Delegates meeting in Las Vegas for the 39th National Convention of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union will celebrate the Convention Liturgy in the beautiful Shrine of the Most Holy Redeemer, 55 East Reno Avenue, on Tuesday, July 22, at 3:00 p.m. The Most Reverend Joseph V. Adamec, D.D., S.T.L., Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown, Pennsylvania, will be the principal celebrant and homilist of the Liturgy. Bishop Adamec is the Episcopal Protector of the LPSCU.

The Shrine of the Most Holy Redeemer was established in 1991 and The Reverend Phil Audet is its Rector. Most Reverend Joseph A. Pepe, D.D., J.C.D., is Bishop of the Diocese of Las Vegas, Nevada. The Shrine is the largest Roman Catholic Church in the State of Nevada, with seating for over 2,200 worshippers. The Shrine’s beautiful main altar is shown in the photo above. The altar, lectern, sanctuary lamp, crucifix, and tabernacle are original contemporary works in bronze.

Within the Shrine is housed the lovely Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel. The Chapel was commissioned by the Most Reverend Daniel F. Walsh, D.D., former Bishop of the Diocese of Reno-Las Vegas, to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Evangelization of the Americas. The Chapel is a gift of the E.L. Wiegand Foundation. The Chapel contains a beautiful oil painting of Our Lady of Guadalupe, which originated in Mexico in the late 17th Century (circa 1680). Also in the Chapel is a four-foot, hand-carved statue of St. Joseph and the Child Jesus. The statue is approximately 200 years old and has been completely restored. The most contemporary artistic work is a mural depicting all of the people of Canada, the United States, Mexico, Central and South America who played a significant role in the Evangelization of the Americas.

Worship in this beautiful edifice and house of God will truly be an inspiration to the LPSCU fraternal family and guests as during the Liturgy we invoke God’s blessings upon the delegates to our National Convention.
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Calendar of Events

**MAY**

3  —  JOIN HANDS DAY – Don’t forget to send a report on your project to Zornicka.

4  —  Lehigh Valley Okres Mother/Daughter Mass at St. John the Baptist Slovak Catholic Church, Front Street, Allentown, Pennsylvania, at 11:00 a.m., followed by Luncheon served at 12:45 p.m. at Best Western Lehigh Valley Conference Center, Routes 512 & 22, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

15  —  Deadline to make reservations to attend “Flag Day at the Ballpark” sponsored by the Fraternal Societies of Northeast Pennsylvania. (Ball game is on Saturday, June 7, at 7:00 p.m. – Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Yankee vs. Syracuse Chiefs.) See page 13 for details.

15  —  Deadline to submit an application form requesting a donation from the LPSCU Convention. Forms are available from the Home Office or online at www.lpscu.org. See page 4 for more details.

16-18  —  52nd Annual Pittsburgh International Folk Festival at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center, downtown Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. See page 14 for times and details.

22  —  Deadline to file an Intent Form for those members seeking to run for the office of National President at the upcoming LPSCU Convention. See page 4 for more details.

25  —  Deadline to submit articles for July/August Zornicka.

**JUNE**

1  —  Deadline to apply for a scholarship grant from the Slovak League of America.

6  —  Deadline to file an Intent Form for those members seeking to run for any national office (other than that of National President) at the upcoming National Convention. See page 4 for more details.

15  —  Deadline to submit your entry in our Pet Lovers Contest. See page 17 for details.

22  —  Rev. Baloga Okres Picnic Social and Meeting at St. Matthias Church, Youngstown, Ohio, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Branch 163 will host.

30  —  Deadline to consider a Recommendation for consideration by the LPSCU 39th National Convention. See page 8.

30  —  Deadline to apply for an LPSCU Catholic High School Award or the Bishop Grutka Award. See page 14 for details.

**JULY**

12  —  Rev. Dianiska District’s Annual Youth Bowling Party co-chaired by Hope and Lori Ann Napkora.

continued on page 15
This past April 15-20, the United States of America was blessed by a pastoral visit from His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI. This was his first visit to America since being elected to the papacy. The Pontiff’s theme for his pastoral visit was “Christ Our Hope.” It can be safely said that this particular theme was drawn from Pope Benedict’s second encyclical entitled, Saved In Hope (Spe Salvi). As we did with his first encyclical, God is Love, let us spend some time reflecting on this beautifully positive writing.

“In hope we are saved,” Pope Benedict begins his encyclical, quoting from Saint Paul’s Letter to the Romans (Romans 8:24). Merriam-Webster’s on-line dictionary defines hope as: “desire accompanied by expectation of or belief in fulfillment.” For Catholics, hope, along with faith and love, is considered to be one of the three great theological virtues. In paragraph 1817, the Catechism of the Catholic Church says: “The virtue of hope involves desiring the joy of eternal life with God above everything else and depending on God’s grace, rather than on our own strength, on that journey.” Hope calls us to live our lives in anticipation of that moment when we will be drawn into the fullness of life and love with God in heaven. But, until that moment of ultimate fulfillment comes, we rely on God’s grace to stay focused on what is expected of us as we journey to heaven.

In his encyclical, Pope Benedict certainly encourages us to have this very positive attitude towards hope, but he also acknowledges that living a life of hope in a world filled with many distractions which can pull us down is quite a challenge. He reminds us that there are many voices in the world trying to convince us that God isn’t real or that the Church is not necessary for our salvation. Advances in science and technology seem to call us to place our hope more in human achievements and these are quite good, but as we have seen in recent history, these achievements also have the power to cause great destruction and harm the human spirit. In the midst of much progress, human beings can still be sad and lonely, drifting along through life as if they have no hope. Our Christian faith tells us that we can’t place our ultimate hope in the things of this world. The only sure hope is that which God — who is eternal, unchanging and faithful truth, love and life — offers us.

These characteristics of hope remind us that Christianity is not a private event, not something isolated solely to the individual person. Being Christian means that we cannot live by an “anything goes” mentality. Christianity differs from those schools of thought which leave all moral and ethical decisions up to the individual. We live in community, informed by God and challenged to put God’s will above our own. While we are called to make choices and decisions in life, these must be made in accord with God’s commandments and expectations, especially as these have been articulated through the Church.

We place our hope in many things in life, great and small. But “things” ultimately fail us. Pope Benedict reminds us that we can and do have hope in our personal efforts or relationships and these bring us happiness, but only for a time. Our world invites us to have hope in great material and scientific achievements and these are quite good, but as we have seen in recent history, these achievements also have the power to cause great destruction and harm the human spirit. In the midst of much progress, human beings can still be sad and lonely, drifting along through life as if they have no hope. Our Christian faith tells us that we can’t place our ultimate hope in the things of this world. The only sure hope is that which God — who is eternal, unchanging and faithful truth, love and life — offers us.

Pope Benedict’s offers us three major ways that we learn and practice the virtue of hope and allow it to take deeper root in our lives:

1. **Prayer.** In prayer, we can always talk to God, even when there is no source of human hope. To make room for hope, we must make room and develop a capacity for listening to God.

2. **Action and suffering.** Our actions of love and service teach us hope. Our hope in God and his greater
REVEREND DIANISKA DISTRICT

The Rev. Dianiska District held its first meeting of the year on Sunday, March 2, 2008, at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Swoyersville, Pennsylvania. Debbie Adamchak welcomed the members on behalf of host Branches 17 and 19.

The meeting was called to order by District President Mary Ann Ewasko. Vice President Hope Napkora recited prayers for ill members of the District and their families, and for the souls of George Check, nephew of member Theresa Olshemski, and Thomas Zak, father of Christine Zak of the LPSCU Home Office staff. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Financial Secretary Marge Zinkavich read the roll call. Barbara Kalish and Debbie Adamchak gave the Secretary’s and Treasurer’s reports, respectively; both reports were approved. Barbara Kalish read correspondence and reported that the District had received a lovely thank you note and a monetary donation from Helen Stepanik.

The following items were discussed:

On May 3, 2008, the members will participate in Join Hands Day by volunteering at The Laurels Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

The District’s annual Youth Bowling Party will be held on July 12, 2008. Hope and Lori Ann Napkora are serving as co-chairs of the event. Details will be discussed at the next meeting.

In September a Mass and a luncheon will be held to celebrate the 65th anniversary of the District and the 110th anniversary of the LPSCU. Additional information will follow.

Group travel plans are being made for the July 2008 National Convention in Las Vegas. Contact Mary Ann Ewasko or Regina Kapral to make your travel arrangements.

National President Theresa Kluchinski announced that Mother’s and Father’s Day memorials or honorariums may be purchased and placed in the Mother’s and Father’s Day memorials or honorariums may be purchased and placed in the

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National President Theresa Kluchinski announced that Mother’s and Father’s Day memorials or honorariums may be purchased and placed in the Zornicka. She also spoke on several topics pertaining to the LPSCU.

Fundraising booklets will be distributed at the April 27, 2008, meeting. Please submit full payment for the booklets at the September meeting or mail to Marge Zinkavich or Mary Ann Ewasko.

Susan Worth

Convention Donations Notice

The LPSCU Convention, to be held July 22-24, 2008, in Las Vegas, Nevada, will consider applications for donations.

Donation applications are available upon request through the Home Office. Qualified representatives of organizations seeking donations may contact the Home Office for an application. Applications are also available on the LPSCU web site, www.lpscu.org.

All requests for donations from the Convention must be submitted on an LPSCU Donation Application Form and must be returned to the Home Office with a postmark of no later than May 15, 2008.

According to the Official Minutes of the Board of Directors’ Semiannual Meeting held in Las Vegas, Nevada, on November 6-8, 2007, it is required that any member with aspirations for National Office must request an Intent Form from the Home Office. According to the LPSCU Bylaws, the qualifications for candidates are set forth in the following Articles:

Article 16. A candidate for office must be at least 21 years of age, an active member with participation in LPSCU Branch or District activities for at least five years, and be present as a delegate at the Convention.

Article 17. No two immediate family members shall serve as an Officer of the LPSCU during the same term of office. Immediate family is defined as: grandparent, parent, spouse, or sibling.

Article 18. A member or delegate who is a National Officer/ Director/Board Member of another fraternal benefit society may not hold office of the LPSCU.

Article 26. No hired employee of the LPSCU shall be eligible to hold any National Office in the LPSCU while so employed, with the exception of the office of Secretary/Treasurer.

Article 27. Since the office of President is full time, nominations for this office will not be made from the floor. Nominations for the office of President shall be by written application which states the nominee’s qualifications, personal background and history, as well as past experience. Nominee applications are to be submitted to Home Office two months prior to the Convention. The Board of Directors shall verify these qualifications. They may use personal interviews, a professional investigating company, or any other means in order to verify the qualifications. From these applications, the Board of Directors shall recommend to the Nominating Committee candidates qualifying for the office of President.

Article 28. While nominations from the floor are to be accepted for all National Offices, excluding the office of National President and the hired position of Secretary-Treasurer, upon acceptance of the nomination, nominee will provide a resume to the delegates of the National Convention, containing personal background and history, and past experience, to prove their qualifications for the office to which they have been nominated.

The completed Intent Form must be returned to the Home Office with a postmark no later than June 6, 2008, with the exception of the Intent Form for the office of President, which must be returned to the Home Office with a postmark no later than May 22, 2008.
Valeria Lukish Celebrates Her 94th Birthday

Valeria Lukish, known to her friends and neighbors as “The Energizer Bunny,” had a grand celebration on her 94th birthday, March 9, 2008. Over 50 people joined in to help Val celebrate this wonderful occasion. A few of them are pictured below with Val outside her Whitehall, Pennsylvania, home where they’re surrounded by a huge “birthday cake” and giant “fire extinguishers” to put out her 94 birthday candles.

Val is very proud of her Slovak heritage and keeps in close contact with her relatives in Europe. As she speaks and writes the Slovak language fluently, Val talks with many of her Slovak relatives on a weekly basis. A number of them have also visited her here in America.

Val has long been a very loyal and dedicated supporter of the Slovak fraternal benefit system, and especially of LPSCU Branch 38/40, the Lehigh Valley Okres, and the Cardinal Tomko Chapter of the Slovak Catholic Federation. Her entire family — well over 40 members — belongs to LPSCU Branch 38/40.

Congratulations, Valeria! The LPSCU wishes you many more happy birthdays, along with good health and God’s blessings.

A Special Request from Jozef Cardinal Tomko

His Eminence, Jozef Cardinal Tomko, beloved friend of Slovak Americans, is currently in the final stages of editing a book which will be made available to families in Slovakia. This new tool for evangelization will be published in the Slovak language and is being edited in Slovakia by the Association of Saint Adalbert.

In commenting on his book, Cardinal Tomko said that he hopes it will “rekindle the Christian spirit within these families in Slovakia.” In order to complete the book’s editing and production, Cardinal Tomko is in need of financial assistance from Americans of Slovak ancestry.

Any size financial contribution to support Cardinal Tomko’s endeavor may be sent to the LPSCU Home Office. Please make checks payable to “LPSCU” and be sure to note on your check that your contribution is “For Cardinal Tomko’s book.” While we welcome individual contributions, we especially encourage our Branches and Districts to also consider supporting this worthwhile project.

On behalf of Cardinal Tomko, and those in Slovakia whose faith will be nourished by his book, thank you for your consideration and generous response to his request for financial assistance. May God bless you — and may your kindness be returned to you 100-fold!

Rev. Philip A. Altavilla, V.E.
LPSCU National Spiritual Advisor

Cooking Corner

PEACHES AND CREAM CHEESE CAKE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ingredient</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>¾ cup flour</td>
<td>1 tsp. baking powder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>½ tsp. salt</td>
<td>3 tsp. margarine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 egg</td>
<td>½ cup milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3½ oz. pkg. dry vanilla pudding (not instant)</td>
<td>20 oz. can sliced peaches, drained (reserve juice)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Filling

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ingredient</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 oz. cream cheese</td>
<td>3 Tbsp. peach juice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>½ cup sugar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Topping

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ingredient</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Tbsp. sugar</td>
<td>½ tsp. cinnamon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Combine flour, vanilla pudding, baking powder, egg, salt, milk, and margarine and beat for two minutes at medium speed. Pour mixture into a greased 9” pie pan. Place the drained peaches over the batter. Combine cream cheese, sugar, and peach juice and beat for two minutes at medium speed. Spoon the cream cheese mixture to within 1” of edge of batter in pie pan. Combine sugar and cinnamon and sprinkle over the cream cheese filling. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 to 35 minutes.

Valeria Lukish (third from right) is pictured with some of her birthday guests around a huge “cake.”
The Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union and the American Diabetes Association sincerely thank you for your response to this year’s Father’s Day Greetings/Memorials request. Your donations in honor of your fathers, grandfathers, godfathers, brothers and sons will help the ADA fund needed research and provide information and advocacy in the ongoing fight against diabetes. And through your loving words of praise and remembrance, you tell these special men in your lives how much they mean to you.

Happy Father’s Day to
Robert McCord, Jr.
You’re the best!
With love from your daughter,
Christine McCord

In loving memory of my father,
John Shinal
From daughter,
Mary Ann Ewasko

In memory of my dad,
William Ewasko
With love, daughter Diane

Happy Father’s Day to
Branch 6 Grandfathers and Fathers
Given by Mary Ann Ewasko

To All Fathers
Happy Father’s Day!
LPSCU National President
Theresa Kluchinski

To my father,
Lenny
Happy Father’s Day!
Love, Mary

In memory of our fathers,
Leonard Kluchinski and
Stanley Gluc
Although you are not with us
You are never far away
Although we cannot see you
You are in our hearts to stay!
Love, Lenny and Theresa

Happy Father’s Day
You are the best!
With much love,
Barbara, Raymond and Mark

In loving memory of
Bernard “Mickey” McDade
Remembering you with love.
Mary Jo Savidge

In loving memory of 3 generations of Slovak leaders and loving fathers,
Joseph F.,
Joseph C., and
Joseph J. Krajsa
From their loving family

In loving memory of
Joseph J. Krajsa, one of the best fathers I’ve ever known.
Miss you. - Nancy

Happy Father’s Day to the most loving and strongest man I know,
Andy Matvya
We love you!
Your loving children,
Barbara Lee and Jeff Smith

In loving memory of our fathers
William Bosko and
Joseph Janicko
Always in our prayers.
Barbara and Larry Janicko

Happy Father’s Day to all Fathers, Grandfathers, and Godfathers of Branch 64
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Happy Father’s Day
You are the best!
With much love,
Barbara, Raymond and Mark

In loving memory of
John P. Polaha, Jr.
We miss you!
Regina, John, David, Kathleen, and James
In loving memory of my dad, 
**Michael F. Guza**  
Given by daughter Anita Gregory and family

Remembering my Dada and his uplifting humor 
**John Goda**  
(1894-1973)  
Sylvia

Happy Father’s Day,  
**John Tirpak**  
Thank you for being such a wonderful father and grandfather.  
Love, Michael, Valerie, Melanie, David, Brian, and Matthew Tirpak

Happy Father’s Day to  
**Ed Strauss**  
With love from his granddaughters, Lia and Rina, Sara, Macy and Edie

In loving memory of our fathers,  
**Michael Lichman**  
and  
**Joseph Polaha**  
From Leo Lichman's Family

Happy Father’s Day to  
**Leo Lichman**  
From your devoted wife Dorothy and family

Happy Father’s Day to my dad,  
**Charlie Simalchik**  
With love always, Chuck

In memory of our beloved father,  
**John P. Evanko**  
From your devoted children, Dolores and Father Joe

In loving memory of our dad,  
**Joseph Bucha**  
Happy Father’s Day, Dad.  
You will never be forgotten  
From your loving children,  
Mary Ann, Peter, Joseph, Cathy, and Alice

**In memory of my great father**  
From your devoted son,  
Samuel Urda

In loving memory of  
**John J. Kosalko, Sr.**  
and  
**Paul A. Legenza**, loving father and grandfathers  
Given by your loving family

In loving memory of  
**John J. Kosalko, Jr.**,  
loving husband and father.  
Always loved and never forgotten!  
From your loving wife, Jeanne and sons Eric and Jeff

In loving memory of our fathers,  
**Peter Bucha**  
and  
**Thomas Gaughan, Sr.**  
May the good Lord grant you eternal peace and rest.  
From your children, Ceil and Tom

In loving memory of five great guys and brothers,  
**Franky, Marty, Johnny, Joey**  
and  
**Tony**  
What great brothers you all were!  
You are missed by your kid sister, Ceily

To all Fathers of the  
LPSCU and LCA  
You will be in my prayers this month and I will ask that blessings come your way.  
Joan Hladek, National Trustee

**Dad,**  
we have many memories of you but there is one that is special and that is we have never stopped loving you.  
We miss you! ~ Your loving children,  
Georgie, Donna, Mary, and Billy Schimeneck

**Dear Dad,**  
One of the most memorable days of my life is my camping trip with you. I will never forget when the Warden came into our tent to capture the rattlesnake that got in.  
Thanks, Dad, for the good times.  
Your loving son, Michael D.

Happy Father’s Day to our MePop  
**John Ferri**  
We love you, MePop!  
Tori, Jenna, Jace and Tate

**Herby,**  
what a great brother you were.  
We will always treasure our childhood memories.  
You are missed!  
Your loving sisters,  
Georgie, Donna and Mary (Schimeneck)

Happy Father’s Day to the “Big Guy”  
from your kids, Patty, Tom, and Tim and your grandkids,  
Bridget, Colleen, Michael, Mary Beth and Patrick

In loving memory of our dad,  
**Stephen Mamay**  
(1906-1976)  
From daughters, Mary Ford and Cathy Repynneck and son, Stephen Mamay

In memory of my father,  
**Stephen Fecko**  
From your loving daughter,  
Mary Ann Ackerman

In loving memory of our dad,  
**Richard T. Ackerman**  
We miss you Dad!  
Your loving children, Richard, Marilyn, Annette, and Bernard

In loving memory of  
**Edward Shannon, Sr.**  
and  
**Edward Shannon, Jr.**  
Given by wife and mother,  
Mary Shannon

In loving memory of  
**Donald D. Altavilla**  
Your grateful son,  
Father Phil Altavilla, V.E.  
We miss you!
Minutes of the Executive Finance Committee
Home Office, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

January 29, 2008

President Theresa Kluchinski called the meeting to order and offered a prayer for living and deceased members of the LPSCU and for Trustee Barbara Janicko and Secretary-Treasurer Mary Jo Savidge, 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 December 19, 2007, Executive Finance Committee meeting with one addition.

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

- Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association annual sponsorship. (Approved $250)

The committee tries to stay within the budget of $5,000 annually.

Financial Statement
The committee reviewed the following checking accounts as of December 31, 2007:


Stock/Bond/Pension Portfolio
The committee was provided copies of all reports from December 31, 2007, reviewing all activity, including CDs, Common Stocks, Preferred Stocks, Bonds, and International Investments, Schedule D — Part 3 and 4. The committee also reviewed the Employee Retirement Plan.

Other Business
The committee discussed the following: Premium Income, Minor Beneficiaries, Sales and Use Tax, Direct Deposit/Credit Card Services, and the 2008 Convention. The committee completed six months of the 2008 meeting schedule of the Executive Finance Committee.

There being no further business, the EFC adjourned.
Respectfully submitted,
Mary Jo Savidge
National Secretary-Treasurer

March 18, 2008

President Theresa Kluchinski called the meeting to order and offered a prayer for living and deceased members of the LPSCU and for Trustee Barbara Janicko and Secretary-Treasurer Mary Jo Savidge, 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 29, 2008, Executive Finance Committee meeting with one correction.

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

- Benedictine High School requesting ad for the Blue and White Gala. (Approved $100)
- Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh requesting purchase of banquet tickets and ad for their 2008 Fraternalist of the Year Banquet. (Approved 4 tickets at $200 and ad at $120)
- Jankola Library annual donation. (Approved $250)
- St. Joseph’s Church annual donation. (Approved $100)

Financial Statement

Bond/Stock/Pension Portfolio
The committee was provided copies of all reports from January 31, 2008, and February 29, 2008, reviewing all activity, including CDs, Common Stocks, Preferred Stocks, Bonds, International Investments, Schedule D — Part 3 and 4. The Employee Retirement Plan was also reviewed.

Other Business
The committee discussed the following: Credit Card Service, Budget, and Convention 2008.

There being no further business, the EFC adjourned.
Respectfully submitted,
Mary Jo Savidge
National Secretary-Treasurer

The Executive Finance Committee did not meet in February 2008.

CONVENTION NOTICE

The Recommendations Committee is requesting that any member having RECOMMENDATIONS for consideration at the LPSCU’s 39th Quadrennial National Convention, to be held July 22-24, 2008, at Bally’s, Las Vegas, Nevada, submit such signed Recommendation by June 30, 2008 to:

Mary Ann Ewasko, Recommendations Chairperson
c/o LPSCU
P.O. Box 32
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703-0032

ZORNICKA
Lehigh Valley Okres Joins Hands to Support Our Troops

On JOIN HANDS DAY, May 3, 2008, volunteers from the Lehigh Valley Okres will be filling packages of items donated by parishioners of St. John the Baptist Slovak Catholic Church in Allentown, Pennsylvania, and SS. Cyril and Methodius Slovak Catholic Church in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, to be sent to U.S. military personnel stationed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Any member of the LPSCU who has a military spouse, son, daughter, grandchild, or other relative stationed in Iraq or Afghanistan and who would like the Okres to mail a package to that person, is asked to send the name and correct mailing address of the serviceman/servicewoman to Margaret A. Ferri, Lehigh Valley Okres Treasurer, 428 East Frankford Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018 and a package will be mailed to that individual.

Packages will be mailed between May 15 and June 15, so please notify us as soon as possible if you would like your relative in the military to be included. It is absolute necessary to supply the correct military address in order for packages to be delivered.

Notice to LPSCU Members in the Lehigh Valley Area

Lehigh Valley Okres to Hold Old-Fashioned Picnic to Celebrate 110th Anniversary of the LPSCU

In conjunction with the 110th Anniversary of the LPSCU, the Lehigh Valley Okres will hold an old-fashioned picnic on Sunday, August 3, 2008, at The Meadows, 1770 Meadows Road, Hellertown, Pennsylvania, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. The Lehigh Valley Okres extends an invitation to all adult and junior members of the LPSCU in the Lehigh Valley Area to attend this picnic celebration.

Branches that represent the Lehigh Valley area are Allentown Branches 38 and 40, Bethlehem Branches 83 and 130, Hellertown Branch 196, Northampton Branches 62 and 204, Pottstown Branch 170, and Reading Branch 131.

If your Branch is not listed, please call your Branch Secretary or Okres Treasurer Marge Ferri regarding your intention to attend the picnic. An invitation is also extended to the LPSCU Board of Directors to celebrate this special occasion with our Lehigh Valley members.

There will be plenty of picnic foods, games and prizes for both children and adults, and music for an entertaining Slovak and English sing-along. We hope to see you there!

For reservations, please call Okres Secretary Mary Shannon (610/866-1625), Marge Ferri (610/866-8945), or Ceil Gaughan (610/433-4610) before July 25.

LPSCU To Honor Its 2008 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 September/October 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 September/October issue is July 23, 2008.

Our Mission is . . .

• To spread and foster the Catholic faith
• To foster a spirit and practice of true fraternalism
• To perpetuate an appreciation of ethnic culture and heritage
• To instill patriotic zeal for the United States of America
• To provide affordable insurance benefits
Happy Mother’s Day to Teresa McCord
I love you with all my heart, Mom
Love, your daughter Christine McCord
XOXOXO

In loving memory of our mothers, Elizabeth Bosko and Helen Janicko
Always in our prayers.
Barbara and Larry Janicko

Happy Mother’s Day to all Mothers, Grandmothers, Aunts, Sisters, and Daughters
Enjoy your day!
Mary Ann Ewasko

Happy Mother’s Day to my wonderful daughter Kathy from your loving mother, Regina Polaha
You are one in a million.

Happy Mother’s Day to the Greatest, Most Unselfish Mom and Grandmom anyone could have ~ Emerentiana (Babe) Matvya
We love you!
From your children, Barbara Lee and Jeff Smith

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 rest in peace
Eric and Jeffrey Kosalko

In loving memory of our precious mothers, Mary Brown Gaughan and Anna Bucha
You are dearly missed. We do have the loving memories but there are times we wish we had more.
Your loving children, Tom and Ceil

In loving memory of my mother, Ann “Honey” McDade and my son, Kevin Joseph Savidge
Always loved and never forgotten.
With love, Mary Jo

To my mother, Theresa
Happy Mother’s Day! I love you ~ Mary

To All Mothers
Happy Mother’s Day! Thank you for choosing life!
LPSCU National President Theresa Kluchinski

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

In loving memory of our beautiful mother, Marie Bucha, who lost her battle with cancer at the age of 35.
We never stop thinking of you.
God give you the peace and happiness you deserve.
We will always miss you.
Your loving daughters, MaryAnn Roach, Cathy Baker, and Alice Crabb.

Happy Mother’s Day, Ann Tirpak
Thank you for being such a wonderful mother and grandmother.
Love, Michael, Valerie, Melanie, David, Brian, and Matthew Tirpak

Happy Mother’s Day to my dear sisters, Mary and Steffie
You couldn’t do enough for me and I miss you both so much.
I think of you and pray to you and for you every day.
Love, hugs and kisses, your sister Ceily

To our inspirational, loving, and amazing mother, Romanza Krajsa
From the family

In loving memory of our beloved mother, Theresa K. Evanko
From your children, Dolores and Father Joe
Once again, we had a heartwarming response to this year’s Mother’s Day Greetings/Memorials request. You chose to honor not just your mothers, but all those other women who have made such a difference in your lives ~ grandmothers, godmothers, daughters, aunts and sisters ~ through your loving words and generous contributions to the Breast Cancer Research Center. Your donations in their name to this worthy cause are very much appreciated. No gift could ever adequately express our love, but hopefully our words will begin to tell them how we feel...

To our mothers

**Dorothy** and **Eleanor**
For all that you are...
For all that you do...
For all that you have given...
We love you!
Lenny & Theresa

In loving memory of

**Rita M. Simalach**
Former LPSCU National President
From your son, Chuck

In loving memory of our beloved mothers,

**Antoinetta Ferri**
and

**Anna Oravec**
May you rest in peace.
From your loving children,
John and Margaret Ferri

Happy Mother’s Day to you, **Mom**!
You are the greatest AND my best friend
Your loving son, Michael D.

Happy Mother’s Day, **Mommy**!
You are the best mother in the whole world!!!!
We love you, XOXOXO
Mary Beth and Patrick Gaughan

In loving memory of our beloved and beautiful mother,

**Mary Schimeneck**
We miss you now more than ever.
Your loving children,
Georgie, Donna, Mary and Bill

Happy Mother’s Day to our beloved mother

**Susanna Mamay**
With love from your daughters,
Mary Ford and Cathy Repyneck
and son, Stephen Mamay

Happy Mother’s Day to

**Catherine Bruzofsky**
With love from her daughter, son-in-law and granddaughter,
Teresa, Robert, and Christine McCord

In loving memory of my mother,

**Mary O. Fecko**
From your loving daughter,
Mary Ann Ackerman

Happy Mother’s Day to

**Mary Ann Ackerman**
from your loving children, Richard, Marilyn, Annette and Bernard

In loving memory of

**Mary Posivak** and **“Baba” Balent**
Given by daughter Mary Shannon

Dear Val,
Thanks for always being there for us and for your unconditional love.
With all our love,
Janice, Sabrina, Jose, Anthony and Aliyah

**Mommy (Sabrina)**
We love you to infinity and beyond!
Anthony and Aliyah

There’s always been one constant, one foundation in our lives, one thing that we could count on without a doubt, one thing we knew was always there, no matter what life brought — the love you gave day in, day out.
We love you **Mom**!
Erin, Danny, Matt, Cooper and Jake

Happy Mother’s Day to

**Anne C. Altavilla**
from your grateful and loving son,
Father Phil Altavilla, V.E.
It was Mother’s Day, and a very popular radio talk show host extended an invitation to his listeners to call in a message to their particular Mom letting her know how much she meant to them.

I happened to be tuned in and the beautiful ways in which each individual daughter expressed her love began to tug at my heartstrings. As I continued to listen, I was overcome with a deep sense of longing — a feeling of wanting so much to reach out to my Mom who was no longer with us.

She was a healthy, vibrant woman happily anticipating my upcoming wedding when she was struck with a fatal heart attack. Instead of the happiest day of my life, I was faced with the saddest.

The wedding was postponed for a few months and all the pomp and circumstance eliminated. It was not your usual exciting and happy affair because one of the most precious ingredients for a perfect day was missing — the Mother of the Bride!

But somehow life goes on. Before long there were five of us; my husband and I, two darling little girls and a precious boy. How I wished Mom could see my little brood!

Taking pen in hand, I somehow began writing. I didn’t intend for the words to rhyme but the words flowed faster than I could write. Taking the scribbled paper that only I could decipher, I dialed the radio station and before I knew it, I was on the air.

With a lump in my throat and a tear-stained paper, I began . . .

I don’t think she’ll be listening, cause Mom’s too far away
Still there isn’t any reason I can’t send my love today.

Some years ago I loved her, as any child might
But now that I’m a mother that love takes on new light.

Only now can I appreciate the times she chastised me
Or the other precious moments when she held me on her knee.

Only now can I realize the heartaches that she bore
When Dad came down with asthma and he could work no more.

His illness was a lingering one and Mom she bore her cross
Until one day she realized she must suffer her first great loss.

He passed away real quietly in the middle of the night
Her role as that of Mother must now take on new light.

She worked for eight long years to put us all through school
My Mom — a real precious jewel!

It’s easy for me now to see why oft times she said “No”
When I begged her to allow me where my young heart longed to go.

I could not see the dangers that in these places lie
But Mom, all wise and knowing, was guarding little I.

In two short years that heavy task is soon to come to me
Oh Mother up in Heaven, how I’ll be needing thee!

With evil forces from all sides in movies, books, and song
How, dear Lord, will I keep my little girl from wrong?

To be a Mother in this day is no easy task
Dear God in Heaven, show the way — This is all I ask.

So Mother now you see quite clear why I long for you today
If you were here to guide me now, I’d surely find the way.

My little ones are growing, Mom, I wish that you could see
My baby girl — she’s two now, and cute as she can be.

You never had a boy, Mom, you’d love mine — he’s now seven
And my oldest angel, Mary Anne, has just turned eleven.

Your daughters all still living remember very clear
The way they all expressed their love on Mother’s Day each year.

Oh how I could show my love if you were here today
But all that I can do this year is go to church and pray.

Your loving daughter,
Florence

This poem was written in the 1960s by Florence Eckert, a member of the Lithuanian Catholic Alliance/LPSCU, Branch L0222, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Those of us who have lost our dear mothers can truly appreciate Florence’s heartfelt sentiments and we thank her for sharing them with our members.

Important Notice

2008 Marks the LPSCU’s 110th Anniversary

Just a reminder that the LPSCU will be celebrating its 110th Anniversary in 2008. Branches and Districts are encouraged to celebrate this milestone of the LPSCU with a social event for their members. The social can be held at anytime during the celebration year, and can be of any type (for example: a brunch, luncheon, picnic, bowling or pizza party, etc.) Each Branch/District will receive a stipend of $10.00 for each member in attendance at the celebration upon submission of the following:

1. A notice of the celebration must be publicized by the Branch/District in the Zornicka extending an open invitation to all respective Branch or District members.

2. The Branch/District must notify the National Secretary-Treasurer in advance of the planned event so that, if possible, the National President, National Secretary-Treasurer, or a Board Member may attend.

3. A group photo and article must be printed in the Zornicka after the celebration.

4. A listing of all members in attendance at the celebration must be submitted to the National Secretary-Treasurer after the event.

In 2008, let us all proudly celebrate the 110th Anniversary of the LPSCU!
ATTENTION: All Fraternal Societies of NEPA Members!

Date: June 7, 2008
Time: 7 p.m.
Price: $25/per person
(The LPSCU will pay $15 towards our members’ tickets)

Make sure to watch as a fraternal member throws out the first pitch!

- Your ticket to the game
- A limited edition SWB Yankees hat
- Food buffet for 1½ hours filled with grilled hamburgers, hot dogs, pasta salad, grilled chicken Caesar salad, meatball marinara & chicken nuggets
- Cash Bar will be available

SEE YOU AT THE GAME!

Please make reservations & payment in full by May 15th
Call Mary Jo or Theresa to make reservations 888/834-6614

Member Receives Diocesan Scholarship

Zachary Fox, a member of LPSCU Branch 38, was recently honored with a Catholic High School Scholarship for Allentown Central Catholic High School, which he will attend this fall. The Most Rev. Edward P. Cullen, D.D., Bishop of Allentown, presented scholarship awards to Zachary and 97 other eighth grade students in the diocese at a ceremony held this past March. Zachary was chosen to receive the “Bishop’s Award” and Bishop Cullen also presented Zachary a gift for his academic achievements.

Zach presently attends St. Elizabeth’s regional school. He is the son of Richard and Donna Fox of Whitehall, Pennsylvania.

Zachary was confirmed on April 11 by Bishop Welch.

His favorite pastimes are playing basketball and golf, and fishing. He also enjoys working at his family’s miniature golf course.

The LPSCU congratulates Zachary on his academic achievements and wishes him much success in his future endeavors.
Catholic High School Award — $150 One-Time Award
• Member of LPSCU for two (2) years with $2,000 legal reserve life insurance plan.
• Must be Catholic high school freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior.
• Provide a wallet-size color photo.
• Application must be postmarked by June 30th.

Bishop Grutka Award — $1,000 (Maximum of $2,000 per member)
• Member of LPSCU for two (2) years with $5,000 legal reserve life insurance plan.
• Must be a lay person between 18-35 years of age.
• Must be of the Catholic religion (Latin Rite or Byzantine).
• Must be initiated fully into the Church (Baptized, Eucharist, and Confirmed) and continuing to be eligible to receive the sacraments of the Church.
• Must be a member of a Catholic parish.
• Must be active in parish/diocesan/campus ministry as Lector, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Adult Altar Server, Catechist/Aide, member of parish RCIA/C Team, Youth Minister, Parish Pastoral Council, Finance Council and/or other parish committees of organization.
• Active in organization or activity that promotes awareness of our Slovak heritage, culture, and traditions.
• Endorsed by your pastor and LPSCU branch secretary with additional endorsement provided by campus minister, youth minister, or pastoral associate.
• Attend or will attend an accredited college/university as a full time student.
• Provide a notice of acceptance or tuition receipt for the coming scholastic year.
• Provide a wallet-size color photo.
• Application must be postmarked by June 30th.

St. Theresa of the Little Flower, Blessed André, St. John Vianney — $300 Annually
• Member of LPSCU for two (2) years with $2,000 legal reserve life insurance plan.
• Must re-apply each year while attending/completing studies for Religious Life.
• Provide a wallet-size color photo.
• Application must be postmarked by August 31st.

Post-Graduate Award — $300 One-Time Award
• Member of LPSCU for five (5) years with $2,000 legal reserve life insurance plan.
• Degree must be awarded between July 1, 2007 and August 30, 2008.
• Provide photocopy of diploma received.
• Provide a wallet-size color photo.
• Application must be postmarked by August 31st.

Applicants must meet all criteria and provide data indicated to be eligible. Incomplete applications or those missing data requirements will not be considered. Applications must be obtained by contacting the Home Office:

Phone — 570/823-3513 • Toll free — 888/834-6614
Fax — 570/823-4464 • E-mail — lpscu@lpscu.org

Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union
Educational Benefit Committee
P.O. Box 32
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703

Pittsburgh Slovakians and Junior Pittsburgh Slovaks will represent the Slovaks at the 52nd Annual Pittsburgh International Folk Festival, May 16, 17, and 18, to be held at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in downtown Pittsburgh. The Pittsburgh Slovaks will perform Friday evening, May 16, while the Junior Pittsburgh Slovaks will participate in the Children’s Matinee on Saturday, May 17.

Throughout the weekend, festivalgoers will have the opportunity to experience the foods, traditional music and dance, cultural exhibits, folk crafts, global marketplace, and ethnic cooking demonstrations of more than thirty nationalities.

In the Global Marketplace, shop for the finest Slovak crystal, glass, and jewelry at LaBoheme, or stop by the Slovak folk crafts display and choose from an array of various handcrafted Slovak items. The Slovak kitchen will be serving chicken paprikaš, pork and sauerkraut, mushroom soup, haluški, and palacinky with fruit fillings. If you have a sweet tooth, stop by and choose from our array of baked goods. Get them while they last!

Festival times are Friday 4:00-10:00 pm; Saturday, noon-10:00 pm; and Sunday, noon-6:00 pm. Tickets are $8.00 each if ordered in advance. Call 412/421-1204 and reserve your tickets today. Admission price at the gate is $10.00. Hope to see you there!
**Utilization Report**

**For February Year-to-Date 2008**

- Prescriptions Filled: 22
- Normal Retail Pricing: $975.52
- ScriptSave Pricing: $787.96
- Total Dollars Saved by LPSCU Cardholders: $187.56
- Average Saved per Discounted Prescription: $11.03
- Overall LPSCU Discounted Prescription Savings: 22.20%

**For Year-to-Date 2008**

- Prescriptions Filled: 55
- Normal Retail Pricing: $2,459.43
- ScriptSave Pricing: $1,945.88
- Total Dollars Saved by LPSCU Cardholders: $513.55
- Average Saved per Discounted Prescription: $11.16
- Overall LPSCU Discounted Prescription Savings: 22.95%

The ScriptSave® Prescription Drug Savings Program is available to you at **NO COST** from the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union. There are **no monthly or ongoing fees, no limits on usage, and no income or age restrictions**. Your entire household can use the card to receive substantial savings on brand name and generic prescriptions at over 53,000 participating pharmacies nationwide.

**Everyone Can Save!**

Use your ScriptSave® card for any brand name or generic prescription you or a family member pays for out-of-pocket. If you have health insurance coverage, use your ScriptSave® card for any prescriptions that are not covered by your insurance or for savings for your family members not covered by insurance. The ScriptSave® card also provides savings on prescriptions that are excluded by Medicare Part D law, if you have Medicare and are enrolled in a Medicare Part D prescription drug plan.

The ScriptSave® card provides you:

- Average savings of 22%, with potential savings of up to 50% (based on national program savings data) on both brand name and generic prescriptions for you and your entire household.
- Easy access to everything you need — right online! Look up drug prices, find a pharmacy nearby and get answers to your questions.

Any LPSCU member (including the membership of LCA) can receive a ScriptSave® card at no cost. If you are interested in receiving a ScriptSave® card, please contact our Home Office at lpscu@lpscu.org. You are eligible for the card as long as you are a member of the LPSCU (or LCA) in good standing.

**DISCOUNT ONLY—NOT INSURANCE.** This program is not an insurance policy and does not provide insurance coverage. Discounts are available exclusively through participating pharmacies. AR, SC, SD, and TN residents: You may cancel your registration under this program within thirty (30) days from the date your discount card is issued.

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**Calendar of Events**


23 — Deadline to submit congratulatory messages honoring our 2008 graduates. See page 9.

25 — Deadline to make reservations to attend the Lehigh Valley Okres’ Old-Fashioned Picnic. See page 9.

25 — **Deadline to submit articles for September/October Zornicka.**

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**You Can Win $300!**

It pays to refer someone to the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union. For every referral, you will be entered into our $25 monthly drawing. In addition to our monthly drawing, your name will also be entered into our Convention Drawing with one lucky $300.00 winner chosen from among those referrals resulting in an approved certificate of insurance. All other referrals will be entered to win $100.00.

Simply complete the information below and mail to: LPSCU, P. O. Box 32, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701-0032.

**RECENT WINNERS OF OUR MONTHLY DRAWING:**

- March 2008 Patricia A. Kienzle, Malvern, PA

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**Yes, I would like to refer:**

Please print clearly. All information must be completed to enter!

Name of Referral ____________________________

Phone (______) ______________________________

Address ______________________________________

City ____ State____ Zip________

Referred by ________________________________

Phone (______) ______________________________

Address ______________________________________

City ____ State____ Zip________

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TOTAL OF ENTIRE CAMPAIGN — $1,523,000

**JUST A REMINDER OF THE PRIZES**

Anyone selling $125,000 and over
Cost of airline ticket or $300.00

Anyone selling $100,000 - $124,999
75% of airline ticket or $200.00

Anyone selling $75,000 - $99,999
50% of airline ticket or $150.00

Anyone selling $50,000 - $74,999
35% of airline ticket or $100.00

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There is still plenty of time to qualify for the prizes.
Go out and SELL! SELL! SELL!

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**CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE**

Dolores M. Evanko, Chairperson, National Trustee
Mary Ann Ewasko, National Chairperson of Trustees
Mary Jo Savidge, National Secretary-Treasurer
Theresa Kluchinski, National President

As of March 15, 2008
we only have 3 people qualifying for the prizes:

Theresa Kluchinski — $78,000
Joan Ellen Frendak — $58,000
Cecilia B. Gaughan — $64,000
ATTENTION ALL ANIMAL LOVERS ~

THE LPSCU IS HAVING A PET PHOTO CONTEST

If you have a pet, you know how blessed you are. Our pets provide companionship and unconditional love. Research also shows that they can help reduce stress and blood pressure in their owners, increase longevity in those who’ve had heart attacks, and even relax and improve the appetites of Alzheimer’s patients. Many 4-legged pets, especially dogs, can also get owners off the couch, helping them stick to a regular exercise routine.

No matter what kind of pet you have – 2- or 4-legged, winged, furry, scaly, big or small – I’m sure your pet is like a member of the family. Here’s a chance to showcase your pet and to win a great prize that will help out other animals not as fortunate as yours. Just take a photo of your pet and send it to the Fraternal Activities Director, along with the completed form below.

Judging will take place at the LPSCU Convention in July and the winners will be chosen by the delegates. The 1st Place winner will receive a $50.00 donation made in their name to the animal shelter of their choice. The 2nd and 3rd Place finishers will each receive a $25.00 donation made on their behalf to the animal shelter of their choice. In addition, the winners will have their pets’ photos featured in the September/October issue of Zornicka in honor of St. Francis of Assisi’s feast day on October 4th. All other entries will be featured in a subsequent issue of the magazine.

This contest is open to ALL members of the LPSCU, so get those cameras clicking and send in your pet’s photo today! Because the photos will be posted at the Convention for all to see, we request that you submit a printed photograph rather than a digital file. (Photos will not be returned unless they are accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.) Please send your entry to Ceil Gaughan no later than June 15, 2008.

— — FILL OUT AND RETURN WITH YOUR PHOTO (PLEASE PRINT) — —

Your name _____________________________________  Branch # ___________
Address ___________________________________________________________
City/State/ZIP _______________________________________________________
Phone or email (in case we need to contact you) _________________________
Pet’s name _____________________________
Tell us a little about your pet (Age; How long you’ve had your pet; Anything special about it, etc.) ____________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________

Submit your Entry Form and Photo to:
Fraternal Activities Director Cecilia B. Gaughan
325 Florida Avenue, Whitehall, PA 18052

Slovak Radio Hour Goes Global

The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour can now be heard around the world! The station has set up a live direct feed of all the programs on WPIT-AM to the internet. Now, anyone who has access to the internet can listen to the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour LIVE! To listen on the internet log on to www.wpitam.com at 3:00 pm Eastern Standard Time, and look for “Listen Live” in the box at the top of the page. When you see Slovak Radio Hour, click on it, and that’s all there is to it. We are looking forward to hearing from our “cyberspace listeners.”

Since 1979, Rudy and Sue Ondrejco, hosts of the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour, have been providing a wonderfully entertaining program. Each week listeners tune in to hear Slovak music and songs, and news and announcements affecting the Tri-State area as well as Slovakia.

Vincent Obsitnik is New Ambassador to Slovakia

Vincent Obsitnik was recently sworn in as the sixth U.S. Ambassador to the Slovak Republic. He is the first Ambassador to Slovakia who is of Slovak heritage. Born in Moravany, a small village in eastern Slovakia near Humene, he emigrated at the age of two months to Nanty Glo, Pennsylvania. The family later moved to New Jersey. The new ambassador has also lived in Connecticut, New York, Virginia, Georgia, and Florida.

Vincent and his brother, as well as two of his four sons are graduates of the U.S. Naval Academy. He also received a master’s degree from The American University.

The new Ambassador’s business career includes serving as director of manufacturing for Latin America at IBM Corporation; as president of the System Development Division of Unisys/Unsol Corporation; and as vice president of international development at Litton/PRC Corporation. He recently served as a member of the United States Commission for the Preservation of America’s Heritage Abroad.
Dear Junior Members,

May is a lovely time of the year. You begin to hear birds chirping and see them fluttering from branch to branch, bringing food to their young ones. We all enjoy hanging birdhouses, filling our birdfeeders, and watching the beautiful birds.

But there is one bird that we do not welcome as we do the others — the American Crow. Perhaps that’s because of its noisy “caw” and because it is not as pretty or colorful as the songbirds that flock to our feeders. This large bird with dark brown eyes and black legs can stand 16 to 21 inches in length and have a wingspan of 33 to 39 inches. Covered in black feathers glossed in violet, male and females crows look identical, though the males are generally a bit larger. Crows are black for a very good reason — so they can identify their own kind. During the day, a crow can easily identify another crow in the distance because black is very visible. And at night, when crows are the most vulnerable, the black coloration helps to protect them from predators.

In spite of their dour appearance, crows are very bright. To quote Henry Ward Beecher, “If men wore feathers and wings, very few of them would be clever enough to be crows.”

Crows — along with their fellow members of the Corvidae family, Ravens — are believed to be the most intelligent of all birds, so it’s little wonder that they have been revered over the centuries. Sometimes their intelligence leads them into thievery and mischief. A crow thinks nothing of stealing another’s nesting material while the other crow is out searching for food.

Crows are very social in nature. Their interaction with their own kind is very important to them. Young crows remain with their parents until they can find a home of their own, and individual relationships may last years. Families may include up to 15 individuals and contain young from five different years.

Crows usually mate for life. They are cooperative breeders with both parents taking turns to sit on the eggs. All family members help when nesting season arrives, the juveniles from prior years along with their parents helping to gather nesting material. The number of eggs in a clutch or nest is usually 4 to 6.

Crows congregate in large numbers in winter to sleep in communal roosts. These roosts can be of a few hundred, several thousand, or even up to two million crows. Some roosts have been forming in the same general area for well over 100 years.

The crow is tough, resourceful, and crafty, and above all other birds, they know how to survive against heavy odds. One major reason is their amazing communication system. Not only do they seem to have built-in radar for detecting danger, but they communicate with one another with a relay system. Through not understood by humans, it is crystal clear to crows. They will pass the word along and let each other know that there is food nearby. A farmer once noted that he put out poisoned corn to get rid of the crows that were eating his grain, but he learned that within minutes they had spread the word to one another to stay clear of the area.

In addition to their relay systems, crows have an uncanny sense of caution. They will appoint a sentinel to stand guard while they are on a hunt for food. They can spot a gun barrel a half mile away and they will never confuse it with a stick or pole. They can make a hasty retreat in absolute silence at speeds of up to 45 miles an hour.

Crows have extremely good memories. They never forget where they placed their cache of food for later consumption. Despite being a common exploiter of road kill, the crow is not specialized to be a scavenger, and carrion is only a very small part of its diet. Their biggest natural enemies are hawks and owls and it’s not uncommon to see a family of crows vocally harassing and chasing a lone hawk in the air or mobbing a perched owl to chase it out of their territory. Man is another enemy of the crow, especially those who hunt them. But more recently, crows have had to contend with an even more serious threat: the West Nile virus. The American Crow appears to be the biggest victim this disease recently introduced to North America. Crows die within one week of infection, and few seem able to survive exposure. No other North American bird is dying at the same rate from the disease, and the loss of crows in some areas has been severe.

For centuries bird lovers and hunters/farmers have argued about whether crows do more harm than good, but no one argues the fact that the crow is one of the most remarkably intelligent birds on the planet.

Cecilia B. Gaughan, Fraternal Activities Director

Did You Know…?

- That George Washington’s flag was called “Grand Union.”
- That the resolution to have a National Flag came on June 24, 1777.
- That the first official day when flags were flown on government buildings was June 14, 1877.
- That the first official “Flag Day” observance was in Philadelphia on June 14, 1894.
- That Congress established National Flag Day in 1949.
Remembering Those Who Sacrificed

Memorial Day, originally called Declaration Day, was first celebrated on May 30, 1868. Major Gen. John A. Logan, commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of former Union soldiers and sailors, ordered his members to decorate the graves of fallen comrades with flowers and to protect the gravesites from the ravages of time and weather. In 1971, Congress expanded Memorial Day to include all members of the Armed Services who have died in service to our country.

Memorial Day is observed annually on the last Monday of May. This Memorial Day — May 26th — we will pause for a moment and remember all our heroes who have made the ultimate sacrifice in all our wars. We will also remember the families of those who served and died to protect our freedom and way of life. May God bless them.

Sunflower Facts

If you stood next to a sunflower plant, there’s a good chance it would be much taller than you. The common sunflower grows to about 8 feet tall, but the tallest kind of sunflower reaches 15 to 20 feet in height. That’s about as tall as a giraffe!

The sunflower blossoms at the end of the summer and into early autumn. Sunflowers get their name because each morning they will turn their face toward the sun. All day long they follow the sun across the sky and end up facing west in the evening.

But the sunflower is more than just a pretty face. In fact, it is the second most important oil-producing crop in the world. Sunflower oil is used to make salad oil, margarine, soap, candy, and paint. It is also used in cooking. Sunflower oil has been used as fuel to run diesel motors in Africa and Australia.

Non-oil producing sunflower plants provide seeds that people eat in salads, sandwiches, or by themselves. They are also an important source of bird feed.

If you planted just one sunflower seed, the flower that would grow from it would produce over one hundred seeds!

Plant a sunflower seed in a sunny spot in your garden. Try to plant it near a fence for support. It will be fun to watch it grow, and to also watch the birds it attracts.

Slovak Lesson

KOSTOLE — CHURCH

Na kostole je krásna veža.
On the church is a beautiful tower.

Na veži je veľký biely kríž.
On the tower is a large white cross.

Okolo kostola je široký chodník.
Around the church there is a wide walk.

Čo robili ľudia v kostole?
What were the people doing in church?

V kostole spieli a modlili sa.
In church we were singing and praying.

Náš kniež kázal veľmi dobrú káženú.
Our priest preached a very good sermon.

Answers to True or False Quiz:
1. False. A ladybird is an insect, also known as a ladybug.
2. False. A mud puppy is a large aquatic salamander.
3. True. It is an Australian bird also known as the Kooka.
4. False. A sea elephant is a large aquatic mammal.
5. True. It is a foot long with a wingspan of up to three feet.
6. False. A shipworm is a worm that is often found on ships.

True or False Quiz

1. A ladybird is a beautiful female bird.
2. A mud puppy is a young dog that loves to roll in the mud.
3. A laughing jackass is a kind of bird.
4. A sea elephant is an elephant that can swim.
5. A flying fox is a large tropical bat.
6. A shipworm is a worm that is often found on ships.

Kids in the Kitchen

SPROUT A BEAN

Bean sprouts are fun to grow and they are delicious added to your salad. Here’s what you’ll need to grow your own:

An empty glass jar
A piece of cheesecloth (or punch holes in the jar lid)
A rubber band
1-2 tablespoons mung beans or soybeans

Rinse off the beans and then put them in a layer in the bottom of the jar. Cover them with water and let them soak overnight. The next morning, place the cheesecloth on top of the jar, securing with a rubber band (or screw the lid onto the jar). Pour off the water. Rinse the beans in cool water and lay the jar on its side in a dark place. On the third or fourth day, place the jar in the sunlight and the sprouts will turn green. Then you will be able to add the sprouts to your salad.
purposes give us the courage to follow him and bring goodness and justice into this broken world (paragraph 35).

Suffering, too, teaches us hope because in moments of suffering, we know that we are not alone. Jesus is our companion and our suffering is joined to his. In such moments, we are encouraged to offer up our suffering. Those who do so are convinced that they can insert their burdens into Christ’s great compassion so that even the inconveniences and crosses of daily life can acquire meaning and contribute towards the good and well-being of others.

3. Final Judgment. In a world filled with suffering and injustice, it is tempting to lose hope and wonder where God could be in such a place. Pope Benedict teaches that even in the midst of all this injustice, there is reason for hope: the Final Judgment and the coming together of all things in Christ. Our only and final hope is in the God who made us and whom we trust will bring us back to him forever. When confronted by the difficulties of this life, people will often say, “There’s got to be more than this!” The “more” we seek is promised to us in eternity, if we faithfully and generously serve God now.

Throughout his deep and profound encyclical, Pope Benedict encourages us to be “ministers of hope” in our world today by living lives that are centered on the needs of others. In order to combat the negativity that we sometimes find around us, we must truly live and share the beauty of our Christian faith — especially as we follow Jesus’ command to love. Living lives of joyful expectation of the fulfillment that is yet to come, may we work to reshape the world around us into a gift pleasing to the Lord!

Rev. Dianiska District to Celebrate Two Anniversaries

On Sunday September 28, 2008, a Mass will be celebrated (location to be announced), followed immediately by a luncheon at the Ramada Hotel in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, to celebrate the 110th Anniversary of the LPSCU and the 65th Anniversary of the Reverend Dianiska District. All members of LPSCU are cordially invited to attend.

Watch the next Zornicka for additional information.

Rev. Philip A. Altavilla, V.E.

An LPSCU Life Insurance Policy Makes a Perfect Gift

Do you need a gift for a special someone who is celebrating an upcoming First Holy Communion, confirmation, graduation, or marriage? The LPSCU has the perfect gift for you! We offer a variety of life insurance plans from which you may choose. An LPSCU life insurance policy will not only provide life insurance protection, but also affords the insured educational benefits, the opportunity to attend Branch and District social events, and a bi-monthly fraternal magazine. An LPSCU insurance policy is truly a unique and lasting gift.

For an application or additional information on the type of life insurance plans offered by the LPSCU, contact your Branch Secretary or the Home Office toll free at 888/834-6614; locally at 570/823-3513; fax 570/823-4464; or e-mail lpscu@lpscu.org.

Additional information is available on the LPSCU website: http://www.lpscu.org/.

Susan Worth