



NSS Life
Family Matters...

Národné Noviny

Providing Fraternal Life Insurance Since 1890 | NATIONAL NEWS | APRIL 2022 | NUMBER 3564 | VOLUME 114



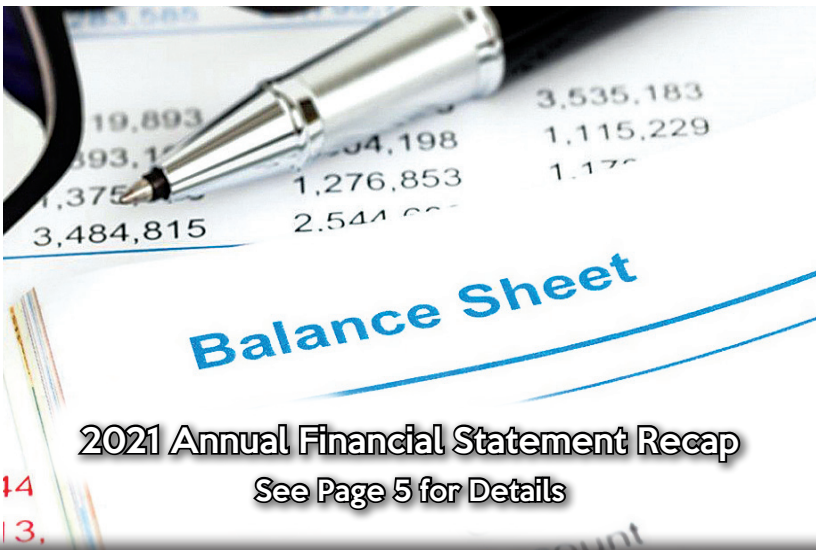

**Happy
Easter**

SPRING YOUTH CIRCLE EDITION

**MAY ART
CONTEST**

Deadline May 31, 2022

See Page 23 for Rules



2021 Annual Financial Statement Recap

See Page 5 for Details

14
13,



National Slovak Society

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



NATIONAL SLOVAK SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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

Founder and Honorary President, Peter V. Rovnianek

EDITOR

LORI CROWLEY
Published Monthly

Send articles for publication to:
351 Valley Brook Road
McMurray, PA 15317-3337

Deadline: 5th of preceding month

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

Michael J. Czarney • Lauren A. Fox • Andrea L. Garbon • 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

Inside this Issue...

Assembly Activities

Activities at a Glance..... 3

From the Executive Officers

The President's Page..... 4
Secretary/Treasurer's Column..... 5-6

NSS Financial Matters

2021 Annual Statement Recap..... 5
Annuity Interest Rates..... 8

NSS Sales Department

Recommender/Change of Address Form 2
Current Interest Rates..... 8
National Sales Director..... 9
Easter Items..... 20

NSS News & Activities

PVR Scholarship Donations 6
Departed Members..... 7, 18
Scholarship for Senior Members 7
Fraternal Activities Director..... 10
Spring Youth Magazine..... 11-14
Assembly Meetings..... 15-17
Assembly Photos..... 17
Easter Recipes 19
Easter Articles 20-21
May Art Contest Rules 23
New Member..... 23

Národné Noviny

Veľkonočné svätenie jedál..... 22
Veľkonočné vinše 22
Deň zeme 22. apríl..... 22

Could you use a little extra "Green?"

RECOMMENDER FORM

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 to whom we issue a policy. 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: _____

Please mail form to the NSS Life Home Office.

Do you need a Change of Address?

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

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.*

Change of Address Information:

Full Name: _____

Certificate #: _____ Assembly #: _____

New Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Former Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Activities At A Glance

<p>REGION 2</p> <p>April 3 April 23 May 10 August 10 August 14 October 16</p>	<p>Assemblies L075, 0617</p> <p>Assembly 0617, Easter Project (Tentative) (TBA) Assembly L075, Meeting, Grande's Restaurant, Moosic, PA at 1:00 pm Assembly 0617, Meeting & Social, Pierce Street Deli (TBA) Assembly 0617, Fraternal Day, Knoebels Park (TBA) Assembly L075, Summer Picnic, Mercatelli Segilia Park, Moosic, PA at 1:00 pm Assembly L075, Meeting (TBA)</p>
<p>REGION 5</p> <p>April 20 April 23 April 30 May 13-14 May 21 June 12 June 19 July 15-17 July 29 September 1 September 11 September 11 September 12 October 23 November 5 November 7 December 4 December 4 December 17</p>	<p>Assemblies P38A, 0039, 0100, L105, 0108, 0123, L161, 0377, 0434, 0441, 0588, 0731, 0737, 0774</p> <p>Assembly 0588, Meeting at Stefka residence, Gibsonia, PA at 5:30 pm Assembly 0731, Bowling for children (TBA) Assembly 0731, Spring work at Poland Township (TBA) National Bowling Tournament, Cleveland, OH Assembly 0737, Meeting at Godor residence, North Huntingdon, PA at 1:00 pm Assembly 0039, Summer Bar-B-Q, Columbian Association (K of C) pavillion at 1:00 pm Assembly 0377, Annual Picnic, Richardson's Park, Bentleyville, PA at 3:00 pm National Golf Tournament, Tam O'Shanter Golf Club, Hermitage, PA Region 5, NSS Night at PNC Park Assembly 0731, All day Scavenger Hunt, Canfield Fair, Campsite A102 Assembly 0377, Meeting, Sesame Inn, McMurray, PA at 3:00 pm Assembly 0039, Flight 93 Dinner, (TBA) Assembly 0588, Meeting, Stefka residence, Gibsonia, PA (TBA) Assembly 0731, Halloween Hayride, Countryside Farm at 4:00 pm Assembly 0731, Making Christmas Ornaments, Burns residence, Poland, OH Assembly 0588, Meeting at Stefka residence, Gibsonia, PA (TBA) Assembly 0377, Christmas Party, Hugo's Restaurant, Brownsville, PA at 3:00 pm Assembly 0039, Christmas Party, Columbian Association Hall (K of C) at 4:00 pm Assembly 0731, Christmas Party, Lariccia Center Rotary Room, Boardman Park, OH</p>
<p>REGION 8</p>	<p>Assemblies 0004, 0070, 0160, 0432, 0595</p> <p>No Activities</p>
<p>REGION 14</p> <p>April 10</p>	<p>Assemblies R059, L102</p> <p>Assembly L102, Easter Egg Hunt, Wesnak's residence, Whitehall, PA at 2:00 pm</p>
<p>AT LARGE</p> <p>April 20 April 24 June 5 June 23 June 25, 26 July 3 August 21 September 4 October 16 October 23 December 24</p>	<p>Assemblies L002, R019, L040, 0110, 0236, 0267, 0381, 0554, 0568, 0586, 0705, 0800, 0813</p> <p>Assembly 0381, Members participating in PanCan Purple Stride Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck's residence, Seelyville, PA at 1:00 pm Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck's residence, Seelyville, PA at 1:00 pm Assembly 0381, Meeting, Rosemary Hanlon's residence, Trenton, MI at 1:00 pm Assembly 0705, Butwin Family Reunion, Seelyville, IN (Fraternal Fund Activity) (TBA) Assembly 0554, Meeting, Stricek's residence, DuBois, PA at 2:00 pm Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck's residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm Assembly 0554, Meeting, Stricek's residence, DuBois, PA at 2:00 pm Assembly 0554, Meeting, Stricek's residence, DuBois, PA at 2:00 pm Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck's residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm Assembly 0705, Annual Christmas Eve celebration (Fraternal Fund Activity) at 6:00 pm</p>

The President's Page...

Joseph Stefka, Jr., FIC, President, CEO
Email: jstefka@nsslife.org



The month of April brings us several holidays. April Fools' Day is celebrated on April 1st. I know my grandchildren enjoy this day playing pranks on their siblings, parents, and grandparents. Good Friday falls on April 15th and Easter is celebrated on April 17th. On behalf of the Officers, Board of Directors, the Home Office Staff, and my family, I would like to wish all of you a Blessed and Happy Easter as you celebrate with your families. Holiday family gatherings are memories cherished forever! The NSS Home Office will be closed for business on Good Friday, April 15th and Easter Monday, April 18th. Earth Day is celebrated on April 22nd and has traditionally been a day on which assemblies and regions of the NSS organize and conduct activities to beautify and improve their local communities. It offers a great opportunity to get the youth members of your assembly or region to volunteer and become involved in a meaningful project helping to fulfill the NSS Mission Statement. Administrative Professionals' Day is celebrated on April 27th.

I would like to commend our entire Home Office Staff for their dedication and hard work over the past year. 2021 was a very challenging year for a variety of reasons including the continued pandemic, the process of beginning the transition to a new policy administration software system, and the increased volume of business. Our staff continued to provide our members and agents with excellent customer service in spite of the obstacles. A quote attributed to Henry Ford regarding obstacles reads, "Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off

your goal." Our staff has continued to keep their eyes on the goal of supporting our 37,700 members and agents. We are grateful to have a staff that remains committed and supports the continued growth of the Society. Great job Home Office Staff!

The year ending December 31, 2021, was a highly successful year for the National Slovak Society. The details of the Annual Statement, provided by our Secretary-Treasurer/CFO Linda Strom are located elsewhere in this issue, but I would like to focus on a few highlights of the statement. NSS Net Admitted Assets increased to \$1,648,444,321, an increase of 13.6%. Surplus increased to \$80,941,812 an increase of 14.5%, and the solvency ratio increased to 105.17%. Our Net Gain from Operations was \$11,548,994 an increase of 37.3%. The number of policies written during 2021 increased to 5,203 and NSS membership increased to 37,700 members an increase of 6.99%. The NSS continues to grow at a responsibly controlled rate and is the ninth largest fraternal benefit society in the United States. We are currently licensed to do business in twenty-four states.

The National Slovak Society recently completed the annual surveillance with our rating agency, Kroll Bond Rating Agency. The process is extensive and requires an exchange of a significant amount of information with the agency over a period of several weeks. The process culminates with an NSS presentation of the highlights of the past year to the committee from Kroll. The agency reviews the information and the presentation, and rates the Society based on a number of factors and ratios. Kroll published their rating of the National Slovak Society on March 4, 2022. KBRA affirmed our rating of BBB+ with a Stable Outlook for 2022. Areas of strength and areas for improvement were noted in the Surveillance Report. Many of the action items of the current NSS Strategic Business Plan developed in 2017 have been completed and have affected processes included in the review by KBRA. The Society's Officers and Board of Directors have decided to begin to develop a new Strategic Business Plan following the Reorganization Meeting of the Board of Directors in November.

The final details for the 38th Quadrennial Convention are being completed. Elected delegate forms are arriving daily at the Home Office. Committee assignment letters will be sent out this month. The Committee on Constitution and ByLaws, the Committee on Budget and Finances, and the Committee on Nominations will begin their work later this month as outlined in the Constitution and ByLaws. The Board of Directors has reviewed and approved the Convention Travel Guidelines, the Convention Rules, and the Convention Agenda as outlined in the Constitution and ByLaws. The Convention Rules and Agenda will be subject to approval or amendment by the Convention. Important Convention information will be included in future issues of the *National News*.

A reminder to all high school seniors that the deadline for applying for the PVR Scholarship is May 1, 2022. Please contact Pam Blum, at 724-731-0094, or by email pblum@nsslife.org to request an application. A reminder to all YFC members that the deadline for submitting entries to the May Art Contest is May 31st. Parents, grandparents, and assembly officers, please encourage our youth members to participate in the contest. It is an opportunity to display their artistic talent.

News of Narodniars

Happy Birthday wishes go out to Director Drew Wesnak, former Director Bill Knoll, Home Office staff member Lisa Shriver, to my daughter Ashley Bernardo, Rudy Ondrejco, Keith Kucherawy, Jeff Lavin, Chloe Woods, and Alexa Woods and to all other members celebrating a birthday in April.

Happy Anniversary wishes to all our members celebrating a wedding anniversary during the month of April!



38th Quadrennial Convention
Hershey, Pennsylvania
June 26th thru 29th, 2022

2021 Annual Statement Recap

Statement as of December 31, 2021

	Dec 2021	Dec 2020
Net Admitted Assets:		
Bonds	\$1,474,508,345	\$1,357,426,297
Preferred Stocks	5,300,000	2,000,000
Common Stocks	9,015,823	6,065,184
Mortgage Loans on Real Est.	108,777,412	32,451,740
Certificate Loans	965,173	893,191
Real Est Occupied by Society	616,899	638,254
Cash on Deposit	30,578,048	36,578,178
Other Invested Assets	1,866,369	
Deferred Premiums	418,064	306,467
Investment Income Due	16,398,188	14,380,629
TOTALS	\$1,648,444,321	\$1,450,739,940

Liabilities & Unassigned Funds

Aggregate Reserve	\$1,474,993,500	\$1,295,552,000
Deposit-type Contracts	70,447,522	65,253,054
Certificate Claims	675,000	550,000
Commissions Due	400,000	160,000
Refunds Due	840,000	760,000
General Exp Due	2,356,350	1,733,200
Retained by Society as Trustee	284,920	109,306
Borrowed Money & Interest	410,242	0
Asset Valuation Resv (AVR)	12,546,000	10,358,500
Interest Maintenance Resv (IMR)	4,548,975	5,581,682
Contingency Reserve	150,000	150,000
Unassigned Funds	80,791,812	70,532,198
TOTALS	\$1,648,444,321	\$1,450,739,940

Surplus Account:

Beginning Surplus	\$70,682,199	\$64,096,623
Net Income	11,649,196	7,840,226
Change in Net Unrealized		
Capital Gains or (Losses)	1,331,261	281,165
Change in Nonadmitted Assets	(533,344)	(9,315)
Change in Valuation Reserve	(2,187,500)	(1,526,500)
Aggregate Write-ins for Gains and Losses in Surplus		
Net Change in Surplus	10,259,613	6,585,576
Surplus At Statement Date	\$80,941,812	\$70,682,199

Summary of Operations:

	Dec 2021	Dec 2020
INCOME:		
Premium & Annuity Considerations	\$271,173,517	\$191,259,342
Net Investment Income	69,950,355	60,715,911
Amortization of Interest		
Maintenance Reserve	380,106	505,857
Income Sub-Total	\$341,503,978	\$252,481,110

EXPENSES:

Death Benefits	\$7,676,447	\$6,921,974
Matured Endowments	19,026	31,786
Annuity Benefits	126,878,865	104,412,827
Disability Benefits	5,284	5,898
Surrender Benefits	968,110	515,413
Interest On Deposit Type Contr	11,837	10,860
Increase In Aggregate Reserve for Life Contracts	179,441,500	120,889,000
Commissions On Direct Business	7,559,823	4,921,603
General & Fraternal Expenses	6,360,845	5,383,065
Insur, Taxes, Licenses, Fees	202,108	242,791
Expense Sub-Total	\$329,123,845	\$243,335,217

SUMMARY:

Net Gain From Operations		
Before Refunds To Members	\$12,380,133	\$9,145,893
Refund To Members	(831,139)	(739,190)
Net Gain From Operations		
After Refunds To Members	11,548,994	8,406,703
Net Realized Capital Gains	100,202	(566,477)
TOTAL NET INCOME	\$11,649,196	\$7,840,226



NSS Life
Family Matters...

A Page From My Notebook...

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



Convention Planning Has Now Officially Entered Stress Mode!

1. Convention Planning has now entered Stress Mode due to the amount of work that needs to be accomplished in a brief period of time. We are doing our absolute best to make sure the Convention runs smoothly and the business of the Convention is successfully acted upon.
2. As of the writing of this article (3/15/2022) we have received 57 Delegate entries. I'm sure there
3. are those Assemblies/Regions that have yet to meet. I'm waiting ! Preparations are underway to mail out the First Delegate Packet as soon as we receive the Delegate Election Verification Forms from those Assemblies and Regions that have elected their Delegates. The forms must be in my office by March 28, 2022.

Continued on page 6

4. We are moving ahead with organizing some great excursions, naturally Hersheypark is one of them. You will hear about them as soon as all the details and costs are finalized.
5. The Board of Directors met at the Home Office at the conclusion of their March 5th Winter Board Meeting to work through the current Bylaws which were approved at the 2018 37th Quadrennial Convention. The Board will forward their suggested revisions to the Bylaw Committee which will meet on April 27, 2022, at the Home Office.
6. Board of Directors Convention Reports and Board Candidate Biographies (with photo included) must be submitted to my office NO LATER than April 27, 2022. They will be published in the June 2022 Newsletter along with a listing of the elected Delegates to the Convention.
7. Just a reminder, as with prior Conventions, ALL reservations (Lodge, events, transportation, excursions) will be managed through the Home Office. Delegates ARE NOT to call the Hershey Lodge to make any kind of reservations. The staff at Hershey will not take reservations for our convention.

DONATE TO THE PVR SCHOLARSHIP FUND



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

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

38th Quadrennial Convention Fund Raising Campaign

This Convention will support the Veterans Outreach of Pennsylvania and the construction of the Veterans Tiny Home Village. Veterans Outreach is located on the Susquehanna River in South Harrisburg on a 5-acre parcel of land where the VOPA plans to build a village of 15 tiny houses surrounding a community center for homeless Veterans. This is specifically designed to meet the specific needs of homeless Veterans. VOPA's objective is to provide each Veteran with his or her own tiny home so they can feel safe and in control of their surroundings.

"Our homeless veterans don't need or want a handout. They need and want a hand UP. And that is exactly what they will get from this place and the formidable VOPA team. We the people owe to them our debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice. Through the efforts of VOPA we will be able to repay that debt to some of our veterans who are in need. I humbly ask that you also consider supporting this very worthy cause!" Wilbur E. Wolf III, Brigadier General (Retired).

At the Convention we will present a check for all donations received. Please send your donations to Pam Blum or Linda Strom at the Home Office. Checks should be made out to "NSS" and on the Notes line please indicate that your donation is for "VOPA"

We welcome not only our members but others that may want to donate to also participate in this worthy cause. Thank You!

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 February 2022

- In Memory of **Warren Mawhinney:**
From Assembly 123 20.00
Missed from Dec
- In Memory of **Ann Jacobs:**
From Assembly 123..... 20.00
Missed from Dec
- In Memory of **my Grandfathers, Albert Simek and Albert Stanley:**
From Robin Stanley 50.00
- In Memory of **Sophia Slovick:**
From Assembly 586 50.00
- In Memory of **Rose & Martin Medved:**
From Assembly 381 100.00
- In Memory of our son and brother **Shaun Logan Crowley:**
From Kevin, Lori, Kevin Jr., & John Crowley 20.00

Donations:

- H2R 1,500.00
Patricia & George Robson 35.00
Matching Funds- A-588 250.00



NSS 38th Quadrennial Convention, Hershey, PA

OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS February 2022

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Arens, Janet	Hastings, MI	12/16/2021	0381
Arezina, Marko	Lower Burrell, PA	12/22/2021	L105
Arthur, Richard	Hermitage, PA	01/21/2022	0731
Atwell, John	Brookville, PA	12/08/2021	0039
Bandula, John	Aliquippa, PA	03/17/2021	0123
Barber, Milford	Butler, PA	02/03/2022	L161
Bertino, Patricia	Mays Landing, NJ	01/15/2022	0774
Bogden, Frank	New Kensington, PA	01/13/2022	L105
Booker, Ben	Midland City, AL	02/04/2022	R059
Budiac, Anthony	Brookfield, WI	11/04/2021	0774
Camp, Michael	Beaver, PA	02/08/2022	0123
Capreri, Andrew	Doylestown, PA	01/26/2022	0774
Carns, Janet	Ligonier, PA	02/09/2022	0737
Chorney, Joseph	Floral Park, NY	12/07/2021	0110
Chudoba, Frank	Van Nuys, CA	12/26/2021	0568
Confer, Ellen	North Versailles, PA	12/01/2021	0108
Cotter, David	Myrtle Beach, SC	07/16/2021	0774
Dickerson, Earnest	Erie, PA	01/26/2022	0774
Dickerson, Thomas	Sanford, NC	01/10/2022	0774
Diesel, Joann	Houston, PA	01/20/2022	0588
Dunn, Judith	Danville, PA	12/31/2021	0617
Dvorshak, Alexander P	Colorado Springs, CO	11/08/2021	L102
Failer, Harriet	York, PA	11/25/2021	0267
Fausnaught, Gerald	Meadville, PA	02/17/2022	0731
Fazekas, William S	McKeesport, PA	01/01/2022	0108
Fleming, Audrey	Mingo Junction, OH	02/02/2022	0731
Flowers, David R	Meadville, PA	05/04/2020	0731
Girting, Jr., John	Midland, PA	11/27/2021	P38A
Heckman, Sarah	Birdsboro, PA	01/22/2022	L102
Hetz, Catherine	Johnstown, PA	01/20/2022	0774
Hill, Ann	Mount Joy, PA	11/09/2021	0554
Horvath, Marion	Chicago, IL	01/22/2022	0586
Ingram, Dianne	Altoona, PA	12/25/2021	0267
Jolly, Dorothy	Columbia, SC	10/16/2021	0774
Jones, Gary	Erie, PA	01/09/2022	R059
Kachman, Robert	Troy, MI	11/27/2021	0381
Komraus, William	Philadelphia, PA	01/04/2022	R059
Kaplin, Bernard	Apollo, PA	01/30/2022	0774
Kazin, Barton A	East Longmeadow, MA	06/19/2020	0028
Kennedy, Judith	Apollo, PA	01/21/2022	L105
Kirkwood, Richard L	Clinton, PA	01/23/2022	0588
Knoll, Robert J	Ambridge, PA	11/11/2021	0123
Kolecky, Jr., Donald J	Cleveland, OH	01/16/2022	0432
Kovalick, Kenneth	Clearfield, PA	01/10/2022	0554
Krafchak, Anne	Buffalo, NY	01/18/2022	R019
Lauterbach, Wallace	Dousman, WI	01/26/2022	0774
Lemerand, John	Sylvania, OH	12/29/2021	0160
Llane, Michael	Camden, NJ	01/25/2022	0774
Louk, Sonia	Warren, PA	01/09/2022	R019
Lucidi, Donna	Lititz, PA	01/26/2022	L102
Luedtke, Beverly	Weston, WI	06/21/2021	0774
Madden, Rosann	Baraboo, WI	04/01/2021	0774

(Continued on Page 18)

Scholarship For Senior Members A Fraternal Program

PURPOSE -

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

MEMBER ELIGIBILITY -

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

COURSE ELIGIBILITY -

Vocational schools, community colleges and universities offer a variety of short-term courses which may include areas like computer training, cake decorating, photography, landscaping, small engine repair, ballroom dancing, etc. This program does not cover courses that assist you to maintain your current full or part-time job. (Example: We will not reimburse life insurance or real estate agents who take continuing education credits to maintain their licenses.)

PROCEDURE -

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

INFORMATION & APPLICATION -

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

Current Interest Rates

★ Effective January 1, 2020 ★

Optimum 3 2.00%

Preferred 5 3.00%

Preferred 8 3.50%

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



Did you know...

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

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



2021/22 Annuity Contribution Coupon

Any time is a good time to invest, but investing earlier can maximize the compounding effect on your money. If adding to your **2021** year **IRA contribution**, do so prior to **April 15, 2022**.

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.

From the Sales Department...

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



Tax-deferral, What Is It?

Sometimes in this space we tout the advantage of tax-deferral. But what is tax-deferral? A good example would be any non-qualified deferred annuity that we offer. Depositing a \$100,000 into a Preferred 5 earning 3.0% interest means that at the end of one year, the account would be worth \$103,000. The annuitant/owner will not receive a 1099 statement from us assuming they left the money in the account and made no withdrawals. With no taxes being due, the account should continue to grow faster. Had that same money and interest existed at any bank, the account holder would have received a 1099 for the \$3,000 in interest. Depending on the tax bracket, this person might owe 25% in taxes on the \$3,000 or \$750. In this case the account would be worth \$102,250.

Here is a more extreme example of tax-deferral. Elon Musk is the richest person in the world with an estimated worth of \$250 billion. He owns Tesla and SpaceX. Both companies gave him stock options that were valued at \$23 billion and he owes taxes of \$11 billion on that amount. He had to sell some of his stock to get the cash needed to pay this tax bill. As a result, he became the largest single taxpayer in U.S. history. Elon certainly would have liked some tax-deferral in this particular situation. The old rule: tax-free is best. Tax-deferred is the next best thing. Taxable is the least desirable outcome compared to the three choices. We have products that could help you. A Roth IRA could be tax-free, an IRA is tax-deferred and

an annuity where the interest is taxed at withdrawal may all be used to help save money.

Life insurance vs Fine Wine

A trying question that could only come up in this space. Which one would you pick? OK, I am probably the only person that would pick life insurance over wine. However, the comparison is a tough call and here is why. Here are some basic characteristics of fine wine. The reputation of the winery is certainly important. The wine gets better over time. Wine is usually less expensive when first bottled. Later, the price may increase, or it may not be available as supplies run out. And in the end wine makes you feel good. A social drink to relax and share a moment with family and friends. This is certainly an acceptable practice and one that may be encouraged by your doctor.

How about life insurance? Similar in many respects and certainly, reputation matters with an insurance organization. NSS Life has been around for more than 132 years and has a proven

track record. When we offer products and services, rest assured that they are first rate and top of the line. The sooner you buy insurance the less expensive it is. Waiting only causes price increases and someday it may not be available at any price if you become uninsurable. Over time any permanent plan of insurance becomes more valuable as the cash or loan values increase and other options become known. Finally, life insurance makes you feel good. A wonderful burden will be lifted from your shoulders with life insurance ownership.

An old story illustrates this last point best. Long ago, three horsemen were riding and a voice from the heavens said to dismount and fill your bags with pebbles. Upon remounting the voice said tomorrow you will be both sad and glad. The next day they were both sad and glad. Sad that they had not taken more pebbles and glad that they took as much as they did. Because overnight the pebbles turned into diamonds, rubies, and other valuable gems. This is the story of life insurance. Call us and let us help you and your family.

Thought For The Month:

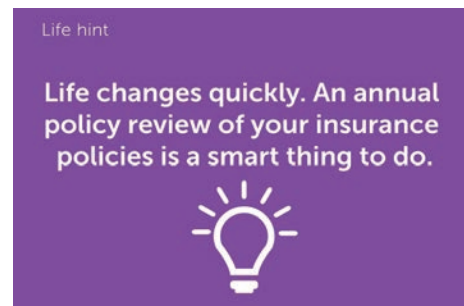
Chance is the first step you take; luck is what comes afterward.

Amy Tan, Writer



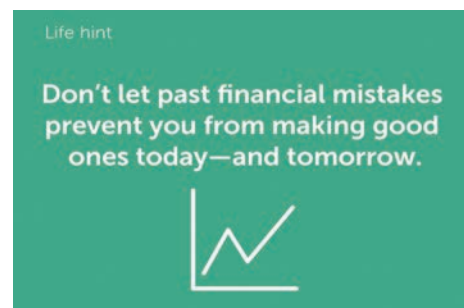
8 POWERFUL WORDS FOR THE DAY

- 1. BELIEVE IN YOURSELF**
BELIEVE YOU CAN AND YOU WILL
- 2. STAY STRONG**
DREAM, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE
- 3. NEVER GIVE UP**
A LITTLE PROGRESS EACH DAY ADDS UP TO BIG RESULTS
- 4. BE GRATEFUL**
A GRATEFUL HEART IS A MAGNET FOR MIRACLES
- 5. WORK HARD**
GOOD THINGS COME TO THOSE WHO HUSTLE
- 6. STAY HUMBLE**
WORK HARD IN SILENCE, LET SUCCESS MAKE THE NOISE
- 7. BE KIND**
KINDNESS MAKES YOU THE MOST BEAUTIFUL
- 8. KEEP SMILING**
BECAUSE OF YOUR SMILE, YOU MAKE LIFE MORE BEAUTIFUL



Life hint

Life changes quickly. An annual policy review of your insurance policies is a smart thing to do.



Life hint

Don't let past financial mistakes prevent you from making good ones today—and tomorrow.



OPEN AN IRA

Fraternal Matters...

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



Attention High School Seniors

Don't forget to apply for this year's PVR Scholarship!! The Scholarship is for \$2400 payable in 4 installments of \$600 per year. The deadline for application is **May 1st**. Please contact me ASAP to see if you are eligible and to request an application. A reminder for those students already receiving the PVR Scholarship, don't forget to request a copy of your transcripts be sent to the Home Office at the end of this semester to make sure you are still eligible to receive your next installment of your grant. Deadline for transcripts is JULY 15th!!

Art Contest

We are now accepting artwork for the 2022 Art Contest! This contest is open to youth members ages 5-16. Please keep in mind that you must be a member to enter. The four categories are Picasso (ages 5-7), Rembrandt (ages 8-10), Michelangelo (ages 11-13), and Van Gogh (ages 14-16). The first-place winner in each category will receive a cash prize of \$50.00, second-place will receive \$25.00, and third-place will receive \$15.00. All members will receive an NSS Life t-shirt for participating. Please encourage your budding artists to enter their masterpiece!



2022 National Golf Tournament

The National Golf Tournament will be held on July 15-17, 2022 at Tam O'Shanter Golf Course in Hermitage, PA. Accommodations will be at the Hampton Inn & Suites. The registration form and rules will be mailed to past participants and will be published in the May issue of the National Newspaper. If you have an interest in joining us for this most enjoyable weekend, please contact me and I will make sure you're on the mailing list.

Count Down to Convention...

This month's puzzle will be a Hersheypark Roller Coaster word scramble. In order to give everyone a fair chance, we will pick five (5) names from all correct entries received in the Home Office by **April 14th**. The five (5) names drawn will be added to the winners from last month for a drawing to be held at the 38th Quadrennial Convention in Hershey. The winner need NOT be present to win. NOTE: Officers, Board Members, Employees, and their immediate families are NOT eligible. Mail your completed word scramble to: **NSS Life Word Scramble, c/o Pam Blum, 351 Valley Brook Rd, McMurray, PA 15317**. If you wish to scan and email your entry, please send to: pblum@nsslife.org. Good Luck on this month's word scramble.

Hersheypark Roller Coaster Word Scramble

1. EMCOT _____
2. MORTS UNRERN _____
3. TACDWIL _____
4. DLIW OUMSE _____
5. FLAF KRAKT _____
6. SHURKYS _____
7. TAZERRBAILL _____
8. OCCOA UIRRECS _____
9. ADUIOYNNCMM _____
10. TAGER ABRE _____
11. OPSEROLOPERODOPERO _____
12. HEARTHIFEN _____
13. SEARREKB GDEE EATRW ETSCRAO _____
14. LJOYL HRNRACE RMIEX _____
15. HINGGLINT CREAR _____

Congratulations

The five winners from March's Word Search are:

Aaron Cafasso – Assembly L161
Gwen Davis – Assembly 434
Margaret King – Assembly L102
Courtney Gillispie – Assembly 377
Andrew Kortyna – Assembly L161

Save the Date!!! July 29, 2022...

NSS Night at PNC has been scheduled for Friday, July 29, 2022 vs. the Philadelphia Phillies. This is headlined as the first ever Yinzerpalooza to celebrate everything we all love about Pittsburgh. There will be a postgame concert on the field featuring a true hometown favorite...The Clarks! Detailed information will be in next month's publication.



Youth Circle Magazine - Spring 2022



Easter Word Search



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

BUNNY
 DUCKLINGS
 BONNET
 BASKET
 CHICKS



DAFFODILS
 EASTEREgg
 HYACINTH
 SPRING
 EGGS



LAMBS
 IRIS
 JELLYBEANS
 RABBIT
 CHOCOLATE



Dear Member,

I just wanted to wish you a Happy Easter! I hope you have fun dyeing eggs and then finding them once I've hidden them! Also, I hope you enjoy the Easter Basket I'm going to leave you! Have a Blessed Day!

Love,

The Easter Bunny
 P.S. I Love Carrots!

Happy Easter



Spring time and gorgeous butterfly crafts go hand in hand

Temperatures are getting a bit warmer and our flower bulbs are beginning to make their slow appearance out of the ground. We can feel spring in the air! So below are instructions on how to make a beautiful butterfly.



Supplies Needed

- butterfly wings pattern (optional)
 - Mixed Media (watercolor) paper
 - liquid watercolors
 - Neon Glitter Shakers
 - Wooden Scoop Stick
 - Wiggly Eyes
 - glue
 - pipe cleaners
 - hot glue gun
 - paint brush
 - Shimmer Pom
 - scissors
 - Wiggly Eyes
1. Begin by drawing the butterfly wings pattern on your mixed media or watercolor paper. Use your liquid watercolors to paint the butterfly wings. When the watercolors have finished drying cut out your butterfly wings.
 2. Add some fun lines and dot details to your butterfly wings with your school glue. Then shake neon glitter onto the glue. Shake off any excess glitter and set aside to dry.
 3. Heat up your hot glue gun. For your butterfly body, grab a large shimmer pom and 4 medium shimmer poms and hot glue them onto the scoop stick. Cut two sections off your pipe cleaner, bend the ends down to make antennae and hot glue them behind the butterfly head. Then hot glue your wiggly eyes onto your large shimmer pom.
 4. Finish your gorgeous butterfly craft by hot gluing the butterfly body in the center of the watercolor butterfly wings. (Photo above)

Tie Dye Easter Eggs

These eggs are made with supplies you probably have around the house. Two or three color combinations make the prettiest eggs, so be creative with their tie dye Easter eggs.

Supplies

- Hard Boiled Eggs
- Crayons
- Crayon Sharpener
- Bowls

1. Boil eggs.
2. Choose 2 or 3 crayons. Sharpen them over a bowl to save the shavings.
3. When eggs are still very hot, roll them into crayon shavings.
4. Let cool.

Now have fun with your own family Easter Egg Hunt.



Make A Tin Can Windsock



Supplies Needed:

- Clean Recycled Can (any size will work!)
 - Acrylic Paint & Paintbrushes
 - Glue (Elmer's Craft Bond Glue)
 - Assorted Ribbons
 - Optional embellishments like Glitter,
 - Stickers, Gemstones, Sequins, etc.
 - Masking Tape or Duct Tape
1. Remove lids off the can with a can opener.
 2. Line the inside rim of the can with a layer or two of thick masking or duct tape to avoid sharp edges!
 3. Start by painting the can in colors of your choice. A rainbow color scheme is in the photo, but you can use any colors that you prefer!
 4. After the paint is dry, use Elmer's Craft Bond glue to attach colorful ribbons to the bottom rim of the can. You can also add a ribbon to the top of the can for hanging.

These recycled can windsocks make a great addition to your yard or garden!

Ladybugs from Egg Cartons

Supplies Needed

- Empty egg carton cup
- Skinny black chenille 2 inch piece
- 2 small wiggly eyes
- 1 medium black pom pom
- Colorful acrylic paint
- Black acrylic paint
- Paintbrush
- White craft glue
- Hot glue gun
- Scissors



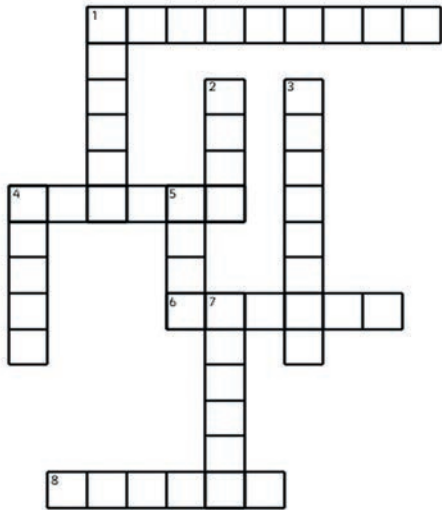
1. Use scissors to separate egg carton cups, trim the edges.
2. Paint egg cartons in desired colors and let dry.
3. Glue wiggly eyes on to black pom pom and let dry.
4. Glue black pom pom on to side of egg cup with white craft glue and let dry completely, making sure eyes are facing out and are where you want them.
5. Cut the 2 inch piece of skinny black chenille in half. Bend the end of each one to form the antennae. Use hot glue to attach antennae to pom pom head.
6. Use the handle end of a paintbrush to add black paint dots to the ladybug's back. Dip handle into paint and pick up a generous amount, then use a drawing motion to add the dot to the ladybug's back.
7. Let dry completely.



Easter Crossword



Solve the crossword using the list of words and the clues



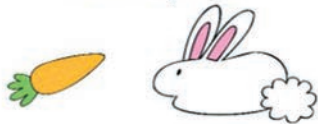
- basket
- bonnet
- bunny
- chicks
- chocolate
- daffodil
- eggs
- hunt
- parade
- spring

Across

1. Easter eggs are often made out of this treat!
4. Collect your eggs in this.
6. The season in which Easter is celebrated.
8. You may wear one in the Easter parade.

Down

1. These hatch out of real eggs.
2. You may go on an Easter egg ...
3. Cheerful, yellow spring flower.
4. Will he visit you this year?
5. We give chocolate ones at Easter.
7. Show off your Easter bonnet at one!



It's Time To Laugh

- Q: Why shouldn't you tell an Easter Egg a joke?
A: Because it might crack up!
- Q: What did the rabbits do after their wedding?
A: They went on a bunnymoon!
- Q: What do you call a forgetful rabbit?
A: A hare-brain!
- Q: Where does the Easter Bunny get his eggs?
A: From an egg plant!
- Q: What do you call a bunny with fleas?
A: Bugs Bunny!
- Q: Why do we paint Easter eggs?
A: Because it's too hard to wallpaper them!
- Q: How does the Easter Bunny paint all those Easter Eggs?
A: He hires Santa's elves to help during their off season!
- Q: Why is spring a great season to start a gardening business?
A: Because it's when you can really "rake" in the money!
- Q: If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring?
A: Pilgrims!
- Q: Everyone has these on their face. What are they?
A: Tulips
- Q: What is Spring's favorite kind of pickles?
A: Daffo-dills!
- Q: Did you hear the one about the gardener who couldn't wait for spring?
A: He was so excited, he wet his plants!
- Q: Which superhero likes spring the best?
A: Robin
- Q: Which month is the politest when asking questions?
A: The month of May
- Q: What do you call a bear caught in a spring shower?
A: A drizzly bear.
- Q: Which bird should you never let into a jewelry store?
A: A robin
- Q: Why don't spiders go to school?
A: Because they learn everything on the web
- Q: What did the tree say during springtime?
A: "Well, this is a re-leaf!"
- Q: Can bees fly in the rain?
A: Sure, if they wear yellow jackets!
- Q: How do bees brush their hair?
A: With honeycombs.



SUNRISE

Word Scramble



Unscramble each word and write it in the line provided

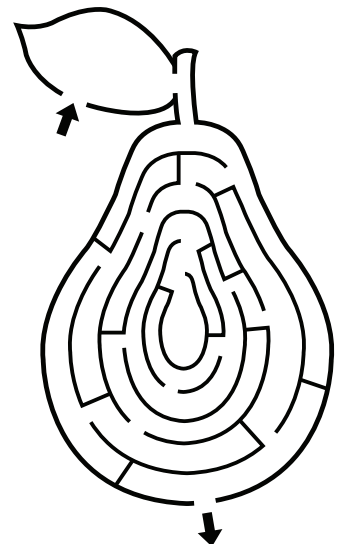
1. ABTYEU _____
2. BADRYKEA _____
3. REYAL _____
4. NORHZOI _____
5. OMINNRG _____
6. ENSIH _____
7. YELWLO _____
8. EONGRA _____
9. WACHT _____
10. HILGT _____

MORNING
ORANGE
DAYBREAK
EARLY

LIGHT
BEAUTY
HORIZON

YELLOW
WATCH
SHINE

Pear Maze



Spring Activities

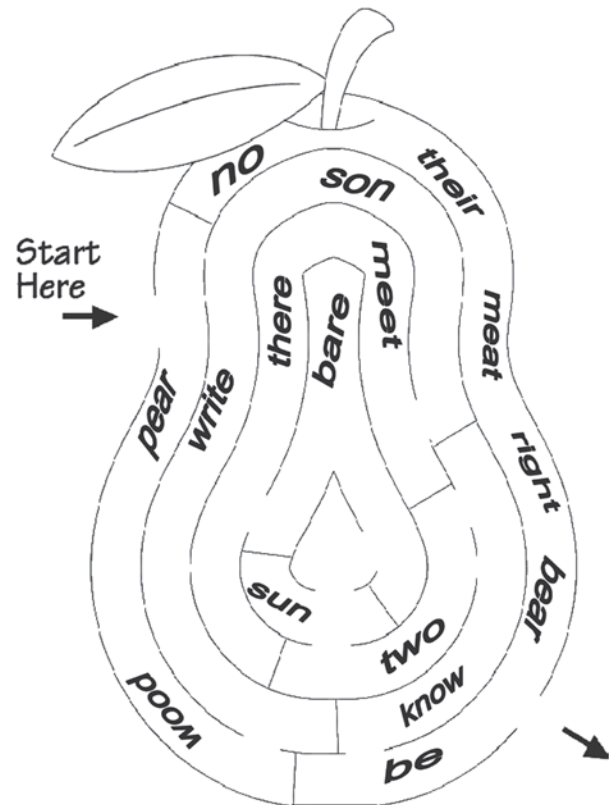
Shake off the winter blues and try any of these fun, spring activities that will have you and your parents enjoying the fresh air.

- Blow bubbles**
Go buy some bubbles at your favorite dollar store, or make your own at home.
- Fly a kite**
Go fly a kite—literally! Choose an open field and run around with the kids to try and get their kite up in the air.
- Play hide-and-seek**
Who doesn't love this classic game? Springtime means you can head outside for an epic, neighborhood round of hide-and-seek!
- Make a bird feeder**
What better spring craft is there than making a do-it-yourself bird feeder? Or try painting a birdhouse, which you can purchase at your local craft store.
- Ride a bike**
Spend an afternoon riding the bike trails in your local area.
- Feed the ducks**
It's migrating season! All of the ducks and other birds are heading back home, so bring some cooked rice or birdseed to a pond or ravine near you and feed them a tasty snack.
- Visit a farmer's market**
Spend a Sunday at your favorite farmer's market and pick out some fresh fruits and veggies as a snack for later.
- Play hopscotch**
You might think this game is too simple, but it's always a great time-killer and super fun to play at any age.
- Go for a hike**
What better way to explore the fresh outdoors than to go on a hike through a forest or trail? Try to stay quiet as you venture through to see if you can hear (or see) the animals coming out of winter hibernation.
- Build a race car**
Put those old cardboard boxes to use by personalizing your very own cardboard race car.
- Dance in the rain**
Bundle up in your best rain gear and take advantage of the spring showers. Have a dance party outside in the drizzle (umbrellas optional), then cozy up for a cuddle session by the fire to warm up.
- Walk your dog**
Stretch your legs and take your family pet on that much-awaited walk.
- Visit a petting zoo or a farm**
Take a look online to see when petting zoos or farms open up in your area and spend a day feeding and petting adorable animals.
- Jump in puddles**
Throw on your rain boots and explore the outdoors after a rainstorm. Find the biggest mud puddles and jump in them to see who can make the biggest splash.
- NSS Youth May Contest**
Start on your drawing for the youth art contest. The deadline is May 31, 2022.

Homonym Pairs

Circle the correct homonym for each sentence. Write the answer in the blank. Circle your answers in the pear maze. Draw a line through the maze that goes through only the correct answers.

- I will eat the ripe, yellow (pair/pear). _____
- Please put your shoes over (there/their). _____
- (Right/Write your name at the top of the page. _____
- I (know/no) the correct answer. _____
- This table is made from (wood/would). _____
- Can you (meat/meet) me after school today? _____
- My uncle's (son/sun) is my cousin. _____
- I will (be/bee) done in a few minutes. _____
- Please find (two/too) matching words. _____
- I like to walk on sand in my (bare/bear) feet. _____



Answer to
Pear Maze

ASSEMBLY 0039 Uniontown, PA

We had a great turnout for our Lenten Dinner Meeting at the Eat'n Park restaurant in Uniontown in March.

Beside the great food, we elected delegates to the 38th Quadrennial Convention in Hershey, PA this coming June. In addition, to electing delegates, we voted to place a full-page ad in the Convention Book. Also, we decided to support the Fund-Raising Convention Project: "Veterans Outreach of Pennsylvania". Funding was also approved to sponsor two lanes at the 2022 NSS National Bowling Tournament, in Cleveland in May.

Our heartfelt sympathies go out to the families of James W. King, John Nicholson, Gerald R. Rehanek, Marie Renocks, Tomas Sandzimier, Judith Abraham, Dolores M. Bailey, and Joseph Carbone. May they rest in the blessed arms of the resurrected Christ.

Parents and grandparents, encourage your children and grandchildren to get out their art supplies and send an entry into the NSS May Art Contest. Monetary prizes to the winners and a free t-shirt to all that enter, ages 5 thru 16. Rules are on page 23 and the deadline is May 31st. NSS Night at PNC Park is scheduled for Friday, **July 29th** when the Pirates take on the Phillies. Save the date.

To get your mind off of the winter weather, remember that our "Summer Bar-B-Q" will be held on Sunday, **June 12th** at the Columbian Association (K of C) picnic pavilion at 1:00 pm. We will be remembering our "Grand Old Flag".

If you have any questions about what is going on in the NSS or our assembly, please call me at (724) 366-4100. See you at the Summer Bar-B-Q.

Have a blessed Easter with your family.

John Payerchin
President

ASSEMBLY L075 Duryea, PA

Upcoming meetings are **April 23, 2022** to discuss convention agendas at 1:00 pm at Grande's Restaurant, Birney Avenue, Moosic, Join Hands Day

in May TBA, Matching funds event Golf Tournament date TBA, our fraternal summer picnic on **August 14th** at the Mercateli Segilia Park Birney Avenue, Moosic at 1:00 pm, and October 2022 for the election of officers TBA. For more information contact Lehrae Edwards at 570-569-2181.

We will conduct a matching funds event for the Montage Mountain Ski Patrol at their yearly golf Tournament which is held at Elmhurst Country Club in July or Aug. We are planning to send a team from the assembly along with a basket for their raffle. Stephanie & Joe Ciuccio are co-chairmen. More information will follow as confirmation takes place.



Our assembly would also like to congratulate Stephanie on being chosen as the Candidate of the Year from the National Ski Patrol.

Lehrae Ann Edwards
Treasurer

ASSEMBLY L102 Schnecksville, PA

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Sunday, **April 10th** at the Wesnak's residence, Whitehall, PA at 2:00 pm.

All members are invited for a fun afternoon.

Sharon Wesnak
Financial Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0123 Coraopolis, PA

Is it true or am I just dreaming, have many of the COVID restrictions been removed? Just when I thought things would be back to normal, I had to stop and get gas. Wow! I think I'll be doing a lot more walking.

There are national events coming up that some of you may wish to participate: May 13-14 the bowling tournament up in Cleveland and July 15-17 the golf tournament at the Tam O'Shanter Golf Club in Hermitage PA. If you want to attend either, let me

know by calling me at 724-242-5085, and the assembly will help with your fees. Also in July, there is Slovak Day at Kennywood.

High School Seniors - be sure to get your application for the PVR scholarship in by May 1st. The amount of the scholarship is now \$600 per year. Don't have an application? Contact Pam Blum at 724-731-0094.

Hopefully some of our young members ages 5 to 16 will take part in the Annual Art Contest. The deadline is May 31st.

It will soon be possible to schedule some of our volunteer events such as World Vision and Bingo Pizza night at the Veterans Hospital. We will try to schedule this during the last half of this year.

I, like you, are bothered by the events in Ukraine. The Ukrainian people are Slavic people like the Slovaks and are culturally very much like Slovaks. It was gratifying to see the people of Slovakia welcoming many of the refugees from Ukraine. Slovakia is a small country of 4.5 million people and Ukraine is much larger with 44 million people. Keep them in your prayers and pray for peace. This is the month of Easter, the holiest time of the year for Christians. Why are they killing one another?

Speaking of Easter, I want to wish each of you and your families a blessed and joyful Easter.

He is Risen! Alleluia!!

William Knoll
President

ASSEMBLY 0381 Grosse Ile, MI

Congratulations to the six delegates who were elected at our February 24, 2022 meeting. The following delegates will be representing Assembly 381 at the 2022 NSS 38th Quadrennial Convention to be held in Hershey, Pa.: Martin E. Medved, Jr. Joanne Medved, Brian A. Medved, Rosemary Hanlon, Rosemarie Merten, and Jack Merten. Thank you all for your representation at the convention.

Our next meeting will be on **June 23, 2022** at the home of Rosemary Hanlon, 1916 Churchill, Trenton, MI. at 1:00 pm. Due to the COVID outbreak and variances we will not be holding

meetings in restaurants at this time.

Assembly 381 will be participating in PanCan Purple Stride in Michigan on **April 20, 2022**. Join us by making your own donation or by participating in a PanCan Purple Stride (Earl's sham-rocks) in your community. Patients and families need our help now more than ever. Every donation counts to help eradicate this deadly cancer. Thank you.

With Easter being celebrated on April 17, 2022, our assembly wishes everyone Peace, Many Blessings & Prayers. Please also keep in prayer our brothers & sisters fighting to safeguard the Ukraine.

See you at the Convention. God Bless Everyone.

A special thank you to our National Officers and the Home Staff for their efforts in planning and implementing a safe and great convention.

Joanne Medved
Treasurer

ASSEMBLY 0586 Chicago, IL

Our Assembly 586 in Illinois held a pre-convention meeting to choose delegates who will represent us in June at Hershey, Pennsylvania. That was accomplished after we all bowed our heads and held hands as Chuck Hamernick prayed for the people of Europe.

We find it unimaginable that in one week Ukrainians have changed from their usual lives to citizens taking up arms to try to save their sovereign nation from a brutal aggressor with vast military resources. We Americans are in awe of the bravery of the Ukrainian people and their president Zelensky.

From the news: In eastern Slovakia 2000 beds and 60 gyms are being readied for refugees. One thousand five hundred Slovak troops are going to the Eastern border contiguous with Ukraine to help with crossings in three places. Ties between the two countries are strong. Thousands of Ukrainians work in Slovakia.

My church in Naperville is in the sister city of Nitra, Slovakia. We have supported Slovakia continuously since our first mission trip there in 1999. The pastors and mission leader of Our

Saviour's church are finding ways we can help more during this humanitarian crisis in the land of our ancestors. The church has emailed all members with a donation link. The Center for Christian Education in Slovakia is providing assistance at the border so that Ukrainians can seek refuge among their fellow Slavs.

Slovakia's relief assistance consists of:

- Temporary and permanent shelter*
- Hygiene services and supplies*
- Medical assistance and supplies*
- Food and clothing*
- Financial help since people cannot access their bank accounts*

An email message from the Mayor of Darien: "As Americans we treasure our freedoms and in turn, we respect the right of all people to live under a government they choose. The citizens of Ukraine are battling to maintain that freedom and they deserve our support and prayers. I ask Darien residents to keep Ukraine in their prayers with the hope that those brave people will regain the fresh air of freedom."

We thank God for the blessing of living in the greatest country on earth.

Irene Tomaskovic
Vice President

ASSEMBLY 0588 Avella, PA

Meeting Notice Date Changed

The Assembly 588 meeting originally scheduled for April 25, 2022, has been changed to Wednesday, **April 20, 2022**. The meeting will be held at 5:30 pm at the Stefka residence, 5007 Old Orchard Lane, Gibsonia, Pennsylvania, 15044. Plans for the 38th Quadrennial Convention and upcoming activities will be discussed at the meeting. Please plan to attend and become active in our assembly.

Annette Stefka
Recording Secretary



ASSEMBLY 0617 Ashley, PA

A meeting and social will be held on Tuesday, **May 10, 2022** at the Pierce Street Deli. Time will be announced in a further issue.

Assembly members wishing to comment or add to the Assembly's agenda, please contact John Kurilla at jjkurilla@aol.com or text **570-239-5936**.

John Kurilla
President

ASSEMBLY 0705 Seelyville, IN

Please mark your calendars for the following meetings that will be held during the year of 2022.

April 24 - Buck's residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm

June 5 - Buck's residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm

June 25, 26 - Butwin Family Reunion, Seelyville, IN (Fraternal Fund Activity)

August 21 - Buck's residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm

October 23 - Buck's residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm

December 24 - Annual Christmas Eve Celebration (Fraternal Fund Activity) at 6:00 pm

Dorothy A Buck
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0731 Lowellville, OH

Members of Assembly 731 met on February 12, 2022 in Poland, Ohio. The following were elected to serve as officers for two years: Laurie Fox, President; Linda Estes, Vice-President; Ida Lewis, Recording Secretary; Mike Fox Sr., Treasurer; Mike Fox Jr., Financial Secretary; Beth & Matt Mason, Fraternal Coordinators; Kathy Cessna and Mary Martin, Eldresses. Delegates to the Quadrennial Convention to represent the assembly were elected at this meeting.

Discussion and planning for fraternal activities included a reminder about all NSS sponsored events and contests.

Our assembly calendar, so far, includes:

- **March 13** - Phantom Hockey game at the Covelli Centre, Youngstown, OH
- **April 23** - Y731, Bowling for kids, details are still being worked on and will be announced on our Facebook page.
- **April 30** - Spring work at Poland Township Park
- **September 1** - Scavenger Hunt at Mahoning County's Canfield Fair, Canfield, OH
- **October 23** - Hayride at Country-side Far, Lowellville, OH
- **November 5** - Make Christmas ornaments together, Burns home, James St., Poland, OH
- **December 17** - Christmas Party, Rotary Room in the Lariccia Center, Boardman, OH

Several local events are planned with dates and details to be announced soon. For details and updates, follow our Facebook page: NSS Life Assembly 731 and our group page: NSS Family & Friends

Sip & Paint Party for adults
Fishing Derby and Picnic - Summer
Swim Party and Outdoor Movie - Summer

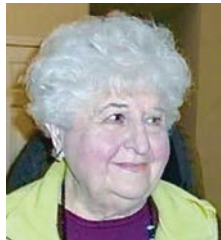
We are all looking forward to a healthy, happy year and the opportunity to spend time together.

Ida Lewis
Recording Secretary

Margaret Pilosi Scholarship – ASSEMBLY 0075

A Scholarship will be awarded yearly to a member of the NSS Assembly 0075; in memory of our late President Margaret Pilosi; the first woman President of the First Slovak Wreath of the Free Eagle Fraternal Organization; to a member of NSS Assembly 0075, Duryea PA. The \$500.00 Scholarship is available to any senior high school member of our assembly who is entering a college or university. Applicants can apply for the scholarship by submitting an essay of at least 250-500 words about: fraternalism, Slovak heritage, civic duties or volunteerism. The essay must be typed, double spaced, and contain a separate title page with name, address, phone, age, parent's names, and the acceptance letter from the college they are attending along with their major. The Scholarship Committee will choose the recipient and present the scholarship at the fraternal summer picnic. Entries must be submitted by July 1 of each year to: NSS Assembly 0075 Secretary, Lehrae Ann Edwards, 65 Chittenden Street, Duryea, PA 18642-1006. Phone Number: 570-569-2181.

A Tribute to My Mom



My mom, Irene Tomaskovic, deserves a great big pat on the back. Her distress at the war going on in Ukraine prompted her to write to her church's Slovakia mission leader and one of the pastors about setting up a collection for refugees via the church's partner in Martin, Slovakia, the Christian Center for Education. They enthusiastically jumped on the idea, including it in worship services after having built a link to donations on the church website.

Pastor Brian's reply to her barely a week later told her that over \$11,000 was soon to be transferred to Martin to be converted into supplies headed for the Slovakia/Ukraine border. The pastor also told her that a local Naperville, Illinois school had heard about the collection and is actively fundraising to contribute. More people outside of the church have been happy to donate, too.

My mom's family is very proud of her caring and initiative.

Sincerely,
Janet Tomaskovic
Assembly 586

ASSEMBLY 0737 North Huntingdon, PA

A meeting will be held on Saturday, **May 21, 2022** at the home of Carol Godor, 9280 Clubview Drive, North Huntingdon, PA at 1:00 pm.

Along with discussing other business, we will be finishing up plans for the convention.

Carol Godor
Treasurer



ASSEMBLY L161

We shared our enthusiasm for our organization's 132nd Anniversary in February by treating all 148 members of our Youth Circle with a \$10 gift card to Target. In addition each member had an opportunity to win a prize package which included Funday Passes to Kennywood, plus \$50 spending money; Tickets to the NSS Pirates Night at PNC Park and a \$50 Pirate gift card. To enter the contest for the prize package members age 6 and under colored a coloring page, age 7 and up completed a word scramble of NSS Presidents which we provided.

Even though we consider all of you winners because you belong to one of the top 10 fraternal organizations in the country, AND the Oldest Slovak Fraternal in the USA, there could only be one lucky winner of the special prize package. **Congratulations to: Anya McAdams of Moon Township!**

Thank you to everyone who participated in the contest. A special thanks to Annie Ondrejco, Suzy Ondrejco and Mike Lako, for their assistance in completing the project.

Sue Ondrejco
Secretary/Treasurer



OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS CONTINUED

February 2022

(Continued from Page7)

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Marnic, Joyce	Butler, PA	12/03/2021	L161
Marsiglia, Walter	Rostraver Twp, PA	01/24/2022	0377
Mauch, Otto H	Broadview Hts, OH	12/23/2021	0070
McGowen, Michael	Aurora, CO	08/20/2021	0586
McManus, Bernice	Fairchance, PA	12/19/2021	0039
Messner, George	Clinton, PA	02/09/2022	0123
Miller, Carl	Greensburg, PA	08/26/2021	0737
Miller, Catherine	Butler, PA	01/27/2022	0731
Miller, Thomas F	McKees Rocks, PA	12/02/2021	L161
Morgan, Carl	Somerset, PA	02/01/2022	0039
Murdoch, Mary Louise	Cochranton, PA	02/13/2022	0731
Mussomeli, Joseph	Coraopolis, PA	11/13/2021	0123
Neglio, Mary	Pittsburgh, PA	02/11/2022	L105
Oleniacz, Rudolph J	Cheswick, PA	05/02/2021	L161
Orsino, Olianus	Bluffton, SC	12/16/2021	0774
Palmieri, Peggy	Pittsburgh, PA	01/09/2022	0100
Petrosky, Rose	Bethel Park, PA	04/02/2021	0377
Potocsky, Gabriel	North Wales, PA	01/19/2022	R059
Pottinger, Helen	Latrobe, PA	11/22/2021	0737
Quinlin, Frances	Hudson, PA	08/29/2021	0617
Rankin, Leonard	Austintown, OH	02/01/2022	0731
Rebich, Carole	Chippewa, PA	01/03/2022	0123
Rehrig, Eva Jane	Reading, PA	01/19/2022	L102
Saunders, Virginia	Belle Vernon, PA	01/29/2022	0377
Schmitt, Patricia	Pittsburgh, PA	01/04/2022	0441
Scowary, Rose	Uniontown, PA	11/30/2021	0039
Shaffer, Russell W	Latrobe, PA	01/15/2022	0737
Shelkey, Carolyn	Scottdale, PA	11/11/2021	0737
Shields, Nancy C	Chillicothe, OH	01/29/2022	0595
Sippos, Margaret	Pittsburgh, PA	02/01/2022	L161
Smith, Arthur V	Freeburg, IL	12/05/2021	0705
Sonsalla, Everest	Baraboo, WI	11/12/2021	0774
Sosik, John	Laurys Station, PA	10/05/2021	L102
Stahl, Karen	Washington, PA	12/15/2021	0588
Starcher, Lenora	Follansbee, WV	01/24/2022	0774
Stepic, Mark L	Export, PA	01/25/2022	L105
Stringham, Pamela	Schuylkill Haven, PA	01/18/2022	L102
Turner, Kenneth	Cochranton, PA	02/04/2022	0731
Urban, Robert	Perryopolis, PA	01/23/2022	0377
Vazzana, Dolores	Pittsburgh, PA	01/05/2022	L161
Wargo, William M	North Huntingdon, PA	01/12/2022	L161
Webb, Arthur J	Pittston, PA	12/19/2021	L075
Weber, Amelia	Port Richey, FL	11/10/2021	0586
Whetsel, James	Mt Pleasant, PA	01/15/2022	0737
Wilson, Gilbert	Freedom, PA	01/31/2022	0123
Wischum, John	Philadelphia, PA	02/02/2022	R059
Woytko, Rita A	Phoenix, AZ	01/24/2022	L102
Yarnick, Marjorie E	Indiana, PA	10/09/2021	0737
Zinchiak, Mary Ann	Meadville, PA	01/28/2022	0774

Assembly 0070 Matching Funds Dr. Martin Luther Church



L-R: Council President: Garth Moore, Pastor Erik Markovic, John Karkosiak and Ron Shimek. Assembly 70 presented a matching funds check to the church from their Christmas Kolbassi sale.



REMINDER

Deadline For Publication

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

On Holy Saturday, Slovak people take baskets loaded with holiday foods to church for the traditional Easter blessing, which is a must prior to eating those exquisite foods. Neatly arranged in the baskets will be ham, slanina (bacon), chrin (beets with horseradish), salt, paska, kolbassi, hrudka (egg cheese), butter, pysanky, colored eggs for eating and kolachi. After the foods are placed in the basket, an embroidered cloth cover is placed over them, and a blessed candle is fastened upright near the basket handle. To take some of the mystery out of the preparation of the traditional foods, here are a few recipes.

HAM

The ham is decorated and baked according to your favorite recipe. How large a ham you buy and use depends on how many people you are serving. For a 20 pound ham; cut it in half, decorate the halves, bake them and place one of them in the basket.

CHRIN (Beets with Horseradish)

- 8 cans whole beets, drained
- 3 bottles horseradish (**Do not use creamed horseradish**)

Grind beets using fine grinder attachment. The juice can be saved for soup. Add horseradish to beets; mix well. Refrigerate. An empty horseradish jar (washed, label removed and dipped in boiling water to sterilize it) can be filled with the mixture and placed in the Easter basket. The jar's cap can be disguised with aluminum foil, thus hiding any advertisement.

Paska

- 3 cups scalded milk,
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 6 beaten eggs
- 1/2 cup lukewarm water
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 cup melted butter
- 1/2 large cake yeast
- 12 to 14 cups flour

In a large bowl, combine milk, sugar, salt, butter and cool to lukewarm. Save 2 tablespoons of the eggs and add the rest of the eggs to the milk mixture. In a separate bowl, crumble yeast in water and let stand for 10 minutes. Add to above mixture. Add flour - about 2 cups at a time - until the dough can be

handled. Knead on a floured board for 15 minutes. Place dough in greased bowl, grease top and let rise in a warm place for about 1 1/2 hours.

1-1/2 quart enameled saucepans can be used for baking. Let rise. Brush tops with 2 tablespoons eggs to which some milk has been added. To achieve that glazed appearance on the loaves, brush tops several times prior to removing them from the oven. Bake at 325 degrees for about 1 hour.

NOTE: Before placing dough in pans, about 1 cup of the dough can be saved and shaped into designs (plaits, crosses, etc.) and placed on top of the unbaked paskas. These fancy shapes can be prevented from scorching in the oven by placing aluminum foil on top of the paskas during baking.

KOLBASSI

Again, the amount of kolbassi you purchase (or make), depends on how many eager eaters you are serving. Place the kolbassi in a pan, cover with water and boil for about 45 minutes. Some cooks, after the kolbassi is boiled, place a few into a baking pan and sprinkle them with about 2 tablespoons of brown sugar and honey. This is then popped into the oven for about 15 minutes at 350 degrees. Cool before refrigerating.

BUTTER

If you prefer not to use already prepared butter for the Easter feasting, the butter can be made by whipping heavy cream. Use either one pint or one half pint heavy whipping cream, place in bowl and mix with hand beater until butter forms. Place sample of butter in a small fancy bowl and decorate for use in Easter basket.

(Cirak) Slovak Easter Cheese

This is traditional Slovak Easter cheese that is served Easter Sunday. It is served with baked ham and beet horseradish and is great on sandwiches.

- 12 eggs
- 1 quart whole milk
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon, or vanilla

Crack eggs into a large saucepan and beat with a whisk. Whisk in milk, sugar, salt and cinnamon. Cook over medium-low to low heat, stirring constantly until the mixture fully forms curds and the whey separates. This will take 20 to 30 minutes. Using higher heat or failing to stir will result in a big pan of sweet scrambled eggs.

Use a skimmer or slotted spoon to ladle curds into cheesecloth. Allow curds to drain for 10 minutes. Gather up edges of cheesecloth to form a bundle to drain as much whey as possible from egg cheese. Use a length of butcher's twine to tie cheesecloth containing curds into a neat bundle, pressing on cheesecloth a bit to help whey drain off. Tie twine to a wooden spoon or dowel, hang egg-cheese curds over a pot or container to collect any remaining whey and continue draining for 30 minutes. When egg-cheese ball has cooled and is not dripping any more whey, place it in the refrigerator overnight still suspended over a pan so it will retain its round shape. When ready to serve, remove cheesecloth.

This cheese is very perishable and should be consumed within a day or two. Store tightly covered in the refrigerator.



Slovak Easter Vocabulary and Common Phrases

- Easter greetings - Veselé prežitie Velikonocných sviatkov
- Easter - Velká noc
- pouring water over girls - oblievacka
- spanking girls by whips - šibacka -
- the boy who comes to water the girls during Easter-kupac
- the whip made of willow branches - korbác
- a painted, dyed or otherwise decorated blown egg - kraslica
- potato salad - zemiakový šalát
- Excuse me - Prepácte!
- I love you - Lúbim Ta
- Hello – Dobrý den (pronounced DOH-bree deñ)
- Good morning – Dobré ráno (pronounced DOH-brehh RAA-noh)
- Good night – Dobrú noc (pronounced DOH-broo nohts)
- Goodbye – Do videnia (pronounced doh VEE-deh-nyah)
- Yes – Áno (pronounced AAH-noh)
- No – Nie (pronounced NYEE_ah)
- How are you? – Ako sa máš? (pronounced AH-koh sah MAA-sh?)
- Thank you – Dakujem (pronounced JAH-koo-yehm)
- You are welcome -Prosím (pronounced PROH-seem)
- Good luck- Vel'a štastia
- Good News - dobré správy
- My name is - Volám sa
- Pleased to meet you - Teší ma
- Help! -Pomoc!
- Fire! - Horí!
- Stop! - Stop! Stoj!
- Call the police! - Zavolajte políciu!


Ten Fun Facts About Easter You Probably Didn't Know

1. The Easter Bunny legend began in Germany
2. The holiday was named after the Anglo-Saxon Goddess, Eostre
3. More than 1.5 million Cadbury Creme Eggs are produced every day
4. The act of painting eggs originates from a Ukrainian tradition
5. The world's largest Easter egg weighs in at 5000 lbs
6. Pretzels used to be associated with Easter
7. The UK's first chocolate egg was produced in Bristol in 1873
8. In Germany, it is illegal to dance on Good Friday
9. Easter is celebrated on the Sunday after the full moon following March 21st
10. In 2007, an Easter egg sold for 9 million



Possibly the world's most expensive egg was sold at Christie's in London for 9 million in 2007, breaking Fabergé records. The enameled egg contains a multicolored cockerel which at every hour pops out of the egg and flaps his wings, before nodding his head three times. The egg was made by Karl Fabergé in St Petersburg in 1902 and is the second-largest egg ever made by Fabergé.





Easter Slovak Style:

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

**Celebrate ...
... Easter Slovak Style**

By: Lawrence G. Kosowski

**SLOVAK
Customs
Traditions
Folklore
Recipes
Folkarts**

\$12 (includes postage and handling)

**To Purchase items shown on this page,
Make checks payable to NSSHM**

**351 Valley Brook Rd.
McMurray, PA 15317**

Egg - in - Wrap

Choose from



Slavic Pin Art



Old World Designs

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

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

Our Customs & Traditions

By Sue Ondrejco

One of the most solemn and ancient rituals observed by Slovaks the world over is the blessing of Easter foods. Early Sunday morning the girls and women prepare a basket of symbolic foods to be taken to church to be blessed and eaten to celebrate the great feast of Jesus Resurrection. Each basket is beautifully decorated and covered with a beautifully embroidered or crocheted cloth. A blessed candle is placed in the basket and lighted during the ceremony as a sign of “Christ the Light of the World”



A traditional Slovak Easter Basket also includes:

COLORED EGGS / MAĽOVANÉ VAJIČKA Brightly colored and decorated the eggs are symbolic of Jesus Resurrection from the tomb on Easter Sunday; and of new life.

EASTER BREAD / PASKA This sweet, rich yeast bread is symbolic of Jesus the Bread of Life. The bread is often ornamented with a cross of dough in the center surrounded by a circle of plaited dough symbolizing the crown of thorns.

PASTRIES / KOLAČE - Specially baked holiday butter and egg rich pastries filled with fruits and nuts symbolizing the many gifts from God and the sweetness of the resurrection.

SMOKED HAM, SAUSAGE AND BACON/ ŠUNKA, KLOBASA, SLANINA- These meat products symbolize the sacrificial animals of the old testament and the sacrifice of Jesus. Ham was the most popular main dish meat because of its richness and symbolized the great joy and abundance of the Easter celebration. Spicy pork sausage with a garlic flavor is indicative of God’s favor and generosity. A piece of smoked bacon cured with spices is added to remind us of God’s overabundance of mercy toward us.

EASTER CHEESE / SYREK/HRUTKA – Made from milk and eggs and shaped into a ball this bland but sweet tasting cheese is to remind us that as Christians we should use moderation in all aspects of our lives.

HORSERADISH- CHREN- Represents the bitter herbs used by the Hebrews during their flight from Egypt, and the bitter herbs used during Jesus’ final celebration of the Passover meal.

BUTTER / MASLO– Shaped into a lamb figure to remind us of the goodness of Christ that we should have toward all things.

SALT/SOL – Salt is blessed because it is a fundamental seasoning and preservative necessary to sustain life. It is also symbolic of prosperity and justice, for it is Christ who sustains us to eternal life.

Of course regional differences both here in America and in Slovakia may dictate other various additions such as wine, vinegar, or veal. Remember, since all the foods are blessed none is to be wasted.



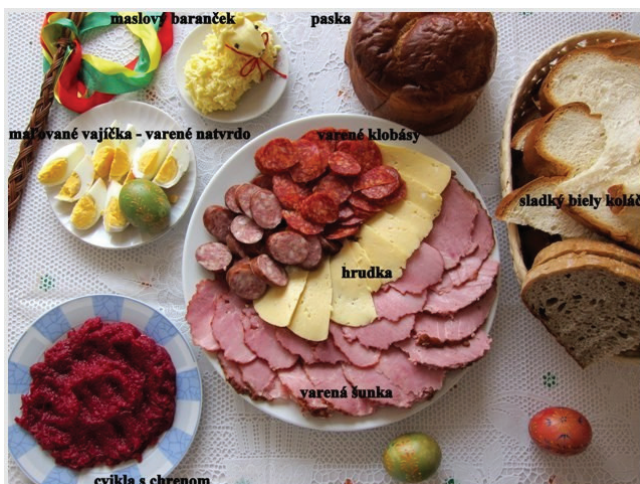
One of the most prized possessions of many with roots in the Slavic countries of Eastern Europe is the Easter basket cover. These covers usually have symbols related to the Resurrection and the celebration of Easter. In many families, the cover is passed from generation to generation. The most common element found on Easter basket covers is the cross, the symbol of the resurrection. Pussy willows, and other spring flowers, as well as kraslice are also used in the designs. Quite often, the cover will carry the message of the resurrection in the language of the owner. Embroidery is the most common method used for making these covers, because many become family heirlooms. The design variations are quite extensive, and seldom will you find two embroidered covers that are identical. Each cover makes a unique statement about the owner’s heritage and beliefs. If you are lucky enough to have an Easter basket cover I hope you will use it to cover your basket and continue this special custom.



*Láska Zeleného štvrtka, viera Veľkého piatku,
nádej Bielej soboty a víťazstvo Veľkonočnej nedele,
nech Vás posilní a naplní pokojom a dôverou.
Všetkým úradníkom, členom čitateľom a Vaším rodinám
Zo srdca želame
Požehnané veľkonočné sviatky.*

Veľkonočné svätenie jedál

V sobotu po vigílii alebo v nedeľu ráno sa svätia jedlá. Svätenie vykonáva kňaz za asistencie miništrantov a kostolníka. Ľudia sa zoradia pred kostol a položia na zem prútené košíky rôznych tvarov, v ktorých sú poukladané všetky druhy obradných veľkonočných jedál ako páska, hlávka, šunka, syrek (hrudka), klobasa, vajíčka... Jedlá sú prikryté vyšivávaným obrúskom. Kňaz vykonáva obrad svätenia s veľkou dôstojnosťou, okiada tymianom nielen košíky, ale aj prítomných. Celý zástup obchádza tri krát, skláňa sa nad košími, z ktorých medzi tým sňali obrúsky a kropí ich obsah. Po tretej obchádzke zastane pred hlavným vchodom, kde pri improvizovanom oltári dokončí službu. "Poblahoslavi" sa veriaci rýchlo rozchádzajú, pretože ešte stále platí povera, ten, kto s jedlom prvý dobehne domov, najskôr zoberie z poľa úrodu.



Veľkonočné vinše

Sladké koláče, ohybne korbáče, vodu studenú, šunku údenú, veľa radosti a málo starosti.

Deň zeme 22. apríl



Kedy si uctíme „zem“ na ktorej žijeme a ktorú podáme budúcej generácii. Držme ju čistú.

April

*Jar je jedno z ročných období
v miernom teplotnom pásme nasledujúce
po zime a
predchádzajúce letu.*

Slovenskí hokejisti oslávili zisk bronzových medailí na ZOH v Pekingu slávnostnou jazdou ulicami Bratislavy. Ukončili ju na Námestí SNP, kde ich privítalo niekoľko tisíc fanúšikov.

Hokejistov vítali nadšené davy / TASR



Stovky Slovenských aj Ukrajinských študentov Prešovskej Univerzity pomáhajú našim východným susedom





Youth Circle Page

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

May Art Contest

The rules are as follows:

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

Categories:

 - a. Picasso Level - Ages 5, 6 & 7
 - b. Rembrandt Level - Ages 8, 9 & 10
 - c. Michelangelo Level - Ages 11, 12 & 13
 - d. Van Gogh Level - Ages 14, 15 & 16*
9. Prizes awarded in each level of every category shall be as follows:

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

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

Deadline for entries to the Home Office is May 31st. Either mail or deliver artwork to: NSS Life
c/o Fraternal Department
351 Valley Brook Road
McMurray, PA 15317

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

*In the event the First place winner in the Artistic Category - Van Gogh Level either enters an accredited Art School or pursues Art as a career in college, he/she will be awarded a one-time \$250 Art Scholarship provided that the student meets all the NSS PVR Scholarship rules and regulations.

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

Assembly 432 welcomes Evelyn Jane Pytel to the NSS Family



Evelyn was born on September 29, 2021 weighing in at 5lbs. 9 oz. This adorable little girl belongs to Chris Pytel and Anna Winters. Evie is the granddaughter of Dave and Marti Pytel. Her uncles are Shawn and Matt Pytel, all members of assembly 432.

We look forward to Evie's participating in our youth activities when she gets a little older.

Marti Pytel
Youth Elder

Pittsburgh Slovaksians

The Junior Pittsburgh Slovaksians will be accepting new members. If your children or grandchildren age 6 and up like to sing and dance, it is a perfect opportunity for them not only to learn about their heritage but to gain self-confidence and make long lasting friendships. There is no tuition or fundraising involved. If you know anyone who might be interested and would like more information, have them contact Sue at (412) 421-1204 or send an email to: sue.ondrejco@gmail.com.



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

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Pittsburgh, PA
Permit No. 1166



A JOINT FRATERNAL EVENT FOR
FCSU, GCU, NSS & SCS MEMBERS



Brookgate Lanes

14950 SNOW ROAD
BROOK PARK, OH
216-676-4325

**2022 NATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT
CLEVELAND, OH
FRIDAY, MAY 13 & SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2022**

LODGING



CROWNE PLAZA

7230 Engle Road
Middleburg Heights, OH 44130
440-243-4040

Block Code:

SNB

