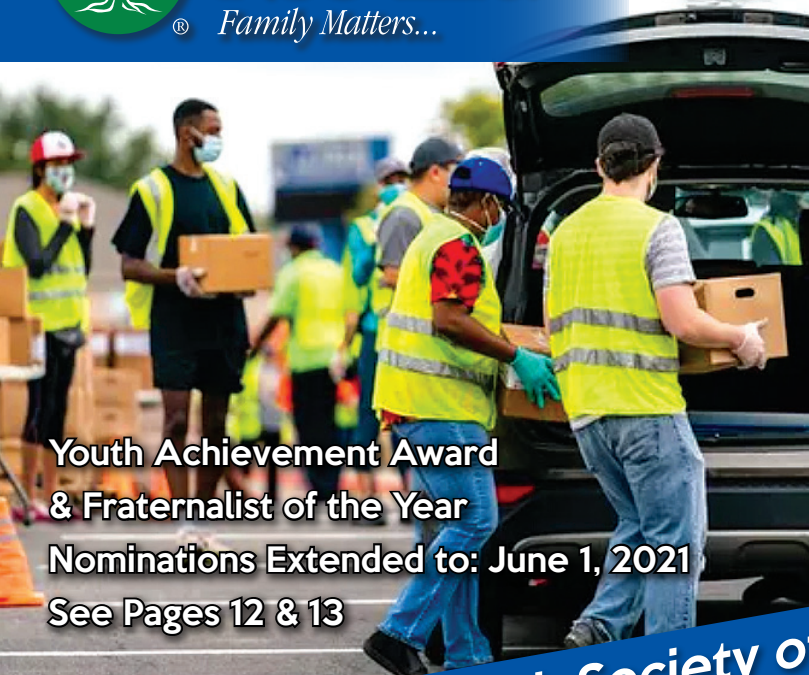




NSS Life
® Family Matters...



Youth Achievement Award
& Fraternalist of the Year
Nominations Extended to: June 1, 2021
See Pages 12 & 13



MAY ART CONTEST

Deadline May 31, 2021
See Page 19 for Rules

The National Slovak Society of the United States of America

Národné Mojiny

Fraternal Life Insurance Since 1890 • Mother's Day, May 9th



NSS National Golf Tournament
Friday-Sunday, July 9-11, 2021
Kennsington Golf Club, Canfield, OH
See Pages 9-11 for Entry Form & Rules



MAY 31, 2021

MEMORIAL DAY

NATIONAL NEWS
MAY 2021 | NUMBER 3553 VOLUME 113



National Slovak Society

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EDITOR

LORI CROWLEY

Published Monthly

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McMurray, PA 15317-3337

Deadline: 5th of preceding month

NSS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Joseph Stefka, Jr., *FIC, President, CEO & Elder*

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

Robert F. Katricak, *Chairman of the Board*

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Reverend Monsignor Thomas V. Banick,

Spiritual Advisor

FSWFE and PBU merged with NSS in 1997

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Activities At A Glance

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

REGION 2 May 8 May 15 May ? August 15	Assemblies L075, 0617 Assembly L075, Join Hands Day, Postal Carriers (Tentative) Assembly L075, American Heart Association Walk, PNC Field, Moosic, PA (Tentative) Assembly 0617, Attention: contact assembly leaders for scheduling of a May meeting Assembly 0617, Fraternal Day, Knobles (Tentative)
REGION 5 May 1 June 13 June 18 June 27 September 12 September 26 October 23 December 4 December 5 December 5	Assemblies P38A, 0039, 0100, L105, 0108, 0123, L161, 0377, 0434, 0441, 0588, 0731, 0737, 0774 Assembly 0731, Join Hands Day, Poland Township Park at 10:00 am Assembly 0039, Flag Day/Summer Bar-B-Q, Uniontown Col. Assoc. Hall at 1:00 pm Region 5, Night at PNC Park, Cleveland Indians at Pittsburgh Pirates Assembly 0377, Annual Picnic, Richardsons Park, Bentleyville, PA at 3:00 pm Assembly 0039, Flight 93 Remembrance Dinner, Eat'n Park, Uniontown, PA at 6:00 pm Assembly 0377, To Be Announced Assembly 0731, Halloween Hayride, Countryside Farm, Lowellville, OH at 5:00 pm Assembly 0731, Christmas Party, Lariccia Family Center, Boardman Park at 6:00 pm Assembly 0039, Annual Christmas Party, Uniontown Col. Assoc. Hall at 2:00 pm Assembly 0377, Annual Christmas Party, Hugo's Restaurant, Brownsville, PA
REGION 8	Assemblies 0004, 0070, 0160, 0432, 0595 No Activities
REGION 14	Assemblies R059, L102 No Activities
AT LARGE June 11-13	Assemblies L002, R019, L040, 0110, 0236, 0267, 0381, 0554, 0568, 0586, 0705, 0800, 0813 Assembly 0110, Meeting and Bi-Annual Weekend, Woodloch Pines, Hawley, PA

Government Assistance Available for COVID-19 Funeral Expenses.

Information can be found on website:
<https://www.fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus/economic/funeral-assistance>

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought overwhelming grief to many families. At FEMA, their mission is to help people before, during and after disasters. They are dedicated to helping ease some of the financial stress and burden caused by the virus.

Under the **Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021** and the **American Rescue Plan Act of 2021**, FEMA is providing financial assistance for COVID-19 related funeral expenses incurred **after January 20, 2020**.

How to Apply

COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Line
Applications began on April 12, 2021
844-684-6333 | TTY: **800-462-7585**

Hours of Operation:
Monday - Friday
9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Eastern Time

Call this dedicated toll-free phone number to get a COVID-19 Funeral Assistance application completed with help from FEMA's representatives. Multilingual services will be available.

Get answers to frequently asked questions about the application process on their Funeral Assistance FAQ page:
<https://www.fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus/economic/funeral-assistance/faq>.

FRAUD ALERT: FEMA has received reports of scammers reaching out to people offering to register them for funeral assistance. FEMA has not sent any such notifications and they do not contact people before they register for assistance.

Who is Eligible?

Information on conditions for eligibility for this program can be found on the website linked earlier.

How Funds are Received

If you are eligible for funeral assistance you will receive a check by mail, or funds by direct deposit, depending on which option you choose when you apply for assistance.

The President's Page...

Joseph Stefka, Jr., FIC, President, CEO

Email: jstefka@nsslife.org



Greeting from our Home Office in McMurray, Pennsylvania. The Pittsburgh region has been experiencing a stretch of warm days in early April more like temperatures usually occurring in June. We are not complaining and look forward to continuing with this great weather! The only drawback, the lawn is growing more quickly. Time to get out the lawnmowers!

The month of May brings us several holidays. Mother's Day is celebrated on May 9th, Armed Forces Day on May 15th, and Memorial Day on May 31st. Mother's Day is always celebrated on the second Sunday in May in the United States since being established as an official annual celebration by Woodrow Wilson. The first Mother's Day celebration was held in 1908. Please be sure to honor your mother on this very special day! Hopefully, families will be able to get together again this year to celebrate in person with moms as pandemic restrictions are eased and people are being vaccinated. No matter how you celebrate with Mom, make it the special day she deserves! Happy Mother's Day to all mothers! Armed Forces Day is celebrated on Saturday May 15th. The day is a celebration of all branches of the United States military and honors all people currently serving in the United States Armed Forces. Thank you to everyone serving our country in the military, especially our members. Your service is greatly appreciated! Memorial Day is observed on the last Monday of May. The day was originally recognized as Decoration Day to remember the men and women who died serving our country in the armed forces. Memorial Day was celebrated on May 30th until the

National Holiday Act of 1971 designated the last Monday in May as the Federal Holiday. While many people view the Memorial Day weekend as the kickoff for summer with picnics and family gatherings, we should pause to remember the real reason for the day and honor the brave veterans who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.

A final reminder to assembly officers and members. The NSS Fraternalist of the Year nominations and Youth Achievement Award nominations are due by June 1st. You still have time to nominate a deserving member of your assembly for each of the awards.

The May Art contest deadline is May 31st. NSS youth members from age 5-16 are eligible to enter the contest. Please be sure to follow the rules while entering. Cash prizes are awarded for the first, second, and third place winners in each age group. Parents and grandparents, please encourage our youth members to participate in the contest. Everyone entering will receive a NSS Life T-shirt!

Fraternal Coordinator Pam Blum and I recently made a visit to the site of the 2021 NSS National Golf Tournament at Kennsington Golf Club in Canfield, Ohio, on April 1st, and what an April Fool's joke! We traveled through a blinding snow whiteout on the way to Ohio to find the course covered in snow. We were able to meet with personnel from the golf course and the hotel at the course to plan the final details for the tournament weekend. The weekend should be a great time filled with friendly, golf competition and fraternal fun. Arrangements were made for the Friday Hospitality Night which will be held in the Golf Simulator Room at the venue. Saturday will be an 18-hole individual handicap event and Sunday will be an 18-hole scramble event. Saturday night's Golf Dinner will also be held at the golf course/hotel location. Please make plans to join us for the weekend event July 9th – 11th. An entry form, rules and details regarding the tournament appear elsewhere in this issue of the National News.

The NSS Board of Directors will convene the Spring Meeting on May 21st. This will be the first in-person meeting of the Board of Directors since March 2020, as meetings have occurred remotely due to the restrictions imposed during the pandemic. Any

issues to be considered by the Board should be forwarded to Secretary-Treasurer/CFO Linda Strom by May 9th. Looking forward to a very productive meeting!

News Of Narodniars

Happy Birthday wishes to our Secretary-Treasurer/CFO Linda Strom, Home Office staff members Pam Blum, Ginny McMurphy, and Eric Riepole and Legal Advisor Ron Cooper. Also, Happy Birthday to Patty Graham, Kayla Whitlatch, Florence Bebo, Sharon Wesnak, Cathy Cilia, Tom Kearney and to all others celebrating birthdays in the month of May. Happy wedding anniversary wishes to our members celebrating during the month of May.

Deepest sympathy to Home Office staff member Jill Grover and her family on the passing of her father, Peter Longstreth. Peter, a World War II Veteran and member of the National Slovak Society was active in several veteran's associations.

I recently received word on the passing of ROCWMAS Honorary Officer, Olga J Kasnot. Olga was the President of the Russian Orthodox Catholic Women's Mutual Aid Society (ROCWMAS) when it merged with the National Slovak Society in 1998. I got to know Olga while serving as a Director during the merger process and the years following the merger. She was named an Honorary Officer by the National Slovak Society Quadrennial Convention in 1998. Olga was a dedicated fraternalist and in 1999 was recognized as the National Slovak Society's Fraternalist of the Year. My deepest sympathy to her family.

MEMORIAL DAY

The NSS home office will be **closed** on **May 31, 2021** in observance of Memorial Day.



Arlington National Cemetery

A Page From My Notebook...

Linda M. Strom,
Secretary-Treasurer/CFO
Email: lstrom@nsslife.org



Beyond Normalcy

There is much activity at the Home Office these days in all facets of day-to-day operations. Every time you turn around there is another task that needs completed. The Home Office has been extremely blessed that COVID-19 has kept its distance, however, we have lost members of our NSS family to this virus. My sympathy goes out to all who have lost loved ones or to those that are having difficulties getting over the same.

At this point in our financial reporting year, we have filed all required state licensing documents and associated fees, started filing the 990-N for each Assembly and Region while preparing for our annual external audit, and somewhere find the time to be a part of a new Policy Administration System Project which is an enormous undertaking in its' own right.

We at the Home Office value our staff and when someone leaves it is a loss. **Pat Glaser**, who had 14 years of service as the NSS Claims Associate, retired in 2021 to finally relax and spend time with family. **Janine Hannan**, Customer Service Admin for annuities and 1035s left the NSS in 2021 with 9 years of service. We thank you both for your dedication to the NSS.

Our Tuesday-Thursday Receptionist **Ginny McMurdy** will be on medical leave due to hip surgery very soon. Good Luck Ginny, our prayers are with you. We were very fortunate to find **April** who is helping at the front Desk on Monday and Friday and helping

everywhere Tuesday through Thursday. With the loss of Pat and Janine, Amanda Zinn has moved into Customer Service and now administers the Annuity, and 1035 business and Riley Partyka administers Premiums.

And finally, NSS CIO Alan Burns and the NSS Board Technology Committee have begun a research project to evaluate the adequacy of our current systems. What we understand is that a project of this magnitude is a time consuming endeavor. Alan and the committee will keep us all posted.

2021 Tax Filing Extensions

Assistant Controller/Customer Service Manager Lisa Shriver asked to have the following information published in the newsletter:

"Tax filing deadline and deadline for 2020 IRA Contributions has been extended by the IRS to **May 17, 2021**. Due to the extended tax filing deadline, the IRS has also extended the deadline for furnishing the 5498 tax forms to **June 30, 2021**."

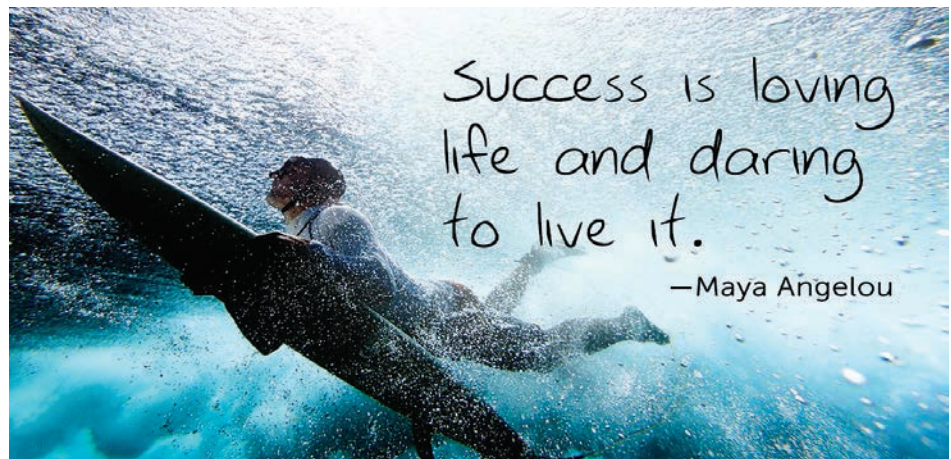
2019 Fraternal Tracking Results

For those of you who have been asking about the Fraternal Tracking program I will begin working on the final numbers very soon in preparation for our May Board Meeting. The Board had previously voted that each assembly and region will receive the same Fraternal Allowance Reimbursement equaling those earned in 2019. In addition, I will also prepare a tracking report for 2020 and present the report to the Board at their May meeting for approval of fraternal funds.

I extend my Congratulations to all Assemblies that have earned funds during the last two years of COVID. It was not easy to find venues for holding events, food to be served at events and most importantly, members to participate. But You Did It! I will publish the final numbers soon.

Happy Birthday

Even though the April Newsletter has been published I would like to wish my Great Nephew "Joey" Palko (Mom, Paula and Dad, John) a very happy 1st Birthday. He is just beginning to pick up and move around which means NO PARENTAL SLEEP!



OPEN AN IRA



Current Interest Rates Effective January 1, 2020

Optimum 3	2.00%
Preferred 5	3.00%
Preferred 8	3.50%

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



Did you know...

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

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



1st Quarter Leaders for 2021



Rich Nulph is the **TOP PREMIUM/ANNUITIES PRODUCER** for the 1st Quarter of 2021. He is the 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**. Congratulations Rich.

Congratulations to **Dr. Chong Chang Her** on being the **TOP LIFE INSURANCE/NEW MEMBER PRODUCER** for the 1st Quarter of 2021. Dr. Chong Chang Her came to America in April 1980 as a refugee from Laos to Thailand and then to the United States of America. He is the President of Hmong-American Insurance Services, Inc. since 1991. Dr. Her believes the future of the life insurance products should be diversified and flexible for our customers. Our customers should be able to make choices and choose the right product for them. By making that decision, Dr. Her decided to form his agency to meet that challenge. Dr. Her has been serving as an independent insurance agent for 30 years. For any question, please go to **www.hmoobinsurance.com** or call him at 1-800-813-4870 or email him at: **ccher61@gmail.com**



From the Sales Department...

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



Some Social Security Facts

Believe it or not the Social Security system pays out a little more than \$1 trillion dollars per year to recipients. Interestingly, the insurance industry pays out \$800 billion every year in benefits. Americans may not realize how much money they and their employers have paid into Social Security. The number would easily amount to thousands of dollars. Here are a few interesting facts about the Social Security system:

- Age 62 is the most common age to start receiving retirement benefits. In fact 57% of people start at that age.
- Waiting to age 70 would create a larger retirement benefit yet only 4% of people chose that age. Since benefits do not increase beyond this age so there is no reason to delay beyond age 70.
- A divorced spouse (that is not remarried) can file for benefits on their ex's benefits and that spouse would never know.
- A widow can collect benefits starting at age 60.

At your full retirement age (somewhere between ages 65-67) a person receives 100% of their retirement account. For each year they wait after full retirement age, their benefit is actuarial increased by 8%.

An easy way to increase your retirement security is to wait another year or two and let your Social Security

benefits grow. But is that really the best choice for you? As a rule of thumb, the cross over point is between ages 77-79. That is the age you would have to live to and beyond to reap the benefits of waiting to age 70 to collect Social Security vs taking the money early at age 62.

Some people should take their benefits at age 62. This would include people who need the income, or people who do not think their life expectancy will last to age 76 or beyond.

For most people, Social Security payment makes up a significant portion of their retirement program. With so much riding on this decision please make sure to have all the facts. One of the best ideas is to go to the Social Security website at www.ssa.gov. Sign up for your benefit statement and get your numbers. Then the right decision can be made. Call your local NSS representative for more guidance on this subject.

The Aging of America

Believe it or not, throughout 99% of human history, the average life expectancy for a given population was less than 20 years. Only over the last century or so, thanks to extraordinary events (medical advances, better nutrition, work safety, environment, economics and more) has average life expectancy increased dramatically.

Today, the average retiree can look forward to living another 20 or 30 years during the golden years. Supposedly there are three stages of life: learning, earning and yearning. The last phase includes retirees. Some of the challenges facing older Americans include obesity, loss of a spouse, divorce, economic disparities, long term care, isolation, depression and more.

More than 10,000 people a day are turning age 65. This trend will continue for at least another ten years. As people continue to age and face this last phase of life their deepest concerns focus on health, family and money.

Generally, here are the most common money questions.

1. Do I have enough life insurance to pay for final expenses and any outstanding bills?
2. Will I leave some money for a legacy to my family or perhaps some money to charity?
3. Do I have suitable hospitalization and long-term care insurance?
4. Will my retirement savings last a lifetime?

NSS can help with these concerns. We offer life insurance and have several plans to fit your needs. We offer annuities and IRAs which can be great tools to utilize regular monthly income. These plans accumulate money and can be set up to systematically pay the funds out over a lifetime.

Our programs offer competitive interest, tax-advantages, safety and more. For further information please contact your NSS representative or Joe Elliott in the Home Office.

Let's Be Friends

On a previous NSS trip with the winning agents Berk Badger and Denny Biava met and became good friends. They decided to meet and get together at a Georgia winery. I'm sure they were sharing sales ideas!



L to R: Annette and Berkeley Badger, and Denny and Sue Biava


Thought For The Month:

The successful warrior is an average person, with laser-like focus.

Bruce Lee (1940-1973), actor, martial artist

Fraternal Matters...

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



Mother's Day Poem

*Dear Mom,
I will love you forever,
And forever you will be
The most wonderful mother,
You mean everything to me.*

*I thought of buying you flowers
In the usual way,
But I knew you would prefer
A FOREVER bouquet!*

Art Contest – Deadline May 31st

To all the budding artists out there, this contest is open to youth members ages 5-16. Please keep in mind that you must be a member to enter. The four categories are **Picasso (ages 5-7), Rembrandt (ages 8-10), Michelangelo (ages 11-13), and Van Gogh (ages 14-16)**. The first-place winners in each category will receive a cash prize of \$50.00, second place will receive \$25.00, and third place will receive \$15.00. All members will receive a NSS Life t-shirt for participating. Please consider entering your masterpiece!

NSS Region 5 Night at PNC Park

Back by popular demand and because I am forever an optimist... NSS has reserved a block of tickets on Friday, June 18, 2021 for the Pittsburgh Pirates vs. Cleveland Indians. I have been in constant communication with the Pirates, and we are awaiting final confirmation as to the location of the seats. As of this writing, PNC Park is only allowed to be at 20% capacity. The tickets will be \$40.00 but they are being subsidized, in part, by Region 5 and Assembly 774 so the final cost to our members will be \$20. They will have a \$10 food/merchandise concession added on to the ticket, plus an additional \$5 for our patience during COVID, as the deposit was placed way back in December 2019. There are a limited number of tickets available, and they will be on a first come bases to Region 5 members only. Requests for tickets must be accompanied by your payment. Please make check payable to NSS Life and send to: Pirates Night, 351 Valley Brook Rd., McMurray, PA 15317-3337.

Carnegie Science Center (Update)



Please mark your calendars! The new date for our Family Fun Day at Carnegie Science Center is now **Saturday, September 11, 2021 from 11am-5pm**. Please keep in mind that this outing is only open to members of NSS Life. More details about the event will follow in upcoming issues of the magazine. Please continue to check back for details!



Happy Memorial Day!

"Our nation owes a debt to its fallen heroes that we can never fully repay, but we can honor them."

Fraternalist of the Year and Youth Achievement Awards

The deadline has been extended until June 1, 2021. Please consider nominating those special people that give of themselves to make our communities a better place for all.

Attention PVR Renewal Reminder

All 2nd, 3rd, and 4th year students!! Please remember to send us your transcripts by July 15, 2021 to receive your next installment of the PVR Scholarship. Please keep in mind that you must have maintained a 3.0 GPA to receive the next installment of the scholarship. Once we receive your transcript and your grades are in good standing, your check will be mailed to your home address the first week of August.



Annual NSS National Golf Tournament 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 based on 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.

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, 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 men's 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 16, 2021**

Please return the entry form on the following page to Pam Blum in the Fraternal Department at the Home Office.

National Slovak Society

55th Annual Golf Tournament

July 9 – 11, 2021

Hospitality Night Friday 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Kennsington Golf Simulator Lounge

Kennsington Golf Course
4171 Westford PI
Canfield OH 44406
330-533-8733

Room accommodations provided by
Courttyard by Marriott
4173 Westford PI
Canfield OH 44406
330-533-6880

Please mention NSS to receive the discounted rate

Room Rates: \$119.00 + tax per night

Deadline for Hotel Reservations is June 10, 2021

	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 (**Kennsington Golf Simulator Lounge**)
 _____ Will attend Saturday Dinner (list dinner attendees)

1. _____ 3. _____
 2. _____ 4. _____

Deadline is **June 16, 2021**

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 330-533-8733 (ext. 3)

NSS Youth Achievement Award Nomination Form



NSS Life
Family Matters...

★ **DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS: JUNE 1, 2021** ★

~ 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.

RATIONALE:

The award is directed at youth who do outstanding fraternal work in these four (4) areas:

- a) At their school/work b) In their community c) In their church d) In their local assembly

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

NSS Fraternalist of the Year Nomination Form



NSS Life
Family Matters...

★ **DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS: JUNE 1, 2021** ★

~ 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 Member ~

I wish to nominate _____
to receive the National Slovak Society "Fraternalist of the Year" Award for touching the lives of those in need in their family, church and community. I believe that this individual should be awarded the "Fraternalist of the Year" for going that "extra mile".

NSS Member or Assembly Officer

Assembly #

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

The winner of the NSS "Fraternalist of the Year" will be notified by the Home Office of their selection.

DEADLINE: April 1st of Each Year

ASSEMBLY 0039 Uniontown, PA

You and your family are invited to our Annual Summer Bar-B-Q on Sunday, **June 13th** in the outdoor pavilion of the Uniontown Columbian Association (formerly the K of C) on North Gallatin Avenue Ext. We use this occasion to pause and remember our great national treasure, our Flag. Everyone should have their shots by then and we will be outdoors. Mark your calendar. Events start at 1:00 pm. You do not have to be a member to come.

Our deepest sympathies go out to the families of Joel Chisler, Robert C. Craft, Richard E. Dennis, Gerald L. Ellenberger, Marjorie Greer and Estella Grose who recently found rest in the loving arms of the Resurrected Christ. Our condolences go out to the Wesnak family on the death of Andrew "Bucky" Wesnak, husband of Justine Wesnak and father of NSS Board Member, Drew Wesnak. Justine was president of the First Slovak Wreath of the Free Eagle, one of our merger partners, a few years ago. "Bucky" was a true-blue fraternalist and friend.

Also, encourage our children to enter the May Art Contest for ages 5 to 16. Rules are in the latest issue of the "National News". Deadline is **May 31st**.

Region 5, to which our assembly belongs will hold a "Family-Nite at the Ballpark" on Friday, **June 18th** at PNC Park. The Pirates will play an inter-league game against the Cleveland Indians. Tickets are \$40.00, with Region 5 paying \$20.00. Each ticket comes with a \$10.00 food voucher and as \$5.00 "spend-as-you-like" gift. Limited tickets! Call the home office today!

The home office is planning an "Assembly Officers Seminar" on Friday and Saturday, **August 6th and 7th**. Each assembly is encouraged to send two officers. Two will go from our assembly.

If you have any questions about our meetings or programs, call me at (724) 366-4100, or our secretary at (724) 570-1301.

Remember: April showers bring May flowers. Mayflowers bring pilgrims!

John Payerchin
President



ASSEMBLY L075 Duryea, PA

On **May 15th** members are tentatively planning to walk in the American Heart Association Heart Walk at the PNC Field in Moosic, we are donating a basket for their raffle and conducting a matching funds for them. Vice President Lucy Piccoletti and Stephanie Ciuccio will Co-Chair the event with more news to be announced for the Holy Walkamolies Team Assembly L075.

We are awaiting news of the postal carriers Join Hands Day Saturday, **May 8, 2021**, the Parade of baskets for the Summer and the VA Veteran's Bingo in November as we receive them.

For more information contact Lehrae Ann Edwards at 570-569-2181.

Lehrae Edwards
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0110 Tarreytown, NY

Our assembly will be holding a meeting of members at the Woodloch Pines Resort in Hawley, PA during the weekend outing scheduled for **June 11 to June 13, 2021**. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Thanks and best wishes to all,
Richard DeSanctis
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0123 Coraopolis, PA

Are we finally returning to some degree of normalcy? I certainly hope so. The COVID virus has taken a toll on all of us and disrupted many plans. Let us all resolve to put the bad behind us and make the rest of this year special.

One casualty of COVID was one of our most dedicated, respected and outstanding member, Mr. Peter Longstreth. He attended most all of our meetings and NSS conventions. When our assembly did a volunteer project such as World Vision, he was there working even when he was well past 90. He was a constant at the Veterans

Hospital. When after an event I'd ask everyone to donate a dollar for the Food Bank Pete would always put in a \$5. You might just say Pete was the definition of a Good Man. May he rest in peace. On behalf of the members of Assembly 123, I extend our deepest sympathies to his daughter Jill Grover and family.

Some good news, one of our members Kathryn Beyer won the Pennsylvania High Schools Girls 200 yard free style swim. The mayor of Warren proclaimed April 1st as Kathryn Beyer day in Warren. She is the only female in the history of Warren County to ever win any state championship. Congratulations! She is the daughter of Deana & Russ Beyer.



Katie Beyer is shown with her Gold and Bronze medals she received at the recent PIAA competition. We wish you continued success in all you seek to achieve in your brilliant future!

I am calling all young artists in our assembly to be sure to get your art work in to the home office by the end of the month. This is the annual NSS art contest and there are cash prizes to be awarded plus just for entering you will receive a beautiful NSS T shirt. Include your shirt size with your entry.

Region 5 of which we are members is planning a Pirate night at PNC park Friday **June 18th**. Check your magazine for details. Hopefully more people will be allowed in the stands. Other events to look forward to are: Kennywood Day, NSS Golf tournament, Region 5 picnic, Family Fun Day in September at the Carnegie Science Center.

May 9th is Mother's Day so let's not forget the most important person in your life. Shower her with all the love and attention that she so readily deserves.

As the month ends and summer unofficially begins Memorial Day May 31st let us also remember all the men and women who gave their lives in the service of this country. We enjoy our lives today because of their great sacrifice.

William Knoll
President

ASSEMBLY L161 Pittsburgh, PA

For many of us, Spring is a turning point, as we shift gears from operating in a sort of winter hibernation mode to revving up our outdoor activities and starting more projects. This summer we are hoping that more of our members will join us at some of the activities we are planning.

Once again this year Vice President Carol Lako is coordinating efforts with the Ladies Auxilliary Post 1365 and local Boy Scout Troops to place flags on the graves of the veterans in several Northside cemeteries in time for Memorial Day. If you are interested in helping send an email to sue.ondrejco@gmail.com or call: 412-421-1204.

Also, a picnic for members is being planned for Saturday, **July 17th**. More details will be available next month.

There is a lot of home schooling going on these days. But, I'm sure we all can recite some things our mother's taught us. Many of us were taught some of the same lessons like:

Our mother's taught us **RELIGION**: "You better pray that comes out of the carpet!"

They taught us **LOGIC**: "Because I said so, that's why."

How about **IRONY**: "Keep laughing and I'll give you something to cry about."

She was a science teacher as well. How about this lesson in **OSMOSIS**: "Shut your mouth and eat your supper."

And maybe the most widespread lesson of mothers the world over **FORESIGHT**: "Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident." Happy Mother's Day to all!

Sue Ondrejco
Secretary/Treasurer



Members attending meeting on March 21, 2021 at Atrias Restaurant



A-377 held a Matching Funds Program at Scenery Hill Methodist Church in March 2021. Pictured on the left is: Lisa Whery, and Pastor Patty McDaid receiving the check.

ASSEMBLY 0586 Chicago, IL

Hello fellow NSS members:

Here in Illinois many of us have been vaccinated. Still the governor is holding the schools closed for the most part and masks are mandated. Some of our Easter services were celebrated in cars and other services with limited numbers in church. Many volunteers directed traffic and pastors served communion. We appreciated all the efforts Easter celebration involved.

Our assembly members are looking forward again to having a meeting together instead of virtually which were by whatever means we could manage. Our plan is to meet sometime this month. Fingers crossed.

Janet received an email from a cousin in Slovakia. The virus has become so prevalent there that cousin Alena tells us that respirators are worn constantly. She says masks are not enough. Let's keep the little country of our ancestors in our prayers. We hope the vaccines will be available to everyone there soon.

Our 586 activity earned over \$100 for Operation Support Our Troops through Amazon Smile. A recent email from an officer of that group thanked us for our donation. OSOT is an orga-

nization we have helped for years both monetarily and with donations of treats and necessities. We can never repay our military for their service so this effort on our part lets them know that they are not forgotten.

Hopefully our meeting this month will be fun filled and possibly with our faces unmasked and recognizable. Also with the ability to breathe more easily. It will be good to plan for the remaining months of 2021. From our lips to God's ears. Blessings to our members. Be well and take care of each other.

Irene Tomaskovic
Vice-President

ASSEMBLY 0617 Ashley, PA

Assembly 617 notes the passing of our long serving President, Rosemary Strish. Rosemary was the heart and soul of the (reports) NSS Assembly 617. There was not one aspect of the assembly that Rosemary was not instrumental to its success. Rosemary will be greatly missed, and simply can not be replaced. To her family the assembly extends heartfelt sympathy.

It is hoped that possibly in May we may be able to meet if the pandemic has abated. If any member has suggestions concerning possible meeting place or methods in keeping with safe standards, please contact John Kurilla or Stephanie Kurilla. One important item that the Assembly must address is the selection of officers for the year. Any member who wished to be nominated for an office in the Assembly please contact John Kurilla at **570-287-4163, 570-239-5936** or JJkurilla@aol.com.

Assembly activities that are in the planning stages are sponsoring a day at St. Francis Kitchen, Fraternal Day at Knobles August 15th, Back Mountain Trail litter clean up. There will be other activities planned through out the year.

John Kurilla
Vice-President



ASSEMBLY 0377 Bentleyville, PA

If you have any questions about meetings or events, please call me at 724-207-3171 or email me at suzanne.skrypak@gmail.com. Please look at the Activities At A Glance on page 3 for the dates.

Susan Skrypak
President

ASSEMBLY 0731 Lowellville, OH



A ribbon cutting ceremony was held at the Park during the presentation of the new bench on a very cold, windy, snowy April 1st. The large bag held by a Township Trustee is stuffed with about 4 pounds of recyclable plastic bags so you can see why it takes the community's efforts over a 6-month period to collect enough plastic for a bench. A couple assembly members were present for the ribbon cutting, but missed being in the photo with Park representatives and Lions Club members.

Assembly 731 members helped the Poland Lions Club collect plastic bags for recycling with NexTrex Recycling. The group needs to collect 500 pounds (equal to about 40,500 bags) in a 6-month period to be eligible for a bench made from the recycled materials. Once we started helping with the collection, it was surprising how many different types of plastic bags and wraps can be saved in one household. The Lions Club first bench was donated to the Poland Township Park and will be installed in the Park's playground area. We are now working to get a second bench. This project definitely requires a lot of help from the community and Assembly 731 is proud to be part of their efforts.

"Ida Lewis was elected in February to serve as Assembly 731 Recording Secretary and was inadvertently omitted in April's newsletter. We welcome Ida to our list of officers".

Ida Lewis
Secretary



OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS

March, 2021

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Armstrong, Samuel	Somerset, PA	03/15/2021	0039
Bachna, Rudolph	Kent, OH	02/20/2021	0004
Bakowski, Dorothy	Pittsburgh, PA	03/09/2021	0100
Bauer, William G	Marshall, MI	03/13/2017	0381
Beck, Allen	Westover, PA	02/28/2021	0554
Bianco, Mary	Thornhurst, PA	12/24/2020	0617
Birch, Richard M	Marianna, PA	01/19/2021	0434
Blackman, Beth	San Francisco, CA	01/18/2021	0568
Blackwell, Winifred	Rock, WV	01/18/2021	0774
Booth, Lois	Portage, PA	03/19/2021	0737
Bradshaw, Joyce	Bethel Park, PA	03/01/2021	0434
Brown, Caroline E	Seagertown, PA	02/07/2021	0731
Bryans, Robert E	Hastings, MI	01/21/2021	0381
Burkett, David	Erie, PA	03/10/2021	0774
Cafardi, Sue	Erie, PA	03/10/2021	0774
Carey, Elise	Pittston, PA	02/05/2021	L075
Collins, Wilda	Cranberry Twp, PA	03/10/2021	0123
Cresto, Joseph	Pittsburgh, PA	03/20/2021	0100
Crosier, Reba	Charleston, WV	12/21/2020	0774
Davis, James W	Chillicothe, OH	03/05/2021	0595
Deiter, Benjamin	Mifflin, PA	02/18/2021	0108
Diethorn, Darlene	Charleroi, PA	02/23/2021	0377
DiSanti, Angeline	Freedom, PA	01/24/2021	0123
Domaszek, Conrad	Stevens Point, WI	02/19/2021	0774
Eddinger, Jr., Cletus E	Cranberry Twp, PA	01/18/2021	0588
Farmer, Pauline	Boardman, OH	01/21/2021	0731
Ferguson, Cecillia	Morrisdale, PA	01/10/2021	0774
Ferguson, Yvonne	Ceddar Park, TX	01/21/2021	L161
Finke, Donald	Glenshaw, PA	12/29/2020	L161
Fischer, Margaret	Bethel Park, PA	01/27/2021	0434
FitzPatrick, Agnes	Bronx, NY	01/16/2020	0110
Flaherty, Elaine	Macedonia, OH	02/21/2021	0070
Furlong, Richard	Cochran, PA	11/27/2020	0108
Gates, Owen	Johnstown, PA	01/21/2021	0774
Gelormino, Maria	Pittsburgh, PA	12/22/2020	L161
Geyer, Shirley A	Pittsburgh, PA	02/02/2021	L161
Glick, David	Leola, PA	02/07/2021	L102
Glitt, Howard	The Villages, FL	02/06/2021	0800
Gootman, Stephen	Ebensburg, PA	03/02/2021	0267
Guilyard, Albert	DuBois, PA	02/26/2021	0554
Hanes, Martha	Wellsburg, WV	02/05/2021	P38A
Hardy, Kathleen	Ravenswood, WV	01/11/2021	0774
Hartley, David	New Castle, PA	03/09/2021	0123
Hayes, Reba	So Charleston, WV	01/28/2021	0774
Hayes, Violet	Yorktown, VA	01/24/2021	L161
Hebor, Francis	Pittsburgh, PA	01/31/2021	0617
Heiser, Joan	Apollo, PA	02/18/2021	0774
Hinton, Sandy	Jeannette, PA	12/27/2020	0737
Hoerter, Frederick	Plover, WI	02/22/2021	0774
Hoffman, Eles	Lower Burrell, PA	03/25/2021	L105
Howard, Janet	Beckley, WV	01/22/2021	0774
Jenkins, Nettie	Brownsville, PA	02/08/2021	0774
Johnson, John	Ambridge, PA	02/10/2021	0100
Jubinski, Stephen	Dalton, PA	03/16/2021	L075
Kane, Mary Louise	Carnegie, PA	12/13/2020	0377
Karem, Eugene	McClellandtown, PA	03/06/2021	0039
Keefer, Jean A	Allison Park, PA	02/10/2021	L161

(Continued on Page 17)

OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS CONTINUED

March, 2021

Kelley, Richard E	Carlisle, PA	11/26/2020	L040
King, Esther	Essexville, Mi	02/18/2020	0381
Kopp, Mary I	Pittsburgh, PA	01/31/2021	0434
Koprowski, Wilfrid	Reading, PA	09/29/2020	L102
Koreni, Michael	Blairsville, PA	03/03/2021	0737
Kornak, Chester	Irvington, NJ	02/09/2021	0774
Krueger, Adeline	Greenfield, WI	02/09/2021	0774
Kubistek, Robert A	Latrobe, PA	11/03/2019	0737
Kudrenick, Arnold	Murraysville, PA	02/13/2021	L161
Kukulka, Julia	Chicago, IL	12/31/2021	0586
Langham, Janice	Lower Burrell, PA	01/24/2021	L161
Leedy, James	Annnville, PA	12/25/2020	L102
Lorusso, Helen	Lake Hiawatha, NJ	01/16/2021	0774
Lutz, Evelyn	Hummelstown, PA	02/24/2021	0774
Magera, Michael	Toms River, NJ	02/22/2021	0110
Mann, Phyllis	Lewisburg, WV	12/31/2020	0774
Mathews, Auddra	Beaver, PA	02/27/2021	0123
Matzig, Mary	St Louis, MO	01/11/2021	0774
Mauriello, Helen	Exeter, PA	03/07/2021	L075
McCloskey, Elizabeth	Mountain Top, PA	12/18/2020	0617
Meikle, Bartley	Greensburg, PA	02/18/2021	0737
Menge, Arden	Muskego, WI	12/19/2020	0774
Mills, Lillie	Canonsburg, PA	02/21/2021	0434
Mincin, Marlene	Sammamish, WA	02/11/2021	0434
Moran, Sara	Warren, PA	03/24/2021	0774
Morelli, Irene	Pittsburgh, PA	12/17/2020	L105
Moreno, Juan	Tucson, AZ	01/01/2021	0568
Oniffrey, Michael	Lancaster, PA	02/13/2021	L102
Papa, Mary	Monroeville, PA	10/31/2020	L105
Philbin, Therese	Pittsburgh, PA	11/20/2020	0100
Radochio, Talmadge	Princeton, WV	12/30/2020	0774
Rosignoli, Michael	Pittsburgh, PA	10/24/2020	L105
Sadikovic, Izet	Ambridge, PA	03/01/2021	0123
Scott, Mildred	Mullens, WV	02/05/2021	0774
Shipley, Terrence	Monessen, PA	03/25/2021	0377
Sisko, Andrew	Wickliffe, OH	02/05/2021	0004
Smith, Mary Anne	Eighty Four, PA	10/28/2020	0377
Smith, Sr., Richard L	Indiana, PA	01/04/2021	0774
Spaun, Bradley	Export, PA	02/22/2021	L105
Stapert, Tillie	Nanticoke, PA	03/10/2021	0617
Strickland, Ernest	Charleston, WV	01/27/2021	0774
Sullivan, Audrey	Verona, PA	01/14/2021	L105
Taylor, Pearl	Nitro, WV	12/30/2020	0774
Teague, Paul	Vienna, OH	11/16/2020	0731
Teter, Margaret	Charleston, WV	11/03/2020	0774
Trzcinski, Edward	Carnegie, PA	04/25/2020	0100
Trzcinski, Olive	Carnegie, PA	11/08/2020	0100
Tucker, Dexter	PawPaw, MI	11/27/2020	0381
Urffer, Mary	Etters, PA	03/12/2021	R059
Varichak, Elizabeth	Minneapolis, MN	02/21/2021	0774
Vavrinec, Eveline	Monroe, CT	12/19/2020	0028
Violi, Charles	Satellite Beach, FL	02/13/2021	L161
Vogan, Richard	Mobile, AL	02/15/2021	0731
Wallace, Katherine	Waxhaw, NC	01/25/2021	0774
Waltier, Grace	Corry, PA	02/07/2021	0774
Wells, Dennis	Traverse City, MI	02/03/2021	0381
Williams, Mary B	Sun Prairie, WI	10/01/2020	0800
Young, Theodore	Beaver Falls, PA	01/07/2021	0123
Zupic, Ronald	Brownsville, PA	01/29/2021	0039



PVR Scholarship Fund Donations

In Memory of **Ruth & Loren Burns,**

Assembly 731:

From Lauren & Michael

Fox.....250.00

In Memory of **Andrew "Bucky" Wesnak:**

From Chris & Robert

Katricak.....100.00

In Memory of **Andrew "Bucky" Wesnak:**

From Cheryl and Eugene

Achey.....50.00

In Memory of **James T Herrick, Sr:**

From Assembly 0123.....20.00

In Memory of **Diana Sneeringer:**

From Assembly 0123.....20.00

In Memory of **Shaun Logan Crowley:**

From Kevin, Lori, Kevin, Jr.,

and John Crowley.....20.00

Donations:

Jeffrey & Joanne Jones.....150.00

Catherine Burchell.....25.00

Sharon & Lewis Slovensky.....245.00

REMINDER

Deadline For Publication

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





Máj, ktorý má nesmierne veľa prívlastkov, no asi najznámejší je, **mesiac lásky**. Myslím, že láska by nemala byť obmedzovaná len na jeden mesiac, ale keď ju už máme v tomto mesiaci „velebiť“, tak nech sa páči.

Májové čaro je najmä v prírode. Po apríli je už všetko v kvete, farby a vône sa miešajú a vytvárajú harmóniu. Je to pastva pre naše oči. Včely bzučia, opelujú kvety, zdá sa akoby začal nový život. V tomto mesiaci máme dva štátne sviatky a oba tentokrát padli na víkend.

Pochopiteľne by sme prijali májové leňošenie v podobe predĺženého víkendu. Mesiac máj začne oslavne hneď prvým dňom. Oslavou sviatku práce, ktorý vznikol na základe štrajku robotníkov za 8 hodinový pracovný čas v roku 1886 a stavaním májov s májovými veseliciami, ktoré si udržujú tradíciu.

Májové symboliky:

Stavanie májov, jedna z najznámejších tradícií. Vraj zvyk je ešte z antických čias, kedy staroveké národy dávali malé stromčeky na domy, na ochranu pred zlými duchmi a chorobami. „Máje“ stavali chlapci pre svoje vyvolené pred ich domy. Najčastejšie sa používala breza, ale záležalo od lokality. Na vrchole sa nechával malý stromček a ten sa zdobí stužkami. Zvyk stavania mája sa zachoval dodnes, stavia sa zväčša jeden, k významným budovám v obci, v meste (školy, radnice, kostoly a pod.)

Nesmieme zabúdať ani na ďalšie krásne zvyky, a to prvomájové veselice, tzv. majálesy, alebo májové májenie. Pobožkanie pod rozkvitnutou čerešňou.

Hovorí sa, že dievčina, ktorú milý pobožká pod čerešňou, sa do roka vydá, alebo že pár, ktorý sa takto pobožká, bude naplnený láskou a spokojnosťou. Pokiaľ sa človek aspoň raz v živote pod čerešňou božkával, mozog si tento pocit pamätá. Stačí si ho len pripomenúť a zaplaví nás eufória.

A prečo vlastne máj lásky čas?

Lebo v máji sa prebúdzajú príroda a človek dostáva z toľkej rozkvitnutej krásy okolo seba novú energiu. A je to ideálny čas i na romantické chvíľky, na ktoré ste doteraz nemali dostatok času. Máj je krásny mesiac. Pre mňa určite.

Prajem vám lásku v srdci.



Zopár májových pranostiek:

Bujné kvety v máji, plné úle.

V máji chladno – bude vína na dno.

Dážď, dážď, májový dážď, budú mi od teba vlasy rásť.

Keď sa v máji blýska, to si sedliak výska.

Chladný máj – pre ovocie raj.

Pankrác, Servác, Bonifác – Traja zmrznutí, znamenajú citelné ochladenie.

Deň matiek

Nápad oslavy Dňa matiek do Československa prišiel okolo roku 1918, keď krajinu navštevovalo veľa ľudí z USA, medzi nimi i sociálne pracovníčky. Ideu šírila Čs. ochrana matiek a detí, Červený kríž, Sokol, Orol, katolícke spolky i niektoré ženské komisie pri politických stranách.

V druhu nedeľu v Máji slávime deň Matiek a k tomuto sviatku pripájame aj peknú báseň všetkým matkám.

Najkrajšia hviezdica z celého nebička
je tvoja mamička, čo ti Boh dal.
Až ti tá hviezdica zmizne raz z nebička,
potom do srdiečka, zájde ti žiaľ.
Nájdeš si lásku i kamaráta,
nikto ti nedá čo tvoja matka.
Najkrajšia hviezdica ...



Mesiac máj, ako najkrajší mesiac v roku, u nás sa odjakživa spájal s menom Panny Márie.

Panna Mária, kráľovná mája
oroduj za nás.



Buď prejavom láskavosti. Maj láskavosť
v tvári, v očiach,
v úsmeve, vo vďačnom
pozdrave.



sv. Matka Terézia



Youth Circle Page

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

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.

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 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.

Animals that LOVE the Sun



Some animals just love the summer. In fact, many animals will sleep in the winter because it's just too cold. Expand your knowledge about animals that enjoy the summer weather.

Bumblebees love the summer sun. They flourish in the summer and queens hibernate during the winter.

Box turtles can hibernate for as long as 4 months. They need warm weather to stay alive.

Those little blood sucking rascals, **mosquitoes**, need warm weather to come around.

Starting as **caterpillars**, moths lay eggs in the summer.

Badgers flourish in the summer weather and might even fight a bear.

Not as fun as bumblebees, **hornets** come out in the summer.

Known for their loud songs during summer nights, **cicadas** are an insect with a hollow abdomen.

While **flies** are a summer menace, these insects are found at summer picnics.

Litters of **hedgehogs** can include four or five hoglets. Isn't that a cute name?

Lyme disease carrying **ticks**, can be found in the woods in summer.

While the sun is fun, during the warmest days many animals will seek out shade anywhere they can.



National Slovak Society
(USPS 0371-140)
351 Valley Brook Road
McMurray, PA 15317-3337

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Permit No. 1166

Could you use a little extra “green?”

Recommender

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

Recommender Information:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Prospect Information:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____



Send form to Joe Elliott at the Home Office.

Change of Address

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

Name _____

Assembly No. _____

New Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Former Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

DEADLINE FOR PUBLICATION

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