

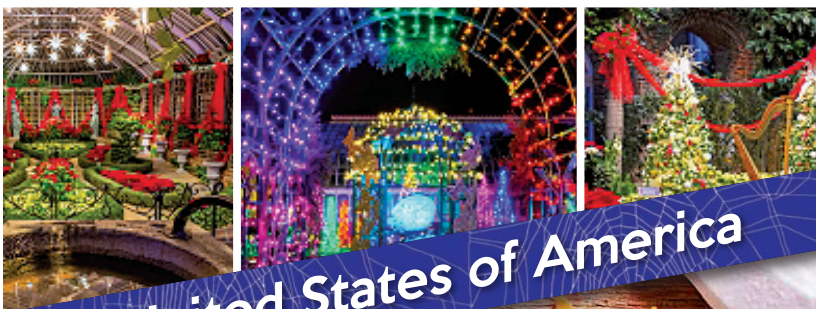


**NSS Life**  
*Family Matters...*

**NSS Family Fun Day  
at Carnegie Science Center  
See Page 9 for Photos**



**NSS Phipps Conservatory's Holiday Magic  
See Page 8 for Details**



**The National Slovak Society of the United States of America**

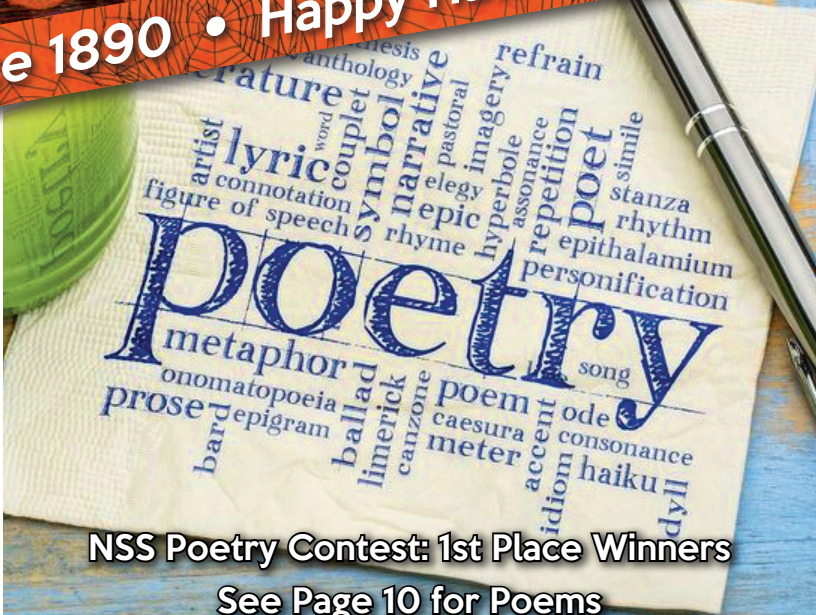
# National News

*Fall Youth Circle*

**Fraternal Life Insurance Since 1890 • Happy Halloween!**



**NSS Photo & Christmas Ornament Contests  
See Page 23 for Rules**



**NSS Poetry Contest: 1st Place Winners  
See Page 10 for Poems**

**NÁRODNÉ NOVINY**  
OCTOBER 2021 | NUMBER 3558 VOLUME 113



# National Slovak Society

Periodical Postage Paid at McMurray, Pennsylvania and Additional Mailing Offices  
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## NATIONAL SLOVAK SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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

Founder and Honorary President, Peter V. Rovnianek

### EDITOR

LORI CROWLEY

Published Monthly

Send articles for publication to:

351 Valley Brook Road

McMurray, PA 15317-3337

**Deadline: 5th of preceding month**

### NSS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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

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

Robert F. Katricak, *Chairman of the Board*

### NSS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Abigail A. Gross, Esq.

Susan M. Ondrejco

Karen Lynne Orban

John G. Payerchin

Andrew "Drew" J. Wesnak

### NSS HONORARY OFFICERS

Anthony Beno, *Director*

Mary Jo Holker, *Director*

Edward Koches, *Director*

Paul Payerchin, Jr., *Director*

### FSWFE HONORARY OFFICERS

Justine Wesnak, *President*

Reverend Monsignor Thomas V. Banick,  
*Spiritual Advisor*

FSWFE merged with NSS in 1997

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## Deadline For Publication

Please be advised that all  
articles, notices, etc., **MUST BE**  
**received by the Home Office no**  
**later than the 5th of the month.**

Every effort will be made to  
publish the article and photos  
in a timely manner and space  
permitting.

**THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS!**

## Activities At A Glance

### REGION 2

### Assemblies L075, 0617

October 6  
October 10  
October 23  
January 23, 2022

Assembly 0617, Meeting, Pierce Street Deli at 1:00 pm  
Assembly L075, Meeting, Lucca Restaurant, Taylor, PA at 1:00 pm  
Assembly L075, Trunk or Treat Car, Duryea VFW, Duryea, PA from 1:00 to 5:00 pm  
Assembly L075, Meeting, Time and Place TBA

### REGION 5

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

October 16  
October 17  
October 23  
November 1  
November 27  
December 4  
December 4  
December 4  
December 5  
December 5  
December 12

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  
Assembly 0588, Meeting, Stefka's residence, Gibsonia, PA at 5:30 pm  
Christmas Around The World, NSS Heritage Museum, McMurray, PA 1:00 - 5:00 pm  
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  
Assembly 0123, Christmas Party, J.W. Hall's Steak and Seafood Inn at 1:00 pm

### REGION 8

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

No Activities

### REGION 14

### Assemblies R059, L102

October 29  
November 7  
January 9, 2022

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

### Assemblies L002, R019, L040, 0110, 0236, 0267, 0381, 0554, 0568, 0586, 0705, 0800, 0813

October 17  
October 23  
October 27  
November 7  
December 15  
December 24

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 President's Page...

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

Email: [jstefka@nsslife.org](mailto:jstefka@nsslife.org)



The Pittsburgh area like much of the country has been suffering through a heat wave the last two weeks. Temperatures have been in the upper 80's to low 90's with high humidity each day making the feel like temperature in the mid to high 90's. Each day a threat of severe thunderstorms is in the forecast. The quick sudden downpours have not helped the lawns in the area as they are showing the stress of the high temperatures and starting to turn brown. Looking forward to the cooler fall temperatures in the near future. Fall in Pennsylvania is a very scenic time of the year as the trees turn into a colorful display of yellow, orange, and red painted by Mother Nature!

During the month of October, Columbus Day falls on Monday October 11th and Halloween is on Sunday, October 31st. The Society has Halloween treat bags available for assemblies to distribute to their youth members. Contact Pam Blum by email ([pblum@nsslife.org](mailto:pblum@nsslife.org)) at the Home Office to request the treat bags for your assembly.

The month of October is a busy month for fraternal officers and directors. The New Jersey/New York Fraternal Alliance will hold its Annual Meeting on October 7th in Atlantic City, New Jersey. The Ohio Fraternal Alliance will hold its Annual Meeting on October 16th. The Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance will hold its Annual Meeting on October 24-26th in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The Executive Officers and Directors of the National Slovak Society participate in the meetings of the various fraternal alliances across the country. It gives NSS a presence in the states and the attendees updates

on important issues facing fraternal benefit societies. Speakers at the various fraternal alliances offer presentations on topics regarding insurance regulations, investment opportunities, and national and state legislation potentially affecting fraternal benefit societies. In addition, the attendees have an opportunity to interact with fellow officers and directors from other fraternal and presenters to share ideas beneficial to all fraternal benefit societies. Currently, NSS Officers, Honorary Officers and Directors serve in the following leadership positions with the various state fraternal alliances: Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance: Greg Felton - First Vice President; Joseph Stefka, Jr. - Immediate Past President; and Sue Ondrejco - Director; Ohio Fraternal Alliance: Robert Katricak - Director; Michael Czarney - First Vice President; New Jersey/New York Fraternal Alliance: Justine Wesnak - Nominating Committee Member; Drew Wesnak - Director. The various state fraternal alliances will be meeting in person for the first time in almost two years due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Member societies are excited but anxious based on the recent resurgence of the Pandemic and how it might affect the plans of the scheduled meetings. Recently, the American Fraternal Alliance Executive Summit Meeting which was to be held in-person in Austin, Texas September 20th - 22nd was rescheduled to a virtual event based on the Pandemic situation in Texas.

Plans for the upcoming 38th Quadrennial Convention scheduled for Hershey next June continue each month. A visit to Hershey by Secretary-Treasurer Linda Strom, Executive Assistant Pam Blum, and this writer to finalize the detailed plans for the Convention will be made the first week in October. As information is updated, it will appear in future issues of the National News.

Congratulations to all the PVR Scholarship recipients whose photos appeared in the September issue of the National News! The PVR Scholarship program was initiated at the XXIV Quadrennial Convention in 1966. In October 1966, the PVR Scholarship fund had a balance of \$3,476.60. Fifty-five years later the PVR Scholarship fund has a balance of \$1,303,090. The goal of the fund is to reach \$2,000,000 and to be able to perpetually fund the

scholarships. Please consider donations to the fund by your assemblies, regions, and individually to help reach the PVR Scholarship Fund's goal.

Several assemblies and regions are holding meetings or activities during the month of October. Region #5 of Pittsburgh will hold its Fall meeting on Sunday, October 17th at the Home Office. Assembly 737 will hold a meeting on October 16th, Assemblies L075 and Assembly 554 will hold meetings on October 17th. Assembly 731 will hold a Halloween Hayride on October 23rd.

A reminder that the deadline for all NSS photographers to submit an entry for the Annual Photography Contest is October 31st! Take time to enter the contest and to give your assembly points toward reaching its goal of attaining one of the Active Assembly Extra Effort Awards for 2021.

## News of Narodniars

A special happy birthday wish goes out to my grandson Carson Bernardo! Happy Birthday wishes to Honorary Director Tony Beno, to Home Office staff members Joe Elliott, Riley Partyka, and Rick Toth and to Alexa Triebisch, Jessica Dvorsak, John Dvorsak, Irene Tomaskovic, Bob Kapp, George Batyko, and Nicole Kearney.

Happy Anniversary wishes to Carol and Ed Koches, Susan and Paul Payerchin, Barb and Todd Wilcock, and Melinda and Keith Chojnicki. Best wishes to all others celebrating a special day during the month of October.

## Don't wait. The time will never be just right.

Napoleon Hill was a well-known self-help author in the early 20th century, whose books conveyed a sense of urgency to take action. He understood that change can be scary, and because of this, many people hesitate before pursuing the things they truly want. It's easy to tell ourselves the timing and circumstances aren't perfect, and use that as an excuse to put things off until later. But Hill reminds us that the timing will never be "just right," and now is as good a time as any to get to work on chasing your dreams.

## 2021 2nd Quarter Financial Statement Recap

### Statement as of June 30, 2021

	June 2021	Dec 2020
<b>Net Admitted Assets:</b>		
Bonds	\$1,375,277,737	\$1,357,426,297
Preferred Stocks	5,300,000	2,000,000
Common Stocks	7,689,205	6,065,184
Mortgage Loans on Real Est.	71,684,282	32,451,740
Certificate Loans	977,097	893,191
Real Est Occupied by Society	627,576	638,254
Cash on Deposit	77,303,853	36,578,178
Other Invested Assets	1,950,000	
Uncollected Premiums	516,468	306,467
Investment Income Due	15,029,624	14,380,629
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$1,556,355,842</b>	<b>\$1,450,739,940</b>

#### Liabilities & Unassigned Funds

Aggregate Reserve	\$1,391,987,000	\$1,295,552,000
Deposit-type Contracts	68,077,535	65,253,054
Certificate Claims	350,000	550,000
Commissions Due	170,000	160,000
Refunds Due and Unpaid	850,000	760,000
General Exp Due	1,713,200	1,733,200
Retained by Society as Trustee	93,287	109,306
Borrowed Money & Interest	410,242	0
Asset Valuation Resv (AVR)	11,896,500	10,358,500
Interest Maintenance Resv (IMR)	5,546,774	5,581,682
Contingency Reserve	150,000	150,000
Unassigned Funds	75,111,304	70,532,198
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$1,556,355,842</b>	<b>\$1,450,739,940</b>

#### Surplus Account:

Beginning Surplus	\$70,682,199	\$64,096,623
Net Income	5,385,320	7,840,226
Change in Net Unrealized		
Capital Gains or (Losses)	731,724	281,165
Change in Nonadmitted Assets	61	(9,315)
Change in Valuation Reserve	(1,538,000)	(1,526,500)
Aggregate Write-ins for Gains		
and Losses in Surplus		
Net Change in Surplus	4,579,105	6,585,576
<b>Surplus At Statement Date</b>	<b>\$75,261,304</b>	<b>\$70,682,199</b>

#### Summary of Operations:

##### INCOME:

Premium & Annuity Considerations	\$141,490,054	\$191,259,342
Net Investment Income	32,429,002	60,715,911
Amortization of Interest		
Maintenance Reserve	257,661	505,857
<b>Income Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$174,176,717</b>	<b>\$252,481,110</b>

##### EXPENSES:

Death Benefits	\$4,035,216	\$6,921,974
Matured Endowments	20,416	31,786
Annuity Benefits	60,523,512	104,412,827
Disability Benefits	3,186	5,898
Surrender Benefits	655,151	515,413
Interest On Deposit Type Contr	5,818	10,860
Increase In Aggregate Reserve		
for Life Contracts	96,435,000	120,889,000
Commissions On Direct Business	3,813,799	4,921,603
General & Fraternal Expenses	2,814,563	5,383,065
Insur, Taxes, Licenses, Fees	128,980	242,791
<b>Expense Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$168,435,641</b>	<b>\$243,335,217</b>

##### SUMMARY:

Net Gain From Operations		
Before Refunds To Members	\$5,741,076	\$9,145,893
Refund To Members	(448,584)	(739,190)
Net Gain From Operations		
After Refunds To Members	5,292,492	8,406,703
Net Realized Capital Gains	92,828	(566,477)
<b>TOTAL NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$5,385,320</b>	<b>\$7,840,226</b>



A Page From  
My Notebook...

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

# 2021 Annuity Contribution Coupon

Any time is a good time to invest, but investing earlier can maximize the compounding effect on your money. Consider making your 2021 contribution as early as possible.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Certificate No. \_\_\_\_\_ Deposit Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Traditional IRA for 2021 \_\_\_\_\_ Roth IRA for 2021 \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to make a deposit into an existing account with the National Slovak Society (NSS Life), simply complete this coupon and return it with check payment to our Home Office.



## Did you know...

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

**Access your account values 24/7 by going to the website: [www.nsslife.org](http://www.nsslife.org) and login/register as a member.**



## Current Interest Rates Effective January 1, 2020

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

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

## From the Sales Department...

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



## The Pandemic and Life Insurance

Believe it or not during the height of the pandemic more people bought life insurance. On the one hand, it seems reasonable. People may have been exposed to some relatives that were affected by Covid-19 and did not want to take any chances. Most of the increased insurance purchases were from people under the age of 50. Older people were initially put off or postponed by insurance companies because they were not sure how the virus would play out. Especially since older people had a much more severe reaction.

Younger people started to see the value of life insurance if for nothing else, then as a method to pay for last expenses. In the United States, there is an average of [2.4 million funerals a year](#), usually costing loved ones between \$8,000 to \$10,000. Dying is expensive. And as time goes on, it continues to get costlier. According to The Consumer Price Index, [funeral costs have risen by a whopping 227.1%](#) in the last 30 years.

There are some ways to reduce costs. Cremation seems to be an ever-growing option to the traditional funeral. Now might be a good time to meet with your local funeral director to discuss these options. Pre-planning is a wonderful idea and helps save your family time, money and some heart ache. NSS is an active player in the pre-need life insurance market. We work with some of the best funeral

homes in the tri-state area.

Also, our regular life insurance plans provide much needed protection on an affordable basis. Please contact your local NSS representative or Joe Elliott in the Home Office for a free quote.

## Four not so common thoughts about Annuities

Many times, we have addressed the usual advantages of annuities. Specifically discussed are competitive rates of interest and the strong lifetime guarantees that most financial instruments do not offer. While these are two key points and certainly reasons enough for people to want an annuity, they are not the only advantages.

Here are four other lesser known but important points about annuities.

1. *Guaranteed income*
2. *Fixed income alternative*
3. *De-risk any equity position*
4. *Tax-deferral*

Number 1, guaranteed income refers to the annuitization of your annuity. This feature allows a person to select payments for a certain period of time or for their lifetime.

Number 2, the fixed income alternative addresses the fact that some of your money might be in a bond fund. These are great but they do fluctuate in price depending on interest rates. The annuity is a good alternative.

Number 3, is to de-risk any equity position. Everyone knows the market goes up and down. A down market the day you retire could be a problem. An annuity allows some portion of your nest egg to earn interest without the risk of loss. This portion might be tapped if the market was down, thus buying time to recover.

Finally, tax-deferral (#4) and this one is powerful. If comparing annuity interest to a bank CD interest, there is one big difference. The bank CD interest always gets a 1099 at the end of the year whether the money is withdrawn or not. There is no flexibility on this issue and taxes are due on this amount. Whereas the annuity holder is in control of when the taxes will be due. At withdrawal, interest out first and it is taxable.

There are some other advantages to annuities but rest assured when you buy one from NSS we always have your best interest in mind. For more information on how annuities work and how they can help you, please contact us.

<p>LIFE HINT</p> <p><b>Life insurance clears the financial path for loved ones to carry on.</b></p>  <p><b>LIFE HAPPENS.</b></p>	<p><b>71%</b> say they personally need life insurance, yet only</p> <p><b>59%</b> have coverage.</p> <p><small>Source: 2017 Insurance Barometer Study, Life Happens and LIMBA</small></p>
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<p><b>OPEN AN IRA</b></p>	
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### Thought For The Month:

*When you clench your fist, no one can put anything in your hand; nor can your hand pick anything up.*

*Alex Haley, author (1921 – 1992)*

## Fraternal Matters...

**Pam Blum, Fraternal Activities Coordinator**

Email: [pblum@nsslife.org](mailto:pblum@nsslife.org)



## 2021 Photo Contest

The 2021 Photo contest deadline is October 31, 2021. There are four categories which include Animal, Scenic, Hometown Pride, and Patriotic. Limit is one entry per category. Each year we receive awesome photos for this contest. We are excited to see what 2021 will bring!

## 2021 Ornament Contest

The 2021 Christmas Ornament contest deadline is December 1, 2021. It is never too early to start thinking of creative ideas for the perfect ornament! This contest has been a huge success in years past. We are looking forward to another wonderful year!

## "Evening at Phipps Conservatory's Holiday Magic" Saturday, December 4, 2021 • 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm 1 Schenley Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15213



**NSS Life**  
Family Matters...

A favorite Pittsburgh holiday tradition, the season isn't complete without a visit to Phipps' Winter Flower Show and Light Garden, and this year's show will be the biggest and brightest yet! With dazzling holiday displays, a newly renovated and illuminated Palm Court, and fun surprises at every turn, Phipps' Holiday Magic truly captures the magic of the holidays, making memories that will last a lifetime. This year's show will include a remarkable display of holiday trees, including a majestic 22-foot Fraser fir glowing brilliantly over the Victoria Room's reflecting pond. Plus, enjoy Phipps' signature floral delights, including amaryllis, orchids and thousands of poinsettias, as well as exquisitely detailed props, with one amazing new display after another. Plus, in Phipps' Outdoor and Discovery Gardens, the Winter Light Garden will sparkle with luminous orbs, trees, fountains, a tunnel of lights and all-new ice tower prisms resembling frosted windowpanes that are sure to mesmerize visitors.



NSS will be meeting in the **Special Events Hall** to socialize and enjoy light refreshments from 4:00 – 5:00 pm. The remainder of the evening you are on your own to explore the Conservatory. The cost for members is **\$20.00**.

For additional information, please contact Pam Blum at [pblum@nsslife.org](mailto:pblum@nsslife.org).

Name	Address	Ph. #	Assembly #	Name	Address	Ph. #	Assembly #
1. _____				4. _____			
2. _____				5. _____			
3. _____				6. _____			

★ **MUST BE AN NSS MEMBER TO ATTEND** ★

Please return this form with check payable to "NSS Life" **no later than Monday, November 8th** to: **NSS Life**

Attn: Fraternal Dept.  
351 Valley Brook Road  
McMurray, PA 15317

## NSS Family Fun Day at the Carnegie Science Center



The Carnegie Science Center & Sportsworks



The USS Requin (SS-481) open for touring



History of the USS Requin (SS-481)



L-R: Alex Blum, President Joe Stefka, Jr., Annette Stefka, Pam Blum, Ryan Strom



Members arriving at the sign-in desk



Members exploring various exhibits



Trailer for movie playing at the IMAX theater



Various food options provided for lunch



Members enjoying their catered meals

## NSS Home Office Birthdays



Jill Grover celebrating her birthday in June.



L-R: Jeff DeSantes and President Joseph Stefka, Jr. celebrating their birthdays in July.



Ryan Strom celebrating his birthday in August.

# First Place Poetry Contest Winners

## Puff's

Please don't use it on my toe's  
it is for my nose  
Gram says it has special potion  
but I know it's only lotion  
it keeps draining like threw a pipe  
I use a new one with every wipe  
sometimes it hurts to even chew  
but I thank God for this soft tissue

**Dominic Piccoletti**  
C075, Age 6

## Seagulls

I love to go to the Beach;  
Just to hear the seagulls screech.  
They soar above the people  
And sometimes rest on the Church Steeple.  
They grab the food right out of your hand,  
And scoop it up off the sand.  
Sometimes they fly right in your face,  
Or while you're in your jogging pace.  
They have no cares for young or old,  
And some of them are pretty bold.  
I wish they would all just fly away  
And stop dive bombing my beach day.  
They are here every single day;  
But I only have a short time to stay.  
I'd like to enjoy the water, sand, and sun,  
But seagulls keep ruining all my fun!

**Maxwell Edwards**  
C075, Age 9

## Ode to Blankets

Blanket, you cuddle up against my skin with your soft fur coat.  
In the winter, you stay calm, comfortable, and cozy.  
Like a tree, however, you shade me on scorching summer days.  
During windy days, you dance in the wind like a salsa dancer.  
When I play superhero, you shift into my long Batman cape.  
As I place you on my back, you morph into polar bear fur.  
In the late nights, you wrap your arms around me, keeping me warm.  
Like a veil, you drag on the floor behind me.  
During the warm summer days, you transform into my picnic  
blanket protecting my lunch from ants.  
On stormy nights, you hide me from the thunder and lightning  
that comes for me.

**Gretchen Kropf**  
C434, Age 13

## A Journey Through Last Year; Starting March 13, 2020

We're scared to leave home; Small businesses are closing; The  
world has shut down.  
We don't watch the news; We log onto zoom for school; We  
want normalcy.  
We wish for vaccines; We had took life for granted; Masks  
conceal our face.  
Six feet apart, now; Our lives are forever changed; Days feel  
like a dream.  
We are uncertain; Each day we learn something new; When will  
this all end?  
Surely, there is light, at the end of the tunnel; We will keep waiting.  
All the holidays; are done over a zoom call; How is this real life?  
As we look on back; at our time in quarantine, We ponder outcomes.  
COVID-19 has; changed our lives for the worse, yet; for the better, too.  
We have lost a lot, but we learned new ways of life; We learn  
gratitude.  
Each day lives are lost; Sorrow fills our hearts daily; Remain positive.  
Oh, 2020; you were not the best year yet; but we learned a lot!  
We won't forget you; We use you to show the growth; that our  
nation had.

**Valentina Gulino**  
C039, Age 16

## God Gives

Sometimes it's the dumbest things that make you stop and cry.  
Sometimes it's the silliest things that make you wonder why.  
Sometimes it's the craziest things that make you see what's real.  
Sometimes it's the toughest things that make you want to feel.  
How do you get through the hardest days when it seems it will  
never be good?  
What do you do to put a smile on your face because that's what  
you think you should?  
A bird chirps, the wind blows, a leaf falls from the sky.  
Some days you miss it but today you see, but you don't seem to  
know why.  
God gives you what you can handle. Do you fail or succeed?  
But what you might not realize is He gives you what you need.  
There are no promises no long-term deals. This is what we get  
in life.  
What happens to us is out of our hands. Happiness, heartache,  
or strife.  
Do the best you can with the time you have from the second God  
plants your seed.  
God gives you what you can handle, and then God gives you  
what you need.

**Diane Moeller**  
O100, Adult



# Youth Circle Magazine - Fall 2021



## Thanksgiving Word Search



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

Feast  
Wild Fowl  
Pumpkin  
Pilgrims  
Native Americans  
Mayflower  
Corn  
Thanksgiving  
Celebrate  
Plymouth Rock  
Harvest  
Family  
Thursday  
Ham  
Cornucopia  
November  
Turkey Pardon  
Maize  
Chief Massasoit  
Thankful  
Gravy

# Easy Cross Bird Feeder

**Supplies:** Pipe Cleaners and Cheerios



1. You will need 2 pipe cleaners. string Cheerios on both pipe cleaners, leaving about a 1/2 inch to an inch on both ends without cereal. Take one pipe cleaner and make a loop on one end, twisting the pipe cleaner to itself to create the loop.



2. Bring the other end up and twist it around the pipe cleaner. Lay this pipe cleaner to the side.



3. Twist the ends of the second pipe cleaner, leaving a little "wiggle room" within the cereal.



4. Press the pipe cleaner so that the twisted portion is in the "back" and the circle is "pinched" together.



5. Insert this pipe cleaner in the middle of the first pipe cleaner. Twist the ends of the second pipe cleaner around the back of the first pipe cleaner.



6. Press the fronts of the two pipe cleaners together, and wiggle the Cheerios so that the pipe cleaners sort of lock together, like a puzzle.

**Done! Make several of them and see how fast the birds eat them. You can place it on a short shepherd's hook out in the yard, and within 24 hours the cereal will be destroyed.**

## Tangerine Pumpkins and Banana Ghosts



### Ingredients

- 4 bananas
- 24 chocolate chips, regular sized and/or mini
- 4 tangerines
- 1 stalk celery

### Preparation

1. Peel the bananas and cut them in half. Place the cut side down so the banana halves stand up.
2. Use small chocolate chips to make ghost eyes and large chocolate chips to make ghost mouths.
3. Peel the tangerines.
4. Cut the celery lengthwise into thirds and then across into 1/2 inch pieces. Insert the celery pieces the tops of the peeled tangerines to resemble pumpkins.

## Pizza Mummies



### Ingredients

- 3 English muffins
- 12 tbsp Pizza sauce
- 3 Black olives
- 1 Scallion
- 1 Red or green pepper
- 3 Cheese sticks or slices

### Directions

Heat the oven to 350° F. For each mummy, spread a tablespoon of pizza sauce onto half of an English muffin (toast it first, if you like). Set olive slices in place for eyes and add round slices of green onion or bits of red or green pepper for pupils. Lay strips of cheese across the muffin for the mummy's wrappings. Bake for about 10 minutes or until the cheese is melted and the muffin is toasty. Number of Servings: 6

## Candy Cane Decoration

### Materials Needed:

Red pipe cleaners and White

**Instructions:** To make your pipe cleaner candy cane, you can follow these five easy steps:



#### Step 1

You will need 1 red pipe cleaner and 1 white pipe cleaner.



#### Step 2

Tightly twist the bottom ends of the red and white pipe cleaners together.



#### Step 3

From the bottom, twist the red and white pipe cleaners together to make a red/white pattern.



#### Step 4

Tightly twist the top ends of the red and white pipe cleaners together.



#### Step 5

Curve the top to make a candy cane shape.

## Funny Jokes

Q: Why did the bacon laugh?

A: Because the egg cracked a yolk.

Q: How do all the oceans say hello to each other?

A: They wave!

Q: What did one wall say to the other wall?

A: I'll meet you at the corner!

Q: What do you call a bear with no teeth?

A: Gummy bear!

Q: What do you call cheese that isn't yours?

A: Nacho cheese!

Q: Where do cows go for entertainment?

A: To the moo-vies!

Q: What do you call a pig that knows karate?

A: A pork chop!

Q: Why are ghosts bad liars?

A: Because you can see right through them!

Q: What animal needs to wear a wig?

A: A bald eagle!

Q: Why do bees have sticky hair?

A: Because they use honey combs!

Q: What do you call an alligator in a vest?

A: An investigator!

Q: What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire?

A: Frostbite!

Q: What has four wheels and flies?

A: Garbage truck!

Q: Why did the man run around his bed?

A: Because he was trying to catch up on his sleep!

Q: Why did the math book look so sad?

A: Because it had so many problems!

Q: What does an evil hen lay?

A: Deviled eggs!

Q: Which hand is better to write with?

A: Neither. It's better to write with a pencil!

Q: What did the traffic light say to the truck?

A: Don't look! I'm changing!

Q: What is the witch's favorite school subject?

A: Spelling!

Q: What did the frog order for lunch?

A: A burger and a diet croak!

## Congratulations, you are done!



## RIDDLES AND CODES

Use the secret code below to answer these riddles.

What can run but can't walk? 20 7 12 6 5

What can break without being touched? 2 4 5 3 15 16 13 6

What is made that can't be seen? 9 3 14 13 6 ???

What belongs to you but is used more by others? 8 3 7 5 9 2 15 6

What goes up and down without ever moving? 13 12 2 16 5 19 2 13 6



What is broken when it is spoken? 13 16 17 6 9 19 6

What can be drawn without a pencil? 18 5 6 2 12 11

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20  
K A O P R E U Y N F H T S D M I L B C W

## Cool Things You Didn't Know About Slovakia

Couple of curious and interesting facts we gathered about Slovakia. Slovakia has good genes. These world-famous people have Slovak parents or grandparents:

Angelina Jolie  
Audrey Hepburn  
Andy Warhol  
Paul Newman  
Jon Bon Jovi  
Ivan Reitman

(grandfather from Kosice)  
(grandmother born in Kovarce)  
(mother from Mikova)  
(mother from Pticie)  
(grandmother)  
(parents from Komarno)



### The Altar

Tallest Gothic wooden altar in the world, the altar of St. Jakub from Master Pavol of Levoča, is almost 19 meters high. Between the years 2012-2015 the altar was thoroughly renovated for the next hundred years.



### The Geyser

In Slovakia, we have a unique active geyser that spouts water to a height of 15 meters. It erupts every one and a half days. Similar geysers are located only in Iceland. This one can be found in Herlíany.



### The Treasurer

Great treasure, nearly 3,000 gold coins, two meters long gold chain and medals from the 17th century, was miraculously found during construction works in Košice. You can spot it in the Vychodoslovenske museum.

Be Kind, Be Respectful, Be Fair,  
Be A Friend and Most Important  
**NO BULLYING**

## CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD PUZZLE

USE THE CLUES TO COMPLETE THE CROSSWORD PUZZLE.



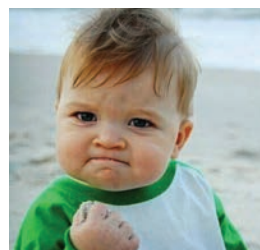
### Across

1. One of Santa's Reindeer
3. Santa's Helpers
5. December 25th is \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Christmas Drink
10. The name of a popular snowman.

### Down

2. Christmas Month
4. He hates Christmas!
6. You hang them by the chimney.
8. On Christmas morning we unwrap our \_\_\_\_\_.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ to the world!

WWW.THRIFTYHOMMASTIPS.COM



What are you waiting for  
Mom and Dad?

I want to be a member of  
NSS Life so I can enter ALL the  
contests and join in the activities.  
Thinking ahead, I also would like  
to apply for the PUR Scholarship  
when I go to college.

## Donate to the NSS Heritage Museum with Every Amazon Purchase!



Amazon Smile is a simple way for you to support the NSS Heritage Museum every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile is available at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) on your web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones. When you shop with AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the NSS Heritage Museum.

You use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Donations are made by the AmazonSmile Foundation and are not tax deductible by you. Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages.

On your first visit to AmazonSmile, you will be prompted to select a charitable organization to receive donations from your future eligible AmazonSmile purchases. Select the National Slovak Society Heritage Museum. Amazon will remember your selected charity whenever you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) or with AmazonSmile activated in the Amazon Shopping app, and then every eligible purchase you make through AmazonSmile will result in a donation.

## Appreciation Letters

Dear Joseph Stefka Jr.,

Thank you for accepting me into the PVR Scholarship Program. Your generous scholarship will support me in my academic journey to become a Physician Assistant. I greatly appreciate the generosity and support for the next four years of my life. The funding I received from the National Slovak Society will help me to continue my studies and interest in the sciences as I major in Biochemistry.

**Isabelle Hank**

Dear President,

Thank you very much for choosing me as one of the recipients for the PVR Scholarship. I plan on using the money for my college books and to help cover the cost of tuition.

**Luke Phillis**

Dear NSS,

Thank you so much for your generous gift. It was greatly appreciated.

**Jonathan Petrecca and Thomas Petrecca**

President Stefka & Scholarship Committee,

Thank you for providing me with the scholarship money to further my education. I greatly appreciate your support in my future career. This money will be going towards my junior year of college.

**Amanda L. Reilly**

Dear Mr. Stefka,

Thank you for the generous scholarship. I am very grateful and will put to great use at Syracuse University.

**Elizabeth Glowacki**

Dear Scholarship Committee,

Thank you so much for choosing me as one of the recipients of this award. It means a lot to me to know that all of my hard work over the past few years has not gone unnoticed. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

**Alexandra DeFelices**

Dear NSS,

Thank you for allotting me scholarship money for the past years. It has helped me pay for college, and I am fraternally grateful.

**Maddie Eger**

Dear Mr. Stefka,

Thank you for your continued support in my education through the PVR Scholarship. I have just received my final installment, which I will be using for my Master's degree in Counselor Education at Saint Vincent College.

**Ryleigh Testa**



## Slovak Radio Hour Dinner



Recently members of the National Slovak Society attended the 38th Annual Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour Dinner-Dance Fundraiser. (Left to Right): NSS Graphic Design/Social Media Coordinator Ryan Strom, Secretary-Treasurer Linda Strom, Rudy Ondrejco, Director Sue Ondrejco, Annette Stefka, President Joseph Stefka, Jr., Chairman of the Board Robert Katricak, Chris Katricak, Region 5 Vice-President Joe Palko.



## ASSEMBLY 0039 Uniontown, PA

We extend our congratulations to Luke Rayman who was awarded an NSS Scholarship. Luke is heading to Penn State and plans to study Engineering Industrial Design. We wish him all the best and all of our youth members that received a scholarship.

We express our deepest sympathies to the families of Phyllis Dolan and Charlotte Dowling who died in the resurrection hope of Jesus Christ.

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

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.

It is not too soon to start planning for your entry into the NSS Christmas Ornament Contest. Rules are in the latest issue of the "National News"

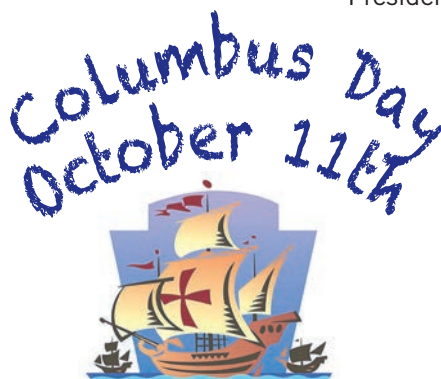
Our Christmas Party/Dinner will be held on Sunday, **December 5th** at the Columbia Association (K of C) Social Hall starting at 2:00 pm. Mr. Greg Felton, our NSS Sales Director will be our guest. Good food, door prizes, gifts and fraternal fun!

The NSS Quadrennial Convention is coming up in 2022 in "Chocolate Town U.S.A." Hershey, PA. We are looking for delegates to represent our assembly. More information at our Christmas Party. Think about it!

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

Look out for those "Trick-or-Treaters"!

**John Payerchin**  
President



## ASSEMBLY L075

Assembly L075 members will host a trunk or treat car at the Duryea VFW, Post Stephenson Street, Duryea, PA on Saturday, **October 23rd** from 1:00-5:00 pm. Trick or treaters will be given an NSS bag with goodies and information on NSS. Candy can be donated at the October 10th meeting.

A meeting will be held on **October 10, 2021** at Lucca Restaurant, 802 South Main Avenue, Taylor, PA at 1:00 pm. In the new year, a meeting will be held on **January 23, 2022**, location TBA for the election of delegates to the NSS Convention in Hershey, PA, June 26-30, 2022. For more information contact Lehrae Ann Edwards at 570-569-2181.

**Lehrae Ann Edwards**  
Secretary/Treasurer

## ASSEMBLY L102

A reminder to 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

## ASSEMBLY 0123 Coraopolis, PA

We are entering the most beautiful time of the year, Autumn.

I want to thank Bill DelMonaco for helping to make our mini golf outing a success. Hopefully this can be an annual event and many more of you can join in.

Please don't forget the NSS photo contest, rules and categories are listed in the NSS National magazine. Entries must be in by the end of the month. Your participation helps our assembly.

There is also the NSS Christmas Ornament contest which will let you use those arts and craft skills. This

contest is open to our young members (age 5) up to adults. If you are inside because of the virus or the weather, making an ornament can help pass the time. Deadline for that contest is December 1st.

Congratulations to our members who qualified for the PVR scholarships; Andrew Ammerman, Giana Giacomino, Kevin Kupecz, Jr., Karissa Mercier, Mario Rump and Molly Dixon who also received the Stephen J. Trusik Scholarship for outstanding scholastic achievement. Best wishes and may you find success and fulfillment during your college days.

A note for parents and grandparents: You too can get your children or grandchildren this scholarship benefit. You just have to get them a life insurance policy or annuity with NSS which makes them a member and today they can qualify for the PVR scholarship!

Mark your calendars for Sunday, **December 12th** at 1:00 pm. Our annual Christmas party and luncheon will be held at J.W. Hall's Steak and Seafood Inn, Hopewell Shopping Center, 2284 Broadhead Rd. It is easily reached off Interstate 376. We have a minimum and maximum number for the room we reserved so it is necessary that you call me at 724-242-5085 to confirm that you are coming. Good food and good fellowship to be sure. It would be nice to reach the maximum.

My prediction on the Pirates proved correct. They are not in the World Series. So now turn your attention to the Steelers and Penguins and hope for the best!

I'm hoping we can have an assembly activity in November stay tuned.

**William Knoll**  
President

## 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 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

We're proud and happy to recognize our scholarship recipient Gabriella Jurinek, granddaughter of Ginger and Lou Leo, well known to many of our long time members for their dedication to the National Slovak Society over the years.

*Gabby's mother tells us about her.*

"Congratulations to Assembly 586 PVR scholarship winner Gabriella Jurinek. When she was four years old, she wanted to be a 'singing, dancing pediatrician' but has since fine-tuned her dream to becoming a music teacher. She is a freshman attending Illinois State University and is majoring in Music Education with a primary performance area in Voice.

Gabriella has played the French horn for eight years, including three years in the Naperville Central High School advanced band, and has taken eleven years of guitar lessons. She performed in the NCHS Momentum Show Choir throughout high school and was a dance captain. Gabriella also contributed to her high school community by mentoring freshmen as a Link Leader and a Senior PE Leader, and by being a member of the Senior Class Council. She volunteered as a History Connector at Naper Settlement, a local living history museum. She says she would love to instill an awareness and appreciation of music into her future students' lives and is very grateful for the National Slovak Society scholarship which will help make her dream come true."

Hope you were able to join us at our last meeting on September 23rd. God bless.

**Irene Tomaskovic**  
Vice President

## ASSEMBLY 0617 Ashley, PA

Assembly 617 will hold a luncheon meeting on Wednesday **October 6, 2021** at the Pierce St. Deli beginning at 1:00 pm. Agenda items will include reports on Fraternal Day held in August at Knoebels Amusement Resort, and Basket fund raising project for El Salvador Matching funds project. In addition the planning for the Join Hands project will be discussed, and other activities will be reviewed.

The officers of the assembly for the fraternal year are:

<i>President</i>	<i>John Kurilla</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Bob Gushka</i>
<i>Financial Secretary</i>	<i>Gloria Gomb</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Marge Gushka</i>
<i>Eldress</i>	<i>Margaret Lukas</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Stephanie Kurilla</i>
<i>Fraternal Director</i>	<i>Ed Ostrowski</i>
	<b>John Kurilla</b>
	Vice President

## ASSEMBLY 0731 Lowellville, PA

A Halloween Hayride will be held on **October 23, 2021** at the 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.

Our annual Christmas Party will be held on **December 4th** 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 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 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

**Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 7, 2021, at 2:00 A.M. On Saturday night, set your clocks back one hour (i.e., gaining one hour) to "fall back."**



N.S.S. Heritage Museum Presents ...



# Christmas Around the World

Saturday, November 27th, 2021



1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

- Multi-Ethnic Christmas Trees on Display
- Make Your Own Oplatky Christmas Wafers
- Photo with St. Nicholas - Bring Your Camera
- Old World Bake Sale - Cookies, Cakes & Pastries
- Kid's Arts & Crafts - Make Your Own Cards
- Slovak Old World Kitchen - Ethnic Foods
- Slovak Folk Museum & Slovak Gift Shop
- Handcarved Animated Nativity Display

**FREE ADMISSION - FAMILY FUN**

**National Slovak Society Heritage Museum**  
**351 Valley Brook Road**  
**McMurray, PA 15317**  
**For information call:**  
**1-800-488-1890**

## OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS

August, 2021

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Arnone, Emily	Cumberland, MD	03/21/2021	0774
Bachman, Erin	McKeesport, PA	07/16/2021	0441
Barnett, James C	Robeson, PA	05/22/2021	0774
Barnett, Theresa	Ephrata, PA	03/28/2021	L102
Batten, Beatrice	St. Albans, WV	04/17/2021	0774
Bedillion, Theresia	Washington, PA	07/16/2021	0588
Boback, Michael	Pittsburgh, PA	06/15/2021	L161
Bobby, David	Butler, PA	08/18/2021	0123
Braun, Taylor	Coraopolis, PA	05/31/2021	0123
Britz, Mary	Greensburg, PA	07/03/2021	0737
Budinsky, Stephen	Oakmont, PA	05/26/2021	0434
Callahan, Eleanore M	North Ridgeville, OH	07/26/2021	0004
Catanzaro, Thomas P	Glassport, PA	08/17/2021	0774
Chabassol, Dennis R	Washington, Pa	07/29/2021	0588
Chupp, Elizabeth	Constantine, MI	08/17/2021	0381
Claar, Erma	Camp Hill, PA	08/12/2021	L102
Conn, Joyce L	New Kensington, PA	07/15/2021	L105
Cooksey, Sharon	Brownstown, MI	05/29/2021	0381
Cortez, Michael	LaVergne, TN	07/16/2021	0774
Coyle, Catherine	DeForest, WI	07/05/2021	0774
Crawford, Leo	DuBois, PA	06/14/2021	0774
DeMartino, Anthony N	Pittsburgh, PA	07/27/2021	0108
Elko, Michael A	Monroeville, PA	06/30/2021	L105
Emanuel, Gwen	Ambler, PA	06/25/2021	R059
Fishel, Judith	Clymer, PA	07/23/2021	0267
Fox, Nancy	Portage, PA	07/26/2021	0774
Gearhart, Donna	Martinsburg, PA	07/26/2021	0774
Getlak, Jr., Albert	McKeesport, PA	08/09/2020	0108
Greer, Vlasta	Kalamazoo, MI	07/26/2021	0381
Groff, Gregory	Quarryville, PA	07/28/2021	R059
Grosik, Barbara	Mineral Point, PA	08/08/2021	0774
Haftmann, Ida	Clarksville, PA	08/07/2021	0377
Hertko, Edward J	West Des Moines, IA	11/07/2020	0586
Hetrick, Wilber	Clarksville, PA	07/26/2021	0377
Huisman, Michael	Duarte, CA	05/04/2021	0568
Iassogna, Mary	Seymour, CT	04/01/2020	0028
Isaacs, Lois	West Homestead, PA	07/02/2021	0108
Janosek, John	Natrona Heights, PA	04/21/1998	0737
Jaskolski, Frances	Glassport, PA	07/25/2021	0108
Johnson, Edwin	Grove City, PA	06/20/2020	0731
Kerr, Marion	Hadley, PA	08/13/2021	0731
Knapp, Frank	Delaware, OH	06/20/2019	0588
Knill, Evelyn	Huntington Beach, CA	05/27/2012	0568
Knizner, Rosalyn	Marianna, PA	08/23/2021	0774
Knopik, Helen	Fairmont City, IL	01/21/2021	0774
Kostenbauder, Daniel	Warminster, PA	08/20/2021	R059
Larson, Alyce	New Eagle, PA	08/11/2021	0377
Letham, Sylvia	Clymer, PA	08/14/2021	0554
Lowery, David	Chicora, PA	07/05/2021	0123
Lusk, Robert	Charleroi, PA	08/02/2021	0377
Mancini, Adina	Monessen, PA	07/27/2021	0377
Martelli, Loretta	Uniontown, PA	08/17/2021	0039
McKay, Dennis	Easton, PA	02/13/2021	R059
McKinney, Herman R	Stephenson, WV	03/21/2021	0774
McRill, Myron	Arlington, OH	06/24/2021	0160
Meis, William	Stratford, WI	07/07/2021	0774
Michalik, Bernadene	Orwigsburg, PA	08/14/2021	L102
Milne, Dorothy	Rochester, PA	08/18/2021	0123
Mondok, Anthony	Basking Ridge, NJ	01/17/2021	0110
Moore, Arthur	Pittsburgh, PA	07/14/2021	0108

## OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS CONTINUED

August 2021

(Continued from Page 14)

Murphy, James	Duquesne, PA	08/21/2021	0774
Naple, Mary Ann	Pittsburgh, PA	07/28/2021	0100
Osborne, Geraldine	Leivasy, WV	11/14/2020	0774
Parker, Mary	Orlando, FL	07/17/2020	P38A
Parlapiano, Sandra	Littleton, CO	04/17/2021	0236
Philbin, Shaun	Longmeadow, MA	06/26/2021	0110
Potocny, Kim	Lebanon, PA	07/30/2021	0267
Priode, Guyer	Ona, WV	02/06/2021	0774
Ramos, Linda	Jersey City, NJ	03/27/2020	0774
Raso, Agatha	Aliquippa, PA	07/12/2021	0123
Reeves, Sally	Wayne, WV	06/13/2021	0774
Richmond, James	Moundsville, WV	06/18/2021	0774
Rotuna, Norma	Beaver Falls, PA	08/01/2021	0123
Salfeld, Gertrud	Sterling Heights, MI	06/10/2021	0381
Santee, John	Pittston, PA	07/15/2021	L075
Shinko, Lorraine	Ashley, PA	08/08/2021	0617
Slovick, Sophie	Lisle, IL	06/30/2021	0586
Smith, Kristine	Warren, PA	08/02/2021	R019
Smith, Linda L	Perryopolis, PA	07/25/2021	0039
Smith, Lois	Washington, PA	07/05/2021	0588
Stevenson, Curt E	Shartlesville, PA	07/21/2021	L102
Stodnick, Loretta	Creskill, NJ	11/29/2020	L075
Szymanowicz, Jeanne	Erie, PA	08/19/2021	0774
Thomas, Betty	Union, WV	04/19/2021	0774
Trambley, Gerald	Erie, PA	07/04/2021	0774
Vieira, Audrey	Erie, PA	11/23/2020	0432
Virchick, George	Mifflinburg, PA	11/20/2020	0774
Yoder, Wallace	Conneautville, PA	07/29/2021	0774
Yonger, Jr., Barry	Belle Vernon, PA	05/22/2021	0377
Yurick, Richard	Murrysville, PA	04/10/2021	0737
Zulian, Clara	Yukon, PA	07/10/2021	0737

## Assembly 0586 Helps Tornado Victims



Pictured is the West Suburban Community Pantry in Woodridge where people can shop as they would in a grocery store, pushing shopping carts among refrigerators full of fresh produce and shelves of baby items, pet food and canned goods. We presented our NSS check to help our neighbors who were displaced by damage from the June tornado.

## DONATE TO THE PVR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Assembly L102 Summer Picnic

### PVR Scholarship Fund Donations

In Memory of <b>Scott B Donald:</b>	
From Assembly 0123 .....	20.00
In Memory of <b>James English:</b>	
From Assembly 0123 .....	20.00
In Memory of <b>Greg Blum:</b>	
From Laurie & Mike Fox .....	50.00
In Memory of <b>Bucky Wesnak:</b>	
From Laurie & Mike Fox .....	50.00
In Memory of <b>Shaun Logan Crowley:</b>	
From Laurie & Mike Fox .....	50.00
In Memory of <b>Shaun Logan Crowley:</b>	
From Kevin, Lori, Kevin, Jr., & John Crowley .....	20.00

#### Donations:

Director Laurie Fox .....	50.00
Assembly 0432 .....	100.00



Also at Assembly L102's picnic was National Directors Drew Wesnak, Abigail Gross and Honorary President of the First Slovak Wreath of the Free Eagle Justine Wesnak.



L102 had a bubble blast at the summer picnic. Great to see some of our group again!

## News from Assembly L075

Our Fraternal summer picnic meeting was held August 29, 2021 at the Mercateli-Segilia Park in Moosic. We had a cookout with hot dogs and hamburgers made by President Gary Edwards and Gary Collins, bingo was conducted by Marlin and a basket raffle. Members also brought something for the table.



**L-R: President Gary Edwards, Secretary/Treasurer Lehrae Edwards, Stephanie Ciuccio, Allie Lazar, V. P. Lucy Piccoletti, Joseph Janichko, Region 2 President Marlin Petro-Wesnak, and Linda Pilosi. 2nd Row is Tommy Piccoletti, Guy Pilosi, National Director Drew Wesnak and his wife Sharon, Gary and Dorothy Collins. Absent from the photo was Catherine Janichko.**

On August 15, 2021 an Eagle Scout Court of Honor was held in Dupont, Pa for our youth member Adam Lazar. Adam was the 2021 Youth Achievement Award Recipient from the NSS which was presented by President Gary Edwards.



Shown is Adam in a Boy Scout hat that was sent to Adam from an NSS member: Dr. Stephen Benko an Eagle Scout from Delaware who read the article and wanted Adam to have his hat.

A matching funds check was presented to Scoutmaster Matt Fino by President Gary Edwards and Eagle Scout Adam Lazar.



Several members of Assembly 75 attended Adam's Court of Honor and they are: Richard Gorgol, Eagle Scout Joseph Gorgol, Gary Collins, Region 2 President Marlin Petro-Wesnak, Dorothy Collins ASM Troop 316, Eagle Scout



and 2021 Youth Achievement Award Recipient Adam Lazar, Eagle Scout Matthew Edwards, NSS Secretary/Treasurer and T316 ASM Lehrae Ann Edwards and proud Grandmother, Cousin Maxwell Edwards, President Gary Edwards proud Grandfather, Sister-Allie Lazar, Eagle Scout Adam Edwards his proud dad and his proud Mom Karen Richardson. Congratulations Adam.

**Lehrae Ann Edwards**  
Secretary/Treasurer

## Assembly 813

The Chestnut Ridge Church of God held their 11th annual "Back to School Tennis Shoe Ministry". Since 2011 they have provided over 2500 pairs of new tennis shoes free to students entering Kindergarten through 12th grade. Students must live in, or attend, school in Hubbard, Brookfield, Masury, Liberty or Girard in Ohio, or Sharon, Farrell, Hermitage or West Middlesex in Pennsylvania. Pastor Rob McFarland explained the ministry is supported by the congregation with additional support from the Hubbard community.

In addition to Pastor McFarland, other NSS members volunteering during the two day shoe distribution were Kathy Flickinger, Sue Burns and Jo Holker. Reactions from the children and their parents were very heartwarming. We wish them all a good school year.

**Mary Jo Holker**  
Secretary





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Neskoré leto sa nebadane premieňa na včasnú jeseň. V sýtej zeleni lesov vystúpia prvé fličky žltých listnáčov, žltej farby pribúda a celá krajina sa mení. Polia vydali úrodu a chystajú sa na odpočinok.



—Zuzana Vaňoušová

*Kapusta, kapusta, ti si naša strava,  
keď sa ca najeme ňeboli nas hlava*

## Október - mesiac úcty k starším.

Starí rodičia to je dar z neba,  
dávajú viac ako nám treba.  
Sú to naši anjeli, ktorí nás vždy  
chránia,  
vďaka nim sa nebojíme žiadneho  
skúšania.  
Aj keď nás zabolí päťka z diktátu,  
vždy nás chránia od rodičovského  
záchvatu.  
Zato Vám ďakujem babka i dedko,  
že ste mi z lásky vždy dali všetko.



## Myšlienka na október....



V mesiaci októbri začínajú dlhšie večere  
deň sa kráti. Azda nájdeme viac času na  
čítanie dobrej knihy. Dobrá myšlienka je  
aby sme si prezreli naše doklady, osobne  
investície, poisťujúce certifikáty či nám  
stačí životná poiska - či treba niečo  
zmeniť, zýšit' atď.

## Od kapusty chlapi hustí

Koncom októbra a začiatkom novembra nastal čas na nakladanie kapusty do sudov, aby vydržala až do jari. Kapusta patrí v ľudovej strave medzi najrozšírenejšie jedlá a pestuje sa na celom území Slovenska. Z čerstvej hlávkovej kapusty sa varili privarky, dusenou sa plnili kapustníky. Vonkajšie listy a hlúbiky slúžili ako potrava pre domáce zvieratá. Kyslá kapusta bola jedna z hlavných surovín pri príprave jedál cez celú zimu až do neskorého jari. Varili sa z nej polievky (kapustnice), privarky, strapačky (halušky zo zemiakového cesta) s kapustou, udusená kyslá kapusta sa používala ako príloha k mäsu, ale aj ako plnka do koláčov. Kvasená kapusta sa často jedla aj surová—je totiž bohatým zdrojom vitamínu C, rovanako ako šťava z nej (kapustnica). Používala sa aj v ľudovej medicíne, obklady z kyslej kapusty sa dávali na omrzliny, pomáhali pri vysokých horúčkach či pri bolestiach hlavy.

**O kapuste sa vravelo:** Kapusta sedem ráz prihrievaná je najlepšia.

**O kapuste spievajú:** Kapusta, kapusta, jaka dobra bula,  
Zo staru slaninu, hojaja, čuhaja  
Zo staru slaninu, zapražena bula.



## Mesiace Sv. Ruženca

Od Roku 1716 oslavuje celý katolícky svet 7. október ako sviatok Ružencovej Panny Márie.

Desiatok či venček sv. Ruženca venujme denne Matke Božej ukončiac veršikom:

O Mária ružencova naša patronka, my  
sa k tebe utiekame čista panenka.  
Ty si Matka dobrotiva patronka  
ľutostiva, oroduj vždy za nás všetkých  
u svojho syna.



## Pápež František navštívil Slovensko

Pápež František urobil oficiálnu návštevu od 12. do 15. septembra—kedy navštívil mesto Bratislavu, Prešov, Košice kde slávil sv. omšu. V Šaštíne, v bazilike sedembolestnej Panny Marie Patrónky Slovenska slávil sv. omšu práve v deň sviatku sedembolestnej.

Čo priniesol pre Slovensko—veríme že požehnanie ktoré je nutné pre krajinu, i národ Slovenský

Vďaka Vám—Pápež František



# Youth Circle Page

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

## 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](mailto: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:

Frosty's Group (Ages 5-7)  
Rudolph's Group (Ages 8-10)  
Snowflake Group (Ages 11-13)  
Santa Group (Ages 14-16)  
Adult Group

### Prize Awards:

First Place - \$25.00  
First Place - \$25.00  
First Place - \$25.00  
First Place - \$25.00  
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.**

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

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## 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. \_\_\_\_\_ Certificate 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.