



NSS Life
Family Matters...


Národné Noviny

APRIL 2026

Providing Fraternal Life Insurance Since 1890 | NATIONAL NEWS | NUMBER 3612 | VOLUME 118



HAPPY EASTER

 **NSS Life**
Family Matters...

**2025
Annual Financial
Statement Recap**
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 **HOLLYWOOD**
Casino
at THE MEADOWS

**NSS Joint National
Bowling Tournament**
May 15-16, 2026
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Family Matters...

**ART
contest**

Deadline May 31, 2026
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National Slovak Society

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NATIONAL SLOVAK SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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EDITOR

Lori Crowley
Published Monthly
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Canonsburg, PA 15317
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NSS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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John G. Payerchin, *FIC, CRCMP, Secretary-Treasurer, CFO*
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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

April 16
 April 30
 May 9
 May 10
 May 17
 August 2
 August 13
 September 21
 October 10

Assemblies L075, 0617

Assembly 0617, Meeting, Pierce Street Deli, Kingston, PA at 100 pm
 Assembly L075, St. Frances Kitchen fundraiser
 Region 2, Grotto Pizza, 337 Wyoming Valley Mall, Wilkes-Barre, Pa at 2:00 pm
 Assembly L075, Join Hands Day, KOC Hall in Pittston, PA at Noon
 Assembly L075, Old Forge Softball Golf Tournament (TBA)
 Assembly L075, Summer Picnic, Mercatili Segilia Park, Moosic, PA at 1:00 pm
 Assembly 0617, Fraternal Day, Knoebels at 12:30 pm
 Assembly L075 Montage Ski Patrol Golf Tournament
 Assembly L075, Meeting, Grandes Restaurant, Moosic, PA at 1:00 pm

REGION 5

April 1
 April 13
 April 18
 May 15-16
 June 7
 June 7
June 14-18
 July 16
 July 17-19
 July 31
 September 13
 September 14
 September 26
 November 9
 November 28
 December 5
 December 6
 December 13

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

Assembly 0123, Bingo, VA Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA at 3:00 pm
 Assembly 0588, Meeting, Stefka residence, Gibsonia, PA at 5:00 pm
 Assembly 0100, Meeting, Chojnicki residence, Spraggs, PA at 1:30 pm
 Annual Joint Bowling Tournament, Hollywood Casino at the Meadows, Washington, PA
 Assembly 0039, Meeting/BBQ, Columbia Association Picnic Pavilion at 1:00pm
 Assembly 0377, Meeting/Picnic, Richardson Park, Bentleyville, PA at 3:00 pm
NSS 39th Quadrennial Convention, Sawmill Creek Resort, Huron, OH
 Region 5, NSS Slovak Day at Kennywood Amusement Park, West Mifflin, PA
 NSS National Golf Tournament, Kensington Golf Course, Canfield, OH
 Assembly 0731, Mahoning Valley Scrappers game, Eastwood Field in Niles
 Assembly 0377, Meeting, Sesame Gourmet, McMurray, PA at 3:00 pm
 Assembly 0588, Meeting, Stefka residence, Gibsonia, PA at 5:00 pm
 Septemberfest, NSS Heritage Museum, McMurray, PA
 Assembly 0588, Meeting, Stefka residence, Gibsonia, PA at 5:00 pm
 Christmas Around the World, NSS Heritage Museum, McMurray, PA
 Assembly 0039, Columbia Association Social Hall starting at 2:00 pm.
 Assembly 0377, Christmas Party, Hugo's Restaurant, Brownsville, PA at 3:00 pm
 Assembly 0731, Christmas Party, Boardman Park's Elton Beard Cabin at 3:00 pm

REGION 8

April 12
 April 15

Assemblies 0004, 0070, 0160, 0432, 0595

Assembly 0070, Meeting, Dr. Martin Luther Church, Brooklyn, OH at 11:00 am
 Region #8, Meeting, Dr. Martin Luther Lutheran Church, Brooklyn, OH at 6:00 pm

REGION 14

April 23
 April 25
 April 25

Assemblies R059, L102

Assembly L102, "Who dunnit " dinner theater, Fellowship Manor
 Region 14, Meeting, Home Office Officers, Time-location TBA.
 Assembly L102, Matching Funds, Nova Medical Services

AT LARGE

April 12
 April 18
 May 17
 July 11
 August 30
 October 25

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

Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck Home, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm
 Assembly 0813, The 4th Annual CSS Wine Pull, Dothan, AL
 Assembly 0705, Meeting, Buck Home, Seelyville, IN at 1:00 pm
 Assembly 0705, Butwin Family Reunion, Fraternal Activity Fund
 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



In April, the landscape in the Pittsburgh area begins to renew itself after the winter season. Spring flowers begin to grow, the grass turns green, the trees sprout leaves, and the daylight hours increase each day, bringing more sunshine. April provides a welcome sight following the cold, gray months of winter.

Some dates to remember in April include Good Friday on April 3rd, Easter on April 5th, Federal Tax Day on April 15th, Earth Day on April 22nd, and Administrative Professional Day on April 22nd.

As the celebration of Easter occurs on April 5th, on behalf of the Executive Officers, the Board of Directors, the Home Office Staff, and my family, I would like to wish each of you a Blessed and Happy Easter as you gather with your families for the holiday. The Home Office will be closed for business on Friday, April 3rd, and Monday, April 6th, so that our Home Office Staff may enjoy the holiday with their families. The Home Office will open for business on Tuesday, April 7th.

A reminder that Federal Taxes are due by April 15th. This is also the last day to contribute to your current NSS IRA Annuity or open a new one for 2025. The Optimum 3 Annuity has a three-year guaranteed rate of 4.00%, the Preferred 8 Annuity has a first-year bonus rate of 7.00%, and the Preferred 5 Annuity has a first-year bonus rate of 6.00%. With bank CD rates continuing to decline below 4%, our NSS Annuities offer great rates and the advantage of tax-deferred growth! Contact your agent or Joe Elliott at the Home Office.



NSS 39th Quadrennial Convention

By the time this issue reaches you, all NSS Assemblies and Regions will have selected their delegates to the 39th Quadrennial Convention. Delegates selected by the Executive Officers to serve on Convention Committees will have received letters of appointment. During April, the Committee on Budget and Finances and the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws will meet at the Home Office to begin their work. Delegates seeking to be elected as Directors must submit their resume and credentials by April 15th to Secretary-Treasurer/CFO John Payerchin for the Committee on Nominations to review.

May Art Contest

The deadline for submitting entries for the May Art Contest to the Home Office is May 31st. This is your chance to put your artistic talent on display. The contest again includes an adult category. Assembly officers, please encourage your Assembly's adult and youth members to participate in the contest. All entrants will receive an NSS Life T-shirt. Please check the rules for the contest located elsewhere in this issue. The entries are judged by an outside art professional.

PVR Scholarship

Attention, high school seniors planning to continue your education: the deadline to apply for the PVR Scholarship is May 1st. Guidelines were included in the previous issues of the *National News*. Please complete the PVR Scholarship application and submit it by the deadline. This is an opportunity to obtain additional funding to help with your college expenses. If you have not requested an application and are interested in applying, please contact NSS Member and Community Engagement Director Bethany Bonnar at 412-770-2093 or by email at bbonnar@nsslife.org. Time is running out to take advantage of this important fraternal benefit!

Bowling Tournament

The Joint Slovak Fraternal Bowling Tournament will be held at the Hollywood Casino Lanes at the Meadows in Washington, Pennsylvania, on May 15 - 16, 2026. The entry form has been published in the *National News*, and the final entry date is April 13th. You still have time to get a team together and enter for a weekend of fun and fraternalism!

News of Narodniars

Special April Birthday wishes to my daughter, Ashley Bernardo, to NSS Directors Keith Kucherawy and Drew Wesnak, former NSS Director Bill Knoll, Home Office Staff Members Bethany Bonnar, Krista Freund, Lisa Shriver, and Sue Urcho, to Rudy Ondrejco, Jeff Lavin, Alexa Woods, Chloe Woods, and to all others celebrating a birthday in April!

Best wishes to my wife, Annette, for a speedy and complete recovery from the recent surgery to repair a torn Achilles tendon. Thank you to everyone who has reached out to her with prayers and support.

Happy wedding anniversary wishes to all NSS couples celebrating in April!

Secretary-Treasurer's Page

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



Fraternal Greetings!

Wishing a Happy Easter to our members, staff, advisors, fellow fraternalists, and their families. April has arrived quickly this year. As we wrap up the first quarter of 2026, our Controller Donna Tenney, along with the accounting department and advisors from H2R CPA, AQS, and Miller-Newberg, successfully finished the 2025 annual statement before the March 1st deadline. The details and commentary are posted below.

At this writing, financial results are coming in for insurers, commercial, fraternal and mutual. The results are uniformly underwhelming but not entirely unexpected. To quote German/American architect, Ludwig Mies Van Der Rohe and more recently of note, Ross Perot, "the devil is in the details". It is worth looking more deeply to understand the dynamics of this business.

The Evolution of the Industry

Nearly a decade ago, Private Equity (PE) funds began acquiring and consolidating smaller commercial life insurers. This influx of PE investment capital compelled commercial companies to pursue significant growth, often resulting in rate offerings reminiscent of those seen in the 1980s. Driven by private equity ownership focused solely on profitability, these firms have utilized a wide array of financial vehicles, including offshore subsidiaries operating under more lenient (sometimes significantly more) regulatory frameworks compared to the US. The NSS is

domiciled in Pennsylvania and governed by Pennsylvania state laws. Our investment policy is more conservative than required by regulations. All this is done to protect our members' investment. When investments fail to meet expectations, PE investors typically move on to the next investment, treating each transaction as a business decision rather than a personal commitment to policyholders. In contrast, at NSS and other fraternal insurers, managing members' funds is a deeply personal responsibility - many of our employees and their families also invest here. These factors steer fraternal organizations to generally avoid undertaking the types of risks that commercial entities influenced by PE are compelled to assume.

Commitment to Member Fairness

Our personal investment in both our organization and membership guides us to prioritize the long-term financial health of NSS while delivering competitive and equitable returns to our members. Accordingly, we have credited higher rates to our policies relative to our portfolio income than has been the case historically, leading to a reduction in profit margins, which ultimately resulted in 2025 as a net income loss for NSS for the first time in over two decades - including during the financial crisis.

Portfolio Developments and Risk Management

Beginning in 2017, our asset manager, AQS Asset Management, informed the Investment Committee and Board that our traditional conservative strategies - such as a focus on corporate and agency bonds - were insufficient for achieving competitive growth and policyholder returns. After thorough analysis, we adopted a revised strategy that incorporated both familiar investments and limited allocations to new asset classes, including asset-backed securities, private credit, and commercial bridge loans. These assets performed well but introduced proportional risk; consequently, in 2025, some holdings were impaired, resulting in portfolio losses in addition to operational losses. Nonperforming loans and bonds were appropriately written down to reflect a value that is less than what we invested. While this marks a first for NSS, it reflects the evolving environment in which we, and all other fraternalists currently operate.

The Path Forward

Through strategic planning, adaptation remains a constant at NSS Life. For 136 years, through two World Wars, the Great Depression, the Great Recession, a global pandemic, and ongoing geopolitical uncertainty, NSS has provided stability for our members and their families. We remain committed to upholding this legacy of reliability: Family Matters.





2025 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT RECAP

NATIONAL SLOVAK SOCIETY OF THE USA • Comparative Statement of Financial Condition for 2025 & 2024

Balance Sheet Comparison

Assets	December 31, 2025	December 31, 2024	Difference
Bonds	1,593,217,849	1,589,987,820	3,230,029
Preferred Stocks	10,731,382	4,671,600	6,059,782
Common Stocks	12,943,975	10,581,523	2,362,452
Mortgage Loans on Real Estate	169,735,396	159,948,948	9,786,448
Real Estate	3,156,620	3,224,615	(67,995)
Cash/Short Term Investments	25,848,932	41,358,523	(15,509,591)
Contract Loans	1,077,913	1,045,317	32,596
Other Invested Assets	5,054,023	6,200,000	(1,145,977)
Investment Income Due & Accrued	17,880,628	18,966,989	(1,086,361)
Premiums & Considerations	137,242	107,666	29,576
Aggregate Write-in	0	0	0
TOTAL Assets	\$1,839,783,960	\$1,836,093,001	\$3,690,959
Percentage Change Year to Year	0.2%		
Liabilities	December 31, 2025	December 31, 2024	Difference
Aggregate Reserves	1,660,312,630	1,648,664,000	11,648,630
Aggregate Reserves for Deposit Type Accounts	59,824,255	59,426,015	398,240
Contract Claims: Life	525,000	350,000	175,000
Policyholder Dividends	1,455,000	1,330,000	125,000
Interest Maintenance Reserve	4,309,064	4,386,881	(77,817)
Commissions	495,000	525,000	(30,000)
General Expenses Due or Accrued	2,606,850	2,632,000	(25,150)
Amounts Withheld	33,647	37,041	(3,394)
Asset Valuation Reserve	13,868,000	19,669,800	(5,801,800)
Total Liabilities Excluding Separate Accounts	\$1,743,429,446	\$1,737,020,737	(\$6,408,709)
Surplus Contribution	150,000	150,000	0
Surplus	\$96,204,514	\$98,922,264	(\$2,717,750)
TOTAL Liabilities	\$1,839,783,960	\$1,836,093,001	\$3,690,959
Solvency Ratio	105.53%	105.7%	

Income Statement Comparison

Income	December 31, 2025	December 31, 2024	Difference
Premiums	211,958,858	231,844,603	(19,885,745)
Net Investment Income	90,457,890	89,500,762	957,128
Amortization of IMR	674,297	699,659	(25,362)
TOTAL Income	\$303,091,045	\$322,045,024	(\$18,953,979)
Expenses	December 31, 2025	December 31, 2024	Difference
Death Benefits	17,624,767	13,781,141	3,843,626
Annuity Benefits	254,030,291	253,163,787	866,504
Matured Endowments	83,004	40,420	42,584
Disability Benefits	3,577	3,577	0
Surrender Benefits & Withdrawals	879,048	760,893	118,155
Interest and Adjustments	24,742	16,176	8,566
Increase in Reserves	11,648,630	28,972,000	(17,323,370)
Commissions	5,041,143	5,463,125	(421,982)
General Insurance/Fraternal Expenses	13,621,346	13,055,788	565,558
Taxes, Licenses/Fees	470,845	604,269	(133,424)
TOTAL Expenses	\$303,427,393	\$315,861,176	(\$12,433,783)
Net Gain from Operations Before Dividends	(336,348)	6,183,848	(6,520,196)
Dividends	(1,409,198)	(1,293,903)	(115,295)
Net Gain after Dividends	(\$1,745,546)	\$4,889,945	(\$6,635,491)
Net Realized Gain/Losses Transferred to IMR	(7,624,464)	500,598	(8,125,062)
Net Income	(\$9,370,010)	\$5,390,543	(\$14,760,553)

Capital and Surplus Account

Capital and Surplus	2025	2024
Capital & Surplus Year Prior	99,072,264	94,858,419
Net Income Current Year	(9,370,010)	5,390,543
Change in Unrealized Capital Gains (Losses)	(1,457,266)	1,210,152
Change in Non-Admitted Assets	2,307,726	1,202,650
Change in Asset Valuation Reserve	5,801,800	(3,589,500)
Net Change in Capital & Surplus	(\$2,717,750)	\$4,213,845
CAPITAL AND SURPLUS	\$96,354,514	\$99,072,264



39TH

QUADRENNIAL CONVENTION

JUNE 14-18TH

2026

**SAWMILL CREEK
RESORT
HURON, OHIO**

Convention Fees	
Adult Delegate	Free!
Non-Delegate Adult NSS Member	\$700.00
Non-Delegate Adult Guest	\$800.00
Youth Delegate	Free!
Youth "Funfest" Guest Participant	\$225.00
Youth NSS Member (No Activities Included)	\$130.00
Youth Guest (No Activities Included)	\$175.00

CONVENTION FUNDRAISER

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

Donation Checks can be made Payable to: NSS Life

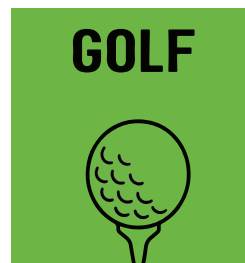
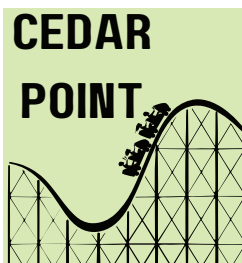
Please include "Convention Donation - Alzheimer's Association" in the Memo

Line - Mail to 1301 Ashwood Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317

A total check of all funds raised and donated will be presented to the Alzheimer's Association at the Convention.

FRATERNAL DAY ACTIVITIES

**FRATERNAL
FUN FOR THE
WHOLE FAMILY!***



Current Interest Rates

★ Effective February 1, 2026 ★

Optimum 3 - 4.00%

New Preferred 5 - 6.00%* (For First Year Only)

New Preferred 8 - 7.00%* (For First Year Only)

Existing Preferred 5 - 3.75% • Existing Preferred 8 - 4.00%
(Preferred 7 and Flex earning 4.00%, 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.

2025 Annuity Contribution Coupon

Don't miss out on the opportunity to contribute to your 2025 IRA! You have until Tax Day, April 15, 2026, to make your contribution and potentially reduce your taxable income.

Name _____

Certificate No. _____ Deposit Amount _____

Traditional IRA for 2025 _____ Roth IRA for 2025 _____

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



Why do Americans own life insurance?

The **TOP FIVE REASONS** Americans give for owning life insurance are:



Cover burial and final expenses



Transfer wealth or leave an inheritance



Help replace lost wages/income of a wage earner



Pay off the mortgage



Supplement retirement income

More than **HALF** of consumers say their loved ones would turn to the proceeds of their life insurance policy to pay basic living expenses should the primary wage earner die unexpectedly.

From the Sales Department...

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



Life Insurance not Death Insurance

Statistics say that people want and need life insurance. For a variety of reasons, they have not yet bought some. Rather than talk about the death benefit, a permanent life insurance purchase can provide your family with income, or supplement a worry-free retirement, or pay for long term care, or create tax-free money in later years. How is all this possible? The cost of a \$250,000 whole life policy at age 35 is \$250 per month. At retirement age this plan has a cash value or lump sum of \$100,000+ and can buy a lifetime income of around \$600 per month. Or \$1,000 a month for the next ten years. Or the funds can be used to pay for long-term care. Life insurance is probably the greatest financial product ever devised. It is called "life" insurance because it is for the living. That is who is going to use the money. The possibilities are endless. We can design a plan to fit any budget or situation. Call your local NSS representative for more information. Or call the home office and ask for Joe Elliott, we will be glad to help you.

Roth Up to \$236,000

This is the maximum adjusted income for a couple filing a joint return to earn and still qualify for a Roth IRA. Above this amount the Roth gets phased out. The Roth is not tax-deductible but this beautiful program from the IRS can provide tax-free earnings and withdrawals in the long run. Everyone working should consider this program as part of their long-term strategy. For younger people a Roth can allow principal withdrawals if needed while avoiding the 10% early withdrawal penalty. For older clients the Roth may allow you to access funds and not pay taxes. Too much income from retirement may affect the taxation of your Social Security

payments along with Medicare premiums. The census data from 2023, says that only 15% of couples earn more than \$200,000 a year. Therefore, at least 85% of couples should be OK with this threshold. Open a Roth IRA now and enjoy the freedom of tax-free money in the future.

Time Value of Money

This is a simple theory to grasp. The sooner you start saving money the better off you will be. Albert Einstein said that compound interest is the eighth wonder of the world. He who understands it earns it. He who does not, pays it. A very simple explanation compares two people. One age 35, who puts \$1,000 a year (\$83/month) into our annuity for 30 years will have \$61,000+ in their account at current rates. Another person, age 35, decides to wait ten years and then put \$1,000 a year into their account from age 45 to age 65. They will have \$32,000+ in the account. This is almost half of the other account, yet they paid in 2/3 of the deposits. Starting early, being consistent with your savings and discipline will help on the road to financial independence. The old adage, "the early bird gets the worm." It is especially true when talking about earning interest as soon as possible.

"What 'Matters' To Me" A Program for NSS Life Agents

You probably know that at NSS Life, "Family Matters" to us. A huge part of our NSS Life family is our agents. Across the country, our dedicated agents share our story and help families protect their financial futures. Because of this special connection, we want to learn more about "What Matters" to our agents!"

Beginning in 2026, at the end of every month the NSS Home Office will randomly select one agent who has brought in business in the last month. This agent will be given the opportunity to select a charitable organization/non-profit to receive a \$250.00 donation from NSS Life! We encourage the winner to select a charity that aids in a cause that "matters" to them! Through this, we hope to bring our NSS Life family even closer together through our shared commitment to giving back. Check out our first two winners to the right!

Thought For The Month:

Here are today's to-do list.

1. Smile
2. Don't sweat the small stuff
3. Think positive
4. Inspire
5. Love
6. Be grateful
7. Be happy

Author Unknown

What Matters to Michael Saracino January Winner

NSS Life agent Michael Saracino from Pennsylvania was selected as the first winner of the "What Matters to Me" program! Michael selected the **Alliance to Cure Cavernous Malformation** as the recipient of the \$250.00 donation from NSS Life. When asked why this cause matters to him, Michael said "When someone close to me was diagnosed with a cavernous malformation, there was little information available about the disease or options for treatment. Since its founding in 2002, the Alliance to Cure Cavernous Malformation has worked tirelessly to facilitate research addressing diagnostic and treatment needs. The organization also provides a wealth of educational information, support, and advocacy for individuals affected by the disease and their loved ones."

What Matters to Missy Ferencik February Winner

NSS Life agent Missy Ferencik from Ohio was the lucky winner of the "What Matters to Me Program" for February! Melissa selected the **Grove City Area Pet Rescue** to receive the \$250.00 donation from NSS Life. This organization matters to Missy because "The Grove City Area Pet Rescue is a charity and cause near and dear to me as an animal lover and also as someone who has adopted 3 wonderful feline companions, Nelson, Mittens, and TJ, over the past 10 years. It is run by wonderful volunteers who go above and beyond and use personal resources to take in many cats and kittens, some with multiple immediate health needs. I feel they do everything to give each animal a fighting chance along with showing love to many that may never find homes." Check out her furry friends below!



The Community Corner

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



Spring is a time when new life comes popping up everywhere outside! I am happy to say that new things are popping up here at NSS Life too! Check out our newest Fraternal Program called “What Matters to Me” which is an exclusive program for NSS Life Agents, and see below for some new information about exciting member programs and events!



39th Quadrennial Convention

Each month we move closer and closer to the 39th Quadrennial Convention at Sawmill Creek Resort. I am sure you can assume the Home Office Staff (specifically my department!) is busy with preparations and are excitedly counting down the days until June 14th – 18th. I am happy to share another exciting project that will take place at the convention. Each convention, NSS Life looks for a local charity to support, to give back to the community that is so graciously hosting us for the convention. This year I am excited

to announce that we will be supporting “Cancer Services,” an organization that provides resources and support to cancer patients in Huron, Ohio and the surrounding area! At the convention, our youth members as part of the “FunFest” will be putting together care packages for current cancer patients supported by Cancer Services. We are asking members like you to help us complete these packages through monetary donations to purchase items for the care packages! If you are interested in donating, checks can be made payable to “NSS Life” and must include “Cancer Care Kits” in the memo line. I cannot wait to see the impact we can make together! We are also looking for volunteers for the FunFest! Please contact myself at bbonnar@nsslife.org if you are interested in applying to be a volunteer!

2026 National Bowling Tournament

Let me “get the ball rolling” on a fun time by telling you about the 2026 National Bowling Tournament! Don’t “spare” a moment and sign up to join us on Friday May 15th and Saturday May 16th at the Hollywood Casino at the Meadows in Washington Pennsylvania. Friday night will be full of fun with team competition and a buffet dinner! Saturday morning will wrap up the festivities with doubles competition and a delicious lunch! You don’t have to be a competitive bowler to take part in this event! I like to say that our NSS teams may not always have the highest scores, but we do have the most fun, I’ll admit I might be a little bit biased! Entry forms are due by April 13th, so don’t “strike out” and miss this great time!

2026-2027 PVR Scholarships

At NSS Life, we understand the financial burden that higher education can have on families and students alike. That’s why we have the PVR Scholarship to help support the next generation of learners. The deadline to submit a PVR Scholarship application for the 2026-2027 school year is quickly approaching! Don’t let your 2026 grad pass up the opportunity to receive \$2,400 in scholarship for their higher education or trade school degree! To qualify for the scholarship, the applicant must be the insured party on an active life insurance policy or the annuitant on an active annuity with NSS Life. The minimum amount for life insurance is \$10,000 of permanent insurance and the minimum of annuity deposits is \$5,000. Not sure if your grad qualifies? Reach out to the NSS Home Office at 724-731-0094 to find out and request an application! Thanks to generous donations from our members and assemblies, we have added an additional 3 perpetual scholarships beginning this year! Completed applications are due by May 1st and can be submitted physically by mailing to 1301 Ashwood Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317 OR digitally by emailing bbonnar@nsslife.org.

Art Contest

Spring happens to be my favorite season because of the beauty that arrives back into the natural world. I couldn’t think of a better time of year for the NSS Life Art Contest! NSS Life members of all ages are encouraged to submit their original art creations for the chance to win up to \$100 and have their art featured in a future edition of the *National News* and online on our NSS Life Social Media accounts! Share your talents with others by donating your art piece to a Pittsburgh Nursing Home. All submissions must be mailed or dropped off to 1301 Ashwood Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317 by May 31st. See later in this edition for a complete list of contest rules.

Social Media

The easiest way to stay up to date on all the new programs and events with NSS Life is to follow us on social media! That way you never miss a thing! Follow us on Instagram (@NationalSlovakSociety), Facebook (@NSS Life) and LinkedIn (@NSS Life) to see the winners and everything else going on with NSS Life!

No applications will be accepted after April 13, 2026

NSS Life NATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT
A JOINT TOURNAMENT OF GCU, NSS & SLOVAK CATHOLIC SOKOL
 Meadows Lanes Bowling ✦ Inside Hollywood Casino at the Meadows, Washington, PA
 Friday, May 15 & Saturday, May 16, 2026

No applications will be accepted after April 13, 2026

**Please note: Bowling Fees must accompany this application for the bowlers to be registered in the tournament.
 League bowlers must submit a copy of their league average sheet with their application.**

BOWLER INFORMATION (LIST CAPTAIN FIRST)	GCU TOURNAMENT INFORMATION
Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ Last 4 Digits SS# ____ _ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2024-25 _____ USBC No. _____ Team: _____ Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application: <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> Singles
Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ Last 4 Digits SS# ____ _ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2024-25 _____ USBC No. _____ Team: _____ Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application: <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> Singles
Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ Last 4 Digits SS# ____ _ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2024-25 _____ USBC No. _____ Team: _____ Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application: <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> Singles
Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ Last 4 Digits SS# ____ _ E-mail: _____	Highest Avg. 2024-25 _____ USBC No. _____ Team: _____ Please Check Tournament Events Bowler at Left Is Submitting Payment for on this Application: <input type="checkbox"/> Team <input type="checkbox"/> Doubles <input type="checkbox"/> Singles

Please check one: Men's Events Women's Events

TEAM EVENT—FRIDAY, MAY 15
 5 PM 8 PM

Team Name: _____

(Please place team bowlers in the order they will be bowling.)

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

Name of your Local USBC: _____

Association Secretary: _____

Address: _____

Make all Checks or Money Orders payable to: NSS Life

Mail to: NSS Life Fraternal Dept., 1301 Ashwood Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317.

Important: Every Individual and Captain on this entry agrees to relinquish his rights to prize money if it should be found that any information herein is false.

DOUBLE & SINGLES EVENTS—SATURDAY, MAY 16
 10 AM 1 PM

1. _____
2. _____
1. _____
2. _____

Financial Totals for this Application	
___ Team Event.....@ \$30 ea. =	\$ _____
___ Doubles Event@ \$30 ea. =	\$ _____
___ Singles Event@ \$30 ea. =	\$ _____
___ Reception Guest (Friday)..@ \$15 ea. =	\$ _____
___ Reception Guest (Sat.).....@ \$15 ea. =	\$ _____
Total Enclosed	\$ _____

Important to All Tournament Entrants

Read Carefully Information Given Below

Rules and Regulations of Annual GCU/NSS Life/SCS Bowling Tournament

1. The Tournament shall be conducted in compliance with the rules and regulations of the USBC.

2. All members of the NSS Life are eligible to participate in this tournament.

3. All contestants must be members of the NSS Life as of April 15, 2026, or must have six months premium paid in advance at the time of entry. New bowlers must have bowled a *minimum of 21 games* as of March 15, 2026. *Bowlers with no average see #7 below.*

4. NSS Life adult members are required to maintain a minimum balance of \$300.00 in an annuity or have a permanent life insurance certificate, to qualify to participate in a NSS Life subsidized sporting event held on a national level i.e. National Bowling Tournament, National Golf Tournament, etc.

5. The total cost per person for Team & Doubles events shall be:
- a. Prize Fee \$ 12.00
 - b. Bowling Fee..... \$ 12.00
 - c. Hospitality Fee \$ 6.00
 - Total Cost (Per Event) \$30.00

- The total cost per person for Singles event shall be:
- a. Prize Fee \$14.00
 - b. Bowling Fee..... \$ 0.00
 - c. Hospitality Fee \$ 6.00
 - Total Cost (Per Event) \$20.00

Food Function at Lanes Fee (Guest Only Per Event)..... \$15.00

**Bowlers must bowl in both the Team & Double events to be able to participate in the Singles event.*

PRIZE FEE WILL BE RETURNED 100 PERCENT IN EACH EVENT

At least 1 of 10 of participants in each event will win prizes.

Note: Contestant may win only one cash prize event (gross or net), whichever cash prize is higher. Excluding special prizes. Awards will be presented to the Contestants who roll the highest gross and highest actual net scores in each event.

6. **SUBSTITUTES.** Bowlers may compete only once in each event. However, the tournament manager may allow a bowler who has previously bowled to substitute on a four bowler team when one of its original entrants is absent. The score of such bowler in the team event rolled with his entering team must count for all events. No one may bowl in this tournament except those originally entered before the tournament opens or such substitutes who may be authorized by the captain of a team or his appointee provided the individual whose name appears on the entry blank is unable for sufficient reason to attend the tournament at the time scheduled. The Bowling Committee shall have power as to the substitutes that are offered by the captain or his legalized representative, and if accepted, each substitute must bowl each event under his full name and only at scheduled time in each event. The substitutes score and handicap from the said event will be used.

7. Any contestant whose current average as of March 15, 2026, of *at least 21 games* is ten pins or more above his highest average from the previous season must use his current average.

HANDICAP - Handicap (Men) allowed will be 85% of the difference between 240 and last season's 2024-2025 highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games. Bowlers who have no established average will use their highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games as of March 15, 2026. Male bowlers who have no established average for this year or last year will be listed as 175 average and will be handicapped accordingly. If the bowler does not have a sanctioned average over the last two years, but has competed in the Joint Fraternal Tournament, the most recent 5 year history from the Joint Fraternal Tournaments will be used. Male bowlers with an average over 240 will receive no handicap and will bowl scratch in the tournament.

Handicap (Women) allowed will be 85% of the difference between 200 and last season's 2024-2025 who have no established average

will use their highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games as of March 15, 2026. Female bowlers who have no established average for this year or last year will be listed as 150 average and will be handicapped accordingly. If the bowler does not have a sanctioned average over the last two years, but has competed in the Joint Fraternal Tournament, the most recent 5 year history from the Joint Fraternal tournaments will be used. Female bowlers with an average over 200 will receive no handicap and will bowl scratch in the tournament.

Under no circumstances will handicaps be increased after participant has bowled.

Contestants in this tournament are not required to report any tournament prize winnings for the previous 12-month period.

8. **FALSIFYING AVERAGES - PENALTY** - The team captain is responsible for reporting all averages of the individual team members, and they are responsible to him. Should the Tournament Committee find at any time that the averages have been falsified, the team shall forfeit all claims for prize money as well as their entry fee and will be subject to disqualification and suspension from organized bowling.

All prize winners are subject upon request to submit an affidavit of correct league averages.

9. **Re-rating of Bowlers** - According to USBC Rule No. 319 A-E, bowlers may be re-rated by the Tournament Committee.

10. All entry applications and bowling fees are to be sent directly to: **NSS Life Bowling Tournament, 1301 Ashwood Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317** not later than April 13, 2026. *Rule 310-A2 is in effect.*

11. Bowlers who participate in tournament games must be dressed in a presentable manner to appear before public and when possible to use an emblem attached to shirt or dress so that participant can be identified.

12. **NO MONEY WILL BE REFUNDED.** All prize fee money will be paid in prizes.

13. In the Doubles contest the names of both members of the team must be given, because entries with the word "Partner" will not be accepted. Entry blanks so compiled will be returned and the entry money retained until proper blank is received. If both entrants in the Doubles event appear when scheduled, it is understood that they must bowl as they have been entered on the original entry blank and no change in position will be allowed at any time after entry blank has been filed.

14. **Assignment of Alleys** - The Tournament Committee will make up the alley assignments for all entrants in the Doubles and Team Events. Bowlers are required to report fully 30 minutes prior to the time they are scheduled to bowl.

Captains of teams must report their line-up is present at least 30 minutes before scheduled to bowl.

15. Bowlers entered in the Singles Event will use the combined score of both their Team and Doubles events as their Singles Event score.

16. A team may use a name other than its league name for tournament entry without the payment of additional membership dues as formerly required.

17. Failure to use the correct average shall disqualify score if submitted average is lower than correct average thereby resulting in a lower classification or more handicap. Prize winnings shall be based on the submitted average if it is higher than the correct average. However, corrections in averages may be permitted up to the completion of the first game of a series. **Bowlers must include a copy of their league average sheet with their application.**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL
NSS LIFE MEMBER AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DIRECTOR
BETHANY BONNAR – (412) 770-2093



Youth Circle Magazine - Spring 2026



GIANT SPRING WORD SEARCH



- Ants
- Bees
- Beetle
- Biking
- Birds
- Bluebird
- Breezy
- Budding
- Butterfly
- Camping
- Caterpillar
- Cherry
- Cherry blossom
- Climbing
- Cloudy
- Coconut
- Cricket
- Daffodil
- Daisy
- Dew
- Dragonfly
- Ducklings
- Fireflies
- Flowers
- Fresh
- Frog
- Grass
- Grasshopper
- Green
- Growth

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

- Hiking
- Jogging
- Kite
- Ladybug
- Leaves
- Lightning
- Lilac
- Mango
- Misty
- Nature
- Nest
- New
- Orchid
- Petals
- Picnic
- Pollen
- Rabbit
- Rainbow
- Raindrops
- Robin
- Rose
- Skating
- Soccer
- Spring
- Squirrel
- Sunshine
- Swallow
- Swing
- Tadpole
- Thunder

- Tulip
- Windy



Paper Roll Hyacinths

Supplies:

- Paper towel roll
 - Tissue paper
 - Glue
 - Green paper
 - Scissors
- (You can cut your paper towel roll in half or use a toilet paper roll.)

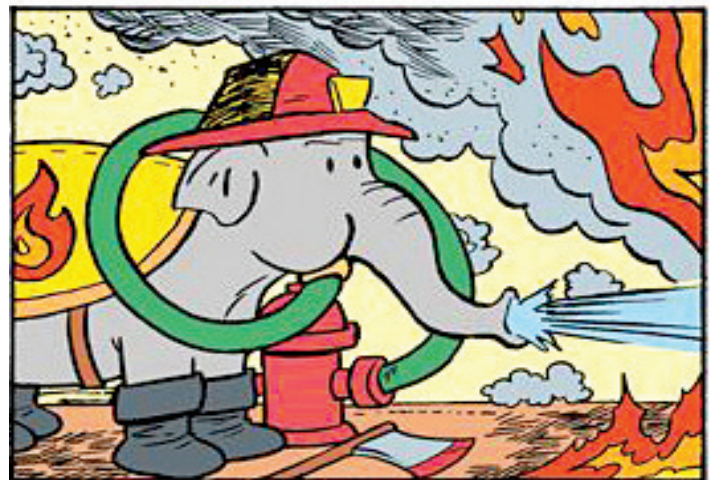
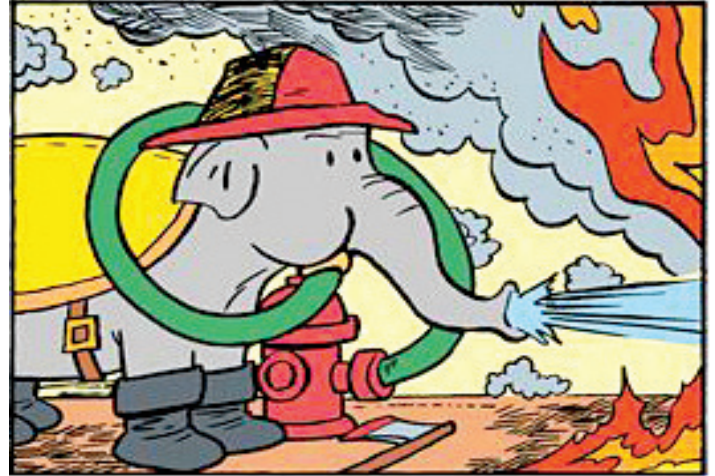


Directions:

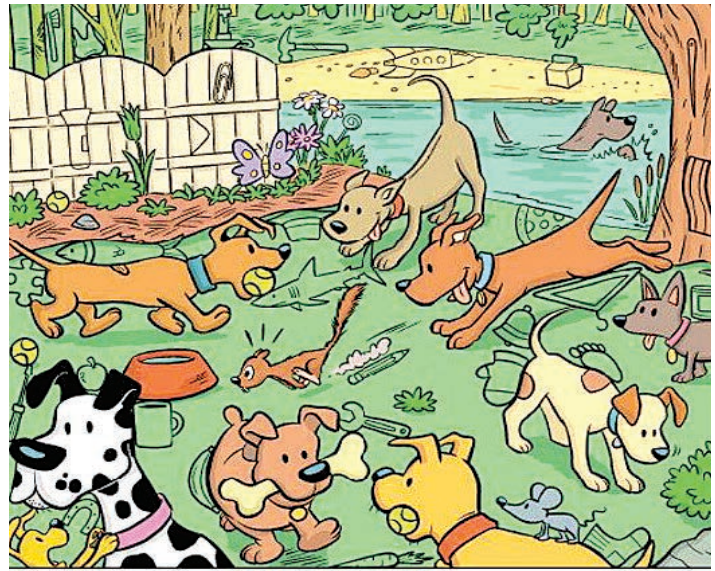
1. Glue or tape a piece of green paper to the length of a paper roll. Wrap the piece of green paper around the paper roll and attach again with tape or glue. You can trim off any excess paper and use it for leaves later.
2. Tear or cut tissue paper into smaller pieces.
3. Crumble the tissue paper into smaller pieces and glue to the paper roll. Work in sections by adding glue to a large area and then adding crumbled pieces of paper. Once the glue is covered, move to another area. Cover about 2/3 of the paper roll with tissue paper to make the flowers.
4. Cut two leaves from remaining green paper and glue to the bottom of each paper roll. Fold the leaves a little at the end and attach them inside the bottom of the paper roll first and then add a little glue on the outside to attach at the bottom, so that the leaves comes out a little from the flower. Congratulations you now have a beautiful Hyacinth flower.



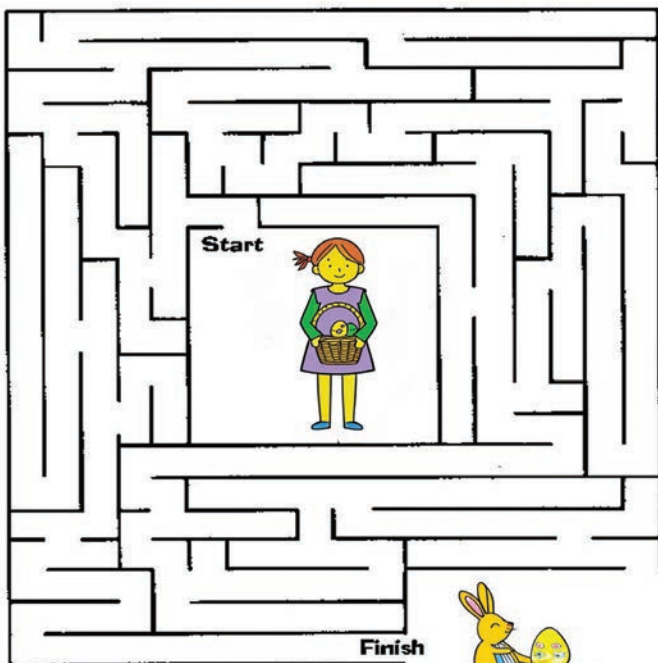
Find 7 Differences between the two photos



Hidden Objects at the Dog Park



- | | | | | | | | |
|--------|------------|--------|----------|------------|----------|-------|------|
| tooth | carrot | sock | apple | bell | pizza | can | fish |
| needle | flashlight | candle | lollipop | paintbrush | envelope | bacon | |



Help the little girl reach the Easter bunny



Fire Breathing Dragon Craft

Supplies:

- 1 Paper roll
- 1 piece construction paper
- 2 Pom poms approx 1 inch
- 2 Pom poms approx 3/8 inch
- 2 Googly eyes approx 1/2 inch
- 3 scraps tissue paper red, yellow and orange
- Pair of scissors
- Glue stick
- Glue gun or glue dots

Cut a piece of construction paper to be the exact length of your paper roll. Spread glue from a glue stick onto one side of the paper. Line up the ends of the paper with the ends of the paper roll, then wrap the paper around the roll so it's completely covered.

Using a glue gun or glue dots, attach each of the dragon eyes to one end of the paper roll. Using a glue gun or glue dots, attach the two smaller pom poms near the other end of the paper tube to make the dragon's nose.

For the fire, cut scraps of red, yellow and orange tissue paper to be long pointy strips, about 9 inch or 10 inches long.

Spread some glue from a glue stick onto the straight end of one of the strips of tissue paper, then attach it to the inside of the paper roll under the dragon's nose. Repeat, and keep gluing tissue paper to the inside of the paper roll as you work your way around the roll.

Only glue tissue paper as shown in the photo. Don't glue tissue paper all the way around the bottom of the roll (**under the nose**). Gravity will pull down any tissue paper there and it won't move when you blow in the paper roll. Your paper roll dragon is complete! Take a deep breath, put your mouth on the end of the paper roll and BLOW!



How to Make Flower Pretzels

Supplies:

- Baking sheet
- Parchment paper
- Bowl
- Fork
- 3 Green striped straws



Ingredients:

- 12 Pretzel twists, (4 per flower)
- 1/2 cup Blue candy melts, (or other flower color)
- 9 M&M's, (yellow; 3 per flower)

Line a baking tray with parchment paper and arrange 4 pretzels into a flower shape on the tray. Place the pretzels on an angle, with the bottoms of the pretzels facing the center. Repeat, making 2 other flowers (or whatever will fit on the tray). Slide paper straws between the pretzels. If your straw has a bendy part, cut it off or place it at the bottom.

Melt the candy melts according to package directions. Dip one pretzel at a time into the melts. Flip the pretzel several times with a fork so that it's well coated. Remove the pretzel from the melts and gently shake the fork back and forth to remove the excess coating. Once the pretzel stops dripping, return it to its spot on the tray. Use the fork to nudge it into place. Repeat with the next 3 pretzels that make up the flower. Use a spoon to add a bit of the melted wafers to the center of the flower, connecting the pretzels together and covering the top part of the straw. Place 3 yellow M&M's into the center of the flower, with the "M" side down. Place 1 M&M at the top center, with the other 2 below. Repeat, making the next 2 flowers, and then allow the pretzel flowers to chill in the fridge for 15 minutes, or at room temperature for 30 minutes. Your flower pretzels are ready to serve

Helpful Tips:

If you don't have paper straws you can also use a lollipop stick or pretzel rod as the flower's stem.



Down On the Farm

Directions: Fill in the crossword using the pictures as clues

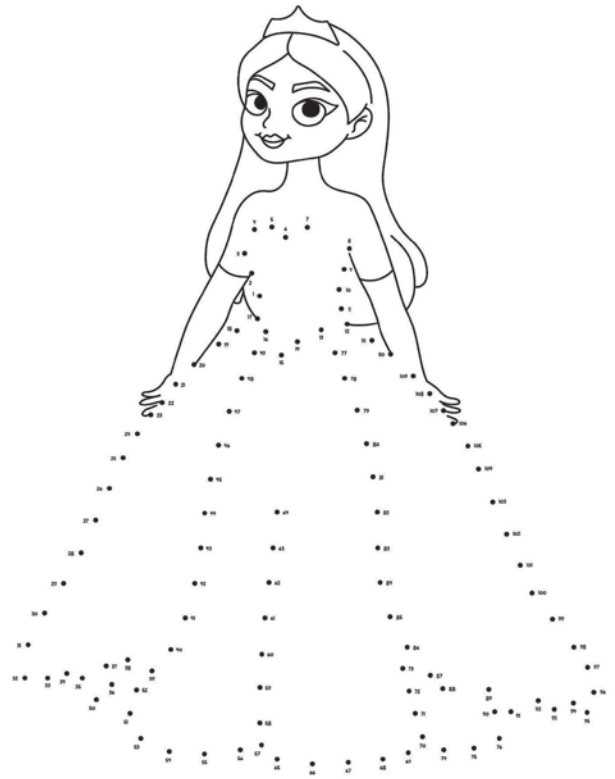
Down On the Farm

DIRECTIONS: Fill in the crossword, using the pictures as clues.

WORD BANK

bird	goat
bull	goose
cat	horse
chicken	mouse
cow	pig
cricket	rabbit
dog	rooster
donkey	sheep
duck	turkey
frog	

Dot to Dot



Riddles

Riddle: What breaks yet never falls, and what falls yet never breaks?

Answer: Day and night.

Riddle: A man looks at a painting in a museum and says, "Brothers and sisters, I have none, but that man's father is my father's son." Who is in the painting?

Answer: The man's son.

Riddle: The person who makes it has no need for it; the person who buys it has no use for it. The person who uses it can neither see nor feel it. What is it?

Answer: A coffin.

Riddle: It can't be seen, can't be felt, can't be heard, and can't be smelled. It lies behind stars and under hills, and empty holes it fills. What is it?

Answer: The dark.

Riddle: An electric train is headed east. Where does the smoke go?

Answer: Electric trains don't produce any smoke!

Riddle: Where does today come before yesterday?

Answer: In the dictionary.

Animal Jokes

Q: What is a flea's favorite way to travel?

A: Itch hiking.

Q: Which bird has the worst manners?

A: Mocking birds.

Q: What do you get from a pampered cow?

A: Spoiled milk.

Q: How many tickles does it take to get an octopus to laugh?

A: Ten tickles.

Q: Why aren't koalas actual bears?

A: The don't meet the koalafications.

Q: Why are fish so smart?

A: Because they live in schools!

Q: What do you call a bear with no ears?

A: A "B"!

Q: Why are teddy bears never hungry?

A: Because they're always stuffed.

Q: What language do pigs speak?

A: Pig Latin.

Q: What is the best place to plant a spring garden in school?

A: In kindergarden.

Q: Why is the letter A like a flower?

A: A bee always comes after it.

Q: Why did the bird go to the hospital?

A: He needed tweetment.



PVR NEWS



Happy Easter! Veselú Vel'kú Noc! May the glory and the promise of this joyous time of year bring peace and happiness to you, and to those you hold dear. The PVR Fund Board of Directors hopes that this season of renewal brings you joy, warmth, and blossoming moments to treasure.

75 Days, One Goal: The Final Sprint Starts Now!

The 2026 Convention begins on June 14, 2026, which brings us within 100 days of our deadline. As of February 28, we are **\$137,309** away from our \$2 million goal. Thank you to all of our donors and sponsors!

Tree of Life

Remember, you can memorialize your donation by dedicating a leaf (\$250), acorn (\$1,000), or stone (\$10,000) on our tree of life! Mail your donation along with your name, email address, and message for engraving to:

Tree of Life
1301 Ashwood Drive
Canonsburg, PA 15317

Visit our online donation page to contribute today! Follow the QR code or visit: <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/nsslife/>



FUND BALANCE AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2026

\$2,000,000

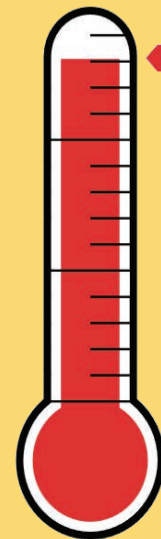
PVR Fund \$60 for 60 Years

2026

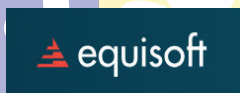
2026 marks the 60th year that PVR Scholarships have been awarded. Help us celebrate this milestone!

Individuals are encouraged to donate \$60, or in multiples of \$60, in honor of our 60th anniversary.

Visit NSS Life Online www.nsslife.org | Visit Our Location 1301 Ashwood Drive Canonsburg, PA 15317 | Phone #724-731-0094



Raised **\$1,862,691**



ASSEMBLY 0039 Uniontown, PA



Recently, around thirty assembly members met for our Annual Lenten Dinner at the Bob Evans Restaurant Community Room in Uniontown, PA. The highlight of the meeting was the election of sixteen delegates to the upcoming XXXIX NSS Convention at the Sawmill Creek Resort in Huron, OH. In addition, members voted to support the Alzheimer's Association, the convention charity organization. Also, funding was approved for children to attend the Salvation Army Summer Camp in Uniontown, PA, as a **"Matching Fund"** event.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the families of Donald H. Baughman, Lester E. Williams, and Hazel K. Tomlinson. May they rest in the loving arms of the resurrected Christ.

NOTE: Changes in upcoming quarterly meetings! Mark your calendars!

2nd Quarter Meeting: Summer B-B-Q, Sunday, **June 7th** at the Columbia Association Picnic Pavilion starting at 1:00 pm. We will honor "The Grand Old Flag" during this meeting.

Annual Christmas Party, Saturday, **December 5th** at the Columbia Association Social Hall starting at 2:00 pm. **IMPORTANT:** There will be a pre-convention meeting for all delegates attending the upcoming convention at the Summer B-B-Q.

Our Convention Goal: \$2 Million Dollars for the PVR Scholarship Fund. The NSS is encouraging members and friends to donate \$60.00 (in recognition of the PVR Fund's 60 years) before the convention. A special QR Code is in the recent NSS Magazine for your convenience.

Plan to see you at the Summer Bar-B-Q on Sunday, **June 7th**, starting at 1:00 pm. Bring along another family member or friend. Have a blessed Easter.

Paul Payerchin
Secretary

ASSEMBLY RO59 Bethlehem, PA

Our thanks to Paula and John Lahutsky for hosting our February 10, 2026 and to Martha and Protodeacon Michael Sawarynski for providing desserts. President Alexandra Keysock opened the meeting. Our meeting opening prayer, "O Heavenly King," was led by Protodeacon Michael Sawarynski.

Old business: We received a thank-you note from the Orthodox Diocese of Sitka and Alaska for our monetary donation to the diocese following the devastating typhoon that occurred in Western Alaska. We also received a thank-you note from the Monastery of the Holy Transfiguration in Ellwood City, PA, for our monetary donation in memory of our deceased member, Nancy Sabol.

New Business: Election of Officers – President Alexandra Keysock, Treasurer John Lahutsky, and Secretary Michele Guydan. We will be contributing \$100.00 to the NSS convention fundraiser supporting the Alzheimer's Association. We are also sending a contribution to Project Mexico and St. Innocent's Orphanage, the only Orthodox orphanage in the Americas. We lost a dear member of our Assembly on December 2, 2025, when Dorothy Stafiniak fell asleep in the Lord. We are making a monetary donation to St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church in memory of Dorothy.

Alexandra Keysock and the Lahutskys coordinated our annual luncheon after our meeting. Birthday greetings to Treasurer John Lahutsky – March 15, William Keysock – April 22, and Martha Sawarynski (special birthday) April 17.

Our next meeting is scheduled for April 24, 2026, at the Lahutsky home.

Michele Guydan
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0070 Brooklyn, OH

A meeting for all members will be held on **April 12, 2026**, at Dr. Martin Luther Church, 4470 Ridge Road, Brooklyn, OH at 11:00 a.m.

The meeting will include discussion of events for the year and the convention. Refreshments will be served.

Additional details will be provided to members.

John Karkosiak
Secretary-Treasurer

ASSEMBLY L075 Duryea, PA

Mark your calendars for the following meetings:

April 11, 2026 - Meeting at Grande Restaurant at 1:00 p.m.

October 10, 2026 - Meeting (nomination & election of officers) at Grande Family Restaurant at 1:00 p.m.

August - date for Fraternal summer picnic to be announced.

Lehrea Edwards
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0100 Pittsburgh, PA

Our next meeting will be on the following dates:

April 18, 2026 - 1:30 pm.

All meetings are held at Chojnicki's residence, Spraggs, PA.

The final selection of delegates to the 2026 NSS Convention will be held at the March meeting. Any questions, please call Melinda at 724-435-7933.

Melinda Chojnicki
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!**

ASSEMBLY L102 Schnecksville, PA

For the entire month of **March** our assembly will be collecting money for the National Backpack Fund for Dodd Elementary School.

April 23rd - "Who dunnit " dinner theater at Fellowship Manor.

April 25th - Region 14 meeting with the home office in attendance. (time and location TBA).

April 25th - L102 Matching Funds for Nova Medical Services at the Nova Center for a basket social.

May 23rd - Annual Iron Pigs baseball outing at 6:30 p.m.

June 15th - Matching funds for the Fellowship Manor golf outing.

Sharon Wesnak
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0377 Bentleyville, PA

Mark your calendars for our meetings in 2026.

June 7 - Picnic/meeting at Richardsons Park, Bentleyville, Pa. at 3:00 p.m. We will have our Slovak food and please bring a donation of a canned good for the local food pantry.

September 13 - Meeting at Sesame Gourmet, 2975 Washington Road, McMurray, Pa. at 3:00 p.m.

December 6 - Annual Christmas party at Hugo's Restaurant, National Pike, Brownsville, Pa. at 3:00 p.m.

As always, please RSVP to me at 724-207-3171 a week ahead so I can confirm attendance.

Suzanne Skrypak
President

ASSEMBLY 0588 Avella, PA

The following meetings will be held at the Stefka residence, 5007 Old Orchard Lane, Gibsonia, Pennsylvania on the following dates and times:

April 13, 2026 - Monday - 5:00 p.m.

September 14, 2026 - Monday - 5:00 p.m.

November 9, 2026 - Monday - 5:00 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.

Annette Stefka
Recording Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0123 Coraopolis, PA

Thank you to members who attended our March 15th meeting, game day and Delegate selection. It was going to have been a good time. (I'm writing about something that hasn't happened, yet, for you to read after it already happened. Feel free to help with the grammar.)

Take note of these dates. For information & sign-ups, contact **nss123@email.com** or call 412-638-2754 or 412-638-7060.

May 2nd - American Legion Auxiliary Unit 82 Murder Mystery Dinner at Findlay Township Activity Center, 310 Main St., Imperial, PA 15126 at 5:00 p.m. An NSS Matching Funds Raffles will be featured. \$30 for Assembly members, \$45 for others.

June 14th - 18th NSS Convention at Sawmill Creek Resort by Cedar Point.

Your ideas for donations, fraternal activities service projects are always wanted.

Lyle Grover
President

ASSEMBLY 0432 Fairview Park, OH

Mark your calendars for the meetings schedule and upcoming activities.

432 Meetings Schedule:

April 21, 2026 – 7:00 PM

Pytel Residence, North Olmsted

October 20, 2026 – 7:00 PM

Pytel Residence, North Olmsted

December 8, 2026 – 7:00 PM

Arturo's Restaurant, North Olmsted

Upcoming Activities:

May 9, 2026 – 6:00 PM

Scotch Doubles Bowling
Mahall's 20 Lanes – Lakewood, OH

October 4, 2026 – 1:00 PM

Red Wagon outing – lots of fun for the kids at Red Wagon Farm

December 8, 2026 – 7:30 PM

Holiday Party at Arturo's Restaurant (Immediately following the 7:00 PM meeting.)

RSVP is required at least one (1) week in advance so we can plan accordingly.

Please contact one of the following:

Dave Pytel – 440-759-4558
Terri Hudak – 440-714-8902
Bill Shuttleworth – 440-465-6024

Chris Pytel
Publicist and Social Media

Assembly 0377



Gloria Frisley and Marie Fargo officers of the Senior Center.

Dear Member,

I just wanted to wish you a **Happy Easter!** I hope you have fun **dying eggs** and then finding them once I've hidden them! Also,

I hope you enjoy the **Easter Basket** I'm going to leave you! **Have a Blessed Day!**

Love,

The Easter Bunny

P.S. I Love Carrots!

ASSEMBLY 0731 Lowellville, OH

2026 will be a busy, productive year for Assembly 0731.

An assembly meeting was held on February 15 at Kathy & Jim Cessna's home. Officers elected to serve the assembly for the next two years include: Laurie Fox, President; Jim Cessna, Vice-President; Ida Lewis, Secretary; Mike Fox Sr., Treasurer; Mike Fox Jr., Financial Secretary; Beth and Matt Mason, Fraternal Co-directors; Kathy and Jessica Cessna, Programs Co-coordinators; and Ashlynn Mason, Youth Programs Coordinator.

Nine members were selected to serve as delegates at the 39th Quadrennial Convention in June. Information about delegates' responsibilities and convention updates was shared.

Discussion about assembly donations to local non-profit organizations led to the approval of donations to: Salem Friends Church Youth Ministry mission trip; Yellow Creek Methodist Church Youth Ministry mission trip; Akron Children's Hospital fundraiser; Operation Evergreen; Poland Express, as well as NSS sponsorships and event donations to include, but not limited to: PVR Fund, Bowling, Golf, Heritage Museum, and the Alzheimer's Association at Convention.

Last year's assembly expenses were reviewed and discussion was held about this year's anticipated expenses. We also discussed ideas for Matching Funds events and involvement within the community in support of the Sojourner House (helping victims of domestic violence with care and relocation), Beatitude House (a ministry of Ursuline Sisters Mission providing supportive housing opportunities), Clothed in Righteousness (helping homeless with clothing and personal items), and the Youngstown Blue Coats (helping veterans and homeless with tents and blankets).

Everyone was advised of the assembly fraternal activities planned so far for this year and was reminded to follow our Facebook page and NSS News Magazine for updates and additions:

February 15 - Youngstown Phantoms Hockey game at Covelli Centre, Youngstown, OH

July 31 - Mahoning Valley Scrappers Baseball game at Eastwood Field, Niles

September 2-7 - Bingo Scavenger Hunt while enjoying the Canfield Fair

October 11 - Halloween Hayride at Countryside Farm, Poland. We are exploring the idea of a Fall Camping weekend at Camp Frederick, Rogers. A decision will be made based on cost and members' interests.

December 13 - Christmas Party at Beard Cabin in Boardman Park

Members were also encouraged to attend and be involved with NSS Home Office sponsored activities such as contests, Septemberfest, and Christmas Around the World. Assembly officers are aiming to get teams together for bowling and golf tournaments this year. Delegates and their families are looking forward to the Convention in June.

Assembly 731 families cheered on the Phantoms during a lively hockey game on February 15th at the Covelli Centre in Youngstown. The scoreboard didn't go our way, but the memories certainly did. Our group was treated to 2 hot dogs, 2 bags of popcorn, and 2 soft drinks for everyone.

Lauren Fox
President



Allie and Ethan Nye had fun cheering on the Phantoms



Assembly 731 families occupied three rows at the arena.



L-R: Wier Family - Matt, Brady, Brianne, Darcie, and Lettie enjoyed quality family time at the game.

REGION 2 Hazleton, PA

Region #2 will hold a meeting at Grotto Pizza, 337 Wyoming Valley Mall, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702, on **May 9th at 2:00 p.m.** Please note the change in time. President Stefka will attend to discuss the status of the NSS and the 39th Quadrennial Convention. Anyone wishing to attend should contact me, Lucy Piccoletti, at 570-479-4116 (call or text) so we can plan accordingly. We strongly encourage all Assemblies to attend this presentation.

Lucy Piccoletti
Recording Secretary

REGION 8 Cleveland, OH

Attention Assemblies: #0004, #0070, #0160, and #0432

GUEST SPEAKER

PRESIDENT JOSEPH STEFKA, JR.

This semi-annual meeting of Region #8 will be hosted by Assembly #160 and will be held on **April 15, 2026**, at Dr. Martin Luther Lutheran Church, 4470 Ridge Road, Brooklyn, Ohio at **6:00 p.m.** Refreshments will be served.

President Stefka will be attending our regional meeting along with other representatives from the Home Office to discuss the upcoming Convention along with other NSS matters. Each Region #8 Assembly is requested to send their elected Convention delegates to the meeting for the Pre-Convention presentation.

Time will be allotted for questions and input from meeting participants. Hope to see all assemblies from our region at this meeting.

Carole Koches
Recording Secretary



News from Assembly 0432



What a fantastic day on the hills! Our recent NSS Life tobogganing outing brought together over 100 members and guests for an evening filled with laughter, fresh air, and great company. From first-time riders to seasoned tobogganing pros, everyone enjoyed the excitement and the chance to spend time with friends and fellow members. The smiles in the photos say it all — it truly was a wonderful time had by all. Events like this remind us how special our NSS Life community is and how much fun it is when we come together.

Mark your calendars!

Our next tobogganing date is **January 17, 2027**. We hope you will plan to join us for another fun-filled evening on the snow and make even more great memories with friends and family.

Thank you to everyone who came out and helped make this event such a big success — we can't wait to see you at the next one!

Marti Pytel
Youth Elder

Assembly 617



Assembly 0617 recently held its annual Valentines Day lunch and social at Amber Donia European Bakery in Kingston. The assembly enjoyed the lunch and the sharing of Valentine gifts. The highlight of the social was the presentation of a donation from the assembly to representatives of Ava's Toy Box Foundation which provides aid to children with cancer.

Assembly 0617 also took this meeting to review assembly events and programs. Assembly 0617 will next meet on **April 16, 2026** at the Pierce St. Deli beginning at 1:00 p.m. in Kingston. The date of Fraternal Day at Knoebels Park was changed to **August 13, 2026** beginning at 12:30 p.m.

Members of Assembly 0617 planning to attend the upcoming meeting please contact John Kurilla at 570-239-5936, 570-287-4163, or email: jjkurilla@aol.com

John Kurilla
President

Assembly L075

In December, the Matching Funds for Avoca Troop 316 took place at the Ladore Lodge craft fair on December 6th, where we assisted the troop in selling homemade chili.

Presenting the check: Scout Committee Member Lehrae Ann Edwards, TCC Matt Fino, and Scoutmaster Brandon Collins.

We conducted a Matching Funds drive for the Moosic Red Wings Girls Softball League Night at the Races on January 31 and sponsored a basket.

We will conduct Matching Funds for the Excelsior Hose Company Duryea Annual Night at the Races on March 28th, at 5:30 p.m. at the Germania Hose Company. We will sponsor a race and donate a basket.

A matching fundraiser is set for **April 18, 2026**, at the Penn Stater Hotel in State College for the American Legion auxiliary Spring Conference, where we will donate a basket to raise money for the President Jackie Weaver's Projects Keystone Girls State and Housing for the Homeless Veterans Corp.

Our assembly will sponsor a Host for a Day at the St. Francis of Assisi Kitchen on **May 14, 2026**, and Marlin Petro and Lehrae Edwards will attend the annual dinner on April 29th at Fiorelli's for a Matching Fundraiser, and donating a basket.

Future Dates: October 10th meeting at 1:00 p.m. at Grandes Restaurant for nomination & election of officers. Fraternal summer picnic date is set for **August 2, 2026**, at the Mercateli-Segilia Park, Birney Avenue, Moosic, PA at 1:00 p.m., where we will be celebrating several members turning 70. Thank you



Lehrae Edwards
Secretary/Treasurer

Assembly 0337 Meeting



Our February meeting was held at the Olive Garden Restaurant. Our turnout was a huge success.



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, he/she 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)**

**For more information, you may find
it on our NSS Life website:
www.nsslife.org**

DEPARTED MEMBERS FEBRUARY 2026

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Allen, Carolyn	Rostraver Twp, PA	01/01/2026	0377
Arnett, Albert C	Monroeville, PA	01/16/2026	0108
Ayimer, James J	Washington, PA	01/31/2026	0774
Baney, Carol	Harmony, PA	01/20/2026	0123
Banic, Nancy J	Greenville, PA	12/22/2025	0731
Baptiste, Elizabeth	Butler, PA	01/13/2026	0731
Baumgardner, Paul	Washington, PA	01/16/2026	0588
Bayne, Elizabeth	Sarver, PA	01/25/2026	0123
Benedict, Evan James	Youngstown, OH	02/01/2026	0731
Benser, William R	Boyne City, MI	09/09/2025	0381
Bernhardy, William D	Pittsburgh, PA	01/30/2026	0108
Bohl, William L	Abrams, WI	01/23/2026	0774
Boyers, David R	Rochester, PA	02/04/2026	0123
Brewbaker Moran, Marian	Onaway, MI	01/09/2026	0774
Brigham, Nancy L	Corry, PA	01/05/2026	0731
Celli, Patricia A	Jefferson, PA	01/16/2026	0377
Charlesworth, Laura	Irwin, PA	01/25/2026	0737
Chipps, Ray	Monongahela, PA	02/07/2026	0377
Chovan, Cyril	Monessen, PA	02/22/2026	0377
Clepper, Kay I	Lucernemines, PA	01/30/2024	0774
Costello, Miles K	Fairhope, PA	02/22/2026	0039
Cottingham, Doris	Harrisburg, PA	01/23/2026	L102
Cover, Mary J	Clymer, PA	01/26/2026	0267
Curry, Walter E	Finleyville, PA	06/11/2025	0434
Cyktor, Terrance	West Newton, PA	01/14/2026	0737
Cyran, David A	Portage, PA	02/04/2026	0774
Dastur, Kathleen	Cabot, PA	01/07/2026	0123
DeFranco, Josephine	Pittsburgh, PA	01/12/2026	L161
Delaney, Larry R	Cabot, PA	01/13/2026	0123
Del Cimmutto, Nicholas	West Leechburg, PA	01/27/2026	L161
Dembiel, Linda M	Oak Creek, WI	11/15/2025	0774
Di Padova Lucki, Agnesa	Export, PA	02/12/2026	L105
Drap, Edna M	Jeannette, PA	02/03/2026	0737
Duffy, Sandra	Pittsburgh, PA	01/20/2026	0100
Edwards, Gary Alan	Duryea, PA	01/02/2026	L075
Emmert, Richard J	Harveys Lake, PA	01/16/2026	0617
Espinoza, Angela	Hacienda Heights, CA	10/22/2025	0774
Evans, Doris S	Verona, PA	01/13/2026	L161
Ferrebee, Freddie	Morgantown, WV	01/01/2026	0774
Ferrebee, Vivian	Morgantown, WV	11/12/2025	0774
Galzerano, Eric	White Oak, PA	01/03/2026	0737
Gapsky, Hugh	Pittsburgh, PA	01/30/2026	L161
Garmon, Larry Paul	Springdale, PA	02/06/2026	L105
George, Harvey	McDonald, PA	02/08/2026	0123
George, Thomas	Fombell, PA	01/16/2026	L161
Glass, Bertha	Kegley, WV	01/10/2026	0774
Gnegy, Mary Jane	Thomas, WV	01/28/2026	0774
Gombar, Joseph	Boyertown, PA	01/12/2026	L102
Gordon, William	Fairmont, WV	11/10/2025	0774
Grayson, Maxine L	Coraopolis, PA	12/27/2025	0123
Gruber, Carol A	Sewickley, PA	02/14/2026	0123
Grubic, Lorraine	Pittsburgh, PA	01/17/2026	L161
Guttery, Janet E	Ford City, PA	03/08/2024	0554
Hammill, David J	Verona, PA	02/03/2026	L105
Harple, John	Coatesville, PA	01/20/2026	L102
Hartford, Doris	Natrona Heights, PA	01/31/2026	L161
Havr, Laura	Northfield, OH	01/17/2026	0004
Henley, Donald S	Asheboro, NC	01/12/2026	0774
Henrey, Barbara	Greenville, PA	01/16/2026	0731
Hetrick, Judith M	Croydon, PA	01/19/2026	R059
Hines, Homer	Frametown, WV	01/09/2026	0774
Hodder, Calvin	Canonsburg, PA	01/07/2024	0434
Holman, Earl T	Jacksonville, FL	12/18/2025	0123
Johnston, Frederick E	Glenshaw, PA	12/17/2025	L161
Johnston, Eric	Blairsville, PA	01/24/2026	0267
Johnston, Virginia	Meadville, PA	02/12/2026	0731
Jones, Carl	Canonsburg, PA	12/02/2025	0434
Karp, Shirley	Canton, OH	01/25/2026	0731
Kaschok, Joan	Rillton, PA	01/08/2026	0737
Keafer, David	York, PA	01/01/2026	0774
Keenan, Eleanor W	Latrobe, PA	02/02/2026	L161
Kerchner, Marvin	Emmaus, PA	01/31/2026	R059
Kish, Jon	Leechburg, PA	01/22/2026	0737
Kososko, Shirley	Cleveland, OH	12/21/2025	0070
Kriner, Fred C	Luthersberg, PA	12/20/2025	0554
Kuczynski, John J	Brown Deer, WI	12/28/2025	0774
Lander diil, Joanne B	Erie, PA	10/29/2025	0070
Lazar, Daniel	Harveys Lake, PA	01/07/2026	0617
Lee, Avery	Eau Claire, WI	01/03/2026	0774
Liljefors, Marjorie M	Charlotte, NC	11/01/2025	0774

DEPARTED MEMBERS FEBRUARY 2026 (Continued from page 22)

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Loughman, Nancy J	Washington, PA	02/03/2026	0377
Loughner, Vita C	Greensburg, PA	02/01/2026	0737
Lowery, Richard K	Warrington, PA	02/05/2026	L102
Lowman, Elaine B	Pittsburgh, PA	01/19/2026	0441
Lynn, Rachel	Tyrone, PA	01/27/2026	0267
Mace, Cheryl	Meadville, PA	02/13/2026	0731
Majzun, Marcella	Amherst, OH	02/05/2026	0160
Malakany, Marie	Pittsburgh, PA	01/23/2026	0108
Mars, Sandra	Corry, PA	01/28/2026	0731
Marsek, Theodore	Brewster, NY	11/26/2025	0110
Marsh, Joanna	York, PA	01/28/2026	0774
Martis, Paul	ST Joans, NY	02/01/2026	0381
Mc Adoo, Jerry	Punxsutawney, PA	01/20/2026	0554
Mc Clenathan, Jo Ann	Washington, PA	01/23/2026	0588
Mc Gonigle, Gertrude J	Pittsburgh, PA	02/14/2026	0100
Mc Nall, Helen P	Bethel Park, PA	10/25/2025	0434
Merritts, Mary T	Williamsburg, PA	02/01/2026	0267
Miller, Wayne	Marion Center, PA	01/15/2026	0774
Misik, John	Columbia Heights, MN	01/17/2026	0586
Mitchell, Dorothy	St Marys, PA	01/24/2025	L040
Mizak, John C	Johnstown, PA	08/06/2024	0737
Monahan, Dolores	Connellsville, PA	01/09/2026	0039
Moore, Marcella	Belington, WV	08/23/2025	0774
Moskal, Stacy	Carrolltown, PA	02/03/2026	0267
Murray, Betty M	Myerstown, PA	02/06/2026	L102
Musser, Beulah M	Stanley, NC	12/25/2025	0774
Navicki, Stanley	Orland Park, PA	11/25/2025	0586
Northam, Stephen R	Jeffersonville, IN	01/27/2026	0705
Nuxoll, Raymond F	Aurora, IL	12/16/2025	0586
Nyga, William	Morgantown, WV	01/06/2026	0774
Oakes, Shirley	Conway, PA	01/31/2025	0123
Ottinger, David W	Uniontown, PA	02/18/2026	0039
Page, Cathy M	Coopersburg, PA	01/31/2026	L102
Patterson, Crenda	New Salem, PA	11/16/2025	0039
Pearson, Ruth C	Greensboro, NC	01/12/2026	0774
Pearson, William	Williamsburg, PA	02/03/2026	0267
Peters, Robert	Corry, PA	01/08/2026	0731
Polas, Florence	Arnold, PA	01/21/2026	L105
Poznak, Elizabeth	Beverly Hills, FL	01/19/2026	0123
Quale, Barbara	Portersville, PA	02/07/2026	0731
Regoli, Teresa Ann	Shadyside, OH	01/14/2026	0774
Reiser, Karen J	Butler, PA	01/29/2026	0731
Riegel, Charles	Birdsboro, PA	01/12/2026	L102
Roberts, Barbara	Slovan, PA	02/20/2026	0588
Robinson, Ann C	Indiana, PA	01/26/2026	0774
Robuck, Joseph	Altoona, PA	02/26/2026	0267
Roither, Catherine	Emlenton, PA	02/03/2026	0731
Rostosky, Frank	Monongahela, PA	02/10/2026	0377
Rowe, George B	Smithfield, PA	01/16/2026	0039
Schaffer, Edward G	Monroeville, PA	01/01/2026	0123
Schnell, Sara	Butler, PA	02/06/2026	0123
Sheilds, Cathleen Ann	Export, PA	02/12/2026	L105
Shirk, Linda A	Tyrone, PA	02/10/2026	0774
Shoemaker, Lois A	Dubois, PA	01/24/2026	0554
Smith, Agnes J	Bethel Park, PA	01/16/2026	0434
Smith, Gerald J	Bethel Park, PA	01/16/2026	0434
Snodgrass, Robert	Indiana, PA	02/10/2026	0267
Snodgrass, Robert	Indiana, PA	02/10/2026	L105
Spratt, Craig	Lindside, WV	10/14/2025	0774
Stachura, William	Harwick, PA	01/17/2026	L161
Stankovich, Michael	Lakewood, OH	02/09/2026	0432
Stephens, Janet M	Cranberry, PA	01/23/2026	0774
Stephens, Kathryn W	Old Town, FL	12/07/2025	0813
Stetz, Sylvia	Coraopolis, PA	02/10/2025	0123
Stevens, Martha	Charleston, WV	01/09/2026	0774
Swink, Julia R	Marblehead, OH	09/18/2025	0588
Tarr, Donald R	Seneca, PA	01/08/2026	0554
Tatar, Ronald	Elizabeth, PA	02/23/2026	0737
Teschke, Jacqueline	Cheswick, PA	01/24/2026	L161
Tidd, James G	Lakeland, FL	12/28/2025	L105
Trebac, Sophie	Harwick, PA	01/18/2026	L161
Urbanick, Emma	Philadelphia, PA	11/25/2025	L075
Valli, Raymond L	Beaver Falls, PA	02/15/2026	0123
Vanfleet, Judith K	Pontiac, MI	11/17/2025	0381
Ventura, Margaret	Jeannette, PA	01/09/2026	0737
Whalen, Francis	New Kensington, PA	02/01/2026	L105
Williams, Shirley	Punxsutawney, PA	01/24/2026	0554
Wilson, Nancy Lee	St Marys, PA	01/31/2026	0554
Wilson, Carol	Clarksville, PA	02/09/2026	0377
Zalnasky, Chester	Coraopolis, PA	12/22/2025	0123



DONATE TO THE PVR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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.

PVR Scholarship Fund Donations February 2026

In Memory of Edward Koches:	
From Editor Lori Crowley & Family.....	25.00
In Memory of Jason Althouse:	
From Editor Lori Crowley & Family.....	25.00
In Memory of Deceased Members (Joe Farah & William Gedeon:	
From Assembly 0070	40.00
In Memory of our son and brother, Shaun Logan Crowley:	
From Kevin, Lori, Kevin Jr., & John Crowley	20.00
In Memory of Region Officer and Former Director Edward Koches:	
From John Karkosik.....	25.00
In Memory of Mary Lou Chojnicki & our Assembly 100 Departed Mem bers:	
From Assembly 0100	300.00
Donations:	
Start Hearing Inc.....	300.00
Michael Grega	300.00
Total	1,035.00





Slovak Easter Vocabulary and Common Phrases

- Easter greetings - Veselé prežitie Velkonocných sviatkov
- Easter - Velká noc
- pouring water over girls - oblievacka
- spanking girls by whips - šibacka -
- the boy who comes to water the girls during Easter-kupac
- the whip made of willow branches - korbác
- a painted, dyed or otherwise decorated blown egg - kraslica
- potato salad - zemiakový šalát
- Excuse me - Prepáčte!
- I love you - Lúbim Ta
- Hello – Dobrý den (pronounced DOH-bree deň)
- Good morning – Dobré ráno (pronounced DOH-brehh RAA-noh)
- Good night – Dobrú noc (pronounced DOH-broo nohts)
- Goodbye – Do videnia (pronounced doh VEE-deh-nyah)
- Yes – Áno (pronounced AAH-noh)
- No – Nie (pronounced NYEE_ah)
- How are you? – Ako sa máš? (pronounced AH-koh sah MAA-sh?)
- Thank you – Dakujem (pronounced JAH-koo-yehm)
- You are welcome -Prosím (pronounced PROH-seem)
- Good luck- Vel'a štastia
- Good News - dobré správy
- My name is - Volám sa
- Pleased to meet you - Teší ma
- Help! -Pomoc!
- Fire! - Horí!
- Stop! - Stop! Stoj!
- Call the police! - Zavolajte políciu!

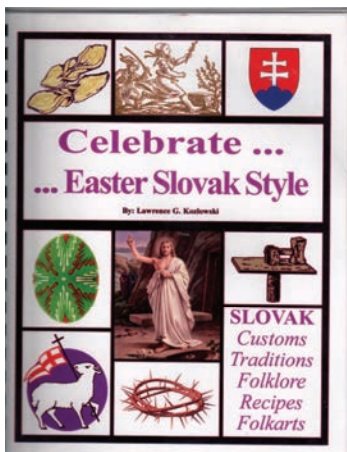
Ten Fun Facts About Easter You Probably Didn't Know

1. The Easter Bunny legend began in Germany
2. The holiday was named after the Anglo-Saxon Goddess, Eostre
3. More than 1.5 million Cadbury Creme Eggs are produced every day
4. The act of painting eggs originates from a Ukrainian tradition
5. The world's largest Easter egg weighs in at 5000 lbs
6. Pretzels used to be associated with Easter
7. The UK's first chocolate egg was produced in Bristol in 1873
8. In Germany, it is illegal to dance on Good Friday
9. Easter is celebrated on the Sunday after the full moon following March 21st
10. In 2007, an Easter egg sold for 9 million

Possibly the world's most expensive egg was sold at Christie's in London for 9 million in 2007, breaking Fabergé records. The enameled egg contains a multicolored cockerel which at every hour pops out of the egg and flaps his wings, before nodding his head three times. The egg was made by Karl Fabergé in St Petersburg in 1902 and is the second-largest egg ever made by Fabergé.



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April

Jar sľubuje nádej a lásku, teplý veľkonočný vánok, modrú oblohu a dar nového života všade! Je to začiatok spevu vtákov, záhradných kvetov, dlhších slnečných dní a jasnej modrej oblohy. Je to obnova a znovuzrodenie, čo znamená opakujúci sa cyklus v ročných obdobiach. Veľkú noc možno považovať za východ slnka v roku, ktorý naplňa naše srdcia nádejou a obnovenou vierou. Veľká vďaka patrí všetkým, ktorí neustále „vdýchnu nový život“ našej organizácii. Prajem vám všetkým lásku v srdciach, pokoj v dušiach a radosť vo vašich životoch počas tohto veľkonočného obdobia a vždy.



Bardejov na Velku Noc
Fotografia- Fotogaleriae Photo.sk

7 najlepších lekárov

1. slnko 🌞
2. vzduch 🌬️
3. pohyb 🚶🚶
4. voda 💧
5. zdravá strava 🍏
6. odpočinok 😴
7. smiech 😊



MIŠKA D

Pranostiky

April zimný, daždivý, úroda nás navštívi.

Juraj 4.24) Juro žabám hubu otvára, budú jašterice i hadov.

Čo do Dzura narastie, to po Dzure skape.

Ďuro všetkých z izby von do poľa vyženie.

APRÍL—mesiac lesov

Význam lesa

1. Lesy sú pľúcami Zeme

les vytvára kyslík, potrebný pre život

2. Lesy regulujú obeh vody v prírode,

vyparovanie, a zrážky.

3. Lesy zachytávajú hmlu a prach,

čím znižujú počet choroboplodných zárodkov vo vzduchu.

4. Lesy nám poskytujú:

- drevo
- lesné plody
- huby
- liečivé rastliny
- sú vhodným prostredím na oddych, a rekreáciu.

Stará múdrosť hovorí:

Ked' si v živote zasadil čo len jeden strom, nežil si nadarmo.



*Radujte sa, ó kresťania,
v srdciach Vašich plesajte.
Z mŕtvych povstal náš
Spasiteľ
aleluja spievajte.*

*Všetkým úradníkom,
členom, čitateľom a Vaším
rodinám želáme radostné
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