



NSS Life
Family Matters...

Národné Noviny

Providing Fraternal Life Insurance Since 1890 | NATIONAL NEWS | JUNE 2023 | NUMBER 3578 | VOLUME 115



2023 NSS National Golf Tournament
Kensington Golf Club, Canfield, OH • July 14-16, 2023

See Pages 8-11



F.S.G.P. Banquet for 2023
Fraternalist of the Year
President Joseph Stefka, Jr.

See Page 12-13



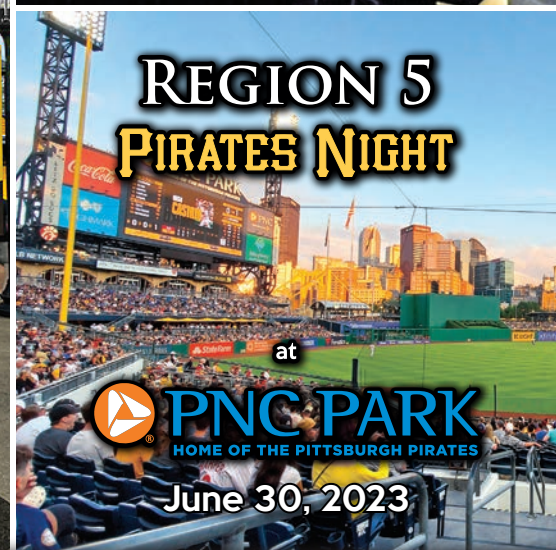
2023 NSS
Fraternalist of the Year &
Youth Achievement Award

See Page 14



Centennial Celebration of Western Pennsylvania Slovak Day
Kennywood Amusement Park, West Mifflin, PA • July 20, 2023

See Page 19



REGION 5
PIRATES NIGHT

at
PNC PARK
HOME OF THE PITTSBURGH PIRATES

June 30, 2023



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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McMurray, PA 15317-3337

Deadline: 5th of preceding month

NSS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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FSWFE merged with NSS in 1997

Inside this Issue...

Assembly Activities

Activities at a Glance..... 3

From the Executive Officers

The President's Page..... 4

Secretary/Treasurer's Column..... 5

NSS Financial Matters

Annuity Interest Rates..... 6

NSS Sales Department

Recommender/Change of Address Form..... 2

National Sales Director..... 7

NSS News & Activities

Fraternal Activities Director..... 8

Mill Creek Metro Park Trolley Tour..... 8

National Golf Tournament..... 9

Golf Tournament Rules..... 10

Golf Tournament Application..... 11

2023 FSGP FotY Banquet Photos..... 12-13

NSS Fraternalist of the Year Winner..... 14

Youth Achievement Award Winner..... 14

Assembly Meetings..... 16-18

Assembly Activities..... 19

PVR Scholarship Donations..... 20

Departed Members..... 20-21

Youth Circle Page..... 23

Národné Noviny

Jánske Ohne..... 22

Deň Otcov..... 22

Gratulujeme..... 22

100 Slovenský deň Západnej Pennsylvanie... 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

July 19
August 6
August 17
August 19
October 14

Assembly 0617, Meeting, Angelo's Restaurant, Midway Shopping Center at 1:00 pm
Assembly L075, Fraternal summer picnic, Mercateli-Segilia Park, Moosic, PA (TBA)
Assembly 0617, Fraternal Day, Knoebels Park
Assembly 0617, Meeting, Avenue Diner, Wyoming, 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

June 3
June 11
June 17
June 25
June 25
June 30
July 19
July 20
August 6
September 10
September 18
September 22-24
October 29
November 13
December 2
December 3
December 16

Assembly 0161, Meeting, Jodi B's Restaurant, Forest Hills, PA at 11:00 am
Assembly 0039, Summer Bar-B-Q & Flag Day, Columbia Association Event Center at 1:00 pm
Assembly 0731, Matching Funds Flea Market, Prince of Peace Church, Poland, OH from 10-3
Assembly 0377, Meeting/Picnic, Richardsons Park, Bentleyville, PA at 3:00 pm
Assembly 0123, The Play That Goes Wrong, Lincoln Park, Midland, PA at 2:00 pm
Region 5, Pirates Night, Pirates Game, PNC Park
Assembly 0731, Pirates-Guardians baseball game, PNC Park at 12:30 pm
Slovak Day, Kennywood Park, West Mifflin, PA
Assembly 0377, Gateway Clipper Cruise, Pittsburgh, PA 6:30-8:30 pm
Assembly 0039, Remembering Flight 93, Bob Evans Restaurant, Uniontown, PA at 6:00 pm
Assembly 0588, Meeting, Stefka residence, Gibsonia, PA at 5:30 pm
Assembly 0731, Family Camping Weekend, Rogers, OH
Assembly 0377, Meeting, Sesame Inn, McMurray, PA at 3:00 pm
Assembly 0588, Meeting, Stefka residence, Gibsonia, PA at 5:30 pm
Assembly 0039, Christmas Party, Columbia Association Event Center at 2:00 pm
Assembly 0377, Meeting, Hugo's Restaurant, West Brownsville, PA at 3:00 pm
Assembly 0731, Christmas Party, Lariccia Center Rotary Room, Boardman, OH

REGION 8

Assemblies 0004, 0070, 0160, 0432, 0595

June 11

Assembly 0070, Meeting/Picnic, Dr. Martin Luther Church, Brooklyn, OH at 11:30 am

REGION 14

Assemblies R059, L102

June 19

Assembly L102, Matching Funds Golf Tournament for Fellowship Manor

AT LARGE

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

June 8
June 9-11
June 25
August 20
October 22
December 17

Assembly 0586, Meeting, Chicago Waffles, Willowbrook, IL at 11:00 am
Assembly 0110, Bi-Annual Outing, Woodloch Pines, Hawley, PA
Assembly 0705, Meeting at the Buck residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm
Assembly 0705, Meeting at the Buck residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm
Assembly 0705, Meeting at the Buck residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm
Assembly 0705, Christmas Party (Fraternal Fund Activity) TBA



July 14-16

57th Annual National Golf Tournament, Kennington Golf Club, Canfield, OH

The President's Page...

Joseph Stefka, Jr., FIC, President, CEO

Email: jstefka@nsslife.org



The month of June is a busy month for assemblies and regions with several holding meetings or activities. Assemblies holding meetings include Assembly 161 on June 3rd, Assembly 70 on June 11th, Assembly 377, and Assembly 705 on June 25th. The following are holding an activity during the month: Assembly 039 will hold a Summer Bar-B-Q and Flag Day Celebration on June 11th, Assembly 070 will hold a picnic on June 11th, Assembly 731 will hold a Matching Funds Flea Market on June 17th, Assembly 102 will hold a Matching Funds Golf Tournament on June 19th, Assembly 123 will attend a play on June 25th, Assembly 377 will hold a picnic on June 25th, and Region #5 will hold a Fraternal Night at PNC Park on June 30th. Please try to attend the meetings of your assembly and region and take part in the activities and events that they sponsor.

On June 14th we celebrate Flag Day. Flag Day is held in celebration of the adoption of the flag of the United States of America on June 14, 1777, by the Second Continental Congress. The National observance of Flag Day was approved by Congress in 1949 under the leadership of President Truman. Please be sure to display your flag to honor the United States of America on this holiday. Pennsylvania remains the only state that recognizes Flag Day as a legal holiday.

Father's Day is celebrated on Sunday, June 18th this year. The day is established to honor all fathers. Please remember all the cherished times spent with your father and honor him for all that he has done for you. It

also gives us an opportunity to pause and remember the fathers that are no longer with us. Please make the day special for your father and spend time together. As we say in our marketing slogan at NSS – “*where Family Matters!*”. It really does!!

The deadline for submitting entries for the 57th Annual NSS National Golf Tournament is Friday, June 23rd. The deadline for hotel reservations is Thursday, June 15th. Please be sure to submit your entry and to make your hotel reservations by the deadlines. The Courtyard by Marriott Hotel located at the course is busy with many events in the summer including weddings, and trying to get a reservation after the deadline for our block of rooms will most likely be difficult. A reminder to all assemblies and regions that hole sponsorships are available for \$100, with all proceeds benefiting the PVR Scholarship Fund. This not only aids the PVR Scholarship fund but also gives your Assembly or Region recognition and tracking points toward the Extra Effort Awards at the end of the year! Please be sure to submit your hole sponsorship on the golf entry form by the deadline of June 23rd. The NSS National Golf Tournament is an opportunity for a weekend of fun, golf, and fraternalism. Please plan to join us at Kensington Golf Club in Canfield, Ohio.

The National Golf Tournament is the largest single fundraiser for the PVR Scholarship annually. A goal to reach \$2,000,000 in the PVR Scholarship Fund over the next four years was a Convention recommendation. This would allow the PVR Fund to become sustainable and fund future scholarships based on the interest earned. Please plan to donate to the fund this year to help us reach our goal and help NSS college bound students with their education.

This writer would like to thank the Officers, Directors, Home Office Staff, Regions, Assemblies, Members, and business partners for the congratulatory ads placed in the Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh Fraternalist of the Year program booklet. Your kind words were greatly appreciated. Also, thank you to everyone that was able to attend the banquet and make the evening a very special event for me. I am proud

to represent the National Slovak Society as the Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh Fraternalist of the Year.

News of Narodniars

Happy Birthday wishes to Honorary Officer Justine Wesnak, Honorary Director Mary Jo Holker, Chairman of the Board Bob Katricak, Director Michael Czarney, Home Office Staff Member Jill Grover, George Jones, Logan Triebisch, David Jancisin, Beverly Arbore, Rich Somplatsky, Joe Palko, Blaze Farrell, Keith Chojnicki, and all others celebrating a birthday in June.

Happy Wedding Anniversary Wishes go out to Shannon and Edwin Woods and all others celebrating anniversaries during the month of June.

Father's Day June 18th

*You may have thought
I didn't see,
or that I haven't heard,
Life lessons you taught me,
but I got everyword.
Perhaps you thought
I missed it all,
and that we'd grow apart,
But Dad, I picked up everything,
it's written on my heart.
Without you Dad,
I wouldn't be the woman
I am today;
You built a strong foundation,
no one can take away,
I've grown up with your values,
and I'm very glad I did.
I Love You Dad*



A Page From My Notebook...

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



May 2023 Strategic Plan

First I'd like to thank Jason Bordui and Vicki Sutter for excellence in facilitating our planning sessions. The outcome of our discussions resulted in a road map along with steps needed to achieve the goals outlined as critical to our growth for the next 4/5 years.



May 2023 AFA American Fraternal Alliance Spring Symposium

The AFA American Fraternal Alliance Spring Symposium always presents speakers and topics that are relevant to today's issues. It is an educational event as well as an excellent networking opportunity for fraternal leaders, the consultant firms that support them and vendors who provide solutions to business needs. Thank you to AFA CEO Allison Koppel and the staff of the American Fraternal Alliance for this educational opportunity.



Surviving MAY

May was an extremely busy month. It began with my Birthday on the 3rd (HAHA) followed by a meeting of the Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh on the 4th. On the 5th it was off to Oglebay, WV for three (3) days of discussions to develop our Strategic Plan for the next 5 years; then back home just in time to empty suitcases and go off to Chicago, IL for the American Fraternal Alliance Spring Symposium. Then there was Mother's Day followed by Joint Bowling in Cheektowaga, NY. And in the middle of all that I needed to keep my office moving forward and meet deadlines.

Upcoming Opportunities

The "funest" event coming up in July is Slovak Day at Kennywood Park. We always volunteer for this great event helping serve the homemade Slovak food for all who attend. The ladies that cook this food must be exhausted when the day is done and I'm sure the preparation begins days ahead of the event. Kennywood has improved the park by making itself even better with the addition of new rides, food places and more security so we can all feel safe as we have fun.

Well Wishes

I'd like to take this time to send well wishes to a special friend and member of the NSS. His name is Mike Alexander and he is the mastermind behind our advertising program. However currently he is dealing with a very painful case of the Shingles and asks everyone to get the Shingles shot as soon as possible. Mike, you are in our prayers. I hope you are feeling better soon.

The NSS Newsletter

I receive emails which come through our website for those that want to contact someone with questions they have about products, events, the Heritage Museum, etc. The Magazine also contains information that is of interest to our members. It contains product information, current rates, upcoming activities, articles about our assembly activities and articles highlighting our members as they help others in their communities. And every quarter there is a special section just for kids. It reminds me of the Highlight Magazine I used to read each time we visited a doctor's office. That was the only good thing about going to the doctor. I'd noticed lately that we have received emails from our members stating that they no longer wish to receive the newsletter. I'm hoping that it is because they can get it off of our website also (nsslife.org) and not that they do not want to read it. The magazine does contain information that is important to your investment. Each month there is information about current rates, new products, what is on the agenda here at the Home Office, recipes, highlights of our youth, Scholarship recipients, etc. Give it one more chance before you cancel. It is well worth the read.

Current Interest Rates

★ Effective April 1, 2023 ★

Optimum 3 - 4.25%

Preferred 5 - 4.00%

New Preferred 8 - 6.00%* (For First Year Only)

*Current projected renewal rate of 4.25% for Preferred 8 (Preferred 7 and Flex earning 4.25%, 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



New Math - When does \$50 Equal \$50,000?

Have you ever helped your child or grandchild with their math homework? Have you noticed that after the fourth grade you must refer them to someone else, a tutor, or a teacher. The new math procedures are different.

The question is when does \$50 equal \$50,000? No misprint here. The answer is simple. A \$50 annual payment buys \$50,000 of life insurance protection for a young person between the ages of 0 to 22. This is a great buy!

We offer this insurance because usually nothing happens to these young people. But believe it or not sometimes bad things do happen. Accidents, drugs, and suicide are the three most common causes of death among young people.

Our plan provides some financial protection for families. The proceeds of any life insurance plan may be used to pay off college costs, auto loans, credit cards and final expenses.

Most young people qualify for this plan because they are healthy, and not working in risky occupations. Applying is simple. A few other important points about this plan. One, payments are made to age 25 but the coverage continues to age 30. We call this a fraternal benefit but no matter what there are five years of free coverage. The other important point is more important. This term plan is convertible to any permanent plan. The insurability of the young person is protected to some extent with this feature. Also, one of the requirements for our scholarship

program is two years of membership and at least a \$10,000 permanent plan of insurance. This term plan counts towards the two years.

Some Fun Facts About Social Security

Most Americans are covered under the Social Security Administration (SSA.) Here are some facts about this fantastic program.

- A person does not have to be retired to receive benefits. While this is the largest group receiving benefits, (74%) other payees include disabled (13%), Survivors (9%) and children and ex-spouses (4%).
- To be fully covered a person must have 40 quarters of coverage. This is ten years of working and earning a required minimum amount.
- In 2023, the average check was \$1,782. The amount a person receives is based on their highest 35 years of earnings.
- An eligible retiree could start collecting at age 62. This would result in a 30% reduction compared to the normal retirement age amount set at age 67. Every month a person waits beyond age 62 increases their monthly amount.
- At age 67, or full retirement a person can continue to wait on their SSA until age 70. Each year waiting will increase your monthly check by 8%. There are no further increases after age 70 so do not wait beyond that age.
- The SSA allows for a do over too. If you are receiving payments for less than one year and change your mind, you can return all the money and restart later.
- Widows may start to collect benefits at age 60. An ex-spouse may collect on their former spouse if they were married at least ten years and currently not remarried. The ex-spouse will never know that you are receiving benefits.
- Cost of living increases (COLAs) help social security recipients with inflation.
- **It doesn't take a lot of income for your Social Security benefits to be taxed.** Your benefits won't be taxed if your provisional income is less than \$25,000 if you're single or \$32,000 if you're married. If you're single and your provisional income is between \$25,000 and \$34,000, or married filing jointly with provisional income between \$32,000 and \$44,000, up to 50% of your Social Security benefits may be taxable. If your provisional income is more than \$34,000 on a single return or \$44,000 on a joint return, up to 85% of your benefits may be taxable.

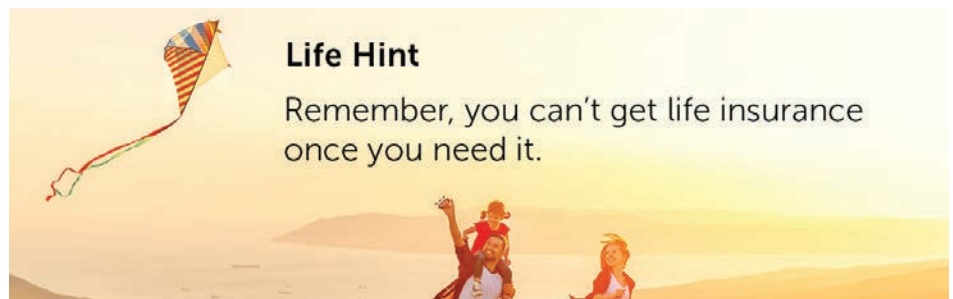
The Social Security Administration says about 40% of beneficiaries pay taxes on their benefits. Since the thresholds aren't adjusted for inflation, the number of beneficiaries who pay taxes on Social Security benefits increases every year. The average Social Security check replaces about 39% of your pre-retirement income. Compared to other industrialized nations that ranks us as #28. The Scandinavian countries rank the highest with 70-80% replacement. Of course, their taxes are much higher than the United States.

Most planners recommend that a person wait as long as possible before starting their SSA. That fact and working longer and/or making more money are all methods to increase your monthly check. While not a perfect system, it is a great one covering millions of Americans.

Thought For The Month:

Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery. So today is the day – make the most of it!

Slovak proverb



Life Hint

Remember, you can't get life insurance once you need it.

Fraternal Matters...

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



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. Also, keep in mind that you must have maintained a 3.0 GPA to receive your next installment of the scholarship. Once we receive your transcript 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, 2023**.

100th Annual Slovak Day at Kennywood Park

The 100th Annual Slovak Day celebration at Kennywood Amusement Park in West Mifflin, PA is **July 20, 2023**. NSS home office staff will be aiding with selling and distributing meals including Slovak favorites haluski, pirohy, ceregi and more. See **page 19** later in this issue for further information on tickets, etc.

Saturday, July 15th Mill Creek Metro Park Trolley Tour during the 2023 National Golf Tournament

The Mill Creek Metro Park is a highlight of Mahoning County, Ohio. Mill Creek Park encompasses over 2,658 acres to provide recreational opportunities for hiking, biking, golfing, fishing, picnicking and family fun.

There is too much to see and do in the Park in one day, but **NSS** has arranged two relaxing 2-hour narrated tours through the park on the "Cohasset Express" Trolley on **Saturday, July 15, 2023** while the golfers are golfing. This is the best way to visit this amazing Park without the hassle of driving yourself.

Please return the registration form below and indicate your time preference. Registration will be on a **first-come, first-served basis** but we will try our best to accommodate your choice. This is a great event for both adults and children. The **morning trolley tour** will begin at **10:00 a.m.** at the Mill Creek Golf Course and will **return shortly after noon**. Lunch will be provided by **NSS**, and run from Noon until 1:00 p.m. The **afternoon tour** will run from **1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**



NSS Night at PNC Park

NSS Night at PNC Park has been scheduled for **Friday, June 30, 2023**, vs. the Milwaukee Brewers at 7:05 p.m. The tickets are \$41.00 but they are being subsidized in part by Region 5 and Assembly 774 so the final cost to our members will be \$20. They will have a \$10 food/merchandise concession added on to the ticket. There are a limited number of tickets available, so they will be on a first-come basis to Region 5 members only. Requests for tickets must be accompanied by your payment. Please make check payable to **NSS Life** and send to: **Pirate Night, 351 Valley Brook Rd, McMurray, PA 15317-3337**.

Sat. July 15th Mill Creek Metro Park Trolley Tour Registration Form

Morning Tour: 10:00 a.m. – Noon • Afternoon Tour: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Please complete and return this registration form to **Pam Blum** at the Home Office: **351 Valley Brook Rd. McMurray, PA 15317-3337**

Trolley Tour Registration Form Due Date: June 23, 2023

We apologize for prior confusion, registration priority will first be given to members accompanying participants in the Golf Tournament. Registrants for the Tour alone will then be accommodated on a **first-come, first-served basis**. In the unfortunate event registrants can't be accommodated by the available seating on the two Tour's we have booked, they will be contacted by the home office prior to the Golf Tournament.

Lunch will be provided by the NSS in between the Morning and Afternoon tours for all registered attendees.

Names: _____

Total # of Attendees: _____ Preferred Time: (Morning or Afternoon) _____

Join us!

- **Larger Prize Payouts**
- **\$25 Discount** each day you golf!
- **Putting contest, Skill prizes, & skins**
- **1 day tournament Play -2nd Day Scramble**
- **Saturday Dinner Included in Registration fee for Golfers**
- **Guests Welcome**
- **All Proceeds Benefit the PVR Scholarship Fund**

For a Tee-Riffic time!
July 14-16, 2023
57th Annual NSS Tournament
Kennington Golf Club
Canfield, Ohio

Don't Golf? Link up with us for a Trolley Tour of Millcreek Park And Lunch



Annual NSS National Golf Tournament Scramble Rules

Sunday's play at the National Golf Tournament will be a Scramble using the following rules:

1. Each team will consist of four players selected by the tournament director. Selection will be made based on handicap. All divisions will be merged for the scramble.
2. The number of teams will be equal to one fourth of the number of golfers. If the number of golfers is uneven, there will be some adjustment to allow everyone to play.
3. The method of selection will be as follows:
 - a. Beginning with the lowest handicap, Captains will be selected for each team.
 - b. The number two player for each team will be placed on team in reverse order.
(Lowest handicap will be on the last team selected in the first round.)
 - c. The number three player for each team will be selected in the same order as the Captains.
 - d. The number four player will be placed in the same order as the number two players.
 - e. The order of play within a team will be determined by the Captain.
4. On every par three hole, everyone will play his/her own ball and the total of the best two (2) scores will be entered on the card.
5. Prize money will be paid to one place for each four teams entered. (16 teams = 4 places paid, etc.) Total prize money will be \$10.00 per player plus NSS matching funds for each golfer entered.

Annual NSS National Golf Tournament

Men's and Women's Official Rules and Regulations

1. The tournament is open to all members and one time guests of the National Slovak Society and its Youth Circles. There must be at least four Youth golfers officially entered to have a youth class. To protect the amateur standing of these youth, no prize money will be collected from nor paid to them.
2. United States Golf Association (USGA) and host golf course rules will govern play, except the following:
 - Jungle Golf, improve lie within 12" except in hazards.
 - Lost Ball; play from area where ball was last seen and take 1 stroke penalty.
 - Out of Bounds; play from where ball goes out and take 1 stroke penalty.
 - Ball in Water Hazard; drop where ball went in and take 1 stroke penalty.
3. Handicaps will be determined as follows:
 - A. All male regular division golfers will play in three flights as determined by handicap. The golfer's first handicap will be determined after he/she has completed 54 holes of tournament play in the NSS National Golf Tournament unless golfer has a U.S.G.A. index from their home course. The golfer's handicap will be recalculated every year based on the golfer's best 54 holes in tournament play within the last five years. The handicap will be calculated on a 90% basis. The maximum handicap will be 40 strokes for 18 holes.
 - B. Any male golfer who has not completed 54 holes of tournament play in the NSS National Golf Tournament will be entered in the Callaway division using the NSS version of the Callaway scoring system, unless they have a U.S.G.A. index.
 - C. Senior Men's Division (65 and over) will also play using handicaps as determined above. There will be only one flight in the Senior Division unless the number of participants warrants 2 divisions. Forward tees will be used.
 - D. All female member golfers will compete with the handicap determined as above. The maximum handicap will be 40 strokes for 18 holes.
 - E. Any female golfer who has not completed 54 holes of play in the NSS National Golf tournament will be placed in the Callaway division.
4. Classifications:

A medal play champion will be determined for 18 holes in each of the following Divisions:*

1. Men's A flight	3. Men's C flight	5. Women's B flight	7. Callaway Flight
2. Men's B flight	4. Women's A flight	6. Senior flight (age 65 and above)	

*Flight handicaps will be determined by number of entries and their handicaps.
Champion's for each flight will receive an NSS Jacket, and Prize money. Prize money will depend on the number of participants in each flight.
5. In case of a tie for first place in any flight, a sudden death playoff will be used starting on a hole acceptable to the golf course management. If weather or darkness does not permit an actual playoff, a match of cards will be used starting with the number 1 handicap hole and proceeding with number 2, 3, 4, etc. until the tie is broken.
6. All other ties will split the applicable prize money. (e.g., two people tied for second will split second and third prize money. Three people tied for second would split second, third and fourth place prize money.)
7. The prize list will be determined by the tournament manager using the money contributed by the contestants and matching money contributed by the NSS for all golfers. As nearly as possible, there will be one prize for each four entries.
8. The tournament manager will schedule tee times and pairings.
9. The Joseph Stefka, Sr. Memorial plaque will be awarded to the men's low net winner of the 18 hole tournament. In case of a tie, the lower handicap will be the winner.
10. Golfers with long distances to travel will be given some preferential treatment for Sunday tee times, providing that the scheduling will not disrupt the efficiency of the tournament.
11. ENTRIES WILL CLOSE – **JUNE 23, 2023**

Please return the entry form on the following page to Pam Blum in the Fraternal Department at the Home Office.

Kennsington Golf Course
4171 Westford PI
Canfield OH 44406
330-533-8733

Room accommodations provided by
Courtyard by Marriott
4173 Westford PI
Canfield OH 44406
330-533-6880

Please mention NSS to receive the discounted rate
Room Rates: \$139.00 + tax per night
Deadline for Hotel Reservations is June 15, 2023

National Slovak Society

57th Annual Golf Tournament

July 14 – 16, 2023

Hospitality Night Friday 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Kennsington Golf Simulator Lounge

	Name	Address	Phone	E-mail	Assembly
1					
2					
3					
4					

GOLFERS: Please choose ALL that apply & indicate number participating

- ___ Saturday only Competition - \$40.00 (Includes \$25 discount)
- ___ Saturday and Sunday Competition - \$80.00 (Includes \$25 discount Sat/Sun)
(Sunday will be a scramble)
- ___ Skins (Saturday Only) - \$5.00 (Optional)
- ___ Par 3 Challenge \$10.00 (Optional)
- ___ Senior Flight Men 65+ (Optional)
- ___ Will attend Friday Hospitality Night (Kennsington Golf Simulator Lounge)
- ___ Will attend Saturday Dinner (list dinner attendees)

1. _____ 3. _____
2. _____ 4. _____

Deadline is **June 23, 2023**

Please make checks payable to: **NSS Life**

NSS Life
Attn: Pam Blum
351 Valley Brook Road
McMurray, PA 15317

NON-GOLFERS:

Please Choose ALL that apply & indicate number attending

- ___ Adult Guest Dinners @ \$30.00 (Golfers meal included in entry fee)
- ___ Youth (13-17) Guest Dinners @ \$20.00
- ___ Child (12 & under) FREE
- ___ Will attend Friday Hospitality Night

___ Hole Sponsor @ \$100 per hole

Name for sign: _____

\$ _____ **TOTAL INCLUDED WITH THIS FORM**

Friday Practice Tee Times Available at 12:00 p.m.
Call the Pro Shop at 330-533-8733 (ext. 3)

Joseph Stefka, Jr. 2023 Fraternalist of the Year Banquet



resident Joseph Stefka, Jr. was recently honored at a banquet for the Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh celebrating his selection as the 2023 FSGP Fraternalist of the Year. He was selected among many other reasons for his significant contributions to the fraternal spirit in his community and through his many career accomplishments.

Joe has enjoyed a career of more than 35 years in education, serving as a teacher, counselor, building level administrator, central office administrator and a superintendent of schools. As a lifelong member of the National Slovak Society of the USA (NSS Life), Joe has served in various capacities within the society and most recently was elected to serve as the society's 17th President in 2020. In addition to his service to NSS, Joe has served on the board and as President of the Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh, the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance and is currently serving as President of the New Jersey - New York Fraternal Alliance. He recently served as a co-chair of the Executive Summit of the American Fraternal Alliance in Washington, D.C. and if that wasn't enough to keep him busy, Joe and his wife of 46 years, Annette, have one daughter and four grandchildren for whom they are very thankful.

We would like to again celebrate and thank President, Joseph Stefka, Jr. for all of his many contributions to the NSS and the fraternal community at large now and hopefully for years to come. Thank you and congratulations!



The NSS Board of Directors in attendance for Joe's ceremony



Linda Strom reading a list of humorous stories relating to Joe



Ashley Bernardo's speech giving thanks for her father's efforts



2022 FSGP Fraternalist of the Year recipient Joann Blackwell presenting Joe with his plaque for the 2023 award

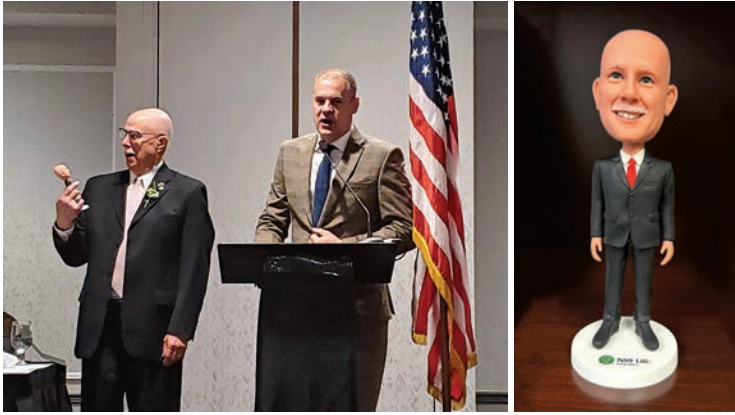


Joe giving his acceptance speech



Bob Katricak presenting Joe with a vacation gift from the NSS

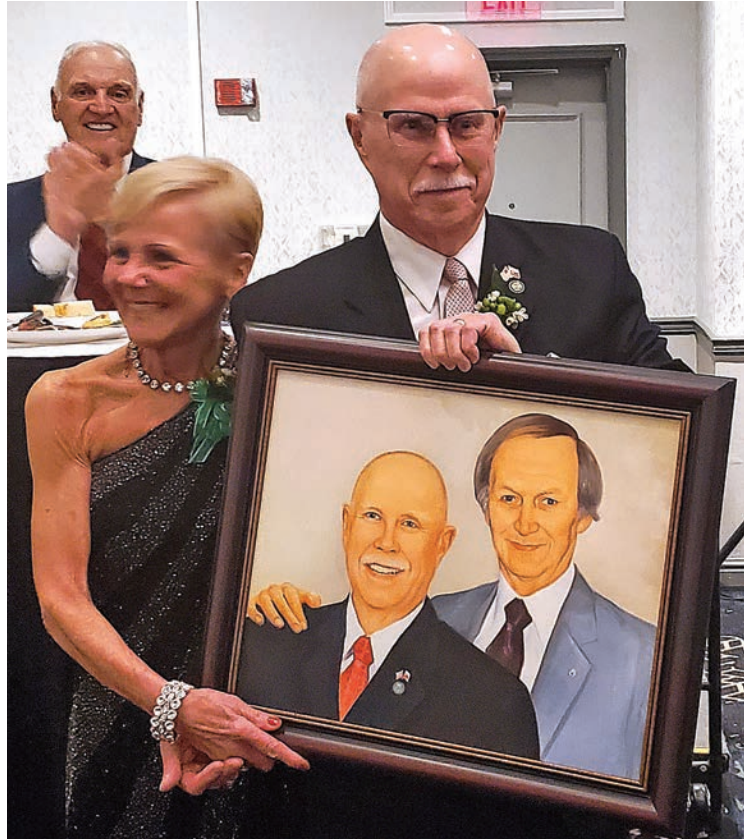
Joseph Stefka, Jr. 2023 Fraternalist of the Year Banquet



Joe was also gifted an amusing NSS themed bobble-head of himself



Themed cakes designed by Kristin Gasparovic



Finally, Joe was presented with a gift painting commissioned of himself standing with his late father, Joseph Stefka, Sr.



Front Row (L-R): Adalyn Bernardo, Caroline Bernardo, Middle Row (L-R): Alexa Triebisch, Annette Stefka, Bella Bernardo, Carson Bernardo, Ashley Bernardo, Patty Graham, Cyndy Triebisch, Logan Triebisch, Back Row (L-R): Joseph Stefka, Jr., Brett Bernardo, Nick Mavromatis, and Bob Triebisch.

2023 Fraternalist of the Year Marlin Ann Petro-Wesnak



I, Lehrae Ann Edwards, Secretary/Treasurer of Assembly L075 on behalf of our assembly would like to nominate Marlin Ann Petro-Wesnak of Moosic, PA as the Fraternalist of the Year 2023.

Marlin has been a member of the First Slovak Wreath of the Free Eagle and NSS for many years. An active member of NSS Assembly L075 Duryea, PA where she served as Hospitality Youth Director for the past 30 years. She is also the current

President of Region 2 Hazelton PA.

While she began as a member with the FSWFE: she was the youth candidate from Assembly L075 chosen to represent us at the Youth Conference in Austria, Switzerland, Italy, and Slovakia in 1988. She has been a delegate at many FSWFE and NSS conventions. She is active in all our fraternal fund raisers, meetings and extra-curricular activities of the Assembly and Region. She oversees the Facebook pages for both the Assembly and Region.

She has been the advocate from Assembly L075 and Region 2 for the St. Cats and Dogs Animal Shelter and the ASPCA for the past 10 years and has been in charge of the matching funds program for both of these organizations.

A graduate of Riverside High School Taylor, PA and the Keystone College in LaPlume, PA where she received her BS teaching degree majoring in Education. She has been a teacher at the ACENEPA Head Start Program for the past 37 years. She has overseen the Blessings in a backpack program with NSS for the youth of her Head Start with Co Chairman Lucy Piccoletti, Vice President of Assembly L075 for the past few years.

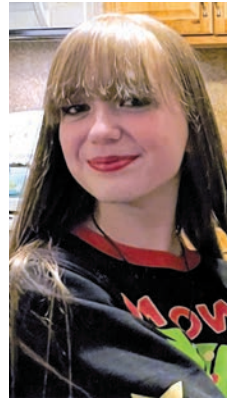
She served as the Girl Scout Junior leader for several years while her 2 daughters: Samantha and Madison; were involved with the Troop from Greenwood and was a "Dance Mom" while the girls performed with Illusions Dance Studios of Old Forge for many years. She was active (prior to Covid) with the Wilkes Barre VA assisting each year with the annual Veterans Day pizza party and bingo and looks forward to returning this year as a volunteer and she was a member of Duryea American Legion Auxiliary Unit 585.

She attends the Join Hands Day with the Pittston Meals on Wheels and Postal Workers food drive for many years and assisted with the St. Frances of Assisi Kitchen in Scranton as we were the Host for a day for '22 and '23.

She is a board member of the Mercateli-Segilia Playground Committee for the past 20 years where she oversees the fund raising and development of programs for the park. She has been a member of the Topsy Turtlettes Red Hats for many years and is the Social Director for the group planning activities and overseeing the Facebook page. She is a social member of the Waldorf Park Association.

It gives our Assembly officers and members the great pleasure of nominating Marlin Ann Petro-Wesnak for this prestigious award along with the endorsement of the members and officers of Region 2.

2023 Youth Achievement Award Winner Allie Lazar



I would like to nominate one of our Assembly 75 youth members: Allie Pearl Lazar of Duryea, Pa for the NSS Life Youth Achievement Award.

Allie Lazar is the daughter of Karen Richardson and Adam Edwards of Assembly 75 Duryea and has been a member since 2012 after moving with her family to Pennsylvania. She is a 10th grade student at Pittston Area High School in Yatesville where she is an "Honor" Student after overcoming Dyslexia in grade school with the help

of her I. E. P. teachers.

She was a cheerleader for the Jr. Patriots football team for 2 years and in 2019 she won the Pat Slempa Coaches Award for an outstanding Cheerleader with the most spirit. She received 2 state competitions awards with the Jr. PATS.

She cheered for the varsity team for 1 year and the High School for 2 years. She has been in several state competitions and will head to Florida in February to attend the National Cheerleading Competition, after participating in several school fund raisers to help pay for her trip. She teaches at the PA Kiddie Kamp for elementary school girls in PA for the past 2 years; despite having been diagnosed with Scoliosis this past year and must wear a back brace to correct her spinal curve.

On the fraternal side she is very active with Assembly 75 participating in most of our fund-raising projects, she has helped at many join hands days for the Pittston Meals on Wheels and the Postal Workers food drive, helping at our summer picnic and all of our holiday parties. She was our youth Ambassador for the NSS Convention in Hershey, PA and has won many of the poetry, art and poetry contests.

She is an Honorary Pink Hat member of the Topsy Turtlettes Red Hats and helps at all our social parties. She was highly active with Duryea Boy Scout Troop 285 and Avoca Boy Scout Troop 316 while her brother Adam Lazar the 2021 Youth Achievement winner was an Eagle Scout there. She helped with swimming, parties, and fundraisers.

She has assisted our NSS members at the Wilkes Barre VA annual Veterans Day bingo and pizza party for the past several years. She also volunteers every summer at the W. B. V. A. with the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 585 Ice Cream truck days, their bimonthly bingos, Christmas gift shop and many holiday parties. She is hoping to attend the Keystone State Girls week in Shippensburg next summer with Unit 585 and Marywood College in the future.

When she's not busy with school and cheer; she enjoys baking and will make goodie boxes for her elderly neighbors and the special needs boy in her neighborhood.

It gives me great pleasure to nominate Allie Pearl Lazar on behalf of Assembly 75 members and officers along with the endorsement of Region 2 members and officers.



NSS Life Member Exclusive Offer!

Save up to **48% Off** Hearing Aids



Cost shouldn't be an obstacle to treating hearing loss. As a member of the **National Slovak Society**, you can enjoy significant discounts on hearing technology through Start Hearing.

At Start Hearing, we believe, and research shows, that hearing better improves your overall health and wellness. Our goal is to help you live your fullest life by offering some of the best hearing technology **at affordable costs**. And with research linking hearing loss to cognitive decline, diabetes, heart disease, dementia, risk of falling and more, affordable hearing aids are more important than ever.

Start Hearing is your complete resource for better hearing and offers support throughout the entire process



Hearing Health

- Annual hearing consultations
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Better Hearing

- Exclusive discounts up to 48% off on all Start Hearing hearing aid technologies and accessories
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Taking that important step and getting treatment for hearing loss with hearing aids is known to provide valuable benefits and improve quality of life. It's an easy step to take and often leaves the first-time hearing aid wearer asking, "why didn't I do this sooner?" Call today to learn more: **(888) 705-6920**.

Sincerely,

NSS Life & your Start Hearing Team



Contact your Start Hearing Hearing Care Advisor today to get your questions answered and to be connected with a network hearing professional in your area.

Call (888) 705-6920 or Visit www.starhearing.com/partners/NSS

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ASSEMBLY 0039 Uniontown, PA

Mark your calendars for our Summer Bar-B-Q on Sunday, **June 11th** starting at 1:00 pm. We will gather at the picnic pavilion of the Columbia Association (K of C) in Uniontown. We will be honoring "Old Glory" as we celebrate Flag Day. All who attend will receive an American flag. Bring a friend or two.

Our heartfelt sympathies go out to the families of Loretta Bozek, Dale Chaney, Mabel Hesson, Harry Riley and Olga Roman. May they rest in the arms of the Resurrected Christ.

Many of us are close enough to Kennywood Amusement Park to take advantage of the 100th Anniversary Celebration of Slovak Day. The festivities are held on Thursday, **July 20th**. Tickets are normally \$40.00, but because of our Region 5 and other fraternal groups, the price has been reduced to \$25.00. Our assembly youth members (16 & under) are eligible for a FREE FLEX TICKET that can be used all year!! Call the home office (724-731-0094) for more information. Region 5, to which our assembly belongs, will be hosting a trip to see the Pirates play the Milwaukee Brewers at PNC Park on Friday, June 30th. Region 5 is selling discount tickets for \$20.00. That **INCLUDES a \$10.00 FOOD VOUCHER!** Make your check payable to "NSS Life" and send it to the home office marked "Pirate Night". Deadline is June 5th.

Last month, our assembly partnered with the Women of the ELCA (WELCA) at Passavant Lutheran SeniorLife in Zelienople, PA in hosting a presentation, by our museum curator, Sue Ondrejco of our Slovak Heritage Museum.

Take time to remember Father's Day.

John Payerchin
President



ASSEMBLY 0070 Brooklyn, OH

A meeting and picnic will be held on **June 11, 2023** at Dr. Martin Luther Church, 4470 Ridge Road, Brooklyn, OH at 11:30 a.m. Please RSVP to John Karkosiak at 216-741-6990. Side dishes and desserts are appreciated.

John Karkosiak
Secretary/Treasurer

ASSEMBLY L075 Duryea, PA

The fraternal summer picnic will be held on **August 6th** at the Mercateli Segilia Park, Birney Avenue, Moosic, PA. A meeting will be held on **October 14, 2023** at the Grandes at 1:00 p.m.

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

Lehrae Edwards
Treasurer

ASSEMBLY L102 Schnecksville, PA

On **June 19th**, our assembly L102 will do a matching funds golf tournament for Fellowship Manor.

Any questions, please call Sharon at 610-769-7006 or email: sharwes@ptd.net

Sharon Wesnak
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0110 New York, NY

A meeting will be held at our bi-annual outing at Woodloch Pines, Hawley, Pa. during the weekend of **June 9-11, 2023**. We look forward to seeing you.

Rich DSanctis
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0123 Coraopolis, PA

Summer has arrived so I hope you all enjoy the longer and hotter days.

Lately I have been reading that loneliness is on the rise in our society

and that's along with smoking and being overweight present a health risk. Well, let's do something about it. Do you know that June 8th is best friends' day? Well just give him or her a call or a visit. No best friends then try a neighbor or a shut in.

Since last month I gave a little history of Mother's Day let's do the same for fathers. Just like Mother's Day Father's Day was first celebrated in West Virginia. Grace Golden Clayton proposed a service be held July 5th 1908 in Fairmont, WV to honor all fathers especially after hundreds of men died in the worst mining accident in U.S. history. But it was actually Sonora Smart Dodd of Spokane, Washington who got the day nationally popularized. It was to honor her widowed father who raised six children. So on June 19, 1910 the first Father's Day event took place, from there it spread helped by the churches and YMCA. In 1972 Congress passed an act officially making Father's Day the third Sunday of June a national holiday.

Last chance if you want to attend the play "The Play that Goes Wrong" at Lincoln Park in Midland on **Sunday, June 25th** at 2:00 pm. I have talked to some people who have seen this play and they all say it is hilarious. You may laugh till you cry. Assembly members pay only \$10, non-members is \$20. Please call Jill Grover 412-638-7060 or myself at 724-242-5085. We have a limited number of tickets.

Maybe we will see many of our members at the Pirate game on Friday June 30th. This is a Region 5 event and there are also a limited number of tickets. Contact me or Pam Blum at the home office if you want to attend. Assembly 123 is subsidizing our members an additional \$10 toward the ticket price.

Are you interested in going to Kennywood on **July 20th** for the celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Slovak Day with many special events occurring? Prices have increased. Please see details in the magazine, but once again our assembly will pick up \$10 of the cost of the ticket whether event day or flex ticket. All member sixteen and under are free thanks to Region 5. Call me for tickets. Enjoy each day.

William Knoll
President

ASSEMBLY 0161 Pittsburgh, PA

An Assembly meeting will take place on Saturday, **June 3rd** at Jodie B's Restaurant, 2600 Ardmore Blvd in Forest Hills at 11:00 a.m. Lunch will be served. If you plan on attending please RSVP to Secretary Ondrejco via phone 412-421-1204 or email sue.ondrejco@gmail.com by Friday, May 26th.

Sue Ondrejco
Secretary/Treasurer

ASSEMBLY 0377 Bentleyville, PA

If you have any questions about our meetings or assembly, please call me at 724-207-3171 and please always RSVP one week in advance to better plan these events. You are welcome to bring a guest to a meeting one time and we will make sure they know all the advantages of being a member of the NSS! We are proud of our Assembly and organization as a whole and want others to enjoy it as we do! Below are all of the meetings for 2023. We look forward to a great year filled with fun and fraternalism.

Sunday, August 6th or 13th: TBD
Gateway Clipper Cruise Pittsburgh Pa at 3:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 29th:
Sesame Inn, 2975 Washington Road, McMurray, Pa at 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 3rd:
Hugo's Restaurant, 687 National Pike, West Brownsville, Pa at 3:00 p.m.

Suzanne Skrypak
President

ASSEMBLY 0432 Fairview Park, OH

A meeting will be held on Tuesday, **June 6, 2023** at Pytel's residence, at 7:00 p.m.

We will be holding a new event on **June 10, 2023** at *Sweeties Golfland* (Cleveland). Mini golf fun for the family and friends at 3:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served afterwards. Please contact Dave Pytel at 440-759-4558; Bill Shuttleworth at 440-465-6024; or Terri Hudak at 440-714-8902 for tickets.

Limited tickets are available and we do expect a sellout! Call today!

DATE CHANGE - Assembly 432's "Night at the Ballpark". We will be going to a Lake Erie Crushers game on **August 25th** at 7:05p.m. (Gates Open at 6:00 p.m.) Food will be included. Contact Dave Pytel at (440)759-4558, Bill Shuttleworth at (440) 465-6024, or Terri Hudak at (440)714-8902 for tickets.

We look forward to seeing you all.
Shawn Pytel
Publicity & Social Media

ASSEMBLY 0586 Chicago, IL

A meeting will be held on Thursday, **June 8, 2023** at Chicago Waffles, 10 S 642 Kingery Highway, Willowbrook, IL at 11:00 a.m.

Please try to join us.

Irene Tomaskovic
President

ASSEMBLY 0588 Avella, PA

A meeting will be held on **September 18th** at Joe & Annette Stefka's, 5007 Old Orchard Lane, Gibsonsia, PA at 5:30 p.m.

Mark your calendars for our next meeting: **November 13th**. All meetings will be held at the Stefka's residence, Gibsonsia, PA.

If attending, please call Annette at 724-407-3591.

Annette Stefka
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0617 Ashley, PA

Assembly 617 recently held a business and social meeting on Wednesday April 19, 2023 at the Avenue Dinner in Wyoming. The Assembly discussed several projects such as the recently completed Back Mountain Trail litter clean up. The Assembly also plans a Basket Raffle for a Matching Project in August. This project will aid Father John Ostrowski a member of the Assembly with his work in El Salvador. An additional project which was discussed was the

Assembly's Fraternal Day which will be held on Thursday, **August 17, 2023** at Knoebels Park. Reservations for the Fraternal Day will close on August 9, 2023.

The next meeting of Assembly 617 will be held on **July 19, 2023** at Angelo's Restaurant Midway Shopping Center Wyoming beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Any member of the Assembly that wishes to donate a basket, or make a reservation for the next assembly meeting, or Fraternal Day please contact John Kurilla at 579-287-4162, 570-239-5936 - jjkurilla@aol.com

John Kurilla
President

ASSEMBLY 0731 Lowellville, OH

This month we have our **Community Garage Sale for Charities - June 17, 2023** - Poland Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 2985 Center Rd., Poland, OH, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Assembly 731 has made arrangements with the Church to use their parking lot for a community sale as a matching funds event. Space will be available for \$10 allowing people to sell their used items to raise money for their favorite charity. Money raised from the space rental will be a matching funds project to help fund an adult-size swing set for our local Township Park. Assembly members will also have spaces to sell their items. Our youth group will sell refreshments throughout the day.

Laurie Fox
President

ASSEMBLY 0813 Englewood, FL

"Backpacks for Kids" will be continued through **July 15th** and we hope to raise more than \$1000 through the Jubilee Center at St. David's Episcopal Church.

Mary Jo Holker, NSS and other long time volunteers Julie and Diane have promised to help this run smoothly. The backpacks are distributed to those children who are food insecure when school is not in session.

Mary Jo Holker
Secretary/Treasurer

Assembly 0004 Cleveland, Ohio

We wrapped up another year of bowling with the final results. On April 2nd we held our Scotch Doubles Tournament and pizza party. We had eleven couples take part and six couples finished in the money. The winning couple was a repeat winner of last year. Marilyn Genedick and Rich Durcansky won with a score of 627. After the pizza we did a bit of socializing and then called it a night.

Two weeks later we had a rolloff between Misfits and We B Tryin with the Misfits repeated as winners. The Misfits team members are Sonia Vorell, The Sir Louis' Stephanie, Alex, & Bob. The Singles Tournament was going on at the same time as the rolloff. Everyone won money with Lauren Hayek winning for the women with a series of 632. Alex Sir Louis repeated for the men with a series of 692 edging out Dale Ferrell who had 691. After the banquet a short meeting was held to discuss league business.

Thanks to Mike Cottrell and his staff for a delicious meal and Julie and Bud Sir Louis for taking care of the arrangements. Trophies were handed out for individual accomplishments on the lanes.

Our next event will be our Miniature Golf Tournament to be held in June at a place to be decided. If you are interested contact Bob or Bud Sir Louis at (440) 845-2616 for where, when, and directions.

Hope everyone has a great summer and most of all **STAY SAFE.**

Robert Sir Louis
League Secretary

News from Assembly L075



Our assembly members helped celebrate Secretary Lehrae Ann Edwards 70th Birthday with cupcakes and also Happy Birthday wishes were extended to National Director Drew Wesnak, Gary Collins and Fran Pintha.



New Hospitality Youth Director Patricia Gorgol had placemats made for our youth members for future activities.

Our assembly's Join Hands Day was held on Saturday, **May 13th** at the Meals on Wheels, Knights of Columbus building, 53 Main St. Pittston, PA from 12 - 6 p.m. to help the postal workers with their food drive.

High School students who are members of Assembly L075 and are college bound are reminded that the Margaret Pilosi Scholarship applications are due by **July 1st** to Lehrae Edwards.

Future meetings for the assembly will be the Fraternal summer picnic on **August 6, 2023** at the Mercateli-Segilia Park, Birney Ave Moosic and October 14th at 1:00 p.m. at Grandes Restaurant Birney Ave.

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

Assembly 377



Members of Assembly 377 attended our meeting on May 7th at Hoss's Restaurant.

Assembly 731 Easter Party

The Easter Bunny visited the kids during a pizza party and then paid a visit to one of our elderly members in a nursing home. Assembly 731 youth and adults enjoyed wonderful weather during Easter weekend with a nature hike through Daffodil meadow at Mill Creek Park in Youngstown, Ohio.



Mason Burns, Valerie, Jimmy & Evie Cessna, Walter Fox and Jake Shank loved that the Easter Bunny spent the afternoon with them.



Jack Gaither, Ben Gaither, Cameron Mason, Ashlynn Mason, Evie Cessna, Valerie Cessna, and Jimmy Cessna enjoyed their time at Daffodil Meadow.



The Easter Bunny at Christian House - Peggy Fox was among the residents at the Christian House Retirement & Assisted Living Home in East Palestine, Ohio to receive a stuffed animal from the Easter Bunny. Assembly 731 provided the Easter Bunny and a basket filled with Easter stuffed animals for the residents.

Lauren Fox
President

Assembly 813 Matching Funds Program

Kids Needs of Greater Englewood is a nonprofit organization run solely by volunteers and it was a pleasure for Assembly 813 to help them with a Matching Funds program .

Kids Needs collects donation and distributes them to local families. Donated items include school approved clothing, personal hygiene items, socks, shoes and underwear. Monetary donations are gratefully accepted and used to restock the inventory throughout the school year.

Rebecca deRosa, co-chair of the Board, says their slogan, "Neighbors helping neighbors," says it all. Lynn Mayville, dedicated volunteer, and Marcia Viewer, Board member, were happy that we raised \$875.00 for this wonderful charity. Mary Jo Holker, representing the NSS, was happy with the effort as well.

Backpacks for Kids is our next project. It is part of the Jubilee Ministry at St. David's Episcopal Church in Englewood and is progressing well.


Mary Jo Holker
Secretary/treasurer

The month of June is known as the time schools let out for the summer, and June 20, 21, or 22 (depending on year) is the longest day of the year with the most daylight hours in the Northern Hemisphere. June also plays host to the ever-important holidays of Father's Day and Juneteenth.

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100th Annual Slovak Day in Kennywood

The Centennial Celebration of the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Day will take place Thursday, July 20, 2023 at Kennywood Park, West Mifflin, PA. For 100 years the Slovaks of Western Pennsylvania have come together to celebrate Slovak Tradition, Family, and Faith at Kennywood Park. There will be displays, authentic costumes, a Slovak liturgy, spectacular Slovak Folk Dance performances, a sing along, scrumptious Slovak food, special children's activities as well as foot-tapping music for dancing. Special guests include the Slovak Ambassador to the United States, Ambassador Radovan Javorcik; His Excellency The Most Reverend Bishop David Zubik, Bishop of Pittsburgh, and His Excellency Bishop Larry Kulick, Bishop of the Diocese of Greensburg.

A Centennial Party will be held at the **Main Stage** at 2:00 pm until 3:00 pm. Dancing, a birthday cake, and music by the Rusynsky Bet'are (Rusyn Rascals) will be there. Meet and Greet with Ambassador Javorcik will be a part of the party. The **Main Stage** program will begin at 3:00 pm with a parade of dignitaries from Slovakia, the Slovak Fraternal and dignitaries. Ambassador Javorcik will address the community..

A highlight of Slovak Day is the Slovak Liturgy in the **Main Pavilion** directly at 4:00 pm. The Main Celebrant of the Liturgy will be Bishop David A. Zubik, Bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh and Bishop Larry Kulick, Bishop of the Diocese of Greensburg, along with several Catholic priests from the Pittsburgh, Greensburg and Johnstown-Altoona Dioceses. Immediately following will be a sing along of Slovak music, songs and dances presented by the "Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble (PAS)" and the "Pittsburgh Slovaks".

Food will be served from 12:30 p.m. till it sells out. In **Pavilion # 3** you will be able to see an exhibit on "Slovak Kroj" prepared by the Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble. In the Main **Pavilion # 5** there will be Slovak Cultural Displays provided by the Slovak Fraternal. Also in Pavilion #5 there will be Slovak vendors selling goods from Slovakia.

A special youth area will feature activities just for children. The children's program will include games and treats beginning at 12:30 pm by the **Main Pavilion**. The Pittsburgh Pirate Pierogy will be on hand. Every child participating in these activities will receive a free treat.

From 1:00 to 3:00 pm, one can sit back and enjoy the music or kick up your heels dancing, to traditional Slovak music of the George Batyi Gypsy Stringz Ensemble at the Kitchen **Pavilion #4**.

Special Slovak Day price tickets are **\$25 for the day only**. This ticket can **ONLY** be used on **SLOVAK DAY**. The FLEX DAY ticket (age 4 & up) is priced at \$40 and may be used on Slovak Day OR any other day. **Region 5 youth members (ages 16 & under) are eligible for a FREE FLEX ticket**. For Region 5 tickets, please contact Pam Blum at the Home office at **724-731-0094** or Sue Ondrejco at **412-421-1204**.

These special priced tickets are available from Committee members only. The discounted price is provided by FCCLA Life, NSS Life and NSS Life-Region 5. For tickets contact **Sue Ondrejco** at 234 Ilion Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15207 or call **412-421-1204**.

Checks should be made out to: **WPSDA**. For general information about the 100th Slovak Day contact Chairwoman Mary Lou Wagner at **(412) 462-1957**.

PITTSBURGH PIRATES  **CLEVELAND GUARDIANS**



PNC Park, Pittsburgh, PA
Wednesday, July 19, 2023- 12:30 p.m.
\$20 NSS members - \$30 Non members



Limited number of tickets available from Assembly 731

Contact Laurie Fox for tickets before June 1, 2023 - 330-717-4705

PVR Scholarship Fund Donations



April, 2023

In Memory of **Deceased Members in 2021 & 2022:**

From Assembly 0004 200.00

In Memory of sister **Carol Godor:**

From Louella & John Miller 100.00

From Judith Palicka..... 25.00

In Memory of **Deceased Members from Assembly 0123:**

Robert Beiber 20.00

Betty Cybator 20.00

James Hanson 20.00

Norman Hendrickson 20.00

Dorothy Latour..... 20.00

Michael Lunchuck 20.00

Joseph Marcello, Jr. 20.00

Stanley Morris 20.00

Nancy Nowicki 20.00

Angela Stratakis 20.00

Ralph Bonner 20.00

June Heinlein 20.00

Catherine Balsler 20.00

Viola Cutshall 20.00

Leo Cyphert..... 20.00

Joseph Hesky 20.00

Barbara Keefer 20.00

Carol Kramer 20.00

Thomas Masiarik 20.00

Andrew Musko..... 20.00

Erma Nelson 20.00

Charles Ryan 20.00

Hazel Swihart..... 20.00

Veryl Thompson 20.00

Leigh Urda..... 20.00

Robert Zelak..... 20.00

John Zinsser, Jr..... 20.00

In Memory of **Helen Mackey:**

From Assembly 0070 20.00

In Memory of **John P. Smolka:**

From Scott & Theresa

McKenzie 20.00

In Memory of our son and brother,

Shaun Logan Crowley:

From Kevin, Lori, Kevin Jr.,

& John Crowley 20.00

In Memory of **Florence Straub.:**

From Assembly 0070 20.00

Donations:

Director Keith Kucherawy..... 100.00

Director Laurie Fox 50.00

DEPARTED MEMBERS MARCH, 2023

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Amick, Eldridge	Nettie, WV	12/12/2022	0774
Badowski Tamanini, Maria	Nanticoke, PA	12/24/2022	0617
Balsano, Rita	Charleroi, PA	04/19/2023	0377
Banks, John	Allison Park, PA	03/04/2022	0123
Bargerstock, Karen	Reynoldsville, PA	03/02/2023	0774
Bartoletti, Philip	Emporium, PA	03/14/2023	0774
Bellock, Thomas	Gambrills, MD	02/27/2022	0267
Biernacki, David	Meadville, PA	03/30/2023	0731
Billups, James	Florence, KY	12/20/2022	0774
Blauser, Dale	Oil City, PA	03/31/2023	0554
Bowen, Betty	Georgetown, SC	03/20/2023	0774
Bradburn, Kathleen	New Kensington, PA	04/22/2023	L105
Briggs, Shirley	Hickory, PA	09/05/2022	0588
Brinker, Dean	Cabot, PA	04/10/2023	L161
Brown, Mary Ann	West Palm Beach, FL	03/08/2023	0737
Brown, William C	Baden, PA	04/06/2023	0123
Bruno, Andrew	Brockway, PA	03/30/2023	0554
Busse, Lynette	Petrolia, PA	04/16/2023	0731
Caparelli, Lynne	Pittsburgh, PA	04/14/2023	0100
Chesnick, Florence	Hiller, PA	04/08/2023	0377
Clendaniel, Joseph	Lawrence Township, NJ	11/20/2020	0110
Crider, Lee Ann	Mt Vernon, OH	11/19/2022	0595
Cruz, Adela	Philadelphia, PA	03/14/2023	0774
Daily, Jennifer	Coalton, OH	03/20/2023	0595
Davis, Paul	Pittsburgh, PA	12/04/2022	0100
Duray, Helen	Johnstown, PA	04/02/2023	0737
Durigon, Ruth	Brownsville, PA	04/06/2023	0377
Escalante, Richard	San Dimas, CA	12/29/2018	0568
Ezo, Mildred	Portersville, PA	03/01/2023	L105
Faulkner, June	Ionia, MI	03/11/2023	0381
Faust, Mildred	Hamburg, PA	03/31/2023	L102
Ferrell, Eula	New Salem, PA	03/21/2023	0039
Fraser, Norma	Harwick, PA	04/12/2023	L105
Frey, Hazel	Smithfield, PA	04/07/2023	0039
Garver, H Hugh	Altoona, PA	03/31/2023	0267
Guntrum, Roy	Rimersburg, PA	04/02/2023	0554
Hamm, Mary	Coplay, PA	04/15/2023	R059
Harn Jr., Marion	Cortland, OH	04/06/2023	0731
Hefferman, Jane	Cochranon, PA	04/08/2023	0774
Heilman, Nancy	Ford City, PA	04/05/2023	L105
Himmer, John	Washington, PA	02/11/2023	0588
Hlister, Anthony	Bethel Park, PA	04/18/2023	0434
Hockenberry, Delores	Butler, PA	04/01/2023	0123
Jackson, Harold J	Pinellas Park, FL	03/25/2023	0813
Jones, Anton	Vandergrift, PA	04/02/2023	L105
Keas, Patricia	Meadville, PA	04/08/2023	0731
Knudson, Julie	Madison, PA	02/02/2023	0737
Kocab, Joseph	Cleveland, OH	12/17/2022	0004
Langan, Robert	Kingston, PA	04/18/2023	0617
Langenheim, Georgette	Charleroi, PA	04/01/2023	0377

DEPARTED MEMBERS MARCH, 2023 (continued from page 20)

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Leberman, Ronald	Meadville, PA	04/11/2023	0731
Lee, Goldie	Wilkes Barre, PA	03/30/2022	0617
Lelik, Debora	Verona, PA	03/21/2023	L105
Lindblad, Leatrice	Shoreview, MN	01/08/2023	0774
Luhmann, Winnefred	Fairmont, MN	03/13/2023	0774
Luke, Kenneth	Altoona, PA	04/01/2023	0267
Martineau, Robert	McKees Rocks, PA	03/29/2023	0123
McGuigan, Marjorie	Pomona, NJ	02/27/2023	0774
Miedel, Joseph	Youngstown, PA	02/19/2023	0737
Moldovan Sr., Theodore	Beaver, PA	12/22/2022	L161
Moody, Phillip	Murrysville, PA	04/19/2023	L105
Opacic, Amelia	Pittsburgh, PA	02/13/2023	0100
Ostop, Mildred	Monroe, NC	02/07/2023	0588
Patterson, Charles	Fredonia, PA	11/21/2022	0731
Perlman, Stuart	Bridgeville, PA	11/11/2022	0434
Provenza, Mary	Oakmont, PA	03/30/2023	L161
Pyrdek, Joseph	Conneaut Lake, PA	01/18/2023	0731
Reed, Anna M	Latrobe, PA	04/20/2023	0737
Resh, Evelyn	Dover, PA	04/03/2023	L102
Roupe, Raymond	Washington, PA	04/11/2023	0588
Sabo, Donald	Valencia, PA	03/01/2023	0123
Sackmann, Shirley	Wausau, WI	03/14/2023	0774
Sampson, Nellie	Wheeling, WV	03/22/2023	0774
Sargent, John	Adah, PA	04/09/2023	0039
Schmitt, Pauline S	Stratford, CT	04/10/2023	0774
Schrader Jr., Donald	Canonsburg, PA	03/23/2023	0434
Scott, Richard	Hollidaysburg, PA	02/09/2023	0267
Siegrist, Donald	Jonestown, PA	03/08/2023	L102
Smith, Willie	Pompano Beach, FL	03/14/2023	0813
Snader, Wesley	Lititz, PA	03/14/2023	R059
Soltis, Andrew J	Hazelton, PA	04/06/2023	0774
Spinelli, Josephine	Pittsburgh, PA	02/05/2023	L161
Stanko, Greg	Fairview, PA	04/15/2023	0731
Stanton, Shirley	Warrington, PA	03/29/2023	R059
Stoner, Norma	West Mifflin, PA	04/13/2023	0108
Stright, Deanna	Sheakleyville, PA	03/29/2023	0731
Strittmatter, Josephine	Indiana, PA	03/07/2023	L105
Supina, Audrey	St Augustine, FL	03/09/2023	0595
Swender, Helen	E Syracuse, NY	02/20/2023	0774
Teluch, Rose	Ellsworth, PA	04/06/2023	0774
Thomas, Curtis C	Trafford, PA	03/02/2023	L105
Titanic, Frantiska	Spring City, PA	02/17/2017	L102
Varick, Edward	Milwaukee, WI	02/13/2023	0774
Wachter, Helen	Harrisburg, PA	03/28/2023	L102
Waksmunski, Chester	Pittsburgh, PA	03/21/2023	0123
White, William J	Pittsburgh, PA	07/29/2022	L161
Wilinski, Karen	Bellefonte, PA	04/15/2023	L040

Night of Giving



L-R: Rhonda Felton & Sales Director Greg Felton. Attending Rotary - Night of Giving. NSS made a donation to help these charities continue their good work.

Congratulations



Zachary Toth, member of Assembly 108, graduated from University of Pittsburgh on April 30, 2023 with a Bachelor's Degree in Architecture – Cum Laude. He will be attending Washington University in St. Louis for his Masters in Architecture. Zachary is the son of Richard and Nancy Toth.

Best of luck to you! We know you will do well.

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!!**



Mesiac jún, o ktorom je známe, že je mesiacom najdlhšieho dňa, najkratšej noci, kvitnutia lipy a letného slnovratu. Kto z nás by nemal rád jún? Prvý letný mesiac prinášajúci slnko vykúkajúce cez vrcholky kopcov, ruže pohladené rosou, more jasných ranných slávností, kukurica na poli, jemne vyživovaná slnkom a jemným padajúcim dažďom. Nová zem práve prekypujúca životom a smiech detí pri hre – to všetko je súčasťou krásneho letného dňa.



Jánske Ohne

Svätojánska noc má čarovnú moc. Tešili sa na ňu hlavne mládenci a vydajachtivé dievky. Bola to noc nádejí, ohňa, spevu, tanca, špásovania aj vážnych sľubov. Tešili sa na ňu aj babky bylinkárky. Ohne sa pálili len počas suchého počasia, neikedy aj niekoľko noci za sebou, kým nezačalo pršať, lebo úlohou ohňa bolo aj privolať dažď.

Gratulujeme...

V tomto mesiaci sa končí školský rok, deti postupujú o triedu vyššie, a ti dospeljší maturujú z vysokých škôl. Všetkým študentom gratulujeme k úspešnému ukončeniu štúdia a k výborným výsledkom. Naša organizácia je zvlášť hrdá na našich členov študentov ktorým prispievame finančne na vysokoškolské štúdiá. Veríme, že z nich budú príkladný Americký občania a aktívny členovia v našej organizácii NSS.



NSS Golf Pozývame našich členov NSS na golfový turnaj ktorý tohto roku bude od 14 –16 júla v Kensington Golf Club, Canfield, Ohio. Podrobnejšie informácie najdete na našej webovej stránke nsslife.org.

100 Slovenský deň Západnej Pennsylvanie



Ľudia Slovenského pôvodu oslávime na 20 júla 100 rokov Slovenského dňa v Pittsburghu v známom Ken-nywood Parku. Láska pozývame celú Slovensku verejnosť na túto významnú udalosť.

Ako Slovaci sme vďační že sa môžeme stretnúť ako priatelia, porozprávať sa, brať účasť na krásnom folk-lore, tradíciách na speve krásnych, materských piesní a byť hrdý že sme "Slovaci."

Každý z Vás je pozvaný na tento Slovenský Deň. Vstupenky sú k dostaniu od členov prípravného výboru alebo si ich zaobstarajte u Sue Ondrejco na adrese 234 Ilion St. Pgh., PA 15207. Šek vystavte na W. PA Slovak Day. Pripravujeme bohatý program za účasti Slovenských Dignitarov, predstavených zo slovenských organizácií a lídrov v slovenskej komunite. Nebude chýbať ani sladká "Torta" ku 100 výročiu slávnosti.

Program bude nasledovný: 12:30 Detský program a otvorenie kuchyne kde sa budú podávať chutné jedlá na slovenský spôsob - 3:00 program výboru - 4:00 bude sa sláviť svätá omša, pričom hlavnými spolucelebrantmi budú biskup David A. Zubik, biskup diecézy Pittsburgh a biskup Larry Kulick, biskup diecézy Greensburg. Po omši vystúpia slovenske subory "PAS" a "Pgh. Slovaks." Veríme že nás povzbudíte vašou prítomnosťou na 20 Júla v Kennywood Parku.

Deň Otcov

V tretiu nedeľu v Júni slávime deň otcov, osoba ktorá je hlavou rodiny. Všetkým otcom ku vášmu dňu želáme čo najkrajší deň a veľa radosti v kruhu svojej rodiny.

Ako potešiť svojho otca? Pozemského aj nebeského je veľmi jednoducho... MODLITBOU!



Dobrý Bože, pod tvoju ochranu odporúčam svojho otca. Bedli nad ním. Požehnávaj jeho prácu a udržuj ho pri zdraví a živote. Daj mu lásku a jednotu s tebou. Rozmnož jeho vieru dôveru v teba a lásku v srdci. Nech v tebe nájde pravý pokoj. Amen.



Slovenský hokejista dôchodca a bývalý kapitán Bostonu Bruins Zdeno Chára (46) bežal svoj prvý bostonský

maratón v pondelok 17. apríla 2023. Chára stihol 40-kilometrové preteky za 3:38:23. Čím podporil dve charitatívne organizácie. (Source: AP/TASR/Winslow Townson)



Youth Circle Page

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

Happy Father's Day!

Sometimes you get discouraged because I am so small and always leave my fingerprints on furniture and walls.

But everyday I'm growing and I'll be grown up someday and all those tiny handprints will surely fade away.

So here's a final handprint so you can recall, exactly how my fingers looked when I was very small.

It's my Father's Day gift I made just for you from me, to show how much I love you and for everyone to see!



Q: What do you call two people who embarrass you in front of your friends?

A: Mum and Dad!

Q: What did the father ghost say to the naughty baby ghost?

A: Spook when you're spoken to!

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. Also, keep in mind that you must have maintained a 3.0 GPA to receive your next installment of the scholarship. Once we receive your transcript 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, 2023**.

2023 NSS Life Poetry Contest

Deadline: August 15, 2023

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. Poems 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.



Congratulations to the class of 2023



We Made It!



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

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NSS Life
Family Matters...

TOURNAMENT

JULY 14-16, 2023

KENNSINGTON GOLF CLUB • CANFIELD, OH