



NSS Life
Family Matters...

Národné Noviny

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2024 ART CONTEST WINNERS





National Slovak Society

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NSS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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Linda M. Strom,
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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, now is the best time to share your experience with family and friends. Best of all, you will receive a cash reward (\$25 or \$10 for a youth term product) for recommending each person we issue a policy.

Recommender Information:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Prospect Information:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Do you need a Change of Address?

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

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

Change of Address Information:

Full Name: _____

Certificate #: _____ Assembly #: _____

New Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Former Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Activities At A Glance

REGION 2

Assemblies L075, 0617

August 4
August 11
August 22
September 7
October 12
November TBA

Assembly L075, Fraternal Summer Picnic, Mercateli Segilia Park, Moosic, PA at 1:00 pm
Region 2, Meeting, Grotto Pizza, Wilkes-Barre, PA at 2:00 pm
Assembly 0617, Annual Fraternal Day, Knoebels Park (Pavilion D)
Region 2, Concert for Paws, St. Anthony's Rec Center, Exeter, PA.
Assembly L075, Meeting, Grandes Restaurant, Moosic, PA at 1:00 pm
Assembly L075, Veterans Day Bingo (TBA)

REGION 5

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

August 18
September 8
September 15
September 15
September 23
September 28
November 3
December 1
December 7
December 8
December 14

Region 5, Family Picnic, Cedar Creek Park, Pavilion 16, 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Assembly 0039, Fall Dinner/Flight 93 Memorial Service, Bob Evans at 6:00 pm
Assembly 0377, Meeting, Sesame Gourmet Restaurant, McMurray, PA at 3:00 pm
Assembly 0123, Mini golf outing, Neville Island Miniature Golf Course at 1:00 pm
Assembly 0588, Meeting, Stefka's residence, Gibsonia, PA at 5:00 pm
NSS Heritage Museum 12th Annual Septemberfest, McMurray, PA at 11:00am - 4:00 pm
Assembly 0588, Meeting, Stefka's residence, Gibsonia, PA at 2:00 pm
Assembly 0377, Meeting, Hugo's Restaurant, Brownsville, PA at 3:00 pm
Assembly 0731, Christmas Party, Boardman Park's Lariccia Center Rotary Room (TBA)
Assembly 0123, Christmas Party, Rockefeller's Grille in Kennedy Twp 1:00 pm- 3:00 pm
Assembly 0039, Annual Christmas Party, Columbia Assoc. Social Hall at 2:00 pm

REGION 8

Assemblies 0004, 0070, 0160, 0432, 0595

August 8
September 21
September 22

Assembly 0004, Meeting, Vorell's residence, Strongsville, OH at 2:00 p.m.
Assembly 0432, Fall WhirlyBall, Bedford Hgts, OH at 2:00 p.m.
Assembly 0070, Meeting/Pot Luck Dinner, Dr. Martin Luther Church at 11:00 am

REGION 14

Assemblies R059, L102

August 4
September 5,6,& 7
September 22
October 20

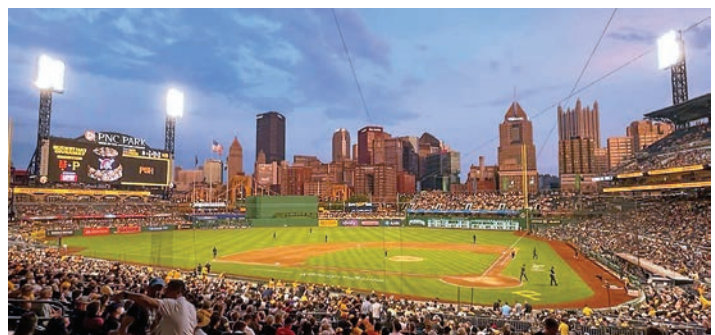
Region 14, Meeting/Picnic, Wesnak residence, Schnecksville, PA at 3:00 pm
Assembly L102, Matching Funds, St. Ann's Church, Emmaus, PA
Assembly R059, Meeting, Lahutsky residence at 3:00 pm
Assembly R059, Matching Funds, St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church

AT LARGE

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

August 10
August 23
September 29
November 10

Assembly 0705, Reunion in Seelyville, IN (Fraternal Fund Activity)
Assembly 0586, Meeting (Time and place to be announced)
Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck Home Seelyville, IN, at 1:00 pm
Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck Home Seelyville, IN, at 1:00 pm



The President's Page...

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



Congratulations to our current Compliance and Risk Manager John Payerchin as he was selected by the Board of Directors at the Spring Meeting to fill the position of NSS Secretary-Treasurer/CFO following the retirement of our Secretary-Treasurer/CFO Linda Strom on December 31, 2024. John will officially start the position on January 1, 2025, but has been named by the Board of Directors as Secretary-Treasurer/CFO Designate beginning on July 1, 2024, to work with Linda to ensure a smooth transition.

The NSS 58th National Golf Tournament will be history by the time you read this article. A total of fifty-four golfers in various flights competed in the tournament at Treasure Lake in Dubois, Pennsylvania. Congratulations to the winners of each flight and to the winner of the Joseph Stefka Memorial Golf Award. The results will be published in the September issue. Thank you to all that attended the tournament weekend and participated in the golf tournament, art activity, hospitality night, and the golf banquet. The tournament is a great opportunity to enjoy golf but to also share time with other NSS members and guests throughout the weekend. If you were not able to participate in this year's event, please make plans to join us and attend the 59th Annual NSS National Golf Tournament next July! The location and date will be announced in a future issue of the *National News*.

On Friday, June 14, 2024, this writer had the opportunity to welcome visitors from the Slovak Republic to the NSS Heritage Museum. The visit was arranged by NSS members Kay and Jim Bench. NSS Heritage Museum Manager and NSS Director Sue Ondrejco, this

writer, and my wife Annette welcomed the visitors from the Tourism and Foreign Affairs Department of the Mayor's Office of Spišská Nová Ves to a tour of the facilities followed by a luncheon. Mária Dutková along with her husband Igor Dutko and Jana Barbuščáková from the Mayor's Office, along with Ken Shirilla, President of Youngstown Sister Cities, Kay and Jim Bench, and Gary Zacur participated in the tour. It was an enjoyable and educational visit as information was exchanged among the group. Mária presented a book, *Slovak Settlers: The Emotional History of Migration* by Zuzana Palovic and Gabriela Bereghazyova to the NSS Heritage Museum for placement in the library. A photo of the group is included in this issue.

NSS National Sales Director Greg Felton and Field Development Manager Jeff DeSantes in consultation with the Officers formulated plans to develop an NSS Agent Advisory Council. A group of nine agents from the NSS Home Office area were selected and agreed to be a part of this initiative. The first meeting of the NSS Agent Advisory Council was held on June 25, 2024, at the Home Office with all nine agents in attendance, along with Home Office personnel. The purpose of the council is to provide insight, ideas for new opportunities, and ways to improve current processes to increase agent efficiency. In addition, the Council will serve as a resource to the NSS by sharing opinions and expertise regarding sales and insurance products. The Council will also serve as a liaison to other agents. The first meeting was successful with a great deal of detailed discussion among the council members, sales staff, and management personnel. A special thank you to the nine agents participating in the first meeting! Two additional meetings are planned, one in September and one in December. Looking forward to the next meeting of the NSS Agent Advisory Council!

The Summer Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Saturday, **August 17, 2024**. Any information for consideration at the meeting should be submitted to Secretary/Treasurer Linda Strom at the Home Office by August 9th.

Region #5 will hold a Family Picnic at Cedar Creek County Park located in Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania, on Sunday, **August 18, 2024**. The picnic will be held at Pavilion #16 starting at 1:00

p.m. and will include food, bingo, children's games, and a basket auction. The picnic is free to NSS members, but registration is required through our Member and Community Engagement Coordinator, Bethany Bonnar at 1-800-488-1890 or by email at bbonnar@nsslife.org to plan for food and activities. The deadline to register is August 4, 2024. Hope to see you at the Region #5 Family Picnic for a day of fun and fraternalism!

Visits to Region #14 on August 4th and Region #2 on August 11th will take place during this month. Looking forward to seeing members of the assemblies located in both regions at the meetings. Details regarding the time and location of the meetings have appeared in the past issues of the *National News*.

News of Narodniars

Special Happy Birthday wishes to my granddaughters Bella Bernardo and Caroline Bernardo. Have a day as special as both of you!

Happy Birthday to Honorary President Dave Blazek, to our Home Office Graphic Design and Social Media Specialist Ryan Strom, to Information Technology Director Dave Hertz, to Information Systems Analyst Suneesh Menon, to Riley Conner Home Office Claims Associate, and to Jan Amick, Andrew Blazek, Brady Kearney, Logan Kearney, Hudson Lavin, Jack Reeves, Dustin Shriver, Charlie Tabone, Pam Tabone, and all others celebrating a birthday in the month of August! Happy Wedding Anniversary wishes to Director Theresa Zelman and husband Cal, Editor Lori Crowley and husband Kevin, to our Secretary-Treasurer/CFO Designate/Compliance and Risk Manager John Payerchin and wife Heather, and to Danielle and Jeff Lavin. Best wishes to all others celebrating an anniversary during the month of August!

Get well wishes to Sharon Wesnak as she is recuperating from recent knee surgery. Wishing you a speedy recovery!

Deepest sympathy to the Zbin family on the recent passing of Al Zbin. Al was an active member of Assembly 432 and participated in many NSS Conventions, National Bowling Tournaments and National Golf Tournaments. May God provide the Zbin family with peace and comfort during this difficult time.

A Page From My Notebook...

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



A Personal Note

Life is uncertain and we don't know what is next for us. On July 16th I learned that my best friend passed on into heaven. We have known each other for over 25 years and have supported each other through good times and bad. Laurel, "If they could see YOU now, dancing with the stars". I miss you.

Golf Tournament

The NSS Golf Tournament was held the weekend of July 12th – 14th at Treasure Lake in Dubois, PA. I particularly enjoyed the weekend as many of the golfers that I have not seen for quite some time attended. In particular Damien Suess, NSS member and son of our former Sales Director Albert Suess who was also in attendance.

And, a shout-out to all those that helped make the tournament a success, especially our new Member and Community Engagement Coordinator Bethany Bonnar. This was her first Golf Tournament which was at times very hectic but she came through it all with flying colors. Congratulations Bethany!

Fraternal Allowance Increase

The Assembly and Region Fraternal Allowance checks were mailed mid-July so you should have received them by now. If not, please call the

home office. The Board of Directors increased the Assembly Fraternal Allowance to \$6.00 per adult member for attending a fraternal event and for our youth, \$3.00 for each youth member attending a youth-specific fraternal event.

Happy Birthday

And finally a happy August 1st birthday to my son, Ryan. He is the NSS graphic designer and creates the graphical renditions for our newsletter and other marketing material for our advertising partnerships both internal and external.

Second Quarter Financial Statement...

My page in next month's issue will contain the 2024 2nd Quarter Statement thru June 30, 2024.

Reading Matters Program

NSS Life is proud to announce the newest benefit for our Youth Members, Reading Matters, where you can complete reading logs for charity! All members aged 5-18 are eligible to receive official NSS Life Reading Matters Book Logs, where each completed book log will equal a \$50.00 donation from NSS to the charity of the reader's choice! Whether it be a local animal shelter or a national environmental charity, you can now read your way towards helping a cause that means something to you!

Once a youth member is registered, they will receive their official Reading Matters Book Log in the mail. Then, all they have to do is read! Once the log is completed, simply fill out the Charity Selection Form included with the log with the charity you wish to receive the donation. Once submitted, NSS Life will make a \$50.00 donation to the selected charity in honor of your *Super Reader!* Readers will receive a complimentary prize and certificate from NSS Life thanking them for reading for a good cause! Youth members can sign up to participate at any time during the calendar year and may complete two book logs per year.

Our teenage members can use this as a way to begin or continue their journey into community service and support causes that they feel passionate about! Parents, this is a great opportunity to not only encourage and reward reading, but also to introduce your children to charity and what it means to give back! Fill out the registration form below to start your little ones down the path towards making a difference and becoming a *Reading Matters "Super-Reader!"*

Rules

- Must be a NSS Life member aged 5-18 to participate.
- For children under the age of 14, parents must sign the form to act as confirmation that all books listed were read.
- Participants may submit up to 2 completed Reading Matters Book Logs per calendar year (charities can be the same or differ per log).
- Charities chosen as donation recipients must be designated as a 501(c)(3).
- Complete the registration form included in this edition and mail to 1301 Ashwood Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317 or email bbonnar@nsslife.org to receive your complimentary reading logs and charity selection form.

Contact Member and Community Engagement Coordinator, Bethany Bonnar, with any questions at 412-770-2093 or bbonnar@nsslife.org

Name: _____

Address: _____

Assembly: _____

Age: _____

Mail to: NSS Life
ATTN: Reading Matters
1301 Ashwood Drive,
Canonsburg, PA 15317

Current Interest Rates

★ Effective January 1, 2024 ★

Optimum 3 - 5.00%

Preferred 5 - 4.00%

New Preferred 8 - 6.50%* (For First Year Only)

Existing Preferred 8 - 4.25%

(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.

72%
overestimate
the cost of
life insurance

BUT
54%
say they used
gut instinct or a
wild guess when
estimating



NSS Life.
Family Matters...

Source: 2024 Insurance Barometer Study, Life Happens and LIMRA

LH.

From the Sales Department...

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



Some Quick Facts About A Roth IRA

Contributions to a Roth IRA are made on an after-tax basis. You can withdraw your contributions at any time and any potential earnings can be withdrawn tax-free in retirement by following the guidelines. You are not required to take distributions from a Roth IRA. Many financial planners and tax professionals believe that a Roth IRA is the way to go since tax rates may go up in the future. A person can have both a traditional IRA and a Roth IRA within the limits.

- Maximum contribution is \$7,000 or \$8,000 if age 50 or older
- No contribution age restrictions. You can contribute at any age as long as you have a qualifying earned income.
- Earnings grow tax-free if left to accumulate.
- Principal may be withdrawn before age 59½ without a 10% IRS penalty.
- Qualified tax-free withdrawals if you follow the guidelines.
- No mandatory withdrawals (unlike a Traditional IRA that has RMDs)
- No income taxes for inherited Roth IRAs.

A Roth IRA is easy to open with NSS Life. The minimum is \$90 per month or \$1,000 in the first year. The account is flexible after the first year and any amount at any time may be deposited. NSS Life always recommends that you consult your tax advisor for specific information.

Password Manager

If you are like most people, the number of passwords and IDs needed to function in today's world is daunting. There are business uses and personal uses of passwords and IDs that are absolutely essential. There is also a third category of minimal use websites such as restaurants, libraries, hotels, etc. So how is a person supposed to keep up to date and protect themselves at the same time? A password manager program can help you; generate passwords, auto-fill, 2FA (2 factor authorization) and basically protect you from online harm. Here are a few highly rated free password manager programs that you can check out. Aura, NordPass, RoboForm, 1Password and Keeper. Two good ones that charge a fee are Dashlane and LastPass. Check these out on the internet and pick one that is suitable for your needs.

There are so many bad actors out there that you have to protect yourself. No matter where your vulnerability lies, a good password manager will be a step in the right direction and help keep you safe online. Read about this tool, take action and enjoy the peace of mind that comes with security.

Auto Success

Here is one of the greatest secrets to saving money. Any financial planner will tell you that their most successful clients used this method. Automate your savings! What does that mean? Before the money is in your hand make sure it has been allocated somewhere else. The easiest example is your 401k plan. The money is taken out of every check and while you don't miss that amount it will add up significantly over time. Sign up for your company's thrift, savings bond, or any other plan they may offer. Set up an automatic deduction from your checking account to save money in an IRA, Roth IRA or annuity. On payday when your check is direct deposited to your account have some amount immediately moved to a savings account. This one idea will make all the difference over time.

Many people think they can do this on their own, that they have the discipline to put some sum of money away each month. They think that they will write a check each month. In reality, the first month, the car insurance is due and the next month something else pops up and the list goes on and on. We are all human and think this was just an anomaly, and I will do better next month. But we don't? Want to do better? Want to be successful – automate!

Sales Agent Seminar

Recently, we invited a number of local agents to take part in our first Sales Agent Seminar that was held at the Home Office by the Sales staff. The new updates to the online portals and integration of DocuSign to the E-app were among the topics discussed. We hope to hold another seminar in the near future.



Thought For The Month:

Once you realize that willpower is just a matter of learning how to control your attention and thoughts, you can really begin to increase it.

Walter Mischel (1930-2018) Austrian psychologist

The Community Corner

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



It sure has been busy in the NSS world lately! Read below to catch up on all the fraternal fun NSS members have been having this summer. Don't worry, there's plenty more still in store for the rest of the year!

Recent Events

In July we also celebrated Slovak culture and heritage at Kennywood Slovak Day! NSS home office staff and members from the surrounding area came together to bond over Slovakian food and entertainment. Much fun was had as we chowed down on pierogies (with a side of Potato Patch Fries), watched the Pittsburgh Slovaks perform, and rode the rides! I'm already counting down the days until next year!

We have also wrapped up this year's art contest! I know I say this a lot, but time and time again I find myself impressed with the artistic skills and talents of our members. Congrats to all the artists that were named as winners! An extra special thanks to those who opted to donate their artwork to a local nursing home. We appreciate you sharing your talents with others and helping to brighten up someone's day!

PVR Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to all PVR Scholarship recipients that are heading back to school this month! When you make a donation to the PVR Scholarship Fund you are helping young adult NSS Life members from across the country

achieve their goals of higher education. These impressive students are pursuing degrees in fields like American Sign Language, Chemical Engineering, Women's Leadership, Wildlife and Fisheries Resources, Health Sciences, and many more. The scholarships we provide help students attend small universities, like my alma mater Thiel College (go Tomcats!), and huge universities like Penn State, WVU and Ohio State. We have PVR scholars attending schools in Delaware, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, North Carolina, Nevada, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, West Virginia, Virginia, Vermont, and even overseas in England. With generous donations from members like you, we hope that all our PVR scholars have a great 2024-2025 school year!



Upcoming

Next up on the agenda for NSS Life this year is Septemberfest! Held on September 28th at the NSS Heritage Museum, this event is open to the community so you can bring your friends and family who may not be NSS members (yet!). Join us again to support local vendors, raise money for the PVR Scholarship fund, and of course celebrate Slovak culture. Trust me, you do not want to miss out on the food (I'm already dreaming about the haluski). We hope to see you there!

We also have everyone's favorite NSS contest, the Photo Contest coming up soon! Don't forget that you can now submit your photos via email (to bbonnar@nsslife.org) as well as through the mail! See later in this edition for a complete list of rules and then start snapping your cameras!

Social Media

Wait...don't tell me you still haven't checked out NSS Life on social media.... With member photos, fraternal updates, and even policy information, you're missing out! Follow us on Instagram ([@NationalSlovakSociety](https://www.instagram.com/NationalSlovakSociety)), Facebook ([@NSS Life](https://www.facebook.com/NSSLife)) and LinkedIn ([@NSS Life](https://www.linkedin.com/company/NSSLife)).

Tips for Overcoming Anxiety and Bullying

About 1 in 3 students will experience an anxiety disorder before they reach 18. By taking a few steps before school starts, you can lay a healthy foundation for your student to thrive. Here are five tips on how to deal with elementary school bullies:

1. Focus on Communication With Your Child

One of the biggest reasons you may have an anxious student on your hands is because of a lack of communication. Some children don't feel safe enough to express what's happening to them. Since they likely don't have the coping skills needed to deal, they may suffer silently. For that reason, you must focus on communicating with your child. You can't help your child through something you don't know is happening.

2. Normalize Student Anxiety

One thing that can help communication is normalizing student anxiety. In the past, society tended to downplay behavioral health issues like anxiety. You can be the change you want to see by normalizing these issues for the next generation. Explain how every student will get anxious at some point. Then, explain the difference between productive and negative anxiety.

3. Talk About How to Handle Bullies By Identifying Them First

Another thing you need to normalize is bullying. Explain to your child that bullies have always existed, and they always will exist. Bullying does not stop once kids reach adulthood.

4. Research and Discuss Coping Mechanisms

You should instruct your child to stay as far away from the bully as possible. Teach your child how to assert healthy boundaries and stand up for themselves.

5. Schools on Bullying: What Policies Are in Place?

Depending on the situation, you may have to take the necessary steps to escalate the situation to protect your child.

2024 NSS Life Art Contest Winners



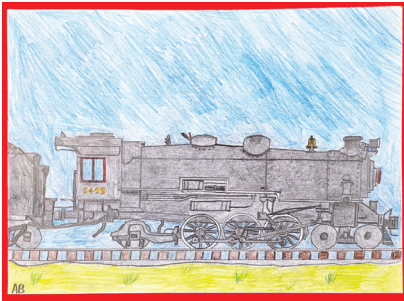
Brynley Straziser - Assembly C731
1st Place Picasso Level



Caroline Bernardo - Assembly C588
2nd Place Picasso Level



Caroline Buff - Assembly C774
3rd Place Picasso Level



Andrew Burich - Assembly C434
1st Place Rembrandt Level



Evelyn Ostrowski - Assembly C617
2nd Place Rembrandt Level



Elianna Jaster - Assembly C381
3rd Place Rembrandt Level



Stephen Jaster - Assembly C381
1st Place Michelangelo Level



Anthony Cherevka - Assembly C108
2nd Place Michelangelo Level



Aubrieana Martini - Assembly C731
3rd Place Michelangelo Level



Gweneth King - Assembly C731
1st Place Van Gogh Level



Jacob Ostrowski - Assembly C617
2nd Place Van Gogh Level



Addison Draa - Assembly C731
3rd Place Van Gogh Level



Randy Estes - Assembly 731
1st Place Warhol Level

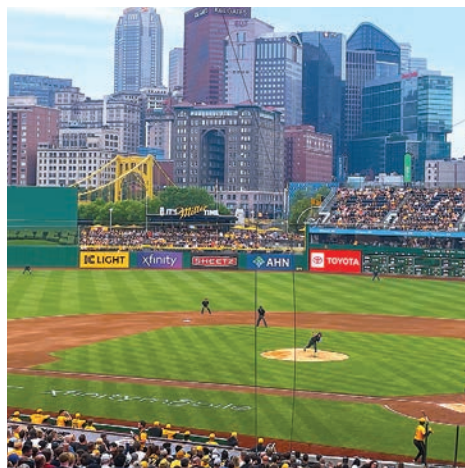
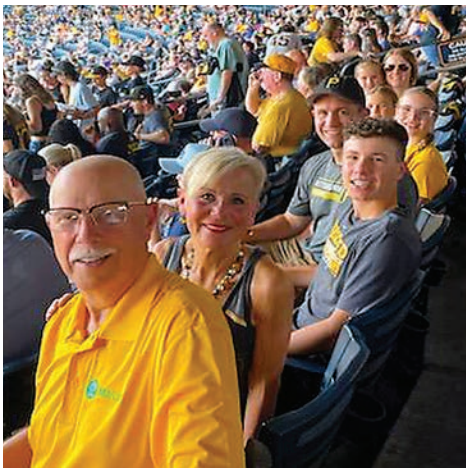


Mary Martini - Assembly 731
2nd Place Warhol Level



Maggie Semego - Assembly 108
3rd Place Warhol Level

NSS Region 5 Pirates Night at PNC Park



Region 5

Sunday, August 18, 2024



Family Picnic

Cedar Creek Park, Pavilion # 16

1 — 5 p.m.



- **FREE!**
- FOOD
- AUCTION BASKETS



Call or email Bethany Bonnar with # of Adults & Children attending:

Phone: 1-800-488-1890 or email: bbonnar@NSSLife.org

Deadline for registration Monday, August 5, 2024



Save the Date

12th Annual Septemberfest
Saturday, September 28, 2024

11 AM—4 PM

Presented by the National Slovak Society Heritage Museum
351 Valley Brook Rd. McMurray, PA 15317

Once again we are inviting our Assemblies and Regions to be involved in helping to make this year's event another successful experience.

Become a Sponsor:



Gold... \$ 250.00 **5 Tracking Pts.**

Silver...\$ 100.00 **2 Tracking Pts.**

Bronze..\$ 50.00 **1 Tracking Pt.**



If you know a vendor or crafter who would like to participate or demonstrate their craft for the day please contact:
sue.ondrejco@gmail.com
for more information.

Space is limited.

Early Vendor registration is encouraged.

Deadline for Vendor registration is

August 10, 2024

Checks should be made payable and mailed to:
NSSHM .. 234 ILION St. Pgh., PA 15207.

By participating as a sponsor your assembly will earn fraternal tracking points.

Other ways you can help:
Donate homemade baked goods
Publicize the event at your meetings &/or local papers

ASSEMBLY 0004 Parma, OH

A meeting will be held on Sunday, **August 18, 2024**, at Sonia Vorell's residence, 18088 Boston Road, Strongsville, OH at 2:00 p.m.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Sonia Vorell
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0039 Uniontown, PA



Assembly Members Waving "Old Glory"

A beautiful day greeted over thirty members and friends attending our Summer Bar-B-Q at the Columbia Association Picnic Pavilion. Following a delicious meal, we held our second quarterly meeting. The Bar-B-Q was held to celebrate "Old Glory." A short poem about our flag was shared. All who attended received an American flag to take home.

Our heartfelt congratulations go out to our NSS Editor, Lori Crowley who is celebrating fifty years working with the NSS in various roles in the home office. We commend her for the excellent job she has been doing with the "National News." Thank you, Lori!

Plan to attend our "Region 5 Family Picnic" on Sunday, August 18th at Cedar Creek Park, just a mile north of the State Route 51 and Interstate 70 exchange from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Delicious Slovak food! Auction baskets for the PVR Scholarship Fund and games and prizes for the whole family! Please RSVP to Bethany Bonnar at 1-800-488-1890.

Our deepest sympathies go out to the families of Virginia Melslovich, Karen Nicholson, Nancy Roberts, Leah Salutric and Dana Shrewbury. May they rest in the resurrection arms of their Lord and Savior.

The board of directors have changed the guidelines for "Senior Scholarships." All of the information and application is in the latest edition of the "National News." A great opportunity to learn something new and get help paying the class fees.

The "12th Annual Septemberfest" will be held on Saturday, **September 28th** at the Slovak Heritage Museum (the old home office) from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with great Slovak food, Slovak dancers, a variety of vendors, and a chance to visit our Slovak Heritage Museum. We will be a sponsor of the event. See you there!

Now is the time to start gathering your photos for the "NSS Annual Photo Contest" in October. Rules are in this issue of the "National News." For every entry you make, we receive award points.

Mark your calendar for our September dinner meeting at the Bob Evans Restaurant Community Room on the 8th. We will be remembering those Americans that died on United Flight 93 on September 11th.

Attention assembly members: The date for our Annual Christmas Party has been changed from Sunday, December 8th to **Saturday, December 14th** at 2:00 pm. Please be sure to mark your calendars.

John Payerchin
President

ASSEMBLY L075 Duryea, PA

Mark your calendars for our future meetings and events:

August 4th - Fraternal summer picnic, Mercateli Segilia Park, Moosic, PA at 1:00 p.m.

October 12th - Meeting at Grandes Restaurant, Moosic, PA at 1:00 p.m. for nominations and election of officers

November 24th- Annual Veterans Day Bingo pizza party (2nd floor rec room) at 1:00 p.m.

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

Lehrae Edwards
Secretary

ASSEMBLY L102 Whitehall, PA

Happy Summer!!! Our assembly (L102) will do a matching funds with St. Ann's Church in Emmaus on **September 5th, 6th, and 7th**. Come on out and enjoy delicious food, bingo, a huge basket raffle, and dance along with the live music.

For further information, please call Sharon at 610-769-7006.

Sharon Wesnak
Secretary

ASSEMBLY R059 Bethlehem, PA

Sincere thanks to Paula and John Lahutsky for hosting our June 2024 meeting and to Martha Sawarynski for bringing delicious baked goods to the meeting.

We will hold a matching funds coffee hour on Sunday, **October 20, 2024**, at St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church following the Divine Liturgy to benefit the St. John Chrysostom Academy, a classical Orthodox School in Bethlehem PA. Our next meeting will be Sunday, **September 22nd** at 3:00 p.m. at the home of Paula and John Lahutsky. Best wishes to all for a safe and happy summer.

Michele Guydan
Recording Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0070 Brooklyn, OH

A meeting and pot luck dinner will be held on Sunday, **September 22, 2024**, at Dr. Martin Luther Church, 4470 Ridge Road, Brooklyn, Ohio at 11:00 a.m.

Please call John Karkosiak at 216 741-6990 if you plan to attend. Side dishes are welcome and we will be serving fried chicken.

John Karkosiak
Secretary-Treasurer



ASSEMBLY 0123 Coraopolis, PA

What can I tell you about August? Is it going to be super-hot or very wet or both? It could be perfect and then I would have nothing to complain about. Hopefully, many of our members will be able to go to the Region 5 family picnic on Sunday, **August 18th** at Cedar Creek Park in Rostraver Twp, Westmoreland County right off route 51 South. It is a beautiful park and well worth the drive.

Our assembly is having the mini golf outing Sunday, **September 15th** starting at 1:00 p.m. at the Neville Island Miniature Golf Course which is by the golf dome and beside the Robert Morris ice rink. After golf there will be pizza and drinks. For any NSS members, the event is free. For non-members, the cost for golf and pizza is \$5.

If you have never seen the NSS Heritage Museum, **September 28th** is the day to do it. The Twelfth Annual Septemberfest is quite worthwhile. It will be held at the NSS building at 351 Valley Brook Rd in McMurray. There will be lots to see and do. It is both informative and entertaining.

Please clear your calendar for Sunday, **December 8th** for our assembly Christmas party and luncheon. We need a big turnout. The festivities begin at 1:00 p.m. at Rockefeller's Grille.

There are two articles in the July issue of NSS magazine I want to comment on. First, the nice tribute Linda Strom, the NSS Secretary-Treasurer paid to Jill Grover, our own hard-working Secretary-Treasurer. She deserves every bit of praise she gets. The second article was by Bethany Bonner who gave an update on the Senior Scholarship rules. I hope all of you read it and that many of you will take advantage of this nice and generous perk that you, as a member of NSS, are entitled to.

I will end with a tip especially for seniors, not high school, or college seniors but seniors like me. Be careful do not fall. The number one cause of falls by seniors is dual tasking. More cognitive effort is required as people age. Moving while trying to read or talk on your cell phone or carrying something increases your risk of falling. Be careful; be aware. Enjoy the rest of the summer.

Bill Knoll
President

ASSEMBLY 0377 Bentleyville, PA

Mark your calendar and join us for our next two events:

September 15, 2024 - Meeting at Sesame Gourmet, 2975 Washington Road McMurray, PA at 3:00 p.m.

December 1, 2024 - Meeting at Hugo's Restaurant, 687 National Pike Road, Brownsville, PA at 3:00 p.m.

At each meeting we discuss assembly business and ways to help the community and stay involved with the NSS. As always, please RSVP at 724-207-3171. We hope to see you!

Suzanne Skrypak
President

ASSEMBLY 0432 Lakewood, OH

Mark your calendar for our **NEW EVENT** - Fall WhirlyBall at 5055 Richmond Road, Bedford Heights, Ohio 44146 on September 21st. The games begin at 2:00 p.m. and we have the courts rented till 4:00 p.m. Food & drinks will be provided. Please RSVP to Terri Hudak at 440-714-8902 by September 1, 2024.

Shawn Pytel
Publicity

ASSEMBLY 0586 Chicago, IL

Our next meeting will be on **August 23rd** and we will notify our members of the location and time.

The beautiful Lake Shore Drive in Chicago is closed to autos with barricades and grandstands for the NASCAR race. Thousands have bought tickets and will overwhelm roads in the Loop. Shops and eating places and airports will be busy. Commercially urge the use of public transportation, of course.

Chicago will be the host for the Democratic National Convention, another huge disruption in the city's life.

Janet and I participated at the quarterly board meeting of the Slovak American Charitable Association recently with other members of the board. We asked the treasurer to men-

tion in her e-mails our ongoing collection for the overseas military. Some members brought bags of assorted personal items for the troops. The two Tomaskovic board members told the rest about our National Slovak Society's matching funds which we use every year. The board will bring that up, though SACA also has made contributions to different charities.

Enjoy the summer, stay safe, and come join us at our next meeting. We'd like to see you — we always have a good meal and good talk.

Irene Tomaskovic
President

ASSEMBLY 0588 Avella, PA

All of our meetings will be held at the Stefka residence, 5007 Old Orchard Lane, Gibsonsia, Pennsylvania on the following dates and times:

Monday, September 23rd - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 3rd - 2:00 p.m.

Please plan to attend the meetings and become active Assembly 588 members. Please contact Annette at 724-407-3591 if you are planning on attending a meeting so she can plan accordingly.

Annette Stefka
Recording Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0617 Ashley, PA

Our annual Fraternal Day will be held on **August 22nd** at Knoebels Park in Pavilion D.

Our assembly held a business meeting followed by lunch at Theo's Metro in Kingston, PA to discuss assembly activities. Among the projects reviewed were: Matching Funds, Food Pantry, Join Hands, and PVR Scholarships along with other possible activities.

Assembly members planning to attend any of our events please contact John Kurilla at 570-287-4163, 570-239-5936 or jjkurilla@aol.com

John Kurilla
President

ASSEMBLY 0705 Seelyville, IN

Mark your calendars for the following meetings:

August 10th - Reunion in Seelyville (Fraternal Fund Activity)

September 29th - 1:00 p.m. at Buck Home, Seelyville, IN

November 10th - 1:00 p.m. at Buck Home, Seelyville, IN

Dorothy Buck
Recording Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0813 Englewood, FL

Assembly 0813, Mary Jo Holker, has moved to Alabama to be near her daughter as taking care of her house in Florida is a bit much for her now. Following is the list of activities that our Assembly 813 will participate in the next few months.

Brown Bag Program for Wiregrass (they do this every year)

October 19th - Cork Pull at the Thirsty Pig, for Catholic Social Services, 3:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

October & November - Thanksgiving Baskets for Needy, contact Dan Farrell, Assembly 813 President

October 15th-December 3rd - Toys for Tots Collection, see Blaze Farrell for Dinner with Knights of Columbus

Mary Jo Holker
Secretary-Treasurer

REGION 2 Hazleton, PA

A meeting will also be held on Sunday, **August 11th** at The Grotto Pizzeria, Wilkes-Barre, PA at 2:00 p.m. Our guest speaker will be President Joseph Stefka, Jr.

Anyone wishing to attend please contact Lucy Piccoletti at 570-479-4116 by phone or text so we can plan accordingly.

Lucy Piccoletti
Secretary

REGION 2 Hazleton, PA

Matching Funds Event

A concert for Paws on September 7, 2024, at St. Anthony's Rec Center Exeter, PA. At 5:00 p.m. we will be doing a Matching Funds and basket.

This event will be FREE admission event and entertainment will be provided by classic rock band Riptide, who have graciously donated their time for it. There will be a 50/50 raffle, gift card raffles, and refreshments for purchase while supplies last.

The shelters will also be represented there as well as a few of their furry friends you can meet who will be available for adoption. These shelters do thankless work and really can use our help. Please consider donating now and attending the event in person. Also, share it with your friends and family! We're hoping it will be a great success and become an annual event where we can add more shelters to the donation list.

Marlin Petro
Region 2

REGION 14 Whitehall, PA

Notice date change, typing error:

A meeting and picnic will be held on **August 4th** at the Wesnak residence, 1727 Elmhurst Drive, Whitehall, PA at 3:00 p.m. Our guest speaker will be President Joseph Stefka, Jr.

Sharon Wesnak
Secretary

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!

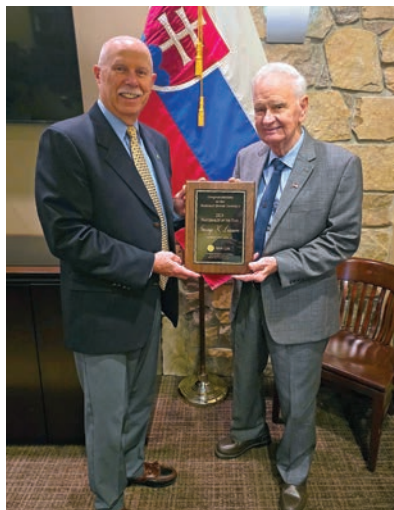
Visitors at the NSS Heritage Museum



Front (L-R): Jim Bench, Kay Bench, Annette Stefka, Mária Dutková, Jana Barbušćáková. Back (L-R): Gary Zacur, Joseph Stefka, Jr., Sue Ondrejco, Ken Shirilla, Igor Dutko.

Assembly Activities

George K. Leasure Accepts Fraternalist of the Year Award Plaque



President Joseph Stefka, Jr. presenting the 2024 NSS Fraternalist of the Year Award to George K. Leasure of Assembly 588.

Ashlynn Mason – Circle 731 Youth Achievement Award Winner Thank You Letter

The mission trip to Arizona was an absolute blessing. Our youth group spent a week in a small community on the Navajo reservation located at the foot of the eastern slope of Black Mesa in Apache County in northeast Arizona. The people I met there and the culture I got to experience was something I will never forget. I got to experience the Navajo language along with learning how to make quilts, fry bread, and many other things. I met many amazing and creative people who have touched my heart and will never be forgotten. I have grown so much with the Lord during this special week and witnessed so many amazing things that were created by Him. I would have never been able to go on this trip and have this amazing opportunity without NSS Life. Without their donation, this trip wouldn't have been possible for our youth group. Assembly 731 also made a huge impact in donating as well and to that I will forever be thankful. I am very grateful to my parents, Beth & Matt Mason, and grandparents, Peggy & Mark Mason and Laurie & Mike Fox for their continued love and support to help make this trip possible for my brother, Cameron, and myself.

I am so honored and blessed that NSS choose me for the 2024 Youth Achievement Award. I plan to continue to serve my faith, my community, and NSS and be the best I can. The money awarded to me will certainly help with my future college expenses. Thank you so much!

Ashlynn Mason
Assembly C731

Assembly 0123 Members



Congratulations to Grant Darby who took First Place in the Chess Tournament, Senior Division at the Sewickley Township Library. He is the son of Heidi and Sean Darby.



Congratulations to Gregory Hillman on receiving his BA in Sport Communications/Broadcasting. Gregory benefited from the PVR Scholarship Program. He is pictured with his mother, Cathy Montgomery. They are members of Assembly 0123.



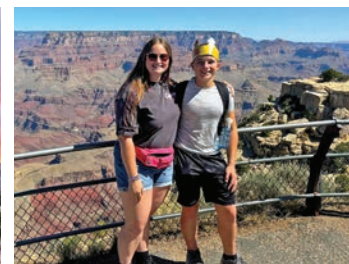
Ashlynn and Cameron with two friends during their visit to the Navajo Reservation



Ashlynn getting weaving lessons.



The youth group from Salem First Friends Church gather on top of rock when they arrived in Rough Rock, Arizona.



Ashlynn and Cameron at the Grand Canyon on their final day in Arizona.

Tips on how to Stay Cool during Summer

While basking in the sunshine is a wonderful thing, extreme heat can be deadly, affecting younger and older people, pregnant women, and those with chronic health conditions.

But there's a lot we can do to protect ourselves and our loved ones from the heat.

1. Be Sun Smart

It's best to avoid going out during the hottest hours of the day, but sometimes that can't be avoided. When out in direct sunlight remember:

- Wear (and regularly reapply) sunscreen.
- Cover your head with a hat.
- Take regular breaks indoors or in a shady area to avoid getting heat exhaustion or heatstroke.
- Wearing light-colored, loose-fitting clothing will also help you to stay cool.

2. Wetter is Better

Heat escapes through the skin, which is the largest organ in the body. So, the more skin you can cool down, the better.

You can quickly cool yourself down by putting your hands and feet in cold water. Wrists and ankles have lots of pulse points where blood vessels are close to the skin, so you will cool down more quickly.

3. Drink Plenty of Water

In hot weather, it's important to avoid caffeine and make sure you're drinking lots of water. If possible, drink isotonic sports drinks to replenish the lost salts, sugars, and fluids.

Both cool and hot drinks will work to keep your core temperature at the same temperature. Consuming hot drinks will not cool you down more effectively than cold drinks. In the heat, you should avoid drinks containing caffeine, including tea and coffee, it's typically best to stick to water.

As you sweat throughout the day, the liquids you are losing need to be replaced to avoid dehydration.

If untreated, dehydration can lead to heat exhaustion. If the person's condition gets worse, you should call 911 for emergency help.

DEPARTED MEMBERS MAY 2024

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Adams, Patricia A	Hamburg, PA	04/28/2024	L102
Annesley, Janice A	Pittsburgh, PA	02/01/2024	0100
Arthur, Rita	Elkview, WV	05/12/2024	0774
Artnak, George G	Canonsburg, PA	04/18/2024	0434
Baker, Mary V	Escanaba, MI	05/20/2024	0381
Behary, Robert J	Highland, IN	02/13/2024	0586
Bencivenga, Columbo	Lake Worth, FL	04/23/2024	0800
Bennett, Dona J	Pittsburgh, PA	04/29/2024	L161
Bihary, John	Edison, NJ	05/12/2024	0110
Bilowich, Phyllis M	Butler, PA	12/19/2023	L161
Blosser, Terry L	Etters, PA	05/16/2024	0267
Buterbaugh, Philomena	Pittsburgh, PA	04/27/2024	0100
Cairns, Richard	Rochester, PA	06/06/2024	0123
Casciola, Sandra A	Pittsburgh, PA	04/26/2024	0434
Chapman, Tillia	Shady Spring, WV	02/22/2024	0774
Cheetham, Joanne K	Pittsburgh, PA	01/03/2024	0441
Chenever, Matthew	Detroit, MI	12/05/2021	0381
Cheripka, Lorraine	Creighton, PA	05/01/2024	L161
Clark, Margy	Reynoldsburg, OH	05/14/2024	0160
Cruse, Ethel H	Williamsburg, PA	04/19/2024	0267
Czitterberg, Bertha L	Apollo, PA	05/09/2024	L105
D Amico, Mary F	Indiana, PA	05/15/2024	L161
Dobrinski, Judy L	Scenery Hill, PA	03/11/2024	0377
Edgar, Nora	Washington, PA	06/03/2024	0377
Eggerton, Mary	Pittsburgh, PA	11/16/2023	0100
Elswick, William	Charleston, WV	04/12/2024	0774
Emrich, Stephen	White Lake, MI	12/12/2019	0381
Fabri, Joseph	Valencia, PA	12/21/2023	0123
Flor, Doris L	Powhatan Point, OH	04/24/2024	0595
Gallucci, Mona Rita	Delmont, PA	05/13/2024	L105
Garrett, Della	Fairview Heights, IL	02/25/2024	0586
Gilliland, Barbara A	Knox, PA	05/15/2024	0731
Gizzi, Lynn A	Crystal River, FL	04/15/2024	0813
Gomer, Concetta	Philadelphia, PA	04/15/2024	L102
Hajnik, Joyce	Pittsburgh, PA	11/03/2023	0100
Halchak, Russell R	Nanticoke, PA	04/25/2024	0617
Hardy, William A	Westerville, OH	02/23/2024	0595
Henry, Ella I	Clarion, PA	05/04/2024	0554
Henry, Harry G	Centre Hall, PA	05/05/2024	L040
Herb, Virginia C	Pine Grove, PA	05/20/2024	L102
Hill, Wayne	Shoemakersville, PA	06/02/2024	L102
Hilldorfer, Carleen	Monroeville, PA	04/11/2024	L105
Hinchberger, Linda	Butler, PA	05/25/2024	0123
Hodges, Arden	Chester, WV	05/13/2004	0774
Horr, Willard L	Zelienople, PA	05/14/2024	0123
Hraska, Phyllis	Toms River, NJ	03/04/2024	0110
Hutton, Harry D	Sebring, OH	04/11/2024	0731
Ibella, Jon	Pittsburgh, PA	05/17/2024	0123
Ide, Dolores	Allison Park, PA	06/09/2024	0774
Immekus, Francesca	Pittsburgh, PA	04/27/2024	L105
Isherwood, Robert	Export, PA	06/04/2024	L105
Johnson, Phyllis J	Tampa, FL	05/08/2024	0813
Kubicka, Louis	Batavia, NY	06/06/2024	0586
Kuhnhen, Carole A	Mc Murray, PA	05/02/2024	0434
Lane, Mary Anne	Hernando, FL	03/04/2024	0813
Lang, Stephen	New Tripoli, PA	06/14/2024	L102
Larson, La Verne	Meadville, PA	04/27/2024	0731
Ludwig, Patricia	Flourtown, PA	05/19/2024	L102
Marano, Mary	Fairchance, PA	05/15/2024	0039
Margaret, Craig E	Washington, PA	05/11/2024	0588
Mc Garry, James E	Stewartsville, OH	05/04/2024	0595
Meares, James Boyce	Elizabethtown, NC	11/17/2023	0774
Mellor, William	Stow, OH	06/04/2024	0070
Menge, Ellen A	Muskego, WI	03/01/2024	0774
Michele, Joseph E	Punxsutawney, PA	05/01/2024	0554
Milko, Betty	Elyria, OH	05/20/2024	0004
Moore, David	Lexington, KY	05/23/2024	0774
Mull, Betty D	Hooversville, PA	04/29/2024	0039
Oravec, Dorothy W	Johnstown, PA	04/29/2024	0737
Organiscak, Violet V	Bentleyville, PA	05/04/2024	0377
Petruzzi, Maurus	Bensalem, PA	06/03/2024	L102
Pugh, Genevieve J	Parker, PA	05/12/2024	0731
Quesnell, Theresa C	Cheboygan, MI	02/21/2024	0381
Rendulic, Catherine	Mariana, PA	06/20/2024	0377
Rettig, Gary	Prospect, PA	06/21/2024	L161

DEPARTED MEMBERS MAY 2024

(Continued from page 16)

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Reynolds, Helen	Sykesville, PA	05/31/2024	0774
Rudish, Peter	Canton, MI	03/17/2003	0381
Rupinsky, Francis L	Export, PA	04/24/2024	L105
Rybar, Dorothy	Lawrenceville, PA	05/27/2022	0100
Sisko, Joseph W	Homer City, PA	01/23/2024	0774
Shimrak Sr, Peter	Avon Lake, OH	05/09/2024	0432
Stauffer, Jay	Leola, PA	04/10/2024	L102
Sypherd, Nancy J	Harleysville, PA	05/14/2024	L102
Torres, Ramona	Columbus, OH	04/29/2024	0595
Vankirk, Martha	Phoenix, AZ	04/24/2024	0774
Watkins, Hilda	Berlin, PA	05/23/2024	0039
Withers, Robert	Monongahela, PA	05/30/2024	0377
Yablunosky, Agnes	Hopwood, PA	03/30/2024	0039
Zaney, Rosemary	Bridgeville, PA	06/19/2024	0434
Zelinka, Margaret	Hanover Twp, PA	06/07/2024	0617

DEPARTED MEMBERS JUNE 2024

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Brenzy, Rose Ann	Sewickley, PA	06/01/2024	0123
Brest, Catherine M	Phoenix, AZ	06/04/2024	0160
Campagna, Denise Ann	Lawrence, PA	01/04/2024	0100
Carlson, Mary C	North Versailles, PA	04/30/2024	0737
Como, Dennis P	Amherse, MA	06/08/2024	0774
Cory, Maxine D	Lafayette, IN	05/24/2024	0705
Davis, Diana S	Indiana, PA	06/05/2024	L105
Eggerton, Mary M	Pittsburgh, PA	11/16/2023	0100
Egrie, Karen	Langhorne, PA	04/25/2024	L102
Ercoli, Robert M	Bethel Park, PA	06/04/2024	0434
Formichella, Olga Jane Kozumplik	Clearwater, FL	08/06/2023	0813
Frederick, James R	Zanesville, OH	08/16/2023	0731
Hill, Jane E	Warsaw, IN	10/30/2023	0705
Jackson, Cindy	Meadville, PA	06/20/2024	0731
Jendrock, Theresa J	Erie, PA	06/07/2024	0731
Jessen, Georgia M	Brookfield, WI	04/13/2024	0774
Johnson, Rodney Davis	Erie, PA	06/21/2024	0774
Kaylor, Maryann	Pittsburgh, PA	06/21/2024	L161
Keller, Pauline S	Trafford, PA	06/06/2024	L105
Kerr, Beverly	Wexford, PA	05/18/2024	0774
King, Thomas S	Ortanna, PA	06/09/2024	0588
Kirsh, George	Philadelphia, PA	05/28/2024	0110
Kline, Frank L	Pittsburgh, PA	05/26/2024	L161
Lemon, Jack E	Columbia City, IN	06/17/2024	0705
Mc Gee, Barbara L	Naperville, IL	04/11/2024	L161
Mc Minn, Emma D	Dubois, PA	06/04/2024	0554
Mc Wreath Jr, William M	Carnegie, PA	05/22/2024	0100
Moeller, Clifford A	Pittsburgh, PA	02/18/2024	0774
Pirol, Evelyn L	Alliquippa, PA	06/15/2024	0123
Piwinsky, Martha M	Slickville, PA	12/07/2023	L105
Quinter, Carmel	Schuylkill Haven, PA	06/22/2024	L102
Racko, Michael R	Canonsburg, PA	05/08/2024	0434
Rath, Jonnelle	Gilbertsville, PA	06/03/2024	L102
Reynolds, Helen	Sykesville, PA	05/31/2024	0554
Ringer, Ruth M	Erie, PA	06/17/2024	R019
Rippel, Lucille	Monongahela, PA	05/08/2024	0377
Slichter, Melvin R	Mohnton, PA	06/01/2024	L102
Smith, Angeline M	Latrobe, PA	10/12/2023	0737
Sowers, Elaine R	Andreas, PA	05/29/2024	L102
Strimel, Margaret A	Washington, PA	04/28/2024	0588
Suhan, Michael	Cabot, PA	06/02/2024	0123
Terwilliger, Margery	East Brady, PA	06/22/2024	L105
Thein, Bruce R	Pittsburgh, PA	03/31/2024	0100
Tyner, Joann M	Pittsburgh, PA	06/09/2024	0100
Warner, Richard Lee	Sugar Grove, PA	06/19/2024	0731
White, James H	Morgantown, WV	05/22/2024	0774
Wilk, James J	Surf City, NC	06/20/2024	0774
Wilson, Tony F	Lexington, NC	03/24/2024	0774
Woodward, Lorraine E	McKees Rocks, PA	06/13/2024	0774
Zupetic, Norma Jean	West Mifflin, PA	06/08/2024	0441

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.

Please issue your check to:
NSS PVR Scholarship Fund

And send to:
National Slovak Society
1301 Ashwood Drive,
Canonsburg, PA 15317

PVR Scholarship Fund Donations June 2024

In Memory of departed members from
Assembly 0123:

Janet S. August
Ruth D. Barrett
Helen T. Beveridge
Nancy L. Hammond
George T. Kosak
Vaughn R. Long
Thomas N. Mizgorski
Larry G. Rettig
Phyllis Shirey
Marey E. Trant
Glenn W. Wacker
Robert A. Wunderlin 100.00

In Memory of departed members
Assembly 0070, **Ruth Cwik and
Donald Neumeyer:** 40.00

In Memory of our son and brother,
Shaun Logan Crowley:
From Kevin, Lori, Kevin Jr.,
& John Crowley 20.00

NSS Life In Honor of 2024 Fraternalist
of the Year, **George Leasure:** 250.00

Donations:
Rudolph Ondrejco 55.00
Chairman of the Board:
Robert Katricak 50.00
Director Theresa Zemelman ... 150.00
Director Andrew Wesnak 50.00
Director Keith Kucherawy 50.00

NSS Employee Spotlight: Riley Conner *Claims Associate*



Hi, my name is Riley Conner and I work in the NSS life claims department. I have worked here for about a year and a half, and I am happy to say that I love my job. I graduated high school a few years ago and knew I wanted to help people. I never went to college because I was so eager to get out into the workforce. I'm very passionate about the work that I do by taking care of all our members. When I talk on the phone and know that I am helping others out during a hard time, it makes my heart happy.

While I'm not in the office I love to spend time with my friends and family. I still live with my parents and my younger sister. In addition, I have an older brother and sister-in-law. My family and I do everything together and I wouldn't have it any other way. I also have a boyfriend who I have known since I was 10 years old. Some activities we love to do together is go shopping, play pickle-ball, and travel. One thing that I enjoy is going to the gym and working out during my free time. A fun fact about me is that I was born at 2:22 A.M. in 2002, therefore my lucky number is 2.

I plan on getting my life license soon and continuing my journey in the insurance world. I love working at NSS and wouldn't have it any other way. I am grateful for the wonderful relationships with my coworkers and members. I look forward to the future and all the amazing opportunities to come.

Riley Conner

NSS Employee Spotlight: Tipton Wallace *Premiums Associate*



Hello, I'm Tipton Wallace. I am the Premiums Associate here at NSS Life, and I have been part of the team for about a year and a half. There are many things that I love about working here, but I think the thing that I enjoy the most is cultivating relationships with our members and agents! So, if you ever have any questions regarding your payments, please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

I am originally from Utah, but moved to the Pittsburgh area with my partner who is originally from here. Out of everywhere that I've been to, I have to say that Western Pennsylvania is one of my very favorite places. I love the beautiful nature, the sense of community, and enjoying all of the amazing cultures that congregate here (along with their delicious dishes!)

When I'm not at NSS Life, I'm usually curating playlists, playing an instrument, or being a Beatles nerd. Music is one of my greatest passions. I also enjoy reading, creative writing, and learning about film theory.

I'm so grateful for the NSS and I feel blessed to be a part of this community. Thank you!

Tipton Wallace



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NSS SCHOLARSHIP FOR SENIOR MEMBERS A NATIONAL SLOVAK SOCIETY FRATERNAL PROGRAM

PURPOSE

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

MEMBER ELIGIBILITY

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

COURSE ELIGIBILITY

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

PROCEDURE

Members should enroll and pay for the course of their choice. Once the member has finished the class, they must submit an application, along with verification that the class was successfully completed, to the Home Office for approval by a National Officer. If the scholarship application is approved, the NSS will reimburse the **full tuition for the course up to, but not to exceed, one hundred dollars (\$100.00).**

NSS Senior Scholarship Application A Fraternal Program Of The National Slovak Society

Personal Information

Full Name _____

Address _____

Assembly Number _____ Birthday _____

Course Information

Course Name _____

School _____

Instructor _____

Beginning Date _____ Completion Date _____

Tuition For The Course _____

Verification Of Information

To the best of my knowledge the information presented above is true and accurate. I therefore make application for the National Slovak Society Scholarship for Seniors Program.

Date

Your Signature

**Return to the National Slovak Society at:
1301 Ashwood Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317**

HOME OFFICE USE ONLY
Course Completion

Enrollment Approval

Amount Paid

NSS Home Office Birthdays

March Birthdays



John Payerchin

April Birthdays



L-R: Lisa Shriver, Bethany Bonnar, Sue Urcho, Krista Freund

May Birthdays



L-R: Maureen Schantz, Linda Strom, Elizabeth Brandimarti, Pam Blum

June Birthdays



L-R: Jennifer Inaba, Jill Grover, Bob Katricak

July Birthdays



L-R: Joe Stefka, Jr., Jeff DeSantes, Christopher Lucas

Exclusive Benefits Available! Call today

(888) 705-6920



As a Member of the National Slovak Society, you and your family are eligible for benefits from Start Hearing.

You and your extended family members have exclusive access to hearing consultations and **discounts up to 48% off all levels of hearing technology** through Start Hearing.

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- Access to a nationwide network of 3,000+ hearing professional locations



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- 60-day risk-free trial period



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Call our Hearing Care Advisors at

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starthearing.com/partners/NSS

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AUGUST

August je obdobím, kedy môžete ochutnať horúčavy neskorého leta, keď je úroda ovocia bohatá a na oblohe je väčšinu dňa slnko. Pripomína nám to, že dni sú ešte dlhé a noci sú ideálne na pozorovanie hviezd a užívanie si spoločnosti priateľov a rodiny.

Výjavy z Levoče Júl 7. 2024

Biskup František Trstenský :
“Drahí levočskí pútnici ako aj Vy všetci, ktorí ste s nami boli duchovne spojení, ďakujem za radostné svedectvo viery, ktoré som zažil po tieto dni na Levočskej hore. Majme odvahu svedčiť o našej viere v každodennom živote podľa príkladu a na príhovor Panny Márie s radosťou a úsmevom.”



Pozývame Vás na “Septemberfest 2024

Ktorý sa prevedie 28 Septembra pri NSS Heritage Museum.

351 Valley Brook Rd. McMurray, PA

Slováci na olympijské hry 2024 v Paríži

Parížske hry sa budú konať od 26. júla do 11. augusta.

Slovensko sa na olympiáde zúčastňuje od začiatku éry svojej samostatnosti počnúc letnými olympijskými hrami prvýkrát v Atlante v roku 1996.

Tohto roku 2024 vyzerá že slovensko bude reprezentované menším počtom športovcov v Paríži na Olimpijade. Prezident Slovenského olympijského výboru Anton Siekel hovorí, že v systéme financovania slovenského športu treba urobiť radikálne zmeny. Prezident SOŠV verí, že aj keď je výprava malá, má svoju kvalitu a v Paríži dosiahne dobré výsledky. Doteraz bolo najmenej športovcov pred tromi rokmi v Tokiu, kde sa OH 2020 konali s ročným oneskorením a zúčastnilo sa ich 41 športovcov.

Všetkým športovcom prajeme výborne výsledky, chuť a elán v prezentácii. Ďakujeme im za prezentovanie všetkých slovakov žijúcich vo svete.

Do toho! Držte sa!



Viete, že...

...tradičná slovenská špecialita z ovčieho syra sa v rámci Európskej únie môže produkovať už iba na Slovensku a to pod názvom **Slovenská bryndza**. Vyrába sa z nepasterizovaného ovčieho mlieka od oviec chovaných na strednom, severnom a východnom Slovensku.





Youth Circle Page

Youth Circle of National Slovak Society • 1301 Ashwood Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317

2024 NSS PHOTO CONTEST

Deadline: October 31, 2024

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. Mail to: NSS Fraternal Dept., 1301 Ashwood Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317. Judging is done by an outside professional.

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 - \$100.00 2nd Place - \$50.00
3rd Place - \$30.00 Best Overall - \$150.00

Contact Member and Community Engagement Coordinator, Bethany Bonnar, with any questions at 412-770-2093 or bbonnar@nsslife.org

PUMPKIN DECORATING CONTEST

Deadline: October 31, 2024

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-lous prizes! Winning submissions will also be featured in the *National News!*

Contest Eligibility:

The Second 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, 1301 Ashwood Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317. 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.

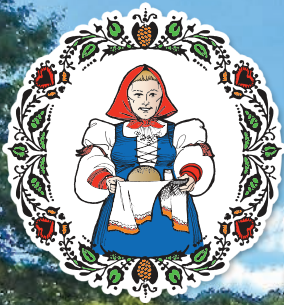
Prize List:

1st Place	\$100.00
2nd Place	\$50.00
3rd Place	\$30.00
Best Overall	\$150.00

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.

National Slovak Society
1301 Ashwood Drive
Canonsburg, PA 15317

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THE NSS HERITAGE MUSEUM PRESENTS
Septemberfest

Saturday, September 28, 2024 • NSS Life Heritage Museum

