The National Slovak Society of the United States of America

NSS Life®
Family Matters...

National News

NOVEMBER 2026

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THE NSS HERITAGE MUSEUM PRESENTS

Septemberfest

Page 9



Treasurer/CFO Search Announcement

Page 5



2026 National Service Christmas Card Collection

Page 5 & 10



2026 Christmas Ornament Contest

Page 10 & 19

N A T I O N A L N E W S

National Slovak Society

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Robert F. Katricak, *FIC*,
Chairman of the Board

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Keith A. Kucherawy • Susan M. Ondrejco • Andrew "Drew" J. Wesnak
Theresa M. Zemelman

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Paul Payerchin, Jr., *Director* • Linda Strom, Secretary/Treasurer

FSWFE HONORARY OFFICERS
Justine Wesnak, *President* • Reverend Monsignor Thomas V. Banick, *Spiritual Advisor*
FSWFE merged with NSS in 1997

Inside this Issue...

Assembly Activities
Activities at a Glance 3

From the Executive Officers
The President's Page 4
Announcement of New President 5
Announcement of Treasurer/CFO Search 5
Secretary-Treasurer's Page 6

NSS Financial Matters
Annuity Interest Rates 8

NSS Sales Department
Recommender/Change of Address Form 2
National Sales Director 9

NSS News & Activities
PVR News 7
The Community Corner 10
Septemberfest Photos 11
Assembly Meetings/Events 12-14
Heritage Museum Notes 15
Senior Scholarship 16
Departed Members 16-17
PVR Scholarship Donations 17
Youth Circle Page 19

Národné Noviny
Slovak Page 18

Could you use a little extra "Green?"

RECOMMENDER FORM

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

Recommender Information:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Prospect Information:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Do you need a Change of Address?

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

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

Change of Address Information:

Full Name: _____

Certificate #: _____ Assembly #: _____

New Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Former Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Activities At A Glance

REGION 2	**Assemblies L075, 0617**
November	Assembly L075, Shop for the Greenwood Headstart Children for Christmas (DTBD)
December 5	Assembly L075, Assist Avoca Troop 316, (TBA)
REGION 5	**Assemblies 0039, 0100, L105, 0108, 0123, L161, 0377, 0434, 0441, 0588, 0731, 0737, 0774**
November 8	Assembly 0731, Meeting/Christmas ornaments, Cessna's residence at 2:00 pm
November 28	Christmas Around the World, NSS Heritage Museum, McMurray, PA, Noon to 4:00 pm
November 30	Assembly 0588, Meeting/Holiday Party, Stefka residence, Gibsonia, PA at 5:00 pm
December 5	Assembly 0039, Columbia Association Social Hall starting at 2:00 pm.
December 6	Assembly 0377, Christmas Party, Hugo's Restaurant, Brownsville, PA at 3:00 pm
December 6	Assembly 0123, Christmas Party/Meeting, Imperial SNPJ
December 13	Assembly 0731, Christmas Party, Boardman Park's Elton Beard Cabin at 3:00 pm
February 20, **2027**	Assembly 0123, Our Town, Lincoln Park Performing Arts Center
March 7	Assembly 0377, Meeting, Olive Garden, Washington, PA at 3:00 pm
June 27	Assembly 0377, Picnic, Richardsons Park, Bentleyville, PA at 3:00 pm
September 12	Assembly 0377, Meeting, Sesame Gourmet, McMurray, PA t 3:00 pm
December 5	Assembly 0377, Christmas Party, Cedar Brook County Club, Belle Vernon, PA
REGION 8	**Assemblies 0004, 0070, 0160, 0432, 0595**
December 8	Assembly 0432, Meeting, Arturo's Restaurant, North Olmsted, OH at 7:00
December 8	Assembly 0432, Holiday Party, Arturo's Restaurant (After meeting)
December 13	Assembly 0070, Meeting/Christmas Luncheon, Martin Luther Church, Brooklyn, OH at 11:00 am
January 17, **2027**	Assembly 0432, Tobogganing (TBA)
REGION 14	**Assemblies R059, L102**
December 5	Assembly L102, Matching Fund, Hocky AA, Catty playground, 8 am to Noon.
December 9	Assembly L102, Matching Fund, Christmas party for Kiwanis Club in Emmaus.
AT LARGE	**Assemblies L002, R019, L040, 0110, 0236, 0267, 0381, 0554, 0568, 0586, 0705, 0800, 0813**
	No Activities



The President's Page...

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



Recently, the American Fraternal Alliance held its Executive Summit in Washington, D.C. The NSS Executive Officers attended the event and were able to visit the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Washington, D.C. and meet with the Ambassador of the Slovak Republic to the United States H.E. Andrej Droba. Ambassador Droba was very interested in the story of our grandparents' immigration to the United States, where they lived in Slovakia, and the National Slovak Society. It was this writer's first visit to the Slovak Embassy and it was very impressive! We are grateful to the Ambassador for taking time in his busy schedule to meet with us.

The Executive Summit offered the NSS Executive Officers an opportunity to attend educational sessions, network with other fraternal benefit society officers, and visit the Capitol and meet with members of Congress and their staffers to let them know the great things that fraternals do in the United States. During the AFA Annual Business Meeting, our Secretary-Treasurer/CFO John Payerchin was elected to the American Fraternal Alliance Executive Board of Directors! Congratulations John! The National Slovak Society is proud to have a representative of NSS on the AFA Board! John also was elected as First Vice President of the New Jersey/New York Fraternal Alliance at its recent 93rd Annual Convention.

Daylight Saving Time ends on November 1, 2026. Please remember to set your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, October 31st. The time officially changes at 2:00 a.m. on November 1st.

Veteran's Day will be celebrated on November 11th. It is a day to honor all our country's veterans who have served our country in times of war and peace. Please take the time to thank a veteran for the freedoms we all have in the United States of America. Veteran's Day gives our Assemblies and Regions an opportunity to either donate to a Veteran's organization or to volunteer to assist the organization's cause.

Thanksgiving will be celebrated on Thursday, November 26th. Thanksgiving is a time to reflect, give thanks, and to be grateful for the many Blessings we all have. The Thanksgiving Holiday is usually marked by the annual Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City, scrumptious dinners, too much dessert, and the traditional Thanksgiving Day football games. The most important aspect of the day is the gathering of family. Sharing moments that become memories for each of us as we look back. We use the marketing slogan, *"NSS Life where Family Matters,"* in each of our radio, television, and print advertisements. Thanksgiving is one of the holidays where we get to share our messages of thanks for those that we love and truly is a day "where Family Matters!" The Home Office will be closed for business on **November 26th and 27th** so that our employees have an opportunity to spend time with their families. Business will resume on Monday, November 30th.

Septemberfest

The NSS Heritage Museum held its 14th Annual Septemberfest on Saturday, September 26, 2026. The weather for the day was outstanding with sunshine and temperatures in the low 70's. Over 425 attendees were present during the course of the day. The event once again was attended by members as well as non-members from the tri-state area. Highlights of the day included music by the Polka Classics, delicious Slovak foods and pastries, ethnic vendors, the 3 River Model A Restorer Club, children's games and activities, a basket raffle benefiting the PVR Scholarship Fund and the NSS Heritage Museum, and a mock Slovak wedding performance by the Pittsburgh Slovakians Dance Group. Thank you to our NSS Heritage Museum Manager Sue Ondrejco for organizing and overseeing the event. Thank you to all the volunteers that made the day possible by either making pastries for the event, assisting with the event set up on Friday, and helping with the event on Saturday. Looking forward to a special Septemberfest next year as we celebrate our 15th year!

Fall Reorganization Meeting

The Fall Reorganization Meeting of the Board Of Directors will be held on Thursday, **November 12th** – Sunday, **November 15th**. Committee meetings will be held on Thursday with the Board of Directors Meeting on Friday through Sunday. Please submit any information to be considered by the Board to Secretary-Treasurer John Payerchin by November 7, 2026. Thank you to Keith Kucherawy for serving as a National Director for the past four years. Congratulations to Karen Lynne Orban who was elected to the Board of Directors at the 39th Quadrennial Convention and will officially begin her term on November 1st for the next four years.

Christmas Around the World

The NSS Heritage Museum will hold its annual Christmas Around the World Celebration on Saturday, **November 28th** from Noon to 4 p.m. at the NSS Heritage Museum. The event features a display of multi-ethnic Christmas trees, delicious Slovak baked goods and food, children's arts and crafts, and a chance to visit with St. Nicholas.

News of Narodniars

Happy Birthday wishes to Director Laurie Fox, former Director Brian Medved, Lori Crowley *National News* Editor, Home Office staff members Bill Barach, Jeffrey Johnson, Patti Kropf and Mary Lee Shingle, to Cyndy Triebsch, Trudie Reeves, George Leasure, and to all others celebrating a birthday in November.

Happy Anniversary wishes go out to my wonderful wife Annette as we will celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary on November 20th, also to former Director Keith Kucherawy and wife Elaine, and to all others celebrating a wedding anniversary in November.

The National Slovak Society was saddened to hear of the recent passing of Honorary Director Anthony "Tony" Beno. My deepest sympathy goes out to Tony's wife Linda, children Sarah and Philip and the entire Beno Family. Tony served as an NSS Director for twenty-four years and was an active member of Assembly 432. May God provide peace and comfort to the Beno Family during this most difficult time.

Announcement of President Michael Martocci

The Board of Directors of the National Slovak Society (NSS) are pleased to announce that Michael Martocci has been selected as President of the NSS effective January 1, 2027. Michael will start employment with the NSS on November 2, 2026, and will work with President Joseph Stefka, Jr. on the transition.

Michael brings more than 30 years of executive leadership experience across the life insurance, annuity, employee benefits, and financial services industries. His expertise spans corporate strategy, financial management, insurance distribution, business development, operations, and organizational growth.

Throughout his career, Michael has held senior executive positions with leading organizations, including American General/AIG, UNUM, and M Financial Group, a national network of independent life insurance and annuity advisory firms. Most recently, he served as Chief Executive Officer of OneKonnect, where he led the company's strategic direction, financial performance, and operations. His leadership experience includes business transformation, financial planning, building high-performing teams, and executing strategies that drive sustainable growth.

Michael is a graduate of Penn State University's Smeal College of Business and serves on the Penn State Alumni Association's Executive Board and Alumni Council. Also, as President of its Myrtle Beach Alumni Association Chapter, he has led the organization to achieve significant membership growth and engagement, reflecting his commitment to community involvement and membership-based organizations.

Michael looks forward to working with NSS Life's Board, employees, agents, and members to preserve the Society's traditions while advancing membership growth and engagement, strengthening its life insurance and annuity business, and positioning the organization for continued success.

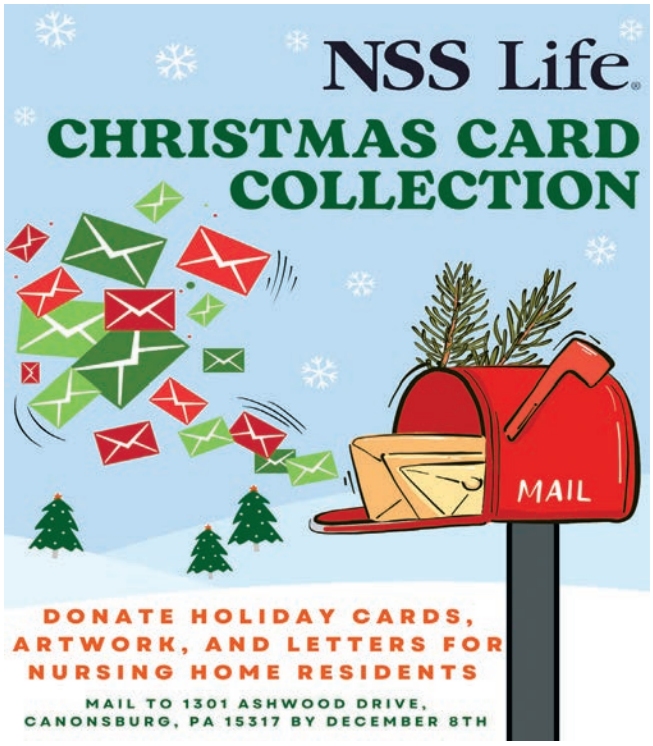
Michael, his wife Sabra, and their four sons are enthusiastic about becoming part of the NSS Life family.

Bob Katricak
Chairman of the Board

Board of Directors Treasurer/CFO Search

The Board of Directors of NSS Life has partnered with The Jacobson Group to assist in the search for our next Treasurer/CFO. Jacobson is the insurance industry's leading executive search and staffing firm and offers more than 50 years of proven experience. The search will be led by Managing Director Jack Walsh and his team. If you are interested or if you know someone interested in applying for Treasurer/CFO of NSS Life, please reach out to Jack directly at: (312) 884-0489 or **jwalsh@jacobsongroup.com**. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Respectfully,
Bob Katricak
Chairman of the Board
rkatricak@nsslife.org • 440-320-6916





Secretary-Treasurer's Page

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



Fraternal Greetings!

As Thanksgiving approaches, the weather gets colder, and days get shorter, things are still filling my calendar. The past few months have seen a flurry of activity. President Stefka, Chairman Katricak and I attended the American Fraternal Alliance Executive Summit in Washington, DC. We had the opportunity to visit the Ambassador of the Slovak Republic to the United States, His Excellency Andrej Droba. During our hour-long visit, we sat in Ambassador Droba's office and discussed a variety of topics including our heritage museum, our family's lineage, his role her in the US, and ways we can better work together promoting our Slovak heritage. I am grateful for the time and hospitality the Ambassador and his staff showed us during our visit.



During the Executive Summit I had the honor of being elected to the Board of the American Fraternal Alliance. Having any opportunity to represent NSS Life and fraternalism is something I take great pride in. Challenging myself and others to make the world a better place for everyone. I look forward to working with other fraternal leaders over the next few years on the national level to make a difference.

At the time of the writing of this article, my time as President of the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance is winding down and set to end on October 20. Humbled is not enough to describe the opportunity to lead an outstanding group of organizations dedicated to the same mission. We accomplished many things during the past year. After our Legislative Dinner in Harrisburg, Representative James Haddock (D) from the 118th District in Lackawanna and Luzerne Counties worked with other leaders to introduce a resolution recognizing Pennsylvania Fraternals and the meaningful difference we make in the lives of the citizens of this great Commonwealth.

Father Goes Skydiving



My father Paul, who turned 86 this past September 5, shocked my siblings, his grandkids, and great granddaughters with celebrating his birthday by SKYDIVING! Unbeknownst to all of us, he scheduled his tandem jump the Wednesday before his birthday. He assumed we would try to talk him out of checking this off his bucket list or tell him NO. We don't think he would have listened anyway. We have decided not to ask him what else remains on his bucket list. And did he enjoy it??? "It was a blast!", he said. But he is one and done. The repeated landings would be too much. But if he were 20 or 30….. he'd get his license and jump every weekend!

Just as I finished this month's article, I learned of the passing of Honorary Director Anthony (Tony) Beno. Tony had a larger-than-life personality. For many years, he devoted countless hours to NSS Life at both the national and local levels. Although it has been too long since I last saw Tony, I always appreciated our conversations and his opinions. God Bless you Tony, your wife Linda, and the entire Beno family.

May all of our members and their families have a blessed start to this Holiday Season. Enjoy the time and make memories with your loved ones. Give an extra hug, send an extra text, let someone know that you're thinking of them. It might just make their day.

God Bless,
John Payerchin
Secretary-Treasurer/CFO



PVR News

The PVR Fund Board of Directors is thrilled to announce that we have met our $2 million goal! Thank you to all of our donors and sponsors!

As of September 30 , 2026, the PVR Fund balance is $2,006,387.

Septemberfest Fundraiser

Special thanks go out to Kathy Cessna, who volunteered her time and smile to running our Septemberfest Basket Raffle. This year, we took in over $3357 at Septemberfest, between our annual basket raffle and our donation drive. Matching funds will make these donations go farther! Many thanks to the following Regions, Assemblies, and individuals for their donations:

Region 8
Assembly 617
Assembly C617
Assembly 434
Assembly 236
Assembly RO59
Assembly 432
Assembly 595
Assembly 706
Assembly 0377
Assembly 731
Assembly 441
Assembly 588
Assembly 123
Assembly 108
Assembly 774
Assembly L161
Assembly 100
Assembly L075
Mike & Laurie Fox
Lori Crowley
Keith & Elaine Kucherawy
Home Office Staff
Janine Hannan
Margie Kondrich



What's next?
Stay tuned!

Current Interest Rates

★ Effective September 1, 2026 ★

Optimum 3 – 4.75%

New Preferred 5 – 7.00%* (For First Year Only)

New Preferred 8 – 8.00%* (For First Year Only)

Existing Preferred 5 - 4.00% • 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.

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.

REMEMBER TO KEEP YOUR PERSONAL ACCOUNT INFORMATION CURRENT

Please contact our NSS Life Member Services Department at 724-731-0094 or 1-800-488-1890 with any of the following changes:

• MARITAL STATUS • MAILING ADDRESS • BENEFICIARY UPDATES • EMAIL ADDRESS
• IRA MINIMUM DISTRIBUTION REQUESTS • BANK ACCOUNT UPDATES FOR DEPOSITS OR WITHDRAWALS

ANY REQUESTS FOR DISBURSEMENTS FROM THE NSS FOR 2025 SHOULD BE DELIVERED TO THE HOME OFFICE BY: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15TH, 2026.

2026 Annuity Contribution Coupon

Any time is a good time to invest, but investing earlier can maximize the compounding effect on your money. Consider making your 2026 contribution as early as possible.

Name _____

Certificate No. _____ Deposit Amount _____

Traditional IRA for 2026 _____ Roth IRA for 2026 _____

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

From the Sales Department...

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



Life Insurance?

Many times in this space we have discussed the importance of life insurance. We have opined on the many advantages of life insurance. The fact is the majority of people want life insurance. People with life insurance want more and people without it want to get some. So what is going on? People generally buy life insurance when something happens. It seems to be an event driven purchase. Did you get married, have a baby, buy a house, then life insurance may be at the top of your to-do list. Did you get divorced, or attend a funeral, are you a single parent, then life insurance is a consideration. Did you get a promotion, start a business or some other change in your life; then life insurance is in your future. The beauty of this remarkable product is the sooner it is purchased the better it performs and it is less expensive . Need more proof or a quote, contact your local NSS Life representative or Joe Elliott in the Home Office for more information. Let us help you travel life's highway and navigate any pitfalls.

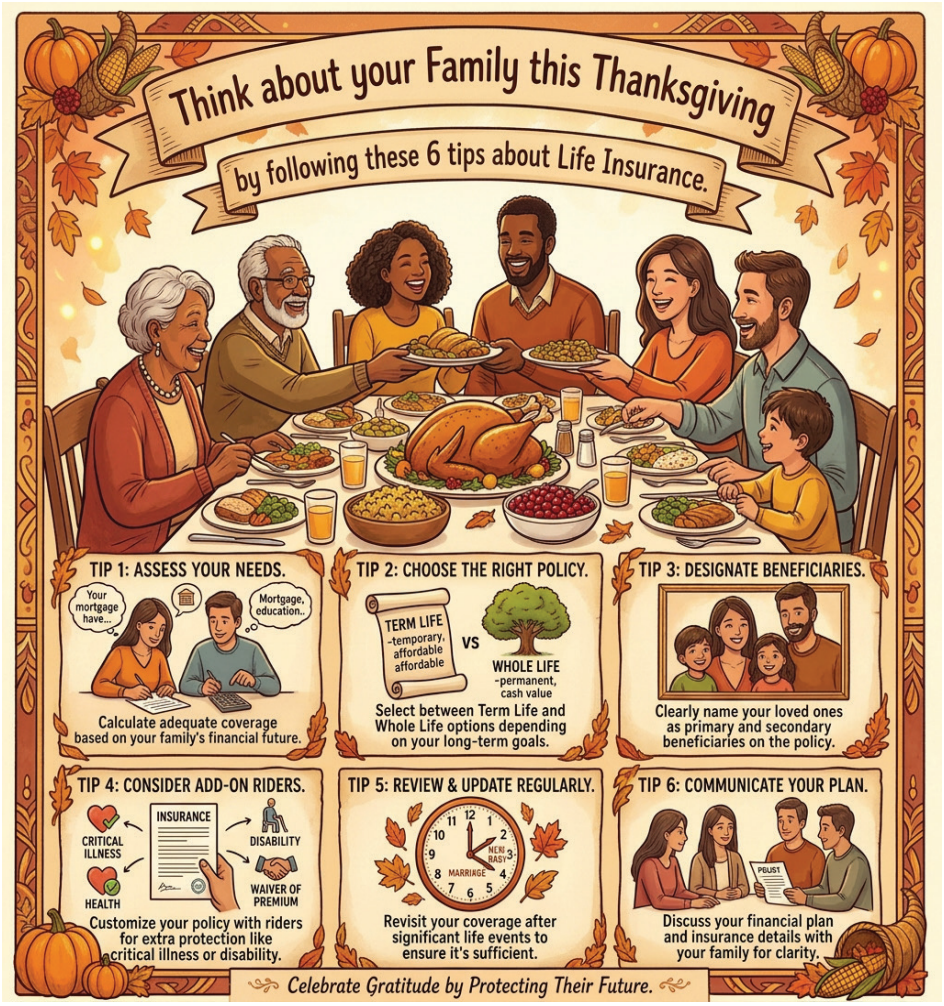
Use IRA Assets First

A basic tenet about saving money in an IRA is the accumulation of funds. The ironic part of this process is the ultimate liquidation of those funds. A working lifetime is spent accumulating assets only to flip the switch one day and now decumulate the money. If you have other assets, one idea involves spending IRA monies first. The reason behind this is to lessen the RMDs which will be due beginning at age 73 (or age 75 if born in 1960 or later.) The impact of RMDs can be challenging. Many people who have not yet touched their IRA money may not want to take money out but are require by law. This is a taxable event and can cause a person to fall into another tax bracket or have other ramifications. One way to reduce this impact is to start taking the money out of the IRA account sooner rather than later. One option is a Roth conversion. The goal here is to reduce the government mandate. In this process, you may save your family some tax money. Check with your tax advisor to see if this could work for you.

Reward Cards

Reward credit cards allow you to earn cash back, points, airline miles, and hotel stay on everyday purchases. When used responsibly they provide free money and perks. They work best for someone that pays off their card each month. Because they usually feature higher APRs and annual fees. The interest charges can quickly wipe out any gain if you carry a balance every month. Besides the higher costs is the risk of overspending while chasing points. There is also the possibility that the rewards are devalued or changed over time.

Two websites that offer personalized choices are Bankrate.com or creditkarma.com Each site allows you to design how you will use the card and then they recommend the best one. Check them out and see if this is something that could help.



Thought For The Month:

"You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start right where you are now, and change the ending"

C.S. Lewis (1898 – 1963) British author

The Community Corner

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



Show your thankfulness for the month of November by participating in an NSS Life Volunteering Opportunity! Whether you join an assembly holiday food drive or make some cards for the Christmas card collection, now is the time to spread some goodwill with your NSS Life family!



Christmas Card Collection

This time of year can be very hard for those who are spending the holidays alone. NSS Life's Christmas Card Collection is a way to spread some love and light to those who may be having a "Blue Christmas" this year. We are asking people like you to send in donations of holiday cards, letters, and artwork to be distributed to residents in nursing homes across Pittsburgh, PA. Our goal this year is to collect a whopping **9,000 holiday cards** to be distributed to thousands of nursing home residents. To reach this goal – **WE NEED YOUR HELP**!!!! It only takes a moment to write a heartfelt message that will mean the world to someone who may be spending the holidays away from home and the ones they love most. I also encourage you to get your community involved in this project! We graciously accept donations from non-NSS Members and groups as well as from members like you! Maybe you're a teacher (or you know a teacher!) whose class would like to craft some cards! Maybe your bible study or book club is looking for another activity to make a difference! Maybe you need a craft to remind your little ones about the importance of giving to others! Whatever your community looks like, this is great chance to get involved together! We prefer if all cards are signed/have a message written in them, but we gladly take donations of blank cards as well! All Christmas Card donations can be mailed or dropped off to 1301 Ashwood Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317 and are due by **December 14th**. Please help us reach our goal and spread some holiday cheer this year!



Christmas Ornament Contest

It's time to get in the holly jolly spirit by crafting a handmade ornament to submit to NSS Life for the chance to win some Christmas Cash! After the judging has been completed, all ornament entries will be donated to our friends at a local nursing home as a part of our Christmas Card Collection! Don't forget to include your T-shirt size (youth and adult sizes available) for your complimentary NSS Life T-shirt! All submissions must be mailed or dropped off at the NSS Home Office (1301 Ashwood Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317) by December 7th so grab some glitter and get to work! We have extended the deadline this year to give you some extra time to put together your creations! See later on in this edition for a complete list of contest rules.



Christmas Around the World

Christmas Around the World at the NSS Heritage Museum on Saturday, November 28th is the official start to Christmas here at NSS Life! Come see the stunning display of Ethnic Christmas Trees and learn about holiday traditions from around the globe! Plenty of delicious Slovak food will be available, along with holiday treats from the Old World Bake Sale. Get a jump on your holiday shopping at the Slovak gift shop! With our recent Museum expansion, there will be plenty of fun things for the whole family! The event will be held at the NSS Heritage Museum at 15317 Valley Brook Road, Canonsburg, PA 15317 on Saturday, November 28th, from Noon to 4:00 pm.

Social Media

There is no better way to get up to date holly jolly information on NSS Life contests, events, and even product information than by following us on social media! Follow our NS Life family on social media on Instagram (@NationalSlovakSociety), Facebook (@ NSS Life) and LinkedIn (@NSS Life).

Scenes from the NSS Heritage Museum's Septemberfest Celebration



This year's event was blessed with a beautiful day.



Steel City Chimney Cakes sold fresh baked cakes.



Vital Sips Coffee company sold refreshments.





Various games and prizes for youth in attendance to participate in.



Polka Classics Band provided musical entertainment.



Various vendors selling products.



Top raffle prizes including sports memorabilia and tickets to games/events.



Raffle baskets benefiting the NSS PVR fund.





More vendors inside the Heritage Museum building, along with homemade desserts up for sale.



Attendees viewing the Heritage Museum's Slovak Village wood carving.



3 River Model A Ford Club Vehicles.



Staff selling fresh food at the Slovak kitchen.



The Pittsburgh Slovakians perform a mock traditional Slovakian wedding ceremony.

More scenes from the NSS Heritage Museum's Septemberfest next issue!

ASSEMBLY 0039
Uniontown, PA

As we approach the end of 2026, things seem to be speeding up with activities and programs provided by the Society as well as our Assembly.

"Christmas Around The World" will kick off our holiday season on Saturday, November 28th at the NSS Heritage Museum in McMurray, PA. Christmas trees, visits with Saint Nicholas, Christmas crafts, delicious Slovak food. Festivities begin at 1:00 p.m. and conclude at 5:00 p.m.

9,000 Christmas Cards!! That's the goal for the home office for cards to be sent to local nursing homes and other shut-ins. Take the time to send a couple of boxes as a personal fraternal gift this Christmas season. December 14th is the deadline. Blank Christmas cards are accepted too.

The *"NSS Christmas Ornament Contest"* is your opportunity to share your artistic talents as well as earn points for our Assembly. Make this a family affair and send in more than one ornament! Deadline: December 7th.

Assembly Annual Christmas Party is set for Saturday, **December 5th**. The party will be held at the Columbia Social Hall starting at 2:00 p.m. Besides the fraternal fellowship and fun; door prizes, Chinese auction for the PVR Scholarship fund, awarding a big screen smart TV and best of all a delicious dinner. Come with your family and friends.

Our deepest sympathies go out to these Assembly members who have recently died and are now in the loving arms of Jesus Christ: Nancy Dean, Sylvia Lester and Mary Robi.

Don't forget to make your donation to our PVR Scholarship Campaign in memory or thanksgiving of a loved one. Help us get over the top of our goal of $2,000,000. We are almost there!!

REMINDER: December 5th Christmas Party at 2:00 p.m. We are asking that you bring NON-PERISHABLE food items to the party, for the local food bank. Have a blessed Thanksgiving,

Paul Payerchin
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0070
Brooklyn, OH

A combined meeting and Christmas Lunch will be held on Sunday, **December 13th** at Dr. Martin Luther Church, 4470 Ridge Road, Brooklyn, Ohio. The meeting will start at 11:00 a.m., with lunch to be served around noon.

The main course will be catered, so please get in touch with John Karkosiak (216-741-6990) by 12/6 to confirm your attendance and meal option.

Attendees are asked to bring a side or dessert to accompany the meal and a non-perishable food item to support the local food pantry. Thank you.

John Karkosiak
Secretary

ASSEMBLY L102
Schnecksville, PA

Mark your calendars for our upcoming events:

- **December 5** - Breakfast with Santa – matching funds for Hokey AA at the Catty playground, 8:00 a.m. to noon.
- **December 9** - Matching funds Christmas party for the Kiwanis Club in Emmaus.

Any questions, please call Sharon at 610-769-7006.

Sharon Wesnak
Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0123
Coraopolis, PA

Assembly 123 would like to thank Junior Member Enzo Scalise for his dedication to service and congratulate him for his accomplishments during his mission trip to Costa Rica. Be sure to find his letter on page 12.

ATTENTION, PLEASE! If you plan a matching-funds event, we need to know well in advance. Notice has to be published at least 30 days ahead, and that column as to be submitted the month before that. So, backup two months then use the beginning of that month as your deadline to tell the Assembly about your event. An example: If you plan an event for September 13th, we need to get it into the August newsletter and we need to submit that column at the beginning of July.

We have 26 tickets for *Our Town*, for SATURDAY, **Feb. 20th**. The show is at 2:00 p.m. Meeting and luncheon by PJ's Deli at noon. This is in the Black Box Theater at Lincoln Park. It's their smaller, more intimate theater. We'll take a group photo before the show. We'll have to discuss cost to members, but reservations are made.

We need your reservations for the Christmas Party by November 23rd. Send them to: **NSS Assembly 123 c/o 114 Fayette Ave Oakdale PA 15071**. Fee is $16 for members; $21 for non-member guests. Remember, if you participated in an Assembly event during the year, you're eligible for a $5 discount for the Christmas Party. There will be a 50/50 drawing to benefit the Food Bank. If you bring a food donation, you'll get an extra door prize ticket. We will conduct a short meeting to elect Assembly Officers and to decide on annual donations. If you would like to make a motion for a donation, you should come with contact data for the receiving organization.

Take note of these dates:

- **November 23rd** - Christmas Party reservations due.
- **November 28th** - Christmas Around the World, at the NSS Heritage Museum.
- **December 6th** - Christmas party and year-end meeting at Imperial SNPJ. We'll elect officers at this meeting.
- **February 20th** - *"Our Town"* at Lincoln Park Performing Arts Center.

For more information and/or to sign up for any of the above, contact nss123@email.com or call 412-638-2754 or 412-638-7060.

Keep gathering Christmas Cards for the annual drive!! Keep up to date at https://www.facebook.com/groups/837496175759722

HAPPY THANKSGIVING and thank you for your attention.

Lyle Grover
President



ASSEMBLY 0377
Bentleyville, PA

Don't be left out! Mark your calendar for our Christmas Party.

December 6 - Annual Christmas party at Hugo's Restaurant, National Pike, Brownsville, PA at 3:00 p.m. Please bring a dozen cookies for our cookie table and there will be a another surprise.

I hope you all have a nice new year celebration and wish you a wonderful and healthy 2027!

Our meetings for **2027** will be as follows:

- **March 7, 2027** - Olive Garden, 371 Washington Road, Washington, PA at 3:00 p.m. Please bring a canned good for the local food pantry.
- **June 27, 2027**- Annual picnic at Richardsons Park, Bentleyville, PA at 3:00 p.m. We will be at the pavilion behind the big brick building in the park and will have Slovak food again! Please bring dog or cat food or toys as a donation for the Humane Society of Washington County.
- **September 12, 2027** - Sesame Gourmet, 2975 Washington Road McMurray, PA at 3:00 p.m. We will vote for our officers for the year then.
- **December 5, 2027**- Annual Christmas Party, Cedar Brook Country Club, 215 PA-981, Belle Vernon, PA and remember to bring a dozen of your home made cookies for our cookie table!

As always, please rsvp to me by calling or texting at 724-207-3171 one week in advance. Let's stay active and bring a friend interested in joining to a meeting! We look forward to another fun year of fraternalism and friendship!!

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.** Also, all articles should be **typewritten in regular type or emailed to the Home Office. No Exceptions!!**

ASSEMBLY 0432
Fairview Park, OH

Mark your calendars for the meeting schedule and Holiday schedule:

December 8, 2026 – 7:30 p.m. Holiday Party at Arturo's Restaurant (Immediately following the 7:00 p.m. 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 0588
Avella, PA
DATE CHANGE

A meeting will be held at 5:00 p.m. followed by a Holiday Party at 6:00 p.m. for our members on Monday, **November 30, 2026** at the Stefka residence, 5007 Old Orchard Lane, Gibsonia, Pennsylvania.

Please contact Annette at 724-407-3591 by Friday, November 20th if you plan on attending the party so that we may prepare enough Holiday refreshments for all.

Hope to see you at the party!

Annette Stefka
Recording Secretary

ASSEMBLY 0731
Lowellville, Ohio

Assembly Business Meeting
November 7, 2:00 p.m.

Members are invited to Kathy & Jim Cessna's home for our Assembly business meeting. We'll discuss ideas for 2027 activities, and youth members are especially encouraged to attend and share their suggestions. A craft session will be included to create Christmas ornaments for the NSS contest, and details about the Assembly Christmas Party will be announced. Everyone attending will be entered into a prize drawing.

Lauren Fox
President

Happy Thanksgiving!

As our marching bands prepare to take to the streets of Chicago as part of the Thanksgiving Day Parade, we decided to dig up a few fun facts about Thanksgiving! Do you know what was served at the first Thanksgiving? How about how many calories are consumed on average on Thanksgiving Day?

Here are nine fun facts about Thanksgiving to share around the dinner table:

The first Thanksgiving was celebrated in 1621 over a three day harvest festival. It included 50 Pilgrims, 90 Wampanoag Indians, and lasted three days. It is believed by historians that only five women were present.

Turkey wasn't on the menu at the first Thanksgiving. Venison, duck, goose, oysters, lobster, eel, and fish were likely served, alongside pumpkins and cranberries (but not pumpkin pie or cranberry sauce!).

Abraham Lincoln proclaimed Thanksgiving a national holiday on October 3, 1863. Sarah Josepha Hale, the woman who wrote *"Mary Had A Little Lamb,"* convinced Lincoln to make Thanksgiving a national holiday after writing letters for 17 years.

The history of U.S. presidents pardoning turkeys is patchy. Harry Truman is often credited with being the first president to pardon a turkey, but that's not quite true. He was the first to receive a ceremonial turkey from the National Turkey Federation – and he had it for dinner. John F. Kennedy was the first to let a Thanksgiving turkey go, followed by Richard Nixon who sent his turkey to a petting zoo. George H.W. Bush is the president who formalized the turkey pardoning tradition in 1989.

There are four towns in the United States named "Turkey." They can be found in Arizona, Texas, Louisiana, and North Carolina.

The average number of calories consumed on Thanksgiving is 4,500. Butterball answers more than 100,000 turkey-cooking questions via their Butterball Turkey Hotline each November and December.

The tradition of football on Thanksgiving began in 1876 with a game between Yale and Princeton. The first NFL games were played on Thanksgiving in 1920.

More than 54 million Americans are expected to travel during the Thanksgiving holiday this year. That's up 4.8% from last year.

Assembly 0617

In early October, Assembly 0617 was honored to participate, along with other Slovak Societies, in a special Slovak flag-raising ceremony in Wilkes-Barre, PA. The event honors the Slovak contributions to the building of Pennsylvania and the United States. The ceremony also honored Father Jozef Murgas, Slovak painter, inventor, and scientist whose work in wireless communication laid the foundation for modern communications. The flag-raising ceremony coincided with the unveiling of a statue of Father Murgas in Banska Bystrica, Slovakia. After the ceremony, the people in attendance were addressed by Matus Hutka, Deputy Chief of Mission of the Embassy of the Slovak Republic, on Slovak contributions to Pennsylvania and the United States. Mayor George Brown presented a citation from the city of Wilkes-Barre honoring the contributions of the Slovak people.



Members of the NSS Assembly 0617, and the Slovak Heritage Society of NEPA, and the Hutka family.

Celebrate Veterans Day on November 11, 2026



Assembly 0123 Letter from Enzo:

Dear NSS Life,

Thank you very much for your generous donation to my Costa Rica mission trip. This trip was life changing, I got to see how international God really is, and how His love isn't prevented by a language barrier.

During my time there, we got to do work at a local high school in Pavas, where we sanded down old walls and steel bars, and then painted over them, making them look as good as new!

During my time at the HOPE Center, I got to play with a multitude of kids, and I formed a tight bond with one kid in particular which was incredible. Seeing the joy that these kids had despite their personal situations was incredibly impactful and gave me a whole new sense of gratitude for the things that I have. Once again, thank you so very much, this wouldn't have been possible without you!

Enzo Scalise



Enzo Scalise giving a thumbs up for his trip.



Enzo and his special friend he formed a tight bond with.



Enzo having lunch with his friends he met at the Hope Center during his mission trip to Costa Rica.

NSS Heritage Museum

November Notes

Septemberfest 2026

Our sincere thanks to all the members and friends who helped to make Septemberfest a success! From beginning to end, this year's event offered something to delight guests of all ages. The Board of Directors of the NSS Heritage Museum are grateful to have the support of the NSS Board of Directors and the very generous support of business associates, members, assemblies, regions, and individuals which allow us to continue fulfilling our mission, preserve and spread our culture, and an opportunity to introduce people to what fraternalism is all about in our community every year. In addition to the financial assistance received from our sponsors, we are fortunate to have very dedicated volunteers. We are grateful for their willingness to give their time, energy and talents. D'akujeme!

A Wonderful Way to Kick Off the Holiday Season



Saturday, November 28, 2026

12 – 4 pm
Free Admission
351 Valley Brook Rd.
McMurray, PA 15317

- **Featuring beautifully decorated trees in traditional style from many different countries.**
- **Bring your camera and take a photo with St. Nick!**
- **Bake sale and a limited lunch menu available**
- **Small, unique Christmas gifts for sale**

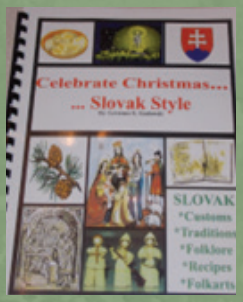
Available from the NSSHM Gift Shop While Supplies Last:



OPLATKY:
Package of 5 large wafers
$4.00

Small wafer with Christmas Blessing ideal for placing inside Christmas cards. Available in English OR Slovak. Please specify. $2.00 each

Christmas Slovak Style: Remembering the Priceless Treasures of Christmases Past and an Inspiration for Christmases of the Future



$13 (includes postage and handling)

Make checks payable & mail to:
NSS Heritage Museum
1301 Ashwood Drive
Canonsburg, PA 15317

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 SEPTEMBER 2026

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Anderson, Joann F	Jeannete, PA	09/16/2026	0737
Barron, Linda K	Butler, PA	09/13/2026	0731
Bertoncini, Amy J	Greensburg, PA	08/26/2026	0737
Blose, Clifford S	Dayton, PA	08/25/2026	0554
Boltz, Foster	Kittanning, PA	07/13/2026	L105
Boyer, Ray	Shoemakersville, PA	02/23/2026	L102
Brock, Patricia R	Dunedin, FL	06/09/2026	0813
Callahan, Mary	Doylestown ,PA	09/05/2026	L102
Chadman, Donald E	Emlenton, PA	09/04/2026	0731
Chambers, Curt Lewis	Middletown, PA	09/01/2026	L102
Chilzer, Anthony	Greensburg, PA	09/18/2026	0737
Cicone, Nello	Pittsburgh, PA	08/29/2026	L161
Coleman, Carole A	Verona, PA	05/21/2026	L105
Counasse, Gary	Titusville, PA	08/29/2026	0731
Cragg, Ruth M	Richboro, PA	09/20/2026	0774
Craig, Charles	Roanoke, WV	02/12/1902	0774
Cubbison, Elizabeth M	Carnegie, PA	09/18/2026	0100
Custer, Dale E	Berlin, PA	09/19/2026	0039
Deafenbaugh, Nancy	Sidney, OH	08/13/2026	0595
DeBello, Mary Ann	Erie, PA	09/13/2026	0774
Decker, John	Erie, PA	08/06/2026	0774
Dennis, Shirley	Markleysburg, PA	09/02/2026	0039
Echement, Lane	Monaca, PA	09/07/2026	0123
Elaine Timko	Parma, OH	04/03/2026	0004
Enciso, Emma E	Murrysville, PA	07/24/2026	L105
Endler, John Jr	Nettie, WV	05/03/2026	0774
Fidel, William M	Pittsburgh, PA	01/30/2026	L161
Fischer, Ethel C	Frankfort, MI	04/16/2026	0381
Foss, Lisa	Janesville, WI	05/29/2026	0774
Gallo, Jason	Punta Gorda, FL	08/04/2026	0774
Gapsky, Florence	Jeanette, PA	09/05/2026	0737
Garing, D Joan	New Castle, PA	07/18/2026	0731
George Zenuh	Saltsburg, PA	01/15/2026	L105
Gertude Nichols	Clendenin, WV	07/13/2026	0774
Gorecki, Elmer H	Brownsville, PA	08/23/2026	0377
Greene, Eva	Boones Mill, VA	08/28/2026	0774
Griffith, Christine	Pittsburgh, PA	09/07/2026	0774
Haefner, Robert J	Cranberry Twp, PA	05/12/2026	L161
Hammond, Eleanor	Honey Brook, PA	09/16/2026	0774
Harris, Margaret	Indiana, PA	09/12/2026	L105
Hartsuff, Carole J	Jackson, MI	08/23/2026	0381
Harvey, William J	Scenery Hill, PA	08/06/2026	0377
Hauger, Harold J	Berlin, PA	09/18/2026	0039
Heasley, Paul D	Blairsville, PA	09/04/2026	0737
Hegner, Leo	Beaver Falls, PA	06/11/2024	0123
Henrietta McGee	Scranton, PA	02/04/2020	L102
Hoffman, John H	Lykens,, PA	08/24/2026	0617
Hooper, Carol F	Three Oaks, MI	08/04/2026	0381
Hovance, Charine	Butler, PA	08/18/2026	0731
Jaworski, Henry J	Cliffwood Beach, NJ	06/13/2026	0774
Jerome, Marie	West Palm Beach, FL	08/30/2025	0800
Jessup, Joyce E	McKeesport, PA	06/21/2026	0108
Kenneth Napper	Logan, OH	07/10/2026	0595
Kim Morris	Lower Burrell, PA	08/13/2026	L105
Kish, Lawrence J	Pittsburgh, PA	03/22/2024	L105
Kopchick, William J	Zelienople, PA	01/27/2025	0434
Krofchek, Ronald	Hunker, PA	03/11/2026	0039
Kulbacki, Joseph	Philadelphia, PA	08/18/2026	0774
Leach, Mary E	Satsuma, FL	08/02/2026	0813
Leonard, Patricia Sue	St Clairsville, OH	08/23/2026	0774

DEPARTED MEMBERS SEPTEMBER 2026 (Continued from page 16)

Name	City and State	Date of Death	Assembly
Lepkowski, Bernard Jr	North Canton, OH	08/26/2026	0731
Mack, Jo Ann	Pittsburgh, PA	08/04/2026	0123
Maupin, Scott	Greenville, PA	08/27/2026	0731
Mc Ewen, Catherine R	Moon Twp, PA	09/14/2026	0123
McGeary, Charles	Roaring Spring, PA	08/22/2026	0267
McGregor, Elwood	Leesburg, FL	08/24/2026	0813
McVay, Gerald	Washington, PA	08/01/2026	0377
Meadows, Peggy Sue	Culloden, WV	06/20/2026	0774
Melvin Erb	Canvas, WV	08/11/2026	0774
Micsko, Brian	Cheswick, PA	09/16/2026	L161
Miller, Robert	Renfrew, PA	09/01/2026	0123
Morrison, Kathleen	Vandergrift, PA	09/07/2026	L105
Mothes, Aida	Renick, WV	06/30/2026	0774
Mullin, Anna Lou	Grove City, PA	08/17/2026	0123
Nearhouse, Dolores	Nanticoke, PA	08/27/2026	0617
Neely, Elsie	Spanishburg, WV	03/15/2026	0774
Nichol, Judy	East Brady, PA	09/05/2026	0731
Nichol, Kenneth J	Deckerville, MI	08/26/2026	0381
Nolter, Carol	Kingston, PA	09/21/2026	0617
Novack, Frank	Fort Ashby, WV	10/19/2024	0774
Patricia Ann Linhart	Warmister, PA	08/31/2026	R059
Patterson, Lois Lorraine	Beaver Falls, PA	12/23/2025	0123
Pauley, Shelia	South Charleston, WV	06/17/2026	0774
Pavol, Shelly	Irwin, PA	09/01/2026	0737
Peckowych, Francisca	Altoona, PA	09/25/2026	0267
Perez, Dolores	Stollings, WV	08/02/2026	0774
Philip Skala	Johnstown, PA	08/16/2026	0737
Phillips, Maryann	Trafford, PA	09/24/2022	0737
Phillips, Theresa H	Brownsville, PA	09/16/2026	0377
Priano, Catherine M	Pittsburgh, PA	07/12/2026	0100
Ravel, Helen E	Wyomissing, PA	08/01/2026	L102
Reinhart, Beverly N	Glenshaw, PA	09/14/2026	L161
Robert Thieret	Pittsburgh, PA	08/29/2026	0100
Roche, Mary C	Mantua, NJ	07/19/2026	R059
Rodland, Dennis	Erie, PA	08/25/2026	0004
Roman, James A	Rostraver, PA	09/03/2026	0377
Salamanca, Jose	Walnut, CA	06/27/2026	0568
Sarra, William J	Kensington, CT	03/22/2026	0774
Schmeider, Paul	Sarver, PA	09/12/2026	0774
Sharpe, Mark A	Brownsville, PA	08/28/2026	0377
Shirey, Bruce L	Altamonte Springs, FL	07/19/2026	0123
Sluyter, Winfield J	Charlevoix, MI	11/19/2024	0381
Smith, Annie	Enfield, NC	08/04/2026	0774
Smith, Donna Mae	Warren, PA	08/29/2026	0731
Snyder, Larry P	Creekside, PA	09/06/2026	0554
Spaid, Betty J	Meadville, PA	09/07/2026	0731
Speice, Ruth	Erie, PA	09/20/2026	0731
Stewart, James	Meadville, PA	09/06/2026	0731
Stoddard, Dean	Corry, PA	09/03/2026	0731
Summers, George	Julian, PA	09/12/2026	L040
Tomasko, Daniel	Stow, OH	08/20/2026	0100
Urban, Bernard A	Johnstown, PA	08/06/2026	0039
Urda, Elaine	Ambridge, PA	06/08/2026	0123
Valentia Radwanski	Rochester, NY	02/28/2025	R019
Vogan, Hubert E	Cochranton, PA	09/11/2026	0774
Wable, Ida Blanche	Ohiopyle, PA	09/08/2026	0039
Waldrup, Emma	Karns City, PA	08/30/2026	L161
Williams, Ann J	Rockton, PA	04/03/2026	0554
Williamson, James H	Reading, PA	09/05/2026	L102
Wolfe, Gary A	Johnson City, TN	09/03/2026	0774
Woodin, Alice M	Corry, PA	09/10/2026	0774



PVR Scholarship Fund Donations September 2026

DONATE TO THE PVR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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

In Memory of **Deceased Members from Assembly 123: (July)** 100.00
Nelson Barger, Dorothy M. Bly, Delores A. Bradick, Sally Ann Conley, Francis J. Convery, Raymond Geyser, Janet Hudak Jack A Krchmar, Judith Landau, Janet Mikush, Marjorie C. Mille, Donald Seaman

In Memory of **Edward Koches:**
From Assembly 0432 .... 100.00

In Memory of **Shaun Logan Crowley:**
From Kevin, Lori, Kevin Jr., & John Crowley 20.00

Donations:
Region 8 ..... 500.00
Matching Funds from Region 8 ..... 500.00
Assembly R059 for Septemberfest..... 100.00
Assembly 0377..... 200.00
Proceeds from Septemerfest Basket Raffle 1,732.00
Proceeds from Region 5 Picnic Raffle 820.00
Judith Palicka..... 20.00
L040 ..... 100.00

Septemberfest Donations:
Assembly 0434..... 100.00
Region 8 ..... 500.00
Assembly 0595..... 100.00
Assembly 0236..... 500.00
Assembly 0617..... 50.00
Assembly 0705..... 100.00
Assembly 0432..... 75.00
Assembly 0377..... 100.00

Total 5,717.00

November

November prináša mnoho významných príležitostí na oslavu počnúc oslavami Dňa veteránov a Dňa vďakyzdania. Vzdávame úctu tým, ktorí slúžili našej krajine, a schádzame sa, aby sme si pred príchodom zimy vychutnali tie najlepšie sezónne pokrmy. Ako na Slovensku je november bohatý na zvyky a tradície. My zahraniční Slováci ďakujeme našim členom pevné zdravie, pokoj v domovoch i v živote a šťastné vďaky za všetko, čo máme.

Slovenský folklór a tradície

1. novembra -- Deň všetkých Svätých Sviatočný deň– Vzávame úctu všetkým ktorý žili vzorným životom, kladieme vence na hroby našich zosnulých.

2. novembra – V rímskakatolíckej cirkvi je tento deň venovaný “dušickam”.

11. novembra – sv. Martin. Príslove hovori že ak na deň sv. Martina šneží přicházsa na bielom koni vraj vianoce budu na blate a ak je to opačne že na Martina prší vianoce budú bielle.

25. novembra–sv. Katarína, vraj od tohto dňa (pretože dni sú veľmi krátke a nastávání dňhé večere) potøebné konzumovať véla cesnaku jednak nadobudnút antibiotiku proti chřípke a v poverách vraj aby Váš příbytok nenavštevovali zly duchova.

30. novembra – sv. Ondrej, Vraj ak na Ondreja boli kvapky vody na stromoch, to malo znamenat že na stromoch bude hojna úroda, ak na Ondreja hrmy vaj bude málo orechov.
V ten deň dievčenca na vyďaj robili cestu do ktorého zavíli kúsok papiera s ménom chlapca a tie potom varili vo vracej vode. Prva cestonina čo vyšla na povrch –dievča vybralo z hrnca a méno chlapca vraj bude jej snúbenec.



Vianoce vo svete

Pozývame Vás v sobotu 28. novembra od 12.00 do 4 tej hod. na podujatie „Vianoce vo svete“ (Christmas Around the World) v múzeu National Slovak Society Heritage Museum. Obdivujte nádherne vyzdobené vianočné stromčeky z róznych krajín, stretnie sa so svátym Mikulášom, ochutnajte slovenské vianočné špeciality a pozrite si úzasný drevorezbársky betlehem múzea s 82 pohyblivými figúrkami. Vstup je volný a všetci sú vítaní na adrese 351 Valley Brook Road v McMurray.

Pozvánka na Vilju!

Zažite hrejivu atmosféru slovenských vianocných tradíci na veceri Vílúju, ktora sa uskotoční v nedelu 13. decembra o 4 hodine po poludni Z priestoroch St. Rosalía (farnosť St. Paul Cathedral) na adrese 411 Greenfield Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15207. Vychutnajte si tradičnú bezmásíťu večeru, ktorej súčasťou budú oplátky s medom, bobalky, hubová polievka, pečená ryba, pirohy, hrach a koláče. Po večeri predvedie súbor Pittsburgh Slovakians špeciálny program Jasličkari zvyky spojené s narodením Krista. Rezervácie přijímame do 30. novembra; cena vstupenky je 30 dolarov za osobu (dospely) a deti do 12 rokov vstupné 10 dolarov. Urobte so rezerváciu čím skôr. Šeky vystavte na meno „St. Paul Cathedral Parish“ a zašlite ich na adresu: 234 Ilion St., Pittsburgh, PA 15207. Poznaťte si tento dátum do kalendára a přidajte sa k nám – čaká vás skvelé jedlo, krásne spomienky a radostné spoločenstvo!

Tu v amerike pri konci tohto mesíaca oslávime sviatok vďakyvzdania a veru máme za čo ďakovať napr: za krajinu, rodinu, slobodu, zdravie i za našu organizáciu NSS i za Vás členov NSS. Vzdájte úctu Pánovi za všetko dobrodenie lebo je dobrý a jeho milosrdénstvo trvá Naveky.

Všetkým členom NSS a Vašim rodinam želáme krásny sviatok plný radosti, vzájomnej lásky a porozumenia prí spoločnom stole na Deň Váčkyzvdania.

Youth Circle Page

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

Christmas Ornament Contest Deadline: December 7, 2026

Now is the time to start thinking and making your Christmas Ornament. Get out your glue guns and glitter and create a winning ornament today!

Deadline:

December 7th is the deadline for all entries to be received. Hand deliver or Mail to: NSS Fraternal Dept., 1301 Ashwood Drive, Canonsburg, PA 15317.

Contest Rules:

- The contest is open to all NSS members. In addition, we are inviting our Home Office Staff, and even our Board Members to participate.
- Entries should be no larger than 5" High; 5" Wide and 5" Deep. The base can be in any shape so long as it stays within the above measurements. You can glue objects to make your ornament decorative (we encourage you to be creative!) Some examples are glitter, ribbon, stars, cotton balls, etc...Please submit original handmade ornaments only. Ornaments made from kits will be disqualified.
- All entries must include your name, address, age, youth circle number or assembly number and phone number on a separate sheet of paper. **Youth members will receive a NSS t-shirt for entering and thus should also list their shirt size (Youth: YS, YM, YL or Adult: AS, AM, AL, AXL)**.
- All winners in each group will have their names appear in the *"National News."* In addition, a picture of your ornament will appear on the website. All entries will be distributed to a local nursing home to be placed on a Christmas Tree. You can send in more than one ornament for distribution purposes--the more we have the prettier the tree will be! In the event you send more than one, please note which ornament you would like to have judged.

Prize List

Frosty's Group (Ages 5-7): ..... First Place - $50.00
Rudolph's Group (Ages 8-10):..... First Place - $50.00
Snowflake Group (Ages 11-13):..... First Place - $50.00
Santa Group (Ages 14-16):..... First Place - $50.00
Adult Group: ..... First Place - $100.00,
.....Second Place - $60.00, Third Place - $40.00

Contact Member and Community Engagement Associate, Jamie Belding, with any questions at 412-770-2153 or jbelding@nsslife.org.



Louisa Felton likes the NSS Newsletter



Even little ones are reading the NSS magazine! Including Louisa Felton, she may be partial to this page. LOL.

Greg Felton
National Sales Director

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