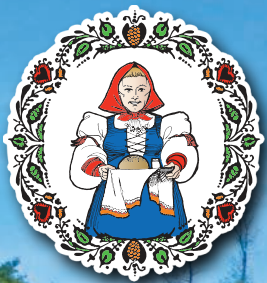




NSS Life
Family Matters...

National News

Providing Fraternal Life Insurance Since 1890 | NÁRODNÉ NOVINY | NOVEMBER 2022 | NUMBER 3571 | VOLUME 114



THE NSS HERITAGE MUSEUM PRESENTS

Septemberfest



See Pages 19-21 for Pictures



2022 Christmas Ornament Contest
See Page 23 for Rules



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.
Keith A. Kucherawy • Susan M. Ondrejco • Andrew "Drew" J. Wesnak
Theresa M. Zemelman

NSS HONORARY OFFICERS

David Blazek, *President* • 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 & 6
Secretary/Treasurer's Page 7

NSS Financial Matters

Annuity Interest Rates..... 8

NSS Sales Department

Recommender/Change of Address Form 2
2022 3rd Quarter Sales Leaders 8
National Sales Director..... 9

NSS News & Activities

NSS Natural Disaster Benefit 5-6
Assembly/Region Awards..... 7
Fraternal Activities Director..... 10
PVR Scholarship Donations 11
Departed Members..... 11-12
Assembly Meetings..... 13-15
Assembly Activities..... 15-16
2022 Slovak Heritage Festival 17
2022 Christmas Around the World 18
Christmas Items for Sale..... 18
Septemberfest Photos..... 19-21
Ornament Contest Rules..... 23
Thanksgiving Day Word Search 23

Národné Noviny

November..... 22
Pamiatka zosnulých (2. november)..... 22
Zimné obdobie 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

REGION 2

Assemblies L075, 0617

November 6

Assembly L075, SPCA Bone Appetite Fund Raiser, Woodlands Inn, Wilkes Barre, PA (TBA)

REGION 5

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

November 5
November 6
November 7
November 18
November 26
December 3
December 4
December 4
December 11
December 17

Assembly 0731, Making Christmas Ornaments, Burns residence, Poland, OH
Annual Slovak Festival at Pitt University, Oakland, PA at 12:00 pm
Assembly 0588, Meeting at Stefka residence, Gibsonia, PA at 5:30 pm
Assembly 0123, World Vision, Swickley, PA at 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Christmas Around the World at NSS Home Office, McMurray, PA 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Assembly 0737, Meeting at Carol Godor's residence, N. Huntingdon, PA at 1:00 pm
Assembly 0377, Christmas Party, Hugo's Restaurant, Brownsville, PA at 3:00 pm
Assembly 0039, Christmas Party, Columbian Association Hall (K of C) at 2:00 pm
Assembly 0123, Christmas Luncheon, Rockefeller's Grill, McKees Rocks, PA at 1:30 pm
Assembly 0731, Christmas Party, Lariccia Center Rotary Room, Boardman Park, OH at 2:00 pm

REGION 8

Assemblies 0004, 0070, 0160, 0432, 0595

November 20
November 8
December 13

Assembly 0004, Meeting at Sonia Vorell's residence, Strongsville, OH at 2:00 pm
Assembly 0432, Meeting at Pytel's residence at 7:00 pm
Assembly 0432, Meeting/Election of Officers/Holiday Celebration, Tony K's at 6:30 pm

REGION 14

Assemblies R059, L102

No Activities

AT LARGE

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

November 20
November 30
December 23
December 24

Assembly 0586, Get Together, Drury Lane Theater in Oakbrook, IL (TBA)
Assembly 0813, Matching Funds Appreciation Dinner, Thirsty Pig, Dothan, AL (TBA)
Assembly 0813, Christmas Party, Farrell residence (TBA)
Assembly 0705, Annual Christmas Eve celebration (Fraternal Fund Activity) at 6:00 pm

REMEMBER TO KEEP YOUR PERSONAL ACCOUNT INFORMATION CURRENT

Please contact our NSS Life Member Services Department at 1-800-488-1890 with any of the following changes:

- MARITAL STATUS
- MAILING ADDRESS
- BENEFICIARY UPDATES
- EMAIL ADDRESS
- IRA MINIMUM DISTRIBUTION REQUESTS
- BANK ACCOUNT UPDATES FOR DEPOSITS OR WITHDRAWALS

ANY REQUESTS FOR DISBURSEMENTS FROM THE NSS FOR 2022 SHOULD BE DELIVERED TO THE HOME OFFICE BY: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15TH, 2022.

The President's Page...

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



The past week has been extremely difficult and devastating to those living in the states of Florida, North Carolina, and South Carolina. Hurricane Ian's wind, rain, and storm surge have left many areas uninhabitable, and others completely decimated. Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone in the affected areas. Many NSS members and agents live in the areas affected by the hurricane. The Society has a fraternal benefit to aid members affected as part of our Disaster Relief Policy approved by the Board of Directors in March 2018. Information regarding the policy and how members can apply for funding through the Disaster Relief Policy is located on page 5 & 6 of this issue and will also be placed on our website.

Saturday, September 24th marked the 10th anniversary of the NSS Heritage Museum's Septemberfest. The weather was perfect and over 475 members, fellow fraternalists, and guests visited the Home Office for the celebration. The event included outstanding performances by the Polka Classics, strolling violinist Martin Meyer, and the Pittsburgh Slovaks. A variety of vendors were present, attendees participated in axe throwing, children participated in a variety of games and were awarded prizes for their efforts, a basket raffle was held to raise money for the PVR Scholarship Fund, and the Slovak kitchen was open and served delicious Slovak dishes. Attendees were able to visit the NSS Heritage Museum, and the Animated Slovak Woodcarving was once again the center of attention as attendees were presented the history of the woodcarving and a detailed description of the different scenes by Dave Dayton. Dave is the former owner of the woodcarving and has been a volunteer at each Septemberfest since we purchased the woodcarving from Dave and his late wife Ann. A special

thank you to all that volunteered to make the day a huge success especially NSS Heritage Museum Curator and NSS Director Sue Ondrejco who plans, organizes, and administers the event. Many thanks to the other members of Sue's family for the many hours of preparation prior to the event. Thank you to all the sponsors who made the event possible including AQS Asset Management who sponsored the tents, H2R CPA sponsor of the entertainment, and to all individuals, NSS Regions and Assemblies.

The Board of Directors elected at the 38th Quadrennial Convention will begin their term of office on November 1, 2022. The Reorganization Meeting of the Board of Directors will take place November 10th-13th at the Home Office. Committees of the Board will meet on November 10th, Board Training will be conducted on November 11th, and the Reorganization Meeting will take place on November 12th and 13th. A special thank you to Karen Lynne Orban who served as a Director from March 2020 through October 2022. Karen chose not to seek re-election during the recent Convention. Karen's business and fraternal background was extremely valuable to the NSS Board of Directors over the past two years. Thank you for your dedication and service to the members of the National Slovak Society and good luck and good health in the future!

Daylight Savings Time ends at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 6th. Please remember to turn your clocks back one hour!

The University of Pittsburgh will once again host its annual Slovak Heritage Festival on Sunday, November 6, 2022, beginning at 12 p.m. at the Cathedral of Learning. The event includes Slovak foods, cultural displays, educational lectures, craft demonstrations and vendors, and musical and folk-dance performances. This year the Festival will return to an in-person event. The NSS has been a proud sponsor of the event over the years. Make plans to join us at the Festival!

Veteran's Day is celebrated on November 11th. Take time to thank a Veteran for his or her service to our Country on that day! As citizens, we often take for granted the many freedoms we have as Americans. We enjoy those freedoms because of the sacrifices made by Veteran's over the past 246 years! Thank you to all that have served our country!

Thanksgiving Day will be celebrated on November 24th. Wishing all

NSS members and families a safe and Happy Thanksgiving as we gather to celebrate and give thanks for the many Blessings, we all have!

The NSS Home Office will be closed for business on Thursday, November 24th and Friday, November 25th so that our staff may enjoy the holiday with their families.

Christmas Around the World will take place at the NSS Heritage Museum located at the Home Office on Saturday, November 26th from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. and will include multi-ethnic Christmas trees on display, photos with St. Nicholas, a bake sale, children's arts and crafts, make your own oplatky, and Slovak Old World Kitchen ethnic foods. Admission is free. Make plans to join us for a great celebration.

News of Narodniars

Happy Birthday wishes go out to Director Laurie Fox, former Director Brian Medved, Lori Crowley *National News* Editor, Home Office staff members Amanda Felton and Patti Kropf to Cyndy Tribsch, Trudie Reeves, George Leasure, and to all others celebrating a birthday in November.

Continued on page 6



President Joseph Stefka, Jr., FIC addressing the American Fraternal Alliance Executive Summit in Washington, D.C. on September 15, 2022. President Stefka and Chris Pinkerton CEO of the Sons of Norway served as Co-Chairs of the event attended by forty CEO's and Executive Officers of twenty-five fraternal benefit societies from across the country. The Summit provided presentations on Technology Investments, the Economy, Research on the Impact of Varying Demographics on Fraternal Benefit Societies, and Post-Pandemic Leadership. Attendees visited the Capitol Building and met with legislators and staff members to spread the good news about how fraternal benefit societies positively impact their communities.

Letter from the President



NSS Life.
® *Family Matters...*

Joseph Stefka, Jr., FIC
President/CEO

October 11, 2022

Re: NSS Disaster Relief Fund

Dear NSS Member,

Recently Hurricane Ian struck the southeastern United States with a devastating impact. Ian's wind, rain, and storm surge caused excessive damage to homes across Florida, North Carolina, and South Carolina. As a valued member of the National Slovak Society Family, we want you to know that we care and are willing to help provide support in this time of great need. Please call or send us a note to let us know you are okay and if you have been directly affected by this natural disaster. Please share this information with other members of your family or other NSS members who may have suffered losses in your area and might not receive this message due to the circumstances following the hurricane.

If you have suffered a financial loss not covered by insurance, the NSS Board of Directors in 2018 established a Natural Disaster Relief Fund available to all members as a fraternal benefit. The amount of the relief fund set by the Board of Directors is limited, so the number of awards and the amount of each award will be dependent upon the total number of claims submitted. We trust that any amount we are able to pay will help in some way. A summary page is included outlining the qualifications and criteria necessary to be considered for an award from the NSS Natural Disaster Relief Fund. We encourage you to apply for the award if you qualify.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you, your family, friends, and others who may have been impacted by this disaster.

Fraternally,

Joseph Stefka, Jr., FIC

President & CEO

Continued from page 4

Happy Anniversary wishes go out to my sweet wife Annette as we celebrate 46 wonderful years, also to Honorary Director Tony Beno and wife Linda, to newly elected Director Keith Kucherawy and wife Elaine and to all others celebrating a special day in November.

Recently, this writer received a note from Sonia Vorell of Assembly 4. Sonia takes the time to send a note with each meeting notice and meeting report to keep the Home Office updated on the members and happenings of Assembly 4. The information is greatly appreciated! Thank you, Sonia!

Information Pertaining to the NSS Natural Disaster Benefit

Members who live in areas affected by natural disasters may be eligible to receive this Disaster Relief Fraternal Benefit upon meeting the following criteria:

Natural disasters include, but are not limited to:

- Hurricanes
- Tornadoes
- Floods
- Earthquakes
- Wildfires
- Forest fires

The following qualifications apply:

- Must be federal or state declared disaster
- Member must be in good standing
- Maximum benefit per family is \$1000 regardless of number of calamities suffered by the family and/or the number of adult members affected.
- Benefit is for "out of pocket" expenses not reimbursed by insurance and/or relief from FEMA or other agencies
- Photos and/or documentation of loss must accompany application
- The NSS shall have sole discretion in determining payees and the dollar amounts of any awards
- Disaster Relief Benefit does not cover damage resulting from water entering basement due to sewer backup or sump pump failure
- Assemblies and Regions shall be notified and encouraged to add to the award.

**Please contact Pam Blum at the Home Office
for additional information about how to apply for this benefit.
Call Toll Free at: 1-800-488-1890**



A Page From My Notebook...

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



Oh My Gosh... It's Turkey Month

However, before we celebrate, our prayers are needed for those that have been ravaged by Hurricane Ian. We have heard from several members who have incurred damage as they were in or near the areas that were hit the hardest. If you know of any of our members that have been affected by Ian, please let me know (lstrom@nsslife.org or 724-949-0815). Several years ago, the Board of Directors created a Disaster Recovery Policy to provide aid where needed the most. The new Board of Directors will meet for the first time in November at the Reorganizational Meeting where they will address all matters brought before them.

Regarding the Extra Effort (Diamond, Platinum, and Silver) Awards I'd like to thank Suzanne Skrypak, Assembly 0377, for calling the office to discuss her Assembly award this year. In investigating this for Suzanne I found information that was not provided for the Poetry Contest, so attendance points were not included in the results. Above are the new results for 2021. Those assemblies that were affected have received their award and/or additional funds. Congratulations!

DIAMOND AWARDS

L075 Duryea, PA
L102 Whitehall, PA
0123 Coraopolis, PA
0160 Lorain, OH
L161 Pittsburgh, PA
0588 Avella, PA
0617 Ashley, PA
0731 Lowellville, OH

PLATINUM AWARDS

0039 Uniontown, PA
0774 McMurray, PA

SILVER AWARDS

0108 Homestead, PA
0377 Bentleyville, PA
0434 McMurray, PA
0586 Chicago, IL

New Technology

The NSS has been involved in building and testing current business processes using new technology. This new technology will provide the security, accuracy, and access to your information much faster and more efficiently than our current software. It will also provide our agents the information much faster and more accurately than ever before. We are still in the early phases of the project. Stay tuned for updates on our progress.

Let's Get Together

I have a final request. 2023 may see an increase in activities where getting together face-to-face is more common than not. There was a definite increase in activities amongst our assemblies and regions in 2021 as Extra Effort Awards grew in number. We hope that continues. This year we will be investigating what type of activities are available digitally using technology to come together. Just think...NSS members coming together on a certain day at a certain time; hearing and seeing each other on phones or laptops; and playing a game with members from New York to California! Or a Scavenger Hunt using your phones? Wouldn't it be tremendous. I'm a dreamer so I feel that if "Funniest Home Videos" can bring that many people together why can't we? How about a train ride around the Horseshoe Curve in Altoona, PA? This would take some planning, but we won't know unless we investigate the possibility. Please send or email all your ideas and suggestions to our Fraternal Activities coordinator Pam Blum (pblum@nsslife.org or 724-731-0094) or me. Be creative. Let us know what you would like to do or how you would like our current activities to improve (i.e., what Golf courses do you like (within reason), how about a family "Fun weekend" with some time for family bowling followed by a Monte Carlo night for the big kids. We need ideas. Send them in. No idea is silly. Regarding our Art contest, one of our members suggested that we create an Adult category. DONE. Maybe more Photo categories? A new contest? Well, that's all for now. I hope to see your ideas coming in very soon as we begin to plan for next year.



Current Interest Rates

★ Effective September 1, 2022 ★

Optimum 3 2.25%

Preferred 5 3.25%

Preferred 8 4.00%

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.

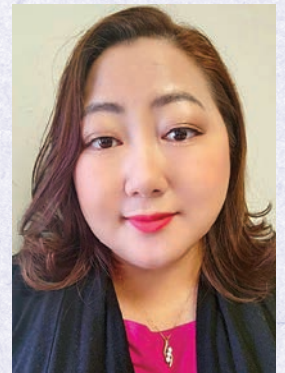
Access your account values 24/7 by going to the website: www.nsslife.org and login/register as a member.

3rd Quarter Leaders for 2022



Nicholas Carini is the **TOP PREMIUM/ANNUITIES PRODUCER** for the Third Quarter of 2022. "Nicholas Carini knew early on in his life he would pursue a career in the financial services industry just as his dad, Jack. He graduated from Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia with a Bachelor of Science degree in Financial Planning. Nicholas is now the co-owner of Carini Financial, LLC where he manages individuals and small businesses with their financial planning needs. To further his commitment to his clientele, Nicholas went on to earn his Certified Financial Fiduciary® designation and is currently enrolled in The American College of Financial Services pursuing the CFP®, ChFC®, and the CLU® designations. When he is not working he enjoys spending time with his wife, Gabrielle, son, Brooks, and dog, Rosie, as well as working in his woodshop and garden."

Congratulations to **Ger Xiong** on being the **TOP LIFE INSURANCE/NEW MEMBER PRODUCER** for the Third Quarter of 2022. Ger was born in Thailand and came to the United States when she was ten years old. She has a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree from University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. Ger is a mother of four children and is currently working as a Business Developer and selling life insurance part-time since 2016. Because of her expertise in the business and financial industries she sees the struggles of many average American families. With the uncertainty of the current economic situation and inflation rising one of the most important things was life insurance coverage on herself and her family. Life insurance will provide for income loss in case of a tragic event and lessen financial burdens, and eliminate stress on her family. Ger Xiong offers a variety of life insurance products such as Term, Permanent Life, Whole Life, Universal Life, and Guaranteed Issue Products. Please contact Ger Xiong at 920-579-7327 or email at gerx1981@gmail.com for more information.



From the Sales Department...

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



How To Keep Money In Retirement

Here is a great idea. Think of your retirement funds as three buckets of money. Ultimately, withdrawals will be made from each one but the why, when and how much of each is what will be important.

There's the "taxed-now" bucket, which can include earnings, wages, non-qualified brokerage accounts, checking and savings accounts, investments that earn interest and dividends, and capital gains.

There is the "taxed-later" bucket, which is made up of 401(k)s, traditional IRAs, and other tax-deferred retirement accounts, but also real estate and maybe some hard assets or collectibles.

And there's "the taxed-rarely-or-never" bucket, which includes Roth IRAs and Roth 401(k)s, health savings accounts (HSAs), municipal bonds and certain types of life insurance. If you are like a lot of savers, you probably have most or all your investments in that middle bucket — the taxed-later bucket — and that could be a problem. Here is why: Those accounts served you well by saving you on taxes every year while you were working, but when you start tapping into them in retirement, the money you withdraw will be taxed as ordinary income.

Depending on your tax bracket and age, it would be wise to discuss this with your tax professional. The taxed-later bucket will require withdrawals at age 72 and beyond. However, a decision to roll over those accounts to a

Roth IRA (in whole or partially) may be beneficial in the long run.

When pressed into a new tax bracket, Medicare costs, alternative minimum taxes, and other pitfalls, maybe the rarely taxed bucket is the one to use. Enjoying your retirement should be rewarding and enjoyable. However, this new lifestyle can have some challenges.

What To Do When You Don't Want Your Policy

So, for years you have made the payments on your life insurance policy. Over time, you wonder if the policy will be paid-up or not? Here is the quick answer. We offer two general types of life insurance: term and permanent plans. The term plans will never be paid up and when you reach some certain age, they will expire. One way to prevent that from happening is to exercise your conversion privilege. This is a simple process that changes your term plan to a permanent plan by merely paying a new payment amount.

The permanent plans that we offer are single premium (w/ a three pay option), twenty pay life and whole life. Obviously, the single pay or three pay

are paid up in either one or three years. The twenty pay has payments for 20 years and then it is paid-up. The whole life has payments that continue for life. But that is not always the case. In fact, you could stop paying a twenty pay plan after ten years and a whole life after 15 years. We could use any number, this was an example. Anytime payments stop on a permanent life insurance policy (assuming in force for some years) there should be other options available to you. One of the first is the cash surrender or loan value. The next option is a reduced paid-up insurance plan. There is an extended insurance option. These are contract provisions that increase depending on the age of the policy.

In the insurance after-market there are ways to sell your policy (\$100,000 minimum requirements) or ways to donate the policy to charity.

Life insurance is a valuable piece of property. Keep your plan up to date, make sure the beneficiary is correct and know that every plan has options to help you in the future. For more specific advice contact your local NSS representative or Joe Elliott in the home office.

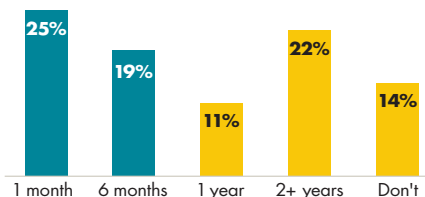
Thought For The Month:

If your lot in life is a street sweeper. Go out and sweep like Michelangelo painted, like Beethoven composed music, like Shakespeare wrote poetry. Be the best. Sweep streets so well that all on heaven and earth will pause and say, here lived a great street sweeper that did his job well.

Martin Luther King Jr. (1929 – 1968)

Too Many Families Live With Financial Insecurity

How long would it be before your household would feel the financial impact if the primary wage earner were to pass away?



of U.S. households would feel **financial hardship** within **six months.**

Life Insurance Owners Feel More Secure



of those who **own both** worksite and individual life insurance **feel secure.**

Percent of households that say they would be financially secure if the primary wage earner were to unexpectedly pass away

■ Secure ■ Barely or not at all secure

Owns life insurance **68%** **32%**

Does not own life insurance **47%** **53%**

Fraternal Matters...

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



Happy Thanksgiving!

Upcoming Contests

Don't forget! Now is the time to come up with and start making your Christmas Ornament for this year. Get out your glue guns and glitter and create a winning ornament today! The deadline for the contest is December 1, 2022.



PVR Donations from 38th Convention

Name	Amount	Remembrance
Assembly 0123	\$ 120.00	IN MEMORY OF JUDITH CALLAGHAN, EDWARD EPPINGER, JAMES GROSS, JERRY L. HUDAC, PAULA IRVIN & JOH W. LEWIS
Assembly 0588	\$ 200.00	IN MEMORY OF ALL DECEASED MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY 0588
Fox, Lauren	\$ 100.00	IN MEMORY OF DECEASED 731 MEMBERS
Fox, Lauren	\$ 100.00	IN MEMORY OF LOREN & RUTH BARNES AND LAWRENCE FOX
Hamernick, Barbara	\$ 100.00	IN MEMORY OF LONG TIME MEMBER & OFFICER FRED OLSZOWKA
Leasure, George	\$ 100.00	IN MEMORY OF MARGARET LEASURE, WIFE OF GEORGE K. LEASURE
The Medved Family	\$ 500.00	IN MEMORY OF ROSE AND MARTIN MEDVED
Region 14	\$ 100.00	
Sirakos, George W	\$ 10.00	
Total	\$ 1330.00	

Donations to the NSS Heritage Museum

Name	Amount	Remembrance
Anonymous	\$ 20.00	
Assembly 0381	\$ 100.00	IN MEMORY OF ALL DECEASED MEMBERS
Assembly 0434	\$ 250.00	
Assembly 0554	\$ 225.00	
Assembly 0588	\$ 200.00	IN MEMORY OF ALL DECEASED MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY 588
Assembly L075	\$ 100.00	MEMORY OF MARGARET PILOSI AND ALL DECEASED MEMBERS OF L075
Assembly L102	\$ 100.00	
Czarney, Mike	\$ 100.00	IN HONOR OF MOTHER
DeSanctis, Richard	\$ 100.00	IN HONOR OF PARENTS
Gross, Abigail	\$ 100.00	IN HONOR OF GRANDPARENTS
Katricak, John P	\$ 100.00	
Katricak, Robert F	\$ 100.00	
Knoll, William	\$ 100.00	
Kucherawy, Keith	\$ 100.00	IN MEMORY OF PARENTS ALBERT & CHARMAINE KUCHERAWY
The Medved Family	\$ 100.00	IN MEMORY OF ROSE AND MARTIN MEDVED
Miller, Louella	\$ 25.00	
Orban, Karen	\$ 100.00	
Palicka, Joy	\$ 100.00	JOY AND JUSY PALICKA IN HONOR OF HEIDE AND DANIEL
Palicka, Judith	\$ 100.00	IN HONOR OF HEIDE WEBER & DNIEL BUSSARD PALICKA
Payerchin, John	\$ 100.00	
Payerchin, Jr, Paul	\$ 25.00	
Pilosi, Guy	\$ 145.75	
Region 14	\$ 100.00	
Sirakos, George W	\$ 10.00	
Stefka, Annette	\$ 100.00	IN MEMORY OF JOSEPH & KATHRYN STEFKA, JOHN & ELEANOR DVORSAK, DAVID STEFKA & DEBBIE SCHWAB
Stricek, Jim	\$ 10.00	
Toth, Richard	\$ 50.00	
Wesnak, Justine	\$ 100.00	IN HONOR OF HUSBAND BUCKY WESNAK
Wesnak, Michael	\$ 20.00	IN HONOR OF BUCKY WESNAK
Total	\$ 2,780.75	

DONATE TO THE PVR SCHOLARSHIP FUND



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 September, 2022

In Memory of **Anna Krotchko:**

From Veida Bartholomew..... 100.00
 From David & Randy Pine.. 100.00
 From Steve & Ruth Indelicato. 50.00
 From Ester& John Verchick..... 50.00
 From Karen & James Winkleman 50.00
 From Marie Weber..... 50.00
 From Jeanette Holohan 50.00
 From Lou Ann & David Vinc. 20.00

In Memory of **Stephen Almendez:**

From Assembly 0123 20.00

In Memory of **Josephine Passarelli:**

From Assembly 0123 20.00

In Memory of **Rose Pfeiffer:**

From Assembly 0123 20.00

In Memory of **Earl Scharf:**

From Assembly 0123 20.00

In Memory of my **Dad, Loren Burns:**

From Linda & Randi Estes..... 20.00

In Memory of my **Frank Brundula:**

From Assembly 0070 20.00

In Memory of our son and brother,

Shaun Logan Crowley:

From Kevin, Lori, Kevin Jr.,
 & John Crowley 20.00

Donations:

Golf Tournament..... 2,560.00
 Region 5..... 483.00
 Matching Funds 483.00
 Linda Strom, Sec./Treasurer..... 50.00
 Cathy Maiorano 15.00

DEPARTED MEMBERS SEPTEMBER, 2022

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Albrecht, Eugene	Reading, PA	04/27/2020	L102
Ackley, Linda	Centre Hall, PA	09/11/2022	L040
D Agostino, Ruth	Monroeville, PA	09/11/2022	L105
Bain, Gary	Indiana, PA	08/24/2022	L105
Barker, Orel	Fairmont, MN	08/09/2022	0774
Bartkowiak, Runa	Erie, PA	08/09/2022	0774
Bartorillo, Ann	Luzerne, PA	08/25/2022	0617
Bazuin, Marvin	McBain, MI	08/06/2022	0381
Beaufort, Thomas	Ligonier, PA	09/19/2022	0737
Bee, John	Philadelphia, PA	10/22/2021	R059
Benamati, Catherine	Ambridge, PA	06/13/2022	0123
Blough, Jr., Irvin	Friedens, PA	09/09/2022	0039
Bordone, Judith	Pittsburgh, PA	08/25/2022	0100
Boscia, Darlene	Pittsburgh, PA	07/06/2022	0123
Brant, Jane	Friedens, PA	07/21/2022	0039
Brown, Goldie	Aliquippa, PA	09/11/2022	0123
Brza, John	Crown Point, IN	08/07/2022	0586
Buchberger, Donald	Wausau, WI	08/26/2022	0586
Campbell, Rosella	Uniontown, PA	07/12/2022	0039
Chimento, Catherine	Youngstown, OH	08/21/2022	0731
Chutz, Theresa	Emlenton, PA	08/18/2022	0731
Clontz, Carol	Brockway, PA	09/07/2022	0554
Closser, Delores	Washington, PA	08/15/2022	0588
Collins, Mary Lou	Maple Hts, OH	03/31/2022	0070
Colt, Carole	Ashland, OR	06/04/2022	0813
Connelly, Laurine	Bay City, MI	12/19/2020	0381
Cotter, Joseph	Hazlet, NJ	07/01/2017	L075
Crawford, Margaret	Bluefield WV	08/21/2022	0774
Czarney, Mary	Avon, OH	08/16/2022	0160
Damschroder, Richard	Toledo, OH	08/19/2022	0160
Davanti, Jane	Jeannette, PA	09/01/2022	0737
Dearmitt, Ada	Butler, PA	05/08/2022	L161
Delaney, Eileen	Louisville, OH	08/18/2022	0774
Dick, Jeannette	Girard, PA	09/20/2022	0774
Dunkelberger, Nelson	Paxinos, PA	08/23/2022	L102
Dysard, Connie	Clearfield, PA	08/12/2022	0554
Ermine, Thomas C	Scottdale, PA	07/26/2022	0737
Ford, Jennifer G	Murrysville, PA	08/25/2022	0441
Fosbrink, Joanne	Plum, PA	09/10/2022	L105
Fries, Helen	Shillington, PA	09/02/2022	L102
Gamble, Roy	Butler, PA	09/07/2022	0123
Gardner, Richard H	Wampum, PA	08/04/2022	0731
Hart, Mildred	Ellenboro, WV	08/03/2022	0774
Hebert, Bryan	Hammond, LA	05/28/2022	0774
Herron, Rodney	Washington, PA	09/16/2022	0377
Hosey, Donna	Hanover Twp, PA	09/14/2022	0617
Houser, Dorothy	Willow St, PA	08/17/2022	R059
Hudanick, Dolores	Hillard, OH	07/24/2022	L161
Jankowski, Sarah	Pittsburgh, PA	09/14/2022	L161
Jenkins, Flora	Kingston, PA	09/03/2022	0617
Jones, Charles	Princeton, WV	07/04/2022	0774
Jones, Marie	West Alexander, PA	08/24/2022	0774
Jordan, Herbert	Connellsville, PA	08/29/2022	0039
Kells, Barry	Clearwater, FL	06/11/2022	0813
Kochman, Ronald	Morton Grove, IL	11/28/2021	0586
Kopko, Andrew	Portage, IN	08/25/2022	0586
Korusek, John	Highland Springs, VA	05/31/2022	0774
Krotchko, Anna	St. Clair, PA	09/09/2022	0774
Leax, Robert	Monroeville, PA	08/09/2022	L105
Lederer, Mark	Monona, WI	08/05/2022	0774
Leibensperger, Veronica	Allentown, PA	09/03/2022	R059

DEPARTED MEMBERS SEPTEMBER, 2022 (Continued from Page 11)

Leszczuk, Rosa	Temple City, CA	01/24/2022	0568
Levine, Morton	Houston, TX	08/07/2022	L161
Litman, Phyllis	Claysville, PA	09/12/2022	0588
Livingston, Ann	Weirton, WV	08/24/2022	0774
Loedding, Thomas	Conway, PA	08/31/2022	0123
Loiseau, Valerie	Las Vegas, NV	05/20/2022	0774
Love, Dale	Brogue, PA	07/06/2022	0774
Lukac, Paul	Bedford, PA	01/11/2022	0039
Lynch, Mary Lou	Vienna, WV	08/06/2022	0774
Lynn, Eugene	Rostraver Twp, PA	08/16/2022	0377
Magyor, Ronald	Mt Pleasant, PA	09/07/2022	0737
Mainhart, Larry	Butler, PA	08/15/2022	0123
Marsala, John	Carpentersville, IL	06/25/2022	0586
Martin, Sandra J	Orwigsburg, PA	08/26/2022	L102
May, Doris	Lady Lake, FL	07/16/2022	0813
Means, Joan	Jeannette, PA	06/17/2022	0737
Medved, Joanne	Grosse Ile, MI	09/08/2022	0381
Melovitz, Philip	Annandale, NJ	09/20/2022	0617
Mertz, Ronald	New Holland, PA	09/01/2022	L102
Mikula, Daniel	West Sunbury, PA	08/23/2022	0731
Miller, Philip	York Springs, PA	08/29/2022	0267
Milson, Mary	Kenosha, WI	09/04/2022	0774
Mohn, Merlin	Reinholds, PA	09/02/2022	L102
Moore, James E	Edgewater, FL	08/28/2022	0813
Mosbacher, Charles	Erie, PA	09/14/2022	0774
Neumeyer, Ruth	Akron, OH	01/16/2022	0070
Noltmeyer, Barbara	De Forest, WI	05/29/2022	0774
Olszowka, Fred	Orland Park, IL	07/24/2022	0586
Ostanoski, Josephine	Campbell, OH	07/29/2022	0731
Pettke, Henry	Romeoville, IL	08/29/2022	0586
Plyler, Wayne	Indiana, PA	08/18/2022	L105
Quarture, Martha	Bridgeville, PA	05/11/2022	0434
Rahn, Florence	Olney, MD	07/15/2022	0774
Reisinger, Barbara F	Blairsville, PA	12/10/2019	0434
Reppert, Janey	Kutztown, PA	08/27/2022	L102
Richnafsky, May Kay	Adah, PA	09/13/2022	0039
Riemersma, Henry	Bucksport, ME	05/21/2022	L105
Romanowicz, David	Erie, PA	09/20/2022	R059
Romese, Helen	Ginter, PA	08/22/2022	0774
Rose, Donald J	Spartansburg, PA	08/30/2022	0731
Rummel, Pearl	Hooversville, PA	08/30/2022	0737
Sandy, Arlene	Jackson, MI	06/28/2022	0381
Sasse, Ricky	Butler, PA	09/14/2022	0123
Schaut, John W	McKeesport, PA	08/06/2022	L161
Shaeffer, Jr., William F	Marietta, PA	08/16/2022	L102
Shranko, Alex	Spencer, OH	08/20/2022	0004
Smith, Eileen	Ligonier, PA	09/05/2022	0737
Stanton, Lorraine	Erie, PA	08/20/2022	R019
Stroz, Nadia	Greensburg, PA	07/23/2022	0737
Sullivan, Peter M	Indiana, PA	06/13/2022	0774
Taylor, Vicki	Tooele, UT	06/18/2022	0774
Thomas, Betty	Hummelstown, PA	09/08/2022	L102
Urwin, Sr., Robert	Washington, PA	08/30/2022	0588
Volk, Loretta	Irwin, PA	09/12/2022	0737
Walker, Gynith	Charleston, WV	07/14/2022	0774
Wallace, Ruth	Huntington, WV	08/24/2022	0774
Williams, Patricia	Indiana, PA	08/29/2022	0267
Wolski, Francis	Jeannette, PA	09/02/2022	0737
Yuritic, Mary	Hammond, IN	08/03/2022	0586
Zavoral, Anna	North Riverside, IL	04/29/2022	0586

Veteran's Day Cake



Berries and Cream Bars

Ingredients For the Bars:

- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup powdered sugar
- 3/4 cup butter, softened
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 large eggs
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 2 1/4 cup all-purpose flour

For the Topping:

- 8 oz. cream cheese, room temperature
- 1 cup white chocolate chips, melted
- 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
- 3 cups mixed berries

Instructions:

Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
Spray a 9x13 pan with cooking spray.
In the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, cream together the sugar, powdered sugar, and butter for about 3 minutes or until light and fluffy. Mix in the vanilla and eggs. Beat until smooth. Scrape down the sides if needed. Add the baking powder and salt and mix until combined. Then slowly add in the flour, beat until just combined.

Using a spatula, evenly spread the cookie dough into the prepared pan. Bake for 12-14 minutes, do not over-bake. Cool completely.

For the Topping:

In the bowl of a stand mixer beat the cream cheese until smooth. Slowly beat in the melted white chocolate and mix on medium speed until smooth, scraping the sides of the bowl if necessary. Mix in the vanilla extract.

Spread the cream cheese mixture on top of the cooled cookie crust. Top with the berries and keep in the fridge to chill until ready to serve. Cut into bars and enjoy!

Note: To make the cream cheese/white chocolate frosting a little sweeter, add 1-2 tablespoons of powdered sugar.

ASSEMBLY 0004 Parma, OH

A meeting will be held on **Sunday, November 20, 2022** at Sonia Vorell's residence, 18088 Boston Road, Strongsville, Ohio at 2:00 p.m.

Sonia Vorell
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0039 Uniontown, PA

The president is coming! The president is coming! We are happy to announce that NSS National President Joseph Stefka, Jr. and his lovely wife Annette will be coming to our Annual Christmas Party.

So, mark your calendars. **Sunday, December 4th**, at the Columbian Association (K. of C.) Social Hall on North Gallatin Ext. They will again host our event starting at **2:00 p.m.** Door prizes, Chinese auction for the PVR Scholarship Fund, a 43" HDTV, giveaways, fraternal fun and fellowship. Bring along a non-member.

A few of our members came out to the Septemberfest celebration at the Home Office. We had a wonderful time! The food was great! The NSS Heritage Museum is a real jewel to see! The polka music made your heart stir and feet move!

The museum is offering another opportunity to come and enjoy the fraternal festivities in their "*Christmas Around the World*" celebration on Saturday, November 26th, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Come and enjoy good Slovak food, pictures with Saint Nicholas and much, much more. Check the recent NSS Magazine for more information.

Our heartfelt sympathies go out to the families of Grace Beachly, John W. Clark, Richard L. Hall and Tammy Hixson. May they rest in the blessed arms of the resurrected Christ.

Our congratulations go out to Valentina Gulino, who won third place in the recent NSS Youth Poetry Contest. Great job!

Speaking of contests, now is the time to start planning your ornament for the upcoming *NSS Ornament Contest*. Deadline is December 1st. Rules are in the "*National News*". Enter and give the assembly fraternal points!

If you have any questions about what is going on in the NSS or our assembly, please call me at (724) 570-1301. See you at the Christmas Party! Have a blessed Thanksgiving celebration with your family!

Paul Payerchin
Secretary-Treasurer

ASSEMBLY 0070 Brooklyn, OH

Our Christmas luncheon will be **Sunday, December 4th** at 11:30 a.m. with election of officers. Please contact John Karkosiak at 216-741-6990 if you plan to attend. Desserts would be greatly appreciated. We will also be collecting mittens for the mitten tree if you would like to donate.

John Karkosiak
Secretary/Treasurer

ASSEMBLY L075 Duryea, PA

Our Fraternal Holiday Get together will be held at the Bone Appetite sponsored by the SPCA at the Woodlands Inn, Route 315, Wilkes-Barre, PA on **November 6th, 2022**.

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

Lehrae Ann Edwards
Treasurer

ASSEMBLY 0123 Coraopolis, PA

Do you get excited about visiting an old friend? Well our assembly is going to visit an old friend, World Vision on **Friday, November 18th** from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Because of COVID they had stopped our volunteering for several years. Now we can start again. World Vision is a nonprofit that distributes clothes to Missions around the World. The work is not physically demanding, and a good time is had by all. Afterwards we head to Eat'n Park on Route 65 in Edgeworth (next to Sewickley) where we have a very brief meeting and also have lunch on the assembly. World Vision is located right off Interstate 79 just over the Ohio River Bridge. The address is 210 Overlook Drive, Sewickley, PA. Call if you need directions. We would welcome members of other assemblies if you wish

to join us. This is also a great way for high school students to get volunteer hours in if required by their school. I should mention that they require if you are not vaccinated for COVID that you must wear a mask while volunteering if vaccinated mask wearing is optional. Let's all visit an old friend and maybe make some new ones.

Our assemblies fabulous Christmas party and luncheon will be held on **Sunday, December 11th** at 1:30 p.m. at Rockefeller's Grille in Kennedy Center on McKees Rocks Rd. We would love to have you attend. There is a \$10 fee for Assembly 123 members and non-members is \$20. This money will be donated to the Pgh Area Food Bank. Please pay in advance so we can plan on anticipated attendance. Rockefeller's wants to know our attendance two weeks ahead of the date and requires us to pay for forty minimum attendance. Send your check payable to NSS Assembly 123 and mail it to Bill Knoll, 543 Pioneer Lane, Freedom PA 15042 or Jill Grover, 114 Fayette Street, Oakdale, PA 15017. I'd love to see and meet some of our new members along with those who have been constant supporters of our assembly. Give me a call at 724-242-5085 and let me know if you are attending and I will be glad to give you details and directions if needed. That is also true if you are planning to come to World Vision.

I would like to congratulate one of our members, Sasha Johnston on her marriage to Bryce Meiners on Saturday, October 15th. May you enjoy many happy years together.

This is the month for giving thanks and there are so many people I would like to thank for all the help you have given me. All the happiness and joy that I have received because of all the many of you I hope you know who you are, too many to list.

I wish all of our members a happy and blessed Thanksgiving.

William Knoll
President



ASSEMBLY 0377 Bentleyville, PA

Our last meeting of the year and our annual Holiday Party and will be held on **December 4, 2022** at Hugo's Restaurant, 688 National Pike, Brownsville, PA at 3:00 p.m.

Please RSVP me at 724-207-3171. We look forward to all members attending this and our annual cookie table. New members are welcome.

Let's plan some new events for next year. We will also have door prizes so please attend!

Suzanne Skrypak
President



ASSEMBLY 0432 Fairview Park, OH

A meeting will be held at Pytel's on **November 8th** at 7:00 p.m.

Our next meeting and holiday celebration will be held on **December 13th** at 6:30 p.m. at Tony K's. Make sure to RSVP by December 1st to Bill Shuttleworth at 440-465-6024 or Dave Pytel at 440-759-4558.

Election of officers will be held at the December 13th meeting. If you want to be more involved, shoe up and run for a position! Hope to see more of you there!

Shawn Pytel
Publicity & Social Media

ASSEMBLY 0586 Chicago, IL

Our members decided as a group to celebrate together on **Sunday, November 20, 2022** at 12 noon. We will meet at Drury Lane Theater in Oakbrook to see a play and have dinner.

Reservations will be necessary by November 1st, and we ask for that to be done by email or text to janetjet24@gmail.com. Looking forward to being together.

Irene Tomaskovic
Vice President

ASSEMBLY 0731 Lowellville, OH

Our Christmas Party will be held in the Lariccia Center Rotary Room in Boardman Park, 375 Boardman-Poland Road, Boardman, Ohio, on **Saturday, December 17th**, starting at 2:00 p.m.

Each year Assembly 731 likes to add an extra theme to our Christmas Party for decorating purposes. This year



we have chosen Grinch in Whoville as our theme. Everyone is asked to bring a wrapped gift from the heart (this could be a homemade item and should not be expensive) and to dress in a special Whoville outfit. We expect the Grinch to make an appearance to steal all the wrapped gifts before Santa arrives to bring the joy back by retrieving the gifts from The Grinch and given to the people of Whoville. We'll sing Christmas carols and enjoy a Whoville feast that will include Roasted Beast, Who Hash, Grinchy Greens, Cindy Lu Salad, Grinch cookies and Beezelnut Splash punch.

A 50-50 raffle will be held as a Matching Funds activity to benefit a family in need during the Holidays.

We are planning to make lap blankets for residents in a local nursing home and will deliver them during the week before Christmas. Material and instructions will be provided.

All NSS members are invited to attend but must RSVP to Kathy Cessna 330-559-8554 or Laurie Fox 330-717-4705 before December 5th.

Kathy Cessna
Fraternal Youth Coordinator



ASSEMBLY 0737 Westmoreland County, PA

A meeting will be held on **December 3, 2022** at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Carol Godor, 9280 Clubview Drive, North Huntingdon, PA.

If you plan on attending please let me know by November 18, 2022 at 724-863-9662, so we can plan accordingly.

Carol Godor
Treasurer

ASSEMBLY 0813 Englewood, FL

Our assembly is busy with various matching funds projects. The TailGate to Go benefit has been revised due to an accident involving Kerry Farrell, the pitmaster for the event. Since she was unable to barbecue for the fundraiser, the event was revised to one less labor intensive, called a Wine Pull that will continue through November 10th. Proceeds from this effort will go to Catholic Social Services, a local organization that assists marginalized people with food, rent and utility assistance, and other needs in the community. CSS director Celeste Kelly is excited to once again work with Dan and Kerry Farrell and the crew from the Thirsty Pig on this fundraiser.

The Brown Bag of the Wiregrass provides food for senior citizens who live below the poverty level. We will be working with Food Bank executive director David Hanks in an effort to maximize the impact of feeding the elderly. Clients in the Brown Bag Program receive two bags of groceries each month for a year.

As this is being written, Florida has just been devastated by the storm of the century, Hurricane Ian. Englewood, Florida took a direct hit by Ian, a category 4 hurricane, and damage is severe. We have checked with NSS

To All Members

From Directors

and Employees of NSS Life

members that could be reached and am happy to report there are no injuries but a heck of a lot of property damage. Our assembly is going to assist Crisis Cleanup. Donations are needed and will be greatly appreciated. We're asking that checks be made out to Assembly 813 with IAN Clean-up in the memo line. All monies received by December 15 will be turned over to this volunteer group who takes care of removing downed trees, damaged property and other problems created by natural disasters. Please mail c/o Assembly 813, 1048 Iowa Ave., Englewood, Florida 34223.

Of course, we will be collecting for Toys for Tots again, one of our most enjoyable projects for us and for the kids. New, unwrapped toys are due by December 10th, or if donating cash or check please turn in by December 8 so toys may be purchased.

Our volunteer appreciation dinner will be **November 30th** at the Thirsty Pig, Dothan, AL. Please call Kerry Farrell at 334-718-2416 or Mary Jo Holker at 941-473-0559 for more information. The Christmas Party will be **December 23rd** at the Farrell residence. Please RSVP to the above numbers to let us know you'll be attending.

Mary Jo Holker
Secretary

REGION 2 Hazleton, PA

The Region 2 will participate in the SPCA Bone Appetite Fund Raiser on **Sunday, November 6, 2022** at The Woodlands in Wilkes Barre, PA. We will be doing a matching funds and donate a basket. Assembly L075 members will attend and sponsor members. Assembly L075 also will make a basket for the event. Please watch our Facebook Page for upcoming details until then and SAVE the date.

We are also waiting on St Cats and Dogs to announce the date for Santa Pet Photos and will participate in that event in December as a matching funds.

For more information contact Marlin Petro Wesnak at marlinsamimadi@yahoo.com or **NSS Life Region 2** on Facebook.

Marlin Petro-Wesnak
President - Region #2

Assembly 377 Meeting



Members attending our September meeting at Sesame Inn. The turnout was excellent. We hope to see everyone at our Holiday Party on December 4th at Hugo's Restaurant at 3:00 p.m.

Assembly 123 Golf Outing



Jackson Ghaly, grandson of Jill Grover ready to putt.



Bill Knoll shows us his form before putting.



Jill Grover positioning herself to make the golf ball go in.



Mirabel DelMonaco, David DelMonaco, and Jonah DelMonaco take a break for a family photo.



What a foursome: Ed Bihler, Bruce Shirey, Phyllis Shirey, and Lavonne Bihler.

Assembly 731 Scavenger Hunt

For the past several years, Assembly 731 members enjoyed a Scavenger Hunt during Mahoning County's Canfield Fair. Our youth, accompanied by an adult, would locate specific items throughout the Fairgrounds and bring them back at the end of the day for prizes and social time at the Fox campsite at the Fair. This year, in addition to finding items, we added a Scavenger Hunt Photo Op. A list of 20 photo opportunities gave the kids and their adult an opportunity to get photos taken at sites that included some of their favorite things about the Fair. Not only did they enjoy the Fair, but they now have special photos taken throughout their day at the Fair.



Jimmy and Valerie Cessna enjoying the company of veterans at the military site at the County Fair.



Walter Fox enjoyed his first time at the Mahoning County Fair checking out the big pumpkins.



Logan Mason's favorite animal was the llama.



Cameron Mason, Ben & Jack Gaither riding one of their favorite rides of the day.



There's a lot more to this popular holiday than hand-print turkeys and pumpkin pie. Here's what to know going into Thanksgiving 2022.

When many of us think of Thanksgiving, we think of the staples: turkey, pumpkin pie, loved ones and, for the sports enthusiasts, football. The modern holiday is generally a gathering of loved ones sharing an epic feast, after all. It's rich with Thanksgiving traditions and has even spawned Friendsgiving, an offshoot of the holiday that's celebrated with friends.

If you're hosting Thanksgiving 2022, it's time to start prepping for your greatest get-together yet. Grab the family for some Thanksgiving crafts, then put a fresh twist on your Thanksgiving table decor.

Turkey Handprint

Go old school with this craft. Kids can trace their hands onto construction paper, then cut out their handprints to make colorful feathers. A couple of brown circles serve as the turkey's body and head, a triangle becomes its nose, and googly eyes complete the craft.



Thankful Pumpkins

Nothing quite says Thanksgiving like showing how thankful you are. So, in other words, nothing quite says Thanksgiving like these pumpkins!



When turkey day arrives, have these funny Thanksgiving quotes on hand to share with guests around the table.

1. "Thanksgiving is an emotional time. People travel thousands of miles to be with people they see only once a year. And then discover once a year is way too often." —*Johnny Carson*.
2. "May your stuffing be tasty. May your turkey be plump. May your potatoes and gravy have nary a lump. May your yams be delicious and your pies take the prize, and may your Thanksgiving dinner stay off your thighs!" —*Anonymous*.
3. "Thanksgiving is a time to count your blessings, one by one, as each relative goes home." —*Melanie White*.
4. "Thanksgiving dinners take 18 hours to prepare. They are consumed in 12 minutes. Half-times take 12 minutes. This is not a coincidence." —*Erma Bombeck*.

WELCOME BACK IN PERSON!
Nov. 6, 2022
 12 p.m.-4 p.m. Cathedral of Learning Commons Room
 University of Pittsburgh (Oakland)

- Ethnic Food
- Cultural and Educational Lectures
- Musical and Folk Dance Performances
- Craft Demonstrations

facebook.com/SlovakHeritageFestival
 youtube.com/SlovakHeritageFestival

FREE ADMISSION!

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 or emailed to the Home Office. No Exceptions!!**

Life is short.
 break the **RULES**
FORGIVE quickly,
KISS slowly, **LOVE** truly,
LAUGH uncontrollably,
 and **NEVER** REGET
 anything that made
 you **SMILE.**

Slovak Heritage Programs

The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association will once again present the Slovak Heritage Programs on the first Monday evening of each month, starting at 7:00 p.m. at the Mount Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Boulevard, Mount Lebanon, PA. 15228, 412-531-1912. It is free to both members and non-members.

November 7th - "Slovak Nativity Sets"

Once again Larry Kozlowski will make another hands on presentation. This time he will show us how to make Slovak Nativity sets out of paper. Materials will be provided.

December 5th - "Show-N-Tell"

Because of the popularity of this program in prior years, we are again asking you to bring your memorabilia from Slovakia- photos, books, souvenirs, etc. This is an opportunity for everyone to participate.

Veteran's Day November 11th, 2022



Congratulations to Al and Helen Zbin

Members of Assembly 432 are happy to announce Al & Helen Zbin are celebrating their **70th Wedding Anniversary.** We would like to wish you both a happy, healthy, and prosperous life for many years to come. May God Bless You.

Marti Pytel
 Eldress - Assembly 432



 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

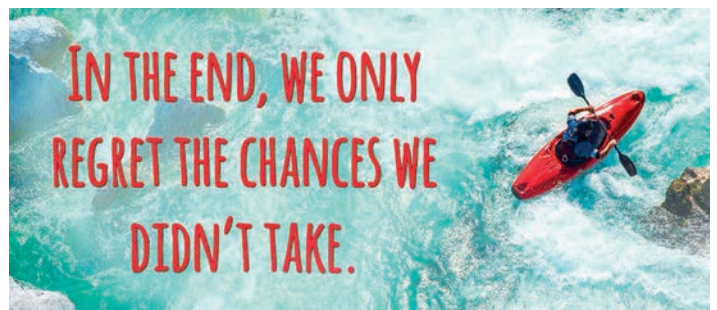


- Multi-Ethnic Christmas Trees on Display
- Make Your Own Oplatky Christmas Wafers
- Photo with St. Nicholas - Bring Your Camera
- Old World Bake Sale - Cookies, Cakes & Pastries
- Kid's Arts & Crafts - Make Your Own Cards
- Slovak Old World Kitchen - Ethnic Foods
- Slovak Folk Museum & Slovak Gift Shop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

FREE ADMISSION - FAMILY FUN

National Slovak Society
Heritage Museum
351 Valley Brook Road
McMurray, PA 15317

For information call: 1-800-488-1890



Available from the NSSHM Gift Shop while supplies last!

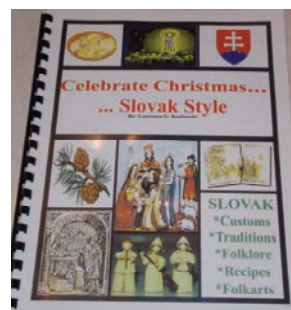


OPLATKY:

Package of 5 **large** wafers \$4.00

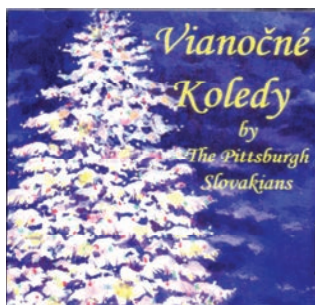
Small wafer with Christmas Blessing ideal for placing inside Christmas cards. Available in **English OR Slovak.**

Please specify. \$2.00 ea.



Christmas Slovak Style: Remembering the Priceless Treasures of Christmases Past and an Inspiration for Christmases of the Future

\$12 (includes postage and handling)



Slovak Christmas CD
Sung and produced by the Pittsburgh Slovaks. Features 14 traditional carols. \$17.00



EXCLUSIVE! Slovak Christmas CD

Sung and produced by the Carmelite Fathers in Lorinčik, Slovakia. Features 21 traditional carols. **Limited Supply Available \$17.00**



Make checks payable and mail to:
NSS Heritage Museum 351 Valley Brook Rd. McMurray, PA 15317



THE NSS HERITAGE MUSEUM PRESENTS Septemberfest



Editor Lori Crowley with Susie and Annie Ondrejco preparing food



Martin Meyer providing loom weaving instruction and violin music



Rick Toth & Judy Landa



Dave Dayton with woodcarving



Attendees learning about Slovakian culture in Heritage Museum



NSS home office staff volunteering aid during Septemberfest



Director Andrea Garbon and Monica Boone selling Slovakian goods



Chris Katricak, Annette Stefka & Kathleen Moore selling desserts



Director Mike Czarney and President Joseph Stefka, Jr. highlighting the list of this year's sponsors for Septemberfest

THE NSS HERITAGE MUSEUM PRESENTS
Septemberfest
SEPTEMBER 24TH, 2022

TENT SPONSOR
AGS, Asset Management LLC

ENTERTAINMENT SPONSOR
HOR CPA

PLATINUM SPONSOR
NSS Life National Slovak Society of the USA

GOLD SPONSORS
John & Tom Elmer
Drew & Sharon Wronka
NSS Region 6, Pittsburgh, PA
NSS Assembly L102, Whitehall, PA
NSS Assembly 0542, Lorain, OH
NSS Assembly 0588, Avela, PA

SILVER SPONSORS
NSS Assembly 0205, Uniontown, PA
NSS Assembly 0225, Uniontown, PA
NSS Assembly L165, Pittsburgh, PA
NSS Assembly 0442, West Mifflin, PA
NSS Assembly 0733, Lewisville, OH
NSS Assembly 0732, North Huntingdon, PA



Youth attendees trying to win a prize at the youth games section



Youth attendee receiving a feline face paint design



Joseph Palko greeting attendees with Septemberfest info flyers



Giggles the Clown entertaining with balloon animal creations



Members of the Payerchin family and John Karkosiak at the event



Director Keith and Elaine Kucherawy next to painted pumpkins



Attendees in line waiting to purchase fresh made Slovak meals



Director Sue Ondrejco and Eric Riepole portioning out meals

**MORE SCENES FROM THIS YEAR'S
SEPTEMBERFEST TO BE INCLUDED IN THE
DECEMBER ISSUE OF THE *NATIONAL NEWS***



Youth members waiting to get their faces painted



Sales Director Greg Felton and home office agent Joe Elliott



Alena Payerchin and Bella Bernardo volunteering at the youth games



Youth attendees practicing axe throwing technique



Johnny Koenig, Gary Pernisek & Ed Makowski played Polka music



Attendees enjoying a musical interlude before dance performance



Youth Pittsburgh Slovakian dance members performing

Pittsburgh Slovaks dance troupe performance

November

November je mesiac, ktorý nám pripomína, aby sme boli vďační za množstvo pozitívnych vecí, ktoré sa nám v živote dejú. Napríklad:

Aj keď som schúlený v posteli a odkladám vstávanie, ďakujem ti, Pane, že mám silu vstať. Je veľa takých, ktorí sú pripútaní na lôžko.

Aj keď mám oči zatvorené pred ranným svetlom tak dlho, ako je to možné, ďakujem, Pane, že vidím. Mnohí sú slepí.

Aj keď náš raňajkový stôl nikdy nevyzerá ako obrázky v časopisoch a jedálny lístok je občas nevyvážený, ďakujeme Pane za jedlo, ktoré máme. Vo svete je veľa tých, ktorí hladujú.

Aj keď som niekedy podráždený, moje deti sú hlučné, ďakujem Ti, Pane, za moju rodinu. Je veľa takých, ktorí sú osamelí.

Aj keď je moja práca často monotónna, ďakujem ti, Pane, za príležitosť pracovať. Je veľa takých, ktorí prácu nemajú.

Aj keď zo dňa na deň často reptáme a nariekame nad svojím osudom, ďakujeme Ti, Pane, za dar života – a buďme vďační za to, kým sme.

Ďakujem Ti, Pane, aj za bohaté spomienky na tých, ktorí žili pred nami a požehnali nás dedičstvom rodiny a viery.

Máme veľa darov, za ktoré by sme mali byť na Deň vďakyvzdania vďační.



Pre nebo nezaväži to, čo človek má, ale čo človek dáva. Chudobní sú preto našim "pasom do raja".

—Papež František

Listy na stromoch sa už zmenili do krásnych farieb a väčšina z nich spadla na zem. Vo vzduchu je cítiť chlad, vtáčiky sú pri krmidlách a veveričky utekajú s lícami plnými orieškov. November je tiež časom, kedy si pripomínáme dary, z ktorých máme radosť – poklady v podobe priateľov, rodiny, zdravia a domova.

Nečakajte do štvrtého novembrového štvrtku, aby ste si posedeli s rodinou a priateľmi. Urobte z každého dňa Deň vďakyvzdania!

**Želame všetkým našim čitateľom
radosťný deň vďakyvzdania.**

Pamiatka zosnulých (2. november)

Na tento deň pripadá na Slovensku tradičný novembrový zvyk návštevy cintorínov, ozdobovania hrobov, pálenia sviečok a spomienok na zosnulých rodinných príslušníkov a známych.



Návšteva cintorínov na Všetkých svätých patrí k najstabilnejším tradičným prejavom všetkých vrstiev spoločnosti.

V 8. storočí určil pápež Gregor IV. sviatok Všetkých svätých na 1. november, ktorý mal byť spomienkou na známych kresťanských svätcov. Tento zvyk sa postupne rozšíril a v kalendári sa zakotvil 2. november ako Pamiatka zosnulých (Dušičky).

Zimné obdobie - Bátovce, Nitriansky kraj

Zimné obdobie, tak ako všade na dedine, je obdobím oddychu od prác na poli a v záhrade. Ale aj toto obdobie má svoje čaro. Muži chodili do hory pripravovať drevo na kúrenie a opravovali si svoje pracovné náradie, aby bolo pripravené, keď ho bude treba vziať na jar do ruky. Ženám zas pripadalo popárat perie, priať konope a utkať plátno.



Páranie peria

Gazdiná, ktorá mala menej peria, si ho popárala sama. Mala na to čas počas celej zimy.

Tam, kde bolo peria viac, volali sa *páračky*. Gazdiná si ich chodila pozývať sama. Páralo sa večer, keď už bol dobytok nakrmený. Pri páraní sa všeličo pospomínalo aj poklebetilo. Počas párania sa nemohlo nič jesť, aby sa do peria nedostala nijaká omrvinka, lebo by perie mohlo *zmoľaviť*. Po skončení, asi okolo desiatej hodiny večer, domáca páračka pohostila koláčmi – *materákmí*, a tiež čajom, kávou alebo vareným vínom. Čím viac bolo páračiek, tým skôr sa perie popáralo a išlo sa pomôcť párať ďalšej gazdinej. Kde sa na páračky zišlo viac dievčenic, tam nechýbali ani chlapi, ktorí veľakrát gazdovi narobili zle alebo mu odniesli nejaký pracovný nástroj alebo ho z *padláša*, keď vchádzal do vnútra, obliali vodou. Neraz gazdinej pri šantení i rozfúkali perie alebo hodili vrabca do peria.





Youth Circle Page

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

2022 Christmas Ornament Contest Deadline: December 1st, 2022

Now is the time to start thinking and making your Christmas Ornament. Get out your glue guns and glitter and create a winning ornament today!

The rules are as follows:

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

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

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

Thanksgiving Word Search

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

TURKEY	BLESSED	PARADE	CORNUCOPIA
STUFFING	FEAST	GRAVY	PIE
PILGRIM	FAMILY	PUMPKIN	NOVEMBER
GRATEFUL	FOOTBALL	ROLLS	THANKS

Thanksgiving Day Jokes

1. What's a running turkey called?
Fast food.
2. Who should you invite to your Friendsgiving?
Your close group of Palgrims.
3. Why did the turkey bring a microphone to dinner?
He was ready for a roast.
4. Why did Mom's turkey seasoning taste a little off last year?
She ran out of thyme.
5. What's one thing that you'll have in common with a teddy bear on Thanksgiving?
You'll both be filled with stuffing.
6. The day after the holiday, what did the fridge say when it was asked, "Is everything alright over here?"
"No, everything is all leftover here!"
7. Why did the turkey cross the road twice?
To prove he wasn't a chicken.
8. What did the salad say to the butter who kept making jokes?
You're on a roll.

NSS Heritage Museum's

Christmas Around the World

Saturday, November 26, 2022 • NSS Life Home Office

