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

Inside this Issue...

Assembly Activities
Activities at a Glance
From the Executive Office

From the Executive Officers

President's Column		4
Secretary/Treasurer	Column	5

NSS Financial Matters

Annuity	Interest	Rates	6
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NSS Sales Department

National Sales Director	7
4th Quarter Leaders for 2019	7
Anniversary Offer Program	.21-22

NSS News/Activities

Rev. George Franko Obituary
Fraternal Activities Coordinator
Easter Book/Egg Wraps
Bowling Tournament Application1
Family Fun Day Sign-Up Form1
Youth Achievement Award Nomination Form 1
Fraternalist of the Year Nomination Form1
Assembly Activities16 & 1
NSS History1
Slovak Mass/Easter Breakfast1
New Employee Spotlight on Alan Burns2

Assembly News

Assembly Meetings	14-16
Departed Members	17-18
Leaf Donations	18
PVR Donations	18

Národné Noviny

Veľkonočné raňajky v Pittsburghu, PA.	23
Medzinárodný deň žien 8. marec	23
Marec, mesiac knihy	23
Pôstna doba	23



Activities At A Glance

REGION 2 April 5 May 9 May 16 August 9 October 18 November 15	Assemblies L075, 0617 Assembly L075, Meeting, Grande's Restaurant, Moosic, PA at 1:00 pm Assembly L075, Postal Worker's Food Drive, Knight's of Columbus, Pittston, PA, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm Assembly L075, American Heart Association Heart Walk at PNC Field, Moosic, PA 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	Assemblies P38A, 0039, 0100, L105, 0108, 0123, L161, 0377, 0434, 0441, 0588, 0731, 0737, 0774
March 8 March 21 March 22 April 1 April 4 April 4 April 20 May 15-16 May 23 May 31 June 14 June 14 July 10-12 September 3 September 13 September 13 September 21 October 23 November 7 November 16 December 6 December 6 December 6	Assembly 0039, Lenten Dinner, Eat'n Park Restaurant at 6:00 pm Assembly 0123, Volunteering at World Vision, Sewickley, PA at 9:30 am Assembly 0377, Meeting/Brunch, Hugo's Restaurant, Brownsville, PA at 2:00 pm NSS Youth Achievement Award & Fraternalist of the Year nomination forms due NSS Family Fun Day, Carnegie Science Center, Pittsburgh, PA from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm Assembly 0737, Meeting, Carol Godor's residence, North Huntingdon, PA at 1:00 pm Assembly 0588, Meeting, Panera Bread Community Room, N. Fayette, PA at 6:00 pm NSS National Bowling Tournament, Brookgate Lanes, Cleveland, OH Assembly 0731, Outdoor movie at Beth & Matt Mason's home at 6:00 pm NSS Art Contest deadline for submissions Assembly 0039, Summer Bar-B-Q, K of C Picnic Pavilion Assembly 0377, Annual Picnic at Richardson's Park at 3:00 pm NSS National Golf Tournament, Kennsington Golf Club, Canfield, OH Assembly 0731, Canfield Fair, Laurie & Mike Fox's campsite at the Fairgrounds Assembly 0039, Remembering Flight 93, Eat'n Park Restaurant Assembly 0377, Meeting/Lunch, China City Buffet, Washington, PA at 3:00 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, K of C Social Hall Assembly 0731, Christmas Party, Elton Beard Cabin at Boardman Park at 1:00 pm
REGION 8	Assemblies 0004, 0070, 0160, 0432, 0595
April 5 May 17 May 22-25 June 16 August 16 September 4-7 September 15 November 17 December 15	Assembly 0004, Scotch Doubles Assembly 0004, Meeting, Location and time to be determined Assembly 0432, Camping Memorial Weekend, Rustic Lake Campground, Sullivan, OH Assembly 0432, Meeting, Shuttleworth residence at 7:30 pm 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 April 4 May 17 July 12	Assemblies R059, L102 Assembly L102, Easter Egg Hunt/Election of Officers, Wesnak's home at 2:00 pm Assembly R059, Meeting, Keysock residence, Time to be determined Assembly R059, Meeting, Sawarynaski residence, Time to be determined
REGION 15	Assemblies L002 No Activities at this time
AT LARGE March 1 March 25 June 5 - June 7 June 16 September 17 December 19	Assemblies R019, L040, 0110, 0236, 0267, 0381, 0554, 0568, 0586, 0705, 0800, 0813 Assembly 0586, Meeting, (tentatively) at 4:00 pm (Place to be determined) Assembly 0381, Meeting, T.V. Deli, Trenton, MI at 1:00 pm Assembly 0110, Bi-Annual Weekend, Woodloch Pines in Hawley, PA Assembly 0381, Meeting, Hungarian Rhapsdy, Northline Rd., Southgate, MI at 1:00 pm Assembly 0381, Meeting, Location and time to be determined Assembly 0381, Meeting, 4:00 pm - Location to be determined

From The President's Desk...



David G. Blazek, FIC President, CEO

Greetings from the "Desk of the President". March is here which signals that winter is almost over, and Spring is right around the corner. Now I'm not saying we won't have cold weather, or even snow in April. This reminds me of the end of my Navy Boot Camp back in 1970, when I was scheduled to leave the Great Lakes Naval Training Center in the middle of April, and Illinois experienced a foot of snow which delayed my travel plans by a day. So let's get through March and hope for the best once April arrives.

March is a busy month. The Board will be attending a symposium hosted by our Investment Advisor's, AQS, early in the month, followed by our winter Board Meeting. Slovak Gardens will be holding their annual Slovak Day on Saturday, March 7th, followed by the Annual Meeting on Sunday, March 8th.If you are in or around the Orlando Florida area, try to make it to the Slovak Day which is always a fun event with entertainment and good Slovak food. March 14th, the Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh will be holding a banquet to honor our very own Sales Director, Greg Felton. We are looking forward to celebrating Greg's accomplishments to the fraternal world. We end the month with our Agent Incentive trip to Jamaica. This year, we had a record number of agents qualify for the trip, so along with 6 member couples who signed up for the trip, we will have 86 people headed to Jamaica for a 6 night stay at Iberostar Rose Hall Suites, near Montego Bay.

In addition to numerous assembly and region meetings this month, Assembly 0039 will hold a Lenten Dinner on March 8th, and Assembly 0123 will be volunteering at World Vision in Sewickley. World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization helping children, families, and their communities overcome poverty and injustice.

March 17th, which falls on a Tuesday, is St. Patrick's Day. I suppose it will be celebrated on Saturday, the 15th, to allow for a day of recuperation (Sunday) before returning to work on Monday. And a very important date to mark in your calendar is Sunday, March 8th, the day when Daylight Savings Time begins in 2020. Don't forget to Spring forward!

News Of Narodniars

Happy Birthday wishes go out to Director John Payerchin, Home Office Staff member Lori Korte, Carole Koches, Kelsey Marshall, and Peter Longstreth. Best wishes to all other members celebrating a birthday and/or wedding anniversary, and to all members who may be going through illness or recuperating from any surgeries.

IRA Contributions

Tax deadline is fast approaching so now is the time to contribute to your IRA for the 2019 tax year. And to maximize the power of compounding, it's a great idea to make your 2020 contribution now to help enhance your IRA accumulation potential. Please clearly designate on your check the tax year on any IRA/ROTH contribution you make through April 15, 2020.

Member Honored



Over 30 years ago, Alexander Jozsa Bodnar opened a restaurant in Hazelwood, a neighborhood within the City of Pittsburgh, that specializes in creating an ethnic, home-style experience centered on Hungarian traditions. The name of the restaurant is Jozsa Corner, and on July 1, 2019, the Pittsburgh City Council honored Alexander with a proclamation recognizing and commending him for his commitment to preserving the Hungarian culture in Pittsburgh, and congratulating him on the occasion of the 30th Anniversary of Jozsa Corner. The Council also declared Monday, July 1, 2019 to be "Jozsa Corner Day in the City of Pittsburgh. Congratulations Alex, and wishing you another 30 years of success with your restaurant.





Punography Of The Month:

Need an ark to save two of every animal? I Noah guy.

A Page From My Notebook...

Linda M. Strom Secretary-Treasurer/CFO



Guess what? I'm Back!

It has been 6 months since I spent an entire week in my office and at my desk. It feels good to be back. I've missed seeing the smiling faces of my co-workers. Thank you all for your thoughts and prayers.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to our Sales Direc-2020 Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh's Fraternalist of the Year!

He is always willing to help when called upon as evidenced by his dedication in finding guest speakers for FSGP Luncheons. Those of us that work with Greg always see a smile on his face that makes you smile right back. He is also a dedicated husband, father and grandfather ("Bubba" or "Bub" as he is known to his grandson Gregory). Congratulations Greg! Enjoy your celebration, you deserve it.

I can't believe it's already March.

This is a critical time for those that work with NSS Financials and have to submit our annual statements to the insurance departments where we are domiciled and/or licensed to sell. We have also been so very busy with the PA Insurance Department's Risk Based Audit of the NSS and we've begun planning for our Assembly Officers Seminar which has been postponed until 2021 due to an extremely busy schedule for the remainder of 2020.

Assembly Member Listings

I will be sending out Assembly Member listings, Fraternal Tracking preliminary details and other items that I have missed sending to all Assemblies this month. Thank you for your patience as I go down my "To Do" List. The 2019 Fraternal Tracking report will be presented to our Board for approval at the Spring Board Meeting in May and once approved, the Fraternal Allowances and the "Extra Effort" Awards will subsequently be presented for approval. As always fraternal funds will be sent out soon after the Spring Board Meeting.

What do you say...

What do you say to someone who has lost a child; no matter what age? I was extremely saddened to hear about the passing of Shaun Crowley, son of Lori and KC Crowley and brothers Kevin and John. Lori has a long history with the NSS. She was past President Joseph Stefka Sr.'s Assistant for many years, Officer of Assembly 0441 and long-time/current NSS Editor of the Národné Noviny (our tor Greg Felton as he was chosen as the newsletter). I've known Lori and family for a very long time. Please continue to keep them all in your prayers as they continue to grieve. And say a special prayer for Shaun's Mom.



NSS Supervisor of Customer Service Lisa Shriver holds a staff training session on the Secure Act of 2019, the Retirement Enhancement Act





"Family is not an important thing. It's everything."

-Michael J. Fox

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.

by going to the website:

www.nsslife.org

and login/register as a member.





From the Sales Department...

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



Annual Financial Check-up

Every year smart people conduct a financial check-up on their finances. This is a time to review, evaluate and make adjustments. Here are a few things to consider:

Review your Insurance coverage. Could you save money by increasing your home and auto deductibles? Do you have an umbrella liability policy? Does your employer offer the chance to buy low cost term insurance? If so, take advantage and add this extra protection at a reasonable cost. Do you need more life insurance? What about disability protection? Have you ever thought about long term care insurance? And last but not least, make sure the beneficiaries on your insurance, IRA, 401k, etc., are all up to date with the correct names.

Let's talk about your mortgage. This is one of the largest expenses most people will ever have. One item that you may consider is sending an extra amount (\$100) on every payment. This will lessen the time and interest you ultimately would have to pay the mortgage. Another idea to consider is re-financing. The low interest rate environment has made this an attractive possibility. Do you have a 20 or 30 year mortgage? If so, think about a fifteen year mortgage. Payments would be

more but again the time and interest saved make this a wise idea.

Are you saving some money for the children's education? A Coverdell ESA is a great way to give youngsters a head start in life. Most states also offer a 529 plan and these are good options too.

How about your work benefits? Do you take advantage of your employers match on the 401k? If not, you are leaving free money on the table. Review this option and be smart.

No financial plan would be complete without mentioning a will, power of attorney (POA), health care directive, living will, and trusts. These are all good topics to review with your legal advisor.

Some miscellaneous items to think about is creating a budget. Some people use the envelope system, you can google that to see if it could work for you. Another good idea is to track your actual expenses for 30 days. Most people are surprised to find out that they spend a lot of money on McDonald's, lattes, lottery tickets, etc. Make sure to check your credit report a least once a year. You may want to consider an outside resource to protect your credit (ie: LifeLock) or credit freezes.

Automate payments and savings as much as possible. Pay your bills through your checking account and never worry about being late again. Have money deducted from this same account to a savings plan. This amount over time will add up and never be missed.

Since tax time is right around the corner, now may be a good time to review how much you are paying. Too much withholding, to get a refund is a free loan to the government. There are better ways to allocate this money. Talk to your tax professional. This person can help you because they know your particular situation. This is a partial list and only touches on a few items.

Finally, no plan would be complete without a financial professional. This person can help you answer any questions you may have. Their goal is to help you. For more information please call your local NSS representative, or Joe Elliott, in the Home Office.

4th Quarter Leaders for 2019

Our top **MOST MEMBERS & POLICIES** producer the 4th quarter of 2019 is **Nouchao Her**. Nouchao lives in Oklahoma, but continues his business in the states of MI, WI, OH, PA, CA and CO. He has many years of life insurance experience and has been with the NSS since 2001. If you are looking for life insurance coverage for you or your loved ones, please contact him at his toll free number: 866-317-1514 or email him at:







Rich Nulph is the top PREMIUM PRODUCER of the NSS. Also founder and president of Safety 1st Retirement located in Lower Burrell, PA with six locations in the Pittsburgh area. Rich and his wife, Linda live in Natrona Heights and both of their sons have worked in the family business. Rich built his firm to bring a holistic approach to retirement planning. Safety is a priority in building a successful retirement plan that includes lifetime income options. The firm also provides expert support in estate planning and Medicare products. You can reach Rich and his team at 412-772-8575.

Thought For The Month:

Speech is conveniently located midway between thought and action, where it often substitutes for both.

John Andrew Holmes, writer

Rev. George M. Franko Passes University of Maryland Global Campus



The Slovak-American community of Youngstown, Ohio just lost one of its finest clergy. The Right Reverend George M. Franko went to his eternal resting place on January 31, 2020. He died at Hospice of the Valley with his close family by his side. He was 95 years old. Father Franko was born Dec. 8, 1924, in the Briar Hill section of Youngstown, the youngest of nine chil-

dren born to Joseph J. and Susanna Ferencák Franko. His father emigrated from Slovakia and hailed from the village of Chrast nad Hornádom, near Odorín in Spiš County. His father surely had a challenging time raising the family, for he was listed as a widower in the 1940 census. The young George Franko attended school at SS. Cyril and Methodius, and at Ursuline High School. His religious studies continued at Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit, MI and St. Mary's Seminary in Cleveland. He received the sacrament of Holy Orders when he was ordained a priest for the Youngstown Diocese on April 29, 1950 at St. Columbia Cathedral. He would go on to faithfully serve the diocese for many years, and in the months before his death, there were already plans being made to celebrate the 70th anniversary of his ordination.

Father Franko celebrated his first Holy Mass at SS. Cyril and Methodius Roman Catholic Church, the first Slovak parish in the Youngstown Diocese. In 1950 he was at St. John the Baptist Parish in Campbell. June, Holy Name of Jesus Slovak Parish on Youngstown's west-side 1963, St. Ambrose Parish in Garrettsville, and later served two years at St. Joseph Slovak Church in Newton Falls. He returned to Holy Name of Jesus in 1968, where he remained its shepherd until his retirement in 1989.

During his active ministry, Father Franko devoted himself selflessly to the Catholic Church. He served as notary and defender of the bond for the Diocesan Tribunal, member of the First Synod of the Diocese of Youngstown, Priests' Senate and also Diocesan Financial Advisory Board. He also taught ethics at St. Elizabeth's School of Nursing. Even after retiring in 1989, Father Franko remained active in assisting parishes when needed. He served as an administrator of St. Matthias and St. Elizabeth in Youngstown, and Holy Trinity in Struthers. In addition, he wrote homilies for the Homiletic and Pastoral Review.

Until his health failed him, Father Franko remained quite active in the Slovak-American community. He showed his love for the Slovak people and language, shared his talents and skills with others, and encouraged all to treasure their Slovak heritage. Frequently, he had traveled to Slovakia to visit his ancestral homeland. Locally, he served as chaplain for the Slovak Catholic Sokol. He presented many talks on Slovak language, culture, customs, history, and Catholic traditions on the Slovak Radio Program, which airs from Struthers on WKTL-FM from 9-11pm Saturdays (Listen online at http://wktl.caster.fm/).

In addition, he regularly composed many articles on Slovak topics for the newsletter of The American Slovak

Cultural Association of the Mahoning Valley, and served as chaplain of the organization since 1996. The Association plans to publish more of his writings posthumously both in its newsletter and in the Slovak Catholic Federation's annual Good Shepherd (Dobrý pastier), to which he had regularly contributed articles.



In recent years, despite his failing health, he co-celebrated Holy Mass in Slovak at the annual September pilgrimage in honor of Our Mother of Sorrows at Our Lady of Lebanon Shrine in North Jackson, Ohio.

Father Franko "is survived by many nieces and nephews; 14 great-nieces and nephews; and 24 great-great-nieces and nephews." A Mass of the rite of Christian burial was held in February at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish at Holy Name Church, Youngstown.

In a general historical sense, the death of Father Franko typifies a larger trend in Slovak-American society: the passing of the priests who came from the "Greatest Generation." Most of the Slovak-American priests of his generation had parents who emigrated from Slovakia. They grew up in household where their parents spoke Slovak, but they were educated in American schools. Many of the immigrant women, who were fervent in their religious faith, never learned English well and lived in Slovak neighborhoods where they could get by with their native language. Because of the demand for Slovak-speaking priests at parishes founded by Slovak immigrants, many clergy in the seminaries and convents were taught literary Slovak and English and became well-versed in both languages. The nuns at Slovak parish schools often taught a Slovak language class that was a regular part of the curriculum. Since then, most Slovak-American neighborhoods have dissipated and need for a clergy well-versed in Slovak is virtually non-existent. New immigrants from Slovakia often know some English and the need for Slovak-speaking priests is gone. But priests like Father Franko infused in their congregations a love of their faith and their Slovak ancestral homeland. The strong connection between nationality and religion has slowly dissipated as acculturation into American society has proceeded. In that sense, the twentieth century was a unique era of history, one in which Slovaks and other ethnic groups throughout the USA and Canada created their own unique cultural islands within broader American society. That era has passed.

On a personal note, Father Franko spoke with me on several occasions and knew my grandparents well, as they were parishioners at Holy Name of Jesus. He spoke with me after a Slovak Mass in 2013 and told me he remembered well my baba and dzedo (grandmother and grandfather), as they attended weekday Masses at 6 am every day. He also wed my brother James Kopanic and Deborah Dzuroff. When my own dear father was nearing his final months of life, Father sent me information about Slovak funeral customs and hymns that assisted me in writing my articles. And I am sure, he prayed for him and my ancestors, as he remains in my prayers. Pán Boh zaplat! (The Lord God will repay you!)

By Michael J. Kopanic, Jr.

Fraternal Matters...

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



PVR Scholarship

We are currently taking requests for 2020 PVR Scholarship applications. Please call the home office and ask for Pam to receive your application via mail/email. You can also send an email to **pblum@nsslife.org** to receive an application. The completed applications are due by **May 1, 2020**.

Fun Facts

Saint Patrick's Day is Tuesday, **March 17th.** Here are a few fun facts about this holiday:

- Saint Patrick is known as the Apostle of Ireland, who brought Christianity to Ireland.
- Corned beef and cabbage are traditional foods eaten on this holiday. The shamrock, pots of gold, and leprechauns are also associated with Saint Patrick's Day. The shamrock was worn as a badge on the lapel. Three is Ireland's magic number and the three leaves that make up the shamrock are supposed to bring good luck. They also represent the Holy Trinity in the Christian religion.
- In 1737, the Feast of Saint Patrick was first celebrated in the United States by Irish immigrants. By 1762, New York City held the first official parade and, over time, it's become one of the world's largest St. Patrick's Day parades.

- Most people, whether they are Irish or not, wear green on this day. One of the Irish traditions is to pinch anyone who is not wearing green on Saint Patrick's Day.

2020 Family Fun Day

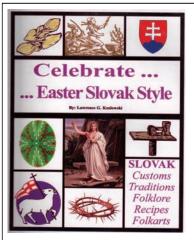
This year our Family Fun Day will be held at Carnegie Science Center in downtown Pittsburgh! We are looking forward to a great day of fun, exploration, and food! The event will be from 11am-5pm. Families are free to explore the science center at their leisure. The cost for admission is \$10 per person. This includes access to the following:

- □ 4 exhibit floors in Carnegie Science Center
- ☐ Highmark SportsWorks (located right next door to the Science Center). It's one of the larger science and sports exhibitions in the world, with over 30 interactive experiences in which visitors can participate. SportsWorks features three themed areas: Physics of Sports, LifeWorks, and Sports Challenge.
- ☐ Submarine Tour (weather permitting)

We will also include a delicious catered lunch for everyone to enjoy, as well. Please join us for an entertaining day at Pittsburgh's most visited museum!

National Bowling Tournament

Please join us for our joint National Bowling Tournament at Brookgate Lanes, in Cleveland, Ohio! This event will take place May 15-17th. We will be joining our fellow fraternals, which include the Greek Catholic Union, Slovak Catholic Sokol, and the First Catholic Slovak Union (Jednota). If you enjoy bowling and are looking for a fun outing to attend, please join us. The registration form is included in this issue of the National News. **The deadline to register is April 13, 2020**.



Easter Slovak Style:

Remembering the Priceless Treasures of Easters Past and an Inspiration for Easters of the Future

\$12 (includes postage and handling)

To Purchase items shown on this page, Make checks payable to NSSHM 351 Valley Brook Rd. McMurray, PA 15317

Egg - in - Wrap

Choose from



Slavic Pin Art



or

Old World Designs

Sleeve of 6: \$2.00 Sleeve of 12: \$3.50

- 1. Use large raw, hardboiled, blown, ceramic or plastic eggs.
- 2. Slide egg into egg wrap.
- 3. Place egg on spoon.
- 4. Dunk into boiling water until wrapper shrinks around egg.

No applications will be accepted after April 13, 2020.

NSS LIFE NATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT

A JOINT TOURNAMENT OF GCU, FCSU, NSS LIFE & SCS

"USBC MORAL SUPPORT CERTIFIED" AMF Brookgate Lanes ♦ Brook Park, OH Friday, May 15 & Saturday, May 16, 2020

Friday, May 15 & Saturday, May 16, 2020

Please note: Bowling Fees must accompany this application for the bowlers to be registered in the tournament.

No applications will be accepted after April 13, 2020.

BOWLER INFORMATION (LIST CAPTAIN FIRST) GCU TOURNAMENT INFORMATION			
Name:	Highest Avg. 2018-19 USBC No GCU District Team: Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application: Team Singles Doubles All Events		
Name:	Highest Avg. 2018-19 USBC No GCU District Team: Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application: Team Singles Doubles All Events		
Name:Address:	Highest Avg. 2018-19 USBC No GCU District Team: Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application: Team		
Name:	1		
Please check one:	DOUBLE & SINGLES EVENT—SATURDAY, MAY 16 9 AM 12:30 PM We could bowl Sunday if necessary. 1		
Financial Totals for this Application Singles Event			

2020 Family Fun Day

Carnegie Science Center Saturday, April 4th, 2020 11:00am - 5:00pm

Please join us for an exciting day at one of the best museums in Pittsburgh! Located at 1 Allegheny Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15212, our event will begin at 11am and end at 5pm. Members can explore the Science Center at their own leisure. A catered lunch will be provided to all guests in attendance. The cost to attend will be \$10/person. We anticipate both a fun and educational day for everyone! Please complete the registration form below if interested in attending. Please note, there is *limited availability*, thus a maximum of 6 tickets per registration can be issued. These tickets will be available at the registration table upon arrival at Carnegie Science Center.



★ MUST BE AN NSS MEMBER TO ATTEND★

Name	Address	Ph. #	Assembly #
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
# Adults:			
# Youth (ages 15 and unde	er):		

Please return this form with payment **no later than Friday, March 13th** to:

NSS Life Attn: Fraternal Dept. 351 Valley Brook Rd. McMurray, PA 15317

Please make checks payable to "NSS Life"

**If interested in staying overnight, NSS Life is holding a block of rooms at the Hyatt Place Pittsburgh North Shore. This hotel is only a few blocks from Carnegie Science Center. The room rate will be \$129/night + \$22.00 for parking. Please call Hyatt Reservations @ 800-993-2213 and use Group Code G-NSSS to book. The block of rooms will be released on March 20th to the general public.

(Side note for any baseball fans...if you are staying overnight, the Pittsburgh Pirates play the Cincinnati Reds on Sunday, April 5th @ 1:35pm at PNC Park!)

For additional information, please contact Pam Blum at pblum@nsslife.org or Amanda Zinn at azinn@nsslife.org.

NSS Youth Achievement Award Nomination Form



★ DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS: APRIL 1, 2020 ★

~ RULES AND REGULATIONS ~

The National Fraternal Congress of America, through their "Americas Promise" Program, has encouraged their member societies to increase their awareness of the contributions of youth to the fraternal benefit system. In response to that challenge, the National Assembly, in 1998, voted to establish a "Youth Achievement Award" that is similar to our "Fraternalist of the Year Award" for adults. The contest is open to all NSS Youth Members 18 years of age and under.

D 4 :				
RΑ	ш)N/	۱LE:	

The award is directed at youth who do	outstanding fraternal work i	n these four (4) areas:	
a) At their school/work	b) In their community	c) In their church	d) In their local assembl

NOMINATION:

Youth members can be nominated by any adult member of the NSS or through their local assembly. A document detailing the qualifications of the Youth Member being nominated must be attached to this form and submitted to the Home Office. A Youth Member may be nominated each year up through and including their eighteenth (18th) birthday or until they are selected to receive this award. Nomination forms are available from the Home Office or on our web site at www.nsslife.org under "Forms".

DEADLINE:

Deadline for nominations to be in the Home Office is April 1st of each year. The winner will be selected by a non-member judge.

AWARD:

The winning youth will receive \$500.00 and will be announced in the "National News", the "Youth Circle Magazine" and listed on our web site at www.nsslife.org under "Youth Achievement Award". Their name will be displayed on a plaque in the Home Office.

JUDGING:

An independent judge, appointed by the National President, will review all nominations and make a determination of the winner. The National President, or an appointee, shall be the final authority on all matters involving this fraternal benefit.

~ The following must be signed by Nominating Member ~			
I wish to nominate			
to receive the National Slovak Society "Youth Achievement Award" for outstanding service to their school/work, community, church and local assembly. I believe that this individual should be awarded the "Youth Achievement Award" due to their service in the above categories.			
NSS Member or Assembly Officer	Assembly #		

IMPORTANT: SUPPORTING DOCUMENT HIGHLIGHTING THE NOMINEE MUST BE ATTACHED AND SUBMITTED TO THE HOME OFFICE INCLUDING RECENT PHOTOGRAPH

The winner of the NSS "Youth Achievement Award" will be notified by the Home Office of their selection.

DEADLINE: April 1st of Each Year

National Slovak Society of the USA 351 Valley Brook Road McMurray, PA 15317 Phone (724) 731-0094 Fax (724) 731-0145

FORM NO. A00001 Page 1 03/12/2013

NSS Fraternalist of the Year Nomination Form



★ DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS: APRIL 1, 2020 ★

~ RULES AND REGULATIONS ~

PURPOSE:

As a fraternal benefit society our mission calls us to "reach out to touch lives" in concern for those in need around us through our families, churches and communities. The purpose of this award is to recognize those members of the National Slovak Society that have gone that "extra mile" in volunteer fraternal service (i.e. meals on wheels, hospital work, visiting shut-ins, etc.). We encourage all assemblies to seek a worthy candidate from within your assembly and for the NSS membership to nominate a fellow member who is deserving of consideration for this award.

Those worthy of nomination are NSS members who have given of their time, talents and abilities in ways that would be designated as "extra-ordinary". Through their unselfish and tireless volunteer efforts those around them have benefited significantly. These people are those that rarely say "No!" and are always willing to lend a hand. We know that they are out there and you can find them for us.

The NSS "Fraternalist of the Year" Award is a fraternal program offered by the society for the benefit of our membership and the fraternal benefit system. You as members of the NSS are encouraged to seek a deserving nominee for the highest fraternal award offered by the NSS.

ELECTION PROCESS:

Any member of the National Slovak Society can nominate a fellow NSS member to be the "Fraternalist of the Year". Nomination forms are available from the Home Office or on our web site at www.nsslife.org under "Forms". Nominations can be made by any adult member of the NSS or through their local Assembly. This will allow more deserving members the opportunity to be recognized for their efforts to make a difference in the lives of others.

DEADLINE:

Deadline for nominations to be in the Home Office is April 1st of each year. The winner will be selected by a non-member judge.

RECOGNITION:

The recipient will be announced in the "National News" and listed on our web site at www.nsslife.org under "Fraternalist of the Year", receive a congratulatory plaque and designate a charitable organization as benefactor of a \$500.00 donation. The Winner's name will be displayed on a plaque in the Home Office and will also have their name placed into nomination for the National Fraternal Congress of America "Fraternalist of the Year" Award.

~ The following must be signed by Nominating Membe	?! r ~
I wish to nominate to receive the National Slovak Society "Fraternalist of the Year" Award for touching the lives of those believe that this individual should be awarded the "Fraternalist of the Year" for going that "extra milestendard to the Year" for going the Year for going the Yea	,
NSS Member or Assembly Officer	Assembly #
IMPORTANT: SUPPORTING DOCUMENT HIGHLIGHTING THE NOMINEE MUST BE ATTACH INCLUDING A RECENT PHOTOGRAPH.	HED AND SUBMITTED TO THE HOME OFFICE
The winner of the NSS "Fraternalist of the Year" will be notified by the Ho	me Office of their selection.

National Slovak Society of the USA 351 Valley Brook Road McMurray, PA 15317 Phone (724) 731-0094 Fax (724) 731-0145

FORM NO. A00002 Page 1 2/2/2009

DEADLINE: April 1st of Each Year

ASSEMBLY 0004 Parma, OH

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

Soni Vorell

ASSEMBLY 0039 Uniontown, PA

Our deepest and profound sympathies go out to our editor, Lori Crowley and her husband Kevin on the tragic death of their son Shaun. Our prayers are for healing and hope in the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ go out to them.

Saturday, April 4th is "NSS Family Fun Day" at the Carnegie Science Center on Pittsburgh's North Shore. More information is elsewhere in this issue. Take this opportunity to share it with your children and grandchildren.

If you enjoy bowling, the NSS will be joining the members of the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU), the Greek Catholic Union (GCU) and the Slovak Catholic Sokols (SCS) for the "2020 National Bowling Tournament" in Cleveland, OH on Friday and Saturday, May 15 &16th. The tournament will be held at the Brookgate Lanes in Brook Park, OH. More information elsewhere in this issue.

Watch out for an "Assembly Officers Seminar" to be held near the home office sometimes in the Spring of 2020. More information in the next few candy bars. months.

If you know of a youth member or an adult that would qualify for the "NSS Youth Achievement Award" or the "NSS Fraternalist of the Year Award", please bring their names to our bus Center in Pittston. March meeting.

High school seniors ATTENTION!! May 1st is the deadline for your application for an "NSS PVR Scholarship".

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 around a delicious meal.

Ash Wednesday is March 25th.

Have a blessed Lenten journey.

John Payerchin

ASSEMBLY RO59 Bethlehem, PA

A business meeting will be held Secretary on May 17, 2020 at the Keysock residence, 2072 Twelfth Street, Bethlehem, PA and on July 12th at the Sawarynaski residence. All members of our assembly are urged to attend.

ASSEMBLY 0070 Brooklyn, OH

A meeting will be held on Sunday, April 5, 2020 at Dr. Martin Luther Church, 4470 Ridge Road, Brooklyn OH at 12:00 pm. We will be making plans for the upcoming months.

Refreshments will be served.

John Karkosiak

ASSEMBLY L075 Duryea, PA

Members will meet on April 5, 2020 at the Grande's Restaurant Birney Ave Moosic for the spring meeting at 1:00 pm. A matching fund will take place for Avoca Boy Scout Troop 316 who are selling Gertrude Hawk

Members will participate in the Postal Workers Food Drive May 9, 2020 from 10:00 am-5:00 pm assisting with unloading trucks and sorting canned goods at the Knights of Colum-

Members will walk in the American Heart Association Heart Walk at the PNC Field in Moosic on May 16, 2020 and conduct a matching fund for them by donating a basket for their raffle.

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 President 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 Woodlawns in Wilkes-Barre Nancy Sabol in November. The St. Cats and Dogs Secretary fundraiser TBA.

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

Lehrae Edwards

Secretary

ASSEMBLY L102 Schnecksville, PA

Our assembly will hold their Treasurer Easter egg hunt and election of officers on April 4th at Drew and Sharon's house at 2:00 pm. Assembly L102 will also do the annual matching funds Easter bake sale for The Cardinal Tomko Chapter. Get your orders to Marge Ferri at 484-635-1733 by March 26th. Pick up your goodies on April 2nd.

> The month of March, our assembly will also be collecting funds for the Backpack project. Send your donations to: Sharon Wesnak, 1727 Elmhurst Drive, Whitehall, Pa. 18052. Make checks payable to: Assembly L102.

> > **Sharon Wesnak** Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0110 New York, NY

Our Bi-Annual weekend outing is scheduled for June 5-7, 2020 at Woodloch Pines in Hawley, PA. A meeting of the members will be held during the weekend.

> **Rich DeSanctis** Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0123 Coraopolis, PA

Hello springtime, goodbye winter. Yes indeed, Thursday, March 19th starts spring. On March 8th spring ahead one hour. It is time to usher in daylight savings time which should brighten your spirits. Then there is March 14th, pi day, not remembering my geometry from long ago. I didn't know the magic of 3.14 etc. etc. the circumference of any circle divided by the diameter. Some Greek guy named Archimedes figured that out. For many years I thought pi day was something Eat'n Park came up with. They do have good pie, thanks Archimedes!

It must be that some of you lost my phone number, 724-242-5085; because you haven't called me to tell me you will be helping the assembly on Saturday, March 21st at World Vision. We are in need of help. We meet there at 9:30 am. The address is 210 Overlook Dr., Sewickley, PA 15143. However it is located in Aleppo Township. We do a little sorting and packing for two hours and then go to Eat'n Park for a meeting, lunch and pie. Please help.

I want to congratulate Katie Beyer who set some new school swimming records in both the backstroke and freestyle. She is the daughter of Deanna and Russ Beyer of Russell, Pa.

Please notify me if you have one of our members whose accomplishment might warrant some recognition.

The assembly is planning to go to the Lincoln Park Performing Art Center in Midland, PA on Sunday, April 26th for a 2:00 pm performance of Rogers & Hammerstein's "Carousel". It was voted the best musical of the 20th century by Time Magazine. Tickets must be bought well in advance so if you would like to attend members cost is \$10 which is half the cost of the ticket. You must send me your check payable to NSS Assembly 123 as soon as possible there are only a limited number of tickets available. My address is: William Knoll, 543 Pioneer Lane, Freedom, PA 15042.

If you have any questions or a non-member that wants to attend call me at 724-242-5085.

I can't forget to say Happy St. Patrick's Day to all our Irish members. They are the ones who are always smiling. Enjoy your day!

I would like to wish a Happy Birthday and Anniversary to any of our members celebrating this month.

Bentleyville, PA

We will hold our annual picnic at Richardson's Park on June 14, 2020 at 3:00 pm. Please bring a side dish or dessert and your frisbee or baseball. Families and pets welcome!

September 13, 2020 at 3:00 pm at 800 Wildflower Circle, Washington, PA for a luncheon and meeting to discuss assembly business.

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

I hope all members can attend our meetings and please RSVP to me at 724-207-3171 or if you have any questions.

President

ASSEMBLY 0377

Join us at China City Buffet on

Suzanne Skrypak

ASSEMBLY 0381 Grosse, IL

Location of meeting changed

Our March 25, 2020 meeting location has been changed to T.V. Deli, 2441 Fort Street, Trenton, Michigan at 1:00 pm.

The location change is due to the closing of Savanah's, Jefferson Avenue, Trenton, MI.

> Joanne Medved Treasurer

ASSEMBLY 0432 Fairview Park, OH

Mark your calendars for our upcom- Facebook page. ing events:

Camping Memorial Weekend -Rustic Lake Campground from May 22-25, 2020, 44901 New London Eastern Rd, Sullivan, OH 44880.

Meeting at the Shuttleworth's on June 16, 2020 at 7:30 pm.

Camping Labor Day Weekend -Rustic Lake Campground from September 4-September 7, 2020. William Knoll 44901 New London Eastern Rd, Sulli-President van. OH 44880.

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

> > **Shawn Pytel** Publicist & Social Media

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, April 20, 2020; 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 0731 Lowellville, OH

At its meeting on February 1, 2020, at Ruth Burns' home, Assembly 731 members elected the following officers: Laurie Fox, President; Linda Estes, Vice-President; Ruth Burns, Recording Secretary; Mike Fox Jr., Financial Secretary; Mike Fox Sr., Treasurer; Beth & Matt Mason, Fraternal Co-directors; Kathy Cessna and Mary Martini, Youth Activities Co-Directors.

Members shared ideas and suggestions for 2020 activities for all the season. We came up with several events that we will look forward to this year. As we work out all the details for activities, information will be shared in future NSS Newsletters and on our

Spring

Several members indicated that they plan to attend NSS 2020 Family Fun Day at Carnegie Science Center on April 4th. All were advised to register by using the form provided in the NSS newsletter. In April, we will have an Easter Egg Hunt at a local bowling alley where we will bowl and have refreshments. Also, in April we will celebrate Earth Day by helping place birdhouses throughout the Poland Township Park to aid in their efforts to maintain the second largest bird watching area in Mahoning

Saturday, May 23 – Outdoor movie at Beth & Matt Mason home. Bring your own lawn chairs for relaxing around bonfire during a movie under the stars.

Summer

Summer activities will include a pool party at Linda & Randy Estes home and another day at a local lake for fishing, boating, and picnic.

Thursday, September 3, all day - Canfield Fair will include activities and refreshments at Laurie & Mike Fox campsite at the Fairgrounds. This is Youth Day and children have free admission to the Fair.

Fall

Friday, October 23, 4:30 pm - Halloween Hayride at Countryside Farm in Poland Assembly L102 Township. This will be a fun time to dress-up in costume and enjoy a hayride, corn maze, pumpkin picking, bonfire and wiener roast. Saturday, November 7 – Make Christmas Ornaments together

Winter

Sunday, December 6, 1:00 pm – Christmas Party at Boardman Park's Elton Beard Cabin.

We also discussed having a 50's dance or a Mixed Decades Dance; touring local museums and sites; casino bus trip; sled riding; and participating in NSS Home Office and Region planned activities.



Two of our youngest members, Liana Miranda and Logan Mason, seemed to be listening to members as we discussed plans for activities. At 18 months, I doubt they'll remember their first NSS meeting but as long as we keep them involved, they will be our ASSEMBLY RO59 future NSS leaders.

ASSEMBLY 0813 - Englewood, FL

Members of Assembly 813 are preparing for a busy 2020. The annual Matching funds effort with South County Habitat for Humanity will come to a close on April 15th. Because Easter is late this year we wanted to take advantage of the snowbirds being here longer thus donating more aluminum cans for our Habitat effort, "Make Every can Count".

Our Join Hands Day endeavor will again be the letter carriers "Stamp Out Hunger" campaign. This is the largest one day (May 9th) collection of food for the needy. Our members who can't take part here in Englewood are urged to participate in their own communities, because there are hungry folks everywhere.

Our National Project will be "Blessings in a Backpack", coordinated by St. David's Episcopal Church, Jubilee Ministries. Ruth Hill and Mary Jo Holker will start planning for the 2020-2021 school year in June. More on this later.

> Mary Jo Holker Secretary

REGION 5 Pittsburgh, PA

The spring meeting of Region #5 will be held on Sunday, March 15, **2020**, at 1:00 pm at the NSS Home Office in McMurray, PA. Region #5 fraternal activities for 2020 will be planned. All assemblies in Region #5 are requested to send representatives to the meeting. A luncheon will be served following the meeting.

> Joseph Stefka, Jr. President



Our Holiday party was held at the home of Mike and Abigail Gross. A great time was had by all. Thanks to the Gross's for hosting.

> **Sharon Wesnak** Secretary

Our first meeting of 2020 was held Ruth Burns on January 20th at DoughBoy's Pizza Recording Secretary Restaurant in Wind Gap, PA. The following officers were elected: President, Alexandra Keysock; Treasurer, John Lahutsky; and Secretary, Michele Guydan.

> Upcoming meetings: May 17th at Keysock home and July 12th at Sawarynski home. Best wishes and special birthday greetings to John Lahutsky on March 15th.

January assembly donations were made to: St. Michael's Orthodox Cathedral, Sitka, Alaska and Bright Hope Pregnancy Support Centers.

Additional information, please call: 610-262-2045.

> Michele Guvdan Secretary



OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS January, 2020

	January, 2020		
Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembl
Ashley, John	Beckley, WV	11/21/2019	0774
Bailey, Elizabeth	Concord, NC	12/19/2019	0774
Banak, Stanley	Erie, PA	01/08/2020	0774
Barnett, Pearl	Robesonia, PA	11/18/2019	0774
Buttitta, Lewis	Lorain, OH	11/14/2019	0160
Cader, Louis	Ford City, PA	09/27/2019	0737
Cappellino, Rose	Meadville, PA	11/16/2019	0108
Cass, Nancy	Westland, PA	11/25/2019	0588
Chuchra, Joseph	River Vale, NJ	01/18/2018	0774
Chalupa, Eldon	Pinconning, MI	12/07/2019	0381
Coulehan, Charles	Jefferson Hills, PA	11/28/2019	0441
Cowan, Timothy	James City, PA	01/21/2020	0554
Dashield, Gary	Beaver Falls, PA	12/13/2019	0123
Dietrich, Louise	Millersburg, PA	11/19/2019	0774
DiGuilio, John	Pittsburgh, PA	11/02/2019	L105
Drake, Gary	Weston, WI	08/14/2019	0774
Driehorst, James	Washington, PA	01/01/2020	0377
Dubovick, Charlotte	East Brunswick, NJ	10/13/2019	0110
Edgar, John	McMurray, PA	11/05/2018	0434
Frank, Bernadette	Rochester, PA	12/31/2019	0123
Gaertner, Joy	Freehold, NJ	12/28/2019	0586
Gasior, Jr., Chester	Finleyville, PA	08/20/2019	0434
Gathagan, Clair	Coalport, PA	01/29/2019	0267
Glowacki, Robert	Wilkes Barre, PA	06/08/2019	0617
Gola, Maureen	Hanover Twp, PA	01/17/2020	0617
Grantz, Marie	West Mifflin, PA	11/22/2019	0108
Hanifan, Larry	Kalispell, MT	10/13/2019	0381
Hanson, Frances	Wapakoneta, OH	12/03/2019	0160
Harris, Jr., John P	McKees Rocks, PA	10/30/2019	L161
Heady, Shirley	Weston, CO	12/31/2019	0236
Heaton, Gertrude	Houston, PA	11/14/2019	0377
Higgins, William E	Champaign, IL	12/29/2019	0705
Holoman, John	New Castle, PA	11/20/2019	0737
Holtzapple, Fleta	Selinsgrove, PA	11/23/2019	0774
Honeycutt, Arthur	Wilmington, OH	12/31/2019	0595
Huddleston, Barbara	Oak Hill, WV	12/13/2019	0774
Julian, Inez	Kimmell, IN	01/17/2020	0705
Kellerman, William	Reynoldsville, PA	12/01/2019	0774
Kelly, Ralph	McKees Rocks, PA	08/27/2007	L161
Kerle, James	Clairon, PA	10/19/2019 01/04/2020	0554 0774
Kitzmiller, Dorene Kolar, Amelia	Wardensville, WV Knoxville, TN	01/04/2020	0774
Kosco, John	Pittsburgh, PA	09/09/2019	L161
Krantz, Willis	Quarryville, PA	01/14/2020	L101
Kraut, James	Meadville, PA	12/29/2019	0731
Kryznewski, Diane	Nanticoke, PA	12/22/2019	0617
Likar, Gloria	Houston, PA	11/10/2019	0434
Majcher, Phyllis	Alexandria, VA	12/30/2019	0123
Mangie, Victoria	Aliquippa, PA	12/11/2019	0588
Martin, Dorothy E	Erie, PA	01/09/2020	0774
Martin, Tennyson	Jonestown, PA	10/16/2019	L102
Mills, William F	Freeport, PA	11/30/2019	L102
Mistovich, Ronald J	Boardman, OH	11/25/2019	0731
Morris, Marsha	Grove City, PA	02/06/2019	0731
WOTTS, Warsha	Grove Orty, TA	(Continued on P	
•		(Solitifiaca off F	ugc 10)

This Month in National Slovak Society History

Joseph Stefka, Jr. Chairman of the Board

March, 1965

Assembly 809 held its 1965
Spelling Bee and announced the winners as Harry Francis, Andy A.
Chuchiak, Doreen Wilhelm, and Sherry Chuchiak.

March, 1990

On March 4, 1990, the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Program expanded the length of its broadcast to one-hour. The program, hosted by National Slovak Society members Rudy and Sue Ondrejco, would now include spots on Slovak history and culture along with Slovak music.

March, 1990

On March 9, 1990, Joseph Tomaskovic, Jr. serving as a National Director of the National Slovak Society was installed as President of the Illinois Fraternal Congress by National Slovak Society National President Joseph Stefka. The event took place at the two-day Annual Meeting of the Illinois Fraternal Congress.

March, 2015

The National Slovak Society celebrated its 125th Anniversary on Saturday, March 7, 2015, at a Gala Banquet held at the Hilton Garden Inn at Southpointe located in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania. Over 280 guests joined in the celebration.

PVR Scholarship Fund Donations

Donations
In Memory of Members of Assembly
0039 who passed away in 2019
From Assembly 0039 670.00
In Memory of David George:
From Assembly 0123 20.00
In Memory of William Milne:
From Assembly 0123 20.00
In Memory of Paul Schweinsberg:
From Assembly 0123 20.00
In Memory of Rose Medved:
From Assembly 0381 50.00
In Honor of William Wesnak, Jr.:
From Assembly L075 20.00
In Memory of Shaun L. Crowley:
From Pam & Greg Blum 50.00
In Memory of Shaun L. Crowley:
From Dave & Fran Blazek 100.00
In Loving Memory of my brother,
Shaun L. Crowley:
From Kevin G. Crowley, Jr 50.00
In Loving Memory of my brother,
Shaun L. Crowley:
From John M. Crowley 50.00
Donations:
Assembly 0123 89.00
Matching Funds
From Assembly 0123 89.00
Patricia & George Robson 35.00
Gloria Gomb 50.00
Edna Taylor 500.00

OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS January, 2020

January, 2020		
City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Mt Prospect, IL	12/23/2019	0586
Monongahela, PA	09/10/2019	0377
Euclid, OH	12/07/2019	0070
McKees Rocks, PA	06/04/2019	L161
Hamlet, NC	10/12/2019	0774
Glen Carbon, IL	10/31/2019	0586
Wilkes Barre, PA	12/31/2019	0617
Pittsburgh, PA	10/18/2019	0100
Clearwater, FL	11/09/2019	0774
Addison, PA	11/16/2019	0434
Pittsburgh, PA	12/15/2019	0100
Annandale, NJ	12/26/2019	L102
West Mifflin, PA	03/10/2019	0441
Pittsburgh, PA	12/23/2019	L161
Hazleton, PA	12/15/2019	L102
Dallas, PA	01/24/2020	L075
Elizabethtown, PA	01/08/2020	0774
Plymouth Meeting, PA	01/05/2020	0800
Hermitage, PA	12/12/2019	0731
Washington, PA	08/26/2016	0588
Lehighton, PA	01/13/2020	L102
Uniontown, PA	01/16/2020	0039
Erie, PA	12/13/2019	0004
Middletown, ID	11/18/2019	0434
Pittsburgh, PA	12/15/2019	0434
Woodruff, WI	11/13/2019	0774
Bentleyville, PA	01/21/2020	0377
	City and State Mt Prospect, IL Monongahela, PA Euclid, OH McKees Rocks, PA Hamlet, NC Glen Carbon, IL Wilkes Barre, PA Pittsburgh, PA Clearwater, FL Addison, PA Pittsburgh, PA Annandale, NJ West Mifflin, PA Pittsburgh, PA Hazleton, PA Dallas, PA Elizabethtown, PA Plymouth Meeting, PA Hermitage, PA Washington, PA Lehighton, PA Uniontown, PA Erie, PA Middletown, ID Pittsburgh, PA Woodruff, WI	City and State Mt Prospect, IL Mt Prospect, IL 12/23/2019 Monongahela, PA Euclid, OH 12/07/2019 McKees Rocks, PA 06/04/2019 Hamlet, NC 10/12/2019 Glen Carbon, IL 10/31/2019 Wilkes Barre, PA 12/31/2019 Pittsburgh, PA Clearwater, FL 11/09/2019 Addison, PA Pittsburgh, PA 12/15/2019 Pittsburgh, PA 12/15/2019 Annandale, NJ 12/26/2019 West Mifflin, PA 03/10/2019 Pittsburgh, PA 12/15/2019 Dallas, PA 01/05/2020 Elizabethtown, PA 01/05/2020 Hermitage, PA 12/12/2019 Washington, PA 01/13/2020 Uniontown, PA 01/16/2020 Erie, PA 12/13/2019 Middletown, ID Pittsburgh, PA 12/15/2019 Woodruff, WI 11/13/2019

Memorial Tree Leaf Donation February, 2020



In Loving Memory of our son and brother, **Shaun L. Crowle**y:

From Kevin, Lori, Kevin Jr., and John Crowley......250.00

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.

DONATE TO THE PUR 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	OT:

\$ ______.

Please issue your check to: NSS PVR Scholarship Fund

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



30th Annual Slovak Mass & Easter Customs Breakfast

Saturday, April 4, 2020

St. Adalbert Church - South 15th Street



10:45 am Recitation of Rosary

(in Slovak)

11:00 am Slovak Mass

12:15 pm Sample Slovak Easter Food

Prince of Peace Parish Center 81 South 13th Street, SouthSide

** SAMPLE SLOVAK EASTER FOODS **

paska (sweet bread) sunka (ham) sirek (egg cheese)

hrin (beets & horseradish) Kolbasy (sausage) Kolace (baked goods)

- * Homemade Baked Goods * Craft Demonstrations
- * Imported & Handmade gifts

* Slovak "Auction" Raffle

ADMISSION FREE

Donations Gratefully Accepted

For more information, or to sponsor a table call Connie Zatek at (412) 657-6364

~

Assembly 588 Completes National Fraternal Project

The members of Assembly 588 have recently completed a successful matching funds fundraiser as part of the National Fraternal Project for 2019. For the fourth consecutive year, the Assembly raised funds for the Blessings in a Backpack Program in the Avella Area School District. The Avella High School Chapter of the National Honor Society conducts the Blessings in a Backpack program in the district. The National Honor Society conducts fundraisers to support the program but must rely on donations from community organizations and businesses to sustain the program. The Blessings in a Backpack program at Avella, currently in its eighth year, serves ten students weekly with backpacks. Assembly 588 President John Bebo, Jr. solicited donations from businesses and individuals in the Avella community during the fundraiser. Through the donations collected from businesses, individuals, Assembly 588, and the matching funds from the Home Office, a total of \$930 was presented to the National Honor Society for this very worthwhile community service project. The National Honor Society officers, members, and Advisor Lynn Akins were grateful for the donation which will allow the program to continue for the remainder of the school year.



Avella Area High School National Honor Society Members at the recent check presentation: Front row (L-R): Sheryl Wright-Brown, Principal, Cassandra Maidment – NHS Secretary, Haylea Macieko, John Bebo, Jr. – Assembly 588 President, Julianne Rush – NHS President, Joseph Stefka, Jr. – Assembly 588 Financial Secretary, Nick Chase – NHS Treasurer, Bess Lengauer – NHS Vice-President, David Humensky, Lynn Akins – NHS Advisor. Back row (L-R): Alyana Walther, Aidan Riley.

Assembly 0381

My name is Jack Merten, member of Assembly 0381 in Detroit, MI. As a senior at Royal Oak High School, I decided to raise money for pancreatic cancer awareness as my senior project. I held a video game tournament at the LFG venue in Royal Oak, MI. I decided to do a service project for my school to help an organization, so I chose the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PANCAN), because of my family's history with them since my grandfather passed away from pancreatic cancer in 2009. I contacted the esports lounge LFG and asked them if I could host a tournament there. The owner said yes, and for no charge. All of the proceeds would go toward PANCAN. Once I had the venue secured, I made posters to hang up around my high school and post on social media. My friends helped me gather enough consoles and games, and a representative from PAN-CAN sent me some gifts like tote bags and coffee mugs to distribute as prizes.



The Tournament in action



The winner of the tournament and myself

The tournament went well, and in the end I raised \$150. This \$150 was doubled because of a promotion hosted by two philanthropists from PANCAN, so the total then became \$300. Lastly, Assembly 0381, donated \$150 toward the cause. The final total became \$450 raised for PANCAN, and it makes me happy that there are so many generous individuals and organizations that are dedicating their time and effort for this cause.

Our Mission Trips

Some of you readers may remember that the Tomaskovic family had traveled on several mission trips to Nitra and Martin, Slovakia, to help build a church, women's and children's shelter and Bible college through our church in Naperville, IL. The included photo shows what the current dormitory of the college looked like in 1999. It had fallen into severe disrepair after being the very first high school in Slovakia to teach classes in the Slovak language over 100 years ago. The vision of a pastor's son in Martin, SK, the college mushroomed into Christian Center for Education with the building of an elementary school, middle and high school. These schools are the envy of the Slovak school system and there are waiting lists to enroll students.







This structure was once a school, being the first in the country to abandon Hungarian and teach classes in the Slovak language.

Every January since commencing these mission trips, the CCE's founding president and the dean travel to the US on a fundraising trip in order to add classrooms, programs and equipment. The guys and their American hosts shop, prepare, cook and serve a big Slovak dinner hosted by our church in its Celebration venue, usually serving 150 or so Slovakia-lovers.

Lending their support to this cause, members of our NSS 586 family Barb And Chuck Hamernick, Tess Buc, Fred Olszowka and Janet and Irene Tomaskovic attended the dinner and program held this year on January 18. Each table at the fundraiser started with a paprika cheese and rye bread appetizer and the popular Slovak cucumber salad. Diners chose between two main courses of gulaš or Christmas kapusnica with klobasky and mushrooms. We were offered both and most of us enjoyed them equally. Platters of Slovak orechovniky baked by Janet Tomaskovic were served for dessert; buttery sweet yeast dough filled with finely chopped walnuts just the way Grandma Antol used to bake the rolls.

The two men and one woman dedicated a song to the memory of Joe Tomaskovic, telling of their memories of his joining them in song and his love for the country of his parents and that Joe would be sincerely missed by his Slovak friends. They performed the song in beautiful harmony as part of their program. After dinner our church Slovakia mission leader Don Swanson auctioned some Slovak crystal and beautiful Modra ceramics. Some of us donated pieces which we had bought while on yearly mission trips and lovingly used in our homes for a long time. Proceeds from both the auction and the dinner will benefit the high school music department classroom that we have pledged to add to the school in Martin.

It was a fun night of fellowship and a great feeling to know and see with our own eyes the good that those mission trips to Slovakia has made happen.

Irene & Janet Tomaskovic Congo.

Spotlight on Alan Burns





Alan Burns joined our NSS Life team in December 2019 and will be serving as our Chief Information Officer. Due to our significant growth over the past decade, our increased reliance on technology for the creation, processing and storage of all forms of electronic data and the ever-increasing demands for cybersecurity, enterprise risk management and regulatory compliance, we recognized the need for a newly created management position for oversight and management of these areas.

Al has a great mix of education, leadership experience and fraternalism for this position. He has served on the NSS Board since 2014 and has been a member for over 50 years. He launched our cybersecurity program in 2016 and has made contributions to several initiatives including strategic planning, investment policy, board governance and risk management.

Dr. Burns previously served as Associate Dean for the School of Business and Management for Azusa Pacific University, where he manages all aspects of operations, staff and program administration. His higher education career includes over 10 years as a professor and advisor to students, as well as 10 years in administration. Beyond technology, his expertise is in areas of business strategy, finance, leadership and organizational development.

Prior to his higher education career, Al held several technical and leadership positions in the corporate world in areas of R&D, engineering and manufacturing, in automotive and construction equipment industries. He has also founded IntaKnowledge, LLC, a startup providing management and technology consulting advice.

Dr. Burns holds an MBA and PhD in Business Administration from Kent State University, a Juris Doctor (JD) from the School of Law at DePaul University and a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from Kettering University (formerly General Motors Institute). He has also completed an Executive Development program at a \$2.2B organization refining his leadership skills.

Al enjoys spending his time with his wife Justina and children, Kayleigh, Maxwell and Vivienne. He also enjoys playing sports, especially tennis and golf. He is currently a certified swim official with USA Swimming and has served as a Board member for the RainShine Foundation, a non-profit organization that builds schools for children in the Congo.





QUALITY LIFE INSURANCE • LIMITED TIME ONLY MARCH 1–31, 2020

The NSS Life Anniversary Offer uses our twenty-pay life plan (however you may use the single premium plan as well). The advantages of a permanent plan include cash/loan values, reduced paid-up insurance options, dividends and more. To apply for this limited time offer, please complete the below form and return it to the home office.



The maximum amount of insurance being offered will depend on your age:

ISSUE AGES	MAXIMUM AMOUNT	
0-50	\$10,000	
51-65	\$7,500	
66-80	\$5,000	
*See other side for complete rate listings		

There is a limit of one policy per person. Anyone previously declined since 1/1/18 is not eligible for this program. Also excludes terminally ill, permanently disabled and others. If you purchased this plan last year you are excluded from this year's offer. Other exclusions may apply. Rates are based on age nearest birthday.

NSS Life Anniversary Offer Program

If you or someone you know may be interested in this anniversary issue offer, please provide your/their name and contact information below and we will mail an application to you/them. Complete the application and return it to the home office. Further Recommender information available on back cover.

Prospect Information:

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Address:		
City:	State: Zip:	
Recommender Information:		
Name:	Phone	

Twenty Pay Whole Life Insurance Policy Rates (Rates based on Age Nearest Birthday)

Twenty Pay Life (\$10,000)				
	Male Annual Premium		Female Ann	ual Premium
<u>Age</u>	Non-Nicotine	<u>Nicotine</u>	Non-Nicotine	<u>Nicotine</u>
0	\$144.90	\$0.00	\$136.60	\$0.00
1	\$146.90	\$0.00	\$138.30	\$0.00
2	\$149.00	\$0.00	\$140.00	\$0.00
3	\$151.10	\$0.00	\$141.70	\$0.00
4	\$153.20	\$0.00	\$143.40	\$0.00
5	\$155.40	\$0.00	\$145.20	\$0.00
6	\$158.00	\$0.00	\$147.40	\$0.00
7	\$160.60	\$0.00	\$149.50	\$0.00
8	\$163.30	\$0.00	\$151.80	\$0.00
9	\$166.00	\$0.00	\$154.00	\$0.00
10	\$168.80	\$0.00	\$156.30	\$0.00
11	\$172.00	\$0.00	\$158.90	\$0.00
12	\$175.30	\$0.00	\$161.60	\$0.00
13	\$178.70	\$0.00	\$164.30	\$0.00
14	\$182.10	\$0.00	\$167.10	\$0.00
15	\$185.60	\$0.00	\$169.90	\$0.00
16	\$186.50	\$0.00	\$171.10	\$0.00
17	\$187.40	\$0.00	\$172.40	\$0.00
18	\$188.30	\$204.60	\$173.60	\$188.90
19	\$189.30	\$211.30	\$174.80	\$195.70
20	\$190.20	\$218.30	\$176.10	\$202.70
21	\$192.90	\$222.20	\$178.90	\$206.80
22	\$195.70	\$226.10	\$181.80	\$211.00
23	\$198.50	\$230.10	\$184.80	\$215.30
24	\$201.40	\$234.20	\$187.80	\$219.70
25	\$204.30	\$238.30	\$190.80	\$224.20
26	\$208.20	\$243.40	\$194.40	\$229.10
27	\$212.20	\$248.60	\$198.10	\$234.10
28	\$216.20	\$253.90	\$201.90	\$239.30
29	\$220.30	\$259.30	\$205.70	\$244.50
30	\$224.50	\$264.80	\$209.60	\$249.90
31	\$229.00	\$270.80	\$214.00	\$255.60
32	\$233.50	\$276.90	\$218.40	\$261.50
33	\$238.20	\$283.20	\$222.90	\$267.50
34 35	\$243.00 \$247.80	\$289.60 \$296.10	\$227.60 \$232.30	\$273.70 \$280.00
35 36	\$247.80	\$303.20	\$232.30	\$280.00 \$286.90
30 37	\$253.50 \$259.30	\$303.20 \$310.50	\$237.50 \$242.90	\$286.90 \$294.00
38	\$265.20	\$310.30	\$242.90	\$301.20
39	\$205.20 \$271.30	\$317.90 \$325.50	\$246.30 \$253.90	\$301.20 \$308.70
40	\$277.50	\$323.30	\$259.60	\$306.70
40	\$277.30 \$284.30	\$333.50 \$342.50	\$259.00 \$266.00	\$310.50 \$324.50
42	\$291.30	\$351.90	\$272.50	\$332.90
43	\$298.40	\$361.60	\$272.30	\$341.50
44	\$305.70	\$371.60	\$275.20	\$350.30
45	\$313.20	\$381.80	\$293.10	\$359.40
46	\$321.20	\$393.20	\$300.30	\$369.20
47	\$329.40	\$404.90	\$307.70	\$379.20
48	\$337.80	\$416.90	\$315.30	\$389.50
49	\$346.40	\$429.30	\$323.00	\$400.10
50	\$355.20	\$442.10	\$331.00	\$411.00

Twenty Pay Life (\$7,500)				
	Male Annua	al Premium	Female Annu	ıal Premium
<u>Age</u>	Non-Nicotine	<u>Nicotine</u>	Non-Nicotine	<u>Nicotine</u>
51	\$273.45	\$343.13	\$254.63	\$317.63
52	\$280.73	\$355.05	\$261.15	\$327.23
53	\$288.23	\$367.35	\$267.83	\$337.13
54	\$295.88	\$380.18	\$274.73	\$347.40
55	\$303.75	\$393.38	\$281.78	\$357.90
56	\$312.83	\$408.00	\$289.43	\$369.23
57	\$322.20	\$423.23	\$297.30	\$380.93
58	\$331.80	\$438.90	\$305.40	\$393.00
59	\$341.70	\$455.25	\$313.65	\$405.45
60	\$351.90	\$472.20	\$322.20	\$418.28
61	\$362.18	\$487.80	\$332.18	\$433.58
62	\$372.83	\$503.93	\$342.45	\$449.40
63	\$383.70	\$520.58	\$353.10	\$465.83
64	\$394.95	\$537.75	\$364.05	\$482.85
65	\$406.50	\$555.53	\$375.30	\$500.48

Twenty Pay Life (\$5,000)				
	Male Annua	al Premium	mium Female Annual Premium	
<u>Age</u>	Non-Nicotine	<u>Nicotine</u>	Non-Nicotine	<u>Nicotine</u>
66	\$281.45	\$385.85	\$259.20	\$348.70
67	\$292.30	\$402.00	\$268.55	\$364.40
68	\$303.60	\$418.80	\$278.25	\$380.85
69	\$315.30	\$436.30	\$288.25	\$398.00
70	\$327.45	\$454.55	\$298.65	\$415.95
71	\$344.00	\$476.95	\$311.70	\$437.75
72	\$361.35	\$500.40	\$325.30	\$460.70
73	\$379.55	\$525.05	\$339.50	\$484.85
74	\$398.75	\$550.90	\$354.30	\$510.25
75	\$418.85	\$578.05	\$369.75	\$537.00
76	\$440.60	\$611.65	\$389.75	\$571.15
77	\$463.50	\$647.15	\$410.90	\$607.40
78	\$487.60	\$684.75	\$433.10	\$646.05
79	\$512.90	\$724.50	\$456.60	\$687.10
80	\$539.55	\$766.60	\$481.30	\$730.75

Other modes of payment are available including: Semi-Annual (.52) • Quarterly (.265) • Monthly (.09) (Rate x Annual Premium)



Kráča slnko po oblohe, usmieva sa veselo, rozospievať všetky vtáky asi sa mu zachcelo.

Usadí sa slnko zlaté na kraj každej vetvičky, nauči sa všetky noty, prvej jarnej pesničky.

Veľkonočné raňajky v Pittsburghu, PA

V sobotu 4. april budú v Pittsburghu, PA tradičné veľkonočné raňajky. Sponzorom podujatia je Slovak Custom Group/Cultural Diversity Committee of Prince of Peace Parish. O 11.00 hodine bude v Kostole sv. Adalberta, 160 South 15th Street slovenská svätá omša, po ktorej budú v Prince of Peace Parish Center (81 South 13th Street) slovenské veľkonočné raňajky.

Vstupné je dobrovoľné. Usporadatelia pripravujú výstavu o slovenskej kultúre, živote a tradíciách na slovenskej dedine. Na predaj budú rôzne dovezené výrobky, ručné práce a domáce koláče.

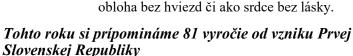


Prítomní sa budú môcť oboznámiť so slovenskými veľkonočnými zvykmi, dekoráciou kraslíc, prípravou veľkonočných špecialít a podobne. Zisk z podujatia bude venovaný na charitatívne účely na Slovensku. Pre Františkánske sestry v Ružomberku a Barlička Center v Prešove. Bližšie informácie: Connie Zatek, telefónne číslo: 412-657- 6364.



Medzinárodný deň žien 8. marec

Tento sviatok dával mužom skvelú príležitosť, ako sa odmeniť ženám za ich celoročnú "drinu", veď ŽENA je slovo, ktoré skrýva v sebe čarokrásu, duchaplnosť i zmyselnosť. Bez našich žien by bol svet pustý ako lúka bez kvetov, ako nočná obloha bez hviezd či ako srdce bez lásky.



14 Marec je významýn dňom v Slovenskom Kalendári keď pomocou Amerických Slovákov v roku 1939 vtedajší novozvolený prezident Slovenskej Republiky Dr. Jozef Tiso vyhlasil Slovensko za samostatný šťat, čo trval iba počas druhej svetovej vojny do roku 1945.

z ľudovej múdrosti...

Na fašengi viskaj, v posce bruch sciskaj!

Marec – poberaj sa starec

Marcové slnko má ešte krátke ruky a od nôh chladí Ak marec stiahol kožúch, apríl po ňom rád siahne Na Gregora (12.marec) mrcha gazda, kto neorá Po svätom Jozefovi (19.marec) baranček na vršok vyskočí Na zvestovanie Panny Márie (25.marec) každá lúka ožije

Marec, mesiac knihy -Matej Hrebenda was a folk education worker, a national revivalist, a folk poet and a collector of national songs - a simple man who did not care very much for his fame and honor. He had lived a hard life, pursued one misfortune after another, but despite his fate he felt joy and happiness when he could help his nation. His mother died when he was ten years old. From early childhood he began to lose sight and at the age of fifteen he could no longer read and write in the daytime. Since he could not go to school he educated himself.

With a backpack of books, a mallet in his hand, as he wandered the countryside he was saving old books from destruction, sending them to schools and federal institutions, or delivering them to prominent scholars. He saved many books in this way and made a significant contribution to building libraries.

Matej Hrebenda (1796 –1889) bol ludový spisovateľ, ktorý už od narodenia cítil lásku ku knihám. Vyrastal ako polosi-

rota, od narodenia mal zrakovú chybu—veľmi rád čital, no čítať nemohol, pretože dobre nevidel. A keďže sa nemohol venovať tomu, čo ho najviac naplňalo, chodil z dediny do dediny a prosil ľudi, aby mu čitali. Matej sa výrazne podieľal na šírení slovenskej knižnej kultúry.

Cestoval po celom Slovensku, čo mu umožnilo spájať knihy a predajom šíriť osvetu. Zachránil množstvo kníh pred spálením a tým prispel ku vzniku knižnic. So svojim spoločníkom zozbierali okrem kníh aj rozprávky či ľudové piesne. Spolu ich nazbierali až 58, avšak tie mu zhoreli v ohni, to ho neodradilo, pokračovať ďalej.

Knižnice prebrali po smrti Mateja Hrebendu funkciu šírenia vzdelanosti. Sú otvorené pre každého, kto chce rozvíjať svoju myseľ. Čitatelia majú možnosť prístupu k informáciám počas celého roka, avšak abzvlášť v Marci knižnice aktivizujú svoju činnosť.

Pôstna doba

V mesiaci marci sa pripravujeme pre Nový Život prírody a dobre by bolo ak by sme sa pripravili aj my pre nový život duševného života keď slávime pôstne dni na pripravu k Veľkej Noci.



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

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State	Zip
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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.