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WORLD CONGRESS OF FAMILIES MEGA EVENT IN WARSAW

By John Karch

In combating the world-wide pro-choice movement, the World Congress of Families IV (hereafter WCF) exhibited potential power. At its conference in Warsaw, Poland, the “logical” country, during May 11-13, the WCF once again was highly attended. The WCF is an integral part of The Howard Center for Family, Religion and Society, established by John A. Howard Ph.D., Senior Fellow in Educational Philosophy. Allan C. Carlson, Ph.D. is President of the Howard Center, and Mr. Larry D. Jacobs is Vice President of the Howard Center.

On this, the 10th anniversary of WCF, Some 3,000 registrants came from more than 60 countries of Africa, Asia, the Americas (300 from Mexico where the Third WCF was held), and Europe, including Slovakia. In fact, because of the capacity (2,280) of the venue—historic and attractive Palace of Culture and Science—there was difficulty in accommodating that many plus some 750 volunteers (mostly college-age) and security personnel.

WCF: World-wide Network

The WCF is an international network of pro-family organizations, scholars and leaders that seeks to restore the natural family as the fundamental social unit and seedbed of civil society. The WCF (with its headquarters in Rockford, IL) was founded by Dr. Carlson in 1997. Before Warsaw, Congresses were held in Prague (1997), Geneva (1999), and Mexico City (2004). In addition, during 2000-06 eight regional meetings were held in the U.S. one in Canada, and others throughout the world.

The attendees in Warsaw were pro-life leaders, non-government activists, academics, specialists, government officials, and Parliamentarians. The WCF assembled over 100 speakers for this 3-day event. While all are distinguished, the number appeared overwhelming. The major theme of the conference was “The Natural Family - Springtime for Europe and the World.” The focus was on children and families, discussing and analyzing such issues impacting the family as abortion, the move to legitimize the so-called same-sex marriage, population decline, pornography, attacks on the family in news and entertainment media, as well as ways to strengthen the family through tax policy, home-based businesses and the renewal of traditional religion.

Honorary Patron – the President

In February, the President of Poland, Lech Kaczynski, “cordially thanked” the WCF for holding the conference in Poland and the invitation to serve as “Honorary Patron.” On March 12, Dr. Carlson announced that the President would give the opening address, not hiding his delight, saying “We are honored” to have the President as the “keynote speaker and patron of the Congress.” He added that “His well-known commitment to the family is very much in keeping with the theme of the WCF.”

However, the President needed to attend the European Parliamentary Forum, under the Presidency of the Polish Parliament, at the same time. That event was assisted by the European Forum for Human Rights and the Family, and with the active participation of Marie Panayotopoulos-Cassiotou, Member of the European Parliament, Anna Zaborska Slovakia’s MEP and Carlo Casini, MEP. Thus, at the opening ceremony, the President’s keynote address was read by an official of the Government on his behalf.

The Indomitable Minister

In the absence of the President, Roman Giertych, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education, delivered strong, unmistakable

continued on page 4

From the Desk of the Vice President ALLENTOWN SALES SEMINAR

The Membership and Marketing Committee held a Sales Seminar on Saturday, April 28, 2007, at St. John the Baptist Slovak Church Hall, in Allentown, Pennsylvania.



National President Andrew M. Rajec (left) and Regional Director Damian Nasta.

Recommenders from the Reverend Stephen Furdek District were invited to attend. Among those present was National President, Andrew M. Rajec and National Vice President, Andrew R. Harcar, Sr. Representing Region 2 was Regional Director Damian D. Nasta.

The Seminar was well received and centered around FCSU’s insurance and annuity portfolio. The purpose of the Seminar was to acquaint our recommenders on the Society’s products. If one is scheduled for your area, please attend.

Until next time...

Good luck and God bless!

Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.

National Vice President

Membership & Marketing Chairman

More photos on page 4



New York Branch 716 Leads Pilgrimage to Washington, D.C.

The officers of the St. Stephen the Martyr Society, Branch 716, in New York City, organized a pilgrimage to our nation’s capital, Washington, D.C., during the weekend of April 28-29, 2007. Participants had the opportunity to see many of the historical sites in the capital, including the White House, the U.S. Capital, Supreme Court, Arlington National Cemetery, the Korean War Veteran’s Memorial, and the Washington and Lincoln Memorials. The group was led by the Rev. Stefan Chanas and his friend, Rev. George Fenik. On Saturday evening all enjoyed a dinner at the Taverna Restaurant.

The highlight of the pilgrimage was a visit to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception where Rev. Stefan Chanas and Rev. George Fenik offered a Slovak Mass on Sunday afternoon. Following the liturgy, the group assembled at Our Mother of Sorrows

Chapel where prayers were said. This beautiful chapel was a gift to the people of America from the First Catholic Slovak Union. The Chapel was dedicated on September 5, 1965.

The pilgrims from Branch 716 departed for home Sunday afternoon filled with many memories of our nation’s capital. Special thanks go to Rev. Stefan Chanas and Rev. George Fenik for leading the tour and pilgrimage, and to Jozef Bilik for arranging the bus and hotel accommodations.

Henrieta H. Daitova

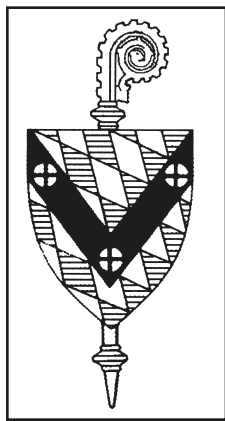


Pilgrims from Branch 716 assemble outside the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

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Insights and Viewpoints



St. Vincent Archabbey — Homilies

Fr. Campion P. Gavaler, O.S.B. and Father Demetrius R. Dumm, O.S.B.

June 10, 2007 (Year C)

Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ Luke 9:11b-17

Gospel Summary

Today's gospel passage is Luke's version of Jesus' miracle of the multiplication of loaves and fishes. This is one of the most significant miracles of Jesus as is evident from the fact that it appears in all four gospels. The scenario is quite familiar: there is a large, hungry crowd; the disciples bring this to the attention of Jesus; he instructs them, almost casually, to provide food for them; the disciples protest that this is clearly impossible since they have

scarcely enough for themselves.

In spite of their reservations, the disciples obey Jesus when, having blest the loaves and fishes, he asks them to distribute them to the hungry crowd. To their total amazement, there is not only enough for all those present, but twelve baskets full of fragments are left over.

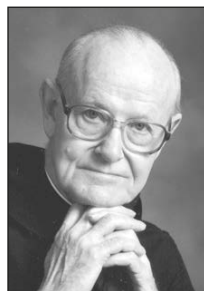
We can easily understand why the Church has chosen this gospel story for the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, since the primary theme of this feast is the nourishment that Jesus offers us in the Blessed Sacrament. We are now the hungry multitude and we are reminded that Jesus offers us a superabundant nourishment that can fully satisfy our needs. This is so because the food he offers is his own Body and Blood.

Life Implications

There is obviously something miraculous about the way in which Jesus solves the problem of the hungry multitude. We should admire that and see it as a sign of the concern and generosity of Jesus. But we should also remember that all the miracles of Jesus' early ministry were intended to show that he was truly sent by God and that his message should therefore be trusted. After all, those whom Jesus fed or cured all got hungry or sick again and died. These miracles do not constitute salvation; they serve simply as the introduction of Jesus as our Savior. The miracle that has a lasting effect is the dying and rising of Jesus. When we die a bit in our love for others, we sow the seeds of resurrection and begin to live the meaning of the Eucharist. The results will be nothing less than miraculous.

As we try to live the meaning of the Eucharist, we can readily identify with the disciples as we face overwhelming problems in our own world. There is so much violence and injustice that we often feel paralyzed by the enormity of the challenge. Like the disciples, we feel that we have meager resources for dealing with these problems. Nonetheless, Jesus tells us also to take what little we have and to do what we can with it. There is an implied promise that God will join us and turn our own "five loaves and two fishes" into food for the multitude...with much left over.

There is also a strong hint here that we will find a basis for such confidence in the Eucharist. There too Jesus offers himself under the appearance of a few small wafers and a few drops of wine in a way that can nourish the whole world. Those of us who share in this divine meal should not only feel wonderfully nourished ourselves but also empowered to share our good fortune with all the hungry people whom we meet. No matter how poor we think we are, we become rich, for ourselves and for others, when we receive the boundless gift of God's love in the Eucharistic banquet.



Demetrius R. Dumm,
O.S.B.

June 17, 2007 (Year C)

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gospel Summary

Luke's gospel is notable for its portrayal of Jesus as one who represents the compassion and forgiveness of God. No doubt this sensitivity of Luke for the generous nature of Jesus came from his own experience as a native of the city of Antioch where he noted the extremes of wealth and poverty and where he noted also that the rich tended to be self righteous and judgmental and therefore to assume that the poor were sinful just because they were poor.

In this gospel story, Luke draws a sharp contrast between the smug and self righteous Pharisee who keeps all the rules but does not have the sensitivity to perform the basic acts of kindness toward a guest and the woman who has a reputation for sinfulness but who receives Jesus with loving service. The woman's reputation for sinfulness could be no more than her inability to keep all the prescriptions of the Law due to her poverty. However that may be, there is no doubt that she understands the importance of loving service just as the Pharisee is totally devoid of such sensitivity.

Jesus makes his point by telling a story about two debtors who owe very different amounts but who are both forgiven. The one who was forgiven is more likely to love more also. We all need to be forgiven at one time or another, and God is more than ready to forgive us, but the consequence should be loving gratitude and better behavior in the future as well as a readiness to forgive others.

Life Implications

Since it is so difficult to be truly loving and forgiving persons, we are tempted to take care of the appearances and thereby to acquire a reputation for virtuous living as we continue to indulge our tendency to be judgmental and unforgiving. I had occasion once to give a homily on the gospel story about the Pharisee and the publican. To make my point more forcefully, I tried to describe what Pharisees would look like if they were living today in one of our parishes. I noted, for example, that they would certainly attend Mass on Sunday but, on the way home, they would not hesitate to do a critical and negative assessment of other people that they had seen at Mass.

After the Mass, a man came to the sacristy and said to me: "Father, I think I may be a Pharisee!" I was at a loss to respond at first, but then I said to him, "My friend, take courage; what you have just said is something that a real Pharisee would never say!"

It is indeed laudable to attend Mass and to observe all the rules of Christian conduct, but all of this careful observance is of no value if it is not accompanied by a genuine spirit of love and forgiveness.



From the desk of the Executive Secretary –

Visit our web site! www.fcsu.com

Exciting News – The Jednota Newspaper (English and Slovak sections) is now on our web page and for your convenience 4 back issues and the current issue are maintained on the web page at all times. If you missed an article or looking for a recipe you need only to go to the web site

Branch and District Officers announcements are now on the web page and listings of all activities for the various regions.

If you are looking for forms or applications you may find those also on the web site.

We encourage our branch and district officers to use this means of keeping in touch with their branch members and announcing events. The email address is fcsu@aol.com if you wish to send your information to the home office.

We will continue to update the web page, please check for announcements such as our special 2% bonus now being offered through our annuity program, special offers on our insurance products, trips to Slovakia, and our Alaskan Cruise Membership Meet.

WEB SITE – www.fcsu.com

NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

All copy is due by 4:30 P.M., THE MONDAY BEFORE THE ISSUE DATE, unless otherwise stated below because of special holiday scheduling. Copy that is not received by this deadline will not necessarily appear in the following Wednesday's issue.

Issue Date	Copy Deadline
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13	MONDAY, JUNE 4
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27	MONDAY, JUNE 18
WEDNESDAY, JULY 11	MONDAY, JULY 2

Correspondents who are announcing upcoming events should remember that the JEDNOTA is printed EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY, and should take into account the extra time lost in the postal system. Therefore, please plan to have your announcements to us in ample time for them to be printed and received by the readership.

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Apostleship of Prayer Intentions for June 2007

GENERAL INTENTION

Sailors.

That the Lord may protect sailors and all those involved in maritime activities.

The Holy Father has seafarers on his mind this month because of the 22nd World Congress of the Apostleship of the Sea, being held in Gdynia, Poland, June 24-29. The last World Congress (Rio de Janeiro 2002) resolved that "globalized maritime industry be given a humane face."

The Pope hopes that this year's congress will achieve much more to "deepen our pastoral care" for all the people of the sea worldwide. He would like to see solidarity that will lead to approval from the International Labor Organization of the proposed Convention on Work in the Fishing Sector. Adoption will raise international standards for safety and just treatment of peoples, especially the poorest who depend on the sea for their livelihoods.

Ninety percent of world trade is carried by the sea, providing work to more than a million seafarers. Thirty million people make a living by fishing. Life at sea means separation from family and home, fierce competition, low wages, and harsh and dangerous working conditions. The rate of suicide for international seafarers is triple that of shore workers, and they are 26 times more likely to be killed at work.

In today's global market you might have a Greek-owned vessel, registered in Malta, with officers from India and a mixed crew from Thailand, Indonesia, Vanuatu, and the Philippines. Imagine the many clashes of culture, religion, and language. How would you cook for such a crew?

Let us join the Holy Father in prayer for the many needs of the people of the sea—safety, just wages, close families, and spiritual welfare.

For Reflection

Under the title Stella Maris (Star of the Sea), the Blessed Virgin Mary is the patroness of sailors. Why do you think she possesses special concern for these people?

MISSION INTENTION

North African Church.

That the Church in North Africa may bear witness to God's love for every individual and all peoples.

Praying for the Church in North Africa means praying for the few Christians who live in the Muslim countries south of the Mediterranean, including Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, and Egypt. Catholics comprise less than 1 percent of the population of these countries, except in Egypt where Christians represent about 10 percent because of the Coptic Church.

In November 2005, Pope Benedict gave us a shining example of Christian response to North Africa when he beatified Charles de Foucauld, a French priest who served in Algeria. Foucauld gave the nomadic Tuareg people the first dictionary and grammar in their language, he wrote down 6,000 verses of their oral poetry, and he translated the four Gospels. In 1916, at 58, Foucauld was shot and killed in a conflict between French forces and Arab insurrectionists.

We know that Foucauld longed for the Tuaregs to adopt the Christian faith, but he chose not to instruct them. He hoped to win them over by his kindness and example. Surely he was mindful that the example of Muslims had led him to return to his own faith. Thirty years before, an atheist serving in Algeria with the French military, Foucauld was struck by the Muslims' devotion to God.

Foucauld sought always to live a contemplative life among the poor, spending as much time as possible in prayer. Pope Benedict called Foucauld's humble spirituality an ideal mix of prayer and action, Eucharist and Gospel. Foucauld abandoned himself to the will of God, as you will see in the prayer of the month.

Let us pray that we and other Christians find our own ways to love and serve the people of North Africa.

For Reflection

Do you know someone who will not hear the Gospel? How do you share God's love with them?

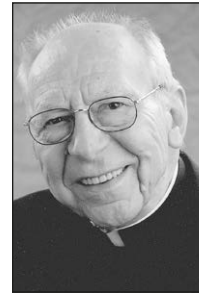
Insurance Sales Person

We are looking to add a full-time sales person to our Home Office team in Independence, Ohio. This person should have current life insurance license and a few years insurance experience. There is a base salary, plus commissions and employee benefits.

This position will work with recommenders to help them make sales and work with inactive branches.

Mail a resume to the Home Office, Attn. President Andrew M. Rajec or Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt or e-mail to: president@fcsu.com

Reflections on Our Christianity Msgr. Edward V. Rosack



Msgr. Edward V. Rosack

The Equestrian and the Priest

Article 2

The pay and benefits of the Praetorian Guards were better than those of the army and they also received gifts of money from the emperors whom they served. When they retired from service, they were granted 20,000 sesterces, a gift of land and a Diplomata reading "to the warrior who bravely and faithfully completed his service."

The word "Praetorian" comes from the "tent" of the commanding general or praetor of a Roman army in the field. Roman generals habitually chose from their ranks of soldiers a private force as personal bodyguards of the general and his tent.

The problem with the Praetorian Guard was that they could be for sale to another. The emperor Nero was deserted by the Guard. Emperor Galba was murdered by the Guard when he refused to pay the donation he had promised them. Emperor Vitellius was deposed by the Guard and then executed. Emperors Pertinax, Balbinus, Pipienus, and Aurelian were all murdered by the Guard.

Pontius Pilate (Sejanus influence) and the Jews

Pilate as prefect was not always careful in, keep in mind, the religious prejudices of the Jews, as was the Empire of Rome. For this reason they hated him.

Once, his soldiers came to Rome bringing with them regimental banners carrying the image of Emperor Tiberius. These banners came in during the night. The Jews soon discovered these banners and hastened to Caesarea to ask Pilate to get rid of them.

The basis for the Jewish reaction was Exodus 20:3-5: You shall not have other Gods besides me. You shall not carve idols for yourselves in the shape of anything in the sky above or on the earth below or in the waters beneath the earth; you shall not bow down before them or worship them. For I, the Lord, your God, am a jealous God, inflicting punishment for their father's wickedness on the children of those who hate me, down to the third and fourth generation; but bestowing mercy to the thousandth generation, on the children of those who love me and keep my commandments.

Images in the ancient Near East were the ordinary means of encounter between god and worshiper. Monotheism is synonymous with the negation of idol worship. The Jewish definition of an idol included a person or thing that is the subject of excessive or supreme adulation. The image of the emperor Tiberius was such an idol.

The prefect refused even to see the Jews for five days. On the sixth day, he decided to meet with Jews and he told them he had them surrounded by his soldiers and if they did not stop bothering him he would kill them all.

The Jews lay down on the ground, bared their necks and told him to go ahead. This surprised Pilate and realizing that he would have to kill a large number of them, he backed off and agreed to remove the banners.

On another occasion, Pilate took sacred money from the Temple to pay for the construction of an aqueduct to bring water into Jerusalem from a spring 25 miles distant.

The Jews again held a mass protest because of the use of sacred money for a secular purpose. Pilate maintained that he was in control of temple funds. Pilate sent soldiers, dressed as civilians, in among the crowds. At a given signal, the soldiers/civilians beat the protestors so severely with staves that the mass protest was stopped.

On a third occasion, Pilate installed gilt shields in the palace of Herod in Jerusalem in honor of the emperor. These shields contained only the name of the donor and of him in whose honor the shields were installed.

The Jews again protested and when Pilate refused, they appealed to the emperor Tiberius who sent an order for Pilate to remove the shields and install them in Caesarea.

A fourth time, rumor had it that sacred vessels from the tabernacle had been hidden by Moses on Mount Gerizim. In response, Samaritans gathered on the mount. Pilate heard this and seized the Samaritans and executed some of the ringleaders in the hope of getting those sacred vessels. Surviving Samaritans filed charges against Pilate before his superior, Vitellius, Governor of Syria. Vitellius ordered Pilate to Rome to explain the charges against him: corruptibility, violence, robberies, ill-treatment of the people, grievances and continuous executions without trial. Fortunately for Pilate, the emperor, Tiberius, died before Pilate got to Rome.

Yehosef Bar Kayafa – Joseph son of Caiaphas

The Jewish religion consisted of a three-fold hierarchy: High Priest, Levites and Sanhedrin. (Preface. Aaron, Moses and their sister, Miriam, of the tribe/clans of Levi were the children of Amram and Jochebed. Jochebed was Amram's father's sister. Exodus 6:20 and footnote)

The office of High Priest has its origin in Exodus 28.

The Lord said to Moses: From among the Israelites have your brother Aaron, together with his sons, Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, brought to you, that they may be my priests. The rest of Chapter 28 describes the vestments of these priests.

The words "kohen gadol," High Priest, occur in Numbers 35:25 and the phrase "The most exalted of the priests" is found in Leviticus 21:10.

Secondly, there were the Levites. After Aaron had let the people run wild with the golden calf in Exodus 32:25, Moses appealed to the Israelites saying, Whoever is for the Lord, let him come to me.

"All the Levites then rallied to him..... Put your sword on your hip, every one of you! Now go up and down the camp, from gate to gate, and slay your own kinsmen, your friends and neighbors." The Levites did. "Then Moses said, 'Today you have been dedicated to the

ALLENTOWN SALES SEMINAR PHOTOS

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National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar (left) explains the Society's insurance and annuity portfolio while National President Andrew Rajec looks on.

Participants at the Allentown Seminar



FROM THE DESK OF THE NATIONAL SECRETARY: FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION ANNUITY INTEREST RATE INCREASES THROUGH JUNE 30, 2007

Effective April 1, 2007, the annual yield on existing First Catholic Slovak Union Flexible Premium Deferred Retirement Annuity and Individual Retirement Account (IRA) is 5.00% (4.879% APR).

The annual yield on the Park 2 Annuity 4.75% (4.641% APR).

The annual yield on accounts with the "Cash Interest" Option will be 4.75% (4.641% APR).

Settlement Options will be based on an annual yield of 4.50% (4.402% APR).

If you have any questions about our annuities or IRAs, please contact the Home Office at 1-800-JEDNOTA.

THESE RATES WILL REMAIN EFFECTIVE THROUGH JUNE 30, 2007.

**Kenneth A. Arendt
National Secretary**

World Congress of Families

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opening remarks on behalf of the Polish Government. The Minister said: "The World Congress of Families is a great honor for Poland. It is a sign that Poland is seen as the hope for Europe and the world. The family is life. Without the family, there is no state. There is no government. There is nothing."

In addition to his government positions, Mr. Giertych is a strong leader of the League of Polish Families. Predictably, his detractors are numerous and include, not surprisingly, homosexuals at home and in the liberal halls of the European Union, the UN and NGOs.

The early prominent speakers included Austin Ruse, President of Catholic Family and Human Rights Institute and member of the WCF Organizing Committee. He greeted the delegates and reported that the preparatory meeting in November in Paris had goals—to prepare for this Congress, to learn from experts about the challenges facing the European family and policy makers, and to form a coalition of groups willing to work in concert at the European institutions. "I am here to report that we were successful in all our goals." Mr. Ruse went on to say that "every new human being has the right to be protected, nourished, and defended from the first moment of existence."

He stressed that "every family has the right to be protected... every child has the right to be raised in a home with his or her father and mother... every person has the right to worship God in a way his or her conscience dictates... the family is a gift from the Creator and the perfect institution for the expression of the complementarity of the sexes..."

Ellen Sauerbrey, Assistant Secretary of State for Population, Refugees and Immigration, remarked that "... the family is the oldest human institution, the first and most enduring community of individuals working together for the common good. The family predates all states, and can be found in every culture, in every era... The state did not create the family; rather, families created the state." Ambassador Sauerbrey called Poland a "remarkable country... the second oldest constitutional democracy in the world."

Ms. Inese Slesere, Member of the Latvian Parliament, an active participant of WCF, said that as a widely troubling trend, her nation's population has declined 13 percent between 1989 and 2004, their divorce rate is the highest in Europe, 40 percent of children in 2003 were born out of wedlock and also in that year there were 691 abortions for every 1,000 births.

Christine deVollmer, President of the Latin American Alliance for the family, declared "Europe has espoused not only anti-natalist policies of all kinds, but policies of sexual permissiveness which are proven to create infertility on a wide scale."

Cardinal Alfonso Lopez Trujillo, Head of the Pontifical Council on the Family, a scheduled speaker, was called back to Rome and his remarks were delivered by Fr. G. Kaszak: "The vocation of marriage is written in the very nature of man and woman." In comments particularly relevant to Poland, the Cardinal observed, "The history of the 20th Century demonstrates that those citizens were right who recognized the falsehood of relativism."

William L. Saunders, Jr., Senior Fellow at the Family Research Council and Director of its Center for Human Life and Bioethics, made two speeches, one on bioethics and the other on Catholic Social Teaching on Marriage and the Family. In the latter, He traced modern Catholic social teaching from its inception in 1891 in Rerum Novarum. In this document Pope Leo XIII set forth the "social doctrine of the Church." Mr. Saunders continued the progress of social teaching through Vatican II to Pope John Paul II's policy on the family.

Still other speakers covered such topics as Peace is born in the family; The Family home: the center of upbringing and education; The attack on marriage as the union of woman and man; Impact of pornography on the family; Dignity of the child from conception and its right to life, home, and family; Current bioethical challenges to the family; Childlessness: causes and consequences.

Anna Zaborska, MD

Pro-life and pro-family leaders of a nation's population are personally attacked by their often well-funded pro-choice NGO foes domestically and abroad, as well as by multi-national organizations. Dr. Anna Zaborska of Slovakia is a case in point. She is a Member of the European Parliament (MEP), Chair of its Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality, who is tracked by, for example, Catholics for a Free Choice (CFC) through its "Opposition Watch" on its website. In addition, CFC issued an "Investigative Fact Sheet" on her as a "Conservative Catholic Influence," citing her biography and pro-life and pro-family legitimate statements but unacceptable to them.

The Warsaw Declaration

"We, the participants of the World Congress of Families IV commit ourselves to protect the Truth about the family, recalling its natural essence as a community of love and life, one bearing inalienable rights as it is written in the Charter of the Family Rights..."

The natural family, creation of God, is the fundamental human community, based on the lifelong marriage between a man and a woman, in which new individuals are conceived, born, and raised..."

The future of humanity passes by way of the family" and "there is no more efficient way for the rebirth of society than its rebirth through healthy families that are faithful to their conjugal and parental vocations."



Reflections on Our Christianity

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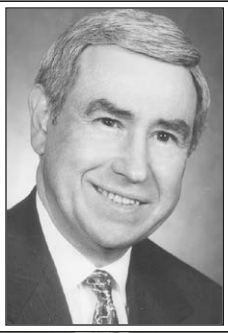
Lord'." (Exodus 32:26-29)

"The Lord said to Moses: Summon the tribe of Levi and present them to Aaron the priest, as his assistants... You shall give the Levites to Aaron and his sons; they have been set aside from among the Israelites as dedicated to me." (Numbers 3:6,9)

The Levites were divided into three divisions, sharing the work, originally, of the ark of the covenant, the sacred vessels and the movement of these from place to place. These divisions were the Kohathites, the Merarites and the Gershonites.

to be continued

MONEY MANAGEMENT & TAX TIPS



By Joseph T. Senko

*Certified Public Accountant
Certified Financial Planner
Personal Financial Specialist
(AICPA)*



Financial Tips For New College Graduates

Graduation for millions of college students means its time to trade in books and binders for bills and budgets. The following provides advice to help college graduates become financially independent.

Learn How To Budget

As a student, you were probably used to living cheaply. Once you have a job and a steady paycheck, you may be inclined to overspend. That's why it is so important to create a budget to guide your saving and spending patterns. There are plenty of personal finance books and Internet sites with advice on creating a budget that works for you.

Pay Yourself First

Get in the habit of setting aside a specific amount of money each month for saving or investing. Don't fall into the trap of paying everything else first, with the intent to save what's left over. One effective strategy is to sign up to have funds automatically deducted from your paycheck or checking account and deposited into a savings or investment plan.

Plan For The Unexpected

When you're just starting out, the money you set aside each month should be earmarked for an emergency fund equal to roughly six months worth of living expenses. An emergency fund means you won't have to resort to your credit card if your car needs major repairs or you lose your job. Keep emergency funds in a savings or money market account – both are safe, liquid investments.

Get Out Of Credit Card Debt

Many college graduates leave school with thousands of dollars in credit card debt. If you're one of them, follow a payment plan and pay off debt on the highest interest rate cards first. Don't fall into the trap of paying only the minimum monthly amount due – that strategy will cost you a great deal in interest.

Preserve Your Credit

Remember, your diploma may be your ticket to a good job, but your credit report is your ticket to borrowing money for a home or car. Always pay your bills on time.

Understand Student Loan Repayment Options

Be sure you understand the rules regarding student loan repayment and the options for consolidating your loans. Consolidating several student loans into one refinanced loan reduces your monthly payment and makes repayment more manageable. But if you choose to extend your repayment term, bear in mind that it will take longer to pay off your loan balance and you'll pay more in total interest.

Save For Retirement

Retirement may be the furthest thing from your mind when you start working, but saving even a small amount while you're young can grow into a sizeable nest egg. If your employer offers a 401(k) plan and matches a percentage of the money you contribute, try to contribute at least enough to take advantage of the match. If you don't, you'll be throwing away free money. A traditional or Roth IRA (Individual Retirement Account) is an alternative if your employer doesn't offer a 401(k).

If you have additional questions on this subject, contact Joe Senko at Manor Oak Two, Suite 500, 1910 Cochran Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15220 or 412/531-2990 or fax 412/531-4793 or jsenko@mvs-cpa.com



Pilgrimage of Faith 2007 at Villa Sacred Heart in Danville, PA

The Slovak Catholic Federation will sponsor a Pilgrimage of Faith on Saturday, September 22, 2007, at the Villa Sacred Heart in Danville, Pennsylvania. Everyone is invited to participate in this annual event.

The day will begin with a lunch (pre-ordered only \$6.00) at 11:00 a.m. in the Motherhouse Dining Room. At 12:00 noon all will assemble in SS. Cyril and Methodius Basilica for the opening remarks by the Rev. Philip Altavilla, National President of the Federation, and the recitation of the rosary. From 12:45 to 3:00 p.m. pilgrims may take a tour either of the Basilica or the Jankola Library. At 3:00 p.m. a conference will be held in Maria Hall Auditorium led by Sister John Vianney. The subject of the conference will be the story of women religious during the communist period in Slovakia. A Slovak Hymn Sing will take place at 3:30 p.m. in the Basilica led by the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeast Pennsylvania. The day will conclude with a Pontifical Mass in the Basilica at 4:00 p.m. The Most Rev. Joseph V. Adamec, Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown, will be the celebrant and homilist.

All who wish to attend this pilgrimage must contact Dolores Evanko at 570/454-5547 or email jje@intergrafix.net no later than August 20, 2007. Bus leaders will make reservations for those traveling by bus.

Rev. John J. Spitzkovsky District Easter Coloring Contest Results

The Rev. John J. Spitzkovsky District II of the First Catholic Slovak Union held its first Easter Coloring Contest this year. We had 15 entries and awarded prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places and honorable mention, for age groups 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12. We wish to thank all of our young branch members for their participation and their creative drawings. We congratulate our winners and displayed their drawings at our District II Meeting on April 29, 2007

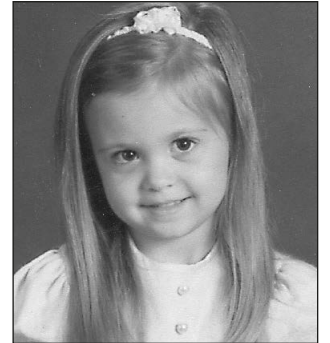
Ages 4-6



**1st Place
Julian Seida**



**2nd Place
Matthew Manzella**



**3rd Place
Jennifer Manzella**

Ages 7-9



**1st Place
Mary Fayta**

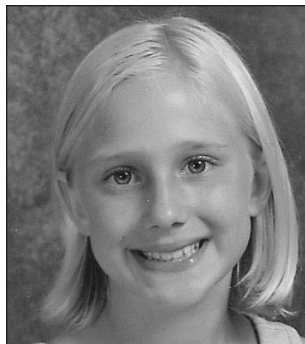


**2nd Place
Drew Silva**

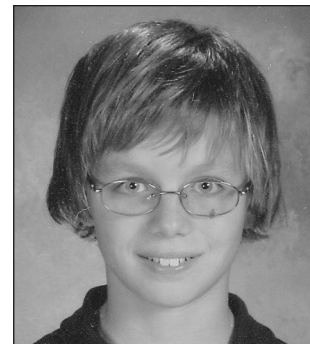


**3rd Place
None (only 2 entries
from this age group)**

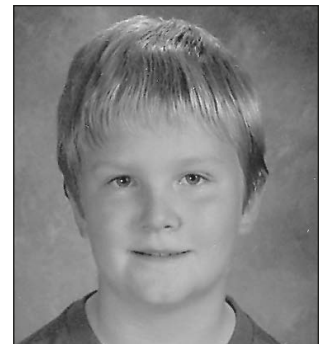
Ages 10-12



**1st Place
Andrea Krotiak**



**2nd Place
A.J. Seida**



**3rd Place
Jacob Rossman**

Honorable Mention



Aiden Jurcenko – Age 5



Stephanie Colby – Age 6



John Munoz – Age 11



Sarah Colby – Age 10

Congratulations!

**Barbara Fayta,
Easter Coloring Contest Chairman**

Statement as of March 31, 2007 of the

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE USA AND CANADA

ASSETS

	Current Statement Date			4 December 31 Prior Year Net Admitted Assets
	1 Assets	2 Nonadmitted Assets	3 Net Admitted Assets (Cols. 1 - 2)	
1. Bonds.....	164,524,917		164,524,917	162,016,069
2. Stocks:				
2.1 Preferred stocks.....	14,029,316		14,029,316	17,935,108
2.2 Common stocks.....	1,552,734		1,552,734	1,532,745
3. Mortgage loans on real estate:				
3.1 First liens.....	2,344,150		2,344,150	2,370,622
3.2 Other than first liens.....			0	
4. Real estate:				
4.1 Properties occupied by the company (less \$.....0 encumbrances).....	1,328,566		1,328,566	1,341,948
4.2 Properties held for the production of income (less \$.....0 encumbrances).....	1,002,655		1,002,655	1,012,278
4.3 Properties held for sale (less \$.....0 encumbrances).....	562,675		562,675	562,675
5. Cash (\$.....8,081,344), cash equivalents (\$.....0) and short-term investments (\$.....0).....	8,081,344		8,081,344	4,844,625
6. Contract loans (including \$.....0 premium notes).....	715,035		715,035	703,594
7. Other invested assets.....	2,335,354	(112,071)	2,447,425	2,441,458
8. Receivables for securities.....			0	
9. Aggregate write-ins for invested assets.....	0	0	0	0
10. Subtotals, cash and invested assets (Lines 1 to 9).....	196,476,745	(112,071)	196,588,816	194,761,122
11. Title Plants less \$.....0 charged off (for Title insurers only).....			0	
12. Investment income due and accrued.....	2,634,127		2,634,127	2,533,487
13. Premiums and considerations:				
13.1 Uncollected premiums and agents' balances in the course of collection.....	20,274		20,274	16,215
13.2 Deferred premiums, agents' balances and installments booked but deferred and not yet due (including \$.....0 earned but unbilled premiums).....			0	
13.3 Accrued retrospective premiums.....			0	
14. Reinsurance:				
14.1 Amounts recoverable from reinsurers.....			0	
14.2 Funds held by or deposited with reinsured companies.....			0	
14.3 Other amounts receivable under reinsurance contracts.....			0	
15. Amounts receivable relating to uninsured plans.....			0	
16.1 Current federal and foreign income tax recoverable and interest thereon.....			0	
16.2 Net deferred tax asset.....			0	
17. Guaranty funds receivable or on deposit.....			0	
18. Electronic data processing equipment and software.....			0	
19. Furniture and equipment, including health care delivery assets (\$.....0).....	11,962	11,962	0	
20. Net adjustment in assets and liabilities due to foreign exchange rates.....			0	
21. Receivables from parent, subsidiaries and affiliates.....			0	
22. Health care (\$.....0) and other amounts receivable.....			0	
23. Aggregate write-ins for other than invested assets.....	29,740	29,740	0	0
24. Total assets excluding Separate Accounts, Segregated Accounts and Protected Cell Accounts (Lines 10 through 23).....	199,172,848	(70,369)	199,243,217	197,310,824
25. From Separate Accounts, Segregated Accounts and Protected Cell Accounts.....			0	
26. TOTALS (Lines 24 and 25).....	199,172,848	(70,369)	199,243,217	197,310,824

Statement as of March 31, 2007 of the

**FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE USA AND CANADA
LIABILITIES, SURPLUS AND OTHER FUNDS**

	1 Current Statement Date	2 December 31 Prior Year
1. Aggregate reserve for life contracts (including \$.....0 Modco Reserve).....	173,368,000	172,460,000
2. Aggregate reserve for accident and health contracts (including \$.....0 Modco Reserve).....		
3. Liability for deposit-type contracts (including \$.....0 Modco Reserve).....	972,913	1,019,847
4. Contract claims:		
4.1 Life.....	300,000	300,000
4.2 Accident and health.....		
5. Refunds due and unpaid.....		
6. Provisions for refunds payable in following calendar year - estimated amounts:		
6.1 Apportioned for payment.....	340,000	320,000
6.2 Not yet apportioned.....		
7. Premiums and annuity considerations for life and accident and health contracts received in advance less \$.....0 discount; including \$.....0 accident and health premiums.....	320,156	265,626
8. Certificate and contract liabilities not included elsewhere:		
8.1 Surrender values on canceled contracts.....		
8.2 Other amounts payable on reinsurance including \$.....0 assumed and \$.....0 ceded.....		
8.3 Interest maintenance reserve (IMR).....	3,621,524	3,540,809
9. Commissions to fieldworkers due or accrued - life and annuity contracts \$.....0, accident and health \$.....0 and deposit-type contract funds \$.....0.....	9,624	2,532
10. Commissions and expense allowances payable on reinsurance assumed.....		
11. General expenses due or accrued.....	429,183	432,102
12. Transfers to Separate Accounts due or accrued (net) (including \$.....0 accrued for expense allowances recognized in reserves).....		
13. Taxes, licenses and fees due or accrued.....	23,204	23,205
14. Unearned investment income.....		
15. Amounts withheld or retained by Society as agent or trustee.....	4,517,210	4,381,480
16. Amounts held for fieldworkers' account, including \$.....0 fieldworkers' credit balances.....		
17. Remittances and items not allocated.....		
18. Net adjustment in assets and liabilities due to foreign exchange rates.....	5,000	5,000
19. Liability for benefits for employees and fieldworkers if not included above.....		
20. Borrowed money \$.....0 and interest thereon \$.....0.....		
21. Miscellaneous liabilities:		
21.1 Asset valuation reserve.....	2,579,763	2,590,136
21.2 Reinsurance in unauthorized companies.....		
21.3 Funds held under reinsurance treaties with unauthorized reinsurers.....		
21.4 Payable to subsidiaries and affiliates.....		
21.5 Drafts outstanding.....		
21.6 Funds held under coinsurance.....		
21.7 Payable for securities.....	499,501	99,501
22. Aggregate write-ins for liabilities.....	314,992	314,992
23. Total liabilities excluding Separate Accounts business (Lines 1 to 22).....	187,301,070	185,755,230
24. From Separate Accounts Statement.....		
25. Total liabilities (Lines 23 to 24).....	187,301,070	185,755,230
26. Aggregate write-ins for other than liabilities and surplus funds.....	0	0
27. Surplus notes.....		
28. Aggregate write-ins for surplus funds.....	0	0
29. Unassigned funds.....	11,942,147	11,555,594
30. Total (Lines 26 through 29) (including \$.....0 in Separate Accounts Statement).....	11,942,147	11,555,594
31. Totals (Lines 25 + 30).....	199,243,217	197,310,824

VISIT THE FCSU's WEBSITE

Home page at: <http://www.fcsu.com>

Send e-mail to the FCSU at the following address:

fcsu@aol.com

**Allentown Parish Sponsors
Breakfast Buffet**

St. John the Baptist Slovak Catholic Church is sponsoring a Breakfast Buffet on Sunday, June 3, 2007, from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the Social Hall, 924 North Front Street, Allentown, Pennsylvania. Donation is \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children. For more information call Helen Fiala at 610/434-8614 or Bill Drost at 610/432-3505.

Helen Fiala

Statement as of March 31, 2007 of the

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION OF THE USA AND CANADA

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

	1 Current Year To Date	2 Prior Year To Date	3 Prior Year Ended December 31
1. Premiums and annuity considerations for life and accident and health contracts.....	1,338,957	1,688,798	4,725,387
2. Considerations for supplementary contracts with life contingencies.....			
3. Net investment income.....	2,970,310	2,916,412	11,746,690
4. Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve (IMR).....	75,000	70,000	288,040
5. Separate Accounts net gain from operations excluding unrealized gains and losses.....			
6. Commissions and expense allowances on reinsurance ceded.....			
7. Reserve adjustments on reinsurance ceded.....			
8. Miscellaneous income:			
8.1 Income from fees associated with investment management, administration and contract guarantees from Separate Accounts.....			
8.2 Charges and fees for deposit-type contracts.....			
8.3 Aggregate write-ins for miscellaneous income.....	6,395	(5,155)	33,803
9. Totals (Lines 1 to 8.3).....	4,390,662	4,670,055	16,793,920
10. Death benefits.....	618,207	730,171	2,502,460
11. Matured endowments.....	2,208	8,219	9,092
12. Annuity and old age benefits.....	1,604,339	1,534,850	7,776,463
13. Disability, accident and health benefits, including premiums waived \$.....0.....			
14. Surrender benefits and withdrawals for life contracts.....	121,599	114,492	470,016
15. Interest and adjustments on contract or deposit-type contract funds.....	53,018	44,152	335,244
16. Payments on supplementary contracts with life contingencies.....			
17. Increase in aggregate reserve for life and accident and health contracts.....	908,000	1,018,000	1,531,000
18. Totals (Lines 10 to 17).....	3,307,371	3,449,884	12,624,275
19. Commissions on premiums, annuity considerations and deposit-type contract funds (direct business only).....	21,867	16,292	54,789
20. Commissions and expense allowances on reinsurance assumed.....			
21. General insurance expenses and fraternal expenses.....	682,591	689,301	2,588,945
22. Insurance taxes, licenses and fees.....	22,626	38,408	73,424
23. Increase in loading on deferred and uncollected premiums.....			
24. Net transfers to or (from) Separate Accounts net of reinsurance.....			
25. Aggregate write-ins for deductions.....	(50,387)	(107,304)	(346,290)
26. Totals (Lines 18 to 25).....	3,984,068	4,086,581	14,995,143
27. Net gain from operations before refunds to members (Line 9 minus Line 26).....	406,594	583,474	1,798,777
28. Refunds to members.....	68,441	43,507	309,671
29. Net gain from operations after refunds to members and before realized capital gains (losses) (Line 27 minus Line 28).....	338,153	539,967	1,489,106
30. Net realized capital gains (losses) (excluding \$.....0 transferred to the IMR).....		(240,375)	49,903
31. Net income (Lines 29 + 30).....	338,153	299,592	1,539,009
SURPLUS ACCOUNT			
32. Surplus, December 31, prior year.....	11,555,594	9,866,552	9,866,552
33. Net income from operations (Line 31).....	338,153	299,592	1,539,009
34. Change in net unrealized capital gains (losses) less capital gains tax of \$.....0.....	7,956	206,167	551,836
35. Change in net unrealized foreign exchange capital gain (loss).....			15,000
36. Change in nonadmitted assets and related items.....	(11,962)		84
37. Change in liability for reinsurance in unauthorized companies.....			
38. Change in reserve on account of change in valuation basis (increase) or decrease.....			
39. Change in asset valuation reserve.....	10,373		(431,991)
40. Surplus (contributed to) withdrawn from Separate Accounts during period.....			
41. Other changes in surplus in Separate Accounts Statement.....			
42. Change in surplus notes.....			
43. Cumulative effect of changes in accounting principles.....			
44. Change in surplus as a result of reinsurance.....			
45. Aggregate write-ins for gains and losses in surplus.....	42,033	(9,740)	15,104
46. Net change in surplus for the year (Lines 33 through 45).....	386,553	496,019	1,689,042
47. Surplus as of statement date (Lines 32 + 46).....	11,942,147	10,362,571	11,555,594

THE BEST OF THE BEST!

THE SOCIETY'S TOP GUNS THRU MARCH 31, 2007

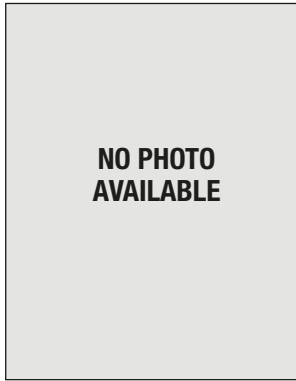
TOP PROPOSERS BY TOTAL POINTS



Dorothy J. Petrus
First Place



Frances Tarquinio
Second Place



Lisa Ann Trifiletti-Palos
Third Place

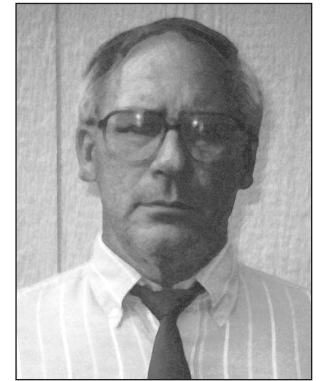
TOP PROPOSERS BY AMOUNT OF ANNUITY/IRA SOLD



Roger T. Soltis
First Place



Thomas M. Hricik
Second Place



Michael E. Lako
Third Place

TOP 10 PROPOSERS BY TOTAL POINTS

	Branch	Total Points
Dorothy J. Petrus, Donora, Pennsylvania	670	440
Frances Tarquinio, Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania	320	278
Lisa Ann Trifiletti-Palos, Lorain, Ohio	228	152
Mary J. Kapitan, Edison, New Jersey	746	146
Mary Eckard, Cumberland, Maryland	333	107
Roger T. Soltis, Massillon, Ohio	410	83
Thomas M. Hricik, Greensburg, Pennsylvania	181	80
George J. Kacsanek, Akron, Ohio	553	65
Michael E. Lako, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	2	60
Dorothy A. Torretti, Stump Creek, Pennsylvania	322	56

TOP 10 PROPOSERS BY AMOUNT OF ANNUITY/IRA SOLD

	Branch	Amount
Roger T. Soltis, Massillon, Ohio	410	\$83,000.00
Thomas M. Hricik, Greensburg, Pennsylvania	181	\$80,903.59
Michael E. Lako, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	2	\$35,451.43
Shirley A. Kallok, Levittown, Pennsylvania	857	\$30,000.00
Rosemary Deliman, Philipsburg, Pennsylvania	417	\$13,000.00
Jeanette M. Guidish, Munhall, Pennsylvania	738	\$12,217.43
Paul John Ritz, Youngstown, Ohio	260	\$11,000.00
Constance G. Widmer, Colonia, New Jersey	746	\$10,000.00
Steven G. Luca, Lorain, Ohio	228	\$ 9,598.76
Regis P. Brekosky, West Mifflin, Pennsylvania	738	\$ 7,500.00

TOP PROPOSERS BY INSURANCE SOLD



Dorothy J. Petrus
First Place



Frances Tarquinio
Second Place



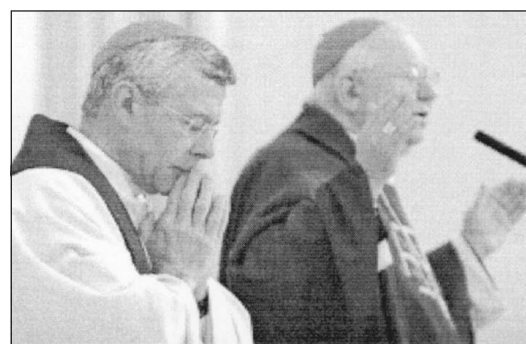
Mary Eckard
Third Place

TOP 10 PROPOSERS BY INSURANCE SOLD

	Branch	Insurance Amount
Dorothy J. Petrus, Donora, Pennsylvania	670	\$585,000
Frances Tarquinio, Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania	320	\$383,000
Mary Eckard, Cumberland, Maryland	333	\$160,000
Margaret M. Perla, McKeesport, Pennsylvania	60	\$155,000
Michael E. Lako, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	2	\$100,000
Karianne R. Barnes, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	625	\$100,000
Dorothy A. Torretti, Stump Creek, Pennsylvania	322	\$ 80,000
Andrew R. Harcar, Streator, Illinois	40	\$ 75,000
Mary J. Kapitan, Edison, New Jersey	746	\$ 70,000
Florence K. Matta, Duquesne, Pennsylvania	38	\$ 65,000

Our newest American Slovak Bishop

Msgr. Peter A. Libasci appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Rockville Centre



Bishop-elect Peter A. Libasci, left, is shown with Rockville Centre Bishop William F. Murphy who will ordain him to the episcopacy on June 1.

Archbishop Pietro Sambi, Papal Nuncio in the United States, announced on April 9 that the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI named the Rev. Msgr. Peter A. Libasci an auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, New York. Bishop-designate Libasci is 55.

A native of Middle Village, New York, the bishop-elect was born there November 1, 1951, son of William and Florence Sosnak Libasci. His maternal grandfather, Jan Sosnak was born in a village outside Kosice in eastern Slovakia.

His maternal grandmother was born in a village located just outside Humenne located in the Zemplin region of Slovakia. When his maternal grandparents arrived in the United States, they settled in New York City. While residing in Manhattan, they attended St. Elizabeth's Church, located on East 83rd Street. Established in 1891, St. Elizabeth's is the oldest Slovak parish in New York State. His maternal grandparents later moved to Queens. His paternal grandparents were native of southern Italy.

Bishop-elect Peter was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, on April 1, 1978, in the Cathedral of St. Agnes, by the Most Rev. John R. McGann following studies at St. John's University in New York and St. Meinrad Archabbey Seminary in St. Meinrad, Indiana. He was awarded graduate degrees in theology and catechetics at St. John's University. He is currently serving as pastor of the parish of St. Therese of Lisieux in Montauk, New York.

Bishop-elect Peter will be ordained to the episcopacy on Friday, June 1 at the Cathedral of St. Agnes in Rockville Centre. The Most Rev. William F. Murphy, Bishop of Rockville Centre will be the principal consecrator.

This year, the Diocese of Rockville Centre celebrates its 50th anniversary. It is the largest suburban diocese in the United States with 1.43 million Catholics out of a total population of 3.3 million.

The new bishop's motto will be "Arise and Walk" taken from the 3rd Chapter, verse 10 of the Acts of the Apostles.

We are profoundly grateful to Pope Benedict XVI choosing Monsignor Libasci as a bishop. We offer our congratulations and prayerful best wishes to Bishop-elect Peter who will no doubt be a wonderful credit to our Cyrilo-Methodian heritage of faith. Ad multos annos Your Excellency!

SLOVAK CATHOLIC FALCON

From the desk of the Executive Secretary:

DIVIDENDS INCREASED BY 25%

Board of Directors and Officers of the First Catholic Slovak Union are pleased to announce a 25% dividend increase for 2007. Through management control and wise investments over the last 12 years our Society has enjoyed tremendous growth. We have experienced a surplus increase from 2006 to 2007 of 17.1%. As a result we want to reward our members for showing confidence and trust in our Society.

Corrected All Events Scores from the International Jednota Tenpin Bowling Tournament

Men:

An error in the All Events scores was found, after the scores had appeared in the last issue. The scores have been corrected and are shown here. Only the All Events competition was affected. The scores for the individual events are correct as printed in the May 16 issue. Sorry about the confusion.

Women:

Place	All Events	Competition	Total Pins
1	Mavrovich	Mary	1741
2	Newman	Jessica	1740
3	Salvino	Tracey	1706
4	Tiano	Lynn	1700
5	Sadler	Shannon	1671
6	Boden	Diane	1645
7	Ragan	Joelyn	1640
8	Robb	Bonnie	1639
9	Bright	Kim	1620
10	Miller	Marti	1615
11	Winterhalter	Mary Beth	1614
12	Neff	Mikki	1612
13	Kuma	Charlotte	1608
14	Roberts	Brea	1588
15	Stasko	Melissa	1585
16	McKenna	Mary	1583
17	Siman	Josie	1583
18	Yablonsky	Bonnie	1583
19	Sunega	Sue	1582
20	Polack	Mary	1581
21	Szabo	Cathy	1581
22	Tomas	Sharon	1579
23	Grys	Helen	1578
23	Pusatere	Leslie	1566
23	Kopanic	Blanche	1566
26	Forma	Anne	1563
27	Goodyear	Chris	1553
28	Bright	Tracey	1548
29	Tokarsky	Chris	1540
30	Brown	Cindy	1532
31	Ricciuti	Denise	1526
32	Novak	Mary	1524
33	Hunt	Eileen	1508
34	Ragan	Jara	1506
35	Mitro	Anne	1495
36	Hrcka	Helen	1494
37	Ramsey	Jennifer	1493
38	Radic	Dorothy	1466
39	Cameron	Terry	1427
40	Gorman	Irene	1426
40	DeMarco	Marla	1409
42	Shank	Virginia	1371
43	Seese	Christine	1264

Place	All Events	Cont.	Total Pins
67	Kopanic	Robert	1788
68	Romolock	Harry	1782
69	Barron	Joe	1779
69	Silay	Tom	1778
71	Frolo	Robert	1778
72	Jursa	Joe	1770
73	Pusatere	Joseph Jr.	1766
74	Krasonic	John Sr.	1763
75	Bright	Richard	1762
76	Joscak	Daniel	1752
77	Schwab	Randy	1746
78	Lawrence	Bernie	1742
79	Cervenka	George Sr.	1740
80	Ward	James	1736
81	Joscak	David	1735
82	Duda	Ronald Sr.	1732
83	Pallo	Gene	1729
84	Gaydos	Richard	1723
85	Stasko	Edward	1719
86	Sears	Willard	1716
87	Sinagra	Dave	1714
88	Fekete	Steve	1713
89	Yablonsky	Herb	1711
90	Hunsicker	Rick	1693
91	Leary	John	1682
92	Joscak	Edmund	1680
93	Walko	Daniel	1594
94	Welsh	T. J. Jr.	1421
95	Detwiler	Charles	1394
96	Cameron	Bob	1320
97	Grys	Hank	1095

Place	All Events	Competition	Total Pins
1	Nichols	Michael Jr.	2186
2	Sabo	Ron	2111
3	Hlas	Jim Jr.	2102
4	Lako	Ray	2081
5	Klacka	Paul	2056
6	Shank	James	2040
7	Grys	Greg	2037
8	Linn	Richard	2029
9	Tretinik	Robert	2019
10	Shank	Clarence Sr.	2017
11	Krasonic	John Jr.	2007
12	Nasta	Fr. Tom	2002
13	Zavada	John	1980
14	Tokarsky	John	1963
15	Hunt	Zachary	1962
16	Sabo	John Jr.	1960
17	Smith	Vernon E.	1957
18	Patsilevas	Doug	1955
19	Pallo	Chris	1951
20	Jursa	Emil	1949
21	Roberts	John	1949
21	Larson	Michael	1938
23	Joschak	Richard	1933
24	Tritinger	George	1922
25	Pella	Stan	1921
26	Szabo	Jim	1917
27	Hlas	Joe	1914
27	Augustine	John	1911
29	Zoldak	Milan	1911
29	Radic	John	1906
31	Arnold	Weldie	1896
31	Sadler	Richard	1892
33	Forma	Ed	1889
33	Kovac	Slavo	1888
35	Burkhart	Joe	1881
36	Lako	Mike	1881
36	Newman	Kevin	1879
38	Dunham	Kevin	1879
39	Frolo	Robert	1879
39	Andrasik	Robert	1878
41	Hlas	Jim Sr.	1878
42	McKenna	Joe	1868
42	Pavlinsky	George	1867
44	Healey	Larry	1866
44	Sabo	John Sr.	1857
46	Lesho	Joe	1856
47	Kapitan	Mike	1854
48	Siman	Jerry	1853
49	Gmerek	Len	1853
50	Mrozek	John	1851
51	Smith	Vernon C.	1848
52	Lutes	Donald	1844
53	Silay	Tom	1842
54	Joscak	Daniel	1842
55	Krasonic	John Sr.	1839
56	Eller	Terry	1838
57	Golla	Ted	1838
58	Wiggins	Timothy	1836
59	Collins	Pat	1835
60	Mitro	Milos	1825
61	Pusatere	Joseph Jr.	1811
62	Bright	Richard	1804
63	Detwiler	Dean	1801
64	Kuma	John	1800
65	Kapsa	Gus	1795
65	Polack	John	1790

2008 JEDNOTA INTERNATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Anyone interested in suggesting a course for the 2008 Golf Tournament may submit their proposal. The customary dates for the Tournament are July 12-13 or July 19-20, 2008. Please furnish the following information in your written proposal.

Local Contact Person:

Name
Address
Phone Number

Golf Course/Resort:

Name
Contact Person at Course
Address
Phone Number

Number of holes **Please note: A 36-hole course is preferred. Two nearby 18-hole courses would also be acceptable.
Approximate cost per round of golf

Housing:

Please enclose a list of nearby hotels/motels, including addresses and phone numbers.

Deadline for proposals is July 1, 2008.

Please send proposals to FCSU Fraternal Activities Director:
Susan Ondrejco
234 Ilion St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207
sueo99@yahoo.com

2008 JEDNOTA INTERNATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT OFFERS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED

Any District or branch interested in sponsoring the 2008 Bowling Tournament may submit their offers. The customary dates for the Tournament are April 11-13, or April 18-20, 2008. If circumstances would warrant, we would use both weekends. We prefer using only one weekend. Please furnish the following information in your written offer.

Branch or District hosting the Tournament:

Local Contact Person:
Name
Address
Phone Number

Bowling Lanes:

Name
Contact Person at Lanes
Address
Phone Number
Number of lanes available

**Please note: A minimum of 40 lanes will be needed for one weekend, preferably more. If two establishments are to be used, we will need at least 40 lanes in one house and at least 30 lanes in the other house.

Approximate cost per game
Scoring Equipment Available

Housing:

Please enclose a list of nearby hotels/motels, including addresses and phone numbers.

Deadline for all offers is July 1, 2007.

Please send offers to the FCSU Fraternal Activities Director:
Susan Ondrejco
234 Ilion St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207
sueo99@yahoo.com



YOUTH ROUND-UP

If you know of a young Jednota member who has recently graduated, received a special award, been confirmed or made a First Holy Communion, achieved a sports or scholastic "first" or in some other way has something to be proud of, send in the

details and a photo, if available, to our "Youth Round-Up" column. Parents, grandparents, friends, and neighbors are all eligible to "brag" about those special youngsters in their lives. The only stipulation is that the young person must be a member of the FCSU. Be sure to include the Branch to which he or she belongs when you send in your write-up to 1011 Rosedale Avenue, Middletown, PA 17057. We look forward to hearing from you!



**MONTREAL JEDNOTA MIXED
April 3, 2007**

Team	Points
Steve Szubiak	116
Emil Ondrechak	110
James Verrillo	110
John Gaydos	110
Paul Dvorsky	105
Mary Makovsky	96
Gerry Madejchuk	94
John Jasko	89
Domenic Pugliese	88
Tony Makovsky	87
High single game team: Emil Ondrechak-708. High three games team: Emil Ondrechak-1917. High single game individual: (woman) Mary Jurkanin-189, Rosa Pugliese-189; (man) James Verrillo-230. High three games individual: (woman) Mary Jurkanin-546; (man) James Verrillo-646.	
Next four high single games: (women) Mary Makovsky-180, Valerie Demendy-172, Mary Bachleda-171, Pauline Dvorsky-166; (men) Gerry Madejchuk-223, Emil Ondrechak-217, Paul Dvorsky-216, Albert Kochamba-208.	
Next four high three games: (women) Rosa Pugliese-501, Mary Makovsky-479, Mary Bachleda-451, Olga Slodichak-428; (men) Gerry Madejchuk-611, Paul Dvorsky-584, Emil Ondrechak-577, Tony Makovsky-569.	

April 10, 2007

Team	Points
Steve Szubiak	118
Emil Ondrechak	112
John Gaydos	112
Paul Dvorsky	110
James Verrillo	110
Mary Makovsky	101
Gerry Madejchuk	101
John Jasko	96
Tony Makovsky	92
Domenic Pugliese	88
High single game team: Gerry Madejchuk-652. High three games team: John Gaydos-1776. High single game individual: (woman) Mary Makovsky-186; (man) John Chandik-213. High three games individual: (woman) Mary Makovsky-516; (man) Emil Ondrechak-547.	
Next four high single games: (women) Anne Szubiak-181, Mary Jurkanin-155, Rosa Pugliese-155, Marta Fuska-154, Ann Ondrechak-152; (men) John Chandik-213, Emil Ondrechak-201, Alan Subenik-199, Paul Dvorsky-195.	
Next four high three games: (women) Mary Jurkanin-457, Anne Szubiak-454, Pauline Dvorsky-420, Rosa Pugliese-405; (men) Gerry Madejchuk-541, Domenic Pugliese-540, John Chandik-537, Alan Subenik-523.	

Mary Makovsky, Secretary

Steve Vargo Honored for 50 Years of Service as Secretary of the Akron Jednota Bonafide Bowling League

Monday, May 7, 2007 was to be another annual Bowling Banquet for Steve Vargo, Secretary of the Monday Night Men's Jednota Bonafide (Branch 553) League in Akron, Ohio. Much like the previous 49 Bowling Banquets for which he has prepared the standings, prize money, and bowling awards. That's right, the previous 49! You see, Steve Vargo, member of Akron Jednota Branch 553 in Akron, Ohio just completed 50 years as League Secretary. Not to mention he has bowled in the league a few years longer than that. Quite an accomplishment.

To recognize Steve for his years of dedicated service, the league members arranged some publicity and awards. To begin this special day, Steve was accompanied by Rick Hunsicker, a fellow league bowler and member of Jednota Branch 553, on the Ray Horner Morning Show on WAKR Radio in Akron. Ray Horner did a wonderful job of interviewing Steve about his accomplishment, the league, our Slovak Heritage and our Jednota Club and Jednota Lanes on Morgan Avenue in Akron. To prepare for the radio interview, Steve prepared the following quote:

"At the April 1957 banquet for the Jednota Bonafide Bowling League my dad nominated me for the Secretary / Treasurer job and I accepted. I really didn't know it would last this long (50 years).

My wife, Terry, helped me the first couple of years by adding and arriving at new averages and I would post the total pins and new averages on the standing sheet. When computers came in, she let me handle it by myself. I do have other help, my son Dan. He will handle it if I get sick or am on vacation.

We have had small problems over the years, but with the good League Officers that I've had they were always resolved.



Pictured left to right: Joe Hlas, President of the USBC Greater Summit County Bowling Association (GSCBA) presents Steve Vargo the USBC Service Recognition Award on May 7, 2007 to recognize his 50 Years of Service as League Secretary of the Jednota Bonafide Bowling League at Jednota Lanes in Akron, Ohio, assisted by Duane Snyder, a Director of the GSCBA.

I have enjoyed this work because I treat it like a part-time job. I just try to do the best job that I can."

The 7 pm League Bowling Banquet brought more festivities. The league was pleased to welcome Joe Hlas, President of the USBC Greater Summit County Bowling Association (GSCBA), Duane Snyder, a Director of GSCBA, Steve Vargo's wife Terry, daughter and son-in-law, Debbie and Dave Breitenbach, and son and fellow league bowler Dan Vargo. Joe Hlas and Duane Snyder, assisted by League President Bill

Hudkins, presented Steve Vargo with several awards and a letter from the USBC to recognize his 50 years of service as league secretary.

This was a special day for a very deserving and special man. Thank you Steve from all of the Jednota Bonafide League Bowlers. And to top of this special day, Steve's Team, DIAMED, won the 2006-2007 League Championship. It doesn't get much better than this.

**Rick Hunsicker,
Branch 553, Akron, Ohio.**

Annual Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar Set for September 30

The Slovak Catholic Federation will host its annual Midwest Slovak Pastoral Seminar on Sunday, September 30, 2007, at the Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Church, 14610 Will Cook Road, Homer Glen, Illinois.

Father Thomas Loya will be the presenter at this year's seminar. He will give a detailed explanation of the icons that he has painted in Annunciation Church. A Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at 1:00 p.m. followed by a delicious lunch.

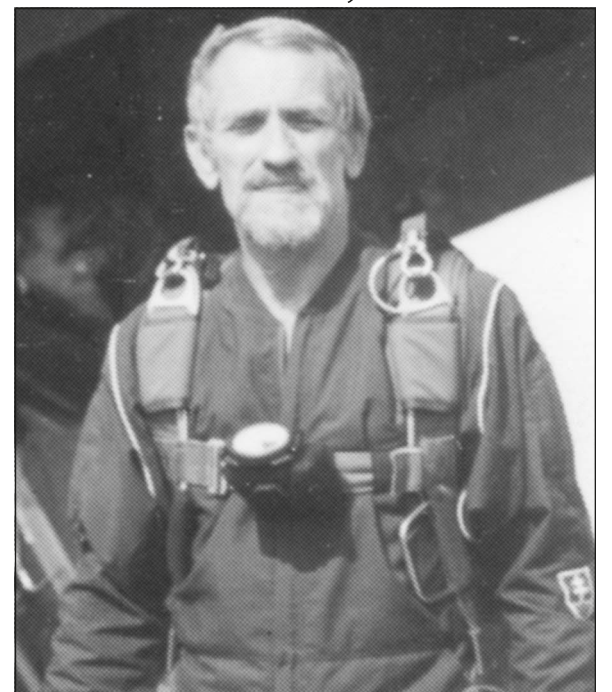
The offering for this event (pre-registration) is \$15.00 per person and \$20.00 at the door. For pre-paid registration contact John Jurcenko at 773/763-0810 no later than September 5, 2007. For more information call Geraldine Hletko at 708/387-7812.

Sign Up a New Member Today!

Annual Stefan Banic Skydiving Competition in Dallas, Texas

The 17th annual Stefan Banic Memorial Skydiving Competition will be held Saturday and Sunday, July 21-22, 2007, at Skydive Dallas, in Dallas, Texas. Many 8-way teams will compete for Gold, Silver and Bronze medals. This year there will also be an accuracy competition for Stefan Banic trophies. Six members of the Stefan Banic Parachute Foundation Board of Directors will be present to help support this popular annual event.

Each year this event is held in honor of Stefan Banic, a Slovak immigrant who received the first patent for a parachute in 1914. The organizer of this annual event is prominent Slovak skydiver Slavo Mulik of Coppell, Texas.



Slovak Skydiver and event organizer Slavo Mulik.

2007 Golf Tournament Info Sheet

Friday, July 20

- ◆ Family Day at Cedar Point or Soak City
 - Golfer's Admission Prices to Amusement Parks:
 - Cedar Point - \$26
 - Soak City - \$13
 - Ride & Slide - \$60
- ◆ Hospitality Room, Holiday Inn, Sandusky. 7 PM - 11 PM

Saturday, July 21

- ◆ Registration begins at 7am. Shotgun start at 8am, Thunderbird Hills Golf Course - SOUTH course
- ◆ Mass begins at 5:30pm at the Holiday Inn, Sandusky.
- ◆ Banquet begins at 6pm at the Holiday Inn, Sandusky.

Sunday, July 22

- ◆ Shotgun start at 8am, Thunderbird Hills Golf Course - NORTH course
- ◆ Awards Barbeque to begin at conclusion of tournament

Hotel Information

Prices have been negotiated at the following hotel:

Holiday Inn, Sandusky
5513 Milan Rd. - Sandusky, OH 44870
(419) 626 - 6671

Rate: \$119/night +tax

**** Cut off date June 20, 2007, for Group Rate****

Other area hotels:

Plantation Motel (877) 677 - 2770
Comfort Inn (419) 433 - 5359
River's Edge Inn (800) 947 - 3400

Directions to Holiday Inn

CLEVELAND

Route 2 west. Stay on Route 2 to the Route 250 exit. Turn right onto Route 250. Holiday Inn is on the left side of Route 250.

Ohio Turnpike west to exit 7 (Norwalk/Sandusky), proceed north on Route 250. Holiday Inn is located on the left side of Route 250, just past the Route 2 intersection.

COLUMBUS

I-71 to route 13 north, which will join Route 250. Stay on Route 250 to Sandusky. Holiday Inn is located on the left side of Route 250, just past the Route 2 intersection.

DETROIT

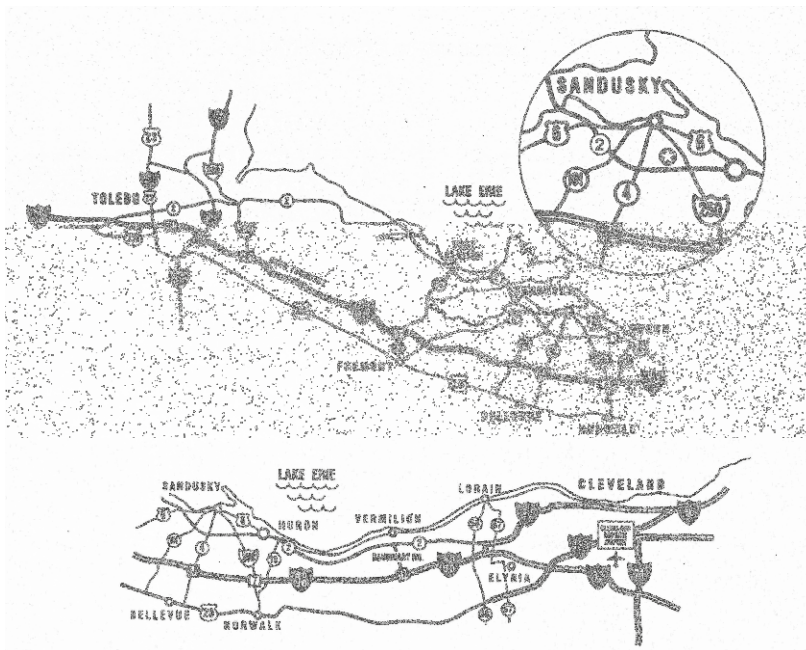
I-75 south to Route 280. Get off Route 280 at exit 7/118. Take Route 2 east approximately 90 miles to the Route 250 exit. Turn left onto Route 250. Holiday Inn is located on the left side of the road just past the Route 2 intersection.

TOLEDO

Ohio Turnpike to exit 7, route 250 north. Holiday Inn is located on the left side of Route 250 approximately six miles from the turnpike.

DAYTON / CINCINNATI

I-75 north to Findlay. Take 12 north past Fremont, to Route 2 east. Follow Route 2 east to Route 250 exit. Turn left onto Route 250. Holiday Inn is located on the left side of the road just past the Route 2 intersection.



2007 Jednota Handicap Golf Tournament

July 21 and 22, 2007

Thunderbird Hills Golf Club, North and South Courses
Huron, OH



Registration Forms postmarked after July 12, 2007 will NOT be accepted.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email** _____ Phone Number _____
Branch Number _____ Certificate Number _____

If over age 65, would you like to be placed in the over 65 class? (Check one)

Yes No N/A

Note: Those who have not participated in 2 tournaments in the last 10 years will be placed in the Callaway Division.

Name of preferred riding partner: _____

Fees: South Course Greens Fees (played Saturday): \$39
North Course Greens Fees (played Sunday): \$39
Tournament Expenses: \$10
Prize Fund: \$12
TOTAL DUE: \$100

Please make checks payable to 'FCSU Activities' and mail this registration form with check to:

Susan Ondrejco
234 Ilion St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

**Those who provide email addresses will be notified of schedule via email.

***Golfers must be members in good standing of the FCSU

**Any Golfer who acts in an un-sportsmanlike manner will be disqualified from the tournament.

2007 Jednota Golf Tournament

SOCIAL EVENTS

Saturday Evening Dinner and Sunday Awards Barbeque

Join us for a Country Hoe-Down Saturday evening,
and for an awards ceremony Sunday afternoon.

Saturday Night (at Holiday Inn, Sandusky):

We invite you to 2-step back in time to a good ole country hoe-down. So don't just sit there like a bump on a log, come join us in a little southern hospitality. And ya'll can't pass up the lively entertainment of those square dancers. They'll get ya off your bum aright! Meal includes fresh salad greens, BBQ chicken, hamburgers, twice baked mashed potatoes, corn on the cob, coleslaw, watermelon, and dessert. Cash bar, 6pm - 10 pm.

Cost: GOLFERS \$15
GUESTS \$30

Sunday Afternoon (held at Thunderbird Hills Pavilion):

Meal includes 12 oz. sirloin steak, potatoes, green beans, corn, salad, soda.

Cost: GOLFERS & GUESTS \$15

Make checks payable to FCSU ACTIVITIES and return form with payment by July 12 to:

Susan Ondrejco
234 Ilion St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

Name _____

Check all that apply:

- Golfer Saturday Only Guest Saturday Only
 Golfer Sunday Only Guest Sunday Only

Amt Enclosed _____

REMEMBER OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS AND FRIENDS



A Gaydos family portrait taken in October 1932. Sitting, L-R: Maria Gaydos, Mrs. Julie Gaydos, Laska Gaydos Yurchak, Dr. Michael Gaydos, and Anna Gaydos. Standing, L-R: Michael Gaydos Jr. and Francis Gaydos.

LASKA YURCHAK – Celebrated Slovak American Lady

Laska Yurchak (Jurchak), also known as Laura York, noted dance teacher, artist and writer, died Saturday, March 31, 2007, in Father Baker Manor, Orchard Park, New York. She was 96 years old.

Born in Wheeling, West Virginia, August 24, 1910, she was the daughter of the late Dr. Michael and Julie Mirmak Gaydos. She graduated from West Virginia University in 1929, at the age of 19, and continued her studies in dance at the University of Wisconsin. She earned a second bachelor's degree in fine arts at the University of New Mexico, in 1978, and moved to Father Baker Manor, in 2000.

Laska Gaydos was one of the most accomplished Slovak American women of her generation. She taught in a number of schools and for Slovak social organizations. During the 1940s, she served on the editorial board of the SLOVAK REVIEW, an American quarterly, devoted to Slovak culture. It was a noble effort but discontinued after a few years. She also wrote children's stories and taught both in Wheeling and in Puerto Rico.

On December 29, 1931, in Wheeling, she married Johnstown attorney Peter Yurchak. Mr. Yurchak served as Legal Counsel for the First Catholic Slovak Union and later would be elected as President of the Slovak League of America. Peter Yurchak died in December 1948 at age 48 after an exhausting campaign in support of presidential candidate Thomas E. Dewey, in the 1948 election.

Laska came from one of the most prominent Slovak American families. Her father, Dr. Michael Gaydos, served as Medical Examiner for the First Catholic Slovak Union for over 25 years, first elected to that position in 1908. Three of Laska's siblings also became medical doctors, Dr. Anna Hughes, Dr. Michael Gaydos Jr., and Dr. Francis Gaydos. When Peter Yurchak first became ill on a Sunday evening in December 1948, all four doctors of the Gaydos family hurried to the Nesbitt Hospital in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania to offer their assistance.

Laska is survived by two sons, Dr. Anthony (Eleanor) Yurchak of Orchard Park, and Dr. Peter M. (Nancy) Yurchak of Boston, Massachusetts; 13 grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by one son, Lt. Col. Paul N. (Rosemary) Yur-

chak (York) of Gig Harbor, Washington.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in St. John Vianney Catholic Church in Orchard Park on May 4, 2007. May she rest in peace.

CATHERINE ZETTS Branch 260 Campbell, Ohio

Catherine Zetts, 84, died Tuesday, May 8, 2007, at the Cleveland Clinic.

Born October 16, 1922, in Campbell, she was a daughter of John and Mary Bartos Jacko. A 1940 graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School, Mrs. Zetts was a cook at Gaetano's Airport Tavern for 17 years.

Her husband, Cyril E. Zetts, whom she married July 21, 1942, died May 9, 1999.

Mrs. Zetts was a member of St. John's Catholic Church in Campbell and the Sacred Heart Church in Rock Creek. She was a member and past officer of the St. John's Ladies Guild and past officer of the Diocesan Infant of Prague Guild, a member of the Altar and Rosary Society, and a member of the St. Elizabeth Ladies Crochet Club, First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, and Branch 260 of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

She is survived by three daughters, Patricia French of Roaming Shores, Ohio, Karen Simchick of Ocean, New Jersey, and Laurie Hudder of Alpine, California; a son, David of Avon, Ohio; eight grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her parents, and a sister, Margaret Hamrock.

The family received friends at the Wasko Funeral Home in Campbell. A Mass of Christian Burial was offered in St. John's Catholic Church.

The officers of Branch 260 offer their deepest sympathy to the family of Catherine Zetts. May she rest in peace.

Charles M. Terek

GREGORY THOMAS CONLON Branch 240P Taylor, Pennsylvania

Gregory Thomas Conlon, a lifelong resident of Scranton, Pennsylvania, died Thursday, May 3, 2007, in Moses Taylor Hospital. He and his wife, the former Mary Richwalder,

would have celebrated their 54th wedding anniversary on May 30.

Born in Scranton, son of the late Thomas and Julia Buhman Conlon, he was a graduate of St. Patrick's High School, Class of 1947, and was a member of St. Patrick's Church and its Holy Name Society. He was a Eucharistic Minister and was very active in the church. He was employed by the city of Scranton as a firefighter for 41 years before retiring as district fire chief. He was a member of the Lions Club, Knights of Columbus and the Fireman's Goodwill Club.

He enjoyed spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren.

Also surviving are five children, John Conlon and his wife, Kathy, of Old Forge, Pennsylvania, Gregory Conlon and his wife, Nancy of Ardmore, Pennsylvania, Margaret Conlon of Scranton, Ann Marie Southard and husband, Robert, of Scranton, and Paul Conlon of Scranton; and four grandchildren, Kelly and Christian Conlon and Bobby and Kristen Southard.

Friends were received at the Miller Bean Funeral Home, Scranton. A Funeral Mass was celebrated in St. Patrick's Church. Interment was in Cathedral Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Patrick's Church, 1403 Jackson Street, Scranton, PA 18504-3369.

Stephen Kavulich

JOSEPH C. TRUBINSKY, promoted independence for Slovakia

Joseph C. Trubinsky, 84, passed away on April 21, 2007, after a brief illness in Boynton Beach, Florida.

He was born February 14, 1923, in Komjatice, Slovakia and emigrated to Canada in 1948, with his fiancée, when the Communists seized control of the country after World War II. He and his fiancée, Catherine, were married in Canada and came to Cleveland, Ohio, in 1952.

A graduate of a business academy in Slovakia, Mr. Trubinsky worked in Cleveland several years as a public accountant. In 1955, he began his own business, the Book-tax Accounting Service. He then founded the Forest City Loan Co., in 1966, where he focused on consumer loans and finance.

He was involved with several Slovak and American organizations in efforts to bring about Slovakia's independence, which was achieved in 1993. Trubinsky told a reporter in 1973 he wanted to see a creation of a "United States of Europe."

He served as secretary for the Slovak World Congress and had been chairman of both the American Friends of Anti-Bolshevik Bloc of Nations in Cleveland and the Cleveland Coordinating Committee of Nations Under the Communist Yoke.

Mr. Trubinsky had been a member of the Cuyahoga County Republican Executive Committee, the Republican Inner Circle of Washington, D.C., and the Executive Committee of the National Republican Heritage Groups Council in Washington. He also was a member of the City Club and the United Nations Association of the United States.

He authored two books on the subject of independence for Slovakia.

Mr. Trubinsky was invited to the White House by then President-elect Richard Nixon, in 1968, to discuss what ethnic and minority groups expected from a U.S. President. In January 1973, Trubinsky and his wife were

invited by Nixon again to attend the presidential inaugural festivities in Washington, D.C.

He retired in 1982 and moved to Boynton Beach. His wife Catherine died in 2006. They were longtime residents of Fairview Park, Ohio.

Survivors: Daughters, Andrea Conlan of Baltimore, Maryland, Susan Brody of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Elizabeth Wheeler of Columbus, Ohio; sons, Joseph Jr. of Boynton Beach, Florida, and John of Frederick, Maryland; and six grandchildren as well as several relatives in Slovakia.

Contributions can be made in his honor to: The Hospice of Palm Beach County, (Bethesda Unit), 5300 East Ave., West Palm Beach, FL 33407.

Dr. Mark Stolarik

HELEN KUBANDA Branch 587 Aliquippa, Pennsylvania

Helen (Zbojovsky) Kubanda, 79, of Hopewell Township, died Friday, April 27, 2007.

Born February 19, 1928, in Trebisov, Slovakia, a daughter of the late Michael and Helen Zbojovsky, she was a member of St. Titus Catholic Church, where she was a member of the Confraternity of Christian Mothers. She was a member of Jednota Branch 587. Helen enjoyed baking and gardening. She was a devoted Catholic who spent much of her time in prayer, praying the rosary. She was also devoted to her family who will miss her dearly.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, John Kubanda; a son, Michael T. Kubanda; a brother, Joseph Zbojovsky, and two sisters, Marie Zbojovsky and Barbara Beresova.

She is survived by two sons, John J. Kubanda and fiancée Marilu Piotrowski of Hopewell Township, and M. George Kubanda and wife Ann of Sugarland, Texas; two grandsons, Michael D. and Matthew P. Kubanda of Sugarland; a brother, Paul Zbojovsky and wife Maria of Slovakia; a sister, Anna Mancosova of Slovakia; a sister-in-law, Barbara Shyan of Hopewell Township; a nephew, Richard T. Shyan of Aliquippa; a niece, Barbara (Shyan) Campbell and husband Raymond of Big Beaver; a great-niece, Christy Kotnik and husband Bob of Pittsburgh; and two great-nephews, Brian J. Campbell of Big Beaver, and Paul Tomko and wife Andrea of New York.

Friends were received at the Darroch Memorial Chapel, Aliquippa, where a service was held followed by a Mass of Christian Burial in St. Titus Church. Interment was in Mount Olivet Catholic Cemetery.

Edith Valo

HELEN M. LOVE Branch 7 Houtzdale, Pennsylvania

Helen Marie (Shedlock) Love, 87, of West Moshannon, Houtzdale, Pennsylvania, died Monday, April 23, 2007, at Clearfield Hospital.

Born April 15, 1920, in Morann, Pennsylvania, she was the daughter of Andrew and Elizabeth Bezilla Shedlock.

She was a member of Christ the King Church, Houtzdale, where she was a member of the Rosary Society and served as an Eucharistic Minister who brought communion

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Branch 1— LAKEWOOD, OHIO

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 1, will hold a meeting on Tuesday, June 12, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. at SS. Cyril and Methodius School Hall, 12608 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio. All members are invited to attend.

Mary C. Dubber, Secretary

Branch 3— MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

The SS. Cyril and Methodius Society, Branch 3, will hold its Annual Picnic on Sunday, July 22, 2007, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Kordiak Park, 49th Avenue, northeast of Central Avenue N.E., Columbia Heights, Minnesota. A luncheon will be served at no charge. There will also be games and races along with treats for the children. Come and enjoy an afternoon of socializing and fellowship.

Joseph Matlon, Publicity Chairman

Branch 10— OLYPHANT, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 10, invites all its members and their families to attend the annual Mass and Communion Breakfast on Sunday, June 24, 2007. The 8:00 a.m. Mass at Holy Ghost Church in Olyphant will be offered for all living and deceased members of Branch 10. Immediately following the Mass, a complimentary breakfast will be served for members and their families at the Regal Room, 212-218 Lackawanna Avenue, Olyphant. Reservations are requested and must be made by calling 570/489-9819 between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. no later than June 15.

**William A. Nalevanko
Recording Secretary**

Branch 24— CLEVELAND, OHIO

Members of the St. Andrew Society, Branch 24, are invited to attend the Slovak Radio Club Picnic on Sunday, June 24, and the Zemplin Club Picnic on Sunday, July 15. Both picnics will be held from 12:00 noon until 8:00 p.m. at the Sokol Camp, 2069 Royalwood Road, Broadview Heights, Ohio. There will be plenty of Slovak food, music and dancing. Hope to see you there.

Bob Kopco, President

Branch 38— DUQUESNE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 38, will hold its Spring Meeting on Friday, June 1, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Florence Matta, 310 Harden Avenue, Duquesne, Pennsylvania. On the agenda will be officers' reports and a discussion of Branch activities for the coming year.

The Pittsburgh District, as in past years will sponsor a Father's Day Mass on June 17, 2007 at Holy Trinity Church, 929 West Grant Avenue Ext., West Mifflin, Pennsylvania. Mass will begin at 9:30 a.m. followed by breakfast in the church Social Hall. All interested members of Branch 38 who wish to attend are requested to contact Florence Matta at 412/466-7460 no later than June 11, 2007.

Florence K. Matta, Secretary-Treasurer

Branch 41— YONKERS, NEW YORK

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 41, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 3, 2007, after the Communion Breakfast at

Holy Trinity Parish Hall, Trinity and Walnut Streets, Yonkers, New York. Financial reports will be presented and suggestions will be discussed. We urge all members to attend this meeting.

Robert J. Lutz, Recording Secretary

Branch 60— MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 60, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, May 20, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. at the home of President Ann Wargovich, 58 Lilmont Avenue, Swissvale, Pennsylvania. On the agenda will be officers' reports and a discussion of branch activities. All members are urged to attend.

Margaret M. Perla, Secretary

Branch 61— BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

The St. Stephen the King Society, Branch 61, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Thursday, June 14, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of the President, Victor Sebo, 6802 Roberts Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland. Matters of importance to our branch and all fraternal activities will be on the agenda. All members are urged to attend.

Victor Sebo, President

Branch 75— SHAMOKIN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Society, Branch 75, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, July 15, 2007, at 10:30 a.m. at the residence of the president and financial secretary, Ronald M. Anderson, 8 South Shamokin Street, Shamokin, Pennsylvania. On the agenda will be a discussion of mid-year business topics. All members are requested to attend this semiannual meeting.

**Ronald M. Anderson, President
& Financial Secretary**

Branch 153— CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The St. Stephen Society, Branch 153, will hold its Summer Meeting on Saturday, June 16, 2007, at 12:00 noon at the home of President John Jurcenko, 7113 West Talcott Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. All members are cordially invited to attend. There will be a fraternal luncheon after the meeting.

Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

Branch 162— UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its Quarterly Meeting on Sunday, June 17, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. at the third floor meeting room of the Meridan Point Apartments, Confer Vista Road, Uniontown, Pennsylvania. Officers' reports will be presented and branch activities will be discussed. All members are invited to attend.

Dolores Marmol, Secretary

Branch 166— BINGHAMTON, CAPITAL AREA, PEEK- SKILL, SYRACUSE, AND POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK

The St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 166, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 17, 2007, at 1:15 p.m. at the Old Country Buffet, Town Square, Vestal Parkway. On the agenda will be a discussion of Branch business and information concerning the District Meeting held in Scranton, in April. If you plan to attend, please call Frank

Haynak at 607/797-6160, Sue Gabriel at 607/729-8034, or Arlo Meeker at 607/775-4896. Thank you and hope to see you at the meeting.

Arlo Meeker, Vice President

Branch 169P— JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 169P, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Monday, June 18, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Joseph Slivosky, 1510 Emmett Drive, Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

Joseph Slivosky, President

Branch 199— HOSTETTER, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 199, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 17, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Francis Pipak. All members are invited to attend.

Sophie Pipak, Financial Secretary

Branch 213— RENFREW, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Michael Society, Branch 213, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 10, 2007, at 1:30 p.m. at 3061 Kensington Court, Renfrew, Pennsylvania. All members are asked to attend.

Joe Belechak, Secretary

Branch 260— CAMPBELL, OHIO

The St. Matthew Society, Branch 260, will hold a meeting on Sunday, June 24, 2007, at 1:30 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Church Msgr. Adamko Hall, Campbell, Ohio. On the agenda will be a discussion of the new rates for insurance sales.

Charles M. Terek, President

Branch 276— MCKEESPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 276, will hold its next meeting on Sunday, June 10, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. in Holy Trinity School Hall, Seventh Street, McKeesport, Pennsylvania. All members are urged to attend.

Nancy Gerdich, Recording Secretary

Branch 293— LANSFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 293, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 10, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. at St. Michael's Church Hall, 124 East Abbott Street, Lansford, PA 18232.

Anyone needing insurance or annuities should contact Robert Lakata, 527 East Bertsch Street, Lansford, PA 18232, or call 570/645-4872.

Robert Lakata, Financial Secretary

Branch 320— STOCKDALE, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of the SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch 320, invites the members to attend the next meeting on Sunday, July 1, 2007, at 12:00 noon at the residence of Frances Tarquinio, 209 Sylvan Drive, Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania. Since lunch will be served, please call Fran at 724/929-9788 and let her know if you will be attending.

Mary Anne Higginbotham, President

Branch 367— FAIRCHANCE, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 367, will hold its next regular meeting on Monday, June 18, 2007, at 4:30 p.m. at Melonies Restaurant, Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

Jane Kish, Secretary

Branch 421— NANTY GLO, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Name of Jesus Society, Branch 421, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 10, 2007, at 2:00 p.m. at the home of John Stager, 124 Circle Drive, Ebensburg, Pennsylvania.

Lillian R. Stager, Secretary/Treasurer

Branch 484— CORAL, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph the Protector Society, Branch 484, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 10, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. in St. Francis Church Hall, Coral, Pennsylvania. All members are invited to attend.

Joseph E. Rura, Financial Secretary

Branch 587— ALIQUIPPA, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 587, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Tuesday, June 5, 2007, at 2:00 p.m. at the home of Albert Valo, 1835 Brodhead Road, Aliquippa, Pennsylvania.

Edith Valo, Financial Secretary

Branch 644— MCKEES ROCKS, PENNSYLVANIA

The Holy Trinity Society, Branch 644, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 24, 2007, at 2:30 p.m. at the home of Michael R. Jablonsky, 1215 Foster Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Regular branch business will be conducted and a semiannual report will be presented for audit. Most important will be a discussion on how we can increase branch membership.

As in past years, members of Branch 644 have an opportunity to attend the Pittsburgh District Father's Day Breakfast on June 17, 2007. You can receive a free ticket to this affair by calling 412/921-2516 before June 11, 2007.

The officers of Branch 644 wish all fathers a Happy and Blessed Father's Day.

**Michael R. Jablonsky
President/Financial Secretary**

Branch 670— DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA

The officers of the St. Anthony of Padua Society, Branch 670, invite their members to attend the next meeting on Sunday, June 10, 2007, at 12:00 noon at the Donora Donut Station, Eighth and Meldon, Donora, Pennsylvania. Members are urged to attend.

Dorothy Petrus, President

Branch 731— YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 731, will hold a meeting on Sunday, June 10, 2007, at 12:30 p.m. at St. Matthias Church Rectory, Cornell Street, Youngstown, Ohio. On the agenda will be a review of our patron saint celebration and brunch. Plans for summer and fall activities will also be discussed. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Jim Bobby, Recording Secretary

Branch 780— SAGINAW, MICHIGAN

The SS. Peter and Paul Society, Branch

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

MSGR. ANDREW HLINKA DISTRICT— Monongahela Valley, Pennsylvania

The Msgr. Andrew Hlinka District will hold a meeting on Sunday, June 10, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. at the Donora Donut Station, Eighth and Meldon, Donora, Pennsylvania. Members of the various branches in the District are urged to attend.

Frances Tarquinio, Secretary

MSGR. STEPHEN KRASULA DISTRICT— New York

The Msgr. Stephen Krasula District will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, June 3, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Yonkers, New York. We urge all District branches to send representatives to this meeting. All members of the FCSU are also welcome. Refreshments will be served by host branch 716.

Henrieta H. Daitova, Secretary-Treasurer

PRINCE PRIBINA DISTRICT— Los Angeles, California

The Prince Pribina District will hold a Father's Day Meeting on Sunday, June 17, 2007, at St. John Bosco High School, 13640 South Bellflower Boulevard, Bellflower, California. The celebration will begin with a Slovak Mass at 11:00 a.m. in the chapel followed by the meeting in the cafeteria. After the meeting there will be a period of fellowship and a gourmet lunch with dessert and refreshments. On the agenda will be a discussion of FCSU insurance products and the planning of fraternal activities including the Slovak Picnic at Big Bear Mountain. All Districts are urged to send delegates. All members are welcome to attend.

Paul Skuben, President

FRANK T. HOLLY JR. DISTRICT— Uniontown, Pennsylvania

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, July 15, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Church Hall, North Mt. Vernon Avenue, Uniontown, Pennsylvania. On the agenda will be a discussion of district and branch activities. All members are invited to attend.

Barbara A. Holly, Secretary

REV. STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT— Eastern Pennsylvania, Maryland and Washington, D.C.

The Rev. Stephen Furdek District held its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, April 22, 2007, in Lansford, Pennsylvania. The Mass was celebrated at 11:00 a.m. in St. Ann's Church by

Rev. Lawrence Bukaty. After the liturgy, officers, delegates and guests proceeded to the Lansford AmVets and enjoyed a delicious meal.

The meeting was opened by a prayer led by Father Bukaty. Everyone then recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Since President Greg Harakal was absent, Vice President Helena Gaydos called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Roll call was taken with seven officers and 20 delegates present. The count was accepted and approved on a motion by Laurie Payne and Roseann Payne. The secretary read the minutes with a correction. The minutes were approved with the correction on a motion by Karen Sterling and Bernard Madeja. The Financial Secretary gave the financial report and also the treasurer's report since the treasurer was absent. The Chairman of Auditors Bernadine Gerhard and Auditor Loretta Dashner audited the books and found everything in good and proper order. The reports were accepted and approved on a motion by Laurie Payne and Bernadine Gerhard. Fraternal Director Don Nasta gave his report on the lottery.

There was a discussion on the hospitality room at the convention. Regional Director Damian Nasta gave his report. He said there are 39 branches in the District. He spoke on policies and annuities and urged everyone to find new members. There was also a discussion on a district picnic. The location for the annual meeting has not been finalized.

On a motion by Kathy Nowatkowski and Steve Roman the meeting was adjourned and closed with a prayer.

Helen Fiala, Recording Secretary

REV. JOHN MARTVON DISTRICT— Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Indiana and Somerset Counties, Pennsylvania

The Rev. John Martvon District held its Semiannual Meeting on Sunday, April 29, 2007, in St. Benedict's Church Hall, Main Street, Carrolltown, Pennsylvania. President Edward Surkosky opened the meeting at 2:10 p.m. and led the opening prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present. Stella Papson of host Branch 96 welcomed the delegates to Carrolltown. The roll call of officers was held and the absent noted. Recording Secretary Joseph Rura read the Minutes of the Annual Meeting and they were approved with a motion by Leonard Fenimore and seconded by Joseph Slivosky. Treasurer Lillian Stager gave the treasurer's report. Shirley Kovach moved to approve the treasurer's report and was seconded by Diane Mical. The financial secretary's report was given by Stella Papson and approved on a motion by Joseph Slivosky and seconded by Leonard Fenimore. There was no old business.

A letter from National President Andrew Rajec was read sending greetings and best wishes to the delegates and branch members. He could not attend this meeting because he had to be at a sales seminar in Eastern Pennsylvania. He intends to attend at least one of our District Meetings in the next four years. He further stated that we are financially strong and in the process of hiring a licensed agent in the Home Office to help our recommenders to make sales and sell to members in the inactive branches. In addition, he wants to get more members involved in branch and district activities.

President Surkosky urged the delegates to attend the Sales Seminar on May 5 in Uniontown. Joseph Slivosky commented on an article in the JEDNOTA on merger talks. A discussion was also held on branch mergers. A motion to pay the bills was made by Leonard Fenimore and seconded by Margaret Olsavsky. The Annual Meeting will be held on October 28, 2007, in SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, Windber, with Branch 292, as host. The 50/50 was won by Katie Bender.

The meeting concluded with a prayer and the singing of "Hej Slovaci". A delicious meal of ethnic Slovak food was prepared and served by Nancy Penksa, Joanne Nelson, Rose Charney, Dolores Penksa, Marie Kirsch, Katie Penksa and Stella Papson. The meeting was attended by 31 delegates representing eight branches.

Joseph E. Rura, Recording Secretary

REV. JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT— Youngstown, Ohio

The Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District will hold a meeting on Tuesday, June 19, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. at St. Matthias Church Rectory, Youngstown, Ohio. On the agenda will be a discussion of District summer activities. A discussion of holding a regional insurance seminar will also be included on the agenda. All branches are urged to send representatives.

Carla Peshek, President

REV. STEPHEN FURDEK DISTRICT— Eastern Pennsylvania, Maryland and Washington, D.C.

The Rev. Stephen Furdek District will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, September 9, 2007, in Washington, D.C. Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. in the Crypt Church in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. The lunch and meeting will take place after the liturgy in the Basilica Executive Conference Center. More information will be announced later.

Helen Fiala, Recording Secretary

❖❖❖ Allentown Parish to Hold a "Bill's Dinner Bingo"

A "Bill's Dinner Bingo" will be held on Sunday, June 10, 2007, at St. John the Baptist Church Social Hall, 924 North Front Street, Allentown, Pennsylvania. Doors open at 12:00 noon and bingo starts at 1:00 p.m. Donation is \$15.00. For information call Bill Drost at 610/432-3505 or Helen Fiala at 610/434-8614.

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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780, has planned three meetings for the remainder of 2007.

The first meeting will be held on Monday, June 18, 2007, and the second will be on Monday, September 17, 2007. Both meetings will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the home of the president, 2090 Bock Road, Saginaw, Michigan.

The third meeting will take place on Sunday, December 9, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. at the home of the financial secretary, 1367 Briarson, Saginaw. At this meeting we will have a potluck dinner and a celebration for the Christmas holidays. All members are encouraged to come and to bring their families. For more information please call Ben at 989/791-1775, Mary at 989/791-3505, or Cathy at 989/792-0186.

Catherine Karlsen, Secretary

Branch 823 — YOUNGWOOD, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 857, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 24, 2007, at 3:00 p.m. at the home of Margaret Yakubisin, 399 South 7th Street, Youngwood, Pennsylvania. If you plan to attend please call 724/925-9565 by June 22.

**Margaret Yakubisin
Secretary-Treasurer**

Branch 844— LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

The St. Joseph the Guardian Society, Branch 844, will hold its Annual Slovak Father's Day Mass on Sunday, June 17, 2007, at St. John Bosco High School, 13640 Bell-

flower Boulevard, Bellflower, California. Mass will begin promptly at 11:00 a.m. A delicious lunch will be served after the liturgy. Bring your family and friends and come join us in celebrating Father's Day.

After the lunch, Branch 844 members will hold a meeting to review officers' reports and to discuss various branch activities.

We hope to see you there. We would like to wish everyone a very special and safe Father's Day.

Milan Konkol, Secretary

Branch 857 — LEVITTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Michael the Archangel Society, Branch 857, will hold its Semiannual Meeting on Wednesday, June 13, 2007, at 7:30 p.m. at the home of the Financial Secretary, Andy Herman, 15 Kraft Lane, Levittown, Pennsylvania.

The officers of Branch 857 wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer.

**Damian D. Nasta
Recording Secretary**

**SIGN UP
A NEW
MEMBER
TODAY!**

REMEMBER OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

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to the shut-ins of the parish.

Helen Love was a past regent of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, St. Victoria's Court No. 646. She was a member of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Society, Branch 7, of the First Catholic Slovak Union. She was also a member of the American Legion Freeberg Post 591 Ladies Auxiliary.

She was an American Red Cross volunteer.

She graduated in 1939 from the former Woodward Township High School.

Helen Love was employed as a bookkeeper at Central Petroleum Oil Co. in Cleveland, and after retirement worked as a cook at Christ the King Parish Center.

On October 2, 1943, at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Cleveland, she married William "Bud" Love, who survives in Houtzdale.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by a daughter, Peggy Kolodziej and her husband, Tim, of Columbus, Ohio; a sister-in-law, Laurene Shedlock of Dearborn, Michigan; and a number of nieces and nephews.

She was the last of her generation having been preceded in death by her parents, three brothers, Andrew, Steve and John; and three sisters, Sophie Lazeration, Mary Sefchick and Anne Hudish.

A Christian Wake Service was held April 26, 2007, at the Kruse Funeral Home, Ramey, conducted by Father Zab Amar followed by the recitation of the rosary by the Catholic Daughters of Americas, St. Victoria's Court. A memorial service was also held by the American Legion Freeberg Post No. 591 Ladies Auxiliary. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated April 27, 2007, at Christ the King Church with Father Zab Amar officiating. Interment was in Sacred Heart Cemetery,

Brisbin.

The officers and members of Branch 7 extend their deepest sympathy to her husband William, her daughter Peggy, and her son-in-law Tim. May she rest in peace.

Marie Sedlak

ANNA LUCZAK Branch 580

Duquesne, Pennsylvania

Anna G. Luczak, 91, of Duquesne, Pennsylvania, died Monday, March 26, 2007, at Riverside Nursing Center, McKeesport. A member of Holy Trinity Church in West Mifflin, she was a member of the 3rd Order of St. Francis, the Rosary Society of the Holy Trinity Church and the Osadny Lodge. She was a member of Jednota Branch 580.

Born October 27, 1915, in Duquesne, she was a daughter of the late John and Mary Yevchak Gaydos and the wife of the late Henry Luczak. She is survived by brothers, John V. "Vince" Gaydos of Duquesne, Albert A. Gaydos of West Mifflin, and Stephen V. "Fats" Gaydos of Duquesne; and nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by a sister, Helen Kittiko.

Friends were received at the Maloy-Schleifer Funeral Home, Duquesne. A Blessing service was held at Holy Trinity Church on Friday, March 30 at 11:30 a.m. followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 1:00 p.m. with the Rev. Joseph Grosko officiating. Interment was in Holy Trinity Cemetery, West Mifflin.

The officers of Branch 580 wish to express their sympathy to her brothers, John V. Vince Gaydos, Albert A. Gaydos and Stephen V. Gaydos, and her nieces and nephews. Branch 580 will have a Mass offered for Anna in Holy Trinity Church.

Mary G. Perun

Taught as a Child...a Simple Prayer

Joan Galetka Kort of Natrona Heights, Pennsylvania, would like to share with the readers the story of a special prayer that was handed down in her family for many years.

Joan Kort's mother, Emma Berish, is the last surviving member of her family. She was born in Aultman, Indiana County, Pennsylvania, in September 1922, the daughter of Michael and Ann Mudry Berish of Slovakia. Michael Berish was born in 1864, in the town of Tisinec, in Saris County. At the age of 8, Michael was orphaned when his parents and two sisters died during a cholera epidemic. Little is known about the life of Michael Berish, but according to family tradition, he was raised by a village priest. As a youngster, the priest taught Michael to say this prayer every night at bedtime:

Pane Boze
idem ja spat'
nemam Ti co poslat'
Na posteli so svatym evanjeliom
svatym krizom zakryvam.

Dear God
am going to sleep
I have nothing to send you.
On the bed I cover myself with the Holy Gospels
and the Holy Cross.

This prayer was handed down by Michael Berish to his daughter Emma, who in turn taught it to her daughter, Joan Kort. Over the years Emma has questioned many people about the origin of the prayer but was unable to find anyone who knew it. Even her twelve siblings were not familiar with it. With the assistance of Walter Valasek and a recorder, Emma was able to write down the text of the prayer.

Emma Galetka is a member of Branch 484 in Coral, Pennsylvania. Emma would be very interested to hear from others who are familiar with this prayer. If you have any information, email Emma at: JOANKORT@yahoo.com or write Joan E. Kort, 335 McWilliams Drive, Natrona Heights, PA 15065.



James Marmol, President of Branch 162 and President of the Frank T. Holly Jr. District, presents the original Branch 162 charter, dated January 11, 1895, to Elaine Hunchuck DeFrank at the Coal and Coke Heritage Center. Also present is Dolores Marmol, Secretary of Branch 162.

Uniontown Branch 162 Donates Memorabilia to Local College

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, recently donated a collection of Slovak memorabilia to the Pennsylvania State University, Fayette Eberly Campus. The material donated included a silk American flag with 48 stars; a hand painted six-foot banner dated March 14, 1909; several plaques and the original Branch 162 charter; and other miscellaneous Jednota lodge pins, ribbons and labels. All the items came from longtime Branch 162 officer, Stephen S. Sheba Sr.

The donated memorabilia will be available for display at the Coal and Coke Heritage Center located on the Fayette Eberly Campus. Anyone wishing to see these items should call the Coal and Coke Heritage Center at 724/430-4158, and ask for Elaine DeFrank or Pamela Seighman. The Coal and Coke Heritage Center is dedicated to preserving the history and heritage of the coal and coke industries in Southwestern Pennsylvania. For more information write to the Coal and Coke Heritage Center, Penn State Fayette, One University Dr., P.O. Box 519, Uniontown, PA 15401.

Wilkes-Barre Parish Annual Bazaar Set for June 28-30

The Sacred Heart-St. John Parish Community and Sacred Heart School will hold their Annual Bazaar on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, June 28-30, 2007, on the parish school grounds, 607 North Main Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. The main feature of the bazaar will be a food court. Pirohy, halusky, holupky, potato pancakes and other ethnic and American foods will be available each night. A flea market, bountiful baskets, and a variety of games and prizes will also be offered. Activities will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday. The parishioners of Sacred Heart-St. John Parish Community and Sacred Heart School invite the public to attend.



Several members of the planning committee pictured, first row, L-R: Magdalen Benish, Sarah Konopka, Msgr. John J. Sempa, pastor and general chairman; and Anna Hudock. Second row, L-R: Patrick Conway, Joyce Ceconi, Jacqueline Albrecht, Barbara Konopka, Christian Krupsha, Sister Carol Therese, SS.C.M., Teresa Crossin, Geri Ulichney, Ann Marie Armbruster, Fred Armbruster, Tom Craig, and James Hummel.

Ellsworth Branch 853 Plans Baseball Outing

The Holy Name of Jesus Society, Branch 853, is planning an outing to cheer on the Pittsburgh Pirates on Slovak Day at PNC Park.

On Sunday, August 19, 2007, the Pittsburgh Pirates will host the Philadelphia Phillies at 1:35 p.m. While cheering on the Bucs, enjoy authentic Slovak cuisine, music, and entertainment. The cost for the day is only \$18 for Branch members and \$25 for non-branch members. For only \$18, you will receive your ticket to the game, early entry to the Slovak events, a Pirate Slovak Day Cap and vouchers for food. The person attending the event is responsible for their own transportation to and from PNC Park. Join Branch 853 to celebrate your heritage while cheering the Pirates on to victory.

To make reservations, fill out the coupon below. Send your name, address, for return mail of tickets, and phone number to: Monica Rodacy-Boone, 2016 Crosby Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15216. Payment for Branch 853 members is \$18. All other FCSU members are \$25. Make your check payable to Branch 853. The deadline for ticket orders, to be seated as a group, is June 3. Ticket orders will be taken until June 30. Tickets will be returned by first class mail. The Branch is not responsible for lost tickets. To ensure ticket delivery, you can request Priority Mail with delivery confirmation for an additional \$4.50.



For Reservation Please Clip and Mail

Name _____

Street _____

City and Zip _____

Phone () _____

Include name of attendee and branch number for each ticket ordered

	Br. _____
	Br. _____
	Br. _____
	Br. _____

_____ Br. 853 members attending x \$18 = \$ _____

_____ Non Br. 853 members x \$25 = \$ _____

Shipping – Choose One:

_____ First Class Mail – no charge

_____ Priority Mail with delivery confirmation - \$4.50 _____

If no choice made tickets will be sent First Class Mail

TOTAL _____

Send your name, address for return mail of tickets, and phone number to:

**Monica Rodacy-Boone
2016 Crosby Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15216**

~NEWS FLASH~

Special 2% Annuity Bonus ~ Limited Time Only You Must Act Before 06/30/07

FCSU's flexible premium annuities are among the safest and most secure ways to provide funds for the future. The current interest rate of 5%(*) on the 6 year flexible premium annuity remains among the most competitive rates available.

*Current interest rate is reviewed quarterly by Executive Committee and subject to change.

Now we offer the opportunity for a 2% bonus on New funds deposited before 06/30/07

How do you earn this 2% Bonus?

- Applicable to both new and current annuity members.
- Applies only to new annuity deposits made to a new Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity policy.
- Deposits made between receipt of this notice and June 30, 2007. Minimum new deposit \$4,000.
- Bonus of 2% will be added to your annuity on June 30, 2011.

* Bonus Rules *

1. Bonus of 2% applies only to net deposits received by FCSU between receipt of this offer and June 30, 2007, excluding interest earned and less any withdrawal made between 01/01/07 and 06/30/07. Bonus payable only on the Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity.

2. Bonus of 2% will be credited on 06/30/2011. The bonus will be based on the net funds deposited between 01/01/07 and 06/30/07, which must be maintained with FCSU until 06/30/2011. (Interest earned on the bonus funds will not be included in the bonus calculations.) Example: \$100,000 @ 5.0%* (4 years) + 2% of \$100,000 = \$123,551.

3. If member with funds eligible for the bonus dies prior to 06/30/2007, no bonus is payable. If a member with funds eligible for the bonus dies between July 1, 2007 and July 1, 2011, the bonus will be prorated to the date of death.

4. To be eligible for the 2% bonus, new deposits must be received by June 30, 2007. Any FCSU annuity withdrawals after January 1, 2007 and redeposit with FCSU (except Park Money Annuity and Park 2 Annuity) prior to 06/30/07 will not be eligible for the 2% bonus.

Features of the Six-Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity include:

- Your annuity continues to accumulate interest after you have stopped contributing and have begun to receive retirement income. The interest rate you receive on your annuity after settlement will never be less than 3.0%.
- Death Benefit-If you die prior to settlement, your beneficiary receives the full cash value of the annuity. If you die while receiving retirement benefits, the value of your remaining guaranteed benefits will be paid to your beneficiary.
- Withdrawal Privileges-Since annuities are meant to be long-term investments for providing retirement funds, funds withdrawn during the first six years of your contract are subject to an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge. You may withdraw 10% of your 'beginning of the year balance' with no FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge.
- Your interest will be added to your account. You may, however, elect to have your interest paid directly to you on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually basis. This is called an Interest Option and the interest rate is slightly lower than if you left your interest to accumulate.
- Even though you may not incur an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge, withdrawals before age 59 ½ may be subject to a federal tax penalty.
- Tax on the interest earned is deferred until the annuity funds are drawn.
- Also available in a Traditional IRA or Roth IRA (subject to IRA Guidelines)

DON'T DELAY, ACT NOW!

For information, contact:

FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK UNION
6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300
P. O. Box 318013
Independence, OH 44131-8013
Call 1-800 JEDNOTA or 1-216-642-9406

"PARK 2 ANNUITY" – NOW PAYING 4.75%

Under the "Park 2 Annuity", you make a one-time deposit of at least \$1,000.00 into an annuity fund that accumulates interest at a guaranteed rate for two years. Additional deposits are not allowed.

Features of the "Park 2 Annuity" include:

- The FCSU guarantees your initial interest rate for two years. After two years, your funds will continue to accumulate interest at no less than 3.0%.
- The "Park 2 Annuity" can be converted to any of the FCSU Annuity Plans at any time.
- The "Park 2 Annuity" is not applicable to any settlement option or interest option.
- Withdrawal Privileges-Funds withdrawn during the first two years are subject to an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge. The charge is 6% the first year and 5% the second year. You may, however, withdraw up to 10% of your 'beginning of the year balance' with no FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge.
- Even though you may not incur an FCSU Early Withdrawal Charge, withdrawals before age 59 ½ may be subject to a federal tax penalty.
- Tax on the interest earned is deferred until the annuity funds are drawn.
- The minimum deposit is \$1,000.00.

Please contact your Branch Officer or the Home Office for applications.

Milwaukee St. Stephen Martyr Parish to Mark Centennial

The Federated Slovak Societies of Wisconsin invites you to attend the 100th Anniversary of St. Stephen Martyr Parish in Milwaukee, on Sunday, June 10, 2007. The Reverend Louis Luljak will celebrate Mass at 11:00 a.m. A light lunch and social will be held after the liturgy.

We look forward to seeing you at this memorable occasion. Please come and share your memories of this historic parish. For additional information call Betty Valent at 414/425-6137 or Ralph Hass at 262/893-2972.

**Ralph J. Hass, President,
Federated Slovak Societies**

The Kopanic Sisters – A Unique International Blend in Cresson

By Dr. Michael Kopanic

Two young Jednota ladies have demonstrated an extraordinary talent and dedication with a truly international flavor – Milenka Melanie Kopanic and Erika Elizabeth Kopanic, the daughters of Dr. and Mrs. Michael Kopanic, Jr. of Cresson Township.

In addition to having traveled through most of the lower 48 states, they have relished a truly international educational experience. Driven by their love for learning and interest in the Slovak and Spanish languages, they both participated in study abroad programs in Europe and Central America.

Their father, Dr. Kopanic, taught them to speak the Slovak language from birth (literally in the delivery room!) and they started learning Spanish at Bishop Carroll High and continued their language studies at St. Francis University.

After doing his doctoral research in Slovakia during the communist era, Dr. Kopanic realized that he would get rusty with Slovak if he had no practice when he returned to the United States. Once his daughters were born, Slovak became the household language. The idea also was to prepare his daughters for a global perspective by giving them the tools to talk and think in another language. As they grew up, the three read children's Slovak books and prayed in Slovak every day. In their teen years, a family project was reading the Harry Potter series – in Slovak! The girls learned Slovak songs and attended many Slovak-American ethnic events.

On four occasions the girls have traveled to Europe, visiting Germany, Austria, Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Poland, and Slovakia. Their trips to Slovakia included two summer school sessions (2004 and 2006) in Bratislava at Comenius University's Studia Academica Slovaca (SAS), which hosts students from over 30 countries around the world. There they were affectionately known as sestry Kopanic by their language instructor and many of the participants.

These experiences at SAS not only



Milenka Kopanic and Erika Kopanic at graduation ceremonies.

deepened their Slovak language skills, but they also met new friends from places like Azherbaijan, Sweden, Norway, Belgium, Hungary, Russia, Bielor, Romania, India, China, Canada, Japan, etc, and of course, from other parts of the United States. They continue to stay in contact through the technological wonder of e-mail.

In addition to these European ventures, both young ladies studied Spanish at the Universidad Internacional in Cuernavaca, Mexico in the summer of 2005.

Milenka – The Sister with a Heavenly Voice

At St. Francis University's recent convocation on May 6, 2007, Milenka graduated with the highest honors, Summa Cum Laude, from the prestigious Honors Program. Her BA encompasses three majors – English Communications, Public Relations, and Literature. Her Minors included Spanish, Global Languages and Cultures, and World Languages. She also received acclaim and recognition for finishing with highest average of any graduate in her major.

In addition to her outstanding academic achievements, Milenka remained quite

active in extra-curricular activities. These included the President of B.R.I.D.G.E. to Haiti Mission, Organizer of the Hugs for Honduras Mission Trip, Pep Band member (flute), the Director of Advertising and Promotions for RED Student Radio at St. Francis University. She had also helped design layout for the college newspaper, the Troubadour, participated in the university choir and sang for a school musical.

In the community, Milenka served as a cantor at St. Aloysius Church in Cresson, where she dazzled the congregation with her uniquely talented voice. In addition, she previously performed volunteer work at Laurel Crest Rehabilitation and Service Center in Ebensburg.

Outside the area, Milenka presented papers at Honors conferences in Hartford, Connecticut, Trenton, New Jersey, and Pittsburgh, Pa. She also was a delegate for the Slovak Catholic Sokol Convention in Orlando, Florida. She is passionate about volunteering and has worked at orphanages in Honduras and Mexico.

Her awards include an international studies scholarship from St. Francis University, an academic scholarship from SFU, a Pep Band scholarship, and scholarships from the National Slovak Society, the First Catholic Slovak Union, the Slovak Catholic Sokol, and the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association.

Her other interests include Travel, Languages, Reading, Art, and Music.

Currently Milenka Kopanic works as a Customer Service representative for Touchtown, a software company in Oakmont, PA which connects seniors online in assisted living communities with family and friends and organizes activities.

In the words from Touchtown's website, she "brings enthusiasm and attention to detail to the Customer Care team. Her primary focus is to provide training and support for Touchtown communities with a goal to improve customer satisfaction. Milenka takes a proactive approach in developing ideas about how individual communities can use Touchtown to their greatest advantage."

She developed her skills in customer service while serving as the Director of

Advertising and Public Relations of the St. Francis RED student radio station and as a student employee raising donations for the Annual Fund. At St. Francis, Milenka had also worked as a student assistant in the Registrar Office, and previously had worked for the Campus Ministry.

Finally, it might be worth noting that Milenka served as an intern for the Mainliner newspapers in the summer of 2004.

Erika – The Most Unique

Erika Kopanic is a third-year senior and is slated to graduate officially later this year, after completing her studies in Madrid, Spain. Majoring in International Business and Spanish, she has minors in Finance, Communications, Global Cultures and Languages, and World Languages.

In addition to studying Spanish and Slovak, she has also been learning German and took a special interest Germany and Austria.

At St. Francis University, Erika kept herself quite busy. She served as General Manager of RED Student Radio, and a disc jockey. On Wednesdays, she hosted a special radio program entitled "Global Vision," which shed light on world events and strange happenings around the world.

Her other past activities included: President of the Musician's Circle, a member of Pep Band (saxophone and French horn), choir, and the Literary Guild, and writer of a music column for the college newspaper, the Troubadour.

She also helped organize many dances, played guitar in a band competition, and played both drum and saxophone for Jim Donovan's acclaimed Drumming Circle. On campus, Erika performed volunteer work for the Relay for Live and at the Dorothy Day Center. In the community, she sang and played guitar at St. Aloysius Church.

Her awards included a Radio Program trophy, and international studies scholarship from St. Francis University, a Pep Band scholarship, and scholarships from the National Slovak Society, the First Catholic Slovak Union, the Slovak Catholic Sokol, and the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association.

While attending school, Erika served as a student assistant in the Registrar Office, tutored students, and worked as a caller for the Annual Fund.

Erika left for Europe on May 18 is currently continuing her Spanish studies through St. Francis University's program in Madrid, Spain.

Interestingly, both in kindergarten and at Bishop Carroll High School, Erika received recognition for being "the most unique" person in her class! She might very well have won such an award if it existed at SFU.

Erika hopes to one day utilize her special interests and skills in language and music in a rewarding career.

Both young ladies have shown tremendous energy and have demonstrated extraordinary talents to succeed in a global environment. Being a part of the First Catholic Slovak Union and reading the Jednota helped lay the foundations for their interests in the study languages and world cultures.

Coming Events

JUNE

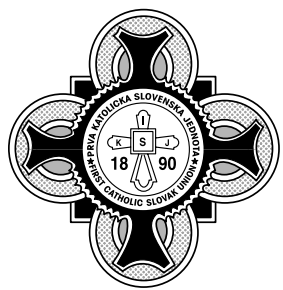
- 3 – The Msgr. Stephen Krasula District's Semiannual Meeting at 1:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Yonkers, New York.
- 10 – A meeting of the Msgr. Andrew Hlinka District at 1:00 p.m. at the Donora Donut Station, Eighth and Meldon, Donora, Pennsylvania.
- 17 – A Father's Day Meeting of the Prince Pribina District at St. John Bosco High School, 13640 South Bellflower Boulevard, Bellflower, California. Mass at 11:00 a.m. followed by the meeting and lunch.
- 19 – A meeting of the Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District at 7:00 p.m. in St. Matthias Church Rectory, Youngstown, Ohio.

JULY

- 15 – The Frank T. Holly Jr. District's Semiannual Meeting at 1:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Church Hall, North Mt. Vernon Avenue, Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

SEPTEMBER

- 9 – The Rev. Stephen Furdek District's Annual Meeting at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C. Mass at 11:00 a.m. in the Crypt Church followed by lunch and the meeting in the Basilica Executive Conference Center.



Katolícky fraternalistický dvojtýždenník

Jednota



ÚRADNÝ ORGÁN PRVEJ KATOLÍCKEJ SLOVENSKEJ JEDNOTY V SPOJENÝCH ŠTÁTOCH A V KANADE

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Vo Vysokých Tatrách stretnutie Slovákov z celého sveta

Vysoké Tatry sa stanú od 1. do 6. júla miestom Matičného svetového festivalu slovenskej mládeže. Okrem Vysokých Tatier budú festivalovými miestami aj Poprad, Kežmarok a Červený Kláštor. "Bola to túžba Slovákov v zahraničí, aby festival bol práve vo Vysokých Tatrách. Je to pre Slovákov istý symbol a miesto, ktoré dobrým a hlbokým spôsobom symbolizuje slovenskú postavu a slovenskú vlasť," zdôvodnil výber miesta konania festivalu predseda Matice slovenskej Jozef Markuš.

Festivalom chcú organizátori osloviť každého, koho záujmy sa sústreďujú na kultúrno-umelecké, hospodárske, poznávacie, výchovno-vzdelávacie alebo turistické aktivity. Tomu je prispôsobený aj program stretnutia, ktoré sa začne v Tatranskej Lomnici. Hneď na druhý deň budú môcť záujemcovia vystúpiť na Kôprovský štít a pripravená je prezentácia Prešovského samosprávneho kraja (PSK). Účastníkom festivalu sa predstavia aj Ozbromené sily SR. Pre menej náročných turistov je pripravený turistický pochod a návšteva Červeného Kláštora a Pienin. Na sviatok sv. Cyrila a Metoda vystúpia účastníci na Kriváň. Milovníci chrámového spevu sa môžu tešiť na vystúpenie zborov v Starom Smokovci a Poprade. Posledný deň festivalu sa budú účastníci festivalu zúčastniť na podujatí Európske ľudové remeslo v Kežmarku. Každý deň bude v hlavnom festivalovom meste v Eurocampe v Tatranskej Lomnici vo Vysokých Tatrách fungovať Slovenský dvor. Pripravený je tam aj predaj slovenských výrobkov a prezentácia ľudových remesiel a tradičných jedál. Chýbať nebude bohatý kultúrny a športový program orientovaný najmä na mládež.

Organizátorom Matičného svetového festivalu slovenskej mládeže je Matica slovenská a OSK. Festival sa uskutočňuje od roku 1980 v trojročných intervaloch. Až do roku 1989 sa konal mimo územia Slovenska. Od roku 1992 boli hlavnými festivalovými mestami Martin, Michalovce a Žilina. Organizátori očakávajú vo Vysokých Tatrách približne 1,000 Slovákov z viacerých európskych krajín, ale i z Kanady, USA či Austrálie. Markuš predpokladá, že na festival prídu Slováci z približne z 30 krajín celého sveta.

V Košiciach výstavba nového Immorent priemyselného parku

Košice (TASR) – Rozlohu viac ako 60 hektárov na nový priemyselno-logistický park Immopark, ktorého výstavbu začiatkom mája slávnostne začala v Košiciach neďaleko letiska spoločnosť Immorent, dcérska spoločnosť rakúskej Erste Bank. Podľa konateľa spoločnosti Immorent Slovensko Petra Malíka rátajú v najbližších rokoch s investíciou približne 180 miliónov EUR, čo je v prepočte vyše 6 miliárd SKK. Prví investori by sa tam mali nastahovať už na budúci rok, pričom k dispozícii budú mať najmä výrobné a skladovacie priestory s rozlohou od 500 do 10,000 štvorcových metrov (m²). Immorent vybuduje aj

infraštruktúru a ponúkať bude záujemcom priestory na prenájom. Priemyselno-logistický park s vysokou dopravnou dostupnosťou budú v tesnej blízkosti košického letiska, ktoré si od toho podľa riaditeľky Marthy Horvátovej sľubuje ďalší rozvoj osobnej i nákladnej leteckej dopravy. Park je aj v priamom napojení na rýchlostnú komunikáciu R3/E 571, dostupný je prostredníctvom MHD a nachádza sa v blízkosti pripravovaného železničného terminálu. Od priemyselného parku Kechnec, v ktorom je už 13 zahraničných a domácich investorov, je vzdialený len približne 15 kilometrov.

V Trnave vyrobili už 100,000 áut

Trnava (TASR) – Stotisíc Peugeot 2007 vyšiel 16. apríla z výrobného pásu trnavskej automobilky PSA Peugeot Citroen. Závod má v pláne vyrobiť v tomto roku spolu 180,000 áut, čo je zhruba 3-násobok vlaňajšej produkcie. PSA spustil sériovú výrobu automobilov v júni 2006, do konca roka ich vyrobili pracovníci spolu 51,719 kusov denne. Podľa slov generálneho riaditeľa závodu Peugeot Citroen Alaina Baldeyroua 49.3% vyrobených vozidiel má benzínový a 50.7 % dieselový motor. Tretina peugeotov 207, ktoré odišli na trh boli 3-dverové a dve tretiny 5-dverové modely. PSA Peugeot Citroen má v súčasnosti 380 dodávateľov, z nich 70% je zo Slovenska alebo okolitých krajín. Títo dodávajú do Trnavy viac ako polovicu z denného objemu 2.8 milióna dielov. Dodávky v systéme just-in-time smerujú do závodu v prevažnej miere kamiónovou dopravou, v exporte vozidiel má železničná doprava 40-% podiel. PSA ho plánuje zvýšiť na 60%. Priamo v priemyselnom parku PSA sídli dodávateľia na montáž kolies, tesniace fólie, sedadlá a výfuky, či palivový okruh.

V súčasnosti pracuje v trnavskom závode 3,300 zamestnancov v dvojzmennej prevádzke. Z nich je 2,589 výrobných a 620 technicko-hospodárskych. Až 22.5% z tohto počtu tvoria ženy, čo v rámci skupiny PSA predstavuje najvyšší podiel.

Americký prezident bude hľadať opatrenia na zrušenie víz

Bratislava (TASR) – Americký prezident George Bush vie, aká je otázka vízovej politiky do USA pre Slovákov dôležitá a bude hľadať opatrenia, ako víza zrušiť. Uviedol to začiatkom mája na diskusii s členmi Zahraničného výboru Národnej rady SR mimoriadny a splnomocnený veľvyslanec USA na Slovensku Rodolphe Vallee. Podľa Valleeho sa už podarilo schváliť legislatívu potrebnú pre zrušenie víz v Senáte. Zákony však zatiaľ chýbajú v dolnej komore parlamentu. Senát preto vymenuje zástupcov, ktorí budú prerokovávať rozdiely.

USA sú toho názoru, že rozdiely Srbska a Kosova sú nezmieriteľné a je nevyhnutné zasiahnuť z tretej strany prostredníctvom diplomatov, skonštatoval Vallee pred členmi výboru. Bezpečnostná rada OSN vyslala dele-

gáciu, ktorá dá rade správu o možnosti riešení. Spojené štáty americké sa podľa veľvyslanca pozerajú na situáciu s optimizmom a veria, že problémy sa vyriešia. Vallee tiež vysvetlil dezinformácie v oblasti raketovej obrany. Ako povedal, od Slovenska americká strana nič nepožaduje, len čaká podporu. "Nie je správne, že Ruská federácia vníma rakety ako hrozbu voči sebe. Spustenie projektu sa očakáva po roku 2012, pričom 10 rakiet by bolo bezbranných voči potenciálu Ruska," dodal. Poslancov informoval aj o tom že USA sa zaoberajú otázkami energetickej bezpečnosti a klimatickými zmenami. Nedávno navštívil veľvyslanec jadrovú elektrárňu Mochovce a podľa jeho slov USA stoja na strane Slovenska v hľadaní nových zdrojov energií.

Aleja novej Európy v Košiciach

Košice (TASR) – Dvanásť nových členov EÚ pripomína 12 mladých stromov Aleje novej Európy, ktorú odovzdali 9. mája slávnostne Košičanom v parčíku na Ružinskej ulici. Posledný javor zasadil spolu so školákmi a škôlkami primátor mesta František Knapík. Mladé stromy pre pamätnú aleju - javory, lipy, hraby a jaseň, ktoré zasadili medzi staršie stromy, poskytla Správa mestskej zelene. Podľa Knapíka symbolizujú náš vstup do EÚ pred tromi rokmi ako prelomové obdobie, ktoré už poznačilo a aj v budúcnosti významne ovplyvní život našich obyvateľov. Pripomenul tiež, že členstvo SR v EÚ významne ovplyvnilo aj fungovanie samosprávy od roku 2005 už na princípoch finančnej decentralizácie a vláda nedávno schválila aj Chartu miestnych samospráv platnú v EÚ.

Odovzdaním Aleje novej Európy v spolupráci s informačným centrom Európskej komisie Europe Direct (ED) v Košiciach si mesto pripomenulo aj 50. výročie podpísania Rímskych zmlúv a Deň Európy. ED pripravilo na tieto dni pre občanov vo vestibule Magistrátu mesta Košice zároveň informačnú výstavku o EÚ. Podľa riaditeľa infocentra Vladimíra Cirbesa občania ich môžu navštíviť a pýtať si informácie o EÚ po celý rok, čo využívajú najmä mladí ľudia a podnikatelia. Aleje novej Európy sú aj v ďalších 11 mestách Slovenska a v obci Kokšov - Bakša pri Košiciach.



FOTO TASR - Milan Kapusta

Všetko čo sa blyští nekradnú len straky, ale aj ľudia. Medené plechy za cca 20 tisíc korún nedávno ukradli z novostavby grécko-katolíckeho kostola v Poprade. Na snímke novostavba kostola, v pozadí Vysoké Tatry s Kriváňom.

Krátke správy zo Slovenska

Slovenská sporiteľňa (SLSP), a.s., od 1. mája 2007 rošírila svoje produktové portfólio o úvery zabezpečené nehnuteľnosťou aj v eurách. Ide o ÚverPLUS na bývanie a Americkú hypotéku v eurách. Minimálna výška úveru je 6,000 EUR, poplatky sú rovnaké ako pri úveroch v slovenských korunách, prepočítané podľa aktuálneho kurzu SKK/EUR. Úvery v eurách sú výhodné najmä pre tých klientov, ktorí už dnes zarábajú v eurách a kupujú nehnuteľnosť v eurách. Klienti, ktorí dostávajú mzdu v korunách a kupujú nehnuteľnosť v korunách, musia okrem výšky úrokovej sadzby počítať pri úveroch v eurách aj s vývojom kurzu slovenskej koruny a eura, ktorý bude ovplyvňovať reálnu hodnotu ich splátky.

Rokovania o umiestnení niektorých súčastí systému protiraketovej obrany USA v strednej Európe považuje slovenská diplomacia za bilaterálnu záležitosť spojencov Slovenska. "Slovenská republika vychádza z presvedčenia, že všetky aktivity jej spojencov týkajúce sa možného umiestnenia prvkov protiraketovej obrany USA v strednej Európe budú v konečnom dôsledku príspevkom pre bezpečnosť celého transatlantického priestoru," vyjadril sa hovorca zahraničných vecí SR Ján Škoda. Slovensko sa spoločne so spojencami v aliancii usiluje o budovanie protiraketovej obrany NATO. Tento postoj je plne v súlade s Bezpečnostnou stratégiou SR schválenou v roku 2005. V nej sa SR zaviazala prijať adekvátne opatrenia na posilnenie ochrany občanov a územia SR pred prípadným použitím zbraní hromadného ničenia a zapojiť sa do systémov a programov protiraketovej obrany.

Slovensko si spolu s ostatnými krajinami Vyšehradskej štvorky a trojicou pobaltských štátov zaplatí v USA lobistickú firmu, ktorá bude v americkom Kongrese presadzovať zrušenie vízovej povinnosti pre tieto štáty. Potvrdil to minister zahraničných vecí Ján Kubiš. Lobing v Kongrese má napomôcť politickým snahám siedmich krajín strednej a východnej Európy, aby USA prijali taký zákon, ktorý by reálne zrušil vízovú povinnosť pre týchto amerických spojencov. V prípade úspešného vývoja by podľa ministra mohlo dôjsť k zrušeniu amerických víz pre slovenských občanov v priebehu roku 2008.

Slovensko je už niekoľko rokov vyhľadávaným partnerom na podnikanie nielen členskými krajinami Európskej únie. Kto sa teda nerozhodne rýchlo investovať v SR, môže prísť neskoro, vyhlásil prezident SR Ivan Gašparovič pred účastníkmi slovensko-cyperského podnikateľského fóra. Reagoval tak na úspechy slovenskej ekonomiky, ktoré začali byť viditeľné po vstupe SR do EÚ. "Slovensko sa stalo krajinou, ktorá dynamicky napreduje," zdôraznil Gašparovič. V tejto súvislosti poukázal na vyše 8-% rast HDP za minulý rok, pokles nezamestnanosti a inflácie, ako aj aktívnu bilanciu v zahraničnom obchode na začiatku tohto roka. Zdôraznil, že SR má záujem o intenzívnejšiu spoluprácu v oblasti obchodu a investícií s Cypruskou republikou, čo bolo jedným z jeho hlavných priorít trojdňovej oficiálnej návštevy tohto ostrova, keďže delegáciu tvorili tiež slovenskí podnikatelia.

Hongkong má záujem v Bratislave zriadiť logistické centrum na leteckú prepravu nákladu z európskych krajín do Hongkongu a celej juhovýchodnej Ázie. Dohody o službách v leteckej doprave medzi SR a Hongkongom pomôže k zlepšeniu vzájomnej spolupráce v osobnej a nákladnej doprave, čo bude mať pozitívny vplyv na vzájomnú obchodnú výmenu a rozvoj cestovného ruchu. Hongkong je známy ako teritórium s vysokou koncentráciou finančného kapitálu a práve tento aspekt by mohol pomôcť aj oblasti investovania na Slovensku.

Apoštolský nuncijs, arcibiskup Henryk Jozef Nowacki začiatkom mája po prvýkrát navštívil najväčšie mariánske pútnické miesto košického apoštolského exarchátu - Klokočov v okrese Michalovce. Stretol sa s približne 500 mladými ľuďmi. Celoeucharistná odpustová slávnosť sa niesla v duchu prípravy na sobáš a manželstvo. Apoštolský nuncijs tlmočil myšlienku pápeža Benedikta XVI., aby sa cirkev čoraz viac približovala mladým. Súčasťou programu bola aj formácia mladých a beseda. Nowacki prítomných povzbudil k častým návštevám pútnických miest, ktoré sú predurčené na meditáciu a modlitbu.

Podujatie organizovala Rada pre rodinu a mládež Košického apoštolského exarchátu, hosťiteľom bol košický gréckokatolícky exarcha Milan Chatur. Obec Klokočov v Michalovskom okrese je najväčším mariánskym miestom v košickom apoštolskom exarcháte. Do chrámu Nanebovzatia Panny Márie prichádzajú veriaci po zázračnom slzení ikony Bohorodičky v roku 1670.

Na Dunajskej ulici v Bratislave otvorili 4. mája Veľvyslanectvo Kórejskej republiky na Slovensku. Vzťahy medzi Kórejskou republikou a Slovenskom sa začali budovať od roku 1993. Od apríla 2005 pracoval na Slovensku chargé d'affaire z Kórejskej republiky a vo februári 2007 prišiel na Slovensko prvý, mimoriadny a splnomocnený veľvyslanec Kórejskej republiky Young Kyu Park. Na slávnostnom otvorení sa zúčastnilo približne sto ľudí, medzi inými štátna tajomníčka Ministerstva zahraničných vecí SR Olga Algayerova, veľvyslanci a ďalší hostia.

Zvyšovanie kvality vzdelávania, podpora sociálnej komunikácie a vytvorenie siete spolupracujúcich anesteziologických pracovísk bolo cieľom 2. medzinárodného vzdelávacieho kurzu, ktorý sa nedávno konal v Bratislave. Na päťdňovom postgraduálnom kurze sa zúčastnili mladí odborní asistenti v danom obore zo Slovenska, Poľska, Bulharska, Srbska a Moldavska. V jeho programe boli moderné metódy výučby, prezentácia a riešenie problematických situácií, s ktorými sa anesteziológovia stretávajú. Problematiku anesteziológie a intenzívnej medicíny a odborné postupy prezentovali svetové osobnosti z Izraela, Veľkej Británie a zo Slovenska. Prvá časť kurzu sa uskutočnila v októbri minulého roka. Odbornú záštitu nad akciami prevzala Svetová federácia anesteziologických spoločností.

Turisticky najnavštevovanejšou oblasťou Národného parku (NP) Biosferickej rezervácie Slovenský kras je Zádielska planina a jej najatraktívnejšou lokalitou Zádielska tiesňava. Potvrdil to májový prieskum, ktorý urobila Správa NP Slovenský kras so sídlom v Brzotine spolu s Gemerským mládežníckym spolkom a Združením vidieckeho turizmu Zádiel. Ďalšími atraktívnymi lokalitami sú Turniansky hradný vrch (14.5 %) a Hajské vodopády (8.8%).

Slovensko začína mať nedostatok strojárrov. Študenti nemajú záujem o odborné strojníccke školy, aj keď automobilový priemysel by ich potreboval. Združenie automobilového priemyslu odhaduje, že do roku 2010 vznikne v tomto sektore 45,000 až 55,000 nových miest. Pokles záujmu spôsobila najmä slabá previazanosť vzdelávacej sústavy s trhom práce. Záujem o vysokoškolské štúdium techniky je dlhodobou v útlme. Príchod výrobcov automobilov ukázal, že v praxi by bolo treba aj viac inžinierov.

Arcibiskup Ján Sokol nespolupracoval s komunistickou bezpečnosťou - ŠtB. Tvrdí to viacero disidentov bývalého režimu. Na Sokolovu stranu sa postavili exminister spravodlivosti Ján Čarnogurský, poslanec za KDĽ František Mikloško, bývalý šéf SIS Ladislav Pittner, ale aj zástupca Hnutia kresťanských rodín v komunistickom období Vladimír Ďurikovič. Cez občiansky výbor za objektívne informovanie verejnosti zozbierali fakty na Sokolovu obranu.

Ocenenie, s akým začínali svoju hviezdnu kariéru režiséri Steven Spielberg, či Ridley Scott, získali začiatkom mája v USA slovenskí študenti L'ubomír Viluda a Ivan Kršiak. Štvrtáci katedry dokumentárnej tvorby banskobystrickej Akadémie umení prihlásili svoj film na 40. ročník medzinárodného filmového festivalu Worldfest v Houstone v USA cez internet. Ich hraný dokument o krnáčkových pretekoch s názvom Na hrane, získal Zlatú plaketu za najlepší absolventský film.

TASR a slovenské časopisy

Pietnou spomienkou uctili si pamiatku M. R. Štefánika

Ivánka pri Dunaji (TASR) – Pietnou spomienkou pri Mohyle v Ivánke pri Dunaji si niekoľko sto účastníkov pripomenulo 88. výročie tragického skonu Milana Rastislava Štefánika. Organizátori z Matice slovenskej usporiadali 15. ročník tradičnej vlasteneckej pochôdzky po historických míľnikoch pobytu Štefánika na juhozápadnom Slovensku od Šamorína cez Dunajskú Lúžnu až po miesto leteckej tragédie v Ivánke pri Dunaji. Zúčastnili sa na ňom predovšetkým žiaci základných a študenti stredných škôl z príľahlých miest a obcí. Na zhromaždenie pri Mohyle prijali účastníci výzvu k štátnym a samosprávnym orgánom na ochranu slovenských historických národných hodnôt.

Milan Rastislav Štefánik, jedna z najvýznamnejších osobností v novodobých dejinách Slovenska, bol významným politikom, astronómom, vojakom a francúzskym generálom. Svojou diplomatickou činnosťou sa výrazne zas-

lúžil o vznik medzivojnovej Československej republiky. Cez prvú svetovú vojnu spolupracoval s Tomášom G. Masarykom a Edvardom Benešom a aj ako podpredseda Národnej rady československej sa snažil realizovať víziu spoločného československého štátu. Vďaka svojmu spoločenskému vplyvu mal najväčšiu zásluhu na formovaní československého zahraničného odboja. Z postu francúzskeho generála a neskoršie československého ministra vojny reorganizoval československé jednotky na Sibíri, aby sa stali základom brannej moci nového štátu. V prvej československej vláde zastával Milan Rastislav Štefánik v rokoch 1918-1919 post ministra vojny.

Cestou z Talianska domov dňa 4. mája 1919 bolo jeho lietadlo krátko pred pristátím v Ivánke pri Dunaji zostrelené a havarovalo. Milan Rastislav Štefánik spolu s talianskymi letcami a mechanikom zahynul.



FOTO TASR - Eduard Fašung.

Pietnou spomienkou pri Mohyle v Ivánke pri Dunaji si 3. mája 2007 niekoľko sto účastníkov pripomenulo 88. výročie tragického skonu Milana Rastislava Štefánika.

Ako som spoznával Ameriku

Ako prvoligový basketbalový rozhodca na Slovensku som vždy túžil navštíviť USA - krajinu s najlepšou úrovňou basketbalu. A to nehovorím len o NBA, ale aj o NCAA. Ako to v živote býva, náhoda vždy zohrá svoju úlohu. Mal som šťastie, táto náhoda bola pozitívna... Počas pobytu v Švédsku, kde som rozhodoval na jednom v ý z n a m n o m basketbalovom turnaji, som spoznal vynikajúceho človeka, ktorý je dnes mojim veľkým priateľom - Nelsa Hawkinsa, výkonného riaditeľa firmy Basketball Travellers zo



Návšteva John Carroll University, Cleveland, OH. Zľava: Kurátor Univerzitnej knižnice a Slovenskej izby Dr. Chuck Zarobila s profesorom Jánom Lokajom.

Seattle. To bolo v roku 1987 a v roku 2000. Teda hneď po páde železnej opony, mi tento môj americký priateľ navrhol spoluprácu tým spôsobom, aby som každý rok priviedol do USA basketbalové družstvá z Čiech a Slovenska na zohratie exhibičných zápasov s vybranými americkými Univerzitami. Vtedy ma ani nenapadlo, že sa začala éra mojich pravidelných návštev USA. Každý rok v novembri od roku 2000 až do roku 2004 som totiž priviedol a zároveň sprievodcoval v USA jedno družstvo, ktoré vždy zohralo niekoľko exhibičných zápasov v rôznych štátoch USA. Pravda, počet družstiev, ktoré do USA každý rok cestovali bolo samozrejme viac - niekedy 3, niekedy 5, ale sprievodcov a cestovateľov do USA som mohol iba raz do roka a to v novembri, nakoľko tieto exhibičné zápasy sa hrali v rovnakom termíne 10. - 25. novembra.

Prírodzene, moje najväčšie dojmy boli z prvej návštevy USA, kde som bol prvýkrát v roku 2000 s družstvom mužov BC Prievidze, vtedajšieho československého majstra. Prileteli sme do Oklahomy (Tulsa), a hrali sme 10 zápasov v Kentucky, Oklahome, Chicagu, Indiane a Iowe. Následne ďalšie roky pricestovali do USA ženské družstvá ako Slovan Bratislava, Levice, Banská Bystrica, Cassovia Košice, Lokomotíva Košice, Poprad, z Čiech: Strakonice, Hradec Králove, Sparta Praha, USK Praha. Mužské družstvá zo Slovenska Inter Bratislava, Žilina, Prievidza, Levice, Pezinok, z Čiech USK Praha. Dohromady za roky 2000-2004 to bolo približne 62 slovenských a českých družstiev. Ani neviem, ako by som opísal moje dojmy z tejto prvej cesty, lebo boli úžasné. A odvtedy som sa stále presviedčal, že Američania sú ľudia otvorení, skromní, ochotní pomôcť v každom momente, keď ich o to človek požiada. Nieкто by mohol namietat' (čo je asi správne), že som snáď mal šťastie a natrafil som iba na tých správnych a dobrých ľudí, ale našťastie štatistiky neklamú. Nie je totiž možné, aby tí všetci, ktorých som stretol, boli takíto náhodne ... Tak som sa utvrdil v tom, že Američania sú úžasní ľudia, a že to, čo sa o Amerike píše (bohužiaľ ešte aj dnes napr. že Američania sú arogantní, namyslení) - nie je vôbec pravda. Všade som cítil a videl poriadok, čistotu, no najviac ma zarazilo asi to, že Američania majú vždy ľudí na správnom mieste. Čo tým myslím? U nás na Slovensku ľudia majú prehľad takmer o všetkom, je to naozaj tak, ale na rozdiel od Američanov tento náš veľký "záber" je nám vlastne málo platný, lebo z toho, čo robíme, vieme omnoho menej, resp. málo... Američania majú možno menší "záber", ale to čo robia, robia na vysokej profesionálnej úrovni, čiže robia všetko na 100%. Myslím, že ak nejaký štát funguje dobre, musí fungovať dobre do najmenších detailov, a v Amerike tomu tak naozaj je! To hovorím nielen z bežnej skúsenosti po 16-tich cestách do USA, kedy som vlastne precestoval celú Ameriku od severu cez New York, Maine, Chicago až po slnečnú Californiu a Floridu. Všade boli úctiví a usmiatí ľudia, čo je u nás skôr rarita... Ďalej som zistil pre mňa zaujímavú a prekvapujúcu skutočnosť, a síce, že Amerika žije športom. To, ako rodičia vedú deti od malička k športu, ako ľudia chodia pravidelne na zápasy, všade vidieť plné haly ľudí túžiacich po výhre "svojich". Túžba po víťazstve je nesmierná, prehra o 1 bod sa berie ako prehra o 20 bodov. Jednoducho si prehral a hotovo ... Túžba byť najlepší nielen v športe, ale aj v práci, je pre mňa veľká skúsenosť. Keďže som aj vysokoškolským profesorom na Fakulte Chemickej a potravinárskej technológie Slovenskej technickej Univerzity v Bratislave, kde naši študenti v porovnaní s americkými študentami, prejavujú iba malý záujem o šport, je hneď zrejme prečo americkí športovci dosahujú také výborné výsledky v športe.

Moja posledná návšteva USA sa uskutočnila v marci tohto roku, keď som na pozvanie University of San Francisco absolvoval týždenný pobyt v snáď najkrajšom meste USA. Pri konci pobytu som mal to šťastie, že som mohol vidieť Final 4 NCAA v basketbale v Clevelande, OH. Moje očakávania sa splnili, lebo vidieť športovú halu Cleveland Cavaliers, kde sa Final 4 hralo, je naozaj zážitok - táto hala bola vždy plná divákov (odhadol som ich na 25,000), čo u nás na Slovensku nie je snáď ani na futbalovom zápase.

Na návštevu Clevelandu som sa mimoriadne tešil, lebo som vedel, že tam žije veľa Slovákov. Pravdu povediac, ani som nevedel, ako sa mám s niekým skontaktovať. Ale vďaka opäť americkej technológii - internetu - som si našiel adresu Slovak Institute a napísal som im jeden náhodný list. Ozval sa mi Joe Hornack (Jožko



Na snímke po svätej omši v Lakewood, OH zľava profesor Slovenskej technickej Univerzity v Bratislave, Ján Lokaj s rodinou Štefana Naďa.

Hornák) - pre mňa zlatý a mimoriadne ochotný človek, ktorý mi v Clevelande vlastne robil sprievodcu. Čakal ma na letisku a strávil som s ním asi polovicu voľného času, ktorý som mal v Clevelande. Okrem toho, stretol som veľa Slovákov žijúcich a pôsobiacich v Clevelande. Ich vzťah k Slovensku je naozaj veľmi krásny a dojmavý, lebo títo ľudia sa otvorene hlásia k Slovákom. Sú na svoj pôvod hrdí a na rozdiel od nás Slovákov žijúcich na Slovensku, majú veľmi dobrú znalosť histórie Slovenska. Myslím, že som tam získal veľa nových priateľov a verím, že tento náš vzťah sa bude ďalej prehlbovať a rozvíjať. Ak by som mal popriať Amerike niečo, čo by najlepšie vyjadrilo môj vzťah k nej, povedal by som: GOD BLESS AMERIKA!

Bratislava 26. 4. 2007

Prof. Ing. Ján Lokaj, PhD

Vláda bude podporovať Slovákov v zahraničí pri uchovaní identity

Bratislava (TASR) – Slovenská vláda bude všestranne podporovať aktivity a úsilie slovenských spolkov a organizácií v zahraničí pri uchovaní si svojej národnej kultúrnej a jazykovej identity. Premiér Fico to uviedol na Stálej konferencii Slovenská republika a Slováci žijúci v zahraničí 2007, ktorá sa konala 27.- 28. apríla v Bratislave. Dvojdňová konferencia zhodnotila úroveň slovensko-slovenských vzťahov a vytýčila smery vzájomnej spolupráce. Predseda vlády konštatoval, že starostlivosť o krajanov je jednou zo zahraničných priorít v Programovom vyhlásení vlády a všetci členovia kabinetu majú pokyn, aby sa pri každej príležitosti v zahraničí s krajanmi stretávali. "Zachovať slovenský svet nie je možné ani bez finančnej podpory a sme si vedomí, že ani zďaleka nepokrýva vaše oprávnené požiadavky," uviedol predseda vlády v príhovore ku krajanom. Vláda sa preto podľa neho bude snažiť hľadať cesty na ďalšie zefektívnenie systému podpory Slová-

kov v zahraničí, ako aj postupné zvýšenie finančných prostriedkov na tento účel. Slovenská komunita v zahraničí predstavuje podľa Fica aj potenciál, ktorý v minulosti zďaleka nebol využitý tak, ako mal byť. "Na jednej strane je povinnosťou vlády, aby pomáhala Slovákom v zahraničí zachovať si svoju vlastnú identitu, na druhej strane očakávame určitú pomoc Slovákov v zahraničí, ktorí sú často významné osobnosti spoločenského a ekonomického života, že nám pomôžu nielen pri našich záujmoch, najmä pokiaľ ide o ekonomické otázky, ale aj pri tvorbe dobrého mena Slovenskej republiky," povedal Fico pre novinárov.

Na konferencii sa zúčastnilo vyše 80 delegátov slovenských spolkov a organizácií 22 krajín štyroch kontinentov.

Na otvorení boli prítomní i vicepremiér Dušan Čaplovič, minister zahraničných vecí Ján Kubiš a viacerí poslanci Národnej rady SR. Podujatie organizoval Úrad pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí.

Holandsko otvára svoj trh novým členským krajinám EÚ

Brusel (TASR) – Európska komisia víta rozhodnutie Holandska, ktoré oznámilo koncom apríla, že otvára svoj pracovný trh občanom ôsmich nových členských krajín Európskej únie. Ide o krajiny, ktoré vstúpili do EÚ v máji 2004 a možnosť pracovať v Holandsku tak budú mať aj slovenskí občania. Holandsko sa tým stáva v poradí deviatym štátom pôvodnej európskej pätnástky, ktorý zrušil tieto obmedzenia.

Po rozšírení EÚ 1. mája 2004 dostala pôvodná európska pätnástka možnosť aplikovať sedemročné prechodné obdobia pre otvorenie pracovného trhu občanom ôsmich z desiatich nových krajín. Na Cyprus a Maltu sa obmedzenia nevzťahovali. Prechodné obdobia môžu trvať maximálne do roku 2011, pričom majú podobu 2+3+2 roky. Len Švédsko, Británia a Írsko sa rozhodli nevyužiť možnosť prechodných období a svoje pracovné trhy otvorili ihneď po rozšírení EÚ. Ostatné krajiny v obavách z prílevu lacnej pracovnej sily z východnej a strednej Európy pristúpili k obmedzeniam.

Oslava storočnice Slovenskej ligy v Amerike

Podpredseda vlády Čaplovič príde na oslavy SLvA

Podpredseda vlády SR Dušan Čaplovič potvrdil účasť na oslavách storočnice Slovenskej ligy v hoteli Crowne Plaza v Secaucus, N.J. 10. júna t.r. Podpredseda vlády bude mať na bankete slávnostný prejav.

Účasť dosiaľ tiež potvrdili predsedníčka Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí Vilma Prívarová a predseda Matice slovenskej Jozef Markuš.

Program banketu obohatí populárny spevák zo Slovenska Jozef Ivaška. Počas recepcie a stolovania bude hrať známa kapela Kontakty.

Hlavná oslava stého jubilea Slovenskej ligy v Amerike sa bude konať v hoteli Crowne Plaza v Secaucus - Meadowlands v blízkosti New Yorku. Uvádzame informácie o rezervácii izieb, o bankete a cestovné inštrukcie.

Rezervácie izieb a adresa hotela: Crowne Plaza, 2 Harmon Plaza, Secaucus, N.J. 07094. Telefónne čísla na rezerváciu izieb: (201) 348-6900 ext. 1128 alebo (201) 866-5220. Cena izieb pre účastníkov oslavy Slovenskej ligy je \$129.00. Rezervujte si izbu včas, nakoľko uvedená cena platí len do 22. mája.

Prístup do hotela je pomerne jednoduchý zo všetkých smerov. Hotel Crowne Plaza je vzdialený 5-6 míľ od Lincoln tunela, ktorý je cestným spojom New Yorku s New Jersey.

Vstupenky na recepciu a banket. Hlavná oslava storočnice Slovenskej ligy v hoteli Crowne Plaza sa začne recepciou o 1.15 hod a bude pokračovať slávnostným banketom o 2.15 hod. Cena vstupeniek je \$50.00 za osobu. Vstupenky si možno objednať prostredníctvom návratky.

Slovak League of America
205 Madison Street
Passaic NJ 07055

Objednávam vstupeniek na jubilejný banket Slovenskej ligy v Amerike, ktorý sa bude konať v hoteli Crowne Plaza v Secaucus, N.J. Pripojujem šek (M.O) na obnos

\$

Meno

Adresa

.....

Tel. Fax

Slovenská katolícka púť do West Haverstraw, N.Y

Spolok svätého Štefana č. 716 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty pozýva slovenskú verejnosť a známych na Slovenskú katolícku púť, ktorá sa uskutoční v nedeľu 12. augusta 2007 v Marian Shrine Salesians of Don Bosco, West Haverstraw, New York 10993; Tel.: (845) 947-2200.

Program púte

Spojeť pred svätou omšou; Svätá omša o 11:00 hodine dopoludnia; Obed o 12:30 hodine odpoľudnia; Ružencová procesia o 2:30 hodine odpoľudnia.

Dôležité upozornenie

Kto má záujem cestovať na túto púť autobusom, nech sa prihlási u brata Jozefa Bilika! Autobus bude pristavený pri Slovenskom kostole Sv. Jána Nepomuckého v meste New York. Bližšie informácie o púti vám podajú: Jozef Bilik: (718) 463-2084; Henrieta Daitová (201) 641-8922.

Zbierka na Detský domov Ratolesť na Slovensku

Prosíme o pomoc pre deti umiestnené v Detskom domove RATOLESŤ v obci Trnieň okres Zvolen, kde žije 85 detí rôzneho veku. Je to výzva k všetkým tým, ktorým nie je ľahostajný osud sirôt, pretože sa situácia na Slovensku vo veciach financií pre Detské domovy stále nezlepšila. Naša humánna akcia na pomoc Detským domovom začala v r. 1995 a postupne sme navštívili: Detský domov Štós, Východné Slovensko; Detský domov na Železnej studničke v Bratislave; Detský domov pre mentálne postihnuté deti v Ošadnici okres Čadca, ktorý sme navštívili dvakrát; Detský domov Hviezdica v Železnej Breznici, okres Zvolen; Detský domov Nádej v Bernolákove okrese Senec a Detský domov v Hriňovej okrese Zvolen.

Tento rok už po ôsmykrát sa chystáme na jeseň navštíviť spomínaný Detský domov Ratolesť. Táto výzva je pre všetkých vás krajanov, aby ste mysleli na tieto deti, ktoré potrebujú našu lásku a pomoc. Tak ako v minulosti príspevky môžete poukázať na Slovenský kostol sv. Jána Nepomuckého, 411 East - 66th. Str. New York, N.Y. 10021 pod heslom "Detské domovy na Slovensku". Po skončení akcie bude uverejnené vyúčtovanie.

Bližšie informácie vám podajú: Milan a Henrieta Dait tel.: (201) 641-8922.

Vyšiel slovenský preklad knihy M.A.Beňovského Pamäti a cesty

Bratislava (TASR) – Prvý kompletný slovenský preklad obsiahleho literárneho diela Mórica Augusta Beňovského (1746 - 1786) s názvom Pamäti a cesty vyšiel nedávno vo vydavateľskom družstve LÚČ v Bratislave.

Táto výnimočná literárna pamiatka po prvýkrát vyšla v anglickom jazyku štyri roky po Beňovského smrti - v roku 1790 v Londýne. Z francúzštiny, v ktorej si Beňovský písal denník, knihu Pamäti a cesty preložil William Nicholson. Dielo približuje zaujímavé poznatky a zážitky tohto veľkého cestovateľa a moreplavca, vrátane jeho pôsobenia na Kamčatke či na Madagaskare. V krátkom čase knihu preložili do mnohých svetových jazykov. Pamäti a cesty vyšli vo Francúzsku, v Nemecku, Poľsku, Uhorsku, Čechách, Rakúsku, Švédsku, Holandsku, Rusku, USA i Japonsku a Beňovský sa tak zaradil medzi najprekladanejších a najvydávanějších slovenských autorov v zahraničí a tento prímát mu dlho patril.

Slovenskí čitatelia sa mohli prvýkrát zoznámiť s osudmi tohto rodáka z Vrbového vďaka prekladu súhrnu z tohto

diela od Samuela Čerňanského v roku 1808. V roku 1966 sa Slováci dočkali prvého vydania knihy v modernej slovenčine zásluhou editora Jozefa Watzku v preklade Antona Spiesza a s doslovom básnika Rudolfa Skukálka, ktorý v tom čase publikoval v slovenskej tlači seriál o Beňovského živote. Aj keď to bol chvályhodný čin, vyšli len ukážky, ktoré predstavovali sotva tretinu 900-stranového pôvodného Beňovského diela.

Až teraz, po 216 rokoch, vyšla kompletná kniha Mórica A. Beňovského v slovenskom jazyku v preklade Andrey Černákovéj, a to vďaka katolíckemu vydavateľstvu Lúč, ale aj dôvernému znalcovi Beňovského životných osudov a jeho diela Ľubomírovi Bosákovi.

Slávnostná prezentácia knihy Mórica Augusta Beňovského sa uskutočnila 3. mája 2007 v Klube slovenských spisovateľov na Laurinskej 2. Knihu predstavili zodpovední redaktori publikácie Ľubomír Bosák a Patrik Kýška. So zážitkami z expedície Po stopách Beňovského na Madagaskare sa s prítomnými podelil Stanislav Machovčák.

Výroba automobilov do roku 2010

(na 1000 obyvateľov, odhad s plánovanou výrobou Hyundai v ČR a PSA a Kia v SR)



Krajina	Počet aut. na 1000 obyvateľov	Celková produkcia
Slovensko	191	1 030 000
Česko	104	1 06 000
Belgicko	82	857 119
Nemecko	63	5 192 101
Slovinsko	60	116 609

Zdroj: OICA, HN

TASR

Výroba automobilov do roku 2010 (na 1000 obyvateľov, odhad s plánovanou výrobou Hyundai v ČR a PSA a Kia v Slovenskej republike).

Spoločenské posedenie s činiteľmi Slovenskej republiky

Pozývame slovenskú verejnosť na spoločenské posedenie s činiteľmi Slovenskej republiky, ktorí prídu do USA na oslavy storočnice Slovenskej ligy. Medzi hosťami bude podpredseda vlády SR Dušan Čaplovič, predsedníčka Úradu pre Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí Vilma Prívarová, predseda Matice slovenskej Jozef Markuš a bývalý minister zahraničných vecí Eduard Kukan.

Posedenie sa bude konať v sobotu 9. júna 2007 o 6.30 hodine večer v spoločenskej hale kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého, First Ave. a 66. ulica, New York City. Po príhovorech bude nasledovať diskusia a občerstvenie. Program spestrí populárny spevák zo Slovenska Jozef Ivaška. Vstup je voľný. Bližšie informácie vám podajú: Milan Dait (201) 641-8922; Jozef Bilik (718) 463-2084; Henrieta Daitová (201) 641-8922.

Reuters: Vládne zmeny môžu ohroziť investície a rast SR

Bratislava (TASR) – Posilňovanie práva zamestnancov, ktoré v najnovšej legislatíve presadzuje slovenská vláda, môže ohroziť pozíciu krajiny ako investorského favorita ako i ekonomický rast Slovenskej republiky. Ako sa uvádza v analýze agentúry Reuters, počas prvých 10 mesiacov vládnutia sa lavičiari okolo Roberta Fica vyvíjajú presadzovaniu reforiem, ktoré boli súčasťou predvolebnej kampane, vrátane zrušenia jednotnej dane a zrušenia dane z pridanej hodnoty (DPH) na základné potraviny. No analytici a poprední podnikatelia tvrdia, že vláda aj napriek tomu už uskutočnila také kroky, ktoré ohrozujú ekonomický vývoj na Slovensku v čase, keď potrebuje zahraničné investície na zníženie nezamestnanosti a vyrovnanie životnej úrovne s rozvinutejšími členmi Európskej únie (EÚ). Podľa výkonného riaditeľa Podnikateľskej aliancie Slovenska (PAS) Roberta Kicina spoločnosti veľmi citlivo vnímajú zmeny v podnikateľskom prostredí a Slovensko môže stratiť výhody pre investorov. "Rast HDP sa nezastaví, avšak ekonomika nedosiahne svoj rastový

potenciál," uviedol Kicina. Fico presadzuje ekonomickú politiku so silnejšou úlohou štátu. Bola schválená legislatíva posilňujúca právomoci odborov i pravidiel na reguláciu cien energií zahraničných zásobovateľov. Vláda zamýšľa znovu zaviesť daň z dividend, zamedziť podnikanie súkromných zdravotných poisťovní či sprísniť pravidlá pre investovanie dôchodkových fondov. "Po období zmiernenia štátneho vplyvu a posilnenia trhových princípov prichádza politika rastúceho štátneho intervencionizmu," domnievajú sa analytici inštitútu MESA 10 v nedávno publikovanej štúdií. Podľa analýzy ING Bank najnovšie opatrenia sa odzrkadlia v ekonomike až v najbližších dvoch - troch rokoch, pretože Slovensko sa teší mimoriadnemu prílevu priamych zahraničných investícií. Avšak nový Zákoník práce môže mať v dlhodobej perspektíve negatívny vplyv na podnikateľské prostredie a následne na rast. Podľa predstaviteľov automobilového sektora posilnenie práv zamestnancov ohrozí flexibilitu trhu práce, ktorý bol lákadlom pre zahraničných investorov.

Ján Pavol II. nesie v sebe tajomstvo zaľúbenia

Vatikán (RV) – Diecézna fáza beatifikácie procesu Jána Pavla II. bola náročnou, ale zároveň veľmi podnetnou a povzbudivou úlohou. Povedal to počas slávnostného uzavretia tejto fázy začiatkom apríla v Lateránskej bazilike pápežský vikár kardinál Camilo Ruini. "Lebo z kontaktu s Karolom Wojtylom vyvierala a stále vyvierá rieka podnetov na život podľa evanjelia: v tomto zmysle sa odvažujem tvrdiť, že naša práca počas týchto 21 mesiacov bola koniec-koncov ľahká, taká ľahká, ako bývajú úlohy prinášajúce radosť," povedal vikár Rímskej diecézy v tej istej bazilike, kde sa presne 28. júna 2005 vďaka dišpenzu Benedikta XVI. proces beatifikácie predchádzajúceho pápeža necele tri mesiace po jeho smrti začal. Počas slávností Kongregácia pre kauzy svätých prevzala dokumentáciu zozbieranú diecéznym tribunálom. Obsahuje svedectvá ľudí a dokumenty historickej komisie. V Lateránskom paláci pri tejto príležitosti zároveň otvorili výstavu Naniho Tedeschiho s názvom Totus Tuus Ján Pavol II. v 60 kresbách. Podrobný obraz Karola Wojtylu načrtol počas svojej 30-minútovkej kázne aj kardinál Ruini. Zvýraznil na ňom dar modlitby - pri ktorej sa Ján Pavol II. dokázal úplne odosobniť - dar slobody - od hmotných vecí, ale aj od samého seba, vďaka čomu bol neobvyklo slobodný aj vo vzťahu s druhými a dokázal počúvať, prijímať kritiku, rozhodovať sa a čeliť nepriateľstvu v

Cirkvi i vo verejnej mienke - ako aj dar utrpenia - ktorý prijímal nielen vďaka vlastným ťažkým životným skúsenostiam, ale aj vďaka svojej osobnej spiritualite - založenej na túžbe nasledovať Pána a prijímať všetko, čo Pán pre neho pripravil. Kardinál Ruini pripomenul "evanjelióvu sviežosť" Jána Pavla II. vďaka ktorej sa stal "spontánnym komunikátorom" a mal vždy blízko k človeku a jeho problémom. Na to všetko si podľa rímskeho vikára Pán svojho služobníka pripravoval už od mladosti. "Nachádzame sa tu v prítomnosti Tajomstva: predovšetkým tajomstva zaľúbenej lásky, ktorou Boh Otec miloval tohto poľského chlapca, pútal ho k sebe a udržoval ho v tejto jednote, pričom ho neoslobodil od životných skúšok, ale naopak, stále znova ho spájal s krížom svojho vlastného Syna. Zároveň mu však dával odvahu milovať tento kríž a duchovnú chápanosť, aby v ňom zbadal tvár samotného Otca. V istote, že je milovaný Bohom, a v radosť, že na túto lásku odpovedá, našiel Karol Wojtyla zmysel, jednotu a cieľ svojho vlastného života. Všetci, ktorí ho poznali, zblízka alebo iba zďaleka, boli zasiahnutí bohatstvom jeho ľudskosti, jeho úplnou seba-realizáciou ako človeka, ale ešte jasnejšia a významnejšia je skutočnosť, že taká plnosť ľudskosti súvisí, napokon, s jeho vzťahom k Bohu, inými slovami, s jeho svätosťou."

TK KBS

Zlaté zrnká

"Nepriзнание si hriechu je neprekonateľnou prekážkou odpusteniu."
Sv. Augustín

"Nepýtam sa, či peklo je, alebo nie je. Namiesto toho sa usilujem, aby som sa do neho nedostal."
Carlo Caretto

"Počúvaj Pána v jeho príkazoch, aby ťa on vypočul v твоjich modlitbách."
Sv. Ján Zlatoušty

Nový HorSKIPark v Slovenskom raji

Spišská Nová Ves (SITA) – Už v decembri 2008 by malo na okraji Slovenského raja pribudnúť nové stredisko cestovného ruchu HorSKIPark. Lyžiarské stredisko na zelenej lúke bude mať po kompromise s ochranou prírody najdlhšiu zjazdovku 2.5 km s prevýšením 450 metrov. Celkovo bude v areáli do 50 hektárov zasnežovaných plôch. Prepravná kapacita dvoch lanoviek a šiestich vlekov dosiahne 10, 500 osôb. V prvej etape plánuje spoločnosť Skilab, s.r.o. Spišská Nová Ves preinvestovať do 500 miliónov eur.

Projekt HorSKIPark nemá byť zameraný len na zimný cestovný ruch. V lete chcú autori projektu pritiahnúť návštevníkov baníckym skanzenom a ďalšími atrakciami. "Chceme vybudovať východný vstup do Slovenského raja s napojením na už existujúce cyklotrasy a turistické chodníky," uviedol manažér projektu Patrik Dluhoš. Veľkou výhodou celého projektu podľa Dluhoša je, že nový areál sa nachádza priamo v katastri mesta Spišská Nová Ves. Od centra mesta je vzdialený len šesť kilometrov. Už na jeseň tohto roka sa začne s výrubom stromov. Na budúcu jar sa začne s výstavbou prvej etapy areálu. Projekt HorSKIPark chce nadviazať aj na 150-ročnú tradíciu bývalých klimatických kúpeľov Novoveská Huta. Bývalé kúpele boli zničené banskou činnosťou.

Investorom celého projektu HorSKIPark je spoločnosť Skilab, s.r.o. Spišská Nová Ves. Okrem vlastných prostriedkov, plánuje spoločnosť získať financie z fondov Európskej únie, prípadne vstupom strategického investora. Do projektu HorSKIPark vstúpilo aj mesto Spišská Nová Ves. Tohto roku mesto vyčlenilo 1.9 mil. Sk. na projektovú dokumentáciu a prípravu infraštruktúry v lokalite Novoveská Huta.

Výstava v Írsku "Andy Warhol: Jeho slovenské korene"

Cork (TASR) – Výstavu venovanú slovenskému pôvodu amerického pop-artového umelca Andyho Warhola otvorili začiatkom mája v írskom meste Cork. Ide o prvú samostatnú výstavu Warhola v Írsku. Exponáty, ktoré boli vystavené aj na Dublinskom hrade, poskytlo Múzeum moderného umenia rodiny Warholovcov v Medzilaborciach. Dublinskú expozíciu počas marcovej návštevy otvoril slovenský prezident Ivan Gašparovič. Zbierka obsahuje 31 maliieb a osobných predmetov, vrátane rubáša, v ktorom Warhola pokrstili, jeho walkman, slnečné okuliare, ako aj maľby Warholovho brata a synovca.

Výstava takéhoto kalibru je v mesiacu na juhu Írska zriedkavá, napriek tomu, že Cork bol v roku 2005 Európskym hlavným mestom kultúry. Warholovi rodičia sa do Spojených štátov vysťahovali ešte pred jeho narodením. "Všetci vedia, že Andy Warhol bol kráľom pop-artu. Ale takmer nikto nevie, že malý Andy sa narodil slovenským rodičom," povedal slovenský ambasádor v Írsku Ján Gábor, ktorý výraznou mierou prispel k usporiadaniu výstavy. Warholova výstava vo Verejnom múzeu nie je v Corku posledná. Glucksmanova umelecká galéria plánuje ďalšiu na január 2008.

APA: Členstvo Slovenska v EÚ sa stalo samozrejmosťou

Viedeň/Bratislava (TASR) – Cesta Slovenska do EÚ bola komplikovanejšia ako u iných postkomunistických štátov. Vláda Vladimíra Mečiara išla v rokoch 1992-98 pri upevňovaní moci na hranicu toho, čo bola únia ochotná akceptovať. Integrovaný proces Slovenska sa zrýchlil až po voľbách v roku 1998, napísala tlačová agentúra APA. K úspechu integrácie paradoxne prispelo aj Mečiarovo HZDS. Sám Mečiar sa stal horlivým prívržencom EÚ a NATO. Aj všetky ostatné relevantné politické sily sa jednoznačne vyslovili za integráciu Slovenska do EÚ a dodnes robia pro-európsku politiku. Medzi stranami však existujú i rozdiely. Napríklad kresťanskí demokrati tvrdia, že politická integrácia EÚ už dosiahla optimálnu úroveň. Skepticky vnímajú projekt európskej ústavnej zmluvy a presadzujú "etickú suverenitu Slovenska".

vstup do EÚ mal pre Slovensko viac výhod ako nevýhod. Jedným z pozitív je prílev priamych zahraničných investícií. Vysoký hospodársky rast sa odráža vo zvýšení príjmov a poklese nezamestnanosti pod desať percent, k čomu prispela aj možnosť zamestnať sa v niektorých "starých" členských krajinách EÚ.

Slovenská koruna je silná a obce využívajú európske fondy na rozvoj miestnej infraštruktúry. Vplyv členstva v EÚ na vnútornú politickú scénu je dvojaký, konštatuje APA. Strany si viac uvedomujú prepojenie domácej a zahraničnej politiky, no politické súperenie je tvrdšie. Dobrá výchova sa nenosí, politickí oponenti sa napádajú pri každej príležitosti. Vzťahy medzi vládou a opozíciou neboli nikdy idylické, ale v súčasnosti pripomínajú tragikomédiu. Celkovo sa vstup Slovenska do EÚ hodnotí v krajine ako historický úspech. Prevláda názor, že klady prevažujú nad zápormi, aj keď nikto nevie zápory pomenovať. Dnes si už nevie nikto predstaviť, ako by Slovensko vyzeralo mimo EÚ, uzatvára APA.

SDKÚ premiéra Mikuláša Dzurindu trvá na "daňovej suverenite" a je proti harmonizácii daňovej politiky únie. Všetky strany sa zhodujú v tom,

Historický odkaz Dr. Jozefa Tisu

Milan S. Ďurica
III.

Podobne boli Slováci prvými v mnohonárodnom Uhorsku, ktorí dokumentovane žiadali najvyššiu autoritu uhorského kráľa o sankcionovanie svojich národných práv voči nemeckým kolonizátorom ich územia. (Žilinská kniha z roku 1473) V celom modernom zmysle zasa medzi prvými v Uhorsku, pod priamym vplyvom Francúzskej revolúcie už v roku 1793 žiadali Slováci zriadenie samostatnej Slovenskej republiky v rámci uhorskej federácie. (Ohlas opáta Martinoviča a jeho slovenských jakobínov z augusta 1793.) Ako potom celé 19. storočie bolo vyplnené bojom a obeťami najlepších synov slovenského národa o štátoprávne uznanie jeho samobytnosti a z nej vyplývajúci práv, je všetkým iste dostatočne známe.

Formulovania slovenských požiadaviek boli rozličné, prispôsobené vždy politickému momentu a konkrétnym nádejam dosiahnuť aspoň to, čo sa videlo možným. Najhlbšou podstatou všetkých týchto národných snažení bola však túžba po samostatnom národnom živote v slobodnej slovenskej vlasti, ktorá sa po prvý raz konkrétne uskutočnila iba v Slovenskej republike. O jej vzniku takto hovoril dr. Tiso: "Pestujúc v srdci svojom lásku k národu, presne sme pozorovali beh udalostí v národe i mimo národa; a konštatujúc, že odbila hodina, aby sa rozhodovalo, rozhodol sa celý slovenský snem za osamostatnenie Slovenska v nezávislom slovenskom štáte. Neúprosná rovnosť čiary politického vývinu znázorňuje teda tento postup slovenských zákonodarcov, ktorej čiare vonkajšie udalosti a zásahy dali len rýchlejší spád, lebo tak si to vynútila železná logika prirodzeného vývinu slovenského národa."

Túžba po vlastnom slovenskom štáte nebola teda nijakým demagogickým výmyslom ľudákov, ale bola a je prejavom tej najhlbšej podstaty povedomej samobytnosti slovenského národa, ktorá sa živeľne prejaví a nájde si vhodných tlmočníkov vždy, keď jej to historické okolnosti dovoľia. Politický vývoj týchto posledných desaťročí v podstate potvrdil to, čo vyhlásil prezident Slovenskej republiky dr. Jozef Tiso už 14. marca 1940: "Hoci záujem národa a štátu v meniacich sa situáciách môže byť iný, v jednom ohľade je vždy ten istý. A to je: uznanie samobytnosti národa a samostatnosti jeho štátu. Nemôže byť situácie, v ktorej by záujem národa a štátu neznamenal toto. Preto nemôže byť pre nás prijateľná nijaká politická koncepcia, ktorá by neuznávala samobytnosť nášho národa so všetkými dôsledkami tejto tézy, medzi ktorými je už teraz veľké konkrétum nášho štátu... Chcieť nám pod titulom vyššej organizácie kultúrnej vziať národnú samobytnosť, znamená toľko, ako chcieť stavať záujmy vyššie na rumoch nižších."

7. Slovenský štát, aby mohol zodpovedať suverenite slovenského národa, musí byť založený na tých hodnotách, ktoré tvoria základ jeho historickej identity a obsah jeho sekulárneho duchovného dedičstva.

Hlavnou takouto hodnotou je kresťanský charakter slovenského národa. Kresťanstvo stálo pri kolíske etnogenézy slovenského národa. Opretí o Apoštolský stolec, Slováci vstúpili do dejín ako rovnocenný partner vtedajších národov a štátov, predišli o celé storočie všetkých svojich slovanských susedov v organizovaní svojho kultúrneho i náboženského života, ba podrobili si aj mnohé iné slovanské kmene a tvoriace sa národy.

Po zdrvení ich politickej moci bolo to zasa kresťanstvo, ktoré pomohlo Slovákom zachovať svoju národnú identitu počas osem storočí symbiózy s inými etnickými celkami v rámci mnohonárodného Uhorska. "Kresťanská a národná tradícia nášho národa - povedal dr. Tiso - sú tak úzko spojené, že sa nedajú od seba oddeľovať."

Preto kresťanský charakter stal sa jedným z podstatných prvkov slovenskej národnej identity, ktorú si musí národ zachovať a brániť proti všetkým škodlivým vplyvom vnútorným i vonkajším. Toto zdôrazňoval dr. Jozef Tiso po celý čas prvej Česko-Slovenskej republiky, ktorá nebola kresťanským štátom, ba zaujímala neraz aj celkom oficiálne výslovne protikresťanské a najmä protikatolícke postoje. Toto neprestával zdôrazňovať prezident Slovenskej republiky aj po celý čas trvania Slovenského štátu, najmä keď po salzburskom diktáte hrozilo Slovensku konkrétne nebezpečenstvo prenikania proti kresťanského nemeckého národného socializmu. "Nie sme rytiermi momentálnej konjunktúry, ale sme pracovníci a strážcovia večných kultúrnych, sociálnych a hospodárskych pokladov národa" - vyhlásil verejne na adresu tých jednotlivcov, čo chceli na Slovensku zavádzať program národného socializmu. "My nie sme dneskajší, aby sme hľadali program. My sme národom slovenským od Pribinu začínajúc, žili sme a žijeme dušou a tradíciou národa. A tú líniu nemáme čo zapredať" - "Slovenský štát chceme budovať podľa svojich tradícií, a nie podľa cudzieho. My nechceme mať nič cudzieho; chceme byť čistí, ako nás Pán Boh stvoril. Chceme si svoj slovenský štát budovať tak, aby slúžil slovenskému národu."

8. Slovenský štát, aby zodpovedal historickej identite a duchovným hodnotám kultúrneho dedičstva slovenského národa, musí byť štátom demokratickým.

Dr. Tiso takto zdôvodňoval túto zásadu: "My slovenský národ, sociologicky, myslím, že sme najdemokratickejší národ. Naša sociologická sústava a štruktúra nášho národa nás priamo núti do demokratického systému. Preto sme za demokraciu." (1938). Nemnohí vedia, že azda jediný moment konfliktu medzi dr. Jozefom Tisom a Andrejom Hlinkom vznikol roku 1936 práve v otázke zásady demokracie. Keď niekoľko poslancov a senátorov Hlinkovej slovenskej ľudovej strany protestovalo proti diktátúre vo vnútornom vedení strany, Andrej Hlinka zvolal súdnu komisiu strany a vyzval tých členov prezídia, ktorí organizovali túto akciu, aby sa k nej otvorene prihlásili. Prvý sa prihlásil podpredseda strany dr. Jozef Tiso: "Áno, aj ja som spolupracoval." Na Hlinkovu otázku: "Čo máte proti vedeniu strany?" Tiso odpovedal: "Rád by som vidieť demokratickú kontrolu vo vedení strany, aby o všetkom rozhodovalo prezídium nie jednotlivé osoby." Demokracia je režim, podľa rozhodnutia ľudu. Režim, ktorý umožňuje, aby sa vôľa ľudu prejavila vo všetkých otázkach verejného života" - hlásal dr. Tiso. "Ako je pre politickú činnosť axiómou starať sa predovšetkým o verejný záujem a všeobecné dobro, tak je isté, že takáto politická činnosť úspešnejšie sa prevádza na základe demokratickom, než na základe inom ... Demokratický systém vychováva ľud pre všeobecnosť, lebo priťahuje najširšiu verejnú k účasti na správe štátu... Budí sa nielen zodpovednosť v širokých kruhoch, lež zakladá sa i dôvera vo vydané nariadenia, v ktorých vidia výraz svojej vôle a snahy po lepšej budúcnosti."

Dr. Tisovi však nešli ani slabé stránky demokratického systému. Kritizoval ich a poukazoval na nebezpečenstvo, ktoré hrozilo samej demokracii, ale i národu a štátu, zo zneužívania demokracie na demagogické ciele rozbíjania spoločnosti v zmysle antického



Milan S. Ďurica

divide et impera. Atomizáciu národnej spoločnosti na nepomerné množstvo politických strán - pri voľbách v roku 1935 bolo ich zaregistrovaných 35! - pokladal dr. Tiso za degenerovanie demokracie, ktoré pretvorilo politiku zo služby národu a spoločnosti na bezohľadný boj všetkých proti všetkým, aby každý urval čo najviac moci a materiálnych výhod pre seba a pre svojich klientov. Tiso optoval pre priamu demokraciu, v ktorej by si ľud volil bezprostredne svojich zástupcov, a pre parlamentárny systém, ktorý by korigoval nedostatky princípu mechanickej väčšiny zaistením zohľadnenia argumentov opozície a doplnením volenej komory komorou zástupcov kultúrnych a hospodárskych ustanovizní. Práve pre tento svoj zásadne demokratický postoj dr. Jozef Tiso ostro odsudzoval všetky totalitarizmy. "Nie je náhodou, že práve z radov socialistov vychádzajú vodcovia dvoch extrémnych, o vedúci zástoj zápasiacich smerov, komunizmu a fašizmu. Triedny boj, vedúci prvneskôr k boju všetkých proti všetkým, vyvolal si ... teror fašistický a komunistický, z ktorých ani jeden nie je vstave inaugurovať systém priramený prírode ľudskej" - hovoril Tiso v roku 1933. A aj v roku 1939 jednoznačne vyhlásil: "Nič nie je nám vzdialenejšie, ako uskutočňovať totalitu štátnej moci. Nasleduje to už z toho nášho zásadne stanoviska, že i štátnu moc podriaďujeme zákonom mravnosti a práva, a podľa tejto zásady štát musí rešpektovať práva individua, rodiny, spoločnosti a miestnych samospráv - "Štát sa zakladá na individualite svojich občanov, ktorých uplatnenie umožňuje, a nie pohlcuje. Všade a vždy jednotlivec, a až keď tento nestačí, nastupuje štát ako kolektívna sila." - My držíme zásadu demokracie, lebo demokracia je kresťanská ... My Slováci sme z tej duše prívržencami kresťanskej demokracie a zatracujeme akúkoľvek diktatúru, nech sa menuje hociako."

9. Slovenský štát, aby zodpovedal kresťanskej a demokratickej tradícii slovenského národa, musí byť štátom sociálnym.

Sociálna bieda najširších vrstiev slovenského ľudu, ktorá dosahovala nepredstaviteľné rozmery práve koncom minulého a začiatkom tohoto storočia, bola jedným z hlavných motívov, preto sa najmä slovenskí kňazi, ktorí s tým ľudom žili, cítili povinní organizovať Slovákov aj politicky na obranu tých najbiednejších členov národa. Už pri svojom vzniku v roku 1905 Slovenská ľudová strana vytýčila si program podstatne sociálneho zamerania. Neskôr po jej obnovení bol to práve dr. Jozef Tiso, priamy žiak najvynikajúcejších teoretikov európskeho kresťansko-sociálneho hnutia v zmysle encykliky Rerum novarum, ktorý vypracoval do všetkých dôsledkov sociálny program Hlinkovej slovenskej ľudovej strany a usiloval sa ho presadiť do života cestou ústavy Slovenskej republiky a jej hospodársko-sociálnych zriadení. "Chceme si vybudovať sociálny štát slovenský, v ktorom sa musia vyrovnávať triedne rozdiely, aby sa rovnosť všetkých Slovákov a jednota národa prejavovala aj v ohľade sociálnom. Náš kresťansko-sociálny duch nielen že nám v tom neprekáža, ale naopak, so zúrodňujúcim vplyvom bude pôsobiť na všetkých nás, aby sme čo možno najrýchlejšie dospeli k realizácii idey sociálneho štátu ... Budeme čerpať z nášho starého kresťansko-nacionálne-sociálneho ducha a nové podnety, súce na to, aby sa splnilo slovo Písma: "Hoden je robotník svojej mzdy", aby sme sa držali slova toho istého Písma: "Kto nepracuje, nech ani nej", aby sme podľa vzoru Písma merali rovnakou mierou spravodlivosti voči každému, veď sme dietkami jedného Otca, ktorý je na nebesiach."

Je to nový zákon nášho starého sociálneho ducha, v ktorom chceme uskutočňovať právo, spravodlivosť, dôstojný ľudský život každému podľa zásluhy a v prospech národa vykonanej práce." Päť krátkych a k tomu ešte vojnových rokov nemohlo stačiť na uskutočnenie takého sociálneho programu, ktorý mal za cieľ radikálne zmeny v celej štruktúre vtedajšej slovenskej spoločnosti. Dnes je podstatná časť tohoto programu po materiálnej stránke pozitívnou skutočnosťou. Chýba jej však tá duchovná náplň, ktorú jej nemohol dať systém, ktorý ak nemal ľudskú tvár, tým menej mohol mať božského ducha.

10. Ak sa mi podarilo vtiesniť do týchto niekoľkých bodov aspoň základné črty, čo dr. Jozef Tiso hlásal,

učil a usiloval sa uskutočniť v rámci prvej časti svojho hesla - "verní sebe" - tak nám teraz ostáva pozastaviť sa aspoň na chvíľku pri jeho druhej časti "svorne napred!" aby sme mali pred očami podstatne ucelený historický odkaz dr. Jozefa Tisu.

"Služba národu nepozostáva v nečinnnej zotrvačnosti na tom, čo bolo v minulosti" - upozorňoval prezident Tiso v roku 1941. Vedel, že tok dejín sa nikdy nezastaví a všetko, čo chce žiť, musí kráčať s behom času. "Nie je nijakou otázkou, že sa nachádzame v bolestnom počiatku nového obdobia sveta, a preto nesmieme uvažovať a súdiť len podľa minulosti, ale musíme mať oči upreté na to nové, čo sa rodí... Varoval preto pred úzkoprsým lipnutím na formách minulosti, poukazujúc na to, že každý krok je umožnený iba odtrhnutím sa od predošlej pozície nohy. "Nijaká prítomnosť nie je taká vzácna, aby sa stala trvalým stavom." Preto vyzýval Slovákov, aby mužne kráčali v ústrety vždy lepšej budúcnosti. Ale aj tu popri podstate činu považoval za dôležitý spôsob, akým sa ten čin vykoná. Preto špecifikuje s dôrazom "svorne napred!"

Dr. Jozef Tiso poznal slovenský národ, ako len málo iných by mohlo poznať. Vedel nielen to, že na úsvite dejín i nesvornosťou Slováci prišli o nenahraditeľné hodnoty národa. Poznal však veľmi dobre aj svojich súčasníkov. Vedel, že nie všetci Slováci sa ešte skutočnými Slovákami cítia, že nie všetci si osvojujú jeho program idealistickej služby národu v budovaní Slovenského štátu. Poznal dobre slovenských čechoslovákov i maďarónov, ktorých Meckou bol Londýn a Budapešť. Vedel, že medzi Slovámi zotrúvali reziduujúci vyznávačov komunistických, socialistických, fašistických ideológií, že sa začali utvárať skupiny radikálov, ochotných dať sa do služieb Hitlera a zapredať mu samostatnosť Slovenska. Tiso hľadel na tieto skutočnosti so zdravým realizmom. Biľagoval ako zradcov tých, čo pracovali proti jednote národa, ale nikoho z národa nevyľučoval.

Vo svojom kresťanskom optimizme toleroval nielen osoby iného zmysľovania, ale aj svojich politických protivníkov, zveriac im neraz výhodne postavenia a zodpovedné úrady. Tiso dúfal, že obetavá práca pre národ a jej pozitívne výsledky časom presvedčia aspoň značnú časť z nich. Pritom ale k ničomu nenabádal viacej ako ku svornosti a jednote v podstatných záujmoch národa, ktorá má preklenúť všetky osobné rozdielnosti náhľadov. V národnej jednote nevidel dr. Tiso politickú taktiku, ale životnú otázku slovenského národa, podmienku zachovania národa i štátu.

Možno najväčším životným sklamaním prezidenta Slovenskej republiky bolo, že toto jeho naliehavé volanie po jednote národa ostalo u mnohých Slovákov hlasom volajúceho na púšti. Dokázali mu to udalosti z jesene 1944. Preto dr. Jozef Tiso ešte pred najvyšším momentom svojho holokaustu kladie Slovákom na srdce túto potrebu jednoty: "V duchu tej obete, ktorú prinášam, odkazujem slovenskému národu, aby bol svorný a jednotný v sledovaní veľkej zásady: za Boha a za národ, a to vždy a v každom ohľade." A akoby mu to nestačilo, na samom konci svojho duchovného testamentu dokladá: "Svornosť národa nech je pokrstená mojou obeťou." **Toto je historický odkaz dr. Jozefa Tisu.**