Mary, the Blessed Mother, is specially venerated in the month of May. That is why May is known as the “Month of Mary” in so many Christian communities.

Why was May chosen for this celebration of the Mother of God? Perhaps in part because May is the very essence of Spring, when flowers burst forth and new life abounds. The Blessed Mother and the birth of Spring have been linked since medieval times. When medieval monasteries were the centers of horticultural and agricultural knowledge, the actual flowers themselves came to be seen as symbols of Mary. Because of its profusion of blooms, the month of May was adopted by the Church in the 18th century as a “celebration of the flowering of Mary’s maidenly spirituality.” More recently, during his 26-year pontificate, the late Pope John Paul II frequently reminded Catholics that the month of May is, in a particular and special way, dedicated to the Mother of God.

The early Romans dedicated May to Flora, the goddess of blossoms, asking the intercession of Flora for all that blooms. This is also thought to be related to the medieval practice of expelling winter since May was considered the beginning of growth and the season of new life.

The month of May has been traditionally dedicated to Mary in many cultures and on each day of this month, special devotions to Mary were organized. Churches celebrate May devotions to Mary in many ways. Most have a daily recitation of the rosary. Some include the crowning of Our Lady’s statue. At one time, celebrations to Mary were so widespread that the faithful set up small May altars in their homes. Sadly, this beautiful practice has died out over the years.

May crowning became popular in the United States, especially prior to Vatican II, and the practice continues in many parishes today. A statue of Mary is honored with a wreath of blossoms to indicate Mary’s virtues, virtues that were to be imitated by the faithful. The crowning is a lovely way to honor and venerate our Most Blessed Mother.

Just as we honor the Mother of God during May, we also honor and celebrate our own mothers and grandmothers on their special day, May 15th.

Happy Mother’s Day to All Our LPSCU Mothers!
In This Issue

- Spiritual Advisor’s Message
- Branch and Okres News
- Member Receives Boy Scout Medal
- Last Call for Good Shepherd Articles
- District Receives Volunteer Honors
- New Insurance Issued
- In Memoriam
- Gains a Slovak Reader
- In Memoriam
- Revised 3rd Quarter Report
- EFC Meeting Minutes
- LPSCU to Honor Its Graduates
- Mother’s Day Tributes
- My Mom’s The Greatest!
- NJPC Youth Volunteer Award Program
- Cooking Corner
- Letters
- Slovak Citizens Need Your Help!
- 100th Anniversary of the SLA
- Senator Hosts Ethnic Groups
- Member Bowls Perfect Game
- Junior Branch Journal

Calendar of Events

**MAY**

- 5 — Join Hands Day.
- 5 — Deadline for telling us why your Dad’s “So Special.”
- 6 — Rev. Dianiska District Meeting at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish Hall, 134 S. Washington Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, beginning at 2:00 p.m. Branches 6 and 48 will host.
- 6 — Lehigh Valley Okres Mother/Daughter Mass and Luncheon. Mass at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, at 10:30 a.m. followed at noon by luncheon at the Best Western Lehigh Valley Conference Center. For luncheon reservations, call the Okres officers or your Branch Secretary. Reservation deadline is May 1.
- 11 — Pittsburgh District bus trip to Ligonier, Pennsylvania.
- 22 — Executive Finance Committee Meeting, Home Office, 8:30 a.m.
- 31 — Deadline to make reservations for FSNEP’s Flag Day at the Ballpark.

**JUNE**

- 9-10* — 100th Anniversary of the Slovak League of America. Celebrations in the New York area. *Note date change from that originally announced.
- 12 — Flag Day at the Ballpark sponsored by the Fraternal Societies of Northeastern Pennsylvania, PNC Field, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania. Game begins at 7:00 p.m. See page 16.
- 19 — Executive Finance Committee Meeting, Home Office, 8:30 a.m.
- 20 — Deadline for submitting articles for the Slovak Catholic Federation’s annual Good Shepherd. See page 4.
- 23 — Deadline to submit photo/message honoring your LPSCU member-graduate. See page 7.
- 24 — Pittsburgh District Meeting at Risen Lord Parish, Northside Pittsburgh, at 1:00 p.m. Branches 64 and 202 will host.
- 30 — Deadline to apply for 2007 Catholic High School Award and Bishop Grutka Award.
- 30 — Deadline for Branch 77 members to apply for scholarship grants offered by the American Slovak Club of Lorain, Ohio.

**JULY**

- 3-17 — 13th Annual Tour of Slovakia sponsored by Youngstown Sister Cities.
- 29 — Rev. Baloga Okres Picnic at Holy Trinity Church, Struthers, Ohio. Branch 180 will host.

**AUGUST**

- 31 — Deadline to apply for 2007 Post-Graduate Award and LPSCU Religious Awards.

**SEPTEMBER**

- 1 — Deadline to apply for NJFC 2007 Youth Volunteer Award. See page 11.
- 6-9 — NFCA Annual Meeting
- 21 — Slovak Catholic Federation Meeting, Danville, Pennsylvania
  continued on page 10
Perhaps one of the most beloved stories of optimism and determination is *The Little Engine that Could* (also known as *The Pony Engine*). The commonly known version of the story is attributed to “Watty Piper,” a pseudonym used by publishing house Platt & Munk. With illustrations by the esteemed Lois Lenski, this retelling of the tale *The Pony Engine* first appeared in 1930.

*The Pony Engine*, which first appeared in the *Kindergarten Review* in 1910, was written by Mary C. Jacobs (1877-1970). But a much briefer, prior version of the tale appeared under the title “Thinking One Can” in 1906, in *Wellsprings for Young People*, a Sunday school publication. This version reappeared in a 1910 publication by the Daughters of the American Revolution. The text reads:

“A little railroad engine was employed about a station yard for such work as it was built for, pulling a few cars on and off the switches. One morning it was waiting for the next call when a long train of freight-cars asked a large engine in the roundhouse to take it over the hill. ‘I can’t; that is too much a pull for me,’ said the great engine built for hard work. Then the train asked another engine, and another, only to hear excuses and be refused. At last, in desperation, the train asked the little switch engine to draw it up the grade and down on the other side. ‘I think I can,’ puffed the little locomotive, and put itself in front of the great heavy train. As it went on, the little engine kept bravely puffing faster and faster, ‘I think I can, I think I can, I think I can.’"

“Then, as it neared the top of the grade that had so discouraged the larger engines, it went more slowly, but still kept saying, ‘I—think—I—can, I—think—I—can.’ It reached the top by dint of brave effort and then went on down the grade, congratulating itself, ‘I thought I could, I thought I could.’"

Based on this simple, yet powerful story, there is actually an educational and motivational *The Little Engine that Could* train tour, which travels to areas around our great nation, promoting the power of positive thought, the motivation to be all we can be and the courage to try our best. In fact, according to the train tour, their motto is “breathes” the Spirit upon the apostles and commissions them to carry forth his message into the world. In the greeting that he extends to his apostles in that Upper Room, his message is ultimately one of peace and reconciliation.

As they waited and wondered, I’m sure the apostles and Jesus’ other disciples at first probably felt like those other engines enlisted to pull that long line of freight cars up the great hill. They just felt that they would never be capable of fulfilling the mission that Jesus had entrusted to them on the Mount of Ascension. But, when the Holy Spirit was sent to them in the form of tongues of fire (Acts 2:1-11), or breathed upon them by Jesus (John 20:19-23), they became empowered to pull the weight of the Gospel message and encouraged others to do the same.

As Jay Cormier, editor of *Connections* (The newsletter of ideas, resources and information for homilists and preachers) notes on page 4 in the May 2007 issue: “That is Pentecost: the Spirit of God filling us, the Church of the Risen Christ, with the grace to do the work of compassion and forgiveness we can’t imagine ourselves doing, the understanding to take on the work of His justice and peace despite our own fears and doubts.” (*Connections* is published by MediaWorks, 7 Lantern Lane, Londonderry, NH 03053-3905.)

Like the story *The Little Engine that Could*, the feast of Pentecost reminds us that to think of hard things and say “I can’t” is sure to mean “Nothing will get done.” To refuse to be daunted, to rely on the gift of the Holy Spirit and insist on saying “I think I can” is to make sure of being able to say triumphantly by and by, “I thought I could, I thought I could.”

To conclude, I would like to leave you with an old poem which taps into that great spirit of optimism and determination which speaks of *The Little Engine that Could* and the feast of Pentecost. It is simply entitled, “I Think I Can.”

If you think you are beaten you are;
If you think you dare not, you don’t;

Whoever accepts the Son, and the power of his message, inherits everything — namely, eternal life in heaven.

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**Spiritual Advisor’s Message**

“I think I can. I think I can.”

---

MAY 2007
REVEREND DIANISKA DISTRICT

The Rev. Dianiska District held its first meeting of the year on Sunday, March 11, 2007, at St. Stephen’s Church Hall in Plymouth, Pennsylvania. Margaret Jollimore welcomed everyone on behalf of hosting Branches 58, 94, and 37.

The meeting was called to order by District President Mary Ann Ewasko and was opened with prayers for all members of our District and their families. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Financial Secretary Marge Zinkavich took roll call. Barbara Kalish and Debbie Adamchak gave the Secretary’s and Treasurer’s reports, respectively; both reports were approved. Barbara Kalish read correspondence. Members are reminded to contact Mary Ann or Barbara regarding members who are in the hospital.

The following items were discussed:

On May 5, 2007, District members will participate in Join Hands Day by volunteering at The Laurels Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Bingo with the Center’s residents is planned, followed by a social hour.

In July, the District will hold its annual Youth Bowling Party. Co-chairs are Hope and Lori Ann Napkora. Details will be discussed at the May meeting.

Members are reminded that our project for the May meeting is a donation of school supplies (pens, pencils, crayons, tablets, etc.) that will be given to the St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen for distribution to needy children.

National President Theresa Kluchinski announced that Mother’s and Father’s Day memorial or honorariums may be purchased and placed in the Zornicka with the donated proceeds going to two worthy causes. She also spoke about the Tree of Life project which will benefit the new Book Buy Program and Educational Benefits for our members.

Susan Worth

Evan Jones Awarded Boy Scout Medal

Evan Jones of LPSCU Branch 33, Hazleton, Pennsylvania, was awarded the Boy Scout Light of Christ Medal on February 4, 2007, at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark, New Jersey. Bishop Charles J. McDonnell presented Evan with the medal.

To achieve this award, Evan worked on requirements that enabled him to explore his Catholic faith in greater depth.

Congratulations, Evan! The officers and members of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union are very proud of your accomplishment. We wish you the best in your future scouting endeavors.

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Congratulations, Evan! The officers and members of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union are very proud of your accomplishment. We wish you the best in your future scouting endeavors.
District Receives Make a Difference Day Honors

The Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union’s Lehigh Valley Okres has received recognition as a local honoree in USA WEEKEND Magazine’s newspaper for the District’s Make a Difference Day project held on October 28, 2006. The District was honored in the April 13-15, 2007, issue of USA WEEKEND (The Express-Times edition) in the newspaper’s salute to hundreds of local honorees for their Make a Difference Day programs.

As their project, members of the Lehigh Valley Okres spent an afternoon visiting with Okres member, Mary C. Polaha, who had recently celebrated her 103rd birthday. Okres members showered Mary with birthday cards, cookies, birthday balloons, flowers, and good, old-fashioned friendship and fraternalism. Mary was delighted to spend some enjoyable hours with her fellow Okres members.

At the time of the visit, Mary was a resident at Holy Family Manor in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. She has since passed away.

Okres members are delighted to have been selected as a local honoree in the Make a Difference Day Program, which is a national day of community service. The Okres is also pleased for the national recognition it has received for the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union.

New Insurance Issued

Insurance — The Perfect Gift

Do you need a gift for a special someone who is celebrating a First Holy Communion, Confirmation, graduation, marriage, or the birth of a new baby? The LPSCU has the perfect gift for you to present to that special person. We offer a variety of life insurance plans from which to choose. And an LPSCU Life Insurance Policy does more than just provide life insurance protection. As a member of the LPSCU, the insured is also eligible for many fraternal benefits, including educational scholarships, attendance at Branch and District social events, and our fraternal magazine. An LPSCU Life Insurance Policy is truly a thoughtful, unique, and lasting gift.

For an application or additional information as to the type of life insurance plans offered by the LPSCU, contact your Branch Secretary or the Home Office toll free at 888/834-6614; phone 570/823-3513; fax 570-823-4464; or e-mail: lpscu@lpscu.org. Additional information is also available on the LPSCU website: www.lpscu.org.

In Memoriam

Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted. — Matthew v.5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rita A. Desanto</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Port Griffith, PA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dolores Burg</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Anna V. Fabry</td>
<td>64</td>
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<td>Adele Blastick</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>Whiting, IN</td>
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<td>Margaret Yaschur</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>Tresckow, PA</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Margaret Sulick</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>Mt. Carmel, PA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anne V. Kavulich</td>
<td>151</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geraldine Andes</td>
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<td>Wilkes-Barre, PA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Dingler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Bazarnik</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ann Zorsky</td>
<td>L0011</td>
<td>Waterbury, CT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sophia Marquart</td>
<td>L0035</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hedviga Sasnauskas</td>
<td>L0085</td>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul A. Strauss</td>
<td>L0109</td>
<td>New Britain, CT</td>
</tr>
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*Multiple certificates
On Saturday afternoon, March 3, 2007, Mary Ann Ackerman of Bethlehem Township, Pennsylvania, was honored at a surprise 80th birthday party at the Bethlehem Township Community Center. Although Mary Ann’s birthday is February 28th, her family knew they could surprise her by holding the party after that date.

The gathering was hosted by her children, Richard of Cheshire, Connecticut, Marilyn Geiger of Nazareth, Pennsylvania, Annette Ackerman of Hamden, Connecticut, and Bernard of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Approximately 90 relatives and friends attended the celebration.

There were on display many photo collages depicting the 80 years of Mary Ann’s life, from childhood through grade school and high school, through her marriage with her late husband Richard, their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, as well as with her fraternal sisters of the LPSCU. Two large sheet cakes were beautifully decorated for the occasion. One featured Mary Ann’s high school graduation photo from SS. Cyril and Methodius Academy in Danville, Pennsylvania, and the other featured her engagement photo. The community hall was decorated with many “Happy Birthday” balloons. Mary Ann’s granddaughter, Elizabeth Ackerman, led everyone in singing “Happy Birthday” to the honoree.

Mary Ann Ackerman Honored at Surprise Birthday Party

Mary Ann served the LPSCU for many years with distinction, dedication, and respect. She was a National Trustee from 1977-1984 and Vice President from 1985 through December 2000, when she retired from office. She has been an Honorary Vice President of the LPSCU since 2001. Mary Ann has also served her local Branch 83 as Financial Secretary for over 35 years. Her entire family belongs to the LPSCU.

We extend belated birthday greetings to Mary Ann and wish her many, many happy and healthy birthdays in the future.

**LPSCU 3rd Quarter Report**

(REVISED FIGURES)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>3rd Quarter 2006</th>
<th>3rd Quarter 2005</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
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<td>$61,274.00</td>
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<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
<td>$16,046,241.00</td>
<td>$15,960,229.00</td>
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<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES &amp; FUND BALANCE</th>
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<th>3rd Quarter 2005</th>
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<td>Fund Balance</td>
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<td>Amt. Retained as Trustee</td>
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<td>Aggregate Reserve-Life Certificates</td>
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<td>$9,114,957.00</td>
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<td>Other Liabilities</td>
<td>$641,537.00</td>
<td>$624,986.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
<td>$16,046,241.00</td>
<td>$15,960,229.00</td>
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<tr>
<th>REVENUES</th>
<th>3rd Quarter 2006</th>
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<tr>
<td>Premium Income</td>
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<td>Investment Income</td>
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<td>Income-Other</td>
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<tr>
<td>Profit/Loss-Sale of Bonds/Stocks</td>
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<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
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<th>EXPENSES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Death Claims</td>
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<td>Endowments</td>
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<td>Cash Surrenders</td>
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<td>Dividends</td>
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<td>Increase in Aggregate Reserves</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commissions (new and renewals)</td>
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<td>General Operating Expenses</td>
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<td>Officers and Committee Expenses</td>
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<td>Actuarial/Accounting Expense</td>
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<td>Investment Mgt. Fee</td>
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<td>Travel Expense</td>
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<td>Bureau and Association Dues</td>
<td>$1,320.00</td>
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<td>Donations</td>
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<td>Scholarships</td>
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<td>Fraternal Activities</td>
<td>$11,020.57</td>
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<td>Insurance Taxes, Licenses &amp; Fees</td>
<td>$24,313.00</td>
<td>$21,272.00</td>
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<td><strong>Sub Total</strong></td>
<td>$850,411.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Gain/Loss From Operations</td>
<td>($67,084.00)</td>
<td>($67,789.00)</td>
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<td><strong>Net Realized Capital Gain (Loss)</strong></td>
<td>($35,613.00)</td>
<td>($10,013.00)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
<td>($102,707.00)</td>
<td>($77,802.00)</td>
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Mary Ann Ackerman (seated) with officers of Branch 83 and 130, from left: Trustee Anna Balog, President Mary Shannon, Branch 130 Secretary Margaret Ferri, and Treasurer Mary Ford.
Minutes of the Executive Finance Committee
March 27, 2007 – Home Office, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

President Theresa Kluchinski called the meeting to order and offered a prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Attendees: Theresa Kluchinski, president; Anita Gregory, vice president; Mary Jo Savidge, secretary/treasurer; and Mary Ann Ewasko, chairperson of trustees. The committee reviewed and accepted the Minutes from the January 31, 2007, meeting.

Correspondence and Requests
The committee acknowledged all the correspondence read and approved the following:

- Fraternal Societies of North East Pennsylvania celebrating their 25th Anniversary — Requesting a line ad for program book. Approved $100.00
- Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh — Purchase of banquet tickets and place an ad for their 2007 Fraternalist of the Year Banquet. Approved 2 tickets at $90.00 and an ad at $120.00
- Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress — Contribution for the legislative breakfast. Approved $100.00
- Benedictine High School — Donation for Blue and White Gala. Approved $100.00
- Jankola Library — Annual donation. Approved $250.00
- St. Joseph’s Church — Annual donation. Approved $100.00
- Pittsburgh Slovakians — Donation for ad and signs for the 51st Annual Pittsburgh Folk Festival. Approved $250.00

Financial Statement

Stock/Bond/Pension Portfolio
The committee was provided copies of all reports for the months of January 31, 2007, and February 28, 2007, reviewing all activity, including CDs, Common Stocks, Preferred Stocks, Bond and International Investments, Schedule D — Part 3 and Part 4.

Other Business
The committee discussed the following: Options of paying premiums through direct deposit and credit cards; building improvements; purchase of accounting program QuickBooks; general insurance on the building; Convention 2008; and the Tree of Life.

There being no further business, the EFC adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Jo Savidge
National Secretary/Treasurer

LPSCU To Honor Its 2007 Graduates

Once again this year, the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union would like to honor all our graduates with a photo and message in our magazine. If you know of a member who is graduating from college, a technical or career school, high school, junior high, elementary school, or kindergarten, we would like to feature them in our August issue.

Please send us a picture and brief message about the graduate. Messages should not be more than 25-30 words and should include the graduate’s name, city and state, and Branch number, as well as the school and grade from which the individual is graduating. If space permits, add a brief congratulatory or informational message about the graduate. For example:

Robert Jones of Whitehall, Pennsylvania, Branch 38, graduated from Allentown Central Catholic High School in June.
We’re proud of you, Rob! Love, Mom and Dad

Melanie Smith of Taylor, Pennsylvania, Branch 6, graduated cum laude from Boston College with a Bachelor of Science in Critical Care Nursing. Congratulations, Melanie!

Thomas Phillips of East St. Louis, Illinois, Branch L0179, has graduated from Kindergarten at St. James Academy.
We love you, Tommy! — Grammy & Pop

Please send your photo and message to Fraternal Activities Director Cecilia B. Gaughan, 325 Florida Avenue, Whitehall, PA 18052. Please include an address and phone number or e-mail address in case we have to get in touch with a question concerning your submission. The LPSCU reserves the right to edit messages that exceed the 25-30 word limit.

Moms and dads, grandparents, aunts and uncles, godparents, siblings, friends and neighbors — we’re sure you know an LPSCU/LCA member who’s about to graduate this spring. We hope that all our members will take part in this program to honor all our member-graduates.

The deadline for submitting graduation photos and messages for our August issue is June 23, 2007.

MAY 2007

Get involved in the LPSCU! Meet new friends! Attend Branch & Okres meetings! Sign up a new member!
What a wonderful response we had to this year’s Mother’s Day Greetings! And how fitting that we offer this tribute to our mothers during May, the month of the Blessed Mother, Mary.

You chose to honor not only your mothers, but grandmothers, aunts, sisters, and other individuals who are special in your life, through your loving words and generous contributions to the Breast Cancer Research Center. Your donations to this worthy cause are very much appreciated.

All our lives, our mothers have given so much. No gifts could ever adequately express our love, but hopefully our words will begin to tell them how we feel . . .

Happy Mother’s Day, Mom
I think you are the greatest.
Love, your son Michael D.

To the most awesome Mother in the world
Happy Mother’s Day!
Love, Mary Beth

You are the best mom ever!
Happy Mother’s Day
Love, Patrick

Happy Mother’s Day to Anne C. Altavilla
With love and prayers from your grateful son,
Father Phil Altavilla

Happy Mother’s Day to Mary Petruzzeck
(April 8, 1906 – May 26, 1992)
Given by her children and grandchildren

Dear Mother,
Thank you for all you do.
Love, Jenae, Jason, and Amelia

In loving memory of my mother
Agniea Gana
Given by daughter Anita

In memory of the Ackerman and Feike Families
Given by Mary Ann Ackerman

In memory of my son
Edward Shannon, Jr.
Given by his mother, Mary Shannon

God’s health and blessings on my mother, Mary Ford
and grandmother, Susanna Mamay
Happy Mother’s Day!
Marie N. Ford Clemente

In honor of our mother, Susanna Mamay
Happy Mother’s Day, Mom!
You were, Stephen and daughters,
Mary J. Ford and Cathy Repineck

In loving memory of my mother,
Mary Legenza
and my mother-in-law, Mary Kosalko
Given by Jeanne Kosalko

May our grandmothers,
Mary Legenza and Mary Kosalko,
Eric and Jeffrey Kosalko

In loving memory of our beloved mother,
Man-Shung Chiu
Winnie your love,
Georgette, Donna, Bills, and Mary

Dear Aunt Vl – Happy Mother’s Day!
You’ve always been there for us
like a true mother always is.
Hugs, kisses and love,
Janice and SalBrincin

In loving memory of Anna Laxton
Feb. 4, 1910 – Sept. 29, 1999
Given by her daughter,
Norma Jean Wetley

Happy Mother’s Day to Ann Tepak
With much love and appreciation,
Dr. and Mrs. Michael Tepak,
Melinda, David, Brian, and Matthew

Dear Mom,
You are the greatest!
You are the best!
You are so caring, so loving, and so wonderful
words can’t describe enough!
We want you to know how much
you mean to us on Mother’s Day,
and every day in between.

Love, Diam, Matt, Erin, Coopy, and Jake

Tento dar je na pamiatku nasej Matke
tora zomrela vroku 1978
Od Roger a Mariana Krumhans

In loving memory of my dear mother
Ann Gross
who was a local member of the LPSCU
Dally Winkler

In memory of my grandmothers,
Anna Durica and Mary Krkavec
Jan Mathews

In loving memory of my beloved mother,
Mary Germaine
Bernice Vadas and Family

In honor of my mother,
Dorothy Ezur,
for all your love and for putting up with me!
Susan Lazor

Happy Mother’s Day to my grandmother,
Helen Love, Josie

Happy Mother’s Day
to my niece-in-law Ann Bucha
What a wonderful example you showed to all
You are a devoted mother.
Sincerely, Carl

In honor of my sisters-in-law,
Julie, Aggie, Liza, and Marie.
All three devoted mothers.
I miss you all, along with my beloved brothers.
May God grant all of you
the eternal rest you all deserve.
Sincerely, Carl

In memory of my mother
Helen Durkin
Thank you for your guidance, and love.
With love, Janice

Happy Mother’s Day to my grandmothers,
Eleanor and Dorothy
Love, Mary

To all mothers –
Happy Mother’s Day!
Thank you for choosing life!
LPSCU National President
Theresa A. Kucharinski

To my mother, Theresa
Happy Mother’s Day!
Love, Mary

In loving memory of my mother,
Ann “Honey” Lenahan McKade
and my son, Kevin Joseph Swidow
Given by Mary Jo Spajdick

Happy Mother’s Day
Kathy & Connie

With love from your Mother
In memory of our mums,
Elizabeth Roake and Helen Janicki
Always in our thoughts and prayers
Given by Larry and Barbara

Happy Mother’s Day to all Mothers,
Grandmothers and Godmothers of Branch 64, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
May God bless you!
In tribute to our godmothers,
Eleanor and Dorothy
From Ray and Brian

In loving memory of our mothers,
Mary Polaha and Susanna Lichman
From the Leo Lichman Family

To our mothers,
Dorothy and Eleanor
For all that you are…
For all that you do…
For all that you’ve given…
We love you!
Lenea & Theresa

In loving memory of Anna Dembicki Mucha,
a sweetheart of a mother!
Given by her daughter, Diane Mucha

In loving memory of our mothers,
Rima Anthony and Susanne Lichman
Always in our prayers.
Love, Monica and John Anthony

In memory of my mother,
Anna Shiman
With love from your daughter,
Mary Ann Ewasko

Happy Mother’s Day to our grandma,
Mary Ann Ewasko
With love, Paul G. and Marissa

Hugs and kisses to our mum,
Diane Joosin
We love you!
Paul G. and Marissa

Happy Mother’s Day to my mom,
Mary Ann Ewasko
Thanks for all of your help!
Love you, Diane

Happy Mother’s Day
to all of Branch 6’s Mothers, Grandmothers,
Godmothers, Aunts, Sisters & Daughters
Enjoy your day!
Mary Ann Ewasko

To all mothers of the LPSCU and LCA
You will be in my prayers this month.
I’ll ask that blessings be sent your way
Jean Hladick, LPSCU National Trustee

In memory of our precious mothers,
Mary Brown Gaughan
and Anna Bucha
Our memories are everlasting.
God grant to you eternal peace.
Your loving children, Tom and Cell

In loving memory of our beloved mother,
Theresa K. Einke
From your children,
Dolores and Fr. Joe

In loving memory of my mother,
EvelineSchloery Carny.
I miss you every day
Nancy Carter-Rausch

Happy Mother’s Day to “The Chief”
Romasek Einke-Krause
With love from her son,
“Jim”

In memory of my dear sisters, baby sister Anna, Mary, and Steffie.
It doesn’t get easier.
As times goes by, I miss you more.
Your kid sister, Celly

Happy Mother’s Day
to the most awesome mother in the world.
We love you!
Bridget and Colleen

Happy Mother’s Day to Val Luka,
our 85 year-old “Energizer Bunny.”
You just keep going and going!
May the dear Lord grant you many blessings.
We love you!
Tom and Cell

Happy Mother’s Day
To Michele and Mattye,
the newest mother in our family.
May you be blessed with many
happy moments with “Them.”
All our love!
The Gaughan Family

In loving memory of our beautiful mother,
Maie Bucha, who lost her fight with breast cancer in 1961 at the age of 35.
We never stop thinking of you.
God give you the peace and happiness you deserve.
We miss you.
With love from daughters,
Mary and Janice.
Cathy Baker, and Alice Crabb

In loving memory of my mother,
Rita Simichlid
With love, Chuck

In memory of my dear mother,
Antoinette Ferri.
You were a super mom!
With loving thoughts,
Your son, John

In memory of our beloved mother,
Anna Mary Ozavec.
I miss you and you love very much.
Your loving daughter
Margaret A. Ferri

In memory of my mother,
Theresa Pusniack
Given by Dolores Pusniack

In loving memory of our mother,
Theresa K. Einke
From your children,
Dolores and Fr. Joe

In loving memory of my mother,
Eveline Schloery Carny.
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Your son, John

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Anna Mary Ozavec.
I miss you and you love very much.
Your loving daughter
Margaret A. Ferri

In memory of my mother,
Theresa Pusniack
Given by Dolores Pusniack

Your inscription may be personalized to recognize a loved one or special event with “In honor of...,” “In memory of...,” or “In celebration of...”. You may also simply have your name, the family name, or business name. Restrictions as to space and characters are listed below, based on whether you choose a fraternal leaf or stone.

Your contribution can be paid in one installment or several; however, we will not bill you for any remaining portion. It is your responsibility to monitor your installments.

Please complete the Reservation Form and return it (a photocopy is also acceptable), along with your donation, to: LPSCU Tree of Life, P.O. Box 32, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703-0032. Please make checks payable to the LPSCU – Scholarship Fund.

Name_________________________________ Phone ________________
Address _____________________________________________________
City/State/Zip ________________________________________________
Enclosed is:  (please check one)
☐ my first donation toward my “Tree of Life,” entitling me to an engraved fraternal leaf or stone (please circle one) when fully paid. (Minimum of $20 per payment.)
☐ my $100 check entitling me to an engraved fraternal leaf.
☐ my $500 check entitling me to an engraved fraternal stone.

PLEASE ENGRAVE MY FRATERNAL LEAF OR STONE AS FOLLOWS:

Leaf inscription:
Maximum of 4 lines with 20 characters per line, including spaces.

Stone inscription:
Maximum of 6 lines with 40 characters per line, including spaces.

___________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________

Calendar of Events
continued from page 2

NOVEMBER
12-13 — LPSCU Semiannual Board Meeting

DECEMBER
2 — Rev. Dianiska District’s Annual Christmas Party at the Ramada Inn, Public Square, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Branches 6 and 48 will host.

My Mom’s The Greatest!

Sandra R. Nonnemacher with her son Christian, 9, a member from Hazleton, Pennsylvania.

Members —

Remember to send your news and photos to Public Relations Director Margaret A. Ferri.
E-mail: margeferri28@aol.com
or send to:
428 E. Frankford St., Bethlehem, PA 18018
Brittany Wirth, whose basketball prowess for the undefeated “Fire Balls” was noted in last month’s issue, is pictured with her League Championship trophy and a basketball signed by all her teammates. Ten-year-old Brittany is a 4th grader at Parkway Manor Elementary School in Allentown, Pennsylvania, and is a member of Bethlehem Branch 130. Congratulations, Brittany!

The New Jersey Fraternal Congress announces that applications are available for its 2007 Youth Volunteer Award Program. The LPSCU is a member of the NJFC. Therefore, LPSCU members who are residents of New Jersey and between the ages of 16 and 22 at the time of application may apply for the 2007 Youth Volunteer Award. LPSCU applicants must obtain a recommendation letter from our National President and sign the Statement of Application which appears on the Application. The completed application, together with the letter of recommendation, must be mailed postmarked no later than September 1, 2007, to: Monica E. Kanopka, NJFC Youth Volunteer Award Committee, 5 Butterfly Court, Stafford, NJ 08050.

The recipient of the 2007 Youth Volunteer Award will receive a $500 award plus an additional $500 award for the awardee’s favorite charitable organization. The $500 award for the recipient’s charity is made possible through the generosity of the Recreation Farm Society.

Judging will be done by the Youth Volunteer Award Committee of the NJFC. Awards will be presented at the NJFC Meeting in October 2007.

To receive an application for the NJFC 2007 Youth Volunteer Award, contact the LPSCU Home Office at 570/823-3513 or toll free at 888/834-6614; e-mail lpscu@lpscu.org; or visit our website, www.lpscug.org.

Dear President Kluchinski and Members of the LPSCU:

Thank you all very much for choosing me as a recipient for the $500 Scholarship Award. It means so much to my family and me that I was chosen along with so many talented people. This scholarship will help fund my schooling and help me prepare for the spring semester fees. I am so grateful to all of you that made this possible. Your support is very important to me.

Thank you also for the wonderful District party and the generous monetary gift as well. Thank you for your generosity and your faith in me to achieve my goals. I will make good use of this scholarship and continue to strive toward success.

Stephanie Swire
Branch 213
Dallas, Pennsylvania

Have you signed up a new member lately?
Slovak Citizens Need Your Help!

NOW IS THE TIME TO CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVE AND SENATORS IN WASHINGTON!

Dear Friend of Slovakia,

Slovakia is a free, democratic society and a member of both NATO and the European Union. However, because Slovakia is not yet included in the U.S. Visa Waiver Program (VWP), Slovak citizens are still subjected to a lengthy and costly visa procedure for travel to the U.S. and are too often barred entry. Meanwhile Americans travel visa-free to Slovakia. This asymmetrical visa barrier for Slovaks:
• reduces U.S.-Slovak business opportunities, tourism, and family contact.
• affects U.S.-Slovak bilateral relations and creates anti-Americanism.
• negatively impacts the common fight against international terrorism.

The VWP was established in 1986 to promote better relations with U.S. allies, eliminate unnecessary barriers to travel, and stimulate tourism and people-to-people contacts. Currently 27 countries participate in the VWP, including many of the European Union countries — even those that haven’t supported the U.S. in the war on terrorism as actively as our Central European friends. Yet Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Poland, and others aren’t included.

Over the past two years, Friends of Slovakia has been active in pursuing ways to inform the U.S. public and members of Congress regarding the impact of the exclusion of our allies in Central Europe, including Slovakia, from the Visa Waiver Program. In February 2005 we held our first Capitol Hill Forum on the Visa Waiver Program in cooperation with American Friends of the Czech Republic (AFoCR) and the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). Authoritative commentators traveled from Slovakia and the Czech Republic to provide expert witness to the negative impact our restrictive visa practices towards these NATO allies are having on public opinion in their countries. On March 5th of this year we again co-sponsored with CSIS and AFoCR a well attended Congressional Forum on the current prospects for extension of the Visa Waiver Program to our Central European friends and other countries helping us in the fight against terrorism. We are now happy to report a possible breakthrough and an opportunity for change in this area.

On March 13, 2007, the U.S. Senate passed a bill denoted as “S.4,” and titled: Improving America’s Security Act of 2001. S.4 contains provisions (Sec. 501) to modernize the Visa Waiver Program by extending visa-free travel privileges to nationals of foreign countries that are allies in the war on terrorism and meet other requirements. If enacted into law, S.4 will bring closer the day Slovaks can qualify for visa free travel to the U.S. based on lowering Slovakia’s visa refusal rate and the frequency of overstays by Slovak tourists and expanded collaboration with our efforts to enhance the security of international travel.

In order for S.4 to become law, a bill containing similar provisions has to be passed by the House of Representatives as well. The challenge we face is that many members of the House are not fully aware of the impact of the current double standard in U.S. visa policy and the damage this is doing to our relations with our Central European friends. Nor is it clear that the supporters of this legislation can overcome the serious objections of those who simply want to tighten up on or even eliminate the Visa Waiver Program entirely. Only with the support of your elected representatives can the necessary bill be passed. They will support it only if those who favor less restrictive travel for Slovak citizens to the U.S. tell their members of Congress that the Slovak Republic’s participation in the VWP is important to them.

So, therefore, if you are concerned about the current visa waiver program and support making it easier for Slovaks and other European allies to enter the U.S., you now have the opportunity to contact your Senators and Representative. The following is a suggested message:

Senators: If S.4 is negotiated with the House in the Conference Committee, you want the Senate to insist upon retaining language providing for the modernization of the Visa Waiver Program and its expansion to nationals of foreign countries that are allies in the war on terrorism.

Representative: You want the House to pass S.4 or its own bill with similar visa waiver provisions.

Please make this information available to your friends and family so that they can contact their Senators and Representatives as well. Note that you can find the mailing addresses and public e-mail addresses for members of Congress on the internet. All Representatives and Senators are listed on www.house.gov or www.senate.gov. You can find your Representative by entering your ZIP code.

As we all know, the Slovak people have made tremendous progress since the Velvet Revolution of 1989 and Slovakia’s independence in 1993. Friends of Slovakia supported Slovakia’s joining NATO when they finally qualified for membership and now supports expanding the Visa Waiver Program to give Slovaks the same opportunities to visit the United States enjoyed by the citizens of “Old Europe.” The Slovak younger generation now has the opportunity to travel freely within the European Community. They are still interested in visiting the United States, but are deeply offended by the difficulty and sometimes impossibility of doing so. We do not want to alienate friends in a country linked to us by ties of kinship and democratic values which the United States worked so hard to free from a totalitarian regime and encouraged to rejoin the trans-Atlantic community. Please consider what you can do to inform your elected representatives of your views on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Joseph Senko
For the Executive Committee
Friends of Slovakia

ZORNICKA
In 2007, we need to ask ourselves what, if any, is the role of the Slovak League of America today? Its goal of independence for Slovakia first conceived at that historic assembly in 1907 in Cleveland has been achieved. However, there is still an important role in American Slovak life for the Slovak League. With its various cultural projects including its publication of the scholarly annual Slovakia, its scholarship program for young people, and its heritage fund for cultural projects, the Slovak League continues to serve as a catalyst within the American Slovak community. We need to continue to promote the rich heritage of our ancestors as an integral facet of the cultural fabric of American life.

I likewise extend a cordial invitation to all members of our Slovak fraternals to attend the historic 100th anniversary dinner of the Slovak League which is scheduled for Sunday, June 10, 2007, at the Crown Plaza Hotel at the Meadowlands in New Jersey. We look forward to the presence of the leaders of the Slovak fraternals currently affiliated with the Slovak League. Likewise, we extend a cordial invitation to the leaders of those Slovak fraternals which were formerly affiliated with the League to join us.

In conclusion, the officers and board of directors in this centennial year take the opportunity to express thanks and gratitude to the Slovak fraternals which have sustained the work of the Slovak League of America and hold continuous membership. Through the charity and benevolence of these fraternals, the Slovak presence and cause have been sustained in America during this past century. We salute the First Catholic Slovak Union of the U.S. and Canada, the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, the Slovak Catholic Sokol, the National Slovak Society of the U.S.A., and the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union.

Individuals are invited to become members of the Slovak League in this its centennial year. Individual annual dues are $5.00 and may be sent, along with donations for our centennial year projects, to our office in Passaic, New Jersey. Make checks payable to: Slovak League of America, 205 Madison Street, Passaic, NJ 07055; telephone 973/472-8993.

Join us as we begin our second century of promoting the Slovak presence and cause in the United States!

(Senator Voinovich hosts ethnic groups)

Senator George Voinovich (R-Ohio) sponsored a luncheon and roundtable discussion on March 16, 2007, at Saints Cyril and Methodius Slovak Church Hall in Warren, Ohio, to explain Senate Bill 4, which he is sponsoring in Congress. The bill, an amendment to Homeland Security Legislation, will provide security measures to the Visa Waiver Program and should make visas more readily available to applicants from countries like Slovakia. (See related story on page 12.)

A dozen ethnic groups were represented at the roundtable. Bernadette Demechko and Steven Bacon were invited to represent Youngstown Sister Cities and area Slovak Americans. Bernadette is a member of LPSCU Branch 83.

Steve Thornton of Schererville, Indiana, bowled a perfect 300 game on November 15, 2006, at the Stardust Bowl III in Dyer, Indiana, while bowling in the Westlake Conference with the Indiana Boys High School Bowling Organization. He hit his perfect game during the third week of the regular bowling season. This was Steve’s first 300. At the time of this game, he had a 223 bowling average.

Steve is captain of his bowling team and the team’s anchorman. At the November 15th match, however, he was placed in the third position because the opposing team placed their best player in that spot.

Steve, 17, is a Junior at Andrean High School. He is the first Junior from Andrean to accomplish this momentous task. He joins only two other Andrean bowlers, both former Seniors, to have scored perfect 300 games.

Steve is a member of LPSCU Branch 198, Whiting, Indiana. The LPSCU congratulates Steve on his perfect 300 game. We wish him continued success with his bowling team.
Dear Junior Members,

May is American Bike Month. Besides being one of the most pleasant ways of getting around town, bicycling is also one of the most practical. Whether you are gliding leisurely down a quiet road or zipping along on your way to work or school, you are not only saving money on transportation but also getting one of the best forms of exercise. Many people are taking cycling seriously as a form of transportation because it saves on gas, cuts down on vehicular traffic, and helps prevent air pollution.

There was a time when many of us walked or rode our bikes to school or other destinations. But with more and more cars on today’s roads, not everyone feels safe doing that. Perhaps we would if our routes were made safer. A few years ago, Congress set aside money for a new “Safe Routes to School Program.” This program gives each state money to improve school cycling and walking routes. Some monies will also be used for bike safety education.

A group called “Rails to Trails Conservancy” raises money to turn abandoned railroad tracks into trails that can be used for walking, horseback riding, and bicycling. More bike racks are being erected so riders will have a safe place to leave their bikes. In larger cities, busses have bike racks and the bikes ride free. Many cities are putting police officers on bicycles to patrol neighborhoods. Officers on bikes can get around quicker than on foot and can often get into tight areas where patrol cars won’t fit. These 2-wheeled police officers also visit schools to give safety pointers to students.

Motorists must learn to share the road with cyclists. Bikes have a legal right to use the road and should be treated like other vehicles. But that doesn’t mean cyclists don’t have to obey traffic rules. Good road manners are required from drivers and cyclists alike.

Here are some tips for motorists regarding bicyclists:
- After parking alongside a road, look before opening your door. You don’t want to force a cyclist to have to swerve around you into moving traffic.
- Slow down on hills and around blind corners.
- Be certain a cyclist sees you before you make a turn or drive out of your driveway.
- Give a cyclist plenty of room when you pass.
- Try not to startle cyclists. Do not blow your horn except in dangerous situations.

Some tips for bicyclists:
- Always cycle in the same direction as the traffic on your side of the road.
- Use hand signals to show what you plan to do.
- Obey all traffic signs. Traffic lights and STOP signs are meant for you, too.
- Don’t weave in and out of traffic.
- Cycle single file and, when possible, in a straight line. Alert fellow cyclists when you pass.
- Always, always wear your helmet! Helmets can prevent head injuries.
- Pull completely off the road when you stop to rest or talk to your companions.
- Go slow when cycling on sidewalks, across driveways, or through parking lots.
- Wear bright clothes so you can be seen.
- Most accidents happen at intersections. Make certain a driver sees you before you cross.

Your bicycle is helping to keep you in shape and you are enjoying it, so why not put a bit of effort into keeping your bike in shape as well? Follow this checklist to help care for you bicycle’s parts:
- Reflectors should be kept clean at all times.
- Make sure your saddle-bar and handlebars are tight as well as a comfortable height for you.
- Your horn or bell should have a clear, loud sound.
- Headlamps should be visible from at least 500 feet away.
- Check tires to feel that they are firm and not cut or wearing out.
- Make sure tire stems are straight and not leaking.
- Wheels should not wobble or rub on the forks. Make sure no spokes are bent or broken.
- Pedals should be the proper length for your legs and have good tread so your feet won’t slip off.
- Your chain should fit snugly. Make sure there are no broken or damaged links.
- It’s very important that your brakes work properly to stop your bike quickly and smoothly.

With summer fast approaching, you’ll have lots of time to spend riding your bike. Take care of it and it will give you many hours of enjoyment.

Cecilia B. Gaughan, Fraternal Activities Director

Kids in the Kitchen

FLOWER BASKET CUPCAKES

Perhaps you followed last issue’s Arts and Crafts instructions to create a May Day basket of spring flowers to surprise someone with on May 1st. Now how would you like to present an edible basket to Mom on Mother’s Day? You can turn this into a family project and perhaps start a new family tradition.

To make these edible flower baskets, bake your favorite cupcake recipe. Frost the cupcakes with white icing. Cut flower-shaped jujubes in half width-wise and set them on top of each cupcake, then fasten M&M Minis to their centers with a dot of icing. To make the leaves, cut green jujubes in half width-wise, and then cut each piece in thirds and set them near the flowers. For the handle, bend a piece of black licorice and add a colorful fruit leather bow to it.

Mother will love it. And you can make enough for Grandma and your other special people on Mother’s Day.
The ‘M’ Days of May

Did you know that three of the holidays that are celebrated in May begin with the letter M? They are May Day, Mother’s Day, and Memorial Day.

In many countries, the first of May is known as May Day, a day to welcome spring. Many children in the United States and other countries dance around a Maypole on this day. Dancing around a Maypole is a custom that dates back to the Ancient Romans. The Romans had a festival in honor of Flora, the goddess of flowers. During this celebration, a May Queen was chosen and crowned with flowers. The Maypole has ribbons that run down from top of the pole. As the revelers dance, they weave the brightly colored ribbons under and over each other and around the Maypole.

In many places in the United States, children make May baskets which are decorated and then filled with flowers. The baskets are left on the doorstep or hung on the door-knob of a friend’s house on the first day of May.

In 1907, Anna Jarvis of Grafton, West Virginia, conceived the idea of holding a special church service in honor of mothers. By 1914, her campaign to celebrate a special day had been so successful that President Woodrow Wilson formally declared the second Sunday in May Mother’s Day. Today, the occasion is marked primarily with cards and gifts of flowers and candy. But some still hold true to Jarvis’s original concept by wearing a carnation — red if one’s mother is living and white if she is not. This year Mother’s Day falls on Sunday, May 13.

You can do something special for Mother on that day. You can promise to make your bed, dust the furniture, clear the table and load the dishwasher, walk the dog, take out the trash, and/or run the vacuum. These are helpful things you can do to give Mom a little break on Mother’s Day. But remember, a promise is a promise and you must keep it! These thoughtful gifts from the heart will make Mother happy for a long time.

Memorial Day is a patriotic holiday. It is a legal holiday observed annually on the last Monday in May in the United States, in honor of the nation’s armed services personnel killed in wartime. It began on May 30, 1868, and was inspired by local observances to honor the war dead which became widespread following the American Civil War, which had taken more than 600,000 lives. The holiday was originally called Decoration Day because it is a time for decorating graves with flowers and flags. Over time, the designation Memorial Day became far more common. Now it honors the servicemen and women of all wars. Many cities have parades as well as graveside ceremonies, and special observances are held at military monuments and national military cemeteries such as Arlington in Virginia. This year Memorial Day is observed on May 28.

Arts and Crafts

MAKE A SHADOW BOX

In addition to photographs, you’ve probably collected many postcards, trinkets, and souvenirs from your family’s travels and outings over the years. Why not display some of them in a shadow box?

You’ll need a shallow wooden box, whether pre-made from the craft store or something you and Dad hammer together yourselves. (If a wooden box is not available, a sturdy cardboard box will work too. Have an adult help you cut it down to 1–1 1/2” deep.)

First, decide on a theme. Perhaps you want to display your sports momentos. Collect ticket stubs from games you’ve attended, magazine photos or cards featuring your favorite players, small trinkets, buttons, or other team memorabilia that will fit in your box. Or maybe you want to show off the places you’ve been. Gather together photos, postcards, small souvenirs, maps, and other artifacts that represent your travels. Do you have beads from Mardi Gras? A favorite shell from the beach? A stone from the Grand Canyon? Gather them up!

First create your background. The flat items you’ve collected work best here. Glue down your maps, programs, postcards, ticket stubs, etc., to cover the background. If you’re using a wooden box, use wood glue on the background objects. Let the glue dry well.

Now comes the fun part! Glue in all the 3-dimensional items you’ve collected. Put heavier items on the bottom so the lip of your box will help support their weight. You can fill in with family photos, stamps, buttons, bells, beads, or any other colorful trinkets you’ve collected.

When the glue is dry, affix a hanger to the back and your box is ready to hang. Or, if the box is deep enough, you may be able to stand it up as a table display.

Attention, Gardeners!

May is the month to plant your seedlings. Whether you started them indoors or picked them up at a nursery, now is the time to transplant your young vegetable plants into the garden or into your patio pots. Just make sure it’s after the last freeze date for your region. Once you have them in the ground you should place an empty tuna can in the garden to measure the rainwater. Your seedlings need an inch of water per week. Check your can on the same day each week. On the weeks it isn’t full, you’ll need to supplement your plants’ water.

If you live in an apartment or other area without a yard, you can still enjoy a garden. Try planting a flower box on your windowsill or put pots of plants on your balcony or patio. A sturdy wood or plastic flower box with good drainage will work for a window box. On the patio, use round clay pots or wooden half-barrels. Even an old Styrofoam cooler can make a nice container. Fill the bottom with a layer of pebbles or vermiculite, and cover with potting soil.
“I think I can. I think I can.”

If you want to win but think you can’t;
It’s almost a cinch you won’t.

If you think you’ll lose, you’re lost;
For out of the world we find
Success begins with a fellow’s will;
It’s all in a state of mind.

Life’s battles don’t always go
To the stronger and faster man,
But sooner or later the man who wins
Is the man who thinks he can.

As we prepare to celebrate the feast of Pentecost, may the Holy Spirit once again empower us to take on the hard work of doing what is right, good, and just — despite our own sense of unworthiness, inadequacy, or failure. May we always live in the firm belief that the Holy Spirit will enable us to do what is of and by God if we are willing to love enough to try and say “I think I can . . . and I will!” May God grant us the power of positive thinking — and the power of positive living! Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful and enkindle in US the fire of Your love!

Rev. Philip A. Altavilla

SCF Pilgrimage of Faith

Saturday, September 22, 2007
Basilica of SS. Cyril & Methodius
Danville, Pennsylvania

SCHEDULE
11:00 a.m. Arrival of Pilgrims
12:00 noon Gathering of Pilgrims in the Basilica
Opening Welcome by Rev. Philip Altavilla,
National President of the Federation
Recitation of and Reflection on the
Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary
led by representatives of the Conference
of Slovak Religious

**Lunch is the responsibility of each pilgrim**

12:45 till
Tours available for Jankola Library
3:00 p.m. (the richest collection of Slovak literature,
artwork, history in the United States)
Tours of the Basilica
of SS. Cyril & Methodius
(the only basilica in North America
dedicated to the Patrons of Slovakia and
co-patrons of all of Europe)

3:00 p.m. Conference in Maria Hall Auditorium by Sr.
John Vianney (The story of Women Religious
during Communism in Slovakia)

3:30 p.m. Slovak Hymn Sing led by the Heritage
Society of NEPA
(Basilica of SS. Cyril & Methodius)

4:00 p.m. Pontifical Mass
(Basilica of SS. Cyril & Methodius)
Most Rev. Joseph V. Adamec, D.D.,
Celebrant and Homilist

Rev. Philip A. Altavilla