



NSS Life
Family Matters...

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Parents Name: _____
 Renewal Transcripts
 See Page 18 for Details

HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY



The National Slovak Society of the United States of America

Národné Noviny

Fraternal Life Insurance Since 1890 • Happy Mother's Day!



NSS National Golf Tournament
 Friday-Sunday, July 12th-14th, 2019
 See Pages 8-10 for Details

NATIONAL NEWS
 MAY 2019 | NUMBER 3529 VOLUME 111



National Slovak Society

Periodical Postage Paid at McMurray, Pennsylvania and Additional Mailing Offices
Owned and Published by the



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
NSS Website: 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

"POSTMASTER" SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO:

NATIONAL SLOVAK SOCIETY

351 VALLEY BROOK ROAD, MCMURRAY, PA 15317-3337

NSS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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

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

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

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Andrea Garbon
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Robert Katricak
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John Payerchin
Joseph Stefka, Jr.
Drew Wesnak

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Dean Burns, *Vice-President*
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Reverend Monsignor Thomas V. Banick,
Spiritual Advisor

ROCWMAS HONORARY OFFICER

Olga Kasnot, *President*

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

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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.

Activities At A Glance

REGION 2

May 4
June 2
August 24

Assemblies L075, 0617

Assembly L075, Heart Walk, PNC Field, Moosic, PA at 8:30 am
Assembly 0617/C617, 110th Anniversary Celebration, Kings College, Wilkes-Barre, PA/Noon
Region 2, Meeting, Perkins Restaurant, Pittston, PA at 1:00 pm

REGION 5

May 5
May 11
May 24
June 9
July 8
July 12
July 18
August 4
August 10
August 18
September 8
September 28
October 6
November 16
December 1
December 1

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

Assembly 0377, Meeting/Bowling, Tan O'Belle Lanes, Bentleyville, PA at 3:00 pm
Assembly 0039, Stamp Out Hunger, U.S. Post Office, Uniontown, PA at 10:00 am
Spring Board Meeting
Assembly 0039, Summer Bar-B-Q at K of C, Uniontown, PA at 1:00 pm
Assembly 0039, Join Hands Day, Tony Bartock Golf Outing at 8:00 am
NSS Golf Tournament, DuBois Country Club, DuBois, PA
Slovak Day at Kennywood Park, West Mifflin, PA
Assembly 0377, Meeting/Picnic, Richardson's Park, Bentleyville, PA at 3:00 pm
Summer Board Teleconference Meeting
Region 5, Annual Picnic at Cedar Creek County Park, Rostraver Twp. PA
Assembly 0039, Flight 93 Memorial Dinner, Eat'n Park, Uniontown, PA 6:00 pm
NSS Heritage Museum Septemberfest, Home Office, McMurray, PA
Assembly 0377, Meeting, China City Buffet, Washington, PA at 3:00 pm
Fall Board Meeting, Home Office, McMurray, PA
Assembly 0039, Annual Christmas Party, K of C Hall at 1:00 pm
Assembly 0377, Annual Holiday Party, Cannons Chophouse, Canonsburg, PA at 3:00

REGION 8

May 19
May 25
August 3

Assemblies 0004, 0070, 0160, 0432, 0595

Assembly 0004, Meeting, Mildred Havir's residence, Westlake, OH at 2:00 pm
Assembly 0432, Weekend Camping, Rustic Lake
Assembly 0432, A Night at the Ballpark at 6:05 pm

REGION 14

July 14
October 20
November
December 8

Assemblies R059, L102

Assembly R059, Meeting, Sawarynski residence
Assembly R059, Hot Dog Luncheon, St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church, Bethlehem, PA
Assembly R059, One Can Help Food Drive (Date, Time & Location to be announced)
Assembly R059, Meeting, Location to be announced

REGION 15

Assemblies L002, 0028

No activities at this time

AT LARGE

June 9
June 15
June 23
July 7
August 25
September 1
September 21
October 5
October 27
December 7
December 24
December 28

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

Assembly 0586, Meeting, Time and Location to be announced
Assembly 0381, Meeting, Big Bear Lodge, Woodhaven, MI at 1:00 pm
Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck's residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm
Assembly 0554, Meeting, Jim Stricek's residence, DuBois, PA at 2:00 pm
Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck's residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm
Assembly 0554, Meeting, Jim Stricek's residence, DuBois, PA at 2:00 pm
Assembly 0381, Meeting, Mom's Restaurant, Trenton, MI at 1:00 pm
Assembly 0554, Meeting, Jim Stricek's residence, DuBois, PA at 2:00 pm
Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck's residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm
Assembly 0731, Christmas Party, Boardman Park, Boardman, OH at 1:00 pm
Assembly 0705, Annual Christmas Eve Celebration, Buck's residence at 6:00 pm
Assembly 0381, Meeting, Time and Location to be announced

From The President's Desk...



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

Greetings from McMurray Pennsylvania, home of the National Slovak Society and the Pennsylvania Girls State Champion Basketball Team, Peters Township High School. Congratulations to the local girls who completed an undefeated season, winning all 30 games they played. By the time you read this issue of our monthly publication, most of our members will hopefully be experiencing warm spring weather. This month, we celebrate two special days. Mother's Day which is special to every one of us will be celebrated May 12th. It's a day to honor our mothers if they are still with us or to remember our mothers that have passed. Blessings to all of our mothers. On May 27th we will observe Memorial Day, a day to remember our veterans who died while serving in the armed forces.

This month the Board will convene its Spring Meeting on the 24th. If anyone has any issues that need to be brought to the attention of the Board please send them to Secretary/Treasurer Linda Strom by May 10th.

News Of Narodniars

Birthday wishes go out to NSS Secretary-Treasurer/CFO Linda Strom, Honorary Director Joseph Tomaskovic Jr., Home Office staff members Pam Blum, Ginny McMurdy and Eric Riepole, Legal Advisor Ron Cooper, Bucky Wesnak, Cathy Cilia, Sharon Wesnak, Patty and Kayla Jo Graham, Shaun Crowley, Cindy and Gary Robinson, Barb Wilcock, Cyndi Resosky, Mary Cambest and John Bluemle. Also celebrating are Brandon Marshall, Lindsay McMillan and Tom Kearney. Happy wedding anniversary

to Nicole and Tom Kearney and to all others celebrating a special day in May.

Speedy recovery to any of our members that may have had surgery recently or are under the weather.



Vietnam Veterans Day

March 29th has been designated as Vietnam Veterans Day. I recently came across an article about the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall which now lists 58,267 names of those who gave their lives. The names are arranged in the order in which they were taken from us by date, and within each date the names are alphabetized. It is hard to believe it has been 57 years since the first casualty. The first known casualty was Richard B. Fitzgibbon, of North Weymouth, Mass., listed by the U.S. Department of Defense as having been killed on June 8, 1956. His name appears on the Wall with that of his son, Marine Corps Lance SPL., Richard B. Fitzgibbon III, who was killed on September 7, 1965. There are three sets of fathers and sons on the Wall. Of those listed, 39,996 on the Wall were just 22 or younger, and 8,283 were just 19 years old. The largest age group, 33,103 were 18 years old. Twelve soldiers on the Wall were 17 years old, five soldiers were 16 years old, and one soldier, PFC Dan Bullock was 15 years old. On their first day in Vietnam, 997 Soldiers were killed, and 1,448 soldiers were killed on their last day in Vietnam. Thirty-one sets of brothers are on the Wall, which means 31 sets of parents lost two of their sons. There are eight women on the Wall who lost their lives while nursing the wounded. There were 244 soldiers who were awarded the Medal of Honor during the Vietnam War; 153 of them are on the Wall.

Beallsville, Ohio with a population of 475 lost six of her sons. West Virginia had the highest casualty rate

per capita in the nation. There are 711 West Virginians on the Wall.

The Marines of Morenci - They led some of the scrappiest high school football and basketball teams that the little Arizona copper town of Morenci (pop. 5,058) had ever known and cheered. They enjoyed roaring beer busts and in quieter moments, they rode horses along the Coronado Trail, and stalked deer in the Apache National Forest. And in the patriotic camaraderie typical of Morenci's mining families, the nine graduates of Morenci High enlisted as a group in the Marine Corps. Their service began on Independence Day, 1966. Only three returned home.

The Buddies of Midvale - LeRoy Tafoya, Jimmy Martinez, and Tom Gonzales were all boyhood friends and lived on three consecutive streets in Midvale, Utah. They lived only a few yards apart. They played ball at the adjacent sandlot ball field, and they all went to Vietnam. In a span of 16 dark days in late 1967, all three would be killed. LeRoy was killed on November 22nd, the fourth anniversary of John F. Kennedy's assassination. Jimmy died less than 24 hours later on Thanksgiving Day. Tom was shot dead assaulting the enemy on December 7th, Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

The most casualty deaths for a single day was on January 31, 1968 with 245 deaths. The most casualty deaths for a single month was May 1968 with 2,415 casualties incurred.

For most Americans who read this, they will only see the numbers that the Vietnam War created. To those of us who survived the war, and the families of those who did not, we see the faces, we feel the pain that these numbers created. We are, until we too pass away, haunted with these numbers, because they were our friends, fathers, husbands, wives, sons and daughters. There are no noble wars, just noble warriors. Thank you for supporting Veterans.

Punography Of The Month:

The meaning of opaque in unclear.

A Page From My Notebook...

Linda M. Strom
Secretary-Treasurer/CFO



"My mother taught me to be nice to everybody. And she said something before I left home. She said, 'I want you to always remember that the person you are in this world is a reflection of the job I did as a mother'."

Happy Mother's Day!

This is one of my favorite months, overlooking the fact that I turn another year older, because of the freshness of the air, birds making nests in anticipation of new arrivals and all the new spring flowers that are popping up. It is so appropriate that Mother's Day is in May. We celebrate Moms who do their Spring cleaning to make their home smell fresh and clean for their families, who make their "nests" in anticipation of a new little boy or girl and spend weekends in Home Depot or Lowes or local Nurseries picking and planting flowers to make their home as beautiful on the outside as it is on the inside. Thank You to all Moms who give so much of themselves for their families.

2018 Fraternal Allowance & Extra Effort Awards

The Spring Board Meeting of the NSS Board of Directors will be held May 24 - 25, 2019. At this meeting the Board will approve the 2018 Fraternal Allowance for those Assemblies and Regions who have sent in the

required reports by March 1, 2019. They will also approve the Diamond, Platinum and Silver Awards to those Assemblies that have earned the "Extra Effort" Award through fraternal events held for their members and their communities. Checks will most likely be cut and mailed the first week in June.

PA Insurance Department 5-year Audit

By the time you read this, PA Insurance Department Auditors will be at the Home Office gathering information used to perform their audit (risk based) of the NSS for years 2014 through EOY 2018. A Kickoff Meeting was held at the Home Office on April 24, 2019 to outline the audit process and what the auditors will need from us. I will keep you posted.

The History of Baseball's "Throwing out the First Pitch"

The practice of having a mayor, governor, or other local celebrity throw out a ceremonial "first pitch" dates back to at least 1890, which ironically is the year in which the National Slovak Society was founded. In 1892, then Ohio Governor (and future U.S. president) William McKinley, "threw the ball into the diamond" before an opening day game between Toledo and Columbus.

Former Japanese Prime Minister Okuma Shigenobu threw out the ceremonial first pitch at the first game of an American All-Star team's tour of Japan in 1908, making him possibly the first former chief executive of any country to throw out a first pitch.

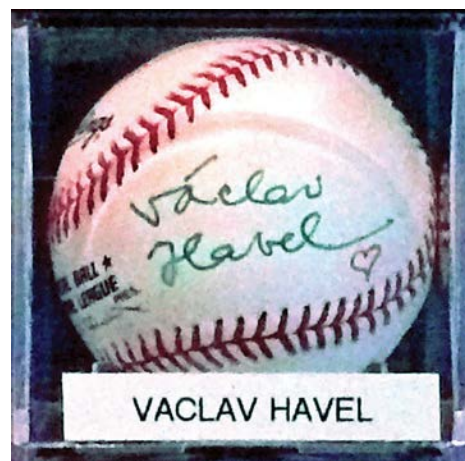
President William Howard Taft started the American tradition of Presidential first pitches in 1910 at Griffith Stadium, Washington, D.C., on the Washington Senators' Opening Day. Every President from Taft to Obama has thrown out at least one ceremonial first ball or pitch, either for Opening Day, the All-Star Game, or the World Series, usually with much fanfare. Our current President, Donald Trump, has yet to throw a ceremonial first pitch, though has done so for Minor League games prior to taking office.

While touring the President Lyndon B. Johnson Library at the University of Austin in Texas I came across a display called "On The Ball", which is an exhibit of 116 baseballs signed by various heads of state collected by Randy Kaplan. This exhibition features signatures of two Kings, an Emir, a Prince, as well as Prime Ministers and Presidents from around the globe.

Randy Kaplan, a Long Island native and a Governmental Affairs Specialist in New York, became inspired to collect signed baseballs from Presidents and other heads of state after seeing an exhibit at the Baseball Hall of Fame (Cooperstown, New York) which featured first-pitch baseballs that American Presidents had thrown on Opening Day. Since 1996, when President Bill Clinton signed one of Kaplan's baseballs, he has collected 150 signed baseballs from heads of state and other prominent political figures from around the world.

The interesting twist on this collection is that all of these baseballs were either received in person by Kaplan, obtained through the assistance of top government officials, or through friends and other connections. Over the years he has been able to meet many world leaders and persuade them to contribute to his unique connection. One such leader is pictured here: Czech playwright Vaclav Havel, elected President of Czechoslovakia December 29, 1989.

I will continue my story on "Throwing out the First Pitch" next month with a special conclusion to my story. Come back next month. I promise you won't regret it.



Current Interest Rates Effective July 1, 2018

Optimum 3	2.00%
Preferred 5	3.25%
Preferred 8	3.75%

Preferred 7 and Flex earning 4%, these plans are no longer available.
Please contact your NSS Life financial service representative or
Joe 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
and login/register as a member.



OPEN AN IRA

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

- * **Tax Advantages**
- * **Competitive Interest Rates**
- * **You can make a Deposit for 2018 up until April 15th, 2019**



From the Sales Department...

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



Why You Want Your Money with NSS

It's your money and you have a lot of choices as to where it should be invested to best serve your needs. We can't possibly cover all of the scenarios or possible uses that a person may encounter in their lifetime. However, here are a few reasons why you might want to either leave or deposit your money with NSS for the long run.

First, the rate of interest that we pay you may change over time – up or down. Using the Preferred 8 product as an example; the rate increased some months ago from 3.50% to 3.75%. So in a rising rate environment do you want to be locked in to some “set” rate or would the flexibility to make more money in the future be more appealing? Either way rest assured that NSS will always treat members well by offering a competitive rate.

Next, our consistency is better than most. Let's face it from the financial meltdown in 2008/09 until recently interest rates were low and not moving. However during this period of time the lowest rate we ever offered on the Preferred 8 product was 3.25% well above the fed fund rate. During this same time many others were paying 1 or 2% and now they want your business?

Size and strength should not be the only factor when considering where to put your money but they should be a consideration. NSS currently has more than \$1.2 billion of assets with a total reserve of almost \$70 million. All this means is that we have the where

with all to prosper in good times and withstand slower times.

One question that we get all the time, “What does NSS invest in?” An easy answer since 95% of our portfolio is in corporate and industrial bonds rated investment grade with a Moody's rating of A2 and an S&P rating of A. We don't have any risky investments because we more concerned with the return of the money than the return on the money.

Another factor to consider especially in existing annuities is the early withdrawal penalty. With age and time the surrender charge or withdrawal penalty disappears. This is exactly the position you want to be in because this gives you all the flexibility. So if you decide to buy a new car, a place in Florida or something else – access to your money is not being restricted. If you go to a new company this charge starts all over again and may last ten years or more – why?

And finally a few other points that are not crucial but they are convenient. When you need money we can process the request by the next day. Access to your account 24/7 through our web portal, an annual paper statement is mailed every January and complete rate disclosure every month in the NSS magazine.

Day in and day out our goal is to make money for our members. We take this task seriously. Service and commitment have been driving us for the past 129 years. We plan on continuing to do our best for you. Call your local NSS representative for more information about our products and services.

Thought For The Month:

*It is the sweetest law of nature:
In sharing; we always receive more than
we give.*

Slovak proverb

62% of people
say that feeling financially secure adds
a great deal of meaning to their life.

First Quarter Leaders for 2019



Our **TOP NEW MEMBER** producer for the 1st quarter of 2019 is **Nouchao Her**. He lives in Oklahoma, but continues his business in the states of MI, WI, OH, PA, CA and CO. He has years of life insurance experience and has been with NSS Life since 2011. Honest and always ready to provide life insurance solutions to members. If you are looking for life insurance coverage for you or your loved ones, please contact Nouchao at his Toll Free Number: 866-317-1514 or email him at: nouchaoher@gmail.com.

Rich Nulph is the **TOP PREMIUM PRODUCER** of the NSS. Also founder and president of Safety 1st Retirement located in Lower Burrell, PA with 6 locations in the Pittsburgh area. Rich and 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.



National Slovak Society

54th Annual Golf Tournament

July 12 – 14, 2019
Hospitality Night Friday 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
DuBois Country Club

DuBois Country Club
 10 Lakeside Ave
 DuBois PA 15801

Room accommodations provided by
 Comfort Suites
 8 Lakeside Dr
 DuBois PA 15801
 814-375-6028

Please mention NSS to receive the discounted rate
 Room Rates: \$89 King - \$99 2 queens + tax per night
Deadline for Hotel Reservations is June 12, 2019

Name	Address	Phone	E-mail	Assembly
1				
2				
3				
4				

GOLFERS: Please choose ALL that apply & indicate number participating

___ Saturday only Competition - \$55.00

___ Saturday and Sunday Competition - \$110.00 (Sunday will be a scramble)

___ Skins (Saturday Only) - \$5.00 (Optional)

___ Par 3 Challenge \$10.00 (Optional)

___ Senior Flight Men 65+ (Optional)

___ Will attend Friday Hospitality Night (DuBois Country Club)

___ Will attend Saturday Banquet (list dinner attendees)

1. _____ 3. _____

2. _____ 4. _____

Deadline is **June 17, 2019**

Please make checks payable to: **NSS Life**

NSS Life
 Attn: Pam Blum
 351 Valley Brook Road
 McMurray, PA 15317

NON-GOLFERS:

Please Choose ALL that apply & indicate number attending

___ Adult Guest Dinners @ \$30.00 (Golfers meal included in entry fee)

___ Youth (13-17) Guest Dinners @ \$20.00

___ Child (12 & under) FREE

___ Will attend Friday Hospitality Night

___ Hole Sponsor @ \$100 per hole

Name for sign: _____

\$ _____ **TOTAL INCLUDED WITH THIS FORM**

Friday Practice Tee Times Available at 12:00 p.m.
Call the Pro Shop at 814-371-7540

Annual NSS National Golf Tournament

Men's and Women's Official Rules and Regulations

1. The tournament is open to all members and one time guests of the National Slovak Society and its Youth Circles. There must be at least four Youth golfers officially entered to have a youth class. To protect the amateur standing of these youth, no prize money will be collected from nor paid to them.
2. United States Golf Association (USGA) and host golf course rules will govern play, except the following:
 - Jungle Golf, improve lie within 12" except in hazards.
 - Lost Ball; play from area where ball was last seen and take 1 stroke penalty.
 - Out of Bounds; play from where ball goes out and take 1 stroke penalty.
 - Ball in Water Hazard; drop where ball went in and take 1 stroke penalty.
3. Handicaps will be determined as follows:
 - A. All male regular division golfers will play in three flights as determined by handicap. The golfer's first handicap will be determined after he/she has completed 54 holes of tournament play in the NSS National Golf Tournament unless golfer has a U.S.G.A. index from their home course. The golfer's handicap will be recalculated every year based on the golfer's best 54 holes in tournament play within the last five years. The handicap will be calculated on a 90% basis. The maximum handicap will be 40 strokes for 18 holes.
 - B. Any male golfer who has not completed 54 holes of tournament play in the NSS National Golf Tournament will be entered in the Callaway division using the NSS version of the Callaway scoring system, unless they have a U.S.G.A. index.
 - C. Senior Men's Division (65 and over) will also play using handicaps as determined above. There will be only one flight in the Senior Division unless the number of participants warrants 2 divisions. Forward tees will be used.
 - D. All female member golfers will compete with the handicap determined as above. The maximum handicap will be 40 strokes for 18 holes.
 - E. Any female golfer who has not completed 54 holes of play in the NSS National Golf tournament will be placed in the Callaway division.
4. Classifications:

A medal play champion will be determined for 18 holes in each of the following Divisions:*

1. Men's A flight	3. Men's C flight	5. Women's B flight	7. Callaway Flight
2. Men's B flight	4. Women's A flight	6. Senior flight (age 65 and above)	

*Flight handicaps will be determined by number of entries and their handicaps. Champion's for each flight will receive an NSS Jacket, and Prize money. Prize money will depend on the number of participants in each flight.
5. In case of a tie for first place in any flight, both in the 18 hole and 36 hole tournament, a sudden death playoff will be used starting on a hole acceptable to the golf course management. If weather or darkness does not permit an actual playoff, a match of cards will be used starting with the number 1 handicap hole and proceeding with number 2, 3, 4, etc. until the tie is broken.
6. All other ties will split the applicable prize money. (e.g., two people tied for second will split second and third prize money. Three people tied for second would split second, third and fourth place prize money.)
7. The prize list will be determined by the tournament manager using the money contributed by the contestants and matching money contributed by the NSS for all member golfers. As nearly as possible, there will be one prize for each four entries. NSS does not match guest prize contributions.
8. The tournament manager will schedule tee times and pairings.
9. The Joseph Stefka Sr. Memorial plaque will be awarded to the low net winner of the 18 hole tournament. In case of a tie, the lower handicap will be the winner.
10. Golfers with long distances to travel will be given some preferential treatment for Sunday tee times, providing that the scheduling will not disrupt the efficiency of the tournament.
11. ENTRIES WILL CLOSE – JUNE 17, 2019

See Scramble Rules on following page

SCRAMBLE RULES

Sunday's play at the National Golf Tournament will be a Scramble using the following rules:

1. Each team will consist of four players selected by the tournament director. Selection will be made on the basis of handicap. All divisions will be merged for the scramble.
2. The number of teams will be equal to one fourth of the number of golfers. If the number of golfers is uneven, there will be some adjustment to allow everyone to play.
3. The method of selection will be as follows:
 - a. Beginning with the lowest handicap, Captains will be selected for each team.
 - b. The number two player for each team will be placed on team in reverse order. (Lowest handicap will be on the last team selected in the first round.)
 - c. The number three player for each team will be selected in the same order as the Captains.
 - d. The number four player will be placed in the same order as the number two players.
 - e. The order of play within a team will be determined by the Captain.
4. On every par three hole, everyone will play his/her own ball and the total of the best two (2) scores will be entered on the card.
5. Prize money will be paid to one place for each four teams entered. (16 teams = 4 places paid, etc.) Total prize money will be \$10.00 per player plus NSS matching funds for each member entered. The prize money split within a team will be adjusted to comply with the rule that guests are not eligible for NSS matching funds.

2019 Region 5 “Hibernation Celebration”



This Month in National Slovak Society History

Joseph Stefka, Jr.
Chairman of the Board

May, 1889

Assembly #2 was founded in Plymouth, Pennsylvania, and merged with the National Slovak Society at the time the Society was founded. The Assembly was represented at the Organizational Convention of the NSS in 1890 by Anton S. Ambrose. Anton S. Ambrose was elected as President of the National Slovak Society at the VIII Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1901.

May, 1901

Assembly #377 was founded on May 1, 1901 in Ellsworth, Pennsylvania. Assembly #377 remains as one of the Society's current active assemblies.

May, 1971

The National News reported that the National Slovak Society's solvency reached 118.38 percent and assets had climbed to \$10,006,035.09.

May, 1992

The National Assembly, in an effort to help promote fraternal activities, voted to pay Assemblies and Circles \$2.00 for very member attending a fraternal event held by the Assembly or Circle.



“Our flag does not fly because the wind moves it. It flies with the last breath of every soldier who died protecting it.”

-Unknown

OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS

March, 2019

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Amorose, Betty	Greensburg, PA	02/01/2019	0737
Arnold, Yvonne	York, PA	12/29/2018	L102
Bronkalla, Leo	Baraboo, WI	01/13/2019	0774
Carter, Agnes	Fairmont, MN	01/24/2019	0774
Claypool, Hazel	Apollo, PA	10/03/2018	L105
Cook, John	Tobyhanna, PA	03/09/2019	0617
Crisci, Sarah	Rochester, PA	03/07/2019	0123
Currey, Mabel	Pullman, WV	12/29/2018	0774
Czachowski, Sophia	Pittsburgh, PA	01/22/2019	L161
DeFelice, Margaret	Ironwood, MI	02/26/2019	0381
Diggin, Joan	Gibsonia, PA	02/22/2019	0434
Eyth, Mary	Carnegie, PA	01/16/2019	0434
Farr, Veronica	Monroeville, PA	11/29/2018	L105
Foley, Carmelita	Reynoldsville, PA	11/19/2018	0554
Gazda, Frank	Wilkes Barre, PA	03/02/2019	0671
Gehrke, Mildred	Washington, PA	02/15/2019	0434
Gran, Laurence	Riverview, FL	01/19/2019	0813
Green, Leah Anne	Montgomery, WV	02/20/2019	0774
Gwaley, Olivia	North Huntington, PA	03/22/2019	0737
Habel, Albert	Wisconsin Rapids, WI	01/19/2019	0774
Hartig, Gerhard	Henderson, NV	02/03/2019	0777
Hellein, Jacqueline C	North Apollo, PA	02/27/2019	0123
Hlusko, Kathryn	Avon Lake, OH	07/03/2017	0160
Holtz, John W	Pleasantville, PA	05/07/2019	0554
Itell, Joan	Portage, PA	03/17/2019	0774
Japenga, Joan	Grand Haven, MI	03/16/2019	0774
Jaraczewski, Arnold	New Berlin, WI	01/22/2019	0774
Jones, Anna K	Tampa, FL	10/06/2018	0813
Kapcar, Veronica	Oakmont, PA	01/09/2019	0377
Kingsland, Kathleen	Palm Harbor, FL	01/22/2019	0813
Koket, Mildred	Saegertown, PA	03/19/2019	0731
Kozub, Shirley	Saltsburg, PA	01/25/2019	L105
Lipovsky, Leonard	Apple Valley, MN	01/20/2019	0774
Little, Jack	Fort White, FL	06/06/2018	0800
Martin, Dorothy	Binghamton, NY	01/15/2019	L075
McHugh, Sandra	South Yarmouth, MA	01/29/2019	0588
Metter, Ruth	Alhambra, CA	12/01/2018	0568
Mlynek, Eleanore	Parma, OH	08/11/2018	0004
Motter, Catherine	Parma, OH	01/08/2019	0004
Nathan, Aileen	Cornelius, NC	02/14/2019	0774
O'Neill, Alice	Jefferson Hills, PA	12/09/2018	0434
Parascak, Ann	Williamsville, NY	02/25/2019	R019
Pentz, William C	Indiana, PA	01/14/2019	0774
Petrovich, Daniel J	Strongsville, OH	01/24/2019	0070
Pochatek, Dorothy	Brookfield, CT	02/10/2019	0110
Prekopa, Rita	McAdoo, PA	08/24/2018	L102
Restano, Michael A	Pittsburgh, PA	01/20/2019	L161
Reuter, Clarence	Lancaster, WI	02/22/2019	0774
Rippel, Albert	Monongahela, PA	11/17/2018	0377
Sepko, Irmgard	Whitehall, PA	02/15/2019	R059
Stevens, Hazel	Monrovia, CA	01/24/2019	0568
Thoretz, Stephanie	New Port Richey, FL	12/25/2018	0813
Tushaus, Richard L	Elm Grove, WI	11/24/2018	0774
Tyree, Anna	Hinton, WV	02/27/2019	0774
Vincavage, Bernard	Harding, PA	02/10/2019	L075
Weible, Lois	Boswell, PA	01/29/2019	0737
White Jr., James	Weirton, WV	01/29/2019	0108
Williams, Benjamin	Palestine, TX	05/04/2018	0381
Wolf, Mary L	Pittsburgh, PA	02/15/2019	0100
Yuras, Paul	Beaufort, NC	02/12/2019	0039

ASSEMBLY 004 Parma, OH

A meeting will be held on Sunday, **May 19, 2019** at 2:00 pm at the residence of Mildred Havir, 1744 Westhill Boulevard, Westlake, OH.

We look forward to be seeing you then.

Sonia Vorell
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 039 Uniontown, PA



Over twenty members attended our March/Lenten Dinner at the Eat n' Park Restaurant in Uniontown. Members also held their first quarter meeting for 2019. Plans were made for the remainder of the year for our National Project, with the USPS letter carriers, as well as our "Join Hands Day" project with the local Knights of Columbus council in July.

We are looking for volunteers to help with our efforts to participate in the "Stamp Out Hunger" program of the Letter Carriers of the United States Postal Service. We will gather at the Uniontown Main Post Office on Saturday, **May 11th** at 10:00 am. This is our National NSS Project to "Stamp Out Hunger"!



Please place on your calendar our "Summer Bar-B-Q" that will be held on Sunday, June 9th. We will meet in the picnic pavilion, on the Knights of Columbus grounds starting at 1:00 pm. Come and enjoy the great food, fraternal fellowship and celebrate National "Flag Day".

Also, we have changed the TIME of our "Annual Christmas Party" on Sunday, **December 2nd** from 2:00 pm to 1:00 pm. NSS Board Member Susan Ondrejko and her husband, Rudy will present a program celebration our Slovak heritage. Please note the change so that you are not late!!

Youth members that are currently receiving an NSS Scholarship are reminded that **July 15th** is the deadline to continue you to receive your scholarship in the Fall.

The NSS "Preferred Eight" annuity is currently earning an annual interest rate of 3.75%. Your local bank CD are offering 2%! Call the home office if you have funds to invest! Enjoy the May flowers!

John Payerchin
President

ASSEMBLY R059 Bethlehem, PA

Mark your calendars for our meetings and events:

Meetings:

July 14th at Sawarynski residence

October 20th at St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church

December 8th - location to be announced.

Events:

Hot Dog Luncheon on **October 20th**,
One Can Help Food Drive in **November**,
date to be announced.

For more information call 610-262-2045.

Michele Guydan
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0123 Coraopolis, PA

May is such a beautiful month, everything is turning green, flowers are in colorful bloom and the weather is warm and yet not hot. Get out and enjoy.

I want to mention Game Day, which the assembly had in March, was a big success and I hope next year we have even more members attend. At the event I appointed our Vice President Larry Smith in charge of fun, so in the future if you attend any of our events and do not have fun please call Larry Smith at 412-778-0431 with your complaints and suggestions.

Mothers are undoubtedly the most important people in the world. It took Anna Marie Jarvis years of effort to have Mother's Day made a holiday. President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed it in 1914. Let me wish all our mem-

bers who are mothers a blessed holiday and may you be remembered well by your children.

The other big holiday comes at the end of the month, Monday the 27th. The unofficial start of summer, Memorial Day. It started after the Civil War to honor the dead of both the Union and Confederate Army. It was originally called Decoration Day. Now we remember all those who gave their lives so that we may enjoy the freedom they paid for with their lives. So many soldiers were very young. God grant them eternal rest. Let me say thank you to all our members who are veterans.

Let me assure you that Mary Maniecki is working on several exciting activities for our assembly which you will read about in our next issue.

Parents get your kids off the computer or cell phone and have them do a little art work. Deadline for the Art Contest is May 31st. A whole new world may open up to them.

Mark your calendar for some upcoming events. **July 12-14** NSS golf at the lovely DuBois Country Club. The assembly will help subsidize any of our members who want to participate.

July 18th is a Thursday and it is Slovak Day at Kennywood Park. Members who are interested in going should call me at 724-242-5085. Once again the assembly will pay part of the cost of the ticket. Region 5 is actually going to cover the full cost of any member sixteen and younger. That means your ticket is free. Speaking of Kennywood Park, one of the most faithful and hardworking members Judy Landa does volunteer work at the Slovak booth that day. She needs help. Please, please give her a break for a few hours. The assembly will pay the full cost of your ticket and parking. This offer goes out to members of other assemblies. Call Judy at 412-322-5168 and volunteer she will give you all the details. Many hands make light work.

Exactly one month later on Sunday **August 18th** Region 5, of which our assembly is a part of, is having a slam bang picnic at Cedar Creek County Park in Rostraver Township. This is in Westmoreland County near Belle Vernon right off Route 51. This is a beautiful park and the picnic has a wonderful shelter. You'll enjoy the food the games and the camaraderie and it's free. You'll hear more about Septemberfest

(Sept 28th) held at the home office in an upcoming issue of the magazine. Mark your calendars.

Let me wish all those having birthdays or anniversaries this month all the best and enjoy your special day. And if you are looking for some fun call Larry Smith our fun expert.

Bill Knoll
President

ASSEMBLY 160 Lorain, OH

Come join us to paint a wooden sign on **Sunday, June 9, 2019**. Bring a snack or beverage to share and create a work of art to hang in your home or something that would make a great gift! We are working out the details of the location. Please RSVP by Sunday, June 2nd to ekatricak@gmail.com or 440-773-0170.

Erin Katricak
Activities Director

ASSEMBLY 377 Bentleyville, PA

Join us for a meeting & bowling on **May 5, 2019** at Tan O' Belle Lanes in Bentleyville and lunch at 3:00 pm. At our meeting we will discuss assembly business and activities. Please call Suzanne at 724-485-2925 for any questions. We look forward to seeing you!

Suzanne Skrypak
President

ASSEMBLY 381 Grosse Ile, MI

A meeting will be held on **June 15, 2019** at Big Bear Lodge, Telegraph Road (between West Road and Van Horn), Woodhaven, Michigan at 1:00 pm. Please call Joanne Medved if you plan to attend by June 10, 2019 at 734-676-2199 or email jtm1849@gmail.com.

Joanne T. Medved
Treasurer

ASSEMBLY 432 Fairview Park, OH

May 25, 2019 - Camping at Rustic Lake

NEW EVENT - Our new event will be "A Night at The Ballpark." We will be going to a Lake Erie Crushers game on **August 3rd** at 6:05 pm. Mark your calendar, because you do not want to miss this event! Food, drinks, and much more will be included. Details to follow!

If you haven't already, you can now stay up to date with what's going on in Assembly 432 on Facebook. Simply like, or follow us at <https://www.facebook.com/Assembly432/>

Shawn Pytel
Publicist

ASSEMBLY 554 Curwensville, PA

Meetings for 2019 are scheduled for **July 7, September 1 and October 5, 2019** at 2:00 pm. Meetings will be held at Jim Stricek's house, 135 McCullough Street, DuBois PA. For more information, contact Jim Stricek at (814) 590-7021 or at assembly554@gmail.com

Jim Stricek
Secretary-Treasurer

ASSEMBLY 586 Chicago, IL

Our assembly received a letter thanking us for continuing the collections for our troops. It contained information about their wants and the shortages of items they would appreciate having. There are more than 170,000 of our men and women deployed to over 150 countries. Not only do they love getting boxes filled with good stuff, but knowing that they are thought of and not forgotten means a lot.

Operation Support Our Troops has shipped its two millionth pound of Comfort and Care items. Some urgently needed items on their list include crackers, nuts, ramen noodles, pop-top canned soup, cereal bars, jerky, foot powder, Tums, anti-itch cream, dryer sheets, hand sanitizer. They can always

use white socks and chewing gum. Here in Illinois we bring our collection to the warehouse in Lisle where volunteers pack 25 lb. boxes. We contribute money toward shipping.

The reason I itemize some items is that OSOT asks that we make known what they do in the hope that Americans form more groups who will help. Picking up some extras when shopping is easy and gives you a good feeling. The website is <http://www.osotamerica.org/> and you can request on the site that a serviceman/woman whose military address you have will be sent a 25# box of goodies to share. We are committed to showing them that "**We Have NOT Forgotten.**"

We wish a happy birthday to Joe Tomaskovic on May 3 when he will celebrate his 94th.

Assembly 586 will hold our next meeting on Sunday, June 9, with details to come. Chicago has gone through a mayoral election and much Smollett news lately. Never a dull moment here!

Irene Tomaskovic
Vice President

ASSEMBLY 617/C617 Ashley, PA 110th Anniversary Celebration

Come and join us for our celebration of Assembly 617/ C617 for the 110th Anniversary. It will be held on Sunday, **June 2, 2019**. Registration will start at 12 noon, meal at 12:30 pm and the program ends at 3:30 p.m. It will be held at the Sheehy- Farmer Campus Center at King's College, Snyder Banquet Room, 3rd floor, 133 North Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Follow the signs and balloons. We invite all members and family and friends to come and join us for this special occasion. Cost will be \$10 per adult member, \$5 for children 3 to 9, children under 3 are free and \$25 for non members. The meal will include 2 entrees, salad, vegetable, potato (starch), dessert, iced tea, lemonade, coffee and tea.

Continued on Page 14

RSVP is required with payment by Monday, May 20, 2019 by calling Rose Mary Strish at 570- 825-3681 or mail payment to Rose Mary Strish, 14 Frederick Court, Ashley, PA 18706. Make checks payable to National Slovak Society 617/ C617, with number attending. Any questions, call Rose Mary.

We will have the honor to have as our special guest, Greg Felton, our Sales Director from our Main Office in Mc Murray PA. Everyone is welcomed and encouraged to come and mingle with Greg, our officers and other members. Hope to see you there.

Our assembly will also have a Matching Fund for the PVR Scholarship Fund at the 110th Anniversary Luncheon on June 2, 2019. We will raffle baskets donated by our members.

Rose Mary Strish
Secretary

Matching Funds Project Assembly 800

On Saturday, March 2, 2019, members of Assembly #800 and, parishioners of All Saints Byzantine Catholic Church in North Fort Myers, Florida, held a Garage/Bake Sale. The proceeds of the sale are going to help pay for new windows on the property grounds of the Church which include the Rectory and Social Hall. This was our second Garage/Bake Sale, and it was truly a successful event again and are looking forward to planning the next sale.

Thanks to everyone who came out and helped out in any small way possible. Come and visit with us in the sunshine state of Florida.

Gary Cepko
President

Scholarship For Senior Members A Fraternal Program

PURPOSE ~

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

MEMBER ELIGIBILITY ~

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

COURSE ELIGIBILITY ~

Vocational schools, community colleges and universities offer a variety of short-term courses which may include areas like computer training, cake decorating, photography, landscaping, small engine repair, ballroom dancing, etc. This program does not cover courses that assist you to maintain your current full or part-time job.

(Example: We will not reimburse life insurance or real estate agents who take continuing education credits to maintain their licenses.)

PROCEDURE ~

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

INFORMATION & APPLICATION ~

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

ASSEMBLY 813 Englewood, FL

The Loveland Spring Concert will be held the **first week in May**. This year we are hoping to have an art show in conjunction with the concert to showcase some of the other talented students. Ken Arambasic is working with Mary Jo Holker to put this all together.

Our Join Hands Day project is again the Letter Carriers Stamp Out Hunger food drive on **May 11th**. If you are unable to join us in Englewood, please work with your local post office to find ways to get involved. We can make a difference wherever we are by helping those less fortunate.

Mary Jo Kruger
Secretary

Assembly 377



Bentworth Blessings held their Family Game Night on April 6th, 2019. Members of Assembly 377 and Home Office staff volunteered to prepare the Spaghetti Dinner held in conjunction with the family game night.

REGION 2 Hazleton, PA

A meeting will be held on **August 24, 2019** at Perkins Restaurant, 304 Route 315, Pittston, PA at 1:00 pm. Anyone needing directions you are welcome to call me Lucy Piccoletti at 570-457-4116.

Lucy Piccoletti
Secretary

Slovaks Elect The First Female President



Zuzana Čaputová Government critic, anti-corruption lawyer, and Slovakia's Erin Brockovich: these are just some expressions used by the world media to describe Zuzana Čaputová. Critics branded her the "unknown girl" or "marketing product" or "someone we never heard of until a month ago" during the campaign.

Indeed, Čaputová cannot boast of experiences in Slovak politics, but she is definitely an experienced lawyer and attorney.

Čaputová became not only the first Slovak female president but also the first female president among the countries of central Europe.

Čaputová gained popularity in Slovakia after her decade-long crusade to shut down a toxic waste dump, which was spewing poison into her hometown of Pezinok in western Slovakia. Her campaign to close the site earned her a prestigious Goldman Environmental prize in 2016, along with the nickname "Erin Brockovich of Slovakia."

Čaputová will be Slovakia's fifth president since the country gained independence in 1993.

Voters had been outspoken about their disgust with political corruption. After a journalist reporting on political corruption and his fiancé were shot and killed last February, tens of thousands of Slovaks took to the street in protest, chanting "Enough with Smer." The protests would eventually prompt the resignation of the country's prime minister at the time, Robert Fico.

Čaputová, a vocal participant in the protests that rocked the country, has promised to tackle corruption head-on. Casting herself as the anti-corruption candidate with the campaign slogan "stand up to evil," she vowed to shake-up the political establishment, which she says is currently run "by people pulling strings from behind."

Immediately after her victory, Čaputová lit a candle at a memorial for the assassinated journalist, Ján Kuciak, and his fiancé, Martina Kúšnírová.

As NPR's Joanna Kakissis has reported, Slovakia's presidential post is "largely ceremonial," with the president wielding little day-to-day power. But, Čaputová has been outspoken about her desire to use the platform to promote transparency. She will take office in June.

NPR/Rebecca Ellis
Slovak Spectator

2019 Slovak Tours

Slovak Heritage Tour - (Sept. 6-15, 2019)

For more information: Visit www.slovakiaheritage.com or contact Judith Northup-Bennett, Slovakia Heritage Tours, 978-544-5144
slovakiaheritagetours@gmail.com

15th Consular Tour of Slovakia - (July 13-27, 2019)

Visit the historic sites of three beautiful countries for the price of just one tour. Begin in Vienna where you will tour the city including a visit to the Schonbrunn Palace. Then onto Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia where we will see old town, St. Martin Cathedral, Primatial Palace, Devin Castle and many other historic sites. Along the way, we will visit the nearby towns where we will enjoy a wine tasting, folk music, a traditional folk wedding and the famous Cerveny Kamen and the Trencin Castle. You will also have an opportunity to enjoy some spa treatments at Trencianske Teplice. Some of the towns that we will see in Slovakia include the Tatras, Cicmany, Levoca, Kezmarok, Kosice, Bardejov and Presov. Other unique features of this tour include Demanovska caves, rafting on the Dunajec, another wine tasting in the Tokaj region and meeting with the Mayor of Presov. A recent New York Times article on "S2 Places to go in 2019" lists the Tatra Mountains as #19. We will take you there. While in Poland, we will shop in Zakopane, visit Auschwitz, Pope John Paul II former home, shrine of St. Stanislaus, shrine of Blessed Faustina, Our Lady of Czestochowa and the Wieliczka salt mine.

The total package price for this fantastic tour is just \$4,300 per person (double occupancy), the same as last year. This includes round trip airfare from either Pittsburgh or New York, two delicious meals daily, four star hotels, free admission to all the sites, air conditioned bus, a professional guide and more. Compare this itinerary with other tour packages. For a detailed copy of the daily itinerary or more information, contact Joe Senko at jtsenko@aol.com or 412-956-6000.



Notice Of Upcoming Board Meetings

Pursuant to article 6, letter J, of the NSS ByLaws we are announcing the following meetings of the Board for the remainder of 2019:

Spring Board Meeting	-	May 24, 2019
Summer Board Meeting	-	August 10, 2019
Fall Board Meeting	-	November 16, 2019

Slovak-American Radio Online:

Notes of Slovakia

Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., Ph.D.

Slovak Radio is one of the best methods to reach the Slovak-American audience and those interested in Slovakia and its culture. One of the problems many people encounter is that they are not always available to listen when a program is being broadcast. A new online radio show entitled "Notes of Slovakia" has attempted to solve that problem by offering an online recording.

One can listen to it anytime, even in short segments. And it is easy to find on the web, with a simple Google search. Or one may go straight to the website and click on "Listen Now": <https://notesoflovakia.com>. There also is a Facebook site with links: <https://www.facebook.com/NotesOfSlovakia/>.

Every "Notes of Slovakia" program is broadcast in both English and Slovak, so everyone will understand. In the words of the announcers, they "play music from the past, the present, and everything in between." In other words, the show offers a great variety which should appeal to listeners. The program also offers an array of short talks about Slovak culture, history, and the language. And if one wishes to watch while listening, there are pictures of the speakers, the subject matter, and for the music.

Mike Wojtilla (Wojtilla) of USA and Slavomir Wojtilla of Slovakia co-host the program. They are not related, though they met because of their name similarities. A mail carrier by trade, Mike Wojtilla is an accomplished keyboard player and accordionist, who specializes in vocals. The other host, Slavomir Wojtilla studied ecology and landscape engineering when attending college. He currently does Environmental impact assessment, and in addition, has worked in Electrical Engineering as his firm manages and develops hydro-power plants and solar systems (photovoltaic roof system). Slavomir does his program out of sheer love for Slovak culture and a desire to share it with the world.

And yours truly, Dr. Michael Kopanic, has done several features in Slovak Spotlight part of the program since early March 2019.

Other USA Slovak Radio Online

Do not forget to listen to other online Slovak radio programs broadcast in the USA The Cleveland Slovak program on WERE 1490 AM hosted by Milan Kobulsky airs on Sunday mornings at 11 am; the website is: <https://newstalkcleveland.com/listen-live/>.

Another Slovak program airs on WPIT 730 AM in Pittsburgh, hosted by Rudy and Sue Ondrejco; it may be heard at 3-4 pm on Sundays at <http://player.listenlive.co/57381>.

In the Youngstown, Ohio area, Dennis Spisak runs the Slovak Radio Program, broadcast from WKTL FM 90.7. The show now offers a **listening site on the internet**, and it can be heard on live radio as far away as the outer suburbs of Akron and Pittsburgh: <http://wktl.caster.fm>.

Finally, Chicago offers **Krajanskt! Radio/Centrum Chicago** (Countryman Radio Downtown Chicago) offers mainly modern Slovak and Czech music: <http://www.krajanskcradio.com>.

To hear Slovak radio programming in English directly from Slovakia, visit the RTVS radio site: <http://enrsi.rtvs.sk>. The show features news of the day and special features about Slovakia and its culture.

Conclusion

All of these Slovak programs are well worth listening to, and for the American Slovak programs, I would recommend that listeners send a donation, so they can continue in the future as we try to preserve our Slovak heritage.

Notes of Slovakia is the newest program of all the above mentioned, and hopefully, all our readers will try listening to this excellent presentation which is available to listen to anytime at your convenience at this website:

<https://notesoflovakia.com/iisten-now>.



I Love You Mum

Mum I truly love you,
and think about you each and every day,
Thank you for loving me unconditionally,
when things weren't going my way.

You always lift me up,
when life lets me down.

You always find my smile,
I just love when you're around.

You empower me to live my life,
to be the best that I can be.

I really want to thank you
for always being there for me.

Mum you are my ray of sunshine,
that brightens each and every day.
You are the rainbow in my life,
that clears the grey clouds away.

Today I want to tell you,
just how much you mean to me.
To thank you for your friendship
and the love you've given me.



I Love You Mum ❤️



Jar

Lastovičky prileteli, včielky pekne bzučia,
potok nám spieva o jari, všetky stromy pučia.
Trávica je zelená, slnko stále hreje.
O jari si spievame, veď nič krajšie nie je.



Máj, máj, máj, stužky zapletaj...

Aj túto pieseň si spievali dievčatá v krojoch z MŠ na ul. Klokočovej, keď si krášlili a zdobili svoju májovú briezku. Veru, poriadne ju vyparádili. Na pomoc si privolali aj ostatné dievčatá, aby bola samá stužka.



Veď Máj je symbol zelene, života a chlapci s pomocou oteckov im ju všetkým postavili, aby boli zdravé, pekné a štíhle. Pri stavaní Mája si zaspievali s doprovodom harmoniky ďalšie piesne „Sadíme my máje...“ Pekné slnečné počasie nám prialo a tak školskou záhradou sa niesli piesne a kruhové hry ešte dlho, veď každý chcel ukázať tým druhým čo vie a ako sa teší z pestrofarebného stromčeka. Ľudové zvyky a tradície ožívajú a najmä takýmto spôsobom deťom približujú život a tradície našich predkov.



Máj je mesiac naj sviežejšej zelene, mesiac rozkvitnutých stromov a kvetov v prírode i záhradkách. Nejedna duša práve v tomto mesiaci prináša Matke Božej najkrajšie z kvetov.

Panna Mária, kráľovná mája oroduj za nas.

Jarné kvety



Ku dňu matiek...

Druhá májová nedeľa nám každoročne pripomína jeden z najkrajších darov, ktoré tu na zemi človek má: dar starostlivej a milujúcej matky. Tohto roku pripadá **Deň matiek** na 12. mája.

SVIATOK MATIEK

*Mamičky naše, srdce v ústrety Vám letí!
Pritúlte v náručie hlavičky svojich detí!*

*Materská nežnosť z Vašich očí žiarí,
v tieni lásky dobre sa nám darí.*

*Buďte nám nebom, slnkom, ktoré hreje,
buďte nám rosou, ktorá perly seje!*

*Mamičky naše, deti sviatok svätia,
otvorte náručie, nech Vám doňho vletia!*

Radostný deň Matiek



-ka.

Ste-výročie úmrtia M. R. Štefánika



Po dlhých rokoch strávených v zahraničí sa v nedeľu **4. mája 1919** z talianskeho Galarate vypravil letecky na návrat do vlasti. Svoj oslobodený národ i rodnú zem už neobjal živý – po páde lietadla tragicky zahynul neďaleko Bratislavy. Na záver jednu z jeho myšlienok: **Prekážky treba rozbiť, a nie sa im poddávať.**

Máj....Mesiac Lásky.

Máj sa vo všeobecnosti považuje za obdobie lásky a zrodu nového života. Všetko živé, čo prišlo na svet v máji, malo sa zdarne vyvíjať.

“Kde je láska, tam je život.”

-Gándhi



Májové pranostiky

Ak v prvý májový týždeň pršalo, dážď bol predzvesťou bohatej úrody.

Chladný máj, jahody zrelé na Turíce, jasný Urban vínom naplní pivnice.

Slováci si vybrali prezidentku

V sobotu 30 marca boli voľby na prezidenta Republiky. Výhercom sa stala po prvýkrát v histórii žena Zuzana Čaputová.

Naša gratulácia pani Čaputovej.



DONATE TO THE PVR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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

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

- YES, I want to help our young members attain their academic goals.

Here is my donation of:

\$ _____

Please issue your check to:
NSS PVR Scholarship Fund

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

PVR Scholarship Fund Donations

In Memory of **John Victoria & Frank Ross:**

From Assembly 0123..... 40.00

Donations:

Assembly 0100 100.00
Anonymous 52.86



Memorial Tree Leaf Donations March, 2019

Tom & Lynda Ritter 500.00

Campus Life

When you go away to college for the first time, you want to make sure you're prepared. You may be living on your own for the first time, so there could be some items you wouldn't normally consider taking because someone at home, such as a parent or guardian, usually takes care of them for you. Consult your college acceptance literature for any specific items your college asks you to bring. If you're able, touch base with your roommate prior to school to make sure you're not bringing duplicates of large items such as TVs, couches or refrigerators. Having double will just take up space and make for a less comfortable environment.

Having a college roommate is most people's first experience living with someone who is not related to them. It comes with both benefits and challenges. Getting along with your college roommate can enhance your college experience. Establish some rules at the beginning. Make your preferences known from the start so you and your roommate are clear on what to do to avoid conflict. Practicing direct communication will help you in good times and bad. You can't expect your roommate to be a mind reader, so if you get upset or frustrated, communicate it to your roommate right away. Whenever you're dealing with the wants and needs of other people, you need to compromise. When it comes to doing chores around the room, listening to certain kinds of music, watching different TV shows and requesting privacy, compromise is key. If you give a little, your roommate will give a little.

REMiNDER



PVR Scholarship Renewal Applicant Continuation Rules

Students must submit verification of continuing education enrollment from attending school by submitting a transcript of their grades indicating you have maintained a 3.0 GPA, to the NSS Scholarship Department at the conclusion of EACH school year before they will be considered eligible to receive payment for a second, third, or fourth year grant. These transcripts must be received by **JULY 15TH. NO EXCEPTIONS, THIS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.** Do not rely on parents, friends, or your agent to get your information in. If your paperwork is not in the home office by the deadline you will not receive a check!

If you are transferring to another school, you **MUST** notify the NSS Home Office **IN WRITING** by sending in an acceptance letter to prove you will be attending a new school full time, by JULY 15TH, BEFORE checks are issued. No renewal checks will be issued after September 15th of each year for any reason.

Student College Loan Seminar

- Are you looking to start college and need a student loan?
- Are you looking into student loans?
- Are you looking to consolidate your student loans for repayment?

Wednesday, July 17, 2019 at 6 PM
Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Church
401 E. Main Street, Miners Mills, PA

Presentation by: Tony E. Connell, V.P., Citizens Bank

Topic – Student College Loans

Sponsored by the Fraternal Societies of Northeast Pennsylvania

Reservations are required. RSVP by July 10, 2019

Call Charlotte L. Androckitis at 570-814-1611 or e-mail:

clafkl@aol.com



Youth Circle Page

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

Welcome Chloe Baeten to NSS Life



Chloe Baeten of New Franken, Wisconsin was born on December 1, 2018 and is the little sister to Owen. She is the daughter of Alex and Erica Baeten, granddaughter of Shelly Edwards, Green Bay, Wisconsin and great granddaughter of Esther Vlasak, Elroy, WI.



High School Seniors

The United Slovak Societies at the American Slovak Club in Lorain, Ohio, announces 2019 scholarship availability to graduating high school seniors who are entering college and are five year members of our local lodges that include; National Slovak Society Assembly 160, Slovak Catholic Sokol Wreath 111, First Catholic Slovak Union #228, First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association Branch #114 and Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union #77.

The one-time scholarship application and rules may be obtained by visiting www.americanslovakclub.com. Deadline for completion is May 30, 2019.

May Art Contest

The rules are as follows:

1. Contest is open to all members of the National Slovak Society between the ages of 5 and 16.
2. Only one entry is permitted per member, per category.
3. Contestants may create their artwork using:
 - a. Paint (pastels, watercolor, oil, tempera and cesium)
 - b. Crayons (wax or liquid)
 - c. Ink/Pencil
 - d. Charcoal
 - e. Glue, construction paper, glitter
4. The Artwork may be ANY size up to 11x14 inches and must be mounted on a mat board or poster board for display purposes. (Paint by numbers, stencils or tracing will not be accepted)
5. All entries must include; name, address, phone number, age, policy number, assembly/circle number, along with your t-shirt size. This information should be clearly printed on the back of each entry.
6. Please indicate t-shirt size by the following size chart available:
 - a. Youth sizes - YS and YM
 - b. Adult sizes - AS, AM, AL and AXL
7. Winners in each category will have their artwork displayed in the National News and will be published on the NSS website.
8. Contest shall be judged under the following levels and ages for all 3 categories:
 - a. Picasso Level - Ages 5, 6 & 7
 - b. Rembrandt Level - Ages 8, 9 & 10
 - c. Michelangelo Level - Ages 11, 12 & 13
 - d. Van Gogh Level - Ages 14, 15 & 16*
9. Prizes awarded in each level of every category shall be as follows:

a. First Place	\$50.00
b. Second Place	\$25.00
c. Third Place	\$15.00
10. All entrants will receive a NSS Life T-shirt.

BE SURE TO FOLLOW THE RULES CAREFULLY SO YOU DO NOT LOSE POINTS IN THE JUDGING PROCESS

Deadline for entries to the Home Office is May 31st. Either mail or deliver artwork to:

NSS Life
c/o Fraternal Department
351 Valley Brook Road
McMurray, PA 15317

Decisions of the judge(s) shall be final in all cases.

*In the event the First place winner in the Artistic Category - Van Gogh Level either enters an accredited Art School or pursues Art as a career in college, he/she will be awarded a one-time \$250.00 Art Scholarship provided that the student meets all the NSS PVR Scholarship rules and regulations.

**The National Elder of the National Slovak Society reserves the right to keep all displays or winning entries. Artwork will only be returned by request.

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.