



NSS Life
Family Matters...

National News

Providing Fraternal Life Insurance Since 1890 | NÁRODNÉ NOVINY | JULY 2022 | NUMBER 3567 | VOLUME 114



2022 NSS Fraternalist of the Year
2022 NSS Youth Achievement Award

See Page 9



NSS Heritage Museum's "Septemberfest"

Saturday, September 24th, 2022

See Page 20



National Slovak Society

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NATIONAL SLOVAK SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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Founder and Honorary President, Peter V. Rovnianek

EDITOR

LORI CROWLEY
Published Monthly

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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 • 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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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

REGION 2

Assemblies L075, 0617

August 10
August 13
August 14
October 22

Assembly 0617, Fraternal Day, Knoebels Park (TBA)
Region 2, Meeting, Grotto Pizza, Wyoming Valley Mall, Wilkes-Barre, PA at 1:00 pm
Assembly L075, Summer Picnic, Mercatelli Segilia Park, Moosic, PA at 1:00 pm
Assembly L075, Meeting, Grandes Restaurant, Moosic, PA at 1:00 pm

REGION 5

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

July 10
July 15-17
July 21
July 29
August 21
August 21
September 1
September 11
September 11
September 12
October 23
November 5
November 7
December 4
December 4
December 17

Assembly R059, Meeting, Lahutsky's residence, Bethlehem, PA (TBA)
National Golf Tournament, Tam O'Shanter Golf Club, Hermitage, PA
Slovak Day, Kennywood Park, West Mifflin, PA
Region 5, NSS Night at PNC Park
Region 5, Family Picnic, Cedar Creek Park, Pavilion 16 (1:00 pm - 5:00 pm)
Assembly 0737, Meeting, Cedar Creek Park (prior to picnic)
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 and meeting, Bob Evans Restaurant at 6:00 pm
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

REGION 8

Assemblies 0004, 0070, 0160, 0432, 0595

July 8
September 25

Assembly 0432, Lake Erie Crushers Game, Crushers Stadium, OH at 7:05 pm
Assembly 0432, Jet Express Lake Erie Tour, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

REGION 14

Assemblies R059, L102

August 7
October 23

Assembly L102, Summer picnic, Gross residence, New Tripoli, PA at 2:00 pm
Assembly L102, Halloween costume party, Wesnak residence, Whitehall, PA at 2:00 pm

AT LARGE

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

July 1
July 3
August 21
September 4
October 16
October 23
December 24

Assembly 0813, Matching Funds Project, Backpacks for Kids thru August 6th
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



Happy Birthday to our President **Joseph Stefka, Jr.**
who will be celebrating on July 17th!



The President's Page...

Joseph Stefka, Jr., FIC, President, CEO

Email: jstefka@nsslife.org



The 38th Quadrennial Convention will have concluded by the time you are reading this column. The delegates will have elected a new Board of Directors to serve the Society and its members for the next four years. Congratulations to the new Board of Directors that will begin to serve the Society on November 1, 2022! Congratulations to the Director elected with the highest number of votes that is currently not serving as a Director. This individual will begin serving immediately to fill the vacancy created by the resignation from the Board of Directors of our Compliance and Risk Manager John Payerchin. The Board's goal, as has been the goal of past elected Boards, will be to oversee the Society and to promote a pattern of continual growth of membership, finances, and fraternal activities as determined by the decisions of the convention delegates. The NSS has shown outstanding growth in the past and continues to be a leader among fraternal benefit societies with continued improved Board Governance, insightful vision, and directors dedicated to the mission of the Society and the fraternal benefit system. None of this would be possible without the dedication of the members serving as delegates to the 38th Quadrennial Convention and those that have served in that capacity during past conventions. I would like to personally thank each member that served as a delegate and to those that willingly accepted additional responsibility before and during the convention by serving as a member of one of the convention committees. A special thank you to our Society Advisors for providing informative reports and support throughout the convention.

You are an essential part of our Society's past success and an important facet of our future growth! I would also like to thank the thirty-eight Youth Circle Members that participated in the 38th Quadrennial Convention Youth Funfest and their parents for allowing them to participate in this fun-filled event. A special thank you to the four adult volunteer Funfest Advisors who planned, organized, and supervised the events during the convention, Ashley Bernardo, Randi Czarney, Kristen Katricak, and Heather Payerchin. A great deal of time and effort by the volunteers ensured that the event would be enjoyable and educational for the participants. Also, thank you to our volunteer Funfest Assistant Advisor Max Burns for his assistance overseeing the group and with the activities throughout the convention. The Youth Circle participants are the future of our National Slovak Society! I would like to thank Allison Koppel, CEO of the American Fraternal Alliance for serving as the keynote speaker at our 38th Quadrennial Convention Banquet. The National Slovak Society greatly appreciates your presence and message to the delegates and guests. I would like to thank the members of the Pittsburgh Slovaks for their outstanding performance during the convention banquet. Finally, I would like to thank Secretary-Treasurer/CFO Linda Strom, Compliance and Risk Manager John Payerchin, and Executive Assistant Pam Blum for all their efforts to ensure that the Convention ran smoothly. The magnitude of preparation for an event of this size is phenomenal! The next issue of the *National News* will have detailed coverage of the 38th Quadrennial Convention.

The Home Office will be closed for business on July 4th as we celebrate our country's independence and allow our staff to spend time with their families. We are thankful for the many freedoms we have as citizens of this great Nation! God Bless America!

The May Art Contest entries are currently being judged by a retired art teacher. The results of the contest will be published in a future issue of this publication. Thank you to all of the Youth Circle members that submitted an entry to the contest and to their parents and grandparents for encouraging them to participate in this national fraternal activity.

A reminder to all second, third, and fourth year PVR Scholarship recipients to submit your transcripts by July 15th to receive next year's scholarship. The NSS National Golf Tournament will take place July 15th -17th at Tam O'Shanter Golf Course in Hermitage, Pennsylvania. This year's event is the 56th Annual NSS Golf Tournament. The only year that the competition has not taken place since its inception in 1966 was 2020 during the COVID-19 Pandemic. I am looking forward to seeing NSS golfers and guests during the tournament weekend. It will once again provide an opportunity to compete in the tournament, share stories of past events, meet with new golfers and those that have competed before along with guests, and enjoy a fun weekend filled with fraternalism. Good Luck to all NSS golfers entered in the tournament. The first entry to this year's event was submitted by Dan Cheberenchick of Assembly 434. Safe travels to all and see you in Hermitage!

Slovak Day at Kennywood Park will take place on Thursday, July 21, 2022. This will be the 99th year that the event has taken place. The day offers a chance to see old friends, enjoy the rides in the park, participate in events, and enjoy the delicious Slovak foods at the Slovak Kitchen! Please make plans to attend the event. Discount tickets may be obtained through the NSS Home Office. Region #5 will once again offer free ride tickets to the youth members of Region #5. These tickets may also be obtained through the Home Office. Looking forward to seeing all of you at Kennywood Park on July 21st to celebrate our Slovak heritage!

News of Narodniars

Happy Birthday wishes to Honorary Director Ed Koches, NSS Field Development Manager Jeff DeSantes, Home Office Staff Member Kim Turko, former Home Office Staff Members Pat Glaser, LaVerne Orban, and Albert Seuss, and to Michael Fox, John Orban, Terri Cooper, Chas Tabone, Jackie Reeves, Dale Blazek, and Ella Woods.

Happy Wedding Anniversary to my daughter Ashley and son-in-law Brett Bernardo celebrating their 15th anniversary, to Cyndy and Bob Tribsch, to Pam and Charlie Tabone, and to all others celebrating a special day during the month of July.

2022 1st Quarter Financial Statement Recap

Statement as of March 31, 2022

	Mar 2022	Dec 2021
Net Admitted Assets:		
Bonds	\$1,503,371,955	\$1,474,508,345
Preferred Stocks	5,132,320	5,300,000
Common Stocks	6,419,596	9,015,823
Mortgage Loans on Real Est.	123,589,957	108,777,412
Certificate Loans	952,622	965,173
Real Est Occupied by Society	611,560	616,899
Cash on Deposit	30,476,465	30,578,048
Other Invested Assets	1,831,051	1,866,369
Uncollected Premiums	324,534	418,064
Investment Income Due	17,551,822	16,398,188
TOTALS	\$1,690,261,882	\$1,648,444,321

Liabilities & Unassigned Funds

Aggregate Reserve	\$1,513,843,000	\$1,474,993,500
Deposit-type Contracts	71,321,029	70,447,522
Certificate Claims	575,000	675,000
Commissions Due	136,000	400,000
Refunds Due and Unpaid	870,000	840,000
General Exp Due	2,032,350	2,356,350
Retained by Society as Trustee	314,570	284,920
Borrowed Money & Interest	410,242	410,242
Asset Valuation Resv (AVR)	12,362,000	12,546,000
Interest Maintenance Resv (IMR)	3,990,928	4,548,975
Contingency Reserve	150,000	150,000
Unassigned Funds	84,256,763	80,791,812
TOTALS	\$1,690,261,882	\$1,648,444,321

Surplus Account:

Beginning Surplus	\$80,941,812	\$70,682,199
Net Income	4,778,028	11,649,196
Change in Net Unrealized		
Capital Gains or (Losses)	(885,717)	1,331,261
Change in Nonadmitted Assets	(611,360)	(533,344)
Change in Valuation Reserve	184,000	(2,187,500)
Aggregate Write-ins for Gains and Losses in Surplus		
Net Change in Surplus	3,464,951	10,259,613
Surplus At Statement Date	\$84,406,763	\$80,941,812

Summary of Operations:

INCOME:

	Mar 2022	Dec 2021
Premium & Annuity Considerations	\$66,085,357	\$271,173,517
Net Investment Income	20,089,413	69,950,355
Amortization of Interest		
Maintenance Reserve	94,493	380,106
Income Sub-Total	\$86,269,263	\$341,503,978

EXPENSES:

Death Benefits	\$3,022,258	\$7,676,447
Matured Endowments	4,718	19,026
Annuity Benefits	35,852,043	126,878,865
Disability Benefits	822	5,284
Surrender Benefits	205,328	968,110
Interest On Deposit Type Contr	404	11,837
Increase In Aggregate Reserve for Life Contracts	38,849,500	179,441,500
Commissions On Direct Business	1,911,763	7,559,823
General & Fraternal Expenses	1,623,047	6,360,845
Insur, Taxes, Licenses, Fees	73,783	202,108
Expense Sub-Total	\$81,543,666	\$329,123,845

SUMMARY:

Net Gain From Operations		
Before Refunds To Members	\$4,725,597	\$12,380,133
Refund To Members	(215,764)	(831,139)
Net Gain From Operations		
After Refunds To Members	4,509,833	11,548,994
Net Realized Capital Gains	268,195	100,202
TOTAL NET INCOME	\$4,778,028	\$11,649,196



2022 1st Quarter Financial Statement

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

Current Interest Rates

★ Effective January 1, 2020 ★

(Reaffirmed for the 2nd Qtr. of 2022)

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.



OPEN A ROTH IRA

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

- * Tax Advantages
- * Competitive Interest Rates

From the Sales Department...

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



Avoiding Taxes

Avoiding taxes is different than evading taxes. The old joke says the difference between the two is about ten years in prison. Taxes are something that we must live with in our society. In reality, it is a small price to pay for the freedoms we enjoy in the greatest country in the world.

On any savings or gain taxes will be due. The job of any responsible taxpayer is to minimize this tax. Having a plan, meeting with your advisors, and knowing the rules are all part of minimizing the impact of taxes. Some tactics that smart people employ may include the following items.

- A Roth IRA, if the guidelines are adhered to then at withdrawal both principal and interest will be tax-free.
- Using the cash value of life insurance, tax-free except for the excess received over the premiums paid.
- Making a charitable donation of your IRA RMDs. Sometimes people do not want their RMD and by designating a qualified charity as the recipient, taxes are avoided.
- A Roth conversion may help in the long run. It will not be helpful the year of conversion since taxes will be due. But years later this should prove to be a smart move especially if other funds are used to pay any taxes due.
- Coverdell Education Savings Accounts (ESAs) – no taxes if used for higher education.
- HSA/ health savings accounts.
- Starting your own business from

home (full or part-time) and deducting the expenses.

- A reverse mortgage (or line of equity) may allow for tax-free payments.
- Muni bond interest is received tax-free from the federal government and many times it may also be tax-free from your state.

These are some ideas to consider and certainly there are others. An important point is NSS Life (because we are an insurance organization/company) offers programs that are tax-free or tax-deferred. We can help you with your future. We always recommend that you check with your tax or financial advisor to see how these ideas would affect your particular situation.

Reactive vs Proactive

What is the difference? A simple definition: one is concerned about the outcome and prepares for it, the other waits to see what happens and then acts afterwards. Some simple examples would be our TSA (proactive) vs terrorist that are trying to do harm to us. If we waited until something happened, that would be reactive. Not good when dealing with national security. Or a person that experiences chest pains and promptly seeks medical attention,

this is proactive vs waiting until it may be too late (reactive.)

The famous author, John Maxwell says, he believes that everyone chooses how to approach life. If you are proactive, you focus on preparing. If you are reactive, you focus on repairing.

Another example would be when it comes to buying life insurance. One of the most common reasons people buy insurance is to pay for their funeral and any last expenses. This number could easily be \$10,000 or more. Sometimes we have people call our office and want to buy insurance. They were at their uncle's funeral, and they heard how much his funeral cost – this is proactive. They are taking the necessary steps to provide insurance for their family.

Obviously, the younger and healthier you are the better the rate may be for any life insurance purchase. However, life insurance is always a good bargain at any age. We insure more people today and with the improvements in underwriting many health conditions are insurable. For more information please contact your local representative or Joe Elliott in the Home Office for a free quote and see how we can help you.



MYTH

Life insurance is **too expensive.**
How will I ever be able to afford it?



FACT

Most people overestimate the cost of life insurance by **3x or more.** It's probably more affordable than you think!

2021 Insurance Barometer Study, Life Happens and LIMRA



OPEN AN IRA



Thought For The Month:

The past is a place of reference not a place of residence.

Slovak proverb

Fraternal Matters...

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



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. The deadline has passed for registration but if you would like to join us for Hospitality Night on Friday please email or call me at pblum@nsslife.org or 724-731-0094.

Attention: PVR Renewal Reminder

All 2nd, 3rd, and 4th year students!! Remember to send me your transcripts by July 15th to receive your next installment of the PVR Scholarship. If we receive your transcripts and your grades are in good standing your check will be mailed to your home address the first week of August. Deadline for transcripts is **July 15, 2022**.

NSS Night at PNC Park July 29, 2022

We had an overwhelming response to this event, and it is **SOLD OUT!!** For those that requested tickets please note that they will not be sent out until approximately 2 weeks prior to the event. If you would like to pick yours up at the Home Office in McMurray please contact me at pblum@nsslife.org or 724-731-0094 to make arrangements.



Art Contest Update

The artwork submitted for the May Art Contest is currently at the judges. Results will be published in the August issue of the *National News*.

Kennywood Slovak Day, July 21st 2022

I have tickets available for Slovak Day on Thursday July 21st. The cost is \$30 for 3+ and \$27 for those 60+. Please make your check payable to: **W. PA Slovak Day**. I will mail the ticket the day I receive your check. If you would like to pick them up at the Home Office in McMurray, please call ahead and they will be available.

Summer Activities for Teens:

Music Festival

While there are plenty of dangerous music festivals, if you pick one in your area and don't let your teens camp overnight, they're going to be perfectly safe. An even safer option is to find a festival that's streaming their events online and let your teen invite their friends over to listen to their favorite bands and find some new ones, all from the safety of your own home.

Tie-dye fashion

Tie-dyeing took off on social media this year. It's a fun do-it-yourself project that can bring in cash. Customers can bring you clothes to tie-dye, or you can find hoodies and T-shirts at a thrift store and make them look like new. One young entrepreneur who began selling tie-dyed clothes during quarantine is charging \$35 for dyed sweatshirts and \$18 for shorts.

Mowing lawns

Get paid for the household chore that you've mastered by creating a lawn-mowing service.

Babysitting

Babysitting is a great way to learn about time management, responsibility, and leadership, and the pay isn't bad either. While rates depend on where you live, the U.S. average hourly babysitting rate is \$16.75 for one child and \$19.26 for two children. Show parents you're serious by taking a babysitting class. The American Red Cross offers certificate training on basic safety and child care skills to students 11 years old or older.

Dog walking

If you're comfortable with animals and don't mind cleaning up after them, walking dogs or taking care of pets at home while their owners are away can be a great moneymaker. Before walking, be sure to assess how friendly a pet is and how much it can tug on a leash--or if they're known to bolt after squirrels. Many dog walkers charge around \$20 to \$30 for a half-hour walk.

Photographer

If you're known for your eye-catching Instagram feed, consider charging for portrait sessions or touch-up editing. Professionals suggest that beginner photographers should charge \$100 per session and offer discounts for first-time clients.

Music tutor

If you're skilled at playing an instrument, you can offer to teach other kids. Or you might offer to practice with kids younger than you who need a partner to play along with and keep them engaged. Not only will you get in your practice time, but you can help inspire someone else to develop their talent.

2022 Fraternalist of the Year



Using her talents as a Certified Family Nurse Practitioner, Suzanne Skrypak has helped countless people. She volunteered at the Washington County Homeless Shelter giving health care to the less fortunate. She taught Yoga to the Women's Shelter residents and Pilates to her patients when she worked in Bentleyville, her hometown. She's also traveled to Jamaica with her church to help at an orphan-

age for children with HIV. While her children were in school, she was active in the PTA and on committees to make the school better.

Being community active, she was Chairman of the American Red Cross for Washington County for many years fundraising for the organization. In addition, she has precepted many Nurse Practitioner students over the years helping them reach their career goals. She works with veterans now to help them receive disability compensation.

Being a lifelong member of the National Slovak Society has made her very proud and she has been determined to carry on the tradition and fellowship of Assembly 0377 started by her grandfather. For the past ten years, she has been the President of the Assembly and helped it grow in membership. She is always advocating for people to join and to make them knowledgeable of the many benefits of our organization.

Suzanne is a deserving candidate and should be highly considered for this recognition and honor.

Sincerely,
Gino Opice



2022 Youth Achievement Award Winner



I am nominating Peyton Shorthouse for the 2022 Youth Achievement Award. Peyton has been a member of Assembly 731 since she was in elementary school. She participated in many of the activities Assembly 731 offered. She is a responsible and extremely ambitious young lady with a bubbly personality. Peyton has maintained a 4.0 GPA throughout her high school years and will graduate number 1 of 119 students in the Struthers High

School class of 2022. Her advanced honors classes in high school include English, Math, Algebra, History, Pre-calc, Physics, AP Government, AP Biology, Physics, Communications, Spanish and Statistics.

She was inducted into the National Honors Society in her junior year and served as its President during her senior year. Peyton also served as President of the Interact Club, Vice-President of the Spanish Club, Secretary of Student Council and Secretary of Medical Careers Club. She earned an academic letter for her accomplishments. She was part of a program at Struthers Elementary School babysitting and entertaining children while parents were at parent-teacher conferences.

Her extracurricular school activities include softball, tennis, Color Guard, Student Council, Interact Club, Spanish Club, Medical Careers Club, and the PANDA Club (Prevent and Neutralize Drug Abuse) which also focuses on other issues faced by middle school and high school students.

Outside of school activities, Peyton has been an active volunteer in the community. Each year, she has helped with Struthers' Clean-up Day by cleaning up trash, laying new mulch, and planting flowers in various Struthers locations. The city has a yearly Christmas party and Peyton dressed up as Santa's Elf helping children greet Santa. She helped organize, welcome guests, serve refreshments and dance with members of the Purple Cat at their annual prom. Purple Cat is a day-program for adults with varying levels of cognitive skills.

Peyton has worked with St. Nicholas's Catholic Church Confirmation Retreat as a volunteer helping to organize and oversee the activities that day. She helped with St. Nicholas's Chocolate Sale by making and selling chocolates during the Christmas season and for Valentine's Day. Peyton has been accepted to John Carroll University where she will major in Pre-Med Biology. She looks forward to using her education, problem solving, communication, and natural leadership skills to help her dream to become a physician become a reality.

Peyton currently works at Starbucks after school and weekends. She resides in Struthers with her mother, Megan, and younger sister, Cadence. Respectfully submitted,

Lauren J. Fox
Assembly 731 President

Scenes from Joint National Fraternal Bowling Tournament



NSS Home Office Employee Birthdays



L-R: Lori Korte, and Christine Davila celebrating in March.



Lisa Shriver celebrating her birthday in April.



Birthdays celebrated in May.
L-R: Linda Strom, Eric Riepole, Ginny McMurdy and Pam Blum.



Youth Circle Magazine - Summer 2022



4th OF JULY WORD SEARCH

Rainbow Marshmallow Pops



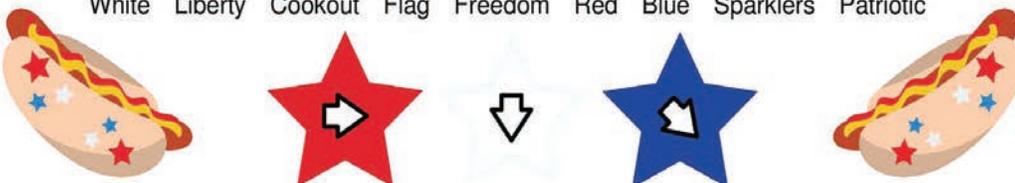
Skewer each marshmallow with a toothpick.

Dip each marshmallow in water quickly, then roll around in red, white or blue sprinkles and let dry. Then skewer on colorful straws or lollipop sticks. (TIP: Rub a bit of cooking oil on the straws or sticks first to make it easy to slide on the marshmallows).



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

Independence Day United States of America Star Spangled Banner Founding Fathers
 Fireworks Picnic Barbecue Fourth of July Celebration Stars and Stripes American
 White Liberty Cookout Flag Freedom Red Blue Sparklers Patriotic



Toilet Paper Roll Bees

Materials Needed:

- Toilet paper rolls or paper towel roll cut in half
- Pink paint
- Black marker
- Cardstock – white, black and yellow
- Small googly eyes
- Black pipe cleaner
- Small black pom poms
- Glue



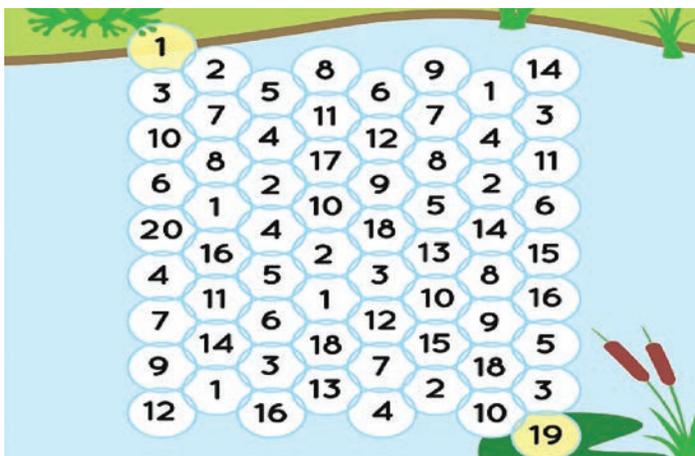
Instructions:

1. Cut a rectangular piece of yellow cardstock to fit around the paper roll. Overlap the edges of the paper slightly and glue or tape along the seam.
2. Cut 2 narrow strips of black cardstock. Glue around the paper roll to make stripes, leaving a space on top for the bee's face.
3. Add 2 googly eyes to the front of the paper roll.
4. Draw the mouth on with a black sharpie or marker.
5. Dip the end of a paint brush in pink paint and add 2 dots of paint on either side of the mouth to make cheeks.
6. Bend a black pipe cleaner into a "V" shape.
7. Glue 2 pom poms onto each end. Glue the pipe cleaner to the inside top of the paper roll.
8. Cut out two wings from white cardstock. Glue or tape to the back of the paper.

Now your toilet paper roll bee is done.

FROG HOP MAZE

Help the frog swim to the lily pad by coloring only the bubbles with ODD numbers inside:



Color Changing Flowers Science Experiment

Materials Needed:

- Fresh White Flowers (carnations work great)
- Glasses
- Water
- Food Coloring
- Scissors

Instructions:

1. Fill the glasses about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way full with water.
2. Add about 20-25 drops of food coloring to each glass. Vary the colors you use to broaden the experiment.
3. Under running water, make a fresh cut at the base of each flower stem removing about $\frac{1}{4}$ " of the stem at an angle. Place each flower in a glass.
4. You will notice the food coloring beginning to show up in the petals after about 6-8 hours (maybe longer). The longer you let the flowers sit in the water, the darker your colors will get, plus you'll begin to notice the colors in the stems and leaves as well. The following day the color will be even more vibrant.



Summer Activities Word Scramble!



NGIDGNARE

WMNMGISI

INGIKH

IKNGIB

KNICCGIINP

LPGINAY

SRGTAANIGZ

KWGLIAN

NSHFIGI



Alligator Fridge Magnets

Materials Needed:

- Clothespin
- Green Paint or Green Sharpie Marker
- Googly Eye
- Magnet
- Glue
- White Paper or Paper Plate or Cup for Alligator's Teeth

Paint the clothespin **Green** and Let Dry. If you don't have paint or you are not allowed to use paint, you can use a green marker, preferably a permanent marker, such as a Sharpie marker.



Pick The Better Option

If you put the teeth and eye on the smaller end (the end that opens), you can use it as a clip that looks like the alligator is biting on your memos / notes.



However, putting the eyes and mouth on the larger end looks better (see below). So it is up to you.



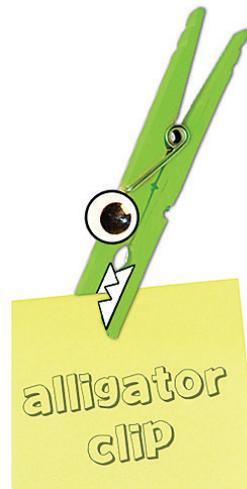
Either way, cut out zig-zags for teeth and use them as teeth and glue them on the end you choose. And put a big googly eye on the top for the eye.



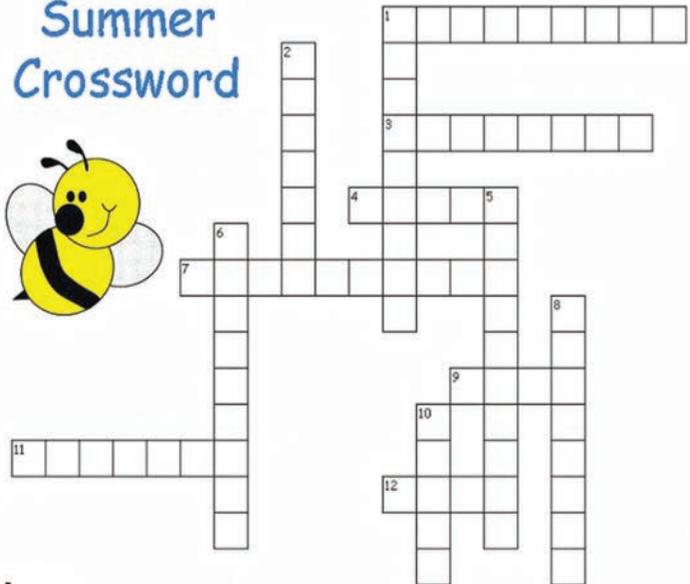
Glue magnets on the opposite side of the clothespin so that you can stick it to the fridge.



This is what your finished Alligator Fridge Magnet clip looks like. I hope that you had fun.



Summer Crossword

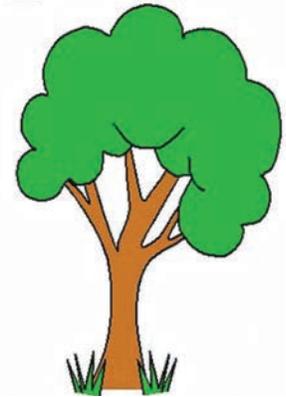


Across

1. From caterpillar to _____.
3. dad's grill
4. A gardener's worst enemy.
7. pink juicy fruit
9. In the summer, the weather is _____.
11. I have a rod and reel. Let's go _____.
12. A long walk.

Down

1. Insect with yellow and black stripes.
2. Healthy summertime transportation.
5. Protective eyewear.
6. A patty and a bun. Yum!
8. Favorite drink of young salespeople.
10. Playground toy you swoosh down.



Have a great summer

stay safe

ER visits

peak in the summer months.

1 sunburn

Use a sunscreen with an SPF of 30+ and reapply every two hours

2 dehydration

Drink plenty of water and avoid sugary, caffeinated and alcoholic drinks

3 burns

Use caution when dealing with flammable liquids, open flames, campfires and even barbecues

4 outdoor injuries

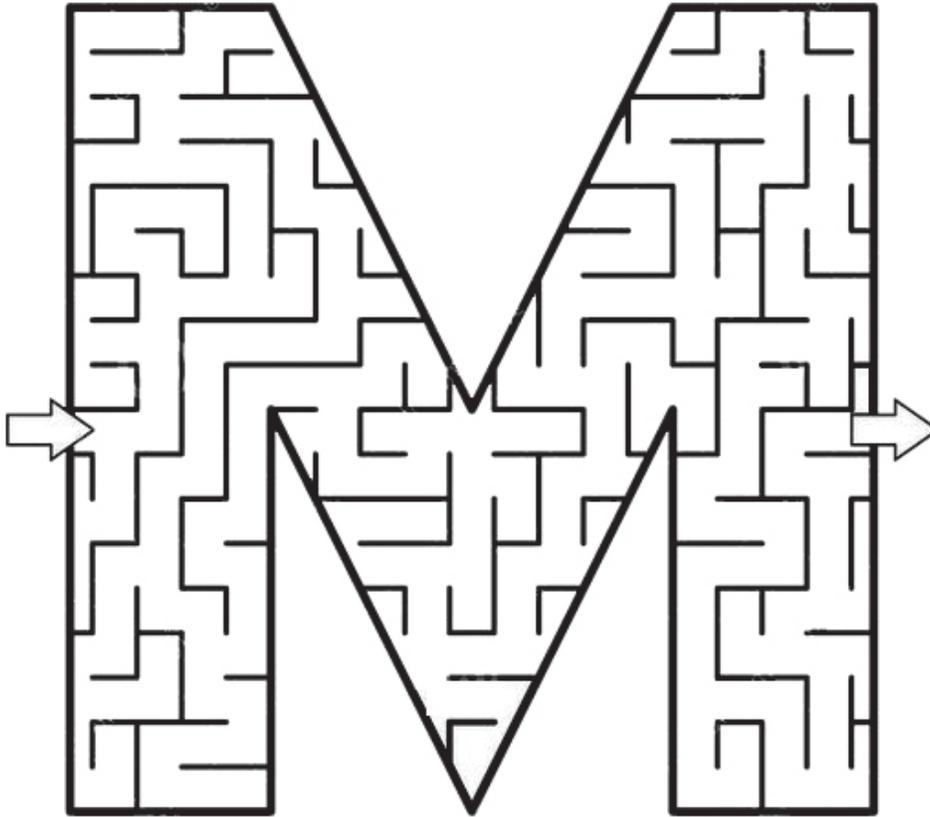
Wear appropriate attire and safety gear during activities like bike riding and hiking; water recreation should be monitored by an adult who knows CPR

5 food poisoning

Don't eat food left out of refrigeration for more than one hour when the temperature is above 90° F



The Letter M Maze



Answers to Summer Activities Word Scramble:

Gardening; Swimming; Hiking; Biking; Picnicking; Playing; Stargazing; Walking; and Fishing.

Answers to Summer Crossword Puzzle:

Across: 1. butterfly; 3. barbecue; 4. weeds; 7. watermelon; 9. warm; 11. fishing; 12. hike.

Down: 1. bumblebee; 2. bicycle; 5. sunglasses; 6. hamburger; 8. lemonade; 10. slide

Answers to M Maze:



4th of July Jokes

- Q: What do ducks love about the Fourth of July?
A: Fire-Quackers!
- Q: What did the flag do when it lost its voice?
A: It just waved.
- Q: What snack goes great with peanut butter?
A: Fire-crackers.
- Q: What did one firecracker say to the other?
A: My pop's bigger than your pop!
- Q: Where was the Declaration of Independence signed?
A: On paper.
- Q: Why aren't there any knock-knock jokes about the U.S.A.?
A: Because freedom rings!
- Q: What did the firecracker eat at the movies?
A: Pop-corn!
- Q: Where is the capital in Washington D.C.?
A: in the beginning.
- Q: How were the pilgrims like ants?
A: They lived in colonies.
- Q: Why couldn't George Washington fall asleep?
A: Because he couldn't lie.
- Q: Where did George Washington get his axe?
A: At the Chopping mall.
- Q: What's the most patriotic tea?
A: Liber-Tea
- Q: What was the most popular dance in 1776?
A: The Indepen-dance!
- Q: What's a firecracker's favorite treat?
A: A pop-sicle!
- Q: What happens when dinosaurs light the fireworks?
A: You get a dino-mite.
- Q: What do you call an American drawing?
A: A Yankee Doodle.
- Q: What did the American colonists wear to the Boston Tea Party?
A: They wore tea-shirts.
- Q: Why was hunting eagles banned in America?
A: Because it was ill-eagle.
- Q: What happens if something goes wrong at Mt. Rushmore on the 4th of July?
A: A monumental disaster.
- Q: Why was George Washington called the funniest person in his army?
A: Because he was de Laughayatte.

DONATE TO THE PVR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Here is my donation of:

\$ _____

Please issue your check to:

NSS PVR Scholarship Fund

And send to:

National Slovak Society
351 Valley Brook Road
McMurray, PA 15317



PVR Scholarship Fund Donations May 2022

In Memory of Milford Barber:	
From Assembly 123.....	20.00
In Memory of Regis Benden:	
From Assembly 123.....	20.00
In Memory of Gordon Frole:	
From Assembly 123.....	20.00
In Memory of Matthew Hellmann:	
From Assembly 123.....	20.00
In Memory of Mary Krahe:	
From Assembly 123.....	20.00
In Memory of Virgil Lucas:	
From Assembly 123.....	20.00
In Memory of Robet Schuller:	
From Assembly 123.....	20.00
In Memory of Shirley Stivason:	
From Assembly 123.....	20.00
In Memory of our son and brother	
Shaun Logan Crowley:	
From Kevin, Lori, Kevin Jr.,	
& John Crowley	20.00
Donations:	
Laurie Fox.....	25.00
Anonymous.....	62.86

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.**

DEPARTED MEMBERS MAY, 2022

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Amendola-Johnston, Gloria	White Oak, PA	02/26/2022	0774
Anderson, Carol H	Warren, PA	04/28/2022	0554
Andreychek, Anastasia	Pittsburgh, PA	11/13/2018	0108
Barnes, Kenneth W	Woodbridge, VA	05/12/2022	0774
Barron, James M	Monessen, PA	04/16/2022	0377
Becker, Howard	Hadley, PA	05/04/2022	0731
Bidish, Mary	Uniontown, PA	04/19/2022	0039
Brecht, Dorothy	Dunlevy, PA	04/17/2022	0377
Brown, Alfred	Murrysville, PA	05/15/2022	L105
Bucci, Anthony J	Dunbar, PA	04/26/2022	0039
Bully, John	Hillsboro, WV	05/01/2022	0774
Burckure, Andrew	Pittsburgh, PA	04/16/2022	L161
Callaghan, Judith	Pittsburgh, PA	05/17/2022	0123
Carpenter, Ola	Elkview, WV	03/26/2022	0774
Cercone, Paul	Pittsburgh, PA	03/21/2022	L161
Cotter, Jr., Joseph	Hazlet, NJ	07/01/2017	L075
Cox, Herman	Martinsburg, WV	01/12/2022	0774
Cramer, Jack	Fayette City, PA	04/07/2022	0039
Downing, L. Wilson	East Brady, PA	04/21/2022	0731
Eppinger, Edward	Chicora, PA	05/05/2022	0123
Fakult, John	Willowick, OH	11/26/2021	0160
Falcone, Ellen	Pittsburgh, PA	03/20/2022	0434
Feddar, Beverly	Indiana, PA	05/10/2022	L105
Franks, James E	Bobtown, PA	04/10/2022	0039
Gillis, James	Blairsville, PA	05/04/2022	0737
Gitzen, Arthur	Bethel Park, PA	04/24/2022	0774
Green, Allan D	Belle Vernon, PA	03/23/2022	0377
Gross, James	Baden, PA	03/18/2022	0123
Hart, Richard W	Windsor, WI	03/17/2022	0774
Harvey, Jeane	Douglassville, PA	04/24/2022	R059
Hasenauer, Arlene	Hamburg, PA	04/25/2022	0774
Hassen, Sr., Isaac D	North Cambria, PA	04/15/2022	0774
Hefferman, Thomas	Cochranon, PA	05/21/2022	0774
Hudac, Jerry L	Sewickley, PA	04/21/2022	0123
Irvin, Paula	Beaver, PA	05/15/2022	0123
Janichko, Catherine	Dalton, PA	03/26/2022	L075
Keene, David	West Newton, PA	05/17/2022	0737
Keziah, Norris	Monroe, NC	02/19/2022	0774
Knight, Sandra L	New Castle, PA	04/29/2022	0731
Kotsko, Jean	Mountain Top, PA	04/10/2022	0617
Kramer, James H	Pittsburgh, PA	03/29/2022	L161
Leininger, Wilma	Leesport, PA	04/22/2022	L102
Levrio, Jay	Pittsburgh, PA	04/30/2022	L161
Lewis, Jon W	Butler, PA	04/30/2022	0123
Locher, Mary	Johnstown, PA	04/08/2022	0267
Lockwood, Lillian B	Bay City, MI	05/20/2021	0381
Marks, John T	Middletown, PA	04/17/2022	0774
Mays, Sr., Wallace H	Point Marion, PA	04/19/2022	0774

DEPARTED MEMBERS

MAY, 2022 (Continued from Page 15)

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Miller, Nancy	Lewisburg, WV	05/02/2022	0774
Milowicki, Walter	Greensburg, PA	05/24/2021	0737
Moss, Susan	Franklin, NC	10/23/2020	0774
Necheff, Jr., Steve	Cheswick, PA	05/12/2022	L161
Petrlak, Richard	Glassport, PA	05/04/2022	0108
Pitarch, Marie	Center Moriches, NY	06/20/2021	0110
Racan, Anna	Berwyn, IL	10/26/2021	0586
Reuff, Randall	Andover, OH	04/21/2022	0070
Rolitsky, Gregory	Fairview Park, OH	04/05/2022	0432
Schaut, Barbara A	McKeesport, PA	03/28/2022	L161
Schmidt, Conway	Downs, IL	04/08/2022	0774
Schneider, Vera	New Castle, PA	05/06/2022	0731
Schreiber, Marcella	Appleton, WI	03/03/2022	0774
Scott, Hazel M	Idaville, IN	01/19/2022	0705
Semko, Petronella	Clarence Center, NY	05/12/2022	R019
Shaffner, Frances	Hummerstown, PA	05/09/2022	L102
Simpson, Donald	Hopwood, PA	04/18/2022	0039
Smiley, John	East Freedom, PA	05/20/2022	0267
Spangler, Daniel	York, PA	12/28/2020	0813
Spencer, William	Charleston, WV	04/25/2022	774
Sweitzer, Bruce	York, PA	03/30/2022	L102
Swigart, Denny L	Gibsonia, PA	04/24/2022	L161
Swigart, Timothy	Hummelstown, PA	04/22/2022	0774
Szpanka, Florence	Clairton, PA	05/17/2022	0108
Tkacs, Raymond	Ocala, FL	08/22/2014	L002
Tomko, Rosemary	Bethel Park, PA	05/05/2022	0434
Toth, John C	Oil City, PA	05/03/2022	0554
Turnbull, William	Saltsburg, PA	05/01/2022	L105
Turner, Martha L	Chillicothe, OH	04/28/2022	0595
Varmecky, Blanche	Johnstown, PA	05/12/2022	0267
Veres, Bernard	Cecil, PA	04/25/2022	0774
Verska, Paul	Masontown, PA	05/01/2022	0588
Whittington, Donald	Pittsburgh, PA	03/19/2022	L161
Woods, Martha	Republic, PA	04/18/2022	0039
Zirngibl, Nancy	Marianna, PA	04/22/2022	0377

Assembly 0123



L-R: Jill Grover, Larry Smith, Bill DelMonaco and Ed Bihler.

Our assembly held a cornhole tournament at the May 14th meeting at Helicon Brewery. Congratulations to the winner: Bill DelMonaco.

Jill Grover
Secretary



News from Assembly 813

Assembly 813 has again joined with The Jubilee Center of St. David's Episcopal Church to provide Summer Back Packs for Kids.

Mary Jo Holker of the NSS and Jubilee Center's Ruth Hill know that children who qualify for food assistance during the school year can get mighty hungry during the summer months. Over 150 back packs are provided so that no child goes hungry.

We have raised \$575.00 so far. The Matching Funds project runs through August 6th, when school resumes. Donations to help feed the children may be sent to St. David's Jubilee Center, 401 S. Broadway Street, Englewood, FL 34223. If sending a check please notate on the memo line "Summer Backpacks for Kids". Thank you.

Mary Jo Holker
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0039 Uniontown, PA



Members attending A-0039 picnic on June 12, 2022. What a success!

Assembly Youth members that are already receiving an NSS Scholarship are reminded that the date to send in your transcripts, to renew your scholarship is July 15th. You must have maintained a 3.0 GPA to receive your next check. Checks will be mailed to your home in early August.

Our heartfelt sympathies go out to the families of Patricia A. Adams, Douglas Cindric, Rosina Endsley, Jerry Laurita, George Rohulich, Penny Rugg and Theresa Tkac. May they rest in the blessed arms of the resurrected Christ.

NSS Picnic Night at PNC Park is scheduled for Friday, July 29th when the Pirates take on the Phillies. Save the date and come out to the game. More information in the *National News*. If you are near Kennywood Park (Pittsburgh) come and celebrate the 99th Annual Slovak Day on Thursday, July 21st. Come and enjoy the delicious food in the "Slovak Kitchen". Discount tickets are available. See the ad in the July *National News*.

Parents and grandparents! The NSS Youth Poetry Contest deadline is August 15th. Encourage your children and grandchildren to sharpen their pencils and submit an entry. All rules are in the *National News*. Everyone receives a NSS t-shirt.

Our "Remember Flight 93" third quarter assembly meeting will be held on Sunday, **September 11th** at 6:00 pm. **PLEASE NOTE:** we have changed the location for our meeting. We will now meet in the social room of the **Bob Evans Restaurant** on West Main Street. Mark your calendars!

If you have any questions about what is going on in the NSS or our assembly, please call me at (724) 570-1301. Make sure your July 4th celebration is memorable and safe!

Paul Payerchin
Secretary-Treasurer

ASSEMBLY R059 Bethlehem, PA

The first half of 2022 our members continued to deal with health issues.

Hopefully, we will be gathering for a meeting on **July 10, 2022** at the home of Paula and John Lahutsky, 3914 Linden Street, Bethlehem, PA.

You will be contacted as far as the time of the meeting. Hope to see you there.

Michele Guydan
Secretary

ASSEMBLY L075 Duryea, PA

In July-August, our assembly will conduct a matching funds event for the Montage Mountain Ski Patrol at their yearly golf Tournament which is held at Elmhurst Country Club. We are planning to send a team from the assembly along with a basket for their raffle. Stephanie & Joe Ciuccio are co-chairmen.

Our fraternal summer picnic will be held **August 14th** at the Mercateli Segilia Park, 4100 Birney Avenue, Moosic, PA at 1:00 pm. Hamburgers, hot dogs, and soda will be supplied by the assembly. We will also play bingo for gift cards. Our Margaret Pilosi scholarship winner will be announced.

Nominations and election of officers will be held on **October 22, 2022** at Grandes Restaurant, 4200 Birney Avenue, Moosic at 1:00 pm. For more information contact Lehrae Edwards at 570-569-2181.

Lehrae Ann Edwards
Treasurer

ASSEMBLY L102 Schnecksville, PA

On **August 7th** we will have our annual summer picnic at the Gross residence in New Tripoli, PA at 2:00 pm.

October 23rd will be our Halloween costume party at the Wesnak home, Whitehall, PA at 2:00 pm.

Any questions, please call me at 610-769-7006.

Sharon Wesnak
Financial Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0123 Coraopolis, PA

Here we are in July the month named after Julius Caesar and when we say good-bye to half the year. Let's be positive and make the best use of the last half of 2022.

Hopefully you celebrated safely Independence Day July 4th, our country's 246th birthday. No matter how some people want to point out our country's flaws and failures I believe it is the greatest country on earth with more opportunities for more people than anywhere else.

Our assembly had a meeting in May. I want to thank Jill Grover for organizing it and I would also like to mention that we had two members attend our meeting for the first time: Ed Bihler and Sandra Landock. Their presence was much appreciated. Our meetings are open to all members. We welcome your input.

There are things to do in July: NSS Golf Tournament **July 15-17** at the Tam O'Shanter Golf Club Hermitage PA. Slovak Day at Kennywood Park **July 21st**. Call me if you need tickets 724-242-5085. Remember kids sixteen and under get free tickets thanks to Region 5. Other assemblies help with the ticket cost. Last but not least, the Pirate game on **July 29th** sponsored also by Region 5. To get tickets to the game call Pam at the Home Office.

On August 21st is the Region 5 picnic at Cedar Creek Park, Pavillion 16 in Rostraver, PA. A mini golf outing at Neville Island, is planned. The date is to be determined. No cost for either event.

Pray for Peace in Ukraine.

William Knoll
President

ASSEMBLY 0377 Bentleyville, PA

Slovak Day at Kennywood will be **July 21, 2022** and we will reimburse you for the tickets if you can attend!

Our following meeting will be held on **September 11, 2022** at 3:00 pm at Sesame Inn, McMurray, PA. And let's plan another meeting in October! Our annual Holiday party will be held on

December 4, 2022 at Hugo's Restaurant, Brownsville, PA at 3:00 pm. Best wishes for the convention in Hershey for all who are attending!

Suzanne Skrypak
President

ASSEMBLY 0432 Fairview Park, OH

Join us to the Lake Erie Crushers game, 2009 Baseball Boulevard, Avon, OH on **July 8th** at 7:05 pm.

Contact Dave Pytel at 440-759-2148, Bill Shuttleworth at 440-465-6024, or Terri Hudak at 440-714-8902 for tickets.

Prices are \$35.00 - adults;
\$30.00 - children
Food is included

The Jet Express Lake Erie Island Tour will be held on **September 25th** at 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. The cost will be \$70.00 per person. If interested please call Dave, Bill, or Terri for details at the numbers above.

Shawn Pytel
Publicity & Social Media

ASSEMBLY 0586 Chicago, IL

Our members had a meeting on June 21st. We focused on how to use our time together and discuss how best to uphold our Slovak backgrounds while helping others. Our last meeting was held at the Bohemian Crystal, one of our favorite places.

We pray for our family and friends in Slovakia and their Ukrainian neighbors. My church in Nitra's sister city of Naperville Illinois held a fundraiser in May which was well attended. The Slovak delegation showed big screen videos of the school showing plans for more classrooms to accommodate the Ukrainian children who have escaped. One of the new teachers who speaks both languages was pictured. More families are arriving. Housing is being provided and thankfully the Slovak government has begun funding some.

The K thru 12 school will need more classrooms and teachers going forward as more refugees are able to cross the border. My church will have a huge garage sale in June, proceeds

from which will be allocated to charities including the Slovak/Ukraine effort. The money raised is going back with the travelers.

Our Assembly 586 is again packing items to go to the **"Operation Support Our Troops"** which is an ongoing effort of ours. President Biden signed last month the plan returning US troops to Somalia, reversing former military presence in the east African country with an estimated cap of 500 Americans, White House officials said. Our hope is for them to return to the United States safely. We who are safely here need to support them.

God bless our country and may our fraternal National Slovak Society continue to prosper.

Irene Tomaskovic
Vice President

ASSEMBLY 0617 Ashley, PA

Our Fraternal Day will be held on **August 10th** at Knoebels Park.

Any questions, please contact John Kurilla at jjkurilla@aol.com or call 570-239-5936.

John Kurilla
President

ASSEMBLY 0737 Westmoreland County, PA

A meeting will be held on **August 21, 2022** at Cedar Creek Park, Pavilion #16. This will be held one hour prior to the District 5 picnic.

Please be on time so we can have a brief meeting and enjoy the picnic afterwards.

Carol Godor
Treasurer

REGION 2 Hazleton, PA

A meeting will be held on **August 13, 2022** at the Grotto Pizza, 337 Wyoming Valley Mall, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702 at 1:00 pm.

Lucy Piccoletti
Recording Secretary

Western Pennsylvania Slovak Day Association

Slovaks in Western Pennsylvania prepare for 99th Annual Slovak Day Celebration West Mifflin, PA

Come celebrate with the Slovaks of Western Pennsylvania on Thursday, **July 21, 2022**, for the 99th Annual Slovak Day in Kennywood Park. Events will focus on the culture, food and spirit that is uniquely Slovak.

The festivities begin at 12:30 p.m. with games and treats for the children. The Slovak kitchen will also be open serving all the traditional favorites. Music in the food pavilion will be provided by George Bati and friends from 1:00 until 3:30 pm. At 4:00 pm, The Eucharistic celebration will take place. This year's main Celebrant will be the Most Reverend Larry J. Kulick, Bishop of Greensburg Diocese. Bishop Kulick, grew up in South-Western PA., in Leechburg, PA., where he attended St. Martha's Slovak Parish. He takes great pride in his Slovak religious & cultural traditions. He was ordained and installed as the 6th Bishop of the Greensburg Diocese on Thursday, February 11, 2021 at a special Mass in Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Greensburg, PA. He will be joined by Clergy from the Pittsburgh, and Greensburg, Dioceses. The Slovak Day festivities conclude with a performance by the Pittsburgh Slovaks.

Everyone must have a ticket to enter the park. Ticket prices are as follows: or anyone under age 60 the price is \$30, if you are age 60 and over the price is \$27. There are no super senior discounts this year.

To order tickets make a check payable to: **W. PA SLOVAK DAY**
Mail to: **234 ILION STREET
PITTSBURGH, PA
15207**

Deadline for ordering tickets is **July 14, 2021**. There is something for everyone at the 99th Annual Slovak Day in Kennywood Park: rides, games, food, ethnic vendors, music and entertainment. Join in the festivities on July 21st, and renew your Slovak spirit.

CONTACT: **Sue Ondrejco**
Phone: **(412) 953-4853**
Email: Sue.ondrejco@gmail.com

Assembly L075

Our assembly Join Hands Day was held on May 13th for the Pittston Meals on Wheels at the Knights of Columbus Hall Pittston. Members assisted the Postal Workers with their annual food drive by unloading the mail trucks, transporting the nonperishable goods by grocery carts to the back room for sorting, dating and restocking the shelves.

We also sponsored a Host day for the St. Frances of Assisi Kitchen Penn Ave Scranton on May 17th. We donated \$100, sorted canned goods, set up the tables, swept and mopped the floors, and restocked their shelves.

We would like to congratulate all our L075 seniors on their Graduations. And a special shout out to Senior Adam Lazar from Pittston Area High School and L075 Youth Achievement 2021 winner. Good luck to all our seniors as they begin the next chapter in their lives. Our assembly will attend the Region 2 meeting at Grotto Pizza in Wilkes Barre on **August 13th**. Our Fraternal summer picnic will be held at the Mercateli-Segilia Park, 4100 Birney Ave Moosic, PA at 1:00 pm. Please bring a food item for the table and a basket. Hamburgers, hot dogs and soda will be supplied by the assembly. We will also play bingo for gift cards. Our Margaret Pilosi Scholarship winner will be announced.

On **August 29th**; Assembly L075 will conduct a matching funds event for the Montage Mountain SkiPatrol at their yearly golf Tournament which will be held at Elmhurst Country Club, roaring Brook Twsp. We are planning to sponsor a hole, send a team from the leaf and donate a basket for their raffle, and send a few members to the dinner. Stephanie & Joe Ciuccio are cochairmen. Our last meeting for 2022 will be held on **October 22nd** for nominations and election of officers at the Grandes Restaurant, 4200 Birney Avenue, Moosic, PA at 1:00 pm. For more information contact Lehrae Edwards at 570-569-2181. We will also have our Fraternal Holiday Get together at the Bone Appetite sponsored by the SPCA at the Woodlands Inn Route 315 Wilkes Barre on **November 6th, 2022**.

Assembly L-161

Participates in Join Hands Day

Join Hands Day officially is the first Saturday in May. It is a national volunteer day and annual event sponsored by the American Fraternal Alliance. It's a day in which people are encouraged to come together to volunteer, it's also a day in which young people and adults should come together to work as volunteers and provide support to one another. Memorial Day is the day we remember the heroes who gave everything for the soldiers serving next to them and the people they left at home. Memorial Day is a day we are reminded of what combat veterans have given to this country, whether it's years of service, the first year of their marriage, or their lives.

This year members of Assembly L-161 joined together with FCSU members of Br. 2 Northside, Pittsburgh, and Br. 853 of Charleroi, St. Gabriel VFW Post 1365, and St. Cyril Boy Scout Troop #348, to place flags on the graves of Veterans in Christ Our Redeemer Cemetery, (formerly North Side Catholic).

Several afternoons and evenings were needed by the volunteers to place all 5,724 flags honoring Soldiers from Korea, WWI, WWII, and Vietnam, as well as the recent wars on terrorism.

Many thanks, to Carol Lako, for coordinating the efforts from ordering and picking up the flags at the County Office, to organizing all the groups involved.

Sue Ondrejco
L161



L-R: Guy and Linda Pilosi, Adam Edwards, Allie Lazar, Lehrae Edwards, Karen Richardson, President Gary Edwards, and Gary and Dorothy Collins.



Marlin and Stephanie stocking the baby formula.



Check presentation To Beau from the Kitchen with Lehrae Edwards, our host sign, Dorothy Collins, Marlin Petro, Stephanie Ciuccio and absent from the photo were the earlier workers Guy & Linda Pilosi and Luci Sachetti.



Adam & Karen stocking the shelves.



Dorothy and Gary unloading the goods.



Dorothy on clean-up.

Region 5

Sunday, August 21, 2022



Cedar Creek Park, Pavilion # 16

1 — 5 p.m.



- FREE!
- FOOD
- AUCTION BASKETS



By "Giggles the Clown"

Call Linda Strom at the Home Office to Register: 1-800-488-1890

Deadline for registration Monday, August 8, 2022



SEPTEMBERFEST 2022

Saturday, September 24, 2022

Presented by the National Slovak Society Heritage Museum

11 AM—4 PM

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



This year will mark our 10th annual event at the museum. We would like to have as many of our Assemblies and Regions be involved in helping to make this year's event another successful experience. We are looking to provide more entertainment for EVERYONE. As always we need many volunteers to help in various ways throughout the day. **If you know a vendor or crafter who would like to participate or demonstrate their craft for the day please contact:**

sue.ondrejco@gmail.com for more information. **Space is limited.**

Here are some other ways you and/or your Assembly can help: Donate homemade baked goods
Volunteer an hour or two *** Publicize the event at your meetings &/or local papers

OR

Be a Sponsor Gold \$250 ... Silver \$100... Bronze \$50

Checks should be made payable and mailed to: **NSSHM .. 234 ILION St. Pgh., PA 15207.**
By participating as a volunteer OR as a sponsor your assembly will earn fraternal tracking points.

Ahoj Spring with Assembly 568 and Velaslavasay Panorama



On April 10th 2022 the Velaslavasay Panorama hosted Ahoj Spring—an open house and Easter celebration of Slovak heritage. A lovely spring day called for rejoicing, sharing, devouring and learning at the historic Union Theatre near downtown Los Angeles. Visitors to the theatre enjoyed immersive exhibits dating back to the 19th Century while getting to know a thing or two about Slovak culture.

NSS Assembly Los Angeles President John Dorusinec, Pavol Skubena, and Luba Capps discussed Eastertime traditions with curious guests. There were demonstrations of rituals like sprinkling water and lashing the Magical Easter whip, a bundle of twigs decorated with colorful ribbons (a vestige of the Feast of St. Joseph), created by master willow wand maker Jozef Vadkerti.

In the theater we learned a little Slovak (Zábava! Bábika! Kvety!) while admiring a hand painted banner of Slovak phrases created by Pasacio “The King” DaVinci. Recordings by Luba Capps taught listeners correct pronunciation over recorded sounds of birds and bees collecting nectar in Kolárovo and Malinovo. Music from the Bratislava Hot Serenaders lent a joyful mood to festivities in the gardens where visitors made paper kraslica—a painted, dyed or otherwise decorated blown egg—and ventured on “a trip to Slovakia,” taking pictures of themselves in front of a Slovakian countryside painted by Sara Velas. The landscape painting was inspired by her grandmother’s village of Velké Kostočany. A ceremonial display of Slovak dolls, artifacts and a traditional Easter basket holding decorated eggs, sausage, candles and baranok—a lamb shaped cake—adorned the feast table. Festive snacks were on offer, including cheese, olives, pickles, schnitzel (what a treat!), and hard boiled eggs. Velaslavasay Panorama curators and creators Ruby Carlson and Sara Velas worked with representatives of the 568 chapter to create the event which welcomed over 175 people on Palm Sunday 2022.

The Velaslavasay Panorama is a museum and non-profit dedicated to 360-degree painted panoramas, a form of art and entertainment dating back to the late 18th Century. Located in the historic Union Theatre (1910) in downtown Los Angeles, the Velaslavasay Panorama hosts the only 360-degree panorama on the west coast, a theatre space for programs such as film screenings and illustrated lectures and an abundant garden of typical and unusual plants from the Pacific Rim. Founded in Hollywood, CA in the year 2000 by Sara Velas, her father’s side of the family is from Slovakia with heritage in the Trnava and Kosice regions. Visit www.panoramaonview.org to learn more and book a visit.

Ruby Carlson and Sara Velas

Slovak Ambassador Honors Retiring Professor



On a sunny and warm Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 6:30 pm, Mr. Vit Koziak, the Ambassador of the Slovak Republic to Canada, held a reception at the Slovak Embassy in honor of Professor M. Mark Stolarik. Prof. Stolarik will be retiring on July 1, 2022 as Chairholder, Chair in Slovak History and Culture at the University of Ottawa after 30 years of service to the University (50 years of employment in a professional capacity). The Dean of the Faculty of Arts supported Prof. Stolarik’s application to the Board of Governors of the University for the title “Professor Emeritus.” In return, Prof. Stolarik promised the Dean that he would mentor his successor, Professor Roman Krakovský (Ph.D., Sorbonne), a specialist on the history of Slovakia and Central Europe.

The reception was attended by around 60 members of the Ottawa and Montreal Slovak communities, as well as friends and students of Professor Stolarik. Ambassador Koziak then outlined Stolarik’s contributions to the Slovak community, both at the university and in other capacities. He also read various greetings and appreciations sent to the Ambassador by Stolarik’s colleagues and grateful students who could not attend. The Ambassador then presented to Prof. Stolarik the Medal of Daniel Rapant, the founder of modern Slovak historiography. The medal was bestowed upon Prof. Stolarik by the Matica slovenská (Slovakia’s oldest cultural institution) for his work in promoting Slovak history and culture at the University of Ottawa and in the Western World. After this Ambassador Koziak introduced Professor Eda Kranakis from the Department of History at the University of Ottawa, who delivered the official “laudatio” of Professor Stolarik’s achievements over the past thirty years. Finally, Prof. Stolarik briefly outlined the history of the Chair in Slovak History and Culture at the University of Ottawa, and stressed that this was the only such Chair in the Western World, and Slovaks in Canada and the United States should cherish and support it.

Once the ceremonies ended, Ambassador Koziak thanked all those present at this, the first official reception at the Embassy since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in March of 2020. He then invited the attendees to help themselves to a sumptuous smörgåsbord of Slovak food and drink and to personally meet and speak with the retiree. The reception lasted until 9:00 pm.



Letné potešenie

Leto je čas oddychu, tepla a dlhých večerov.

Leto je ročné obdobie, na ktoré sa asi najviac tešíme. Dni sú dlhé a noci krátke. Leto a oddych otvárajú priestor novým nápadom a inšpiráciám. Pokoj, voľný čas a relaxácia sú vhodnou pôdou pre tvorivé myšlienky a nápady. Leto je obdobím, kedy máme viac času na komunikáciu s blízkymi a priateľmi. Využívajme pokojný letný čas, aby sme sa dozvedeli viac o ľuďoch okolo nás a ich každodennom živote.



Prvá Dáma USA Jill Biden navštívila Slovensko



(Zdroj: TASR)

Čaputová prijala v Prezidentskom paláci prvú dámu USA Jill Bidenovú. Prezidentka je vďačná za podporu USA a spoluprácu. Bidenová zase opísala svoje stretnutie s utečencami z Ukrajiny.

Priniesli nám písmo

5. teho júla ako Slovenský národ oslávime sviatok vierozvestcov sv. Cyrila a Metóda, ktorí doniesli vieru Slovenskému národu, v roku 863. Pre Slovenský národ zložili aj písmo známe ako Cyrilka a učili 'čítať' a písať našich predkov. Dnes sme radi že Vám môžeme napísať aspoň niekoľko riadkov po slovensky.



99 Slovenský deň Západnej Pennsylvánie



Dávame na vedomie slovenskej verejnosti v Pgh, a okolí, že tohtoročný 99 Slovenský deň Západnej Pennsylvánie bude 21. júla v známom Kennywood Parku. Vstupné lístky sú v predaji od členov prípraveného výboru, tie si rezervujte u Sue Ondrejco na čísle 412 421-1204.

NSS Golf: Pozývame našich členov NSS na golfový turnaj, ktorý tohto roku bude od 15. – 17. júla v Tam O'Shanter Golf Club, Hermitage, PA. Podrobnejšie informácie najdete na našej webovej stránke nsslife.org.



Porekadlo

Porekadlo je stručná výpoveď, v ktorej sa žartovným spôsobom vysloví nejaká pravda.

Čo je lacné, nie je vzácné.

Kto chce dlho žiť, má len vodu piť.

Ohýbaj ma mamko, pokiaľ som ja Janko, keď ja budem Jano, neohneš ma mamko.

Bez práce, nie sú koláče.

Zábava pre každého!



BABIE LETO
(indian summer)

LETO
(summer)

PLAVKY
(bathing suit)

CESTOVAŤ
(to travel)

LIMONÁDA
(lemonade)

PLÁŽ
(beach)

KÚPALISKA
(swimming pool)

LOĎ
(boat)

PRÁZDNINY
(vacation)

LETNÁ HORÚČAVA
(summer heat)

PIKNIK
(picnic)

SLNEČNICA
(sunflower)

SLNKO
(sun)

ZMRZLINA
(ice cream)





Youth Circle Page

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

2022 NSS POETRY CONTEST

Deadline: August 15, 2022

This is a great opportunity for parents and assembly officers to encourage our youth to utilize their thinking caps, sharpen those pencils and put those poetic thoughts on paper. The poetry submitted should display an honest and true effort of creativity and unique artistic vision. The rules are as follows:

1. Contest is open to all NSS Youth members ages 5 to 16, as well as Adult members.
2. Poem may be any length up to two pages double spaced.
3. Topic is chosen by individual.
4. Each poem submitted **MUST** be an original work created by the member and should be typed or hand written clearly.
5. All entries must include: name, address, phone number, age, assembly/circle number, along with your t-shirt size chosen by the following sizes available:
Youth Sizes - YS and YM
Adult Sizes - AS, AM, AL and AXL
6. Winners in each category will have their poetry printed in the National News, Youth Circle Magazine and on the NSS Website.
7. Contest shall be judged under the following ages:
Keats - Ages 5, 6, 7
Angelou - Ages 8, 9, 10
Frost - Ages 11, 12, 13
Shakespeare - Ages 14, 15, 16
Poe - Adult
8. Prizes awarded in each level shall be as follows:
First Place - \$50.00 & Certificate of Achievement
Second Place - \$25.00 & Certificate of Achievement
Third Place - \$15.00 & Certificate of Achievement
9. Deadline for entries to the Home Office is **August 15th**. Entries must be mailed or delivered to:
National Slovak Society
ATT: Pam Blum, Fraternal Activities Coordinator
351 Valley Brook Road
McMurray, PA 15317
10. Entries will be judged by an outside professional. Decisions made by the judge will be final in all cases.
11. The National Slovak Society reserves the right to keep all the poems.

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

2022 NSS PHOTO CONTEST

Deadline: October 31, 2022

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	NSS Convention

Prize List

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

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

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

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TOURNAMENT

JULY 15-17, 2022

TAM O'SHANTER GOLF CLUB • HERMITAGE, PA

Hospitality Night: Friday, 6:00-9:00 p.m., @ Tam O'Shanter
Looking forward to seeing everyone for a weekend of FUN