia, PA	05/13/2020	0774
Denoia, Vincent	Stockholm, NJ	03/07/2020	L075
Douthett, Lois	Pittsburgh, PA	04/17/2020	L105
Duncan, Daphne M	South Point, OH	04/17/2020	0774
Dunkle, Geraldine	Punxsutawney, PA	02/05/2020	0737
East, Helen	Merritt Island, FL	04/14/2020	0800
Evancho, Leanora	Barberton, OH	03/04/2020	0004
Fair, Joene	Myrtle Beach, SC	04/06/2020	0028
Fortunato, Allen	Pittsburgh, PA	03/27/2020	L161
Fraiser, Gene	Hookstown, PA	04/26/2020	0123
Ganz, Ruth	Allison Park, PA	12/15/2019	0434
Girio, Arthur	Montoursville, PA	04/02/2020	L040
Glaser, Richard T	McMurray, PA	05/15/2020	0434
Grabec, Frances Joan	Ambridge, PA	03/03/2020	0100
Graf, Irene	Boardman, OH	04/14/2020	0731
Hampton, Loretta	Winchester, OH	04/30/2020	0595
Hartmeier, Pauline M	Beaverton, OR	05/27/2019	0586
Haught, Larry G	Washington, WV	03/19/2020	0774
Hoffman, Dale	Harrisburg, PA	05/03/2020	0774
Hornik, Barbara	West Nyack, NY	04/08/2020	0110
Houlihan, Joan	Philadelphia, PA	03/17/2020	0774
Howells, William	Evans City, PA	03/24/2020	0123
Hudac, Marlene	Coraopolis, PA	04/22/2020	0123
Houlihan, Joan	Philadelphia, PA	03/17/2020	0774
Howells, William	Evans City, PA	03/24/2020	0123
Hudac, Marlene	Coraopolis, PA	04/22/2020	0123
Jacobs, Sharon	Muskegon, MI	03/31/2020	0381
Janos, Sr., Andrew F	Smithton, PA	05/19/2020	0774
Jurik, Frances	Monongahela, PA	03/29/2020	0377
Kennedy, Thomas R	Milford, PA	04/15/2020	L075
Kinard, Ned	Dallastown, PA	11/14/2019	L102
Kioski, Vera	N Brunswick, NJ	03/14/2020	0110
Kirkwood, James	Export, PA	04/19/2020	L105
Kociolek, Annette	Colonia, NJ	03/30/2020	0110
Kovach, Ruth	Twinsburg, OH	05/07/2015	0004
Kube, Catherine	Bay City, MI	04/20/2020	0381
Kutchmarick, Yolanda	Hazleton, PA	07/19/2016	0039
Lacus, Anthony	Southampton, PA	02/28/2020	0377

## PVR Scholarship Fund Donations

In Memory of **Virginia Figel**:  
From Assembly 0123..... 20.00  
In Memory of **James Lucco**:  
From Assembly 0123..... 20.00  
In Memory of **Kenneth Sisk**:  
From Assembly 0123..... 20.00

### Donations:

Stephen C. Day, Sr. - Day Insurance  
Agency ..... 500.00

## DONATE TO THE PVR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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

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

Here is my donation of:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please issue your check to:

**NSS PVR Scholarship Fund**

And send to:

National Slovak Society  
351 Valley Brook Road  
McMurray, PA 15317

## NSS Home Office Flags



Flags placed and arranged courtesy of  
Veteran Dan McPoyle.

## Slovak Festival Sterling Heights, MI

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

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

**Mark Your  
Calendar!  
Great News  
Below!**



## Slovak Day

The 97th Annual W. PA Slovak Day will be held on **THURSDAY, JULY 23rd** in Kennywood Park. The Slovak Kitchen will be open with a limited menu. The Pittsburgh Area Slovaks will provide a virtual performance while the Pittsburgh Slovaks will provide a live performance. There will also be music provided by George Batyi and the Gypsy Stringz.

Tickets for the event are available by contacting either Amanda ([azin@nsslife.org](mailto:azin@nsslife.org)) or Pam ([pbllum@nsslife.org](mailto:pbllum@nsslife.org)) or by calling the Home Office 1-800-488-1890. Region 5 will once again subsidize each ticket purchased for a YFC member (16 yrs. and under) in the amount of \$10. For more information contact: Sue ([sue.ondrejco@gmail.com](mailto:sue.ondrejco@gmail.com)).

**Sue Ondrejco, Ticket Chair**  
W. PA Slovak Day Committee

(NOTE: Ticket price information was not available at the time of printing.)

## OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS

April 15th thru May, 2020

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Lapic, Ann	New Brighton, PA	05/12/2020	0123
Laughery, Louise	West Mifflin, PA	03/11/2020	0441
Lawniczak, Arthur J	Pittsburgh, PA	03/19/2020	L161
Lehotay, Agnes	Cambridge, OH	05/04/2020	0731
Little, Shirley L	Statesville, NC	01/15/2020	0774
Lucas, Andrew	Reedsville, WV	11/04/2017	0039
Lunz, Edward J	Ford City, PA	04/19/2020	0434
Luttrell, Helen	Hummelstown, PA	04/01/2020	R059
Martin, Janet	Middletown, PA	04/27/2020	R059
Marusa, Joseph P	Broken Arrow, OK	02/29/2020	0004
Maynard, Loreen	Huntington, WV	04/14/2020	0774
McCaffery, Edward M	Canandigua, NY	02/24/2020	R019
McGettigan, Thomas	Philadelphia, PA	04/08/2020	L102
Mihalak, Agnes	Poplar, WI	01/06/2019	0774
Mikolay, Carmella	Salem, OH	03/18/2020	0774
Miller, Ella J	Huntington, WV	03/17/2020	0774
Mochtyak, Noma	Glassport, PA	05/03/2020	0441
Moore, Carroll	Ravenswood, WV	02/12/2020	0774
Myers, Zachary T	Pittsburgh, PA	10/30/2019	L161
Ondeyko, Emily (Theresa)	Freehold, NJ	03/18/2020	0110
Pace, Margaret	Aliquippa, PA	04/16/2020	0123
Parham, Clenon	Leicester, NC	03/02/2020	0774
Payne, George	Uniondale, NY	03/14/2020	0110
Pechulis, Elizabeth	Waynesburg, PA	04/08/2020	0377
Peden, Mary	New Stanton, PA	09/01/2019	0737
Pelini, Charlotte	Farrel, PA	01/21/2020	0731
Peticca, Mary A	Pittsburgh, PA	04/12/2020	L161
Peticca, Mary Ann	Pittsburgh, PA	04/12/2020	L161
Phillips, Carl	Washington, PA	04/30/2020	0774
Phillips, Jr., Richard	Greenfield, OH	04/26/2020	0595
Podlesny, Carl	Hazleton, PA	09/26/2016	L102
Pross, Elaine	Pinconning, MI	02/16/2020	0381
Riggs, Richard	Avella, PA	11/19/2019	0588
Rollins, Franklin D	Oceana, WV	03/06/2020	0774
Rose, Edith	Little Birch, WV	03/10/2020	0774
Rosensteel, Donald	New Springfield, OH	04/15/2020	0731
Salati, Mary	New Kensington, PA	05/18/2020	L105
Schutte, John	Monroeville, PA	02/28/2020	L105
Shedlock, Holly	Simpsonville, SC	04/29/2020	0774
Skipalis, Dorothy	Hanover Twp, PA	04/30/2020	0617
Solensky, Stella	Wharton, NJ	09/06/2017	L075
Sontheimer, Carol	Vienna, VA	01/31/2020	0774
Stenson, Irene	Palos Hills, IL	03/22/2020	0586
Stultz, Stella	Bluefield, WV	03/05/2020	0774
Stupavsky, Martin E	Benwood, WV	04/25/2019	0774
Sturgeson, Jr., Robert J	Warrington, PA	03/23/2020	R059
Tipton, Tamita	Peebles, OH	03/08/2020	0595
Tkac (Kutch), Andrej	McCellandtown, PA	05/21/2015	0039
Travis, Helen	Pittsburgh, PA	04/01/2020	0100
Tresatti, Dawn	West Newton, PA	05/02/2020	0377
Valentik, Eva	Pittsburgh, PA	03/10/2020	0123
Vignola, Michael J	Palm Harbor, FL	01/17/2020	0813
Vincz, Veronica	Lawrenceville, NJ	02/28/2020	0110
Vitt, Charlotte B	Poland, OH	03/12/2020	0731
Vojar, Karen	Kenosha, WI	03/14/2020	0774
Weaver, Sandra L	Masontown, PA	04/27/2020	0039
Zack, John	Windber, PA	05/15/2020	0774
Zeigler, Bradley	Berlin, PA	03/03/2020	0039

## ASSEMBLY 0004

### Parma, OH

Please contact your assembly secretary to confirm the dates of the meetings.

Mark your calendars for our next two meetings: **August 16th** and **November 17, 2020**. Location and time will be announced. Please plan to attend.

**Sonia Vorell**  
Secretary

## ASSEMBLY 0039

### Uniontown, PA

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

The "NSS Family Fun Day" scheduled at the Carnegie Science Center in April has been rescheduled for 2021. The "NSS National Golf Outing" has also been rescheduled for 2021.

Any assembly college student that is currently receiving an NSS Scholarship, **July 15th** is the deadline for you to **RENEW** your application for the fall semester. There are no extensions! The home office is seeking information on any NSS member that recently graduated from a college, university or trade school. They are planning a layout in a future issue. If you are a graduate, or know of a recent graduate, that is an NSS member, please send in: a graduation photo, name of the institution graduated from and degree earned by July 15th!

"Septembertfest" in the home office is sponsored by the "NSS Heritage Museum" and is usually held at the end of September. If it is not cancelled due to Covid-19, the date and time will be in the next issue.

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

For all of you poetry buffs; the home office has added an "Adult Category" to the upcoming "NSS Poetry Contest". The deadline is **August 15th**!

Topic is of your choosing. In this issue, rules are on page 23. Let your poetry juices flow!

**REMEMBER:** Our "Summer Bar-B-Q" has been moved to **Sunday, September, 13th at 1:00 pm.** at the Uniontown Columbian Association (formerly K of C) picnic pavilion. This will be our third quarter meeting. If you have any questions, call me at (724) 366-4100 or our secretary at (724) 570-1301.

Have a safe and healthy July 4th celebration!

**John Payerchin**  
President

## ASSEMBLY RO59

### Bethlehem, PA

Please contact me at **610-262-2045** to confirm this meeting will occur.

The last few months have been challenging as we adjust to a new reality due to Covid-19! In addition, our country has undergone much destruction in major cities! Much to ponder and pray about!

Regretfully, our May meeting and Helping Hands-Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive did not take place. We are hoping to hold our July 12th meeting at the Sawarynaski home.

Best wishes to Pete and Jamie Slivka (parents) and Mike and Francine Slivka (grandparents) on the birth of daughter Riley on May 3rd.

**Michele Guydan**  
Secretary

## ASSEMBLY L075

### Duryea, PA

For the following events, please contact **Lehrae Edwards** to confirm they will occur on that date.

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

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

Luzerne County Fair in **September**.

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

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

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

**Lehrae Edwards**  
Secretary

## ASSEMBLY L161

### Pittsburgh, PA

Join Hands Day is about generations, old and new working together as volunteers toward a greater purpose for their communities. Memorial Day is a holiday set aside for honoring and mourning the military personnel who had died while serving in the United States Armed Forces.



This year members of Assembly L-161, joined hands with, St. Gabriel VFW Post 1365, St. Cyril Boy Scout Troop #348, Scout Troop #81 from Wexford, PA and Cub Scout Troop #935 also from Wexford, PA to place flags on the graves of Veterans in Christ Our Redeemer Cemetery, (formerly North Side Catholic).

Several evenings were needed by the volunteers to place all 5,247 flags honoring Soldiers from Korea, WWI, WWII, and Vietnam, as well as the recent wars on terrorism.



Many thanks to Carol Lako, L-161 V. President for coordinating the efforts from ordering and picking up the flags at the County Office, to organizing all the groups involved.

Our next Assembly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 8th at the Eat'n Park at the Waterfront in Homestead. The meeting will begin at 6:30 pm. Please contact me to confirm the meeting time and place if you plan on attending. Call Sue at (412) 421-1204 or send an email: sue.ondrejco@gmail.com

**Sue Ondrejco**  
Secretary

## ASSEMBLY 0123 Coraopolis, PA

Well half the year is over and we are entering the dog days of summer July 3rd to August 11th. This coincides with the dawn rising of Sirius, the day star, the brightest star in the sky not counting the sun.

Here we are in July named for the roman dictator, Julius Caesar. And do I have any news for you? No everything is still on hold at least for the time being. Perhaps this fall our assembly will be able to have a few activities. At least I hope so.

Have you made good use of your shut in time? If you did any volunteer work (making masks, grocery shopping for a neighbor, etc.) let me know so I can make mention of it. I was able to do some reading which I should do more of. Two of the books I read fascinated me. "The Accidental President" by A.J. Baine about Harry Truman's first year in office and his decision to use the atomic bomb. Secondly "The Splendid and the Vile" by Eric Larson about Winston Churchill's first year as Prime Minister when he stood in defiance of the Nazis during the Blitz. I found these books to highlight interesting times and interesting men.

Have a wonderful summer get out and enjoy the good weather, stay safe.

As we celebrate the 4th let us remember these words from the Declaration of Independence: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life,

Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." God Bless,

**William Knoll**  
President

## ASSEMBLY 0377 Bentleyville, PA

We will hold our annual picnic at Richardson's Park on **July 12, 2020** at 3:00 pm. Please bring a side dish or dessert and your frisbee or baseball. Families and pets welcome!

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

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

**Suzanne Skrypak**  
President

## ASSEMBLY 0432 Fairview Park, OH

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

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

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

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

**Shawn Pytel**  
Publicist & Social Media



## ASSEMBLY 0586 Chicago, IL

In June today if the situation in our state had begun to return somewhat to that in our neighboring states of Indiana and Wisconsin I would gladly pass on the news.

The city of Chicago in Cook county with its crowded sections is very different from other parts of the state. Towns and suburbs like Darien and Naperville and Champaign downstate should not be part of the same classification as Cook county.

Some large Illinois stores have been open for shopping but churches are closed! Mom and Pop businesses cannot open. Schools and day care are closed with no date given for opening, making plans for Illinois parents impossible. Graduates celebrate virtually or postpone their plans until social distancing rules are relaxed.

We miss being with family, friends and neighbors. Weeks have turned into months and meantime we fill the days any way we can.

We look forward to receiving each issue of the Narodne Noviny with news from familiar names of member friends. Hopefully when this edition reaches your family all our lives will have changed for the better in lots of ways.

Our members of Assembly 586 are waiting to hear that all of you are enjoying more freedom where you live.

A young man who valeted the car yesterday said it so well: "Try to enjoy the weekend as best you can." And that's what we try to do. God bless us and America.

**Irene Tomaskovic**  
Vice-President

## ASSEMBLY 0588 Slovan, PA

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

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

**Annette Stefka**  
Secretary

## ASSEMBLY 0617

### Ashley, PA

Our assembly **has canceled** the annual Fraternal Day at Knoebels Park scheduled for **August 6th** due to the ongoing health crisis. Assembly meetings have been placed on hold for the near future. Members will be contacted when the meetings will resume.

**John Kurilla**  
Vice-President

## REGION 2

### Wilkes-Barre & Hazleton, PA

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

**Lucy Piccoletti**  
Recording Secretary

## 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.



## Letter of Appreciation

Dear NSS Life Scholarship Department:

Enclosed is my Fall 2019 - Spring 2020 transcript as required for scholarship renewal purposes. I received the NSS Life PVR scholarship in 2018 and I am happy to express my gratitude towards the organization. Your generosity has been of great aid to me in my academic pursuits. It is so encouraging to have others supporting me as I pour hours of hard work into my studies.

To update you on my academic path, I have just completed my sophomore year at SRU. I am enjoying majoring in Biology and I love the Biology department at SRU. I will begin upper level biology courses in the Fall of 2020. I was planning to do research with a professor from the department this summer, however, the pandemic has postponed our work. We are looking to investigate the effects of pesticides in amphibians (specifically native frogs). We do hope to begin this work in the Fall, if not sooner.

I have also continued my work as a vet tech at Apple Grove Veterinary Clinic. The hands-on experience and skills that I learn there are incredible. I have been trained to administer vaccinations, IV fluids, aid in blood draws, and run laboratory and blood work. I am very blessed to gain so much experience with both small and large animals through my time at Apple Grove. I plan to continue my work there. I plan to apply to vet school by way of the VMCAS application process in the Spring of 2021. I plan to study to become a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine following my graduation from SRU.

I thank you all for your kindness, generosity and sincerity in your efforts to help me chase my dreams. I want to remind you of how much of an encouragement it is to have others supporting you and thank you for being an inspiration. Your kindness goes further than you know. My very best to you all and your families.

Sincerely,

**Hannah Dean**

Slippery Rock University  
Biology Major - Veterinary Technician



### Attention: Member and Agent Portal Users

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

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

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

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

**Lisa Shriver**

Member Service Supervisor and Assistant Controller



## V lete

Letné časy -- teplé, vrúce, hreje, páli slnko skvúce, Boh vše sošle dáždik dole, požehnaním plní pole.

Dozrievajú plné klasy, z obilia prepelka hlási: "Pod'te žať" -- tak volá, prosí, A už ľúbo cvendžia kosy.

Kosí roľník žitko zlaté, pot mu sadá v čelo vzňaté, zavše sotre s čela rosu, d'alej zamestnáva kosu.

Hrste zbiera, viaže v snopy, po tom snopy v kríže kopí a po čase --hejsa, volky! Sváža žitko do stodôlky.

Huči mlatba po širine, -- zlaté žitko už je v mlyne...Chválime, ó Bože, Teba za podar nového chleba.

Strýčko Martin (c. 1923)

## Slovenský deň v Kennywood Parku

Oznamujeme Slovákom a Slovenkám v PGH, a okoli, že 97 Slovenský deň západnej PA bude vo štvrtok 23 júla v zábavnom parku Kennywood. Vstupenky do parku alebo viac informácie môžete si zaobstaráť od Sue Ondrejco po telephone na čísle 412 421-1204.

## Výraznejšie dni v Júli

1. Júla — Deti na slovensku začínajú letnú dovolenku—prázdniny.

3. Júl – Na slovensku v známej Levoči na vršku sa koná veľký odpust na ktorý putujú peši i dnes ľudia zo Slovenských dedín až 40-50 km. Tento odpust návštevuje približne 300 až 500-600 tisíc pútnikov.

4. Júl – Deň Americkej samostatnosti.

5. Júl – Sviatok sv. Cyrila a Metoda na slovensku je to Kresťanský Sviatok a tiež i Štátny Sviatok.

## Príslovie

Prelom týchto dní (25. a 26. júl) sa považoval za predeľ medzi letom a jeseňou, čo vyjadrovala pranostika Sväta Anna, chladná zrána. Jakubom sa končí pravé leto, Annou sa začína babie leto, ktoré postupne prechádza do jesene.



## Američania slovenského pôvodu



Starý otec z matkinej strany slávneho hollywoodskeho herca Petra Falka (poručík Colombo) sa narodil v Bardejove. Peter Hochhauser sa narodil v roku 1874 v Bardejove a zomrel v roku 1960 v Mount Vernone v štáte New York.

Bol otcom matky Petra Falka - Madeline Hochhauser Falk.

## Pranie v potoku

Pranie bolo v minulosti náročnou prácou žien. Špinavá bielizeň sa najprv namočila do drevených nádob so studenou vodou, potom sa vyvárala v lúhu, cez noc sa nechala močiť a až potom sa prala v potoku. Pralo sa piestom na drevenej lavici. Pri praní sa bielizeň obracala a nečistota sa vytľkala pracím piestom. Vrchná

placha piesta bývala ozdobne vyrezávaná. Až v 18. storočí sa začali piesty zdobiť maľovaním.



Maľované piesty však slúžili už skôr ako dekorácia a darovali sa z lásky partnerkám pred svadbou, ale aj ako prejav lásky po svadbe. Piestom sa pripisoval aj magický význam, napr. kládli sa do postele na zaistenie plodnosti.

Piesti na pranie v okolí Bratislavy sa vyznačujú bohatosťou zdobenia. Staršie piesty boli jednoduchšie zdobené, prevažne geometrickými vzormi, ale v 19.

storočí už prevláda hustý, prevažne kvetinový dekor, dopĺňaný vzormi symbolicky vyjadrujúcimi plodnosť a lásku.

*Keď som včera prala šaty, stratila som prsteň zlatý,  
Hajajaj, ku, ku, ku, sedela som na buku. —Ťľuv*

## 2020 Youth Art Contest Winners



**Meradith Dillaman - Assembly C554**  
1st Place Picasso Level



**Maxwell Edwards - Assembly C075**  
2nd Place Picasso Level



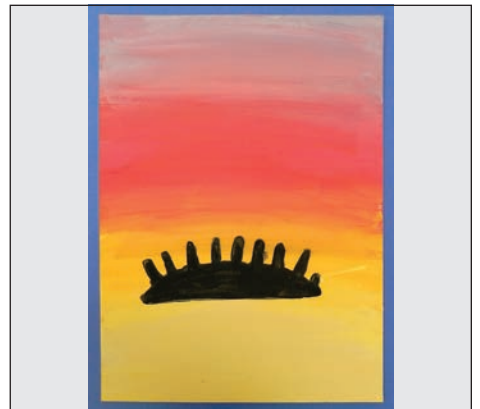
**Mariah Cherevka - Assembly C108**  
3rd Place Picasso Level



**Anthony Cherevka - Assembly C108**  
1st Place Rembrandt Level



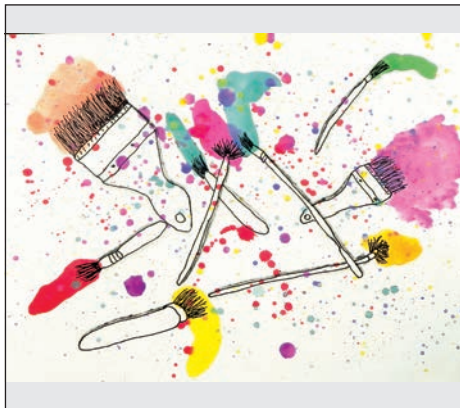
**Carson Bernardo - Assembly C588**  
2nd Place Rembrandt Level



**Luna Salafranco - Assembly C123**  
3rd Place Rembrandt Level



**Allie Lazar - Assembly C075**  
1st Place Michelangelo Level



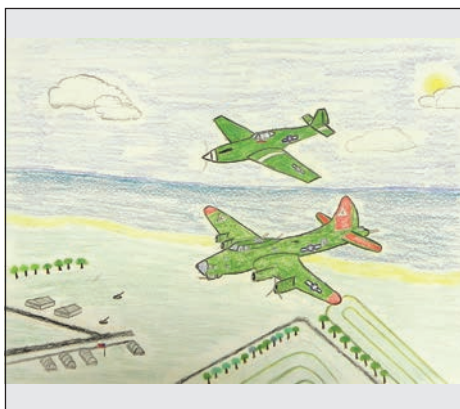
**Ashlynn Mason - Assembly C731**  
2nd Place Michelangelo Level



**Ethan Goldsworthy - Assembly C108**  
3rd Place Michelangelo Level



**Adam Lazar - Assembly C075**  
1st Place Van Gogh Level



**Benjamin Ostrowski - Assembly C617**  
2nd Place Van Gogh Level



**Thomas Phillips - Assembly C377**  
3rd Place Van Gogh Level



# Youth Circle Page

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

## 2020 NSS POETRY CONTEST

Deadline: August 15, 2020

New – Adult Category

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

1. Contest is open to all NSS Youth members ages 5 to 16.
2. Poem may be any length up to two pages double spaced.
3. Topic is chosen by individual.
4. Each poem submitted MUST be an original work created by the member and should be typed or hand written clearly.
5. All entries must include: name, address, phone number, age, assembly/circle number, along with your t-shirt size chosen by the following sizes available:  
Youth Sizes - YS and YM  
Adult Sizes - AS, AM, AL and AXL
6. Winners in each category will have their poetry printed in the National News, Youth Circle Magazine and on the NSS Website.
7. Contest shall be judged under the following ages:  
Keats - Ages 5, 6, 7  
Angelou - Ages 8, 9, 10  
Frost - Ages 11, 12, 13  
Shakespeare - Ages 14, 15, 16  
**\*\*NEW\*\*** Poe - Adult
8. Prizes awarded in each level shall be as follows:  
First Place - \$50.00 & Certificate of Achievement  
Second Place - \$25.00 & Certificate of Achievement  
Third Place - \$15.00 & Certificate of Achievement
9. Deadline for entries to the Home Office is August 15th. Entries must be mailed or delivered to:  
National Slovak Society  
ATT: Pam Blum, Fraternal Activities Coordinator  
351 Valley Brook Road  
McMurray, PA 15317
10. Entries will be judged by an outside professional. Decisions made by the judge will be final in all cases.
11. The National Slovak Society reserves the right to keep all the poems.

Please contact Fraternal Activities Coordinator, Pam Blum at [pblum@nsslife.org](mailto:pblum@nsslife.org) or call the Home Office at 724-731-0094 if you have any questions.

## 2020 NSS PHOTO CONTEST

Deadline: October 31, 2020

### Contest Eligibility:

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

### Deadline:

October 31st is the deadline for all entries to be received. Judging is done by an outside professional. Please mail to: National Slovak Society, Fraternal Activities Coordinator, 351 Valley Brook Road, McMurray, PA 15317-3337

### Contest Rules:

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

### Four Categories

Scenic	Patriotic
Animals	Hometown Pride

### Prize List

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

National Slovak Society  
(USPS 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: \_\_\_\_\_

### Prospect Information:

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

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

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Send form to Joe Elliott at the Home Office.



## Change of Address

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Assembly No. \_\_\_\_\_

New Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Former Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

### DEADLINE FOR PUBLICATION

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