



NSS Life
Family Matters...

Národné Noviny

Providing Fraternal Life Insurance Since 1890 | NATIONAL NEWS | OCTOBER 2023 | NUMBER 3582 | VOLUME 115

Happy Halloween



Trick or Treat



**2023 Pumpkin
Decorating Contest**
See Page 9



2023 Photo Contest
See Page 23



**2023 Christmas
Ornament Contest**
See Page 23



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

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FSWFE merged with NSS in 1997

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Could you use a little extra "Green?"

RECOMMENDER FORM

As a proud member of NSS Life, there is no better time than now to share your experience with family and friends. Best of all, you will receive a cash reward for recommending someone to whom we issue a policy. You will receive a \$25 recommender fee (\$10 on the youth term product) for each person that becomes a member.

Recommender Information:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Prospect Information:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please mail form to the NSS Life Home Office.

Do you need a Change of Address?

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Please use this form to register your change of address for the *National News* and mail to the Home Office. Upon receipt of this form completed in its entirety, the staff will immediately implement the change. *Thank you.*

Change of Address Information:

Full Name: _____

Certificate #: _____ Assembly #: _____

New Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Former Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Activities At A Glance

REGION 2

Assemblies L075, 0617

October 14
October 25
May 18, 2024

Assembly L075, Meeting, Grandes Restaurant, Moosic, PA at 1:00 pm
Assembly 0617, Meeting, Pierce Street Deli, Kingston, PA at 1:00 pm
Region 2, Meeting, Grotto Pizza, Wilkes-Barre, PA at 1:00 pm

REGION 5

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

October 2
October 7
October 14
October 29
October 30
October 31
November 13
November 25
December 1
December 2
December 3
December 16
December 17

Assembly L161, Hoagie sale, Pittsburgh, PA
Assembly 0123, World Vision Warehouse, Sewickley, PA Volunteers at 9:00 pm
Region 5, Irons Mill Farmstead, New Wilmington, PA from 10:00 am - 9:00 pm
Assembly 0377, Meeting, Sesame Inn, McMurray, PA at 3:00 pm
NSS Pumpkin Decorating Contest deadline
NSS Photo Contest deadline
Assembly 0588, Meeting, Stefka residence, Gibsonia, PA at 5:30 pm
NSS Heritage Museum's "Christmas Around the World", NSS Home Office from 1:00 - 5:00 pm
NSS Christmas Ornament Contest deadline
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
Assembly 0123, Christmas Luncheon, Rockefeller's Grill, Kennedy Twp., PA at 1:00 pm

REGION 8

Assemblies 0004, 0070, 0160, 0432, 0595

October 18
December 3
December 6
February 18, 2024

Region 8, Semi-Annual Meeting, Dr. Martin Luther Lutheran Church, Brooklyn, OH 7:00 pm
Assembly 0070, Christmas Luncheon/Meeting, Dr. Martin Luther Church, Brooklyn, OH at 11:30 am
Assembly 0432, Christmas Party/Meeting, Tony K's, Berea, OH at 6:00 pm
Assembly 0432, Tobogganing, Strongsville Chalet, Strongsville, OH at 6:00 pm

REGION 14

Assemblies R059, L102

October 22
November 5
December 9

Assembly L102, Halloween Party, Wesnak residence, Whitehall, PA at 2:00 pm
Assembly L102, Christmas ornament making party, Wesnak residence at 2:00 pm
Assembly L102, Matching Funds, Breakfast with Santa (TBA)

AT LARGE

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

October 22
November 17
December 17

Assembly 0705, Meeting at the Buck residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm
Assembly 0586, Christmas Activity, Francesca's, Oaklawn, IL (TBA)
Assembly 0705, Christmas Party (Fraternal Fund Activity) TBA

Notice of Upcoming Changes to the Online Agent & Member Portals

Over the upcoming months, we will be launching new versions of the Agent and Member portals. These new portals are a temporary solution as we work towards the final completed portals that are planned for launch next year. Should you need help with accessing the new portals, account creation, or have inquiries regarding specific account information please contact the home office and we will try to aid you with your issues to the best of our abilities.

We will continue to update you with further information on the new portals in future newsletter issues. We humbly ask for your patience and understanding during this transition period as we work towards completion of this project. We're confident the final result will be worth the wait!

The President's Page...

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



The month of October brings us cooler temperatures and the magnificent beauty of nature as the leaves turn to an array of bright colors. This month also brings us the Columbus Day holiday on October 9th and Halloween on October 31st. NSS has treat bags available for distribution to our assemblies for our young members. Please contact Bethany Bonnar by email (bbonnar@nsslife.org) at the home office to request the treat bags for your assembly.

The Executive Officers, Board of Directors, and the Fraternal Growth Committee have worked for the past year on developing a new vision for the future of NSS fraternal programs and community and member engagement activities. After participating in several sessions to develop a job description for this initiative, a final job description was approved for the Member and Community Engagement Coordinator. The position was advertised, applicants were interviewed, and the top candidate was offered the position. Beginning September 1, 2023, Bethany Bonnar began serving as the NSS Member and Community Engagement Coordinator. She will work closely with the Executive Officers, Fraternal Growth Committee, and with assembly and region officers to analyze current programs and develop new programs for the future. Our commitment to support our members and the communities in which they live will be a priority as programs are developed for the future. Bethany will write an article each month in the *National News* beginning with this issue.

The move to our new Home Office will occur over the weekend of October 27-29, 2023. **The move will begin on**

Friday, October 27th and the Home Office at Valley Brook Road will be closed for business on that day. Home Office staff will be actively involved in the move to our office located in Ashwood Commons the entire weekend. Business will resume as normal on Monday, October 30, 2023. Our telephone number will remain the same. The address of our new Home Office is: 1300 Ashwood Drive, Suite 1301, Canonsburg, PA 15317. We are looking forward to the move to the new facility and continuing to provide our members with quality service in the future.

The financial results of the Society appeared in the September issue of the *National News*. The NSS continues to grow at a responsible rate with assets increasing to \$1,781,737,873, surplus increasing to \$94,008,019, and net income of \$3,954,918 through the end of June. The solvency ratio continues to increase and is currently at 105.57%, meaning that for every \$100 of members' money invested in the NSS, the Society has \$105.57 to fund that liability. We continue to invest conservatively and provide our members with competitive yields with our annuity products. Thank you to our loyal annuity holders for your continued confidence in the NSS. During the recent Summer Board Meeting, the Board of Directors raised the crediting rate on the Preferred 8 Plus and the Optimum 3 Annuity products for the fourth quarter beginning on October 1st. The new rates appear elsewhere in this issue.

Congratulations to the fifty-eight PVR First Year Scholarship recipients whose photos appeared in the September issue of the *National News*. What an outstanding group of scholarship awardees! Good luck as you begin your collegiate careers this fall! The PVR Scholarship Program is one of our most important fraternal benefits that we offer to our members. If you are a current PVR Scholarship recipient, please drop us a note to let us know how your college experience is going.

A reminder that the deadline for NSS photographers to submit an entry for the Annual Photography Contest is October 31st! The categories for this year's Photography Contest include Scenic, Animals, Babies, and Architecture. Please follow the rules published in the *National News* and enter your

photographs by the deadline and your assembly will receive points toward the Active Assembly Awards Program.

Region #5 of Pittsburgh held its annual picnic on Sunday, August 20, 2023, at Cedar Creek County Park. The event was a great success with 175 Region 5 members attending the event including 27 YFC members. This was the largest turnout for a Region #5 picnic in many years. The weather was beautiful, the luncheon was delicious, and attendees enjoyed playing bingo games and cornhole. The youth members in attendance enjoyed balloon art by Giggles the Clown, and a variety of games with prizes in the youth activity tent. A basket raffle was held to benefit the PVR Scholarship Fund. Six assemblies donated baskets for the raffle including Assembly 108, Assembly L-161, Assembly 441, Assembly 588, Assembly 731, and Assembly 737. The basket raffle raised a total of \$1,320 with the addition of the Matching Funds program to support the PVR Fund. Thank you to all that attended, those that helped prepare prior to the picnic and assisted throughout the day, members who contributed by providing desserts, and to individuals and assemblies that donated baskets to support the raffle. What a great fraternal day!

News of Narodniars

Special Happy Birthday wishes to my grandson Carson Bernardo! Also, Happy Birthday to Honorary Director Tony Beno, Home Office Staff members Joe Elliott, Riley Partyka, Rick Toth, and Tipton Wallace and to Alexa Triebisch, Jessica Dvorsak, John Dvorsak, George Batyko, Bob Kapp, Nicole Kearney, and Irene Tomaskovic. Happy Birthday to all others celebrating a birthday in October.

Happy Anniversary wishes to Director Laurie Fox and husband Mike, Honorary Director Ed Koches and wife Carole, Honorary Director Paul M. Payerchin, Jr. and wife Susan, Barb and Todd Wilcock, and Melinda and Keith Chojnicki. Best wishes to all others celebrating an anniversary this month.



A Page From My Notebook...

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



2022 Fraternal Allowance Checks

The 2022 Fraternal Allowance Checks were mailed the first week of September. Hopefully they have not been delayed by USPS. You should have already received them. Thanks to all assemblies, regions, members, agents and guests who supported activities held and gave generous donations to fund raisers in an effort to help those in need. The Extra Effort awards will be listed next month.

Office Staff Added

As I previously stated we will be adding staff to support the ever-increasing workloads. We have done so in several areas.

Over the past year we have added staff in Claims, Annuities, Life, HR, Member and Community Outreach and Sales. This may sound like a lot however it just touches the surface.

We have added expertise in the area of Human Resources by on-boarding Christopher Lucas, who comes to us with 12.5 years of HR expertise and has already made significant strides in bringing us up-to-date in this ever-changing area.

With the creation of a new Member & Community Engagement area we were very fortunate to find Bethany Bonnar with a background in fund-raising, leadership, community outreach and communication just to name a few.

Those that have already joined our staff this past year: Frank Tomasic, Michelle Walton, Maureen Schantz, Mary Lee Shingle, Tipton Wallace, Jennie Pernisek and Riley Conner. We are very fortunate to have found such dedicated individuals.



Our New Home

I began my working career at NSS in the Fall of 2006. At that time the Home Office was located where it is today at 351 Valley Brook Road, McMurray, PA which is south of Pittsburgh. The previous location was leased offices at Technology Drive in Southpointe, still south of Pittsburgh. And yet once again, on October 24, 2003, the purchase of our current office building was final. On Sunday, May 23, 2004 an Open House was held to celebrate our new home.

Bet ya can't guess where I'm going with all of this history. Well, once again, because of the growth of your society and the need to add resources we have been blessed with locating a new home office building just down the road in Canonsburg. We are so very excited as it will definitely provide room for growth for many years to come. An Open House will be planned most likely for next year so we can get through the cold and snowy weather that I am sure we will get. I'm sure there will be pictures in the upcoming newsletters as we migrate to our new "digs".

Insurance Department Audit

As if we were not busy enough at the Home Office, we just received notification from the PA State Insurance Department that we will soon receive formal notification of the start of our 5-year audit. This is a very intense audit and requires many hours and days of working with the state auditors assigned to NSS to provide them with the information they need to perform their audit.

Year End (Things to Do)

In anticipation of year-end don't forget to check your beneficiaries making sure they are up-to-date with your current status.

Fall Fun at Irons Mill Farmstead Sponsored by Region 5
Saturday, October 14, 2023 • 10 AM – 9 PM

Spend the day exploring all the fun activities the farm has to offer! **See page 15.**



Current Interest Rates

★ Effective October 1, 2023 ★

Optimum 3 – 5.00%

Preferred 5 – 4.00%

New Preferred 8 – 6.50%* (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.



OPEN A ROTH IRA

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

- * Tax Advantages
- * Competitive Interest Rates

2023 Annuity Contribution Coupon

Any time is a good time to invest, but investing earlier can maximize the compounding effect on your money. Consider making your 2023 contribution as early as possible.

Name _____

Certificate No. _____ Deposit Amount _____

Traditional IRA for 2023 _____ Roth IRA for 2023 _____

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

From the Sales Department...

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



Life Insurance and Annuities (3)

This month as part of our continuing education series we will cover Term Insurance and Roth IRAs. Next month we will finish up this program by discussing Single Premium Life Insurance and the Coverdell Education Savings Accounts (ESAs.)

Term Insurance is a true-life insurance product. The rates are based on the mortality table. So, the older you are when you buy a term policy the more expensive it is because you are closer to your demise. Term insurance has no residual value. There are many different types of term insurance. The most popular are ten- and twenty-year term. Both feature a fixed rate for the time period selected then at the end of that period, the term insurance renews (at a higher rate because you are older.)

Some other types of term insurance are yearly term, decreasing term, 30-year term, and a bunch of other names. Here are the pros and cons of term insurance.

The disadvantage to term insurance:

- Will expire someday, probably before you do. In fact according to statistics less than 5% of term policies become a death claim.
- There is no residual value, which means there is no loan or cash value.

The advantages to term insurance:

- Low cost, which allows you to buy larger face amount of coverage.
- Can be used to protect a family during a specified time frame (mortgage, loans, children)

- Usually convertible to a permanent plan.
- Guaranteed insurability

The bottom line is term insurance is a great product. It allows most people to get the coverage they need with minimal cost. NSS has some great rates on our ten- and twenty-year term products. Under the age of 40, a \$100,000 term insurance is less than \$20 per month. Call your local representative or Joe Elliott in the Home Office for a free quote – no obligation!

The Roth IRA

In 1998, Roth IRAs were introduced. Contributions to a Roth are not deductible and eligibility is based on income/earnings. The maximum contribution in 2023 is \$6,500 and if age 50 or older an extra \$1,000 known as the catch-up amount. The advantage of a Roth is tax-free earnings if you adhere to the guidelines. The two basic rules are the Roth must be at least five years old and withdrawals should occur after age 59½. The pros and cons of this plan are:

Pros –

- Tax-free earnings in the long run. Tax-free to your beneficiaries too.
- No required minimum distributions are needed as you age.
- Access to principal if needed.
- No age limit to open an account. Only income is required.

Cons –

- Must wait 5 years and be age 59½ to enjoy the tax-free earnings.
- Requires income to contribute. Maximum earnings are \$228,000 (married, filing joint)

While 80% of the population has a traditional IRA only 30% have a Roth. Most of these were created by making regular contributions. NSS makes it easy to get started with \$90 per month for the first year. After the first year, contribute whatever you want up to the maximum.

Some of the nuances of a Roth include being able to roll over traditional IRA monies to a Roth. There are tax consequences so always check with your tax advisor first. A Roth rollover can be split up and done in parts to help lessen the tax bite. There is a saver's tax credit available for lower income brackets that can help offset the cost of any contribution. Contributions can be made for a non-working spouse with supporting household income. And finally, a Roth allows access to principal without an IRS penalty. This makes it a strong choice for younger people since they might need their money sooner than age 59½. We can run an illustration for you so you can see how your money will grow with an NSS Roth account. Call us or your local representative for more information.

Disclaimer: NSS does not provide tax or legal advice. We assume no liability for the general information presented here. Always check with your trusted advisor (legal, CPA, and/or accounting) for how this may affect your particular situation.

Thought For The Month:

You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself in any direction you choose. You are on your own, and you know what you know. And you are the one who will decide where to go.

Dr. Seuss.(1904-1991)



The Community Corner **New Title, Same Benefits, New Opportunities**

Bethany Bonnar,
Member & Community Engagement Coordinator
Email: bbonnar@nsslife.org



Introduction

Welcome to my little corner of the National News! I am so excited to share with everyone all the upcoming fun we have planned for National Fraternal Events and Community Engagement. Before we jump into the good stuff, here's a little more about me! I recently graduated from Thiel College, and after graduation I was drawn to NSS because of their commitment to family, as family is deeply important to me. My parents are both music teachers and are the best professional musicians I know. I have one little brother, who isn't so little anymore, as he is currently attending his first year at the University at Buffalo. In my spare time, I love cooking (please ask me about my obsession with cookbooks), reading, and staying active! I am so excited to be a part of so many wonderful National Events and service opportunities that have become cornerstones of NSS Life. Additionally, I can't wait to expand our Fraternal activities to best reflect the wants and needs of our members.

I would like to extend a deep thank you to all members of the Home Office staff who have been so wonderfully kind and welcoming. An extra special thank you to Pam Blum, who held the position of Fraternal Activities Coordinator for many years. Pam's kindness and help has been instrumental during this transition, and I could not be more grateful. Her wonderful work in the Fraternal Department of NSS leaves such a positive legacy that I am going to be proud to continue. Thanks Pam!

Along with introducing a new face, my arrival at NSS is accompanied by an introduction of a new title! The title of my position is Member and Community Engagement Coordinator. Don't fret! This position oversees the same responsibilities of the previous Fraternal Activities Coordinator, so you can still expect to see all your favorite national events. As mentioned before, we are looking forward to expanding our Fraternal Activities to provide our members with exciting new opportunities to connect with one another. Additionally, with this position we want to focus on increasing engagement with our local communities. From smaller local initiatives, to state-wide charities, and national fundraising, we are looking forward to lending as many helping hands as possible. I would love to hear any ideas anyone may have about a volunteer opportunity/charity that they are passionate about! So far, I have received a few calls and emails of introduction from members of various assemblies, and I would love to continue to introduce myself to everyone. Feel free to give me a call or send me an email!

What's New?

I am so excited to introduce to everyone a BRAND NEW Contest joining our activities calendar this year! With Halloween tricks and treats right around the corner, we are so excited to announce our First Annual Pumpkin Decorating Contest! Show off your artistic skills by submitting a photo of the jack-o-lantern masterpieces you create at home! The two categories for entries are: Painted and Carved. Feel free to enter one pumpkin each in both categories! Submissions will be further grouped for judging by age (12 and Under, 13-17, 18+), so members of all ages are encouraged to participate! The contest is live now so feel free to grab a brush or a carving tool and get started on your "gourd-geous" creations now! The deadline for submissions will be **October 30, 2023**.

Another new addition, you will be able to submit your photos for this contest via social media and email, as

well as through mailing photos into the home office!! For online submissions, message us on our official Social Media Accounts or send an email to **bbonnar@nsslife.org** with a picture of your creation! Mail in submission can be made out to the Member and Community Engagement Coordinator at the Home Office. Regardless of the way you submit, please include your assembly number, your age, your address, and the category you are submitting towards. Winners will receive prizes including: \$50.00 for 1st Place, \$25.00 for 2nd Place, and \$15.00 for 3rd Place for each age group, as well as a Grand Prize of \$75.00 for Best Overall! I can't wait to see all the scary, sparkly or spine-tingling submissions!

Social Media

Another new opportunity that I am excited to announce is our relaunch of our presence on social media! We hope to use social media websites as a way to build greater connections amongst our members, no matter how spread out we may be! These platforms will also be utilized as a tool to help you stay up to date on all the activities going on at NSS so you don't miss out on any of the fun! Please give us a follow on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter!

Upcoming

Don't forget to start snapping your cameras for our annual Photo Contest that is also taking place this month! The deadline for submissions is **October 31, 2023**. When sending in pictures, please specify if you are submitting to the Pumpkin or the Photo Contest.

Looking forward to November, the NSS Heritage Museum will present the "Christmas Around the World" celebration on **November 25, 2023**.



Greetings to All!

My name is Bethany Bonnar, and I am the newest member to join the NSS Life team as the Member and Community Engagement Coordinator! I am from the small yet wonderful town of Beaver, Pennsylvania. I recently graduated Summa Cum Laude from Thiel College as a triple major in Public Relations, Political Science, and Public Policy. During my time on campus, I was an active member of the Women's Soccer Team and a sister of Sigma Kappa Sorority.

During my time in Sigma Kappa, I held several leadership roles such as Vice President of Philanthropic Services. In this role I was responsible for creating and executing fundraising and volunteer efforts within my sorority, as well as the entire campus community. Sigma Kappa supports five main charities, the largest of which being the Alzheimer's Association, which provides funding and support to Alzheimer's patients and disease research. I am very proud to have introduced many new fundraising events to my campus community, such as Holiday Treat Bag Sales and Themed Karaoke Nights, that raised over \$1,000 to support the search for a cure for Alzheimer's. Additionally, I served as my chapter's Social Chair and Sisterhood Chair, where my responsibilities included creating bonding opportunities for our members through unique events and planning two formal banquets. Thanks to my extensive experience in Sigma Kappa, I developed a deep love for contributing to charitable organizations while simultaneously creating experiences that provide fun and lifelong memories for all in attendance.

My overall goal within this position is to encourage greater engagement amongst members of all ages and to facilitate connections with local communities. I plan to continue putting on existing national events that are beloved in the NSS Life community, such as the Annual Golf Outing and Christmas Ornament Contest (amongst many others). Additionally, I have many exciting ideas for new events that I can't wait for everyone to learn more about! I hope to be able to make in person visits to as many assemblies and regions as possible to introduce myself and assist in events in any way needed. I am extremely excited to be a part of such a wonderful organization, and I am highly looking forward to meeting and engaging with all of you!

Our next upcoming National Event is the Annual Photography Contest! Grab a camera (even the one on your phone!) and mail in your best snapshot to the Home Office. Categories include Scenic, Babies, Animals (my personal favorite!), and Architecture. Make sure you get your submissions in before the October 31st deadline for a chance to win cash prizes and to have your picture published in the *National News*. Don't forget, each submission counts towards earning Fraternal Tracking Points for your assembly. Feel free to contact me or the Home Office with any questions! I can't wait to see all the beautiful submissions!

PUMPKIN DECORATING CONTEST

Deadline: October 30, 2023

Description:

Carve out some time for some Halloween fun and submit a photo of your Halloween Pumpkin creations for a chance to win some fa-boo-lus prizes! Winning submissions will also be featured in the *National News*!

Contest Eligibility:

The First Annual NSS Pumpkin Decorating Contest is open to all members, regardless of age. The decorated pumpkin must be created by the member submitting it.

Submission Deadline:

October 30th is the deadline for all submissions to be received. Submissions may be made online or through mail. Please mail to: National Slovak Society, Member and Community Engagement Coordinator, 351 Valley Brook Road, McMurray, PA 1531-3337. Online submission may be made by direct messaging any of our social media accounts (Facebook, Instagram, and twitter) or by emailing directly to bbonnar@nsslife.org. Judging will be completed by an outside professional.

Contest Rules:

- Must be a member before October 1st
- One entry per category: Painted or Carved
- Age Groups: 12 and Under, 13-17, 18+
Please include your name, address, age, and assembly number along side your submission photo.

Prize List:

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

Please contact the Member and Community Engagement Coordinator, Bethany Bonnar, at bbonnar@nsslife.org or call the Home Office at 724-731-0094 Ext. 1010 if you have any questions.



Scenes from the 2023 NSS Life Golf Tournament Hospitality Night



Food provided by the Kensington Grille for Hospitality Night



Attendees enjoying time together during Hospitality Night



Attendees enjoying food and beverages during Hospitality Night



L-R: Director Theresa Zemelman, Director Sue Ondrejco, and Kevin Crowley



Director Laurie Fox with refreshments



NSS Legal Counsel Ron Cooper



Attendees could practice their golf swing in the Kensington Golf Club Simulator Lounge



Attendees participate in the annual putting contest which helps fund future PVR Scholarships



Director Drew Wesnak enjoying the warm evening breeze during the putting contest



Hospitality Night concluded with an evening of beautiful summer weather fit for relaxation

More Scenes from the 100th Annual Slovak Day at Kennywood Park



John and Heather Payerchin and family



The great thing about Slovak Day at Kennywood Park is making a new best friend!



Christine Piccalo with Potato Pete



Assembly 0123 President Bill Knoll with the Slovak Ambassador Radovan Javorčík



Kids in attendance enjoyed the games and treats offered in the youth section near the main pavilion



Youth member Walter Fox wasn't too keen on taking a photo with two giant Pirates Pierogies



Youth Circle Magazine - Fall 2023



Family Day Word Search

Search for the words hidden up, down, left and right.



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



FAMILY
 PARENT
 COUSIN
 CHILD
 LOYALTY
 PETS



NIECE
 HOUSEHOLD
 AUNT
 GRANDCHILD
 MEMORIES
 BROTHER



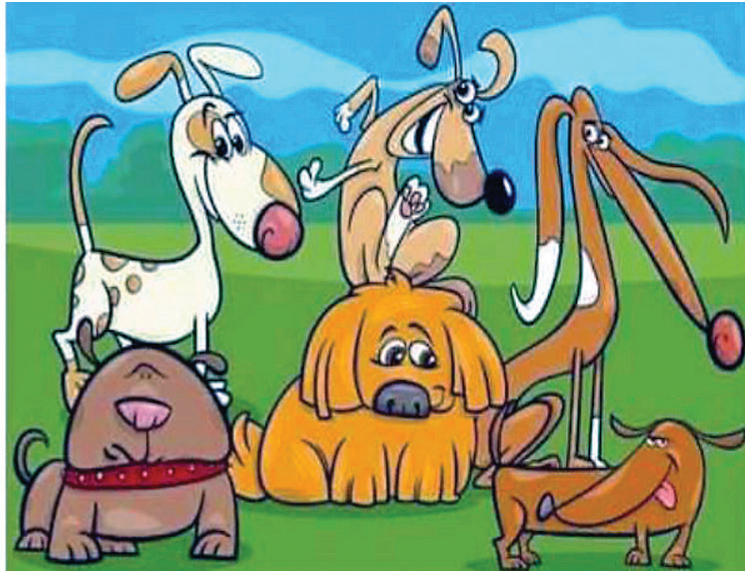
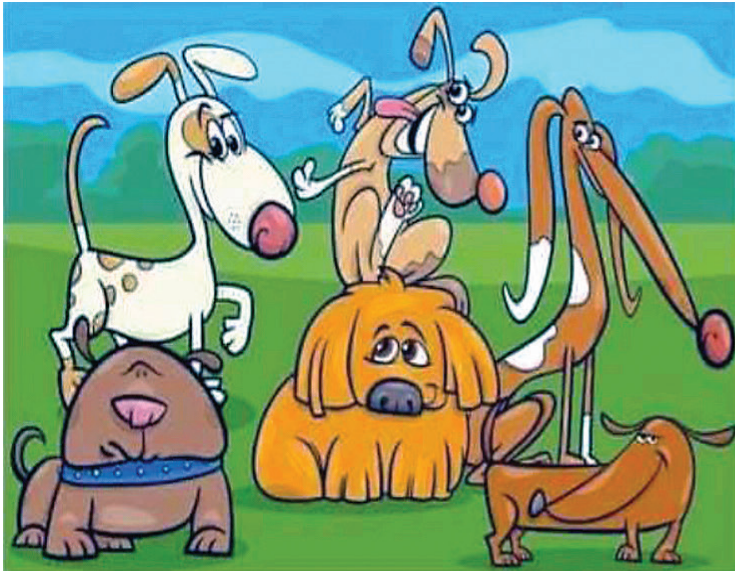
NEPHEW
 GRANDPARENT
 UNCLE
 LOVE
 RELATIVES
 SISTER

Texting abbreviations

- LOL** – laughing out loud
- OMG** – oh my gosh
- IMO** – in my opinion
- IMHO** – in my honest opinion
- BTW** – by the way
- IDK** – I don't know
- LMK** – let me know
- TBH** – to be honest
- BRB** – be right back
- BBL** – be back later
- TTYL** – talk to you later
- THX** – thanks
- TY** – thank you
- YW** – you're welcome
- ASAP** – as soon as possible
- POV** – point of view
- NBD** – no big deal
- OMW** – on my way
- DIY** – do it yourself
- AKA** – also known as
- SMS** – short message service
- ICYMI** – in case you missed it
- BF** – boyfriend
- GF** – girlfriend
- SO** – significant other
- ILY** – I love you
- YOLO** – you only live once
- B4** – before
- IRL** – in real life
- TMI** – too much information
- ATM** – at the moment
- EOD** – end of day
- OTP** – one time password
- HTH** – hope this helps
- WFH** – work from home
- XOXO** – hugs and kisses
- NE1** – anyone
- OTT** – over the top
- PLZ** – please
- RUOK** – are you okay?
- SPK** – speak
- SRY** – sorry

If you have a dream, fight for it. It's not about how many times you get rejected or thought you've fallen down or you're beaten up. It's about how many times you stand up and are brave and you keep going.

Spot 10 differences in dogs picture



Brain Teasers

A man stands on one side of a river, his dog on the other. The man calls his dog, who immediately crosses the river without getting wet and without using a bridge or a boat. How did the dog do it?

Answer: The river was frozen.

A man was walking in the rain. He was in the middle of nowhere. He had nothing and nowhere to hide. He came home all wet, but not a single hair on his head was wet. Why is that?

Answer: The man was bald.

How can a man who shaves several times a day still sport a long beard?

Answer: He's a barber.

Put a coin into an empty bottle and insert a cork into the neck. How can you remove the coin without removing the cork or breaking the bottle?

Answer: Push the cork down into the bottle. Then shake the coin out.

You're in a dark room with a candle, a wood stove, and a gas lamp. You only have one match, so what do you light first?

Answer: The match.

Is the capital of Kentucky pronounced Louisville or Luee-ville?

Answer: Neither. The capital is Frankfurt.

During which month do people sleep the least?

Answer: February (there are usually fewer nights in February).

What has cities, but no houses; forests, but no trees; and water, but no fish?

Answer: A map.

Forrest left home running. He ran a ways and then turned left, ran the same distance and turned left again, ran the same distance and turned left again. When he got home, there were two masked men. Who were they?

Answer: The catcher and the umpire.

Painted Pumpkins Ideas



Nail Polish Painted Pumpkins

Swirls of shiny nail polish are a great way to decorate pint-sized painted pumpkins. Coloring pumpkins with nail polish creates beautiful marbled designs.

Sports Pumpkins

Are you a football family? Or maybe baseball is more your thing? Transform regular orange pumpkins into the ball for your favorite sport. Basketball fans will have the easiest paint job!



Other Ideas



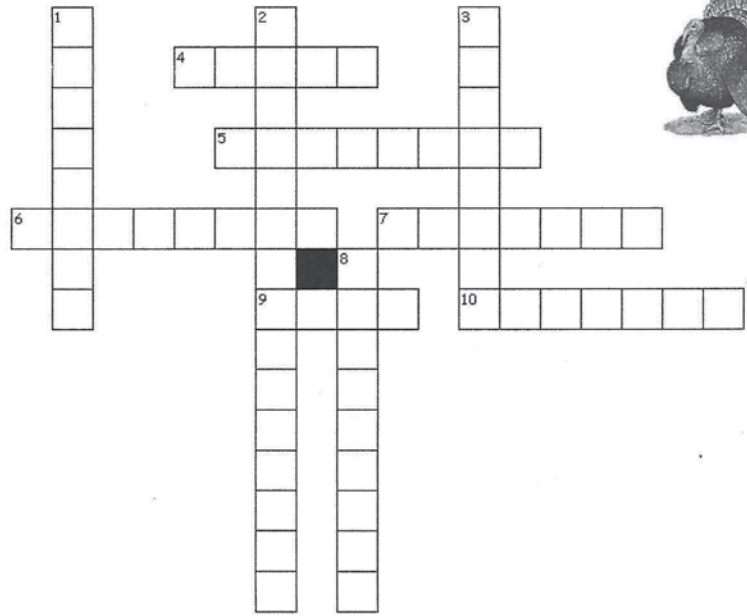
If you decide to paint a pumpkin please read the [Pumpkin Contest Rules](#) on Page 9.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Photo Contest - October 31, 2023

Ornament Contest - December 1, 2023

Thanksgiving Crossword Puzzle



Nutter Butter Ghost Cookies



Ingredients:

- 12 oz. white candy melts
- (1-lb.) pkg. peanut butter-filled sandwich cookies
- 64 miniature chocolate chips (4 teaspoons)

Melt chocolate according to package instructions (use microwave). Line baking sheet with wax paper. Holding bottom of the cookie dip entire cookie (except a small part at the bottom) into the melted chocolate, tapping to let excess chocolate drip off. Lay flat on waxed paper-lined cookie sheets. Immediately place 2 chocolate chips in coating to form eyes. Let stand about 10 minutes until set.

Across

4. Many people say ____ before carving the turkey.
5. ____ celebrated the first American Thanksgiving in 1621.
6. Thanksgiving is celebrated on the fourth Thursday in ____.
7. ____ taught the Pilgrims how to grow corn and catch eel.
9. Families gather together for a delicious ____.
10. Thanksgiving celebrates the autumn ____.

Down

1. William ____ was the leader of Plymouth Colony in the early 1600s.
2. ____ brought food to the first Thanksgiving feast.
3. The first American Thanksgiving feast was held in ____.
8. Pilgrims came to North America on the ____.

Peanut Butter Spider Snack



This super easy spider Halloween snack has peanut butter, celery and a side of spooky perfect for the kids. Sweet, salty, and overall healthy your kids will love this snack after school, at a Halloween party or in their lunchbox.

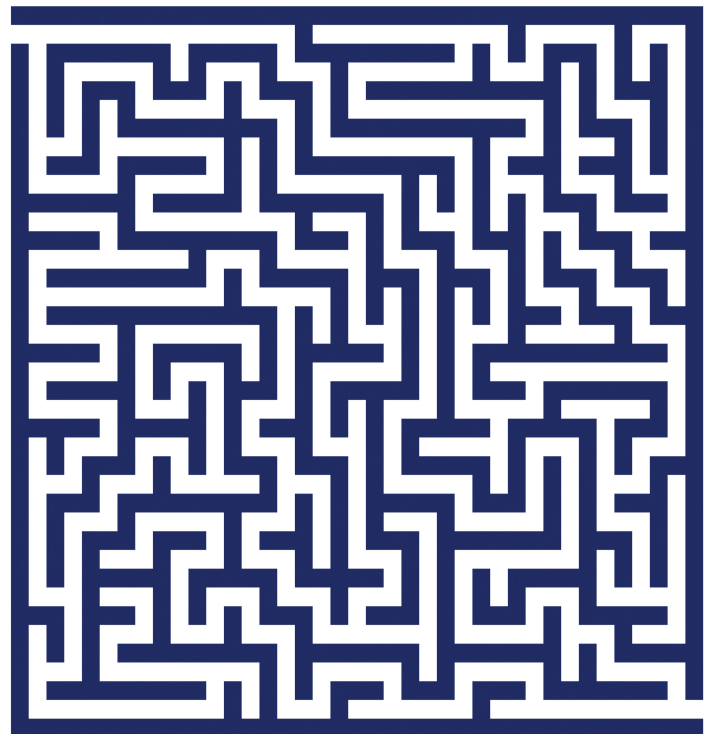
Ingredients:

- 3 Ribs Celery
- 3-4 tablespoons Peanut Butter
- 24 Raisins
- 8 pieces White Chocolate Candy Melts
- 8 pieces Milk Chocolate Candy Melts

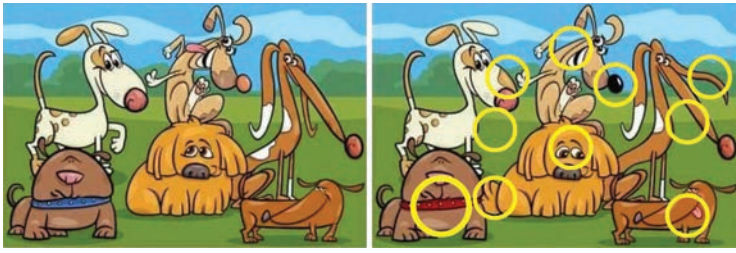
Instructions:

Cut celery into 3-4 inch pieces. Spread the peanut butter onto each celery stick. Place 2-3 raisins on each piece of celery. Melt candy melts in a small bowl in the microwave on half power, in 20-30 second intervals stirring in between. Spoon each melted chocolate into a sandwich size baggie and snip the corner very little. With the milk chocolate, draw on 3-4 legs on each side of the raisins. Then place 2 dots of white chocolate on the raisin for the eyes. Enjoy this fun spider Halloween treat!

MAZE - Don't Give Up



Answers

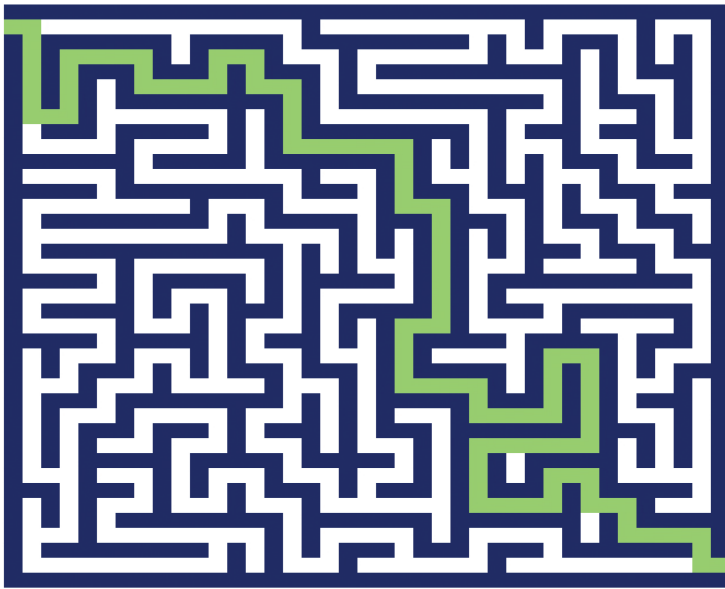


Thanksgiving Day Puzzle

Answer Key:

Across – 4. grace, 5. Pilgrims, 6. November, 7. Squanto, 9. meal, 10. harvest.

Down – 1. Bradford, 2. Native Americans, 3. Plymouth, 8. Mayflower.



Jokes

Q: What is brown, hairy and wears sunglasses?

A: Coconut on vacation.

Q: How did the pirate get his flag so cheaply?

A: He bought it on sail.

Q: Why is six afraid of seven?

A: Because seven eight nine.

Q: Why was the equal sign so humble?

A: Because he wasn't greater than or less than anyone else.

Q: What do you call guys who love math?

A: Algebras.

Q: How do you stay warm in any room?

A: Go to the corner—it's always 90 degrees.

Q: Why do candles always go on the top of cakes?

A: Because it's hard to light them from the bottom.

Q: What do cakes and baseball teams have in common?

A: They both need a good batter.

Canning Lid Door Christmas Door Hangar

- 15 canning lids
- 14 small ornament bulbs
- Twine/Wire
- Hot glue gun
- Metal glue

Instructions

Start by twisting a wire between two canning rings then continue 5 lids on bottom, 4, 3, 2, then 1 at the top. Use twine or wire to hang the ornaments then put a dab of hot glue in the back to secure them. Add a star ornament to the top and a burlap bow to the bottom!



Suggestions: You can use the wide mouth canning rings and attach them with a strong glue. Use clothes pins to hold it together until it dries. Once it is dry tie the little ornaments to the top of each ring with thin twine. The outside ornaments you can hold in place with a dab of hot glue because the twine might slide down the side. Then add a burlap bow to the bottom middle ring with wire (or twist tie) the star ornament is glued on using the strong metal glue."

Keepsake Ornament

Equipment

- Scissors Fancy + regular
- Clear ornament
- Ribbon
- Printer/Paper
- Paper punch



Instructions

- Measure yourself with the ribbon and cut it. Put it inside a clear ornament.
- Print off the quote or write it yourself on a piece of paper.
- Cut around it and punch a hole in the top corner. String the ribbon through and hang on the tree!



2023

This ribbon is special for both me and you! If we take it out and measure it, we'll remember how little I was in 2023.

Note: Cardstock paper would be more sturdy or you could laminate it to really preserve it!



We can't wait to spend the day with you on the farm!

Soak in the fresh air and beautiful surroundings with your loved ones and enjoy some fall fun!

Sponsored by Region 5

Saturday, October 14, 2023 • 10 AM– 9 PM
252 Greenfield Road, New Wilmington, PA 16142

Irons Mill Farmstead is located in Scenic Amish Country, a short drive from Pittsburgh and Youngstown.

It's the region's premier Corn Maze, Pumpkin Patch, Sunflower Field, and Fall fun headquarters!

Spend the day exploring all the fun activities the farm has to offer! Zip down the Bat Glide, bury yourself in corn at CornCorn Beach, cheer on your favorite pig, catch candy raining from the sky, and so much more! Don't worry parents: there's plenty of seating!

Tickets are only \$5.00 for Adults, Youth members (16 & under) are free!

To reserve your tickets: **Call (1-800-488-1899)** or **Email (bbonnar@nsslife.org) Bethany** at the Home Office no later than **Monday, October 9th.**

You will receive your tickets on the day of the event. There will be a NSS Member registration table at the front entrance from 10-10:30am where you can pick up your tickets!

We hope to see you there!

Judge Ron Arnoni's Leadership Corner

Social Media Tips

October is Cyberbullying Prevention Month

"Think before you post."

During those extra couple of seconds, ask yourself, is this message one I really want to share? This simple advice will help you and your children make more positive posts.

If you are being bullied online, tell a parent, guardian, teacher, counselor, friend or an adult. Do not suffer in silence. If you see cyberbullying take place, do not step in, step up and help."

Follow on Instagram



Leadership DEVELOPMENT



www.OurLeadFamily.com



Life Hint

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



Nov. 5, 2023

12 p.m.-4 p.m. **Cathedral of Learning Commons Room**
University of Pittsburgh (Oakland)

- **Ethnic Food**
(Klobasa, Halušky, Holupki, Pirohy, Pastries & Cookies)
- **Cultural Displays & Lectures Shop**
- **Slovak and East European Import Vendors**
(Crafts, Gifts, Food & More)
- **Musical and Folk Dance Performances**



facebook.com/SlovakHeritageFestival



youtube.com/SlovakHeritageFestival

ASSEMBLY 0039 Uniontown, PA

Region 5, the region our assembly belongs to is holding a "Family Fun Outing" on Saturday, **October 14th** at the Iron Mills Farmstead, 252 Greenfield, RD in New Wilmington, PA. Adults \$5.00 and youth are FREE! Call Bethany in the home office (724-731-0074 Ext.1010 for your reservations. Fun for the whole family!

Our heartfelt sympathies go out to the family of Richard J. Pekar, Sr. May he rest in the arms of the Resurrected Christ.

Congratulations to our assembly first year NSS Scholarship winners: Valentina Guliano who will attend the University of Pittsburgh and then medical school. She received the Stephen J. Trusik Scholarship. Also, to our assembly president, John Payerchin who is working on a business degree at the Westmoreland County Community College. Best wishes.

The NSS Home Office has notified our assembly that we achieved the "Diamond Award" level in the NSS Fraternal Growth Award Program. We collected over 100 fraternal points. Thank you to all that help achieve this award. Our next goal is to reach the "titanium" level.

NSS Photo Contest: Deadline October 31st and the Christmas Ornament Contest in December 1st. Rules and regulations are in this issue of the "National News" Get your creative juices flowing and get us some fraternal points!

Our next meeting will be our Annual 2023 Christmas Party at the Columbian Social Hall in Uniontown, PA. **PLEASE NOTE:** the date has been moved from Sunday to SATURDAY, **December 2nd** at 2:00 pm. Mark your calendar! See you there.

Watch out for those little ghosts and goblins!

John Payerchin
President

ASSEMBLY 70 & C70 BROOKLYN, OH

Our assembly will be having our Christmas Luncheon and Meeting on **December 3rd**, at Dr. Martin Luther Church, 4470 Ridge Road, Brooklyn,

Ohio at 11:30 a.m. This will be a catered event so we will have to know your food choice if you plan to attend. Call John Karkosiak at 216-741-6990 for your reservations by November 26th. If you are able desserts would be appreciated.

John Karkosiak
Treasurer

ASSEMBLY L075 Duryea, PA

A meeting will be held on **October 14th** at 1:00 p.m. at Grandes Restaurant Birney Ave. Moosic PA.

On **December 9th**, we will sponsor matching funds for the annual Troop 316 Chili and Craft Fair at Ladore Lodge Honesdale from 9:00-5:00 p.m.

Plans will be finalized for next year's meetings with our Fraternal Dinner in January 2024. For more information contact Lehrae Edwards at 570-569-2181.

Lehrae Edwards
Secretary

ASSEMBLY L102 Schnecksville, PA

Mark your calendar for our events so you don't miss them:

Sunday, October 22nd:

Halloween Party at the Wesnak residence, Whitehall, PA at 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 5th:

Christmas ornament making party at the Wesnak's residence at 2:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 9th:

Matching Funds "Breakfast with Santa" for the Hokey AA football team.

Sharon Wesnak
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0123 Coraopolis, PA

For us in Pennsylvania October is a most delightful and colorful month. It is a gift that nature gives us so please enjoy it as much as you can. I think of my aunt who is blind and can no longer see all of the beautiful sights we often just take for granted.

Saturday, **October 7th** our assembly will be volunteering to do some clothes sorting at the World Vision Warehouse in Sewickley at 9:00 a.m. Afterwards

we have lunch at Eat-N-Park on Route 65 in Sewickley. Please call me (724-242-5085) or Jill Grover (412-638-7060) to let us know that you will be there. It is a good cause and I hope that many of you will join us. In fact, if any of you are doing volunteer work, let me know so we can publicize it. There is also the NSS matching fund program where they will match up to \$500 that you raise for charity. Let me know so I can get you the paperwork.

The photo contest deadline is October 31st. Get those pictures in a win yourself a little cash. Just by entering you help our assembly get points which can be turned into extra cash which we use for our members.

Just to let you know how widespread our assembly is; we have two members in Maui. While their homes were not destroyed in the fire, where they work was damaged. They are both fine for now, unemployed, and volunteering to help displaced residents. Our assembly sent each of them a small donation and if any of you would like to donate to the members or the relief effort in general, please give me a call and I will get you their address and information.

The Christmas party and luncheon is 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, **December 17th** at Rockefeller's Grille in Kennedy Township. We are looking for a big turnout. The same as last year, there will be a \$10 per person charge paid in advance so we need to get a commitment on our attendance.

Enjoy this beautiful month.

Bill Knoll
President

ASSEMBLY L161 Pittsburgh, PA

In October our assembly will join with the Whitaker Volunteer Fire Department for a Hoagie Sale. Orders will be due by Monday, **October 2nd**, and the Hoagies will be delivered Wednesday, October 10th. They are \$10.00 each. If interested please email me - sue.ondrejco@gmail.com with your order or any questions. This will also be a matching funds project. The firemen do not receive any funding from the borough and rely solely on their fundraising efforts for support.

Sue Ondrejco
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0377 Bentleyville, PA

Below are the remaining meetings we have for this year. And as always, please RSVP to me at 724-207-3171.

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



Some members at a table at the famous Route 66 Chicken Basket. Our members had a good time!

Irene Tomaskovic
President

We will, of course, be supporting Toys for Tots and the Lunch Room Angels. Plans for the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner and the Christmas party are being finalized.

Mary Jo Holker
President

REGION 2 Hazleton, PA

Region 2 will hold a meeting on Saturday, **May 18, 2024** at 1:00 p.m. at Grotto Pizza, Wilkes-Barre PA. Those who would like to attend please contact Lucy Piccoletti at 570-479-4116 or RSVP on our Facebook page at (NSS Life Region 2) Congratulations to the newly reelected Officers.

Marlin Petro Wesnak
President

ASSEMBLY 0432 Fairview Park, OH

Our Annual Christmas Meeting will be held on **December 6, 2023** at Tony K's, 841 W Bagley Road, Berea, Ohio 44017 at 6:00 p.m. RSVP by December 1st to Dave Pytel at (440) 759-4558, Bill Shuttleworth at (440) 465-6024, or Terri Hudak at (440) 714-8902.

You don't want to miss this event! Tobogganing on **February 18, 2024** at Strongsville Chalet, 16200 Valley Parkway, Strongsville, Ohio 44136 at 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The price will be \$15/per person. Unlimited rides down the toboggan chutes, food, drinks, snack and desserts included! RSVP by February 1st to Dave Pytel at (440) 759-4558, Bill Shuttleworth at (440) 465-6024, or Terri Hudak at (440) 714-8902.

Shawn Pytel
Publicity & Social Media

ASSEMBLY 0588 Avella, PA

A meeting will be held on **November 13th** at Joe & Annette Stefka's, 5007 Old Orchard Lane, Gibsonia, PA at 5:30 p.m.

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

Annette Stefka
Secretary

REGION 8 Cleveland, OH

Attention assemblies #4, #70, #160, and #432

The semi-meeting of Region #8 will be held on **October 18, 2023** at Dr. Martin Luther Lutheran Church, 4470 Ridge Road, Brooklyn, Ohio at 7:00 p.m. (please note time)

This meeting will be hosted by Assembly #432. Plans for upcoming events for 2024 will be discussed.

Hope to see all assemblies from our region at this meeting.

Carole Koches
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0737 North Huntingdon, PA

A meeting will be held on Sunday, October 1, 2023. Any information as far as time or place, please call Andrea Garbon at 412-558-0314.

Hope to see you there.

Andrea Garbon
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0586 Chicago, IL

A discussion was held among our members at the last meeting and we decided to give \$200 raised from our activities to World Central Kitchen.

This organization with many volunteers is already working in Maui and Florida. WCK has fed thousands in Ukraine and Slovakia. Their response to many crises is immediate.

On **November 17**, our assembly has scheduled our Christmas activity at Francesca's on 95th. Details to follow.

ASSEMBLY 0813 Englewood, FL

Our assembly is busy with the following upcoming events. There will be a reprise of their successful "Wind Cork Pull" for the **four Thursdays in October**. Stephanie Collin will be coordinating with Kerry Farrell for this event.

Also on the agenda will be the Brown Bag food drive for needy senior citizens through the Wiregrass Food Bank. Our assembly has been working with David Hanks, the executive director. The Brown Bag program provides two extra bags of food each month for a year.

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**.

Happy 100th Birthday Alice Five Generations



Celebrating 100th birthday with 5 generations! Alice Figlo 100, Alice Kempa 70, Holly Gosinski 47, Nicholas Born 26, and Charlotte (4 months).

Assembly L075



Our Assembly sponsored a matching funds day on August 20th for the Montage Mountain Ski Patrol Annual Golf Tournament. We sponsored a hole, donated a lottery basket, and attended the dinner to present a check to the ski patrol. Shown are Secretary-Treasurer Lehrae Ann Edwards, John Foster Ski Patrol President and Vice President Lucy Piccoletti.

Assembly 70



NSS Assembly 70 presented the matching funds check to Dr. Martin Luther Church for the rummage sale proceeds. L-R: A-70 Officers John Karkosiak, President; Katie Karkosiak, Secretary; Ron Shimek, Vice President; Garth Moore, DMLC Council President; and Pastor Erik Markovich. Thanks again for your support.

Assembly 617/C617



Group Picture at 2023 Fraternal Day

The annual Fraternal Day for Assembly 617/C617 was held at Knoebels Amusement Resort in Elysburg Pennsylvania on August 17, 2023. The assembly provided hoagies, bottled water, and books of ride tickets to the members. Members also brought fruit, snacks, and desserts to share with the group. Special treats this year were snacks from Slovakia.

A brief meeting of the assembly was held to update members on past and future activities of the Assembly, for example donation of a PVR Leaf in memory of George Strish, Join Hands at St. Vincent de Paul kitchen, Back Mountrail Trail litter pickup, Commemorative Service of the Revolutionary Battle of Wyoming, also members were reminded to submit photos to NSS Photo Contest. Special congratulation was given to Jacob Ostrowski for his 1st place award in the Van Gogh level of the NSS Art Contest.

The Assembly 617 Matching Funds Basket Raffle were on display for members to view. Again this year a special prize of an artisan handmade hammock from El Salvador was donated by Father John Ostrowski, a member of our assembly. The assembly supports Father Ostrowski's mission in El Salvador with this project. The youth circle participated in a game to guess the value of coins in a jar. In addition to the coins, the winner also received an book on the History of Slovakia. This activity was organized by Margaret Lukas.

A new addition to Fraternal Day was door prizes of cultural items from and about Slovakia such as dolls, cookbooks, and books on Slovak culture. Assembly also presented children's books to two youngest members in attendance.

Everyone had a enjoyable time at the 2023 Fraternal Day. Looking forward to the fifteenth Fraternal Day next year.

Assembly 617 will hold a end of year meeting on **October 25, 2023** at Pierce St. Deli beginning at 1:00 p.m. Any member planning to attend should make reservation with John Kurilla at 570-287-4163, 570 239-5936, or jkkurilla@aol.com.

John Kurilla
President



News from Assembly 123

Jackson Ghaly recently attended Allegheny County Camp Cadet. Camp Cadet is a tuition free one week event, hosted at Camp Guyasuta in Sharpsburg, staffed by local Pennsylvania State Police, Allegheny County Police, Allegheny County Sheriffs and local Municipal Police Officers who serve as counselors and instructors. The program is designed to give boys and girls, ages 12 thru 14, a better understanding of law enforcement activities while living in an atmosphere similar to a police training academy. Emphasis is placed on improving self-discipline, building self-esteem and confidence through teamwork and making new friends. Some of the activities include a mock crime scene and mock trial, as well as demonstrations by the SWAT/SERT, motorcycle, horseback and K-9 Units.

Jackson earned an award as Squad Leader and was selected to be the one cadet who will return to Camp next year as a peer mentor. He is a member of Assembly 0123. His assembly and family are very proud of his accomplishments.



Jackson and his father, Josh Ghaly, grandson and son of Home Office employee Jill Grover.



As part of the program, Cadets made a 12 mile bike ride to the North Shore Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.

Assembly 813



Mary Jo Holker presents a check to Laura Roy, executive director of Jubilee Center, an outreach of St. David's Episcopal church. The donation is part of the NSS's Matching Funds program.

On the day the check was presented, not only were they excited about getting the check, but it marked the largest, to date, number of clients served in one day, 47. This represents well over 100 persons who received help in one day.

Assembly 432 Night at the Ball Park



Members of Assembly 432 having a great time at the ball game.

Assembly 731

Since 2011, the Chestnut Ridge Church of God in Hubbard, Ohio has held a shoe give away for area students in grades K-12. Pastor Rob McFarland is able to purchase hundreds of pairs of new shoes each year from local shoe stores with the support of donations and sponsorships. The students are offered a wide variety of name brand shoes in sizes to fit everyone. NSS has been a generous sponsor of this event for several years. Some assembly 731 members helped nearly 300 kids get fitted with their favorite pair of shoes. The children are very excited with their new shoes and parents are appreciative for the help to relieve some of the financial burden they face at the beginning of each new school year.

Laurie Fox
President



Several tables at the Church were filled with shoes of various sizes, colors and brands.



NSS Assembly 731 members, Linda Estes, Sue Burns, Kathy Flickinger, Pastor Rob McFarland, and Laurie Fox assisted with fitting students with their new shoes.



Notes of Appreciation

Dear President:

I am very appreciative to be receiving scholarship money from the PVR program. As I begin my studies in biochemistry at St. Vincent's College, I will pursue my career as a laboratory pathologist, I will persevere as my course of study will be lengthy, involving medical school, a residency, and a specialty in my area of study. I extend my deepest gratitude to the Board of Directors, Executive Officers, and the members for aiding me in my endeavor.

Thomas Phillips

Dear Mr. Stefka:

Thank you very much for selecting me as a recipient of the PVR Scholarship for 2023-2024, I am sincerely honored.

I will begin my freshman year at Grove City College in a few weeks to start football camp. I greatly appreciate your support, generosity, and the award, which will help me pay my cost of tuition.

Mason Kraeer

Dear NSS:

Thank you so much for the scholarship! Your generous contribution will provide a lot of help in pursuing my education.

Eva King

Dear NSS:

Thank you tremendously for your generous Scholarship. As I begin my first year of college, this scholarship has relieved financial stress on myself as well as my parents. I am incredibly thankful for your gift and I look forward to the next chapter of my life.

Benjamin Balbach



DEPARTED MEMBERS AUGUST 2023

| Name | City and State | Date of Death | Assembly |
|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------|----------|
| Adams, George C | Otway, OH | 07/16/2023 | 0595 |
| Anderson, Carol I | Evart, MI | 08/01/2023 | 0381 |
| Anthony, Alice | North Huntingdon, PA | 12/28/2021 | 0737 |
| Asmonga, Bernice | Oakmont, PA | 08/03/2023 | 0377 |
| Aul, Stella | Pittsburgh, PA | 07/25/2023 | L161 |
| Bacher, Penny | Cabot, PA | 03/12/2023 | 0123 |
| Baravetti, Catherine | Milwaukee, WI | 03/26/2023 | 0774 |
| Bartoli, Elizabeth | North Versailles, PA | 07/26/2023 | 0441 |
| Bayer, Wanda | Martinsburg, WV | 05/15/2023 | 0774 |
| Becker, George | Bellevue, PA | 07/30/2023 | 0123 |
| Bentley, Janise | Mars, PA | 02/12/2023 | 0123 |
| Bertolasio, James N | Stoystown, PA | 08/01/2023 | 0774 |
| Biggs Jr., Ralph W | Erie, PA | 08/07/2023 | 0731 |
| Blessing, Charles | Pipersville, PA | 07/14/2023 | R059 |
| Bohrer, Frances | Martinsburg, WV | 07/04/2023 | 0774 |
| Brochtrup, Rita | Manitowoc, WI | 06/01/2023 | 0774 |
| Brode, Patsy | North Huntingdon, PA | 08/10/2023 | 0737 |
| Buford, Earl | Pittsburgh, PA | 07/25/2023 | L161 |
| Burns, Robert W | Tuscon, AZ | 02/09/2023 | 0613 |
| Campbell, Virginia A | Fairless Hills, PA | 08/07/2023 | R059 |
| Chittister, David | Lebanon, PA | 07/17/2023 | L102 |
| Chovanec, Olga | Carmel, IN | 05/20/2023 | 0586 |
| Close, Constance | Harrison City, PA | 11/30/2018 | 0434 |
| Clowson, Patricia | Greensburg, PA | 06/02/2023 | 0737 |
| Codispot, Eugene | Butler, PA | 07/26/2023 | L161 |
| Coleman, Patricia | Princeton, WV | 07/27/2023 | 0774 |
| Coleson, Bernice | Brockport, PA | 07/29/2023 | 0554 |
| Connors, Thomas J | Middletown, NJ | 03/13/2023 | 0774 |
| Cosper, William | Weaver, AL | 08/02/2023 | 0595 |
| Cress, Annabel | Butler, PA | 08/06/2023 | 0123 |
| Croutz Jr., Anthony J | Greensburg, PA | 07/28/2023 | 0737 |
| Crumm, Jacquelyn | Crawfordsville, IN | 07/09/2023 | 0705 |
| Daniel, Richard | Vineland, NJ | 05/05/2023 | 0774 |
| Davies, Kathie | Ortonville, MI | 05/07/2023 | 0381 |
| Deets, Samuel | Franklin, PA | 08/14/2023 | 0731 |
| Dorfmeister, Joseph | Altoona, PA | 08/02/2023 | 0267 |
| Dunn, Judith A | Cabot, PA | 08/03/2023 | 0123 |
| Edwards, Charles | Little Ferry, NJ | 06/24/2023 | 0774 |
| Fidanza, Rosato | Grove City, PA | 07/21/2023 | 0774 |
| Fife, Ann M | Carnegie, PA | 11/14/2018 | 0434 |
| Franks, Ralph | Bobtown, PA | 08/19/2023 | 0039 |
| Gabonay, Janet | Herminie, PA | 06/21/2023 | 0737 |
| Gallo, John J | Schnecksville, PA | 08/02/2023 | L102 |
| Gilbert, Maryanne | Wadsworth, IL | 05/27/2020 | 0586 |
| Giovannini, Carlo | Gibsonia, PA | 06/29/2023 | 0123 |
| Gless, Edward | Caledonia, MI | 04/18/2023 | 0381 |
| Glover, Mary | Oakdale, PA | 08/06/2023 | 0123 |
| Gluvna Sr., John J | Lorain, OH | 11/18/2022 | 0160 |
| Godek, Jennifer | Reading, PA | 04/13/2023 | L102 |
| Godwin, Sharon | Clarksburg, WV | 08/07/2023 | 0774 |
| Grady, Gunell | Charleston, WV | 05/02/2023 | 0774 |
| Grill, Gail | Hamburg, PA | 08/20/2023 | L102 |
| Guild, Carol | Port Saint Joe, FL | 08/02/2023 | 0813 |
| Guster, Anna | Mercer, PA | 06/23/2023 | 0731 |
| Guydan, Frank | Northampton, PA | 06/23/2023 | R059 |
| Guyer, Thomas | Martinsburg, PA | 08/20/2023 | 0267 |
| Hadenak, Justine | New Salem, PA | 07/31/2023 | 0039 |
| Hall, Freda | Independence, WV | 02/28/2023 | 0774 |
| Hanshaw, Melvin | Meadow Bridge, WV | 11/23/2022 | 0774 |
| Harold, Bernard | Cranberry Twp, PA | 08/23/2023 | 0123 |
| Harter, Evelyn | New Kensington, PA | 08/17/2023 | L105 |
| Havr, Mildred | Northfield, OH | 07/09/2023 | 0004 |
| Hawkins II, Thomas K | Canonsburg, PA | 07/02/2023 | 0434 |
| Heeter, William | Emlenton, PA | 06/15/2023 | 0731 |
| Henry, Sally | Chicora, PA | 07/01/2023 | L161 |
| Hertner, Andrea | Erie, PA | 08/04/2023 | 0774 |
| Hillebrandt, Jean | Lost Creek, WV | 01/20/2023 | 0774 |
| Homola, Richard | Statesville, NC | 10/30/2022 | L075 |
| Hostetler, Gary | Cape Coral, FL | 06/08/2023 | 0813 |
| Howard, Charles | Beckley, WV | 04/24/2023 | 0774 |
| Johnson, John Eric | Erie, PA | 07/25/2023 | 0774 |
| Johnson, Robert E | Pittsburgh, PA | 08/14/2023 | 0123 |
| Kadzik, Theodore | Springfield, MA | 06/25/2023 | 0774 |
| Kamerer, Donald | Worthington, PA | 07/14/2023 | L106 |
| Keller, Anna M | Norvelt, PA | 07/20/2023 | 0737 |
| King, Heather | East Brady, PA | 07/26/2023 | 0731 |
| Kolesar, Daryl | North Ridgeville, OH | 12/16/2016 | 0432 |
| Kovach, Carl | Cleveland, OH | 04/16/2009 | 0004 |

DEPARTED MEMBERS AUGUST 2023

(continued from page 20)

| Name | City and State | Date of Death | Assembly |
|------------------------|----------------------|---------------|----------|
| Kozma, Jeanne | Youngstown, OH | 06/02/2023 | 0731 |
| Kral, Anton | South Park, PA | 05/29/2023 | 0434 |
| Kromer, Helen | Rural Valley, PA | 08/24/2023 | L105 |
| Kubala, Paul | Huntley, IL | 05/29/2023 | 0586 |
| Lazewski, Jean | Pittsburgh, PA | 07/14/2023 | L161 |
| Leisey, Mary | Hamburg, PA | 08/13/2023 | 0774 |
| Levic, Yvonne | Irwin, PA | 08/19/2023 | 0737 |
| Lillie, Donna | Erie, PA | 08/02/2023 | 0774 |
| Lough, Deloris | Fairmont, WV | 03/20/2021 | 0774 |
| Magyor, Ronald | Mt Pleasant, PA | 09/07/2022 | 0737 |
| Manning, Judy | Bridgeville, PA | 08/05/2023 | 0434 |
| Mansell, Mary | Uniontown, PA | 07/25/2023 | 0039 |
| Martin, Judith | Monaca, PA | 06/07/2023 | 0123 |
| Mason, Mary Ann | Mingo Junction, OH | 11/17/2019 | 0774 |
| Mc Afoos, Francis | Blairsville, PA | 07/27/2023 | 0737 |
| Mc Cluskey, Thomas | Mc Donald, PA | 08/04/2023 | 0588 |
| Mc Whorter, Joseph | St Augustine, FL | 10/03/2022 | 0774 |
| Mc Laughlin, Darla | Charleroi, PA | 07/10/2023 | 0377 |
| Meanor, Corinne | Beaver, PA | 08/23/2023 | 0123 |
| Morgan, Charles | Greensburg, PA | 08/24/2023 | 0737 |
| Morrison, Barbara | Pittsburgh, PA | 07/20/2023 | 0123 |
| Moss, Elizabeth | Pittsburgh, PA | 08/05/2023 | L161 |
| Moyers, Hubert | Bruceton Mills, WV | 01/04/2023 | 0774 |
| Mudron, Andrew J | Monessen, PA | 08/05/2023 | 0377 |
| Muehlbronner, Richard | Wildwood, PA | 08/02/2023 | L161 |
| Norton, Flora | Virginia Beach, VA | 07/08/2023 | 0774 |
| Novak, Doris | Cranberry Twp, PA | 06/29/2023 | L161 |
| Olszanski, Cashmere | Aliquippa, PA | 05/22/2023 | 0123 |
| Oravetz, Larry | Johnstown, PA | 08/02/2023 | 0737 |
| Ormsbee, Nellie | Afton, MI | 07/24/2023 | 0381 |
| Palfi, Margaret | Clarksville, PA | 07/15/2023 | 0588 |
| Parsons, Emma | Ansted, WV | 03/23/2023 | 0774 |
| Pasquino, Elsie | Ocean Isle, NC | 08/17/2023 | 0774 |
| Peake, Ronald | Flint, MI | 06/13/2023 | 0381 |
| Perkovich, Audrey | Smiley, TX | 05/06/2023 | 0774 |
| Peterson, Mary L | Hemet, CA | 06/23/2023 | 0568 |
| Phillips, Robert T | Mc Donald, PA | 08/23/2023 | 0588 |
| Pordash, Elizabeth | Cokeburg, PA | 07/18/2023 | 0377 |
| Pramick, Helen | Doylestown, OH | 04/20/2023 | 0731 |
| Priode, Lewis | Ona, WV | 07/05/2023 | 0774 |
| Pugh Jr., James J | Pottsville, PA | 07/03/2023 | 0774 |
| Quarantillo, Constance | Berkeley Springs, WV | 12/29/2022 | 0774 |
| Racer, Zora | Apple Grove, WV | 01/23/2023 | 0774 |
| Raines, William | Riverton, WV | 04/07/2023 | 0774 |
| Rathburn, Marcella | Franklin, PA | 07/19/2023 | 0554 |
| Reeves, James | Wayne, WV | 11/27/2021 | 0774 |
| Regal, Mary | Wilkes Barre, PA | 08/12/2023 | 0617 |
| Reitmeyer, Patricia | New Kensington, PA | 07/21/2023 | L105 |
| Renzi, Joanna | Naples, FL | 08/19/2023 | 0800 |
| Roach, Mary | Washington, PA | 05/18/2023 | 0588 |
| Roberts, Jeffrey | Rochester, PA | 07/27/2023 | 0123 |
| Sambula, George | Kirtland, OH | 07/25/2023 | L161 |
| Sayles, Martha | Owasso, OK | 12/03/2023 | 0774 |
| Scott, Otis | Richland Center, WI | 05/24/2023 | 0774 |
| Shaffer, Robert C | Mc Keesport, PA | 08/03/2023 | 0100 |
| Shanholtz, Helena | Augusta, WV | 12/19/2022 | 0774 |
| Sherman, David J | Punxsutawney, PA | 07/12/2023 | 0267 |
| Sims, Patricia | Natrona Heights, PA | 08/01/2023 | L105 |
| Sinagra, Dorothy | Pittsburgh, PA | 12/20/2022 | 0123 |
| Slupe, Criss | Butler, PA | 08/13/2023 | 0008 |
| Soloman, Anthony | Reidsville, NC | 06/04/2023 | 0774 |
| Soloman, Louise | Irwin, PA | 07/25/2023 | 0737 |
| Sparno, Michael | Pittsburgh, PA | 07/15/2023 | L105 |
| Spiker, Hazel | Bruceton Mills, WV | 11/01/2021 | 0774 |
| Stadelman, John | Pittsburgh, PA | 08/17/2023 | 0100 |
| Stevens, Katherine | Perryopolis, PA | 08/28/2023 | 0377 |
| Stowers, Gladys | Stoutsville, OH | 05/19/2023 | 0595 |
| Szul, Rita | Lower Burrell, PA | 03/29/2023 | L105 |
| Tanner, Judy | Chillicothe, OH | 07/17/2023 | 0595 |
| Taylor, Mary E | Pulaski, PA | 06/22/2023 | 0731 |
| Thomas, Marjorie A | Harrison Twp, MI | 07/27/2023 | 0381 |
| Timpe, Margaret | Meadville, PA | 07/29/2023 | 0731 |
| Uhrig, Michael | Chillicothe, PA | 03/10/2023 | 0595 |
| Upcraft, Natalie | Greensburg, PA | 06/28/2023 | 0737 |
| Verbanic, John | Greensburg, PA | 08/08/2023 | 0737 |
| Vitunic, Eleanor | Pittsburgh, PA | 07/20/2023 | L161 |
| Waldroup, Harry | Karns City, PA | 07/07/2023 | L161 |
| Werdeo, Rose Ann | Kiel, WI | 06/20/2023 | 0774 |
| Whited, Ira | Charleston, WV | 02/15/2023 | 0774 |



DONATE TO THE PVR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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

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

Here is my donation of:

\$ _____

Please issue your check to:

NSS PVR Scholarship Fund

And send to:

National Slovak Society
351 Valley Brook Road
McMurray, PA 15317

PVR Scholarship Fund Donations August, 2023

In Memory of **George A Strish:**

From Assembly 0617 250.00

In Memory of **Lawrence Camberg:**

From Assembly 0123 20.00

In Memory of **Richard DiCiero:**

From Assembly 0123 20.00

In Memory of **Helen Godleski:**

From Assembly 0123 20.00

In Memory of **Janet Lindell:**

From Assembly 0123 20.00

In Memory of our son and brother,

Shaun Logan Crowley:

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

Donations:

National Golf Tournament ... 4,260.00

Golf Basket Raffle 505.00

Septemberfest 2022 169.00

Director Robert Katricak 50.00

Shawn & Sue Urcho 50.00

Director Laurie Fox 25.00



Slovensky Festival pri Univerzite Pittsburg

Pozývame, slovákov a slovenky na slovenský festival pri pittsburghskej univerzite ktorý bude 5-teho novembra. Pripravuje ho Slavik Department. Vieme, že PGH univerzita je jediná v Amerike čo dostáva grant na vyučovanie štúdia slovenského jazyka kde študenti môžu získať kredity k maturite.

Pri tejto univerzite je založená i slovenská základňa ktorú financuje 5 slovenských organizácii vrátane našej NSS.

Vstupné na festival je zdarma, prebieha od obeda do 5-tej po obede. Môžete obdivovať výstavu slovenských vecí, ochutnať jedlá na slovenský spôsob a prípadne si i zaspievať počas vystúpenia slovenských súborov.

Mesiac Sv. Ruženca

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

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

O Mária ružencova naša patronka, my sa k tebe utiekame čista panenka.

Ty si Matka dobrotiva patronka ľutostíva, oroduj vždy za nás



Dožinkový Veniec

Pikantný jablčný mušt, zlaté a karmínové stromy, náznak prichádzajúcej zimy v chladnom jesennom vánku... jazda v krajine a chrumkavý vzduch - októbrové dni sú krásne a vzácne dary, o ktoré sa treba podeliť.

Prvého októbra rukovať mám....

Od vzniku Česko-Slovenskej republiky roku 1918 sa rukovanie do armády tradične konalo v jesenných mesiacoch. Najskôr však musel byť mladý muž uznaný ako schopný vojenskej služby. Preto ho predvolali na odvod, kde ho prezreli vojenský lekári a odvodná komisia rozhodla, či dva roky života strávi v zelenej rovnošate. Odobraní mládenci boli hrdí na to, že budú vojakmi, prechádzali dedinou so spevom, držiac sa za plecia. Samozrejme, v mnohých bola malá dušička, obava z odchodu zo známeho sveta rodiny a dediny, ale aj z prísneho poriadku vojenského života, o ktorom v krčme počúvali neraz riadne prifarbené sponínanie vyslúžilcov. Treba však popravde povedať, že vojenská prezenčná služba znamenala pre mnohých jednoduchých slovenských chlapcov príležitosť spoznať celkom iné prostredie, získať istý rozhľad a civilizačné návyky.

Odchod regrútov vyprevádzala celá obec na slávnostne ovenčených vozoch a v každej obci sa konali regrútske rozlúčkové zábavy.

S verbovačkami, odvodmi a vojenskou službou súvisí množstvo vojenských a regrútskych piesní, ktoré najčastejšie vyjadrujú smútok odlúčenia od rodiny a milej, odpisujú ťažkosti a nebezpečenstvá vojenského života.

Toto je jedna z najznámejších náborových piesni:

*Keď mi prišla karta narukovať, dal som si muziku došikovať.
Páni muzikanti, zahrajte mi čardaš, prvého októbra rukovať mám.*

A keď mi začala muzika hrať, začali mi slzy z očí padať.

Slzy moje, slzy, na zem nepadajte, čo ste milovali zanechajte.

Dožinkové Slávnosti

Po ukončení zozbierania všetkého obylia ženci a žnice urobili z obylia krásny veniec a odovzdali ho hospodárovi so slovami:

Milý pán hospodár, milá pani hospodárka, už sme vám požali, kde ste len čo mali. Keď sme to spravili, veniec sme uvili, s ním sa k vám ponáhľali, ako sme vládali. By sme vám s láskou odovzdali tento dar. By ste boli toľko rokov zdravi, koľko je v tomto venci trávy, by ste mali toľko pekných dietkov, koľko je v tomto venci kvietkov. By ste nám dali toľko litrov piva, koľko oči sa tu na vás díva, by nás pani hospodinka obdarila aspoň súdkom vinka. Preto milý náš pán hospodár, primijte vdačne tento od nás dar.

A veru aká bola žatva taký bude i „Chlieb nás každodenný“... Dala by sa o ňom napísať báseň, zložiť pieseň, či len povedať niekoľko obyčajných slov. Lebo zrod chleba bol oddávna veľkým tajomstvom. Spomeňme si na našich predkov, ktorí skôr ako začali žať, pokľakli a pomodlili sa. Keď začínali krájať chleba - - prežehnali ho a skôr ako ho vložili do úst ho pobozkali. Chlieb nebol len jedlom, ale vždy aj „Božím darom“, nemali by sme na toto zabúdať ani dnes.



Youth Circle Page

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

2023 NSS PHOTO CONTEST

Deadline: October 31, 2023

Contest Eligibility:

The NSS Annual Photography Contest is open to all members regardless of age. The photos, however, have to be taken by the member submitting it (no computer generated photos, other than digital ones).

Deadline:

October 31st is the deadline for all entries to be received. Judging is done by an outside professional. Please mail to: National Slovak Society, Member and Community Engagement Coordinator, 351 Valley Brook Road, McMurray, PA 15317-3337

Contest Rules:

- Must be a member before October 1st
- One entry per category
- Any size photo up to 8 x 10, unmounted in black and white or color
(No touch-up or computer enhanced photos permitted)
- Name and address should be submitted on a separate sheet of paper, along with information where the photo was taken. **Do not write on your photo!**

Four Categories

Scenic Babies Animals
Architecture (Bridges, Buildings, and Interiors)

Prize List

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

Please contact Bethany Bonnar, Member and Community Engagement Coordinator or call the Home Office at 724-731-0094 if you have any questions.

2023 Christmas Ornament Contest

Deadline: December 1st, 2023

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:

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

Prize Awards:

First Place - \$25.00
First Place - \$25.00
First Place - \$25.00
First Place - \$25.00
First Place - \$50.00
Second Place - \$30.00
Third Place - \$20.00

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

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

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NSS Heritage Museum's

Christmas Around the World

Saturday, November 25, 2023 • NSS Life Home Office

