

The National Slovak Society of the United States of America



NSS Life
Family Matters...

Národné Noviny

AUGUST 2025

Providing Fraternal Life Insurance Since 1890 | NATIONAL NEWS | NUMBER 3604 | VOLUME 117

2025 ART CONTEST WINNERS



**REGION 5
PIRATES NIGHT**

at

PNC PARK
HOME OF THE PITTSBURGH PIRATES

See Page 10



**F.S.G.P. Banquet for 2025
Fraternalist of the Year
Sue Ondrejco**

See Page 15



**2025 Photo and Pumpkin
Decorating Contests**

See Page 19 for Rules



National Slovak Society

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Lori Crowley

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NSS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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President, CEO & Elder

John G. Payerchin, *FIC, CRCMP,*

Secretary-Treasurer, CFO

Robert F. Katricak, *FIC,*

Chairman of the Board

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Justine Wesnak, *President* • Reverend Monsignor Thomas V. Banick, *Spiritual Advisor*

FSWFE merged with NSS in 1997

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Could you use a little extra "Green?"

RECOMMENDER FORM

As a proud member of NSS Life, 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

August 7
August 23
November (TBA)

Assemblies L075, 0617

Assembly 0617, Fraternal Day, Knoebels Park, at 1:00 pm
Region 2, Meeting, Grotto Pizza, Wilkes Barre, PA at 1:00 pm **(Notice date change)**
Assembly 0617, Join Hands Day at St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen

REGION 5

August 3
August 17
August 24
September 14
September 22
September 27
October 12
October 11
November 2
November 8
December 6
December 7
December 7

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

Assembly 0377, Meeting/Picnic, Richardson's Park, Bentleyville, PA at 3:00 pm
Regio 5, Annual picnic, Cedar Creek County Park, Belle Vernon PA (Pav. 1) 1-5:00 pm
Slovak Radio Hour Banquet, Stratigos Banquet Centre, N. Huntingdon, PA. at 5:00 pm
Assembly 0039, Fall Meeting, Bob Evan's Restaurant, (Community Room) at 6:00 pm
Assembly 0588, Meeting, Stefka residence, Gibsonia, PA at 5:00 pm
Septemberfest, NSS Heritage Museum, McMurray, PA 11:00 am - 4:00 pm
Assembly 0377, Meeting/Luncheon, Sesame Gourmet, McMurray, PA at 3:00 pm
Assembly 0731, Halloween Hayride, Countryside Farm, Poland, OH 4:00-7:00 pm
Assembly 0588, Meeting, Stefka residence, Gibsonia, PA at 2:00 pm
Assembly 0731, Meeting, Kathy & Jim Cessna's residence, Boardman, OH at 1: 00 pm
Assembly 0731, Christmas Party, Lariccia Center, Boardman Park, OH
Assembly 0039, Christmas Party, Columbia Association Social Hall at 2:00 pm
Assembly 0377, Christmas Party/Meeting, Hugo's, West Brownsville, PA at 3:00 pm

REGION 8

September 16
December 8

Assemblies 0004, 0070, 0160, 0432, 0595

Assembly 0432, Meeting, Pytel residence, N. Olmstead, OH at 7:00 pm
Assembly 0432, Meeting/Christmas Party, Tony K's, Berea, OH at 7:00 pm

REGION 14

August 9

Assemblies R059, L102

Assembly L102, Summer picnic, Gross's residence, New Tripoli, PA at 2:00 pm

AT LARGE

August 17
September 28
October 27
November 16
November 26

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

Assembly 0813, Meeting, Farrell residence, Dothan, AL at 2:00 pm
Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm
Assembly 0813, Meeting, Farrell residence, Dothan, AL at 6:00 pm
Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck residence, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm
Assembly 0813, Meeting, Farrell residence, Dothan, AL (TBA)

The President's Page...

Joseph Stefka, Jr., FIC, President, CEO

Email: jstefka@nsslife.org



The month of August is upon us, and the unofficial end of Summer Labor Day is not far off on the first day of September. Each year the summer seems to go by more quickly! The month is an extremely busy time for high school and college fall sports teams, as well as professional football teams as preseason practice and games take place. Some school districts start back to school in the last week of August so be extra careful once the school buses start running again! It is also a busy time for NSS assemblies and regions as many will hold activities during the month. If your assembly or region is holding an event, plan to attend and join other NSS members in support of the event!

By the time you read this article, the NSS 59th National Golf Tournament will have concluded. Golfers from Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Virginia competed in various flights in the individual handicap divisions on Saturday and for the NSS Team Scramble Championship on Sunday. The results will be published in the September issue of the *National News*. Thank you to all of our attendees who participated in our Hospitality Night, golf, trip to Amish Country, and the golf banquet. Also, a huge thank you to all who sponsored holes, the putting contest, the hole-in-one contest, and the various fundraising ef-

forts during the weekend to support our PVR Scholarship Fund! The weekend once again was a huge success with an opportunity for fraternalism, golf, and fun! If you were unable to attend this year's tournament, plan to attend next year's event. The site and date for next year's tournament will be announced in a future issue.

The Summer Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Saturday, August 23, 2025. Any information for consideration at the meeting should be submitted to Secretary-Treasurer/CFO John Payerchin at the Home Office by August 11th.

Region #5 will hold its Annual Family Picnic at Cedar Creek County Park located in Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania, on Sunday, **August 17, 2025**. The picnic will be held at Pavilion #1 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and will include food, bingo, children's games, and a basket raffle. **Please note that this is a different pavilion from the one Region #5 has held the picnic in the last few years.** It is larger with more tables and space for activities. Hope to see all who have registered at the Region #5 Family Picnic for a day of fun and fraternalism!



Region #5 members enjoying themselves eating, and playing bingo.

The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour will hold its annual fundraiser Dinner-Dance on Sunday, **August 24, 2025**. The event will be held at Stratigos Banquet Center in North Huntingdon, Pennsylvania with Hors d'oeuvres beginning at 5:30 p.m. followed by a sit-down dinner at 5:30 p.m. "Harmonia" from Cleveland, Ohio, will treat guests to the songs and music of Slovakia as well as dance favorites. The Dinner-Dance is the one major fundraiser the radio program holds each

year to help fund the weekly program. If you have an opportunity, please join us at the event. Information regarding tickets can be found elsewhere in this issue.

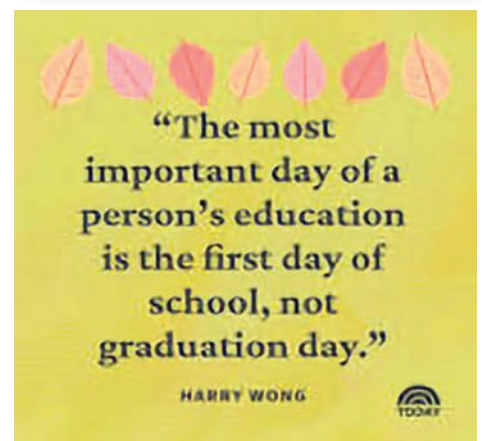
News of Narodniars

Happy Special Happy Birthday wishes to my granddaughters Bella Bernardo and Caroline Bernardo. Hope you enjoy your special day!

Happy Birthday to NSS Honorary President Dave Blazek, to our Home Office Graphic Design and Social Media Specialist Ryan Strom, to Information Technology Director Dave Hertz, 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 Zemelman and husband Cal, Editor Lori Crowley and husband Kevin, to our Secretary-Treasurer/CFO John Payerchin and wife Heather, and to Danielle and Jeff Lavin. Best wishes to all others celebrating an anniversary during the month of August!

And finally, my deepest sympathy to Ryan Strom on the recent loss of his father, Dale.



Secretary-Treasurer's Page

John Payerchin, Secretary-Treasurer/CFO
Email: jpayerchin@nsslife.org



As we roll into August and it is back-to school time and the end of summer vacations, it is a great time to review finances and your life insurance needs. Take the time, review your goals and outlook for the next 5 years. How much has your life changed since you last looked at your life insurance coverage? Most of us rarely look at it, until it is too late. Maybe you got a new job, had a child, had changed jobs, bought a new house, had grandkids, or even retired! Life changes even more quickly than ever. Reach out to your agent or NSS Home Office for help putting your mind at ease and check one more thing off the list.

As you have had a month to review the first quarter results, we would like to address some frequently asked questions. The most common question concerns Net Income. Many notice the figure of \$(3,232,571) and wonder how such a loss occurred despite an \$18,486,021 increase in premium over the first quarter of 2024. One of the primary factors influencing this outcome is the reserving requirements. Reserving calculations, which are regulated and based on a complex formula, take into account new premiums, product types, existing policies, policy durations, policy values and guarantees, as well as any claims or surrenders during the reporting period.

A significant portion of policies sold in the first quarter were Optimum 3s, which have a 3-year interest rate guarantee and MYGAs, require higher reserving rates in their initial year they are issued. This results in a decrease in net income for the first year; however, the methodology leads to increased net income in policy years two and three

relative to other policy types. New sales of other policy types do not affect reserves or net income in the same manner.

In summary, while sales during the first quarter were among the strongest in our history, the net income from these policies will be recognized progressively over the subsequent years due to both the strong sales performance and the high proportion of Optimum 3 policies sold and the reserving requirements on those policies. Consequently, reserve requirements have risen substantially. To address concerns regarding individual policies, please rest assured that NSS Life remains financially robust, and your investments continue to be secure and experience growth.

Another 39th Quadrennial Convention reminder, June 14-18, 2026, at Sawmill Creek Resort in Huron, OH. Assemblies will be receiving their convention delegate election packets by the end of the year. If you are in the Home Office Assembly At-Large (0774), you can contact me in writing by mail or email, jpayerchin@nsslife.org, to indicate your interest. A 0774 Assembly meeting will be held in March of 2026 to elect the delegates to the convention from the individuals that have formally contacted me with the intent to be a candidate.

Assemblies are required by the By-Laws to publish a notice for the Assembly Convention delegate election meeting 30 days prior to the meeting. This notice must be in the monthly publication to allow any potential candidates the opportunity to attend the meeting. An official call for delegates will be published in December of this year.



Your August Summer Fun Fact.

The Eiffel Tower grows taller in the summer!

Due to thermal expansion, the metal in the Eiffel Tower can expand when exposed to heat. On hot summer days, the tower can grow by **up to 6 inches** in height! As the temperature drops, it contracts back to its original size.

Enjoy the last unofficial days of summer! Do a kind act for someone. Whether it be a family member, friend, neighbor, or even a complete stranger. It will not only do your heart good but potentially make someone's day.

Current Interest Rates

★ Effective July 1, 2025 ★

Optimum 3 - 4.50%

New Preferred 5 - 5.50%* (For First Year Only)

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

Existing Preferred 5 - 4.00% • 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.



Why adults with ***no kids*** need life insurance:

- + You own a business
- + You have debt
- + You want to pay for final expenses
- + You want to pass wealth on to family members
- + You want to leave a legacy for a nonprofit

From the Sales Department...

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



Back to School

As summer winds down we all know that it is back to school time for our young people. Whether they are in high school or college they will always need our protection. One of the best ways to protect them is to buy life insurance. A simple idea like our youth term plan can provide \$50,000 of insurance protection to age 30 for \$50 per year. Premiums are only paid to age 25 but coverage is extended to age 30 as a fraternal benefit. This plan is available from age 0 to 22. It protects your child's insurability. For some reason if they can't get insurance in the future because of health or occupation, this basic plan can be with them forever simply by converting the term to any permanent plan that we offer. In addition to the low cost, and protection, any insurance plan teaches thrift. A good plan can help put your young person on the road to future success.

Exceptions to the 10% Penalty Rule

Traditional IRAs are great ways to save money for retirement. They can provide tax advantages while a person is working. They are designed for long term savings. However, there are times when people have to access their funds. If they are under age 59½ there could be a 10% early withdrawal penalty from the IRS. But there are also exceptions and here is the brief list:

- Death, disability, long term care, and terminal illness.

- Pay for college expenses
- To buy a new home (maximum of \$10,000)
- Individuals who are recalled to active duty
- Withdrawals for medical expenses in excess of 7.5% of AGI
- Up to \$5,000 for the birth or adoption of a child in the first year.
- Up to \$22,000 for a qualified disaster recovery expenses.
- A \$1,000 per year withdrawal for a personal emergency expense.
- To pay an IRS levy
- To pay for health insurance if unemployed
- A victim of domestic abuse (up to the lesser of \$10,000 or 50% of the account)
- Inherited accounts when a required withdrawal is necessary
- Making substantially equal periodic payments (section 72t)

NSS always recommends that you consult with your tax advisor/attorney before withdrawing any money. Everybody's tax situation is different and unique.

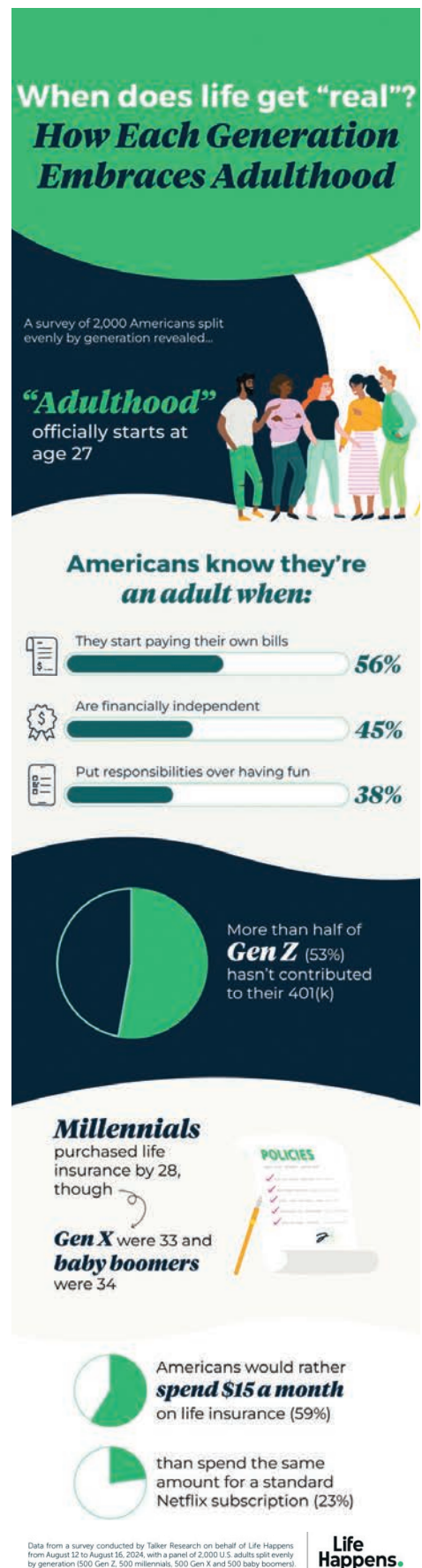
Important Ages and Why

As we get older there are some important milestones that we reach. Not quite like birthdays but nonetheless dates to be aware of:

- Age 55 Allows penalty free withdrawals from your 401k if you separate from service after age 55.
- Age 59½ The 10% early withdrawal no longer applies.
- Age 60 The earliest age a widow can collect Social Security survivor benefits.
- Age 62 Earliest retirement age for Social Security
- Age 65 The age when Medicare can begin.
- Ages 66-67 Normal retirement age under Social Security depending on your birth date.
- Age 70 Maximum age to wait for Social Security to begin.
- Age 73 Required minimum distributions (RMDs) begin at this age for IRAs, 401ks and other retirement programs.

Thought For The Month:

What lies behind you and what lies in front of you; pales, in comparison to what lies within you.
Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 – 1882)



The Community Corner

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



Have you been keeping up with your NSS Life Community lately? We sure have been busy with lots of exciting Fraternal Events! See what you may have missed below and learn about all the fun things we have planned coming up!

Recent Events

The 2025 Annual NSS National Golf Tournament was held on July 18-20th at the Tam O'Shanter Golf Course in Hermitage, PA. Through birdies and bogies, all attendees came together to enjoy the festivities of food and fun. While the golfers were doing their thing, other NSS members took part in a private tour of rural Amish country! We hosted our first ever "Premium Raffle" to raise money for our PVR Scholarship Fund! Lucky members went home with VIP Pirates tickets, signed Penguin's jerseys, and more! Thank you to all of our members who participated, our assemblies who donated, and those that helped by dedicating their time and efforts.



July was packed full of fraternal fun as we also came together with the NSS Life Community at Kennywood's 2025 Slovak Day celebration! Our NSS Life Home Office Staff was happy to volunteer at the Slovak Kitchen, where they served up your favorite Slovakian food all day long! Thank you to all NSS members who attended! It's always great to come together as NSS Life Members, but it is a little sweeter when that community comes with a side of Potato Patch Fries!



PVR Scholarship Recipient

It is my pleasure to congratulate all of our PVR Scholarship Recipients that will shortly be heading to campus to begin a new school year. Whether they are beginning Freshman year and taking their first steps toward adulthood, or beginning a Senior year filled with many tear-filled memories, we know that our PVR Scholars are making us proud! From our home state of Pennsylvania, to as far as California, our PVR Scholars are going out into the world to continue their educational journeys. 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. I can truly assure you that your donations are going to the most incredible and deserving students. With majors like Nursing, Early Childhood Education, Bioengineering, Automotive Diesel Repair, and even Zoology, these students are truly work-

ing towards becoming leaders in every imaginable field. Thanks to generous contributions from members like you, we hope that all our PVR scholars have a great 2025-2026 school year! To donate to the PVR Scholarship Fund, checks can be made payable to "PVR Scholarship Fund" and mailed to our home office at 1301 Ashwood Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317.

Upcoming

Next up on the calendar for NSS Life is **Septemberfest!** Join us on **September 27th** at the NSS Heritage Museum for an incredible celebration of local vendors and Slovakian culture! This event is open to the community so you can bring your friends and family who may not be NSS members (yet!). Trust me, you do not want to miss out on the food, youth games, crafts, music, dancing, and so much more! 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 or phones for our new categories!

Dates To Remember

September 27th:

**NSS Heritage Museum Presents
"Septemberfest"**

October 31st:

**Pumpkin Decorating Contest &
Photo Contest Deadlines**

To Be Announced:

Christmas Around the World

December 1st:

Christmas Ornament Contest
Deadline

December 8th:

Christmas Card Collection
Deadline

Social Media

Want to see exclusive behind the scene photos from your favorite NSS Life Events mentioned above? Follow us on **Instagram (@NationalSlovak-Society)**, **Facebook (@NSS Life)** and **LinkedIn (@NSS Life)** for your chance to stay up to date with everything going on in our Fraternal World!

2025 NSS Life Art Contest Winners



Drury Tompkins - Assembly C441
1st Place Picasso Level



Connor Dooley - Assembly C774
2nd Place Picasso Level



Caroline Bernardo - Assembly C588
3rd Place Picasso Level



Adalyn Bernardo - Assembly C588
1st Place Rembrandt Level



Caroline Buff - Assembly C774
2nd Place Rembrandt Level



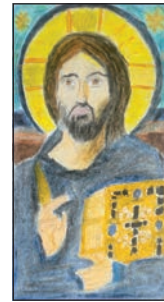
Mariah Cherevka - Assembly C108
3rd Place Rembrandt Level



Elianna Jaster - Assembly C381
1st Place Michelangelo Level



Stephen Jaster - Assembly C381
2nd Place Michelangelo Level



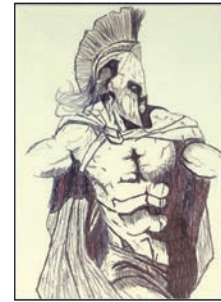
Miriam Ostrowski - Assembly C617
3rd Place Michelangelo Level



Anthony Cherevka - Assembly C108
1st Place Van Gogh Level



Stihl Steen - Assembly C377
2nd Place Van Gogh Level



Cameron Mason - Assembly C731
3rd Place Van Gogh Level



Kimberly Lassak - Assembly 0737
1st Place Warhol Level



Dana Anden - Assembly 0588
2nd Place Warhol Level



Dolores Smiller - Assembly 0123
3rd Place Warhol Level

2025 NSS Region 5 Pirates Night at PNC Park





PVR Fund News

As we begin the month of August, the PVR Fund Board of Directors wishes you a month of fun, sun, and relaxation to close out the summer.

This month we are only **\$254,048.32** away from our \$2 million goal. **THANK YOU** to our corporate sponsors and to our members!

Host a Balloon Pop Fundraiser

Here's another new fundraising idea: a balloon pop! This type of fundraiser is sure to be popular with the kids in your Assembly. Blow up a large number of balloons and fill them with slips of paper redeemable for prizes.

These items might be a small amount of cash, gift certificates for stores or restaurants in your area, or food items like a can of soda or a cupcake.

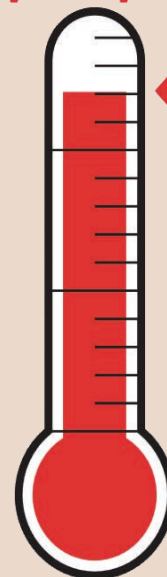
Sell each balloon for \$5 or \$10. Once a supporter has purchased a balloon, have them pop it with a pin to see what they've won!

If you'd like help planning an event for your Assembly, contact Bethany at the Home Office (bbonnar@nsslife.org). Remember, written guidelines and matching funds forms can be found on our website under Fraternal → Forms.



FUND BALANCE AS OF
JUNE 30, 2025

\$2,000,000



Raised
\$1,715,951

AQS

Asset Management for Insurers

 **equisoft**

ASSEMBLY 0039 Uniontown, PA

Members are to mark your calendars for the Region 5 Picnic at the Cedar Creek Park near Belle Vernon. It is set for Sunday, August 17th from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Great Slovak food, games for adults and kids, basket auction for the PVR Fund and plenty of fraternal fun, fun, fun. Sign-up information elsewhere in this issue.

Our deepest sympathies go out to the family of Raymond Goodwin. May he rest in the loving arms of the resurrected Christ.

The NSS Slovak Heritage Museum will hold their annual "Septemberfest" on Saturday, **September 27th** at the museum in McMurray, PA. Great Slovak music and dancers, fabulous Slovak food, ethnic vendors and the Slovak Heritage Museum. Mark your calendar!

2026 NSS 39th Quadrennial Convention will be here in less than a year: June 14th-18th. Now is the time to start thinking about being a delegate. We will spend some time talking about the convention at our upcoming meeting in September. Bring your questions to the meeting!

Don't forget that Senior Scholarships are available year-round. Call the home office if you are interested in tuition assistance.

Our next assembly meeting will be on Sunday, **September 14th**. We will meet in the community room of the Bob Evans Restaurant in Uniontown at 6:00 p.m. As in the past, we will be remembering those who died on United Flight 93 on September 11th. See you there.

See you at the Region 5 picnic.
Have a safe summer.

Paul Payerchin
Secretary



ASSEMBLY 0070 Brooklyn, OH

Our assembly will have our potluck dinner and meeting at Dr. Martin Luther Evangelical Lutheran Church, 4470 Ridge Road, Brooklyn, OH on **September 21st**, at 11:00 a.m. Assembly 70 will provide main chicken meal. Call John Karkosiak for what you prefer 216-741-6990 by September 14th.

Side dishes or desserts are appreciated.

John Karkosiak
Secretary

ASSEMBLY L102 Schnecksville, PA

Our Summer picnic will be held on **August 9th** at Mike and Abby Gross's residence, New Tripoli, PA. at 2:00 p.m.

All members are welcome. Any questions, please call Sharon Wesnak at 610-769-7006.

Sharon Wesnak
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0123 Coraopolis, PA

Happy, um . . . August?

At our June meeting, we took suggestions for Assembly activities and approved donations to support a local Benefit Ride and the 2025 Septemberfest.

Activity ideas brought forward include a visit to the Bayernhof Music Museum, Mini-Golf at Robert Morris University Island Sports Center and a board-game night at Eat'n Park or a similar place. Please let us know if any of these interest you or if you have another suggestion?

<https://www.bayernhofmuseum.com/>
<https://www.rmuisslandsports.com/page/show/3561924-mini-golf>

So, August. Have you noticed there are no official holidays in August? I think we should move Thanksgiving to August. Most of us like to have a big family get-together with an elaborate dinner, but do we really want to do it again a month later?

Stay in touch.

Lyle Grover
President

ASSEMBLY 0377 Bentleyville, PA

Our next meeting is our annual assembly picnic on **August 3rd** at Richardson's Park, Bentleyville, PA where our assembly started at 3:00 p.m.! One of our members, Andy Sabo, suggested we add Slovak food to the menu. There will be stuffed cabbage, pierogies and kielbasa and sauerkraut and other picnic food. Come to enjoy the day and bring a new member! Also, please bring a dog or cat toy or a can of food to donate to the Humane Society of Washington County.

With summer coming and good weather, we look forward to the Pirates baseball game with Region Five and Slovak Day at Kennywood.

On **October 12th** a meeting will be held at Sesame Gourmet Restaurant at 3:00 p.m. which is always a good time. We like to ask about the Chinese New Year and the staff likes to talk about it!

Our annual Christmas party will be held at Hugo's Restaurant, West Brownsville, PA on **December 7th** at 3:00 p.m. Make sure to donate Christmas cards or make an ornament for the contest if you are interested. In addition, we will have a very special surprise this year at the party so mark your calendars!

Please RSVP to me for all meetings by calling or texting me at 724-207-3171 or email me at **suzanne.Skrypak@gmail.Com** at least a week in advance if possible.

Until we meet again, be safe and stay healthy! We do appreciate all of our members very much!

Best regards,

Suzanne Skrypak
President

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!!**

ASSEMBLY 0432 Fairview Park, OH

Mark your calendar for our next meeting and Christmas Party.

September 16th - Meeting at the Pytel residence, 25680 Timber Cove, North Olmsted, OH at 7:00 p.m.

December 8th - Annual Christmas Party and Meeting at Tony K's, 841 W. Bagley Road, Berea, OH at 7:00 p.m.

Shawn Pytel
Publicist & Social Media

ASSEMBLY 0617 Ashley, PA

Assembly 617 recently held a meeting at Amber Donia Bakery in Kingston. Activities for the summer and fall were discussed. Among the programs reviewed were Fraternal Day, St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen, Holy Family Food Pantry, as well as other programs.

The assembly also offered special congratulations to Maya McDonnell on earning the NSS 2025 Youth Achievement Award. In addition, the assembly offered congratulations to assembly member Susan Kurilla on receiving the Doctor of Nurse Practitioner degree from Penn State University.

Reminder to members of the assembly that Fraternal Day will be held on **August 7, 2025**, beginning at 12:30 p.m. Members planning to attend Fraternal Day please contact John Kurilla **570-287-4163, 570-239-5936** or jjkurilla@aol.com.

John Kurilla
President

ASSEMBLY 0731 Lowellville, OH

Mark your calendars for our assembly activities:

October 12th, 4:00-7:00 p.m. - Halloween Hayride at Countryside Farm, Poland, Ohio. (Free for members)

December 7th, 2:00 p.m. - Christmas Party at Rotary Room in Lariccia Center, Boardman Park, Ohio. (Free for members - watch for details late summer.)

Laurie Fox
President

ASSEMBLY 0813 Englewood, FL

A Matching Funds project, under the leadership of Kerry Farrell, is the "Cork Pull" project to benefit the Catholic Social Services will be held on **September 20th** at the Thirsty Pig. Kerry will be working again with Stephanie Cronin of the CSS. They are hoping to be as successful as last year's program, and as much fun. We are always thankful for Kerry allowing us full use of her place of business.

Mary Jo Holker
Secretary-Treasurer

REGION 2 Hazleton, PA

Region 2 will be holding a meeting at The Grotto Pizza, 337 Wyoming Valley Mall, Wilkes Barre, PA on **August 23rd** at 1:00 p.m. Please **note the change** in date. Anyone wishing to attend the meeting please contact (Lucy Piccoletti) 570-479-4116 by phone or text so we can plan accordingly.

Lucy Piccoletti
Secretary



W. PA. Slovak Radio Hour Fundraiser

We are thrilled to share that our annual fundraiser will be held on Sunday, **August 24th** at the Stratigos Banquet Centre, 131 Colonial Manor Rd, North Huntingdon, PA.

The venue is handicap accessible, and there is plenty of free parking. Hors d'oeuvres will be served at 5:00 p.m. followed by a sit-down dinner at 5:30 p.m. There will also be a cash bar as well as a basket raffle.

This year "Harmonia" from Cleveland, Ohio will treat guests to the songs and music of Slovakia as well as other popular dance favorites throughout the evening.

Tickets are \$60.00 per person if purchased by August 1st. After August 1st tickets are \$65.00 per person. The deadline for tickets is August 11th. All seats are reserved; no tickets will be sold at the door.

Checks should be made payable to: **Western PA. Slovak Radio Hour** and mailed to: **234 ILION St. Pgh., PA 15207**. If you cannot attend but would still like to show your support for the Radio Hour, we would be happy to include you as a patron (\$10) and enroll you in the Slovak Radio Hr. Birthday Club, which is announced every third Sunday of the month. Please include your name and birth month.

This annual gathering is the major fundraising event for the Slovak Radio Hour, hosted by Rudy and Sue Ondrejco, and heard each Sunday from 3 to 4 pm. (ET) on AM 73 WPIT, 96.5 FM and worldwide via wpitradio.com.

Sunday afternoons can be hectic at times. If you miss a Slovak Radio Hour now you can listen at your convenience by logging on to wpsr.com. Not only can you listen to the latest broadcast but there are also several programs as well as an events calendar containing all the information for activities mentioned on the program. Subscribe to the podcast by searching for "**Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour**" wherever you get your podcasts.

Assembly L075 Reading Matters

Dominic & Gabriel Piccoletti, Assembly L075 worked very hard on their reading program, the adventure in each book was a lot of fun. Very excited and proud that they were to feel the “good” in helping. Along with the NSS Monetary donation, the boys also chose a few more gifts that they liked to give as a good deed and were very appreciated.

Knowing they were able to give some help to improve the lives of the cats at St Cats & Dogs brought much joy to them and has them geared to helping not only them, but also others more. Both boys did get to hold some cats, and it really set their drive to even read more.



Presenting the check: Front row: Dominic Piccoletti & Gabriel Piccoletti. Back Row: President of Region #2 Marlin Petro Wesnak, Joanne, Manager of shelter; and worker at shelter.



Dominic Piccoletti



Gabriel Piccoletti



DEPARTED MEMBERS JUNE 2025

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Accetta, Judy	Warren, PA	06/05/2025	0554
Addyman, James	West Frankfort, IL	04/07/2022	0586
Ayres, James B	N. Huntingdon, PA	05/23/2025	0737
Barley, Nancy	Schnecksville, PA	05/02/2025	L102
Bonatesta, Ruth A	Pittsburgh, PA	06/02/2025	L105
Bondi, Samuel J	N. Huntingdon, PA	04/22/2025	0737
Bonetti, James	Canonsburg, PA	05/15/2025	L161
Bruno, Robert P	Pittsburgh, PA	03/26/2025	0100
Cancilla, Anthony	Pittsburgh, PA	06/15/2025	0100
Cartwright, Theodore L	Grosse Ile, MI	04/17/2025	0381
Chabassol, Douglas	Coraopolis, PA	06/01/2025	0123
Cioni, Robert G	Canonsburg, PA	07/11/2024	0774
Clark, Patricia Lee	Pittsburgh, PA	06/08/2025	L105
Clement, Peter	Washington, PA	06/04/2025	0434
Conard, Myrtle L	Bentleyville, PA	05/17/2025	0377
Conley, Nancy	Grosse Ile, MI	03/29/2025	0381
Conrad, Myrtle	Washington, PA	05/17/2025	0377
Cox, Jack	Summersville, WV	05/31/2025	0774
Danenhower, Glenn	Pottstown, PA	05/27/2025	L102
Danielczuk, Dorothy	Canonsburg, PA	01/11/2025	0774
Daniels, Joseph P	Pittsburgh, PA	11/25/2024	L105
De Bacco, Yvonne	Chicora, PA	02/01/2025	0123
De Moreland, Jeanette	Ottsville, PA	06/12/2025	R059
Dellick, James	Youngstown, OH	10/24/2020	0731
Dery, Ann Margaret	Canonsburg, PA	05/30/2024	0774
Di Biaso, Loretta	Monessen, PA	06/09/2025	0377
Diamond, Mary	Avella, PA	06/01/2025	0588
Dicus, Paul	Waverly, OH	05/19/2025	0774
Dodson Jr., Chester	Pittsburgh, PA	06/03/2025	L161
Donahoo, Walter L	Avella, PA	05/25/2025	0588
Donovan, Patricia	Washington, PA	05/08/2025	0588
Donovan, Timothy	Pittsburgh, PA	04/13/2025	L161
Dorsey, Betty J	Canonsburg, PA	06/02/2025	0774
Dortenzo, Frances	Homestead, PA	05/11/2025	0108
Dunlap, Pearl	Baden, PA	05/30/2025	0123
Eaton, David M	New Lexington, OH	04/14/2025	0595
Elenitsas, Mary K	Bentleyville, PA	04/28/2025	0377
Evans, Carl E	Canonsburg, PA	06/19/2025	0774
Forbes, Jean L	Uniontown, PA	06/08/2025	0039
Ford, Norma W	Coraopolis, PA	04/18/2025	0123
Fox, Lucinda L	Lowellville, OH	05/28/2025	0731
Furness, Norma	Coraopolis, PA	06/18/2025	0123
Gallo, Linda M	Pittsburgh, PA	04/17/2025	L161
Gehrke, Paul H	Canonsburg, PA	03/20/2025	0774
Gianaris, Maria	Bethel Park, PA	06/11/2025	0434
Glasser, Charles	Dubois, PA	05/18/2025	0554
Gorog, Shirley L	Canonsburg, PA	06/03/2025	0774
Grayzar, Ann M	Dillonvale, OH	06/11/2025	0595
Greco Sr., Wallace	Canonsburg, PA	06/15/2025	0434
Green, Tim	Peebles, OH	03/27/2025	0595
Guntrum, Dwana L	Bentleyville, PA	04/24/2025	0377
Hajduk smith, Theresa M	Canonsburg, PA	06/04/2025	0774
Hannon, Cheryl A	Canonsburg, PA	06/10/2025	0774
Hawkins, Helen	Hillsboro, OH	05/05/2025	0595
Hayden, Thomas	Pittsburgh, PA	05/15/2025	L161
Heaton, Everett R	Bentleyville, PA	10/22/2024	0377
Heeter, Allene M	Lowellville, OH	05/29/2025	0731
Hollabaugh, Patty	Linesville, PA	06/05/2025	0731
Holt, Carol R	Pittsburgh, PA	10/17/2025	L105
Hovan, Anthony	Pittsburgh, PA	05/19/2025	L105
Hunt, Linda	Canonsburg, PA	03/25/2025	0774
Hutchison, Betty J	Lowellville, OH	06/05/2025	0731
Hyde, Nancy	Mingo Junction, OH	05/29/2025	0595
Isovitich, Judy	Butler, PA	06/18/2025	0123
Jerdan, Albert S	Bethlehem, PA	05/31/2025	R059
Johnson, Anita	Easton, PA	06/07/2025	R059
Kehr, Barry	Shoemakersville, PA	05/30/2025	L102
King, Dennis	Catawba, NC	03/01/2025	0774
Kinter, Isabel	Indiana, PA	06/03/2025	L105
Kirtos, Robert	Youngstown, OH	07/25/2021	0731
Klask, Anna	Trenton, MI	05/06/2025	0381
Klasmier, Evelyn	Ashley, PA	05/25/2025	0617
Kolarik, Darryl	Hannibal, MO	03/13/2025	0774
Kopchick, William	Zelienople, PA	01/27/2025	0434

DEPARTED MEMBERS JUNE 2025

(Continued from page 14)

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Kopp, Edith Carol	Coraopolis, PA	06/07/2025	0123
Kostelnik, John	Senecaville, OH	11/01/2021	0004
Kouklakis, Elizabeth	Canonsburg, PA	06/05/2025	0774
Kreger, Eleanor M	Bethlehem, PA	06/08/2025	R059
Krotchko, Virginia	Salisbury, NC	12/18/2024	0774
Lathrop, Genola	Hummelstown, PA	06/18/2025	L102
Leithe, Fred	Benwood, WV	05/01/2025	0774
Lollar, Reva	Birmingham, AL	04/22/2025	0100
Long, Geneva	Morgantown, WV	02/02/2025	0774
Lucas, Bertha	Clune, PA	06/02/2025	0774
Maguschak, Michael	Canonsburg, PA	05/15/2025	0774
Maola, Bessie J	Coraopolis, PA	05/25/2025	0123
Marino, Roxanna L	Canonsburg, PA	05/27/2025	0774
Marshall, Thomas	Centre Hall, PA	05/29/2025	L040
Martin, James	Coraopolis, PA	06/09/2025	0123
Martin, Kenneth J	Canonsburg, PA	05/22/2025	0774
Martz, R Marlene	Uniontown, PA	04/01/2025	0039
Mauro, Louise A	Lowellville, OH	05/02/2025	0731
Mc Cleary, Barbara S	Schnecksville, PA	06/15/2025	L102
Mc Nees, Janet	Frederick, MD	06/01/2025	0737
Mc Quown, Wymard B	McMurray, PA	04/24/2025	0434
Meola, Wilma	Pittsburgh, PA	05/28/2025	0123
Milburn, Donnalee Marie	Canonsburg, PA	03/14/2025	0774
Minahan, Shirley	Westlake, OH	05/10/2025	0432
Mirololi, Nicholas F	N. Huntingdon, PA	04/17/2025	0737
Misour, Edward A	Pittsburgh, PA	03/10/2025	L105
Moore, Vivian	Fayetteville, WV	04/08/2025	0774
Mosco, Betty	Stockdale, PA	06/15/2025	0039
Mowrey, Shirley	Meadville, PA	06/18/2025	0731
Neary, Denise M	Smithmill, PA	04/23/2024	0267
Nemzek, Marilyn	La Canada, CA	05/20/2024	0568
Nobles, Robert A	Pittsburgh, PA	06/11/2025	L105
Norland, Mary	Erie, PA	05/26/2025	0731
Nurse, Patricia A	Grosse Ile, MI	06/10/2023	0381
O'Brien, Margie	Reading, PA	06/10/2025	L102
Ojea, Terenda	Birdsboro, PA	06/08/2025	L102
O'Neil, Mary	Ford City, PA	05/20/2025	L105
Padjune, James	Bentleyville, PA	06/09/2025	0377
Painter, Marion E	Canonsburg, PA	05/23/2025	0774
Peeler Jr., Samuel	Steubenville, OH	06/02/2025	0588
Petrina, Barbara A	Pittsburgh, PA	06/11/2025	L105
Poppenger, Sherry	Aliquippa, PA	05/14/2025	0123
Porter, James W	Kent, OH	04/01/2025	0737
Purtell, Catherine	Warminster, PA	05/24/2025	R059
Ream, Brenda	Birdsboro, PA	06/14/2025	L102
Riedel, Nancy	Providence, RI	06/12/2025	0774
Rineman, Elva Mae	Sarver, PA	06/16/2025	L161
Schafer, James E	McMurray, PA	01/23/2025	0434
Schmidt, Janice M	Pittsburgh, PA	03/27/2025	L105
Schwalm, Patricia	Rebuck, PA	03/20/2025	0774
Sciulli, Maureen	Coraopolis, PA	06/07/2025	0123
Sell, Walter H	Coraopolis, PA	05/27/2025	0123
Seymar, Deborah	Chillicothe, OH	05/05/2025	0595
Shafer Jr., James	Latrobe, PA	06/01/2025	0737
Silvers, George E	Avella, PA	05/25/2025	0588
Skyles, James	Cleveland, OH	08/25/2021	0432
Smith, Gerald F	McMurray, PA	06/17/2025	0434
Snead, Mark	Butler, PA	06/19/2025	0123
Sommerer, Margaret A	Pittsburgh, PA	06/10/2025	L161
Stein, Jerry L	Avella, PA	04/27/2025	0588
Stokes, Barbara P	Canonsburg, PA	05/21/2025	0774
Stutler, William	South Charleston, WV	05/25/2025	0774
Swade Mappas, Kathleen A	Bentleyville, PA	05/24/2025	0377
Tartaglione, Carol	Meadville, PA	06/18/2025	0731
Thoburn, Dianne	Homestead, PA	06/09/2025	0108
Vidmar, James	Jamestown, PA	10/25/2025	0123
Williams, Juanita	Falling Waters, WV	05/02/2025	0774
Willig, Anthony	Canfield, OH	05/28/2025	0731
Winslow, Florence	Butler, PA	06/18/2025	0123
Wintersteen, Vaughn	Canonsburg, PA	05/20/2025	0774
Wooley, Anita	West Mifflin, PA	05/14/2025	0434
Young, Deloris	Corry, PA	05/22/2025	0554
Yunker, Dolores	Shoemakersville, PA	05/28/2025	L102
Zeli, Doris C	Bentleyville, PA	05/24/2025	0377

2025 F.S.G.P. Fraternalist of the Year Banquet



The Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh's Fraternalist of the Year Banquet was held on Saturday, May 31st at South Hills Country Club in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to honor NSS Director Sue Ondrejco as the 2025 Fraternalist of the Year. The event was a huge success with over two hundred guests attending the tribute highlighting Sue's past efforts and activities as a fraternalist.



Dale E. Strom

Dale E. Strom, member of Assembly 0108, passed away at age 70 on Saturday, July 5, 2025, surrounded by the love of family.

Dale was a devoted machinist, proudly employed at US Steel for over 20 years. His strong work ethic and commitment to excellence were evident in everything he undertook. Outside of his professional life, Dale was a passionate ballroom dancer, traveling to compete and dedicating countless hours to perfecting his craft.

Dale is survived by his son, Ryan E. Strom, Graphic Designer and Content Coordinator of the NSS; his brothers, Donald (Jacelyn) and Robert (Marcey) Strom; nieces and nephews, Shawn (Denise), David, Chelsea (Ryan), Weston, Dustin, and Dylan; and many cousins and extended family members.

Our deepest sympathy to Ryan and the Strom Family.

Assembly 0731 Activities

"TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME"

It was baseball, bonding, and a little bit of rain on Friday, June 20th as Assembly 731 rolled into Eastwood Field in Niles, Ohio for a spirited evening with the Mahoning Valley Scrappers!

Before the first pitch, the fun kicked off with a picnic buffet that had folks piling plates high with classic summertime favorites—hot dogs, hamburgers, and the perfect excuse to grab seconds while chatting with friends old and new.

Midway through the game, Mother Nature threw a curveball as the skies decided to crash the party with a sudden downpour. Umbrellas popped, ponchos rustled, and laughter echoed through the stands as everyone leaned into the classic Northeast Ohio experience: unpredictable weather. Luckily, the rain cooled things down without washing out the fun. Even though the Scrappers didn't clinch a victory that night, the fireworks show didn't disappoint. A dazzling display show lit up the sky and more than made up for the scoreboard. All in all, it was a night of memories, mustard, and maybe a little mud—but no shortage of smiles. Here's to another evening of fellowship and fun in the books!



Youth members Russell Santee, Ben Gaither, Cameron Mason, Jack Gaither, and Logan Mason waiting for the game to start.



Mike Fox and Ben Gaither take shelter under umbrellas.



Not everyone stayed until the end, but the three-year-olds (Evie Cessna and Walter Fox) were still full of energy waiting for the midnight fireworks.

SERVING UP ICE CREAM TREATS FOR THE CHRISTIAN HOUSE 50s SOCK HOP

Poodle skirts weren't required—but sweet teeth and smiles definitely were—as Assembly 731 hosted a rockin' 50s Sock Hop Soda Shoppe at the Christian House Nursing Home in East Palestine on Saturday, June 7th. Youth and



adult volunteers teamed up behind the counter to whip up root beer floats, classic milkshakes, and sundaes with all the fixings. Laughter and whipped cream were generously served as residents and staff enjoyed the made-to-order treats. The Christian House crew joined the party with a diner-style lunch featuring hot dogs, hamburgers, and golden fries—because nothing pairs better with a milkshake than good old-fashioned comfort food.

Rounding out the retro fun was Kelly & Co., singing vintage hits that had folks tapping toes, swaying in seats, and even twisting their way down memory lane. The music sparked smiles, singalongs, and a whole lot of joy. It was an afternoon full of cheerful chatter, cherry-topped kindness, and the kind of moments that linger long after the jukebox fades.



Linda, Mike, Kathy, and Jimmy preparing to serve ice cream treats to the residents.



Kathy and Valerie enjoyed entertaining the residents dancin' at the hop.



ASSEMBLY EVENTS COMING THIS SUMMER...

August 28 & 29 - Calling all young explorers (and their grown-ups too)! Assembly 731 is hosting a Scavenger Hunt adventure during your visit to the Mahoning County Canfield Fair.

Start your quest by stopping at the Fox Campsite A102 for your instructions and clue sheet. Then it's off to the fairgrounds! Keep your eyes peeled, your minds sharp, and your team spirit high as you track down the treasures hiding in plain sight. Once you've completed your hunt, head back to the Fox site to claim your well-earned prize and relax with a beverage and snack while swapping stories of your legendary discoveries.

ASSEMBLY EVENTS THE SECOND HALF OF 2025...

****Halloween Hayride date has been changed from Sunday, October 12th to Saturday, October 11th, 4:00-7:00.** Still at Countryside Farm, Lowellville, OH

Meeting **November 8th at 1:00 p.m.** - Kathy & Jim Cessna's residence, Boardman, OH.

****Christmas party has changed from Sunday, December 7th to Saturday, December 6th, at 2:00 p.m.** It still will be held at Boardman Park's Rotary Room in the Lariccia Center.



NSS HERITAGE MUSEUM
SEPTEMBER
Fest

11 AM – 4 PM
SEPTEMBER 27

351 VALLEY BROOK ROAD
McMURRAY, PA 15317

FEATURING

BK Bead Designs	Quinn's Wooden Floral
Cheryl's Designs	Smell Goods & More
Chunky Knit Designs	Sparks & Cinders Publishing
Dot Art	Steel City Chimneys
Ethnic Gifts	Sunshine Creations
Knits by Tray	Tastefully Simple
Limerick's Emporium	Woodlawn Candle Co.

POLKA CLASSICS **PITTSBURGH SLOVAKIANS**
ETHNIC FOOD

**FREE
ADMISSION**



DONATE TO THE PVR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Your donation may benefit your own son, daughter, niece or nephew. Every penny donated goes directly into the PVR Scholarship Fund.

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

PVR Scholarship Fund Donations June, 2025

In Memory of **Betty Fundy:**

From Fred Fundy: 25.00

In Memory of our son and brother,

Shaun Logan Crowley:

From Kevin, Lori, Kevin Jr.,

& John Crowley 20.00

Donations:

Director Theresa Zemelman 500.00

Mike Yanchak from

NSSHM Easter Events 465.00

Director Keith Kucherauw .. 200.00

Chairman of the Board,

Robert Katricak 50.00

Director Laurie Fox 50.00

Director Mike Czarney 50.00

Director Abigail Gross 50.00

Director Lauren Fox 25.00





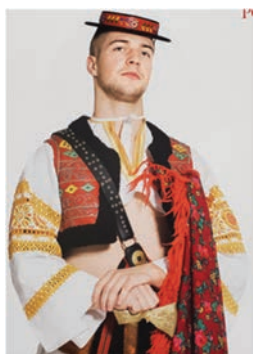
August sa často spája s koncom leta a návratom k povinnostiam. Na konci leta však stále máme trochu času na premýšľanie o tom, čo by sme chceli v nasledujúcich mesiacoch zmeniť alebo zlepšiť. Takže aj keď sa leto blíži ku koncu, je dôležité venovať sa myšlienkam a plánovaniu.

Máte dostatočné poistenie pre seba, svoju rodinu? Dostatočné úspory na dôchodok? Možno je čas zúčastniť sa stretnutia alebo aktivity miestneho assembly/regiónu. Nájdite si čas na vytvorenie plánu, ktorý vám pomôže dosiahnuť vaše ciele.

NSS Region 5 výročný výlet



Pozývame našich členov Regionu 5 na výročný výlet (piknik) na 17 augusta. Výlet-piknik bude v cedar creek park pavilion 1 začiatkom od 1 pm poobede. Prosíme ohláste sa u Bethany že koľko prídete aby sa organizujúca skupina mohla dobre pripraviť. 1-800/488-1890.



Sviatočný kroj



Slobodného mládenca



Podpoľanie Očová

Pranostiky na mesiac august :

Keď je v prvom augustovom týždni teplo, bude biela zima.

Suchý august - suché víno , mokrý august-vodnaté víno.

Čo august nedopečie, to september nedovarí.

Aký je august posledný deň, taká má byť celá jeseň.

Pozývame Vás na Septemberfest 2025
Ktorý sa prevedie 27 Septembra
pri NSS Heritage Museum.
351 Valley Brook Rd. McMurray, PA
Všetci ste Víťaný



Orloj v Starej Bystrici

Slovenský orloj, ktorý sa nachádza v obci Stará Bystrica pri Čadci na severe Slovenska, je podľa informácií z obce najväčšou drevenou

sochou na Slovensku. Vznikol v roku 2009 od slovenského sochára Viliama Lovišku.

Kompozícia predstavuje sediacu Madonu, Sedembolestnú Pannu Máriu. Kostru hodín tvorí 80 drevených ramienok. V jeho výklenkoch je šesť bronzových sôch – knieža Pribina, kráľ Svätopluk, Anton Bernolák, Ľudovít Štúr, Milan Rastislav Štefánik a Andrej Hlinka.

Na orloji v Starej Bystrici je sedem nových sôch znázorňujúcich slovenských apoštolov od maliara Viliama Lovišku a jeho manželky, sochárky Marcely Lovíškovej.

Sochy predstavujú svätých, ktorých osudy sú spojené so Slovenskom: sv. Konštantín, sv. Metod, sv. Andrej-Svorad, sv. Benedikt, sv. Gorazda, sv. Bystrík a sv. Vojtech.

Fotografie: Erika Ďurčova, TASR



Viete, že...



...Slovensko je po Rakúsku **druhou najlesnatejšou krajinou v strednej Európe?** Lesy zaberajú takmer 40% územia Slovenska, zatiaľ čo v Rakúsku je to o 6% viac.



...Bratislava a Viedeň sú **dve najbližšie ležiace hlavné mestá v Európe?** Oddeľuje ich len necelých 60 km.





Youth Circle Page

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

PHOTO CONTEST

Deadline: October 31, 2025

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

Nature/Wildlife Human Interest Travel
"The Best Photo I Have Ever Taken"

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

First Pool Experience



L-R: Leo Scanlan and his cousin Grover Scanlan, Assembly 0123 members having a relaxed sunny afternoon. Proud parents of Leo are Dani and Sarah Scanlan and Grover's are Brianna and Josh Scanlan. Proud grandparents are Jill, NSS Sales Department and Lyle Grover.

PUMPKIN DECORATING CONTEST

Deadline: October 31, 2025

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 Third 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.

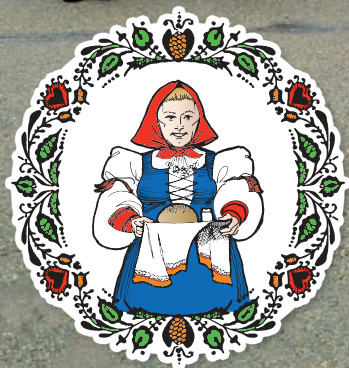
Congratulations

Keeley Crowley, member of Assembly 0441 graduated from her first swimming session at the British Swim School.



National Slovak Society
1301 Ashwood Drive
Canonsburg, PA 15317

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THE NSS HERITAGE MUSEUM PRESENTS
Septemberfest

Saturday, September 27, 2025 • NSS Life Heritage Museum

