2021 Family Fun Day

Carnegie Science Center - Saturday, September 11, 2021 - 11:00 am – 5:00 pm

Reservations are still open. Contact Pam Blum at the Home Office or at pblum@nsslife.org. to sign up. Please join us for an exciting day at one of the best museums in Pittsburgh! Located at 1 Allegheny Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15212. Our event will begin at 11:00 am and end at 5:00 pm.

### Activities At A Glance

**REGION 2**
- September 25
- October 6
- October 17

**Assemblies L075, 0617**
- Region 2, Meeting, Pierce Street Deli, Kingston, PA at 1:00 pm
- Assembly 0617, Meeting, Pierce Street Deli at 1:00 pm
- Assembly L075, Meeting, Grande’s Restaurant, Moosic, PA at 1:00 pm

**REGION 5**
- September 11
- September 12
- September 14
- September 25
- September 26
- October 16
- October 17
- October 23
- November 27
- December 4
- December 4
- December 4
- December 5
- December 5

**Assemblies P38A, 0039, 0100, L05, 0108, 0123, L161, 0377, 0434, 0441, 0588, 0731, 0737, 0774**
- Family Fun Day, Carnegie Science Center, Pittsburgh, PA - 11:00 am to 5:00 pm
- Assembly 0039, Flight 93 Remembrance Dinner, Eat’n Park, Uniontown, PA at 6:00 pm
- Assembly 0588, Meeting, Stefka residence, Gibsonia, PA at 5:30 pm
- Septemberfest, Home Office, McMurray, PA 11:00 am - 4:00 pm
- Assembly 0377, Meeting, Sesame Inn, McMurray, PA at 3:00 pm
- Assembly 0737, Meeting, Carol Godor’s residence, North Huntingdon, PA at 1:00 pm
- Region #5, Meeting, Home Office, McMurray, PA at 1:00 pm
- Assembly 0731, Halloween Hayride, Countryside Farm, Lowellville, OH at 5:00 pm
- Christmas Around The World, NSS Heritage Museum, McMurray, PA (TBA)
- Phipps Conservatory’s Holiday Magic at 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm
- Assembly 0731, Christmas Party, Lariccia Family Center, Boardman Park at 6:00 pm
- Assembly 0737, Meeting, Carol Godor’s residence, North Huntingdon, PA at 1:00 pm
- Assembly 0039, Annual Christmas Party, Uniontown K of C 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**
- September 12
- September 12
- October 29
- November 7
- January 9, 2022

**Assemblies R059, L102**
- Assembly R059, Meeting, Keysock residence at 3:00 pm
- Assembly L102, Election of Officers, Wesnak’s residence, Whitehall, PA at 3:00 pm
- Assembly L102, Halloween Party, Wesnak’s residence, Whitehall, PA at 5:30 pm
- Assembly L102, Ornament Making Party, Wesnak’s residence, Whitehall, PA at 3:00 pm
- Assembly L102, Annual Christmas Party, Wesnak’s residence, Whitehall, PA at 2:00 pm

**AT LARGE**
- September 5
- September 12
- October 17
- October 23
- October 27
- November 7
- December 15
- December 24

**Assemblies L002, R019, L040, 0110, 0236, 0267, 0381, 0554, 0568, 0586, 0705, 0800, 0813**
- Assembly 0554, Meeting, Stricek’s residence, DuBois, PA at 2:00 pm
- Assembly 0705, Meeting, Dorothy Buck’s residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm
- Assembly 0554, Meeting, Stricek’s residence, DuBois, PA at 2:00 pm
- Assembly 0813, Shrimp Boil, Thirsty Pig Craft Beer Tap Room at 4:00 pm
- Assembly 0381, Meeting (TBA)
- Assembly 0705, Meeting, Dorothy Buck’s residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm
- Assembly 0381, Meeting (TBA)
- Assembly 0705, Christmas Eve Party, (Fraternal Fund Activity) (TBA)
The month of September brings us Labor Day Weekend and the unofficial end of summer. Labor Day is a federal holiday and is celebrated on the first Monday of September. This year the holiday falls on September 6th. The Home Office will be closed on the holiday. Most students either have returned to school or will return the week of Labor Day. Fall sports get underway in high schools, colleges, and the professional level.

September also brings us Septemberfest at the National Slovak Society. The event is sponsored by the NSS Heritage Museum and will be held on Saturday, September 25, 2021, from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Home Office. The event is free and open to the public. Assemblies, regions, and individuals can support Septemberfest and be recognized through different levels of sponsorship. Information regarding sponsorships appears elsewhere in this issue of the National News. A great day is planned for those who attend the event with demonstrations, crafts, entertainment, and delicious Slovak food.

The NSS National Golf Tournament was held at Kennsington Golf Course in Canfield, Ohio the weekend of July 9-11, 2021. Several groups of golfers arrived on Friday afternoon to play a practice round on the beautiful but challenging course. Hospitality Night was held on Friday evening in the Kennsington Golf Simulator Lounge. It provided a time to catch up with friends and to meet new golfers and families attending the tournament. The food and beverages were great, and everyone enjoyed the evening. In conjunction with the Hospitality Night, the qualifying round for the putting contest was held on the practice green of the golf course. Entry fees for the putting contest are donated to the PVR Scholarship Fund. For every 10-foot putt made, the golfers received a ticket which was placed in a container for a drawing for Saturday’s Putting Contest Final. The three golfers chosen would have one try to make a 50-foot putt for $1000 following Saturday’s round of individual competition. The three golfers whose tickets were drawn for Saturday’s Final were Mike Czarney, Dan Froehlich, and Chris Pytel. All three made great putts but no one sunk the winning putt. Thank you to all that participated in the putting contest and helped the PVR Scholarship Fund. A special thank you to the sponsor of the putting contest, our external auditing firm, H2R CPA. Also, thank you to our asset manager AQS for sponsoring the Hole-in-One contest. We did not have a winner in the Hole-in-One contest this year. However, this year marks the 30th anniversary of the only hole-in-one scored in NSS Golf Tournament history. On July 20, 1991, Joe Violin aced the 16th hole at Speidel Golf Club in Oglebay Park located in Wheeling, West Virginia, in the first round of the tournament. The individual medal round of this year’s tournament was held on Saturday with golfers teeing it up in six flights. The results of the medal round and winners of the various flights are included elsewhere in this issue of the National News. A delicious dinner was held on Saturday evening at the Kennsington Golf Course. Winners of the various skill prizes, the par three challenge, and the six flights were announced. The winner of the Joseph Stefka, Sr. Memorial Golf Award for 2021 is Kevin Crowley of Assembly 441. Kevin had a net 57 to win the award! The Award was established to honor the National Slovak Society’s 15th President, Joseph Stefka, by the Stefka family in 1994. The award recognizes the men’s low net score in the NSS established handicap flights for the tournament each year. Congratulations Kevin! The low gross score for the tournament, a 74, was carded by Mark Baranek of Assembly 381 located in Grosse Isle, Michigan. This was Mark’s first NSS National Golf Tournament. Congratulations Mark on a great round! Hope to see you at next year’s tournament. Sunday’s scramble event teams were announced at the dinner. A total of eight scramble teams eagerly awaited the Sunday event. The weather for Sunday did not look promising as showers and thunderstorms were predicted. As golfers registered for the scramble event, the rain showers began. The rain occurred occasionally throughout the round, but all groups were able to finish. The results of the Sunday Scramble also appear elsewhere in this issue. Although the course was challenging and the weather did not fully cooperate on Sunday, we received many positive comments about the entire weekend and golfers indicated that they liked the venue and would like to return in the future for another tournament. The staff at Kennsington, including the hotel, golf course, and banquet facility were outstanding and accommodating. NSS thanks you for making our National Golf Tournament weekend a special event! Plans are being made to hold next year’s tournament at Tam O’Shanter Golf Course in Hermitage, Pennsylvania. Details regarding next year’s tournament will appear in future issues of the National News. Make plans to join us for a weekend of fun, golf, and fraternalism at Tam O’Shanter Golf Course next July.

News of Narodniars

Happy Birthday wishes are sent to former National Slovak Society Secretary-Treasurer and Honorary Officer Paul Payerchin, former member of the Board of Directors Gary Cepko, Sales Director Greg Felton, Controller Donna Tenney, Chief Information Officer Alan Burns, Home Office staff members Tracey Bastaroli and Linda Buono. Also, to Chris Katricak, Mike Krynak, Pete Maropis, Carleen Lachman, Andy Burns, Millie Havir, John Palko, Susan Knoll, Edwin Woods, and Charlotte Lavin.

Happy Wedding Anniversary to Chairman of the Board Bob Katricak and wife Chris, and to former President Dave Blazek and wife Fran. Congratulations to all other celebrating a birthday or anniversary during the month of September.
Grandparents from Assembly 0731 enjoyed fun time at Kennywood with their grandkids on Slovak Day

Looking forward to celebrating our 99th Annual Slovak Day in 2022
Current Interest Rates
Effective January 1, 2020

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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.

2nd Quarter Leaders for 2021

Congratulations to Dr. Chong Chang Her on being the TOP LIFE INSURANCE/NEW MEMBER PRODUCER for the 2nd 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 31 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

John Kinney is the TOP PREMIUM/ANNUITIES PRODUCER for the 2nd Quarter of 2021. John is the AVP at Infirst Financial and has 38 years of financial services experience. He is well qualified and service oriented and always takes care of his clients. John is married with two wonderful children. He is a Penn State graduate, active in his community and enjoys any outdoor activities. Please reach out and congratulate John or contact him to help you; office phone 724-349-3006, Ext. 247 or email him at: kinneyj@infirstfinancial.com

Congratulations John for a job well done.
Hugh Hefner and Life Insurance

Most people know the name Hugh Hefner as he is synonymous with Playboy magazine and the subsequent empire that he built. While a flashy individual, he was also an astute business man. He made money on practically everything he touched.

At his death, he left quite an estate worth approximately $50 million. His wife received the house (worth $5 million and $7 million in cash. His four children received the rest of the estate. Using the estate rules the approximate $12 million passes to the spouse with no taxes. The remaining $38 million would get a $12 million dollar exemption and that leaves $26 million subject to taxes at a 40% level or $11 million dollars. Each child would end up with about $7 million after taxes.

Everyone in this scenario will probably be fine. I know I would be if I inherited $7 million. But the important point is the $11 million of estate tax money that this family paid. Some will say they could afford to pay that much in taxes. Some will say it should have been more.

Here is an interesting point. Using the tools available; the estate tax exemption, some trust arrangements and charitable giving, it is possible that this family could have saved a lot of tax money.

If Mr. Hefner would have thought about some life insurance at age 50. He could have bought a $5 million dollar whole life policy for less than $100,000 a year back then. Even though he lived to age 91, forty years of total payments would have been around $4 million but the death benefit would have been around $8 million. That amount of money would have went a long way towards paying any taxes due. The other point is that by buying life insurance he cut his actual cost in half.

Plus this is a whole life plan with so many other benefits. Sure, the estate, the taxes, the insurance amounts were all greater than average. But the reality is we all need life insurance to help make our lives or our beneficiaries lives better. Any amount is better than none.

Call your local NSS representative or Joe Elliott in the home office for more information on how life insurance can help you and your family.

Why You Should Have An Annuity

Generally speaking, anyone age 50 or older should have an annuity. Anyone under age 50 should think about a Roth IRA as long as they have earned income. Before we begin a quick review of the rules surrounding an annuity. First, annuities are tax-deferred savings plans designed to help you accumulate money for the long term. Taxes are due on any gain and that is always the first money out of an annuity. Also, age 59½ is a key target date to getting money out of the annuity. Because prior to that age there is a 10% IRS early withdrawal penalty unless certain exceptions are met. (death, disability, etc.)

Some of the reasons to have an annuity are:

- To earn a good rate of interest.
- To have a good base rate or guarantee in case the current interest rate environment (declines.)
- To open an account so the penalty period (early withdrawal charges) is running. Hopefully, it will expire before any money is needed.
- To have a place to park some funds for the future. (Perhaps an inheritance or the proceeds from the sale of a house)
- To have the option of creating a lifetime income.

The first few points are self-explanatory. The third point refers to an account opened ten years ago (early withdrawal period expired) and now deposits are being made. This person could add money and if they are age 59½ or older, could later withdraw money. The rule is interest out first, but you would have run into this same problem with any savings account at the bank. Lump sum deposits could be made and withdrawn. The last point gives a person the flexibility to convert their account into a monthly income that cannot be outlived. The annuity is also a convenient place to put IRA RMD’s when they are not needed for day to day living expenses.

In the worst-case scenario, an annuity is just a savings account offered by insurance companies. We offer some different options so please contact your local NSS representative for more information.

Disclaimer: NSS always recommends that you consult with your tax advisor/CPA to determine how these products and taxes may affect your particular situation.

Thought For The Month:
"If you have to choose between being kind and being right, choose being kind and you will always be right.”

Slovak proverb
This year will mark our 9th annual event at the museum. We would like to have as many of our Assemblies and Regions be involved in helping to make this year’s event another successful experience. Once again we will provide more entertainment for the children with games, crafts, etc. Therefore we will need many volunteers to help in various ways throughout the day. If you, or your assembly would like to manage a game/craft for the day please contact: sue.ondrejco@gmail.com.

Here are some other ways you and/or your Assembly can help:
- Donate homemade baked goods, volunteer an hour or two, publicize the event at your meetings and/or local papers. Remember, it is a great way to show everyone what the NSS is all about!
- Assemblies and Regions or individuals can also support the event through one of the following levels of sponsorship:
  - $100...Gold
  - $50...Silver
  - $25.....Bronze

Send your donation and makes checks payable to: NSS Heritage Museum 234 ILION St. Pgh., PA 15207

By participating as a volunteer or as a sponsor your assembly will earn fraternal tracking points.

Vendor spaces are available although limited. For more info contact sue.ondrejco@gmail.com

Mark your calendars to join us for our annual “Christmas around the World” Celebration Saturday, November 27, 2021
### 2021 Golf Tournament Results

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* Winner on 3rd playoff hole on scorecard  ** Winner on 1st playoff hole on scorecard  ★ Winner of 2021 Joseph Stefka, Sr. Memorial Golf Award

### Sunday Scramble Results

1st Place – Mark Baranek, Georgiann Kraik, Dan Froehlich
2nd Place – Alan Burns, Mike Partyka, Donna Tenney, Joe Burkhart

**Congratulations! Kevin Crowley 2021 Joseph Stefka, Sr. Memorial Golf Award Winner**

President Joe Stefka Jr. and Kevin Crowley

Kevin with his wife NSS Editor Lori Crowley at the NSS Golf Tournament banquet
2021 Golf Tournament Teams

Group 1: Rich Burns, Brian Martz, Steve DaSilva, Alan Burns

Group 2: Tony Gambatese, Dave Burns, Andy Burns, Mike Czarney

Group 3: Joe Stefka, Jr., Floyd McKain, Dan Cheberencheck, Ron Cooper

Group 4: Joe Elliott, George Albert, Nick DePersis, Albert Suess

Group 5: Mike Partyka, Zach Partyka, Alex Blum, Mark Baranek

Group 6: Melvin Hannah, Jim Czarney, Tom Czarney, Ken Rainey

Group 7: Ron Sarrick, Donna Tenney, Georgiann Kralik, Dan Kralik

Group 8: William Kasan, Joe Burkhart, Kevin Crowley, Bob Kapp

Group 9: Matt Pytel, Chris Pytel, Dave Pytel, Shawn Pytel

Group 10: Josh Berner, Dan Froehlich, Jim Morehart, Chuck Froehlich

Group 11: Alex SirLouis, Kane Bateman, Chris Bateman, Bob SirLouis

President Joe Stefka, Jr. and Terri Cooper celebrating birthdays during the Golf tournament. Pictured “waving” out their birthday candles on the joint birthday cake provided for the occasion.
For(e) Heaven's Sake

One of life’s great little mysteries is what prompts the voice inside your head that says “play it safe” to occasionally throw caution to the wind. There is a time when a man and his moment will meet. And this is where the fun begins.

What is the record for the most number of holes of golf played by a person in one day? My brothers and I played 66 holes in one day some 30 years ago when we were in our twenties, a family record that held up for a long time. But when you are a Burns you are naturally and inherently competitive, so of course you must try and beat the record. You wonder how many holes of golf can a human being play in one day. Sort of like how many licks does it take to get to the center of the Tootsie pop. Some questions just need answering.

You ask at the clubhouse, “Is the 4th round free?” They look at you funny and say “go”. They post your picture on their Facebook page and tell their followers you have played 72 holes in one day.

Around 6 pm it starts to rain. Thunder and lightning. Who cares, you are on a mission and no one is going to stop you. Forget about the fact that the 14th hole is named “Death Valley”. Forget about those images of the bishop getting struck by lightning in Caddyshack—there’s a job to do.

You come in from the storm finishing the round and hear others asking for a rain check. You ask, “Can I go out the front nine?” The pro says yes and asks you how many this will be. It’ll be 90 once you finish the front nine.

On the ninth fairway, the pro is waiting for you and tells you that you are getting a lot of likes on Facebook. One commenter says if he tried this his wife would kill him. (You later reply to him that she’s out of town.) But, like Morgan Freedman in Shawshank Redemption, you are a free man on a journey whose conclusion is uncertain. You tell the pro that there’s an hour left of daylight, and if you finish the back nine and play the par 3 18th hole again, it’ll make an even 100 holes.

It is now 7:50 pm and your brain has completely blocked all form of pain. Why stop now? Why did the man climb the mountain? Because it was there. You play on and are nowhere as interested in your score as when you started. It’s not how you start; it’s how you finish after all.

At 8:45 pm, near dark, the pro is standing next to the 18th green and wants to take your picture. You tap in on the final hole, the 100th hole. It feels great—you did it!

Driving home, you tell your brothers there is a new family record: 100 holes. (The world record for most holes played in 24 hours walking is 420!) Your brothers tell you that you can have the record for now, but just know that there are nephews and nieces in waiting.

Even though you were driving a cart, you still managed to walk 35,000 steps and 17.6 miles in one day. Pretty good. Your right knee is swelled up like a balloon but no worries, there will be time enough to recover. As you fall asleep that night, you start to wonder “if I play a little faster, I think I can break the record again…”

“There is no such thing, as too much golf!”

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Scenes from the 2021 Golf Tournament

Hole #17 was home to the Hole-In-One challenge

The annual putting contest was a bit cool but nonetheless an enjoyable evening

Fraternal Night: food, drinks, and virtual golf!

Closing out the tournament with the annual banquet

President Joe Stefka, Jr. announcing tournament results and calling raffle prize winners

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NATIONAL NEWS | SEPTEMBER 2021
**ASSEMBLY 0039**

Unioneotown, PA

Mark your calendars for our upcoming “Flight 93 Memorial Dinner” on Sunday, September 12th at the Eat’n Park, Unioneotown, PA at 6:00 pm. Come and help us remember our fellow Americans who gave their lives for us.

We express our deepest sympathies to the families of Stephanie Balik, William Edwards, James Kendy and Mary Satovich who died in the resurrection hope of Jesus Christ.

Enjoy good Slovak food? You will not get any better than at “September Fest” that will be held at the home office on Saturday, September 25th from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. Love Slovak pastry? Come to the festival! Games, crafts, dancers, food, fun for the whole family!

Getting older and having trouble with your hearing? The NSS has part
ered with to offer member discounts on select services. Please visit https://www.starthearing.com/ for more information.

Plan to send in a photo, or two to the NSS Photo Contest. Rules are in the latest issue of the “National News” and the deadline is October 31st. Help our assembly gain points by submitting an entry.

Region 5, of which our assembly is a member, will hold our fall meeting at the home office on Sunday, October 17th at 1:00 pm. Lunch will be served following the meeting.

Our Christmas Party/Dinner will be held on Sunday, December 5th at the Columbia Association (K of C) Social Hall starting at 2:00 pm. Mr. Greg Felton, our NSS Sales Director will be our guest. Good food, door prizes, gifts and fraternal fun!

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

Watch out for kids going back to school!

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**ASSEMBLY R059**

As we begin the last quarter of the year, we have scheduled our first meeting in a year and a half. The meeting will be held on September 12, 2021 at Alexandra and William Keysock’s residence at 3:00 pm. For more information call Michelle at 610-262-2045.

Michele Guydan
Secretary

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**ASSEMBLY L075**

A meeting will be held on October 17, 2021 at Grande’s Restaurant, 4200 Birney Avenue, Moosic, PA at 1:00 pm. For more information contact Lehrae Ann Edwards at 570-569-2181.

Lehrae Ann Edwards
Secretary/Treasurer

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**ASSEMBLY L102**

Election of officers will be held on September 12, 2021 at the Wesnak home, Whitehall, PA at 3:00 pm.

Mark your calendars for the following events:

- **October 29th** - Trick or Treat Halloween party at the Wesnak’s at 5:30 pm. Come dressed up and ready to wow the neighbors.
- **November 7th** - An ornament making party at the Wesnak’s at 3:00 pm. Let’s get creative, bring some supplies to put together your ornaments.
- **January 9, 2022** - Annual Christmas Party at Wesnak’s at 2:00 pm.

Sharon Wesnak
Secretary

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**ASSEMBLY 0123**

Coraopolis, PA

Where did summer go? Although it technically is not over until the 21st however in the olden days it ended with Labor Day and the kids went back to school the next day. Besides summer being over I thought the COVID and MASK wearing thing would be over but not yet.

As I mentioned in last month’s column there are two worthwhile events happening this month, the Family Fun Day at the Carnegie Science Center on Saturday, September 11th. If you attend be sure to let whoever is in charge know that you are with Assembly 123 that way we can get you a refund on your admission! Also on Saturday, September 25th is the Septemberfest at the home office. It is FREE no admission! There are always lots of interesting things, games, entertainment, and good, good food.

A decision has been made for our assembly Christmas Luncheon. It will be Sunday, December 12th at 1:00 pm at J.W. Hall’s Steak & Seafood Inn, 2284 Broadhead Rd., Hopewell Twp. The food is excellent and we will have our own room with quite nice accommodations. If you can attend and I certainly hope you can, we will ask you to contribute $5 for the food bank. This will be a matching fund activity for our assembly. Call me at 724-242-5085 if attending. Another reminder will be in an upcoming issue.

Remember one of the perks of being an NSS member, which you are if you have a life insurance or annuity policy with NSS, is the senior scholarship. If you are age 55 and over you are eligible. The home office will reimburse you 50% of up to one hundred dollars for a course you take not related to your employment but rather one associated with your hobby or general field of interest. This scholarship is available twice a year. Call the home office for more details.

Summer photos? Surely many of you took some that would be perfect for the Photo Contest. How about a picture of your pet? Please enter the photo contest besides your chance to win a cash prize just by entering help our assembly. Please consider it this year.

I will be attending a picnic this month for my last remaining Aunt and Godmother Sophia Burnell her 100th Birthday Picnic! God Bless her!

William Knoll
President

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**ASSEMBLY 0377**

Bentleyville, PA

A meeting will be held on Sunday, September 26, 2021 at the Sesame Inn, 2975 Washington Road, McMurray, PA at 3:00 pm. As always, please RSVP if attending at 724-207-3171 or email me at suzanne.skrypak@gmail.com.

Also, we encourage your participation in our fraternal activities such as the Senior Scholarship, Matching
ASSEMBLY 0554  
Curwensville, PA  
A meeting will be held on October 17th at Jim Stricek's residence, 135 McCullough Street, DuBois, PA at 2:00 pm. All members are urged to attend.  
For more information, you can contact Jim at 814-590-7021 or email: assembly554@gmail.com  
Jim Stricek  
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0586 - Chicago, IL  
Some of our fellow members have gone through weather trauma and the towns west of Chicago have had our share.

The Naperville to Willow Springs EF-3 Tornado

A tornado swept through the town of Darien between my home and my daughter Janet's home, close to both. No electricity for many homes, which for us meant being in the basement in total darkness for hours while sirens blared everywhere around us. Having gone through this with only trees uprooted near us left us feeling grateful and happy when daylight came. We were emailed from the West Suburban Community Pantry and learned that 30+ families had lost their homes in our neighborhoods. We then brought bags of clothing to the local drop off. Our meeting of Assembly 586 discussed how we could help our neighbors.

The West Suburban Community Pantry tells us that more than 36,000 seniors, parents and children in DuPage County have a place to go for food, support services and connections to other programs. A familiar name connected with the organization, the Pokorny Memorial Fund, is known to the Tomaskovic family from our children's school days. So as the National Slovak Society has always offered Matching Funds giving to deserving charities, our unanimous vote was to help the community outreach in this way.

We enjoyed being together with our fellow members and talked about plans for the next meeting. The governor of Illinois is again issuing guidelines and restrictions so we can only hope that our next scheduled time together can happen. An actual meeting is much more enjoyable than a virtual meeting. Also being maskless and able to see others gives us joy. Our Assembly 586 has stayed in touch through this last year and a half of the pandemic and hope others have been as fortunate. As always, God bless -Pan Boh in our Slovak language,- and keep you safe this year and always.

Irene Tomaskovic  
Vice President

Funds, and Photo Contest. There are many benefits to being a member!

We welcome suggestions for meeting sites now that many places are reopening. Please bring any ideas to our meeting for that and any community projects or fund raising events in which we can participate.

Susan Skrypak  
President

Reminders:

October 23rd - Halloween Hayride  
- Countryside Farm, Lowellville, OH at 5:00 pm. Halloween costumes are optional but it’s always fun to dress up for the hayride adventure to the pumpkin patch and corn maze. Refreshments and games will be provided.

December 4th - Christmas Party at LaRiccia Family Center in Boardman Park at 6:00 pm. Santa will be there with gifts for the kids, we’ll have a basket raffle, games, and refreshments.

Whenever planning to attend Assembly activities, it’s important to call or text Laurie Fox at 330-717-4705 at least one week before the event date.

Laurie Fox  
Recording Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0588  
Avella, PA  
A meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at the Stefka residence, 5007 Old Orchard Lane, Gibsonia, PA at 5:30 pm. The purpose of the meeting will be to plan events and activities for the members of our assembly for the remainder of 2021. Please call 724-407-3591 if you have any questions.

Annette Stefka  
Recording Secretary

Reminders:

October 23rd - Halloween Hayride  
- Countryside Farm, Lowellville, OH at 5:00 pm. Halloween costumes are optional but it’s always fun to dress up for the hayride adventure to the pumpkin patch and corn maze. Refreshments and games will be provided.

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Whenever planning to attend Assembly activities, it’s important to call or text Laurie Fox at 330-717-4705 at least one week before the event date.

Laurie Fox  
Recording Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0381  
Grosse Ile, MI  
Our next meetings will be on October 27, 2021, and December 15, 2021. Times and locations will be forthcoming. Please stay safe. Many Blessings to you all.

Joanne Medved  
Treasurer

ASSEMBLY 0588  
Avella, PA  
A meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at the Stefka residence, 5007 Old Orchard Lane, Gibsonia, PA at 5:30 pm. The purpose of the meeting will be to plan events and activities for the members of our assembly for the remainder of 2021. Please call 724-407-3591 if you have any questions.

Annette Stefka  
Recording Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0731  
Lowellville, PA  
Our assembly is holding a matching funds activity to raffle off a unique cornhole board made by Mark Mason, a member of Assembly 731. Mark donated his time and talents to make a cornhole game with Poland Ohio schools Bulldog mascot. Cornhole bags in school colors were made by Peggy Mason. Tickets went on sale during Poland Township's 225th birthday celebration in July. Tickets will be sold by members until the drawing on September 25th during Poland's annual community day. Proceeds from the raffle will benefit the Poland Historical Society and the Poland Township Park.

NSS members are invited to gather at the Fox campsite (A102) at the Canfield Fair campgrounds on Youth Day, Thursday, September 2. We will provide a list for a scavenger hunt through the fairgrounds with prizes awarded at 6:00 p.m. at the campsite. Members are always welcome to stop by the Fox campsite to take a break from the crowds and relax their feet for awhile.

Laurie Fox  
Recording Secretary

Reminders:

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- Countryside Farm, Lowellville, OH at 5:00 pm. Halloween costumes are optional but it’s always fun to dress up for the hayride adventure to the pumpkin patch and corn maze. Refreshments and games will be provided.

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Laurie Fox  
Recording Secretary
ASSEMBLY 0737
North Huntingdon, PA

Meetings will be held on October 16, 2021 and also December 4, 2021 at the home of Carol Godor, 9280 Clubview Drive, North Huntingdon, PA at 1:00 pm.

If you plan on attending the December 4th Christmas meeting, please let me know by November 26, 2021 so we can plan accordingly. We have a lot of business to discuss since the virus has held us back for a year. Hope to see you all at the meetings.

Carol Godor
Treasurer

ASSEMBLY 0813
Englewood, FL

Assembly 813 is making plans for their 4th Annual Shrimp Boil. It will be held on October 23rd at the Thirsty Pig Craft Beer Tap Room from 4:00 pm until 7:00 pm. David Paul, chief meteorologist for WTVY, and a Lafayette, LA native, will be doing the cooking. Live music will be provided by the Two Pint Minimum Band, apparently named because you need a two pint minimum to get the full experience. All of this will be available for a minimum $20 per person.

This is a Matching Funds Project through the NSS with proceeds going to the Catholic Social Services. Their Executive Director, Celeste Kelly, is working with Kerry Farrell, Assembly 813 officer and owner of the Thirsty Pig. Contact Mary Jo Holker for more details at 941-473-0559.

Mary Jo Holker
Secretary

REGION 2
Hazleton, PA

A meeting will be September 25, 2021, at Pierce Street Deli 517 Pierce St, Kingston, PA at 1:00 pm.

Lucy Piccoletti
Recording Secretary

REGION 5
Pittsburgh, PA

The fall meeting of Region #5 will be held on Sunday, October 17, 2021, at 1:00 pm at the NSS Home Office in McMurray, PA. Plans for Region #5 activities for the remainder of 2021 will be discussed. All assemblies in Region #5 are requested to send representatives to the meeting. A luncheon will be served following the meeting.

Joseph Stefka, Jr., President
Region #5

OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS
July, 2021

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<td>Sandrock, William</td>
<td>Houston, PA</td>
<td>12/15/2020</td>
<td>0588</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Date of Death
Assembly 0617 Fraternal Day

Fraternal Day for Assembly 617/C617 was held at Knoebels Amusement Resort in Elysburg Pennsylvania. The assembly provided hoagies, bottled water, and books of ride tickets to the members. Members also brought desserts and snacks to share with the group.

A brief meeting of the assembly was held to update members on past and future activities of the assembly for example Join hands at St. Vincent de Paul kitchen, poetry and photo contest. Special congratulations were given at the meeting to Benjamin Ostrowski for his 1st place award in the Van Gogh level of the NSS Art Contest.

The Assemblies Matching Funds Basket Raffle was on display for the members to view. A special prize this year was an artisan handmade hammock from El Salvador donated by Father John Ostrowski, a member of our assembly. The assembly supports Father Ostrowski’s mission in El Salvador with this project. The youth circle participated in a game to guess the number of dimes, nickels, and pennies in three jars, the activity was organized by Margaret Lukas.

The Assembly had the great pleasure to welcome our newest youth members, Grayson D’Aleo and Christian D’Aleo who were sponsored by their Grandfather James Walko.

The fifty members and guests had great time enjoying the fraternity, the park, and the rides. Looking forward to next year.

## OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS CONTINUED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>July, 2021</th>
<th>(Continued from Page 14)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Squillace, Bernadine</td>
<td>White Oak, PA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Schillings, Mabel E</td>
<td>Bellefonte, PA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Schroll, Parker</td>
<td>Crawfordsville, IN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Schultz, David</td>
<td>New Berlin, WI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scullion, John</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sellers, Laurinda</td>
<td>Frankfort, KY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Simms, Dorothy</td>
<td>Butler, PA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sonsalla, Dorothy</td>
<td>Baraboo, WI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stewart, Miriam</td>
<td>Homer City, PA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tormey, Andrew</td>
<td>Port Charlotte, FL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tormey, Susan</td>
<td>Port Charlotte, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webb, Sharon</td>
<td>Front Royal, VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weeks, Rickey</td>
<td>South Webster, OH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zacherl, Sandra</td>
<td>Butler, PA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## DONATE TO THE PVR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Here is my donation of: $ __________________________

Please issue your check to: NSS PVR Scholarship Fund

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

## PVR Scholarship Fund Donations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In Memory of Allan Tenney:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>From Assembly 0434.......... 100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>In Memory of Carl Falk:</td>
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<tr>
<td>From Assembly 0123.......... 20.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>In Memory of Frederick Sterrett:</td>
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<tr>
<td>From Assembly 0123.......... 20.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>In Memory of Adele Whipple:</td>
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<tr>
<td>From Assembly 0123.......... 20.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>In Memory of Christina Whipple:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From Assembly 0123.......... 20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Memory of Shaun Logan Crowley:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From Kevin, Lori, Kevin, Jr., and John Crowley.............. 20.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Donations:**

- PNC.................................................. 175.00
- H2R................................................... 1000.00

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## American Hearing

Benefits has changed to **START HEARING**

NSS Life is partnered with **Start Hearing, Inc.** to offer our members discounts on select services. These include hearing aids, tinnitus treatment and hearing protection products. Additionally, free annual hearing consultations are provided, access to a nationwide network of 3,000+ hearing locations, free one-year supply of batteries, one year of free offices visits (limit of 6), plus more. If interested, please visit: [https://www.starthearing.com/](https://www.starthearing.com/).

## Assembly 617/C617 Meeting

Our assembly will hold a luncheon meeting on Wednesday **October 6, 2021** at Pierce St. Deli. The meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. The assembly will discuss the Join Hands project at St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen, the Matching Funds for El Salvador, also the winners of the Basket Raffle will be announced. Members who plan to attend the **October 6th meeting** please call 570-287-4163.
2021–2022 Scholarships – Perpetual Award Winners

Kayleigh Burns
Assembly 0777
Baylor University
Neuroscience Pre-Med
Ann Marie Czarney Scholarship

Molly Dixon
Assembly 0123
Ohio State University
Aerospace Engineering
Stephen J. Trusik Scholarship

Hayden Fox
Assembly C554
Penn State Behrend
Environmental Science
Mary R. Burns Scholarship

Meghan Jezik
Assembly C299
University of Connecticut
Poli. Sc. on a Pre-Law track w/ French minor
Mary Mravec Scholarship

Emily L. Moody
Assembly 0774
Catawba College
Business
Assembly 065 Scholarship

Luke Phillips
Assembly 0588
Saint Vincent College
Business Data Analytics
Assembly 065 Scholarship

Nicholas J. Quintana
Assembly L102
University of Delaware
TBD
Dr. John Gulash Scholarship

Abigail Small
Assembly 0588
University of Pittsburgh
Engineering
125th Anniversary Scholarship

Samantha M. Williams
Assembly 0771
Georgia Southern
Nursing

2021–2022 – 1st Year Scholarships

Laken Alexander
Assembly 0267
Point Park University
Sports, Arts & Entertainment Mgmt.

Andrew Ammerman
Assembly 0123
Duquesne University
Business in Finance

Dane Anden
Assembly 0377
Penn State
Electrical Engineering

Andrew Barno
Assembly 0617
Bucknell University
Mechanical Engineering

Jamie Belding
Assembly C108
Point Park University
Human Resource Management

Rafe Quinlan Brady
Assembly 0774
University of Lynchburg
Exercise Physiology

Elizabeth Breckenridge
Assembly 0377
West Virginia University
Mechanical/Aerospace Engineering

Maci Buck
Assembly 0705
Indiana State University
Business: Marketing

Ashlynne Cole
Assembly 0554
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Nursing

Jerzy Cole
Assembly C554
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Psychology

Alyssa Colen
Assembly 0774
Emory University
Biology

Alexandra DeFelices
Assembly 0377
Slippery Rock University
Exercise Science

Travis Fogt
Assembly 0595
Ohio Northern University
Medical Laboratory Science

Joshua Forrest
Assembly L161
University of Buffalo
Business

Gianna Giacomino
Assembly 0123
University of Georgia
Journalism
Povzbudenie na každý deň :)  
Páť jednoduchých pravidel pre život:  
1. Oslobôď svoje srdce od nenávisti.  
2. Oslobôď svoju myseľ od trápenia.  
3. Žij jednoducho.  
4. Dávaj viac.  
5. Očakávaj menej.

**Septemberfest 2021 v Našom NSS Múzeu**

Viete, že naša organizácia NSS—otvorila svoje Národné múzeum v čom máme krásne kroje úkážky zručností nášho pracovitého ľudu, knihy, časopisy, a tiež i históriu našej organizácie—počiatkom myšlienky zakladateľov Národného Špílku (rovnoprávnosť a samosprávu nášmu Slovenskému národu) a celý pokrok za vyše 130 rokov existencie ba aj splnenie cieľa zakladateľov. Veríme, že i vy sa pridete pozriť do nášho múzea a možno prinesiete ideu alebo aj vzácnu slovenskú vec na displej pre múzeum.

A čo viac požívame Vás na septemberoví festival čo bude na 25 septembra tu v našou múzeu. V múzeu sa budete môcť pokochať aj “krásnemu rezbárskemu dielu” ktoré má vyše 80 mechanických pohybov. Ozaj krása, a hrdosť nášho múzeu.

Počas septemberového festivalu sa bude podávať i jedlo ako halušky, palačinky, pyrohy atď. Tiež pre prítomných bude i zábava slovenským folklórom—tancom a spevom, a možno poniektorý z Vás si zakúpiť i suveníri. 

**15 September**

Ako Slovenskí veriací, Katolící 15. septembra oslavíme sviatok sedembolestnej Panny Márie patrónky slovenska a slovenského národa. Sedembolestná Panna Mária, Patrónka Slovenska, prosíme ťa o svoju pomoc a ochranu. Vypros uzdravenie chorým, ochraňuj zdravotníkov, ktorí sa o nich starajú a odvráť šírenie choroby.

Orodzu za nás, ktorí sa k tebe s dôverou utiekame! Amen.

**September**

Vínohrad dobre rodi, keď doňho hospodár často chodi.  
— Zahorie


**Slovenskí medailisti v Tokiu**

- Zuzana Rehák Štefečeková – zlato (trap streľba)
- Jakub Grigar – striebro (vodný slalom K1)
- Rory Sabbatini – striebro (golf)
- Samuel Baláž, Denis Myšák, Erik Vlček, Adam Botek – bronz (rýchlostná kanoistika K4 na 500 m)

Slovensko má na svojom konte jedno zlato (Zuzana Rehák Štefečeková), dve striebra (Jakub Grigar, Rory Sabbatiní) a jeden bronz (štvorkajak Samuel Baláž, Denis Myšák, Erik Vlček a Adam Botek). Teda Slovensko v športe Olimpiady sa zaradilo na 50 mieste sveta.

**Kráľovnou krásy**

Súťaž Miss Slovensko už pozná víťazku. Kráľovnou krásy pre rok 2021 sa stala 21-ročná Sophia Hrivňáková z Banskej Štiavnice.
2021 NSS PHOTO CONTEST
Deadline: October 31, 2021

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

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

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

Four Categories
Scenic  Patriotic
Animals  Hometown Pride

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

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

2021 Christmas Ornament Contest
Deadline: December 1st, 2021

Start thinking about what kind of ornament you are going to make this year. Get out your glue guns and glitter and create a winning ornament today!

The rules are as follows:
1. The contest is open to all NSS members. In addition, we are inviting our Home Office Staff, and even our Board Members to participate.
2. Entries should be no larger than 5" High; 5" Wide and 5" Deep. The base can be in any shape so long as it stays within the above measurements. You can glue objects to make your ornament decorative (we encourage you to be creative!) Some examples are glitter, ribbon, stars, cotton balls, etc... Please submit original handmade ornaments only. Ornaments made from kits will be disqualified.
3. All entries must include your name, address, age, youth circle number or assembly number and phone number on a separate sheet of paper. Youth members should also list their shirt size (Youth: YM, or Adult: AS, AM, AL, AXL).
4. All winners in each group will have their names appear in the "National News." In addition, a picture of your ornament will appear on the website. All entries will be distributed to a local nursing home to be placed on a Christmas Tree. You can send in more than one ornament for distribution purposes—the more we have the prettier the tree will be! In the event you send more than one, please note which ornament you would like to have judged.
5. The contest shall be judged under the following categories and prize awards:

Member Categories:  Prize Awards:
Frosty’s Group (Ages 5-7)  First Place - $25.00
Rudolph’s Group (Ages 8-10)  First Place - $25.00
Snowflake Group (Ages 11-13)  First Place - $25.00
Santa Group (Ages 14-16)  First Place - $25.00
Adult Group  First Place - $50.00
  Second Place - $30.00
  Third Place - $20.00

6. Entries must be mailed, or hand-delivered to the NSS Home Office by the deadline of December 1st of each year. Please mail to: National Slovak Society ATT: Ornament Contest, 351 Valley Brook Road, McMurray, PA 15317-3337. BE SURE THAT YOU FOLLOW THE RULES CAREFULLY SO YOU DO NOT LOSE POINTS IN THE JUDGING.
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.