



## *Victoria Lombardo Receives LPSCU 2007 Youth Achievement Award*

Victoria Lombardo, 18, of Wyoming, Pennsylvania, has been named the recipient of this year's LPSCU Youth Achievement Award. Victoria is a senior at Wyoming Area High School in Exeter, Pennsylvania, where she is ranked 3rd in her class of 208 students.

Having been in the Gifted Program since elementary school, Victoria has always been involved in academic competitions. She maintains a cumulative QPA of 3.9750. She has been a three-year member of the Science Olympiad team, a member of the Science Iditorod team, and a member of the Science Envirothon team. She has also been recognized at Awards Day for the past three years for having the highest average in certain classes. She has completed college courses through Wilkes College.

Victoria is highly involved in extra-curricular activities as well. She is a three-year member of the National Honor Society, captain of the Cheerleading team, a member of the Future Business Leaders in America, a member of the Executive Board and board secretary of the Student Council (an elected position), and a member of the Chess Club, serving as its treasurer in 11th grade. This year, she was elected to the Homecoming Court.

Jennifer Hannon, who has been Victoria's school guidance counselor for the past two years, expressed high praise of Victoria in the Letter of Recommendation and described her as "ambitious, outgoing, highly intelligent, well rounded, insightful, well-liked, a natural leader, and role model." Vito S. Quaglia, administrator of the Wyoming Area School District, also acknowledged Victoria as a "young lady who is diligent, polite, and stands out among the crowd with her high academic ranking." In March 2007, Victoria was named to the 2007 *Times-Tribune* Scholastic Superstar Team.

Ria, as Victoria is known to family and friends, remains active in her community. She was recognized locally by the Youth Salute Program. In the summer of 2005, she was elected to attend the Rotary Leadership Camp. She is an altar server and is active in her church youth group at St. Cecilia's Church in Exeter, and she volunteers for all church functions. She participates in Relay for Life, American Cancer Association Walks, and prepares meals for the homeless sponsored by VISION. She also works part-time at a local pharmacy.

In the fall, Ria will be attending the University of Scranton as a biology major. She was awarded a full four-year scholarship by the University's Scholarship Committee in recognition of her academic achievements. She plans to pursue a career as an orthodontist.

Ria has been a member since birth of LPSCU Branch 6 in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. She is the daughter of Lora and Brian Lombardo and has two sisters, Danielle and Melanie, all of whom are members of the LPSCU.

Mary Ann Ewasko, secretary of LPSCU Branch 6 in Wilkes-Barre, nominated Victoria for the 2007 Youth Achievement Award. In offering her nomination, Mary Ann stated, "Ria is an outstanding 'All American Girl,' intelligent, friendly, ambitious, and outgoing. She is always ready to help someone at school, work, church, tutoring, or family."

The LPSCU extends congratulations to Victoria Lombardo on receiving the 2007 Youth Achievement Award. We are proud of Victoria's outstanding accomplishments and achievements and wish her future success at the University of Scranton.



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# Calendar of Events

## JUNE

- 9-10** — 100th Anniversary of the Slovak League of America. Celebrations in the New York area.
- 12** — Flag Day at the Ballpark sponsored by the Fraternal Societies of North-eastern Pennsylvania, PNC Field, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania. Game begins at 7:00 p.m.
- 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*.
- 23** — Deadline to submit photo/message honoring your LPSCU member-graduate. *See page 11.*
- 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. *See page 12.*
- 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.
- 7** — Deadline to register to participate in the Rev. Dianiska District's Youth Bowling Party.
- 14** — Rev. Dianiska District's annual Youth Bowling Party from 1:00-4:00 p.m. at Modern Lanes, Wyoming Avenue, Exeter, Pennsylvania. *See page 10.*
- 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. *See page 12.*

## SEPTEMBER

- 1** — Deadline to apply for NJFC 2007 Youth Volunteer Award.
- 6-9** — NFCA Annual Meeting
- 21** — Slovak Catholic Federation Meeting, Danville, Pennsylvania
- 22** — Slovak Catholic Federation Pilgrimage, Danville, Pennsylvania. *See page 16.*
- 30** — Rev. Dianiska District Meeting, North End Slovak Club, North Main Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Branches 7 and 22 will host.

## 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.



(USPS 699-520)

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# Spiritual Advisor's Message

## The Sacrament of Charity



Fr. Altavilla

On Sunday, June 10, 2007, the Church once again celebrates the glorious feast of Corpus Christi or the Body and Blood of Christ. As we always do when we gather to celebrate the Eucharist, we give thanks to God for sending us Jesus, his Son, to be our Savior. Through baptism, we are drawn into a faith relationship with Jesus and begin our journey of discipleship. In order for us to receive the proper nourishment and strength to daily follow in his footsteps, Jesus gives us the sacrament of his body and blood as the ultimate sign of his love for us. On the feast of Corpus Christi, we are again reminded of Jesus sharing himself with us through the Eucharist and are also reminded about the importance of our need for frequent and worthy reception of Jesus in holy communion. The Gospel proclaimed on the feast this year comes from Luke 9: 11-17, the story of Jesus multiplying five loaves of bread and two fish, to generously feed a sizeable crowd of people.

In the June 2007 edition of *Connections* (the newsletter of ideas, resources and information for homilists and preachers published by MediaWorks, 7 Lantern Lane, Londonderry, NH), the editor shares a story that first

*Pope Benedict reminds us that the Eucharist is both the "source and summit" of our spiritual life.*

appeared in the "Metropolitan Diary" of *The New York Times* on January 8, 2007. To me, this story highlights the gift of sharing which takes place in the Eucharist.

A woman was shopping at the small corner stand near her New York apartment. She noticed a homeless woman in her mid-40s looking over the fruits and vegetables. She went up to the woman and asked if she would like to choose something from the assortment.

"Oh," the poor woman said quietly, "I would love a bunch of those green grapes." "Great!" the shopper responded. The vendor picked out a bunch of green grapes, put them in a bag and handed them to the homeless woman. She looked in the bag and then at the woman who had just paid for them.

"You know," the homeless woman said, "this is a lot of grapes. Won't you share them with me?"

And so the shopper stood in the middle of a New York street corner eating the best grapes ever with this delightful woman whose generosity surpassed her own.

What happened so long ago when Jesus multiplied the loaves and fish to feed that hungry crowd before him? What happened on that New York street corner between those two women? What happens each time we gather to celebrate the Eucharist and receive Jesus in holy communion? In each situation, we experience the gift of holy sharing. In the Gospel story, Jesus is able to work his miracle because someone was willing to share a small amount — five loaves and two fish. Because someone was willing to share those simple gifts with Jesus, he worked a miracle and multiplied that little bit to feed such a vast crowd. The two women on that New York street corner were willing to share what they had with each

other. When we gather to celebrate the Eucharist, we share simple gifts of bread and wine which Jesus takes and transforms, through the power of the Holy Spirit, into his very body and blood.

In a sense, the Eucharist is the ultimate act of the sharing of self. Jesus shares himself with us, in the sacrament of his body of blood and then we are called to give ourselves to him and to one another, especially through our lives of charity. St. Augustine once said, "A sacrament is the visible sign of God's invisible grace." The gifts of bread and wine that are transformed at Mass become those visible, real signs of God's invisible grace. Then, as we receive those precious gifts, we, too, are transformed into living signs of God's grace and presence in the world. Like those two women willing to share

with each other on that New York street corner, we are called to share our gifts with others in generous love. It is through our sharing in the body of Christ that we become the body of Christ for others. If we partake of Jesus in the holy Eucharist, then we must be

willing to become Eucharist for others — to make the unconditional love of Christ real for all people.

On February 22, 2007, the feast of the Chair of Saint Peter, Pope Benedict XVI issued a Post-Synodal Exhortation entitled: *Sacramentum Caritatis* ("The Sacrament of Charity"). Following Pope John Paul II's "Year of the Eucharist," bishops from around the world gathered in Rome in the fall of 2005 for a special meeting called a Synod. The propositions that emerged from this meeting were then forwarded to Pope Benedict, who synthesized them into an exhortation (or teaching) and he uses these propositions as the basis for *The Sacrament of Charity*. (We shall just briefly comment on the exhortation here but if you wish to read the entire document, you may visit the Vatican website: [http://www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/benedict\\_xvi/apost\\_exhortations/index\\_en.htm](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/apost_exhortations/index_en.htm).)

Writing to Catholics worldwide, Pope Benedict explains that he wishes to encourage "the Christian people to deepen their understanding of the relationship between the Eucharistic mystery, the liturgical action and the new spiritual worship which derives from the Eucharist as the sacrament of charity." As articulated by the Second Vatican Council, Pope Benedict reminds us that the Eucharist is both the "source and summit" of our spiritual life. As Catholics, our faith is awakened by hearing God's word and by being "nourished at the table of the Eucharist." The Eucharist is not only the paramount sign of God's presence in our lives but is also the wellspring of our inspiration to live truly Christian lives.

Of particular interest to me is PART III: THE EUCHARIST, A MYSTERY TO BE LIVED. In paragraph 79 of the document,

*continued on page 16*

**REV. BALOGA OKRES**

The Rev. Baloga Okres held its Spring meeting on April 22, 2007, at Saint Matthias Hall, Youngstown, Ohio. Lucille Komorosky, president of Saint Ann Branch 163, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Okres President Mary Ann Strauss opened the meeting with prayers and conducted the business session.

Following the meeting, a bingo social was held and a good time was had by all.

**Lucille Komorosky**

**REV. DIANISKA DISTRICT**

The Rev. Dianiska District held its second meeting of the year on Sunday, May 6, 2007, at St. Mary's Church of the Immaculate Conception Hall in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Theresa Kluchinski welcomed everyone on behalf of Branches 6 and 48.

The meeting was called to order by District President Mary Ann Ewasko.

Vice President Hope Napkora read a prayer for ill members and their families. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Financial Secretary Marge Zinkavich took role call. Barbara Kalish and Debbie Adamchak gave the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports, respectively; both reports were approved.

The following items were discussed:

On May 5, 2007, members participated in Join Hands Day by volunteering at The Laurels Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. The Center told Mary Ann that our group is always welcome to return.

Co-chairs Hope and Lori Ann Napkora announced that the District's Annual Youth Bowling Party will be held on July 14th at Modern Lanes in Exeter from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Call your Branch Secretary well before July 7th with the age, sex, and number of children planning to attend. Branch Secretaries should call Margaret Jollimore by July 7th with all the information required.

Our special project for the September meeting will be "Make a Difference Day." Members are asked to donate new socks for distribution to local charities. Also, school supplies may still be brought in as a continuation of our May project.

The members voted to purchase a stone for the LPSCU Tree of Life.

National President Theresa Kluchinski spoke on the pilgrimage to the Basilica of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Danville, Pennsylvania, taking place on Saturday, September 22, 2007, sponsored by the Slovak Catholic Federation. She also announced that the LPSCU National Convention will be held in July 2008 in Las Vegas.

**Please Note:** In order for everyone to enjoy the Christmas Party, members are required to make full payment of their 50/50 chances at the September meeting or mail to Marge Zinkavich or Mary Ann Ewasko. Additional tickets are available.

**Susan Worth**

**LEHIGH VALLEY OKRES**

A meeting of the Lehigh Valley Okres was held on Sunday, March 25, 2007, at 1:30 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Church Social Hall in Allentown, Pennsylvania. Okres President Jean Kosalko opened the meeting with a prayer. There were 18 members present. The Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were approved as read.

Marge Ferri reported that she has contacted the representatives from Cops 'N' Kids, a Reading Literacy Program in South Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and the Executive Director of the South Side Neighborhood Center to invite children from the Center to participate in our Join Hands Day project on May 5th. She also requested our youth and ladies to participate in the project by helping the children select books from the Cops 'N' Kids library and to help them read their books. Marge also contacted the City Police Department and requested a police officer to participate by autographing the books for the children as they will be able to take two books home to keep. She said plans are being finalized for the JHD project, and she encouraged everyone to join in this event.

President Kosalko announced that our Annual Mother/Daughter Mass and Luncheon will be held on Sunday, May 6th. Mass will be celebrated at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church in Bethlehem at 10:30 a.m., followed by the luncheon at Best Western Lehigh Valley Conference Center in Bethlehem.

President Kosalko reported on a tragic fire that recently occurred in an apartment building and thrift shop in Hellertown, as the result of which five families suffered burns and injuries and the loss of their residences. Our members approved sending a \$125 donation to the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Theresa Church which is seeking monetary assistance for the families.

The LPSCU Tree of Life Program was discussed. Members approved that the Okres should buy a stone.

Members also approved that the Okres shall send a donation of \$100 for a platinum patron listing in the 100th Anniversary Souvenir Book of St. John the Baptist Slovak Catholic Church in Allentown.

The next Okres meeting will be held on Sunday, July 8 at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church Social Hall in Bethlehem at 1:30 p.m. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with a prayer offered by President Kosalko. Refreshments were served by host branches 38 and 40.

**Mary Shannon**

**PITTSBURGH DISTRICT**

In celebration of Mother's Day, Pittsburgh District members and their guests enjoyed a mystery dinner theater presentation entitled "Dial 'M' For Mother" in historic Ligonier, Pennsylvania, on May 11, 2007. Following a wonderful buffet luncheon and theater production, everyone took advantage of the ideal weather to enjoy a stroll around the town square shops and relax in the gazebo. Luckily, President Bush's appearance at the St. Vincent College commencement in nearby Latrobe didn't cause any traffic problems.

**Sylvia Goda**

ZORNICKA

# Minutes of the Executive Finance Committee

April 24, 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 March 27, 2007, meeting.

## Correspondence and Requests

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

- School Sisters of Saint Francis — Donation for Spring Festival. *Approved \$50.00*
- Bishop Joseph Adamec celebrating 20th anniversary of consecration as a bishop. *Approved a \$200.00 gift*

## Financial Statement

The committee reviewed the following checking accounts as of March 31, 2007: M & T Bank — General Operating Account, M & T Bank — Home Office Checking Account and Smith Barney Checking Account. The committee completed a review of the Balance Sheet and Revenue/Expense Statement for March 31, 2007. Graphs illustrating month-end balances for 2007 for the assets, liabilities, fund balance, premium income, investment income, and investments were presented and reviewed.

## Stock/Bond/Pension Portfolio

The committee was provided copies of all reports for March 31, 2007, reviewing all activity, including CDs, Common Stocks, Preferred Stocks, Bonds, and International Investments, Schedule D — Part 3 and Part 4.

## Other Business

The committee discussed the following: 2008 Convention, building improvements, and the purchase of the accounting program QuickBooks.

There being no further business, the EFC adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

**Mary Jo Savidge**

National Secretary/Treasurer

April 19, 2007

Ladies Pennsylvania  
Slovak Catholic Union  
71 South Washington Street  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701

**CPS  
Actuaries**

Ladies:

This will certify that we have completed a valuation of the outstanding certificates of the Society as of December 31, 2006, according to the schedules of insurance submitted to us, and have found the reserves to be as follows:

41 SI 3% .....	\$ 108,139
80 CET 4.5% .....	26,554
80 CSO 4% .....	29,310
80 CSO 4.5% .....	2,033,940
80 CSO 5% .....	2,108,972
80 CSO 5.5% .....	705,477
AE 3% .....	757,766
AM 3% .....	3,616,561
Deficient Premiums Reserve .....	11,213
For AIDS Risk .....	17,500
Unearned Premium Reserve .....	43,010
Reinsurance Credit .....	—
Total Life Reserve .....	\$ 9,458,443
Reserve for Accident & Health Certificates .....	808
Total Reserve .....	\$ 9,459,251

The Society's valuation indicates that on the bases specified above, the future assessments of the Society at the net rates then being collected, together with the admitted assets as they appeared in the Society's 2006 annual statement, were sufficient to meet all certificates as they mature by their terms with a surplus of \$5,714,013 (or 54.04%) above the statutory standards.

Ratios of assets to liabilities: 2006-154.04%; 2005-156.08%; 2004-157.44%; 2003-156.6%; 2002-159.6%.

Sincerely,  
**Allan Ferrone**, FSA, MAAA  
Actuary

## Irene Sabinske Marks 100th Birthday

Irene Sabinske celebrated her 100th birthday on March 24, 2007, at a party attended by 80 of her friends and family at St. John Mural Room in Whiting, Indiana. A Mass was celebrated immediately afterwards at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Whiting, where Irene has been a member all her life.

She was born in Whiting on March 24, 1907. On September 28, 1932, she married Gus Sabinske at her parish church. The couple was blessed with two daughters, Pauline Mazur of Griffith, Indiana, and Lenore Fout (deceased). Irene has eight grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren, and six great-great-grandchildren.

Having lived most of her life in Whiting, Irene presently resides in Merrillville, Indiana.

She has been a member of LPSCU Branch 79 in Whiting since 1925, serving as an officer in the children's Branch 83 for some 30 years. She retired from that position in 1984. Irene's daughters and grandchildren are all members of Whiting Branch 79.

The LPSCU congratulates Irene Sabinske on the occasion of her 100th birthday, asking God's blessings upon her for good health, much happiness, and many more birthdays!



**Irene Sabinske**

# LPSCU Year End Report

## In Memoriam

### Laura Yurchak York, Dance Teacher, Artist, Author



**Laura  
Yurchak York**

Laura (Laska Gaydosh) Yurchak York, 96, also known as Laska Yurchak, died on March 31, 2007, in Father Baker Manor, Orchard Park, New York. She was born on August 24, 1910, in Wheeling, West Virginia, daughter of the late Dr. Michael Gaydosh. At 19, she graduated from West Virginia University with a Bachelor of Arts degree and went on to attend the University of Wisconsin for graduate studies in Dance.

Laura taught in schools (including St. Cyril Academy, Danville, Pennsylvania) and at Slovak social organizations. She served on the editorial board of the Slovak Review, the first English publication of its kind presenting articles of a cultural and political nature. She has also written children's stories and enjoyed working with arts and crafts that she taught in summer programs in Wheeling. Additionally, she taught English in Puerto Rico and New Mexico.

Laura was a member of the LPSCU for 74 years, belonging to Branch 37, Plymouth, Pennsylvania.

After Laura's husband, attorney Peter P. Yurchak, died in 1948, she moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico, where she earned a second B.A. in Fine Arts at the University of New Mexico in 1978 at age 68. She moved to Father Baker Manor in Orchard Park in 2000.

Laura is survived by two sons, Dr. Anthony M. Yurchak and wife Eleanor of Orchard Park, and Dr. Peter M. Yurchak and wife Nancy of Boston, Massachusetts; 13 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. In addition to her husband, she was predeceased by a son, Lt. Col. Paul Yurchak of Gig Harbor, Washington.

A Mass of Christian Burial was offered at St. John Vianney Church in Orchard Park, New York, on May 4, 2007.

The LPSCU is saddened at the loss of Laura Yurchak York. Sincere sympathy is extended to the Yurchak family.

## 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. 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](mailto:lpscu@lpscu.org). Additional information is also available on the LPSCU website: [www.lpscu.org](http://www.lpscu.org).

	Year End 2006	Year End 2005
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Investments	\$ 14,447,835.00	\$ 13,880,863.00
Pension	-	-
Certificate of Deposit	\$ 1,360,899.92	\$ 1,452,550.02
Cash on Deposit	\$ 269,565.08	\$ 598,642.98
Mortgage Loans	\$ 43,728.00	\$ 55,105.00
Real Estate Owned	\$ 117,146.00	\$ 116,604.00
Other Assets	\$ 48,468.00	\$ 46,718.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 16,287,642.00</b>	<b>\$ 16,150,483.00</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; FUND BALANCE</b>		
Fund Balance	\$ 5,784,430.10	\$ 5,803,221.00
Interest Maintenance Reserve	\$ 393,142.00	\$ 356,957.00
Amt. Retained as Trustee	\$ 57,694.00	\$ 44,285.00
Aggregate Reserve-Life Certificates	\$ 9,459,251.00	\$ 9,305,648.00
Other Liabilities	\$ 519,197.00	\$ 640,372.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 16,213,714.00</b>	<b>\$ 16,150,483.00</b>
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Premium Income	\$ 280,007.00	\$ 320,150.00
Investment Income	\$ 698,739.00	\$ 720,229.00
Income-Other	\$ 27,596.00	\$ 29,115.00
Profit/Loss-Sale of Bonds/Stocks	\$ -	\$ -
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 1,006,342.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,069,494.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Death Claims	\$ 234,668.00	\$ 227,301.00
Endowments	\$ 41,695.00	\$ 30,610.00
Cash Surrenders	\$ 83,377.00	\$ 71,215.00
Dividends	\$ 59,578.00	\$ 53,309.00
Increase in Aggregate Reserves	\$ 153,603.00	\$ 190,691.00
Commissions (new and renewals)	\$ 30,227.00	\$ 27,521.00
General Operating Expenses	\$ 407,522.67	\$ 375,975.62
Pension	\$ -	\$ -
Officers and Committee Expenses	\$ 45,795.08	\$ 37,054.48
Actuarial/Accounting Expense	\$ 62,050.00	\$ 43,685.00
Investment Mgt. Fee	\$ 16,699.97	\$ 21,052.14
Official Publications	\$ 93,839.00	\$ 93,759.55
Travel Expense	\$ 13,446.61	\$ 7,950.33
Bureau and Association Dues	\$ 3,745.00	\$ 4,700.00
Donations	\$ 6,807.40	\$ 5,175.00
Scholarships	\$ 18,500.00	\$ 23,100.00
Fraternal Activities	\$ 16,207.27	\$ 11,462.88
Insurance Taxes, Licenses & Fees	\$ 31,367.00	\$ 28,189.00
Sub Total	\$ 1,319,128.00	\$ 1,252,751.00
Net Gain/Loss From Operations	(\$ 272,786.00)	(\$ 183,257.00)
Net Realized Capital Gain (Loss)	(\$ 24,872.00)	(\$ 25,243.00)
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>(\$ 297,658.00)</b>	<b>(\$ 208,500.00)</b>
<b>SURPLUS ACCOUNT</b>		
Surplus, December 31, Previous Year	\$ 5,803,221.00	\$ 5,834,363.00
Net Income from Operations	(\$ 297,658.00)	(\$ 208,500.00)
Change in Net Unrealized Capital Gains (Losses)	\$ 201,376.00	\$ 130,084.00
Change in Asset Valuation Reserve	\$ 7,073.00	(\$ 17,726.00)
Aggregate Write-Ins for Gains and Losses	\$ -	\$ 65,000.00
Net Change in Surplus for the Year	(\$ 89,209.00)	\$ 31,142.00
Surplus, December 31, Previous Year	\$ 5,714,012.00	\$ 5,803,221.00

# Minutes from the LPSCU Board Conference Call

December 9, 2006

## Call to Order – Prayer

President Theresa Kluchinski called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Spiritual Advisor Fr. Philip Altavilla offered a prayer. Secretary/Treasurer Mary Jo Savidge was asked for roll call. Trustee Dolores Evanko and Public Relations Director Margaret Ferri were excused.

## Welcome Remarks

President Kluchinski wished everyone a Merry Christmas. She remarked that since this is our first conference call, if it goes well, we would continue to have at least two a year.

## Approval of Agenda/Minutes

The agenda for this meeting and Minutes from the September 22-25, 2006, meeting were approved.

## Correspondence/Requests

Secretary/Treasurer Savidge read the correspondence received since the previous meeting and reported there were no requests.

## Financial Report

Board members were provided and discussed the following information:

- ❖ Quarterly Statement
- ❖ Balance Sheet/Revenue & Expenses through October 2006
- ❖ Summary Market Value 2006

- ❖ 3rd Quarter Custodial, Lord Abbott and American Alliance
- ❖ Ann Cichy and Bishop Grutka Awards
- ❖ Employee Retirement Plan
- ❖ Transaction Summary Report

## Committee Reports

Reports were made from the following committees:

- ❖ Fraternal Activities
- ❖ Campaign Committee
- ❖ Youth Achievement
- ❖ Fraternalist of the Year
- ❖ Educational Committee
- ❖ Membership/Benefit Committee

## Unfinished Business

The Board reviewed the following:

- ❖ Guaranteed Issue
  - ❖ Giving Tree
  - ❖ Audit Procedures
- Secretary/Treasurer Savidge reported on the following:
- ❖ Home Office
  - ❖ Building
  - ❖ Scanning
  - ❖ Act 154
  - ❖ Convention 2008

President Kluchinski mentioned that it is important to have meetings quarterly and that conference calls are most cost effective. The Board agreed to continue to have conference calls at least twice a year.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Mary Jo Savidge**  
 National Secretary/Treasurer

**Cooking Corner**

**BANANA SOUR CREAM CAKE**

½ lb. butter	3 cups flour
2 cups sugar	2 tsp. baking soda
4 eggs	1 tsp. baking powder
2 tsp. vanilla	¼ tsp. salt
2 cups mashed bananas	½ cup chopped walnuts
1 cup sour cream	

Cream butter and sugar. Add eggs, vanilla, bananas, and sour cream. Mix well. Sift together flour, baking soda, baking powder, and salt. Add to creamed mixture. Add nuts last. Bake in a greased 9x13 inch pan at 350 degrees for 10 minutes. Reduce heat and bake at 325 degrees for 40 minutes or until done.

## New Insurance Issued

State	Branch Representative	Current Month	Year-to-Date Total
PA	Cecilia B. Gaughan	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 52,000.00
PA	Theresa Kluchinski		\$ 40,000.00
PA	Joan Ellen Frendak		\$ 20,000.00
PA	Dolores Evanko	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
PA	Dorothy Lichman		\$ 10,000.00
PA	Emily Degenhart	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
PA	Helen Arlotto		\$ 10,000.00
PA	Janice Mathews		\$ 10,000.00
PA	Margaret Ferri	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
PA	Mary Ann Ackerman	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
PA	Theresa Olshemski	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
PA	Barbara Janicko	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 7,000.00
PA	Agnes Janinek		\$ 5,000.00
PA	Ann Tirpak		\$ 5,000.00
PA	Charles Simalchik		\$ 5,000.00
PA	Elva Silay		\$ 5,000.00
PA	Mary Ann Ewasko		\$ 5,000.00
IN	Joan Hladak	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
OH	Lucille Komorosky		\$ 1,000.00
PA	Verna Prawdzik		\$ 1,000.00
		\$ 60,000.00	\$ 235,000.00

# Father's Day Tributes

The Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union sincerely thanks all of our members for their participation in this year's Father's Day Tributes project. Once again your contributions have been sent to a most worthy cause – The American Diabetes Association, the nation's leading non-profit health organization providing diabetes research, information, and advocacy. Your donations in honor of your fathers, grandfathers and others will help in the fight against diabetes. To learn more about this wonderful organization, visit their website at [www.diabetes.org](http://www.diabetes.org). It is most fitting to stop and remember all the loving things done by our fathers, grandfathers, uncles, brothers, and friends over the years. Through these messages, we hope to tell them just how thankful we are for all those precious memories.

To all Fathers ~  
Happy Father's Day!  
LPSCU National President  
Theresa Kluchinski

To my father, Lenny,  
Happy Father's Day with love.  
Your daughter, 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

In loving memory of my father,  
Bernard "Mickey" McDade  
Given by Mary Jo Savidge

In loving memory of  
John P. Polaha, Jr.  
We miss you!

Regina, John, David, Kathleen and James

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

In memory of my dad,  
John Shinal  
With love from your daughter,  
Mary Ann Ewasko

In memory of William Ewasko  
Loved and sadly missed by your daughter,  
Diane Jason

Happy Father's Day to our daddy,  
Paul J. Jason  
We love you!  
Paul G. and Marissa

Happy Father's Day  
to all of Branch 6's  
Fathers ~ Grandfathers  
~ Godfathers ~ Uncles ~  
Brothers ~ Sons  
Have a great day!  
Mary Ann Ewasko

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

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

Happy Father's Day  
to the "Big Guy"  
Your loving kids,  
Patty, Tommy and Timmy

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

In loving memory of  
Donald D. Altavilla  
With love and gratitude from his son,  
Father Phil Altavilla

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 family



In loving memory of our father,  
Joseph Bucha  
Happy Father's Day, Dad!  
You will never be forgotten.  
From your loving children,  
MaryAnn, Peter, Joey, Cathy and Alice

In memory of  
The Posivak and Balent Families  
Given by Mary Shannon

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

Happy Father's Day to John Tirpak  
With much love and appreciation,  
Dr. and Mrs. Michael Tirpak,  
Melanie, David, Brian and Matthew

Dad, we have many loving 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

Happy Father's Day to my dad,  
Charlie Simalchik  
With love, always ~ Chuck

In loving memory of my dad,  
Michael Guza  
Given by daughter Anita

In loving memory of  
Hugh Lawson  
(11/15/07 - 3/6/88)  
Given by his daughter,  
Norma Jean Withey

In memory of  
Peter G. Vrbancic  
who was a great teacher to all.  
Given by daughter Marian  
and Roger Krumhansl

Happy Father's Day, Daddy!  
To Hugh Lawson  
from his daughter, Rita

In memory of  
The Ackerman and Fecko Families  
Given by Mary Ann Ackerman

In loving memory of  
Thomas Mucha,  
a darling dad.  
Through eternity, we'll never forget.  
From daughter Diane Mucha

In memory of my father,  
Louis Paunicka, Sr.  
Given by Dolores Paunicka Callahan

To all Fathers,  
Grandfathers and Godfathers  
of Branch 64 ~ Pittsburgh  
May God bless you

In honor of  
Larry Janicko  
Dad, you are the best!  
Ray and Mark

In memory of our dads,  
William Bosko and Joseph Janicko  
Always in our thoughts and prayers  
Larry and Barb

In memory of my beloved father,  
John Shulin

who died when I was  
2 years old.  
May God grant you  
eternal rest.  
Your loving daughter,  
Gertrude and  
Robert Naughton

In loving memory of  
my father  
James R. Ford  
1937-1996  
Marie S. Clemens

To the most loved father in the world,  
Happy Father's Day  
from your loving children,  
Mary Beth and Patrick Gaughan

In loving memory of my brothers,  
Franky, Marty, Johnny, Joey, and Tony  
You were always there for me,  
no matter what!  
You are loved and missed  
more than you will ever know.  
Your loving sister, Ceily

Dear Dad,  
I really enjoy fishing with you.  
I think you are the greatest.  
Happy Father's Day!  
Your loving son, Michael D.

In loving memory of my father,  
Joseph C. Krajsa  
Given by his son, Joseph J. Krajsa

In memory of my dad,  
Joseph R. Carten  
Remembering you with love  
Nancy Carten Knoche

In loving memory of my husband  
James R. Ford - 1937-1996  
With love from your wife, Mary

With love to the best father  
and grandfather,  
John Tirpak  
From John, Karen, Jack and Ari

In memory of our dear fathers,  
Andrew Oravec and Anthony Ferri  
We miss you both!

Love,  
Peggy and John

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



## NFCA Names Interim President

The National Fraternal Congress of America announced on May 9th that Robert C. "Bob" Huxel, CPCU, Director of Government Affairs, has accepted the responsibility to serve as the NFCA's Interim President and CEO, effective May 25, 2007. Mr. Huxel immediately began to work together with President and CEO Frederick H. Grubbe, who resigned, to ensure a smooth transition into the office.

"The Board of Directors is confident that with Bob's leadership the NFCA will continue the high level of service and commitment that member-societies have come to expect from their trade association," said Board Chair Janice U. Whipple.

Huxel joined the NFCA staff as its first-ever Director of Government Affairs in April 2004. In this position, he has monitored and managed all regulatory and legislative activities for the NFCA and helped to develop positions, strategies and tactics that ensure the viability and growth of the fraternal benefit system.

"I am happy to 'step up' into this position and will do my best to further serve the fraternal benefit system," said Huxel. "I will work with the NFCA headquarters staff to press forward on the NFCA's strategic priorities and objectives for the advancement of all fraternal."

NFCA President and CEO Fred Grubbe announced his resignation in early May. It took effect on May 24, 2007.

"The NFCA and the fraternal benefit system are grateful to Fred for his many contributions during his tenure and wish him the best of luck with his future pursuits," said Chair Whipple.

Mr. Grubbe has served as the NFCA's President and CEO since December 1, 2001. He began his new position as Chief Executive Officer of the Appraisal Institute headquartered in Chicago, Illinois, on June 1, 2007.

Chair Whipple will work with the NFCA Board of Directors to develop a transition strategy, including the hiring of a permanent President and CEO in the coming months.

## Rev. Dianiska District to Host Youth Bowling Party

The Reverend Dianiska District is holding its annual Youth Bowling Party on Saturday July 14, 2007, at Modern Lanes, Exeter, Pennsylvania, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. Hope and Lori Napkora are serving as co-chairs.

The youth of the District, their friends and family of all ages are cordially invited to come out and enjoy some camaraderie and fun! Members under the age of 18 may attend as guests of the District. Adult members, their friends, and friends of our participating young members are welcome to attend at cost.

Call your Branch Secretary before July 7th to make reservations. Please be prepared to include the name, age, and gender of all children who will attend, as well as the number of adult bowlers. Branch Secretaries should call Margaret Jollimore with their final counts by July 7th.

## Tree of Life RESERVATION FORM

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.*

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## Letters

Dear Ladies Pennsylvania  
Slovak Catholic Union,

Thank you for the \$500 scholarship.  
It will be very useful as I pursue my  
future by attending DeSales University.

Your kindness is very much appreci-  
ated.

Sincerely,

**Amy Shannon**

Branch 130

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Dear LPSCU,

I would like to thank you for the 2007  
Scholarship Award. I greatly appreciate  
your kindness. I will use the money  
wisely as I further my education at the  
University of Scranton.

Sincerely,

**Alicia Yanac**

Branch 1

Hazleton, Pennsylvania

Dear LPSCU Ladies,

Thank you for accepting my picture  
for the Earth Day contest. The bond is a  
great gift for my future.

Thanks again.

**Luke Turkovich**

[5 years old]

Branch 38

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Dear LPSCU,

Thank you for the \$50 bond. It was a  
fun contest and I enjoyed making the  
picture.

**Michael DeFazio**

Branch 38

Orefield, Pennsylvania

Dear LPSCU,

Thank you for the U.S. Savings Bond.  
I had fun drawing my poster for Earth  
Day.

Sincerely,

**Paul Jason**

Branch 6

Wilkes-Barre Pennsylvania

Have you signed up  
a new member  
lately?

## Member's Quick Thinking Praised by Police

Jim Tomasic, a member of LPSCU Branch 52, was commended by local police on May 3rd for thwarting what appeared to be an abduction attempt on his 6-year-old neighbor.

Jim happened to be out mailing a letter when he looked down a nearby alley and saw a car stopped beside the little girl, who was riding her bicycle. A young woman was standing beside the child, with her car door wide open. Instinct told Jim something wasn't right and he called out, "Hey, don't let that girl get in the car." At that the woman replied, "She's only looking at my baby."

Jim, who is afflicted with multiple sclerosis and has a difficult time walking, hurried as best he could toward the child. The woman quickly fled the scene, backing her car up in such a manner that her license plate was not visible. Jim called the police and was able to give them a description of the woman and the vehicle. The incident was reported on WTAE-TV, Pittsburgh.

After the incident, Jim said, "At the moment, something didn't look right. I had to do what had to be done. The good part is nothing serious happened."

Jim, God put you in the right place at the right time. You're our hero. Thanks!

Congratulations, Jim, for saving the little girl from a potentially tragic situa-  
tion. The LPSCU is proud of you.

## 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*

*Thomas Phillips of East St. Louis, Illinois, Branch L0179,  
has graduated from Kindergarten at St. James Academy.*

*We love you, Tommy! — Grammy & Pop*

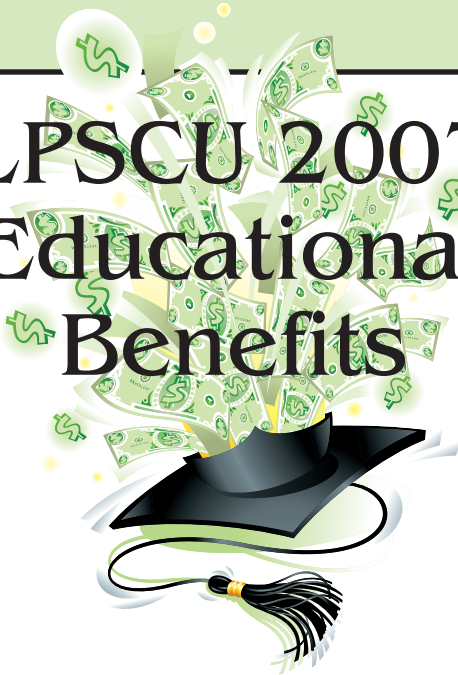
Please send your photo and message to Fraternal Activities Director Cecilia B. Gaughan, 325 Florida Avenue, Whitehall, PA 18052. Please include an address and phone number or e-mail address in case we have to get in touch with a question concerning your submission. The LPSCU reserves the right to edit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



# LPSCU 2007 Educational Benefits



## 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**.

## College Scholarship — \$500 One-Time Award

- Member of LPSCU for two (2) years with \$2,000 legal reserve life insurance plan.
- Must be high school senior, college freshman, sophomore, or junior to apply.
- High school seniors provide letter of recommendation from school guidance/principal.
- Submit official transcript from high school that includes test scores; college students must submit documentation indicating latest overall GPA.
- Provide detailed list of extracurricular activities, honors, and awards.
- Provide detailed list of church, community, volunteer, and work activities including honors and awards, with reference(s) included.
- Attend an accredited college/university in the fall of this year on a full time basis.
- Submit proof of acceptance/attendance for fall semester.
- Submit a brief essay (no more than 200 words) on the topic "Why is life insurance important?"
- Provide a wallet-size color photo.
- Application must be postmarked by **March 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, 2006 and August 30, 2007.
- Provide photocopy of diploma received.
- Provide a wallet-size color photo.
- Application must be postmarked by **August 31st**.

## St. Theresa of the Little Flower, Blessed Andre, 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**.

## 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**.

## Ann (Shinal) Cichy Memorial Award — \$500 (Maximum of \$1,000 per member)

- Must have a life certificate with LPSCU.
- Attend an accredited college/university in the fall of this year on a full time basis in the healthcare field.
- Provide proof of acceptance/attendance.
- Provide a wallet-size color photo.
- Application must be postmarked by **March 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](mailto:lpscu@lpscu.org)

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

# Cardinal Tomko Releases New Book About His Missionary Work

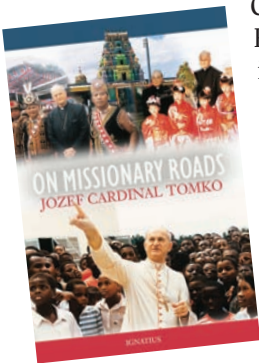
By Rev. Philip A. Altavilla, National President, Slovak Catholic Federation

After many years in progress, Cardinal Jozef Tomko's book *On Missionary Roads* is now available from Ignatius Press. The book has been translated from the original Slovak by Rev. L'ubomír Strečok, a priest of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

From Botswana to Thailand, from Peru to Bosnia, the missionary work of the Catholic Church stretches from pole to pole, encompassing every part of the globe. Cardinal Tomko, Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples from 1985 until his retirement in 2001, shares his account of the many missionary journeys he made around the world. (He visited Africa alone some 52 times!)

Often accompanying the late Pope John Paul II on many of the latter's visits to third world countries, Cardinal Tomko saw first hand how the Church is dealing with the particular challenges of various cultures around the world. He gives witness to the flowering of faith as well as the hardships that many Catholics face in other countries. The encyclopedic knowledge of countries and peoples that the Cardinal possesses will enrich the reader's understanding of the world today and show that the Roman Catholic Church is truly "one, holy, catholic, and apostolic."

In his Foreward to Cardinal Tomko's book, Cardinal Francis George, O.M.I., the Archbishop of Chicago, writes: "Cardinal Tomko has given us a gift in this book that can help us appreciate the Church's response today to the mission given her by Christ two thousand years ago. He deserves our gratitude, too, for what he has done for the missionary well-being of the Church over the years that he was the Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples. This book is an invitation to share in his generous missionary spirit and, like him, to do great things for the Lord."



A close collaborator of the Cardinal, Archbishop Malcolm Ranjith, who writes from Vatican City, says: "That the Cardinal was close to the people he visited becomes visible in almost every page of this book. Reading the book one can understand better the various challenges that the mission of the Church, its actual outreach and personnel face in the various contexts in which it exists, from the ice-caps of Alaska and northern Canada to the remote island states of the Pacific Ocean and from the little known state of East Timor to the Galapagos Islands, a vast and often unknown yet sure expression of the mystical presence of Christ in human life.

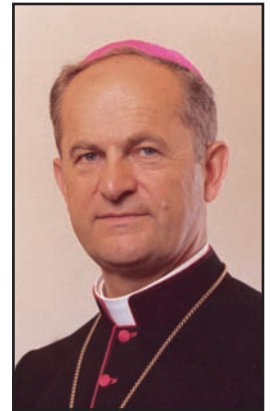
"The more than 1,100 dioceses, apostolic vicariates, and *sui iuris* [Latin for *of one's own right*] missions that straddle the globe with thousands of religious and clerical cooperators, hundreds of thousands of lay missionaries, catechists and co-workers, thousands of ecclesiastical institutions like seminaries, formation houses, schools, universities, hospitals, and

charitable and socio-promotional institutions at the service of the poor are the physical manifestation of a much deeper spiritual reality – the Church: expression of God's redeeming and liberating love for humanity."

A native of Udavské in the Zemplin region of eastern Slovakia, Cardinal Tomko was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Košice in Rome, Italy, in 1949. Unable to return to his home diocese because of the communist takeover of then Czecho-Slovakia, he remained in the Eternal City laboring in various dicasteries of the Catholic Church and helping to establish the Slovak Institute of Saints Cyril and Methodius (now known as the Pontifical College of Saints Cyril and Methodius). Pope John Paul II personally ordained him to the episcopacy on September 15, 1979. He was raised to the Cardinalate at the May 25, 1985, Consistory of Cardinals. At the same time, Pope John Paul II appointed him head of the missionary arm of the Church, a position often referred to as "the Red Pope." Cardinal Tomko is a very close friend of the American Slovak community.

The 390-page volume is illustrated with many color photos and maps. It makes for very interesting reading and is highly recommended. The book sells for \$24.95 (+ \$6.00 postage/handling) in its softbound edition. It is available from Ignatius Press, P.O. Box 1339, Fort Collins, CO 80522, telephone: 1-800-651-1531 or contact [www.ignatius.com](http://www.ignatius.com).

Cardinal Tomko's new book makes a perfect gift for those interested in adventure, drama, and a spirited experience of faith.



**Cardinal Jozef Tomko**

## In Memoriam

*Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.*

— Matthew v.5

Name	Branch	Location
Evelyn Nawrocki	19	Swoyersville, PA
*Josephine Dzurek	19	Swoyersville, PA
*Diane M. Gawel	24	Windber, PA
Margaret Pusanik	25	Nanticoke, PA
Jennie Rindosh	41	Dubois, PA
Agnes Kurnath	58	Ashley, PA
Anthony Ambrozino	62	Northampton, PA
Richard Bodnar	65	Munhall, PA
Cecilia Zeedock	67	Nanticoke, PA
Edward Babey	72	Stratford, CT
George J. Kerestes	97	Monessen, PA
Charles Gilliotti	166	Carbondale, PA
Janice Franklin	170	Phoenixville, PA

\*Multiple certificates

## Dear Junior Members,

On June 14th we celebrate Flag Day. We call our American flag “Old Glory.”

The Pledge of Allegiance to this beautiful flag is:

*I pledge allegiance to the flag  
of the United States of America,  
and to the Republic for which it stands,  
one Nation under God, indivisible,  
with liberty and justice for all.*



We say these words many times during the year, at school, at sporting events, before public meetings, at ceremonies — but do we really know what they mean?

Each portion of the Pledge has a special meaning.

When we pledge allegiance to our flag, we are promising loyalty and devotion to our nation (*I pledge allegiance to the flag*) as represented by its national flag (*of the United States of America*), and to a country whose people freely elect others to make laws for them (*and to the Republic for which it stands*). We are a single country whose people believe in a supreme being (*one Nation under God*), a unified country that cannot be split into parts (*indivisible*), and country that stands for freedom and fairness for all its citizens (*with liberty and justice for all*).

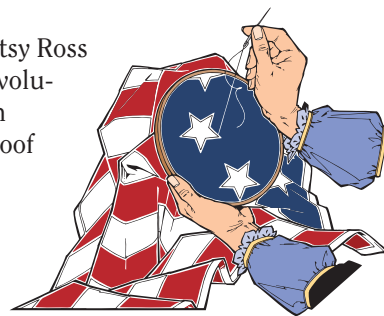
The Pledge of Allegiance was written in September 1892 by Francis Bellamy. It was originally written for a popular children’s magazine of the time called *Youth’s Companion*, and was intended for an advertising campaign the magazine was running to sell American flags to schools, marketed as a way to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Columbus’s arrival in the Americas. The Pledge was first used in public schools on October 12, 1892, during Columbus Day observances, as approved in a proclamation issued by then President Benjamin Harrison. Over the years, words have been added or changed slightly until we’ve arrived at the Pledge we all know and recite today.

All fifty states honor the flag on Flag Day, but Flag Day is a holiday in only one state — Pennsylvania. It was in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, that the Continental Congress adopted the first official American flag on June 14, 1777. At that time, the 13 American colonies were fighting for their independence from Great Britain. During the Revolutionary War, Americans fought under many different flags. One flag had a pine tree on it. Another had the words “An Appeal to Heaven.” One had a rattlesnake and the words “Don’t Tread on Me.” The Continental Congress wanted the symbol of the Americans’ aspirations for liberty to be represented by one unifying flag.

The American flag today has 50 stars on a blue field, each star representing one of the 50 states in the Union. The flag also has 13 stripes — 7 red and 6 white — representing the original 13 colonies.

No one knows exactly where our national flag came from. Historians suggest perhaps a man named Francis Hopkinson designed it. It was also said that Betsy Ross, a seamstress from Philadelphia, hand-sewed the first official

flag. While it is true that Betsy Ross did sew flags during the Revolutionary War and she lived in Philadelphia, there is no proof that she sewed the very first one. Her house at 239 Arch Street in Philadelphia, however, is now a national landmark and public museum.



On October 12, 1892 — the celebration of the quadricentennial of Columbus’s discovery of America — more than 12 million school children recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag, thus beginning a school-day ritual. It was not until 1942, however, that Congress officially recognized the Pledge of Allegiance. A year later, in June of 1943, the Supreme Court ruled that school children could not be forced to recite it. Today, only half of our fifty states have laws that encourage the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in the classroom!

In June of 1954, an amendment was made to add the words “under God.” At the time, President Dwight D. Eisenhower said, “In this way we are reaffirming the transcendence of religious faith in America’s heritage and future; in this way we shall constantly strengthen those spiritual weapons which forever will be our country’s powerful resource in peace and war.”

What we must never forget is that the American flag is to be respected and that all flag etiquette should always be observed. It is important to recognize our flag on all our national holidays because it symbolizes freedom to all American citizens.

**Cecilia B. Gaughan**, Fraternal Activities Director

## Slovak Lesson

### ZVIERATÁ — ANIMALS

Čo je vlk?	Vlk je zviera.
<i>What is a wolf?</i>	<i>A wolf is an animal.</i>
Vlk je naoko ako pes.	Ten vlk má ostré zuby.
<i>A wolf looks like a dog.</i>	<i>This wolf has sharp teeth.</i>
Tá koza má rohy.	Vôl je užitočné zviera.
<i>That goat has horns.</i>	<i>The ox is a useful animal.</i>
Čo robí lev?	Tento lev reve.
<i>What does a lion do?</i>	<i>This lion is roaring.</i>
Vieš, čo to je?	Hej, to je moriak.
<i>Do you know what this is?</i>	<i>Yes, this is a turkey.</i>
Moriak hudruje.	Kto videl hada?
<i>A turkey gobble-gobbles.</i>	<i>Who saw a snake?</i>
To je môj dobrý pes.	Môj pes sa volá Dunčo.
<i>That is my good dog.</i>	<i>My dog is called Dunčo.</i>

Sliepky majú dve krídla a dve nohy.  
*Chickens have two wings and two legs.*

Slony sú veľmi veľké zvieratá.  
*Elephants are very large animals.*

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## June Highlights



June 5th is the anniversary of the **First Balloon Flight**. In 1783, Frenchmen Joseph and Jacques Montgolfier achieved the first sustained flight by man in any kind of vehicle when they traveled 7,500 feet in a hot-air balloon.

On June 14, 1777, John Adams introduced a Continental Congress resolution specifying the dimensions and content of the **Stars and Stripes**.

We celebrate **Father's Day** on June 17th this year. There is a lot of debate over when and where the first Father's Day celebration took place. Some people say it was held at a church service in West

Virginia in 1908. Others contend that the first ceremony was held in Vancouver, Washington, in 1909. Even though the origin of Father's Day is not clear, Mrs. Sonora Smart Dodd of Spokane, Washington, was the person who put forth the most effort into making this day a holiday for dads across the country. Mrs. Dodd's mother died giving birth to her sixth child and Mrs. Dodd's father, William Jackson Smart, a Civil War veteran, raised all six children by himself. As she got older, Mrs. Dodd realized what an outstanding job her father had done in bringing up all of the children without any help. She also saw all the sacrifices and hardships her father endured in raising her and her siblings. Because of Mrs. Dodd's efforts, Father's Day is now officially celebrated on the third Sunday of June. President Lyndon Johnson made the date a holiday by presidential proclamation in 1966.

### Kids in the Kitchen

#### FLAG CAKE

Everyone will want seconds when they see and taste this cake!

Here's what you'll need:

- 2 pints of fresh strawberries
- 1 pkg. frozen pound cake (10.75 oz., cut into 10 slices)
- 1 1/3 cups of fresh blueberries
- 1 12-oz. tub of whipped topping, thawed

Slice 1 cup of the strawberries; set aside. Halve remaining strawberries; set aside. Line bottom of a 12 x 8-inch baking dish with cake slices. Top with 1 cup sliced strawberries and 1 cup blueberries. Cover with all of the whipped topping. Place strawberry halves and remaining 1/3 cup of blueberries on whipped topping to create a flag design.

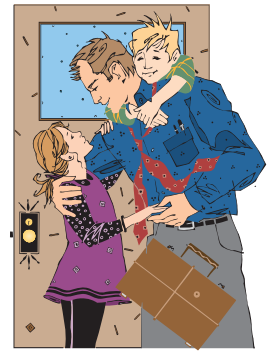
Refrigerate until ready to serve. Enjoy!



Although Father's Day was originally intended for dads only, nowadays, many people also honor their stepfathers, uncles, grandfathers, brothers, and other adult male friends in their lives. Take some time on Father's Day and do something special for that "Special Man" in your life.

June 18 marks the anniversary of the **First American Woman in Space**. Dr. Sally Ride served as "mission specialist" on the space shuttle Challenger in 1983, thus becoming the first woman in space.

June 21st is the first day of summer, the **Summer Solstice**.



## Arts and Crafts

### SAY A FEW WORDS ABOUT DAD

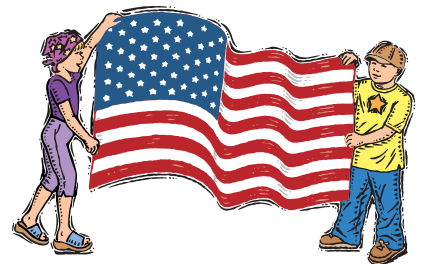
How would you like to give Dad a special homemade gift for Father's Day? You can make this very personal desk accessory with just a few materials.

1. Peel off the label and wash and dry a jar, 4-5" high.
2. From old magazines, cut out colorful words that remind you of your father or that describe him.
3. Using a clear-drying glue, paste the clippings around the jar until all the glass is covered. Let dry.
4. Pour some of the glue into a shallow bowl. Mix in a small amount of water to thin the glue.
5. Using your fingers or a small brush, cover the clippings with the glue mixture. Let dry.

Give your special gift to Dad for Father's Day. He can use it to hold pens and pencils, coins, or as a vase. Dad will appreciate your thoughtfulness.

## American Flag Facts

- Only the President and State Governors can order flags on government buildings to be flown at half-staff.
- When a flag is no longer serviceable or repairable, it should be destroyed by burning in a dignified manner.
- The flag should be lighted at all times, either by sunlight or by an appropriate light source.
- You do not have to destroy a flag that has touched the ground. It is acceptable to wash or dry clean an American flag when it is soiled or dirty.
- The Flag Code does not prohibit the flag from being draped across a coffin. The deceased does not have to be a veteran to have the flag draped on his or her coffin.



You can learn more about flag etiquette and other interesting facts about our flag by visiting the American flag website: [www.usa-flag-site.org](http://www.usa-flag-site.org).

# Bowmans Uphold Pisanky Tradition

Malcolm and Rachel Bowman and their great aunt, Helen Lorinc, proudly display the traditional Slovak *pysanky* (egg writing) that they created for Easter. For safety's sake, Malcolm and Rachel used crayons to decorate their eggs instead of the customary hot wax. In the background is Baba Mary Lorinc. The entire Bowman and Lorinc families are members of Branch 64 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



# The Sacrament of Charity

*continued from page 3*

Pope Benedict says, "In Christ, head of his body, the Church, all Christians are 'a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people he claims for his own, to declare his wonderful deeds.' (1 Peter 2:9). The Eucharist, as a mystery to be 'lived,' meets each of us as we are and makes our concrete existence the place where we experience daily the radical newness of the Christian life. The Eucharistic sacrifice nourishes and increases within us all that we have already received at baptism with its call to holiness, and this must be clearly evident from the way individual Christians live their lives. Day by day we become a 'worship pleasing to God' by living our lives as a vocation. Beginning with the liturgical assembly the sacrament of the Eucharist itself commits us in our daily lives to doing everything for God's glory."

This particular paragraph and the glorious feast of Corpus Christi reminds us that it is into the world that God sends his children and, strengthened by the Eucharist, we are called to authentically live out our relationship with Christ wherever we find ourselves. As Jesus shares himself with us in the Eucharist, we must willingly share ourselves with others. May we become worthy witnesses of God's love through our actions, words, and way of being — our holy sharing!

**Rev. Philip A. Altavilla**

## SCF Pilgrimage of Faith

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

- 11:00 a.m. Arrival of Pilgrims
- 11:00 a.m.- Lunch, provided by the Sisters in the
- 12:00 p.m.\* Motherhouse Dining Room.  
 (If pre-ordered, only \$6.00)  
 \*Lunch is the responsibility of each pilgrim
- 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
- 12:45 till 3:00 p.m. *Tours available for Jankola Library*  
 (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

### DEADLINE FOR PILGRIMS

All who wish to attend this pilgrimage, either by bus (the bus leader informs Dolores) or if traveling as an individual/family by car, MUST call Dolores Evanko 570/454-5547 or email [jjje@intergrafix.net](mailto:jjje@intergrafix.net) no later than August 20.

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

### Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union

71 South Washington Street  
 Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania 18701  
 or Fax to: 570/823-4464

Branch No. \_\_\_\_\_ Certificate No. \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Old Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

New Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_