



Alicia Yanac Receives 2009 Anne (Shinal) Cichy Memorial Scholarship

The LPSCU is proud to announce that Alicia Yanac of Hazle Township, Pennsylvania, is the recipient of the 2009 Anne (Shinal) Cichy Memorial Scholarship.

This September, Alicia will begin her senior year at the University of Scranton in Scranton, Pennsylvania, with a Major in Biochemistry and a Minor in Spanish. Her related course work is in chemistry, biology, biochemistry, Spanish, physics, calculus, and general education requirements.

Alicia's college honors and awards thus far include Honors Program, Dean's List (Fall 2006 semester), Jesuit Community Scholarship, Loyola Scholarship, Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science Scholarship, Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society (Freshman Honor Society), and Alpha Mu Gamma Honor Society (Foreign Language).

Her extra-curricular activities include the Health Professions Organization which is for pre-med students, Scranton Temple Residency Program Externship in which she shadowed various doctors in the Scranton area, International Service Program, College Republican, Chemistry Club, Spanish Club, and Varsity Tennis (Sophomore year). She excels in Leadership in Student Government (Junior Senator), Honors Program Student Council, and Scranton Emerging Leaders.

As an active participant, Alicia volunteers on the Girl Scout Gold Award Committee, for the Hazleton General Hospital Obstetrics Unit, in the Community Medical Center Emergency Room, and for various programs through the university's community outreach office. She is a Lector at her home parish, St. Joseph's Church in Hazleton, Pennsylvania, where she also volunteers her time.

Alicia's employment experience includes being a server at the Perkins Family Restaurant in Hazleton (October 2004-present); a store associate at Turkey Hill in Sugarloaf, Pennsylvania (June 2007-August 2008), and a lab assistant at the University of Scranton Language Lab (September 2006-present).

In 2006, Alicia was honored as the recipient of the LPSCU Youth Achievement Award. In 2007, she received an LPSCU College Award as a Sophomore at the University of Scranton.

Since birth, Alicia has been a member of LPSCU Branch 1 in Hazleton where her grandmother, Emily Degenhart, is secretary. The Degenhart family, including all their children and grandchildren, are 100% members of the LPSCU. Alicia is the daughter of Donald and Mary Frances ("Marfy") Yanac. She has two brothers, Donny and Paul.

The LPSCU is proud of Alicia's outstanding achievements and accomplishments at the University of Scranton and elsewhere. She is an outstanding young lady and most deserving of this year's Anne (Shinal) Cichy Memorial Scholarship. We congratulate Alicia and wish her continued success in her educational endeavors.



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Calendar of Events

JULY

- 10** — Deadline to send a nomination form to the Home Office for those Indiana members applying for the Indiana Fraternal Congress's Adult or Youth Fraternalist of the Year award.
- 11** — Annual Summer Festival of the Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville, Pennsylvania, from 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (See page 4.)
- 16** — The 86th Annual Slovak Day at Kennywood Park, West Mifflin, Pennsylvania. (See page 5 for details and ticket information.)
- 18** — Rev. Dianiska District hosts its annual Youth Bowling Party at Modern Lanes, Exeter, Pennsylvania, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. Make reservations with your Branch Secretary before July 11th.
- 19** — Pittsburgh District Meeting at Eat 'n' Park, Waterfront, Homestead, Pennsylvania, beginning at 12 noon.
- 23** — Deadline to submit messages and photos honoring our 2009 graduates. (See page 17.)
- 25** — **Deadline to submit articles for September/October Zornicka.**
- 26** — Rev. Baloga Okres Indoor Picnic/Meeting at St. Matthias Church, Youngstown, Ohio, at 1:00 p.m. Branch 163 will host. Donation is \$5.00.

AUGUST

- 23** — Lehigh Valley Okres Picnic at Louise Moore Park, Pavilion #2, Country Club Road, Bethlehem Township, Pennsylvania. Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon, games will be played and prizes awarded. For reservations, call your Branch Secretary by August 17th.
- 25** — Deadline to make a reservation to attend the Mass and Luncheon being held in conjunction with the Semiannual Board Meeting in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. (See page 4.)
- 31** — Deadline to apply for LPSCU Religious Awards and Post-Graduate Award.

SEPTEMBER

- 1** — Deadline to submit matters for discussion by the Board of Directors at the Semiannual Meeting.
- 11-14** — LPSCU Semiannual Board Meeting at the Best Western, 300 Gateway Drive, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, beginning at 8:30 a.m. (See page 4.)
- 13** — Mass of Thanksgiving held in conjunction with the LPSCU Semiannual Board Meeting, Incarnation of Our Lord Church, 617 Pierce Street, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, at 10:30 a.m., followed by a luncheon at the Best Western, 300 Gateway Drive, Bethlehem. Reservations are required. Contact Mary Jo Savidge at the Home Office. (See page 4.)
- 17-19** — NFCA Annual Meeting, San Antonio, Texas

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Spiritual Advisor's Message

The Year of the Priest



Fr. Altavilla

On Monday, March 16, 2009, in his address to the members of the Congregation of the Clergy on the occasion of their Plenary Assembly, His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI announced that he was declaring a "Year of the Priest." Near the conclusion of his address, Pope Benedict said: "Precisely to encourage priests in this striving for spiritual perfection on which, above all, the effectiveness of their ministry depends, I have decided to establish a special 'Year for Priests' that will begin on the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, June 19, 2009, and last until June 19, 2010. In fact, it is the 150th anniversary of the death of the Holy Curé d'Ars, John Marie Vianney, a true example of a pastor at the service of Christ's flock."

This special "Year of the Priest" is an opportunity to help all of us revisit what the faith tells us a priest is and to encourage ordained priests in their lives of service and dedication. Pope Benedict proposes that this is to be a year "in which the church says to her priests above all, but also to all the faithful and to the wider society ... that she is proud of her priests, loves them, honors them, admires them, and that she recognizes with gratitude their pastoral work and the witness of their life." The year is to be marked by intense prayer for the sanctification of priests and renewed study of the nature of the priestly office in the church.

In giving this gift to the Church, a year to pray for and celebrate the ministry of priests, Pope Benedict encourages us to reflect on the life and ministry of Saint John Marie Vianney. In 1929, Pope Pius XI named Saint John Marie Vianney to be the patron saint of parish priests. Who is this very unique saint? On March 16, 1986, exactly 23 years before Pope Benedict issued his call for the "Year of the Priest," the late great Pope John Paul II wrote beautifully about Saint John Marie Vianney in his annual Holy Thursday, "Letter to My Brother Priests." Let us take a moment to reflect on some important elements contained in this important Apostolic Letter of Pope John Paul II.

Born in 1786, John always desired to be a priest. From a very early age, he certainly showed that he had the heart of a parish priest but John had great difficulty with his academic studies, especially the study of Latin. Despite great challenges, John persisted and never gave up on his dream to become a parish priest. With the help of private tutoring, John was able to handle his studies and, after a lengthy battle with books, he was ordained in 1815.

Three years later, he was made the pastor of Ars, a remote French hamlet which was known for a generally apathetic and indifferent Catholic population. The practice of the faith had grown very lukewarm and many people there became distracted by the things of this world. It was into this rather hopeless situation that John was sent to be God's agent of renewal.

Out of sheer love for the people of his flock, John would engage in various types of penances and self-mortification in order to lead people to a conversion of heart. The example of his self-sacrificing love became a great inspiration to his people. Along with his incredible example, John was also known to be an amazing confessor. Once his reputation began to spread, John would spend hours each day in the confessional, helping people reconcile themselves to God and the Church. It is said that in the winter months, he would spend 11 to 12 hours daily in the confessional and in the summer months his time increased to 16 hours. People would spend hours waiting in line to experience God's mercy through this simple, humble instrument. Truly, unless a man was dedicated to his dream of a priestly vocation, he could never have endured this giving of self day after day!

Despite moments of fatigue, ill health, and even attacks on his person by the devil, John never wavered in his desire to be of service to God and God's people. Not only was his love and priestly zeal experienced in the confessional and at the altar, it

was also evidenced in his works of charity on behalf of his people, many of whom were poor and in material need. For example, along with Catherine Lassagne and Benedicta Lardet, he established La Providence, a home for girls. Only a man of vision could have such trust that God would provide for the spiritual and material needs of all those who came to make La Providence their home. Even as he got older – when many people would be entering retirement – John continued to work for the salvation of souls. He died at Ars on August 4, 1859, at the age of 73, after some forty years of exhausting dedication. His feast day is celebrated each year on August 4th.

The secret of his generosity is to be found, without doubt, in his great love for God, lived without limits, and in constant response to that love made manifest and real in Christ crucified. It is in God's love that he bases his desire to do everything to save the souls ransomed by Christ at such a great price, and to bring them to experience the love of God for themselves. For the sake of Christ, John sought to conform himself exactly to the radical demands that Jesus, in the Gospels, puts before the disciples whom he sends out: prayer, poverty, humility, obedience, self-denial, and voluntary penance. And, like Christ, John had a love for his flock that led him to extreme pastoral commitment and self-sacrifice. Rarely has a pastor been so acutely aware of his responsibilities, so consumed by a desire to wrest his people from the sins of their lukewarmness. "O my God, grant me the conversion of my parish: I consent to suffer whatever you wish, for as long as I live."

This . . . is an opportunity to help all of us revisit what the faith tells us a priest is . . .

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LPSCU Board of Directors' Semiannual Meeting

This announcement is made to all members of the LPSCU that the Semiannual Meeting of the Board of Directors will convene on Friday, September 11, 2009, at 8:30 a.m. at the Best Western, 300 Gateway Drive, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. All subsequent sessions will begin at 8:30 a.m. and continue until all Semiannual Meeting business has been completed.

Members wishing to submit matters for the Board of Directors to consider at this meeting are directed to send them to the attention of Theresa Kluchinski at the LPSCU National Headquarters, 71 South Washington Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701 or P.O. Box 32, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703. All correspondence relative to this Semiannual Meeting should be received **no later than September 1, 2009.**

SS.C.M. Sisters to Hold Summer Festival July 11

The Sisters of SS. Cyril and Methodius announce their annual Summer Festival to be held on Saturday, July 11, 2009, at Villa Sacred Heart, their Motherhouse in Danville, Pennsylvania. This year's festival is extra special for the Sisters as they are celebrating their centennial year as a congregation. The day begins at 10:30 a.m. and will close at 5:00 p.m. with the Sunday Liturgy celebrated in the Basilica of SS. Cyril and Methodius.

A perennial favorite at the festival is the Sisters' Pantry with its assortment of baked goods, among them homemade nut roll. Another popular spot is the Craft Shop where festival-goers can find a variety of crafts made by the Sisters and their friends. All the items make splendid gifts for every occasion. For those who have a "green thumb," a variety of plants, both annuals and perennials, will be for sale.

Games for children as well as for adults, including Instant Bingo, will bring joy to the winners.

The auditorium is once again the place where flea market devotees can find valuable treasures for a reasonable price.

Besides the usual picnic fare – sausage, hot dogs, hamburgers and fries – delectable ethnic foods will be served. This year fresh lemonade, corn on the cob, and walk-away waffles topped with ice cream are on the menu. Soda, ice cream, and yogurt will also be available throughout the day.

Once again the Sisters look forward to your presence at their festival in Danville on Saturday, July 11.

Rev. Dianiska District to Host Children's Bowling Event

The Reverend Dianiska District's Annual Youth Bowling Party will be held on Saturday, July 18, 2009, at Modern Lanes in Exeter, Pennsylvania, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. Hope and Lori Napkora are co-chairing the event.

The youth of the District are invited to attend as guests of the District. Adult family members and non-member friends

In Memoriam

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

— Matthew v.5

Name	Branch	Location
Alicia Siewell	7	Exeter, PA
Vladas W. Paalksnis	32	Pana, IL
Michael S. Sabol	39	Drums, PA
*Virgina Regina	42	Pittsburgh, PA
Maria Shivak	42	Pittsburgh, PA
Dorothy Montague	46	Tamaqua, PA
Patricia A. Shafnisky	62	North Hampton, PA
*Lynda A. Hamley	132	Youngstown, OH
*Veronica M. Bozick	132	Youngstown, OH
*Alexandra Grosinski	153	Perth Amboy, NJ
Elena Augulis	153	Perth Amboy, NJ
Helen Newton	156	Coaldale, PA
Marie Walenda	158	Chicago, IL
Mary E. Kaleda	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Anna Sokoloski	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Marion C. Gill	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Frank J. Aurila	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Margaret G. Adomnik	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Helen Fitt	197	Wilkes-Barre, PA
Helene Mariano	213	Dallas, PA
Emily M. Krause	L0100	Chicago, IL

*Multiple certificates

September 13, 2009

You Are Invited!

A Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated at Incarnation of Our Lord Church, 617 Pierce Street, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, September 13, 2009. We respectfully invite officers and members of the LPSCU to attend this celebration.

Following the liturgy, you are invited to be our guest at a luncheon to be held at the Best Western, 300 Gateway Drive, Bethlehem. Reservations are required and can be made by calling our National Secretary-Treasurer, Mary Jo Savidge at 888/834-6614 or by e-mailing her at lpescu@lpescu.org. Members will be guests of the LPSCU and non-members can attend at a cost of \$25.00. Seating is limited, so reservations are on a first-come basis.

The liturgy and luncheon are being held in conjunction with the LPSCU's Semiannual Meeting. Come and meet your LPSCU Board of Directors.

*Deadline for reservations
is August 25, 2009*

may also participate in the activities at a cost.

Call your Branch Secretary to make reservations **before July 11**. Please include the name, age, and gender of the children and the number of adult bowlers who will participate. This is always a much anticipated event and we look forward to seeing you there!

A Message from the President

Dear LPSCU Members,

On page 8 of this publication is our Year End 2008 Financial Report of the LPSCU. As you can see, we sustained a loss of \$1,554,670 with the majority of this due to write downs of certain bonds and loss in our equity portfolio. I want to assure our members that the LPSCU is extremely strong with a solvency ratio of 138%. What this means is that for every \$1.00 in liabilities we have \$1.38 in assets to cover that liability. More importantly, your Board of Directors anticipated the decline due to the financial crisis that has impacted many if not most of us and at our December 2008 meeting acted to reduce our expenses. This reduction of expenses (see January/February 2009 *Zornicka* for letter with details), as well as changes to our investment portfolio approved by the Executive Finance Committee, has helped put the LPSCU back on track. In fact, our 1st Quarter of 2009 Financial Report, published on page 11 of this issue, reflects a gain from operations. This means we made more money than we spent.

This is not the first time the LPSCU has encountered tough economic times. We have been in existence for over 110 years and will continue to offer affordable insurance products while providing benefits for all members of our organization.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

Fraternally,

Theresa A. Kluchinski

National President

Slovak Day at Kennywood

The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Day Committee has announced that the 86th Annual American Slovak Day will be held on Thursday, July 16, 2009, at Kennywood Park in West Mifflin, Pennsylvania.

The Slovak Kitchen opens at 12:30 p.m. in Pavilion #4. A program will be conducted in the Main Pavilion #5 with Slovak cultural displays and a "Kroj" Slovak national costumes exhibit. Children's games and treats are set for 12:30 p.m., and children's folk dancing at 2:00 p.m. with the "PAS" Jr. Folk Ensemble and the Pittsburgh Jr. Slovaks. A guests introduction program is set for 3:00 p.m. on the Main Pavilion stage.

A Eucharistic celebration will be held at 4:00 p.m. on the Main Pavilion stage. Principal celebrant will be Rev. Joseph Grosko, a 50th anniversary jubilarian, who is administrator of Holy Trinity Church and Saint Agnes Church in West Mifflin. Concelebrants will be clergy from the Pittsburgh and Greensburg dioceses.

Slovak folk entertainment by the Pittsburgh Slovaks and "PAS" Folk Ensemble will be held on the Main Pavilion stage at 5:00 p.m. Funday tickets are \$22.00; Senior (55+) tickets are \$10.00; and Senior (70+) coupon is \$7.00. For tickets or more information, call 412/351-2381 or 412/466-6545.

Pittsburgh Fraternal Name FOTY

Karen A. Pintar, national secretary of the Slovene National Benefit Society, was named 2009 Fraternalist of the Year by the Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh. The honor took place at a banquet on March 28, 2009, at the Sheraton-Station Square, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Among those congratulating Karen at the event was LPSCU Branch 42 member Cecilia Sarocky. Ceil was Fraternalist of the Year in 1984 and is a past treasurer of the Fraternal Societies of Greater Pittsburgh. She is also Honorary President of the LPSCU.

Calendar of Events from page 2

25 — **Deadline to submit articles for November/December *Zornicka*.**

25 — Deadline to submit a tribute to our veterans and military. (*See page 15.*)

27 — Rev. Dianiska District meeting at Holy Trinity Church, Swoyersville, Pennsylvania, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Branches 17 and 19 will host. Please bring new socks or other warm clothing items to be donated to local charities for the District's "Make a Difference Day" project.

28-29 — Slovak Catholic Federation Meeting in the Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania

OCTOBER

2-4 — Ohio Fraternal Congress Annual Meeting, Mentor, Ohio

8-9 — NJFC Annual Meeting, Atlantic City, New Jersey

25-27 — PFC Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

NOVEMBER

25 — **Deadline to submit articles for January/February *Zornicka*.**

29 — Rev. Baloga Okres annual Christmas Party. Location to be announced. Branches 163 and 180 will host.

DECEMBER

5 — LPSCU Teleconference Meeting

CORRECTION

Please note the following correction to the Minutes from the Board Conference Call Meeting held December 6, 2008, which were published in the May/June 2009 *Zornicka* on page 4. In the second column, the second bullet should read as follows:

- ❖ Full-time employees receiving 100% paid health insurance will now contribute 12.5% towards their health care.

We apologize for any confusion this error may have caused.

REVEREND DIANISKA DISTRICT

The Rev. Dianiska District held its second meeting of the year on Sunday, May 1, 2009 at Mary Help of Christian's Church in Pittston, Pennsylvania. Chuck Simalchik welcomed everyone on behalf of host Branches 7 and 214.

The meeting was called to order by District President Mary Ann Ewasko, who led the members in prayer for deceased and ill members and their families, including Marge Zinkavich and Carol Royer. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Branch Secretary Margaret Jollimore took roll call. Vice President Hope Napkora read the Secretary's report and Debbie Adamchak gave the Treasurer's report; both were approved. Mary Ann Ewasko read correspondence. She also reported that Monsignor Francis J. Beeda is still recuperating and in lieu of sending gifts, our District will have Mass said in his honor at the Priest's Retirement Home by Bishop Emeritus James Timlin.

The following items were discussed:

Mary Ann reminded members to read the Calendar of Events in the *Zornicka* for upcoming events in our District.

On May 2nd, members participated in Join Hands Day at The Laurels Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. The event was very successful. *(See related article in this issue on page 12.)*

The District's Annual Youth Bowling Party will be held on July 18, 2009, at Modern Lanes in Exeter, Pennsylvania, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. Hope and Lori Napkora are co-chairs for the event. Call your Branch Secretary by July 10th with the age, gender, and number of children attending. Branch Secretaries are asked to call Debbie Adamchak by July 11th with all the information required.

The District's annual Christmas party will be held on December 6, 2009, at the Wyoming Hose Company, 3rd Street, Wyoming, Pennsylvania. Branches 37, 58, and 94 will host the event. Please bring a non-perishable food item that will be donated to various food pantries in the area. Everyone is invited to attend. Contact your Branch Secretary before November 25th to make reservations. Branch Secretaries should contact Margaret Jollimore with final reservations by November 25th.

President Ewasko expressed the concerns of the Board that premium income is low and the campaign for 2009 is off to a slow start, most likely due to the economy. Members are urged to increase their policy sales.

The Fraternal Societies of Northeast Pennsylvania is sponsoring Flag Day at the PNC Stadium on June 5th. The outing includes dinner, the game, and the Friday night fireworks display.

Our next meeting will be held on September 27, 2009, at 1:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church, Swoyersville, Pennsylvania, hosted by Branches 17 and 19. At this meeting we will be participating in "Make a Difference Day." Members are asked to donate new socks and other warm clothing items that will be distributed to local charities for the District's Make a Difference Day project.

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

Susan Worth

LEHIGH VALLEY OKRES

The Lehigh Valley Okres held its 21st annual Mother/Daughter Mass and Luncheon on Sunday, May 3, 2009, with 48 members and guests in attendance. The Mass was celebrated at 10:30 a.m. at Incarnation of Our Lord Church in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, by Msgr. William Baker, pastor. Msgr. Baker



Okres President Jean Kosalko presents a monetary gift to Msgr. William Baker, pastor of Incarnation of Our Lord Parish.

extended a warm welcome to the Okres members and expressed his delight at celebrating a special Mass in honor of the mothers and daughters.

Offertory gift bearers were Jean Kosalko and Mary Shannon, president and secretary, respectively, of the Okres. Beautiful Marian hymns were sung by the parish choir.

A punch reception and luncheon followed the Liturgy at the Best Western Lehigh Valley Hotel and Conference Center in Bethlehem where President Kosalko welcomed all present. A drawing was held to select a "Queen for the Day" and her Court. Ann Kurtz of Hanover Township, Pennsylvania, was honored as the Queen. She was accompanied by Court members, Sister M. Francine Garganta, OSF, of Incarnation of Our Lord Convent, and Erin Joseph of LPSCU Branch 38 in Allentown. An inspirational Invocation was offered by Msgr. William Baker, after which lunch was served.

At the conclusion of the meal, President Kosalko presented a monetary gift to Msgr. Baker. She then introduced Okres officers, Secretary Mary Shannon and Treasurer Margaret A. Ferri, as well as LPSCU national officers, Fraternal Activities Director Cecilia B. Gaughan, Public Relations Director Margaret A. Ferri, Honorary Vice President Mary Ann Ackerman, former President/Vice President Jean Kosalko, and former Public Relations Director Mary Ford.



Queen for the Day, Ann Kurtz (at right) with her Court, Erin Joseph and Sister M. Garganta, O.S.F.

Special prizes of pink potted plants were presented to Anna Balog, oldest mother present; Christine Reiss, youngest mother; Mary Shannon, mother with the most children; and Patricia Kienzle, most recent mother. Four young Junior daughters received a piece of jewelry. Door prizes were awarded to lucky winners and each attendee received a small potted plant as a favor.

The program concluded with the Benediction offered by Msgr. Baker.



Special prizes were awarded to Anna Balog (seated) and, standing L-R, Christine Reiss, Mary Shannon, and Patricia Kienzle.



Junior members receiving gifts from President Jean Kosalko (in back) are, L-R: Brigitte Guempel, Molly Keretz, Elizabeth Ackerman, and Anna Kurtz.

PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

The Pittsburgh District held a meeting on April 5, 2009, at St. Michael's Social Hall, St. Maximillian Kolbe Parish, Munhall, Pennsylvania. A prayer was offered for the speedy recovery of our LPSCU Honorary Spiritual Advisor, Msgr. Francis J. Beeda, STL, who suffered a stroke. An enjoyable luncheon was hosted by Branch 65, followed by the drawing of door prizes and a raffle.

Pittsburgh District election of officers was conducted with the following results: President: Dolores Sakal, First Vice President: Mary Ann Bowman, Second Vice President: Janice Mathews, Secretary: Elizabeth Melko, Treasurer: Elva

JULY/AUGUST 2009

Silay, Publicity: Sylvia Goda, and Auditors: Susan Lazar, Bernice Vadas, and Margaret Joschak.

Sylvia Goda

REVEREND DIANISKA DISTRICT

At the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Reverend Dianiska District on September 27, 2009, Paige Johnson from the Pennsylvania AARP Consumer Task Force will present a program entitled "It's Your Money." This informative program is co-sponsored with the Pennsylvania Securities Commission and is designed to help you hold onto your money when purchasing, selling, or investing. Handouts and prizes will be distributed to all attending.

All LPSCU/LCA members are invited to attend. The meeting takes place at Holy Trinity Church, Swoyersville, Pennsylvania, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Contact Mary Ann Ewasko at 823-6432 or your Branch Secretary with your reservation.

Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress Offers 2009 Scholarship

The Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress has announced that applications are available for its 2009 Scholarship Program. The PFC will award at least one \$500 scholarship to a college student who is a resident of Pennsylvania and is a member of a fraternal benefit society belonging to the Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress. Since the LPSCU is a member of the PFC, any LPSCU member who is a Pennsylvania resident and a 2009 high school graduate, who will be a full time student (twelve semester credits) attending an accredited college, university, trade school, etc., in the summer/fall of the 2009 school year, can apply for this scholarship.

To apply for the Scholarship, the applicant must:

- Submit proof of acceptance from the college, university, trade school, etc., with the application.
- Obtain a letter of recommendation from the LPSCU Home Office.
- Submit a 500-word essay on "What Fraternalism Means to Me."
- Sign the *Statement of Application* that is located at the bottom of the application.
- Return the completed application, essay, letter of recommendation, and proof of acceptance from the college, university, trade school, etc., **postmarked no later than September 3, 2009**, to the PFC Scholarship Chairperson noted on the application.

Additional scholarships may be awarded depending upon available funds. Awards will be announced at the PFC Annual Meeting on October 25-27, 2009.

For a PFC Scholarship Application, contact the LPSCU Home Office at 570/823-3513; Toll Free 888/834-6614; Fax 570/823-4464; or e-mail lpscu@lpscu.org. **Applicants are reminded to request their letter of recommendation from the Home Office prior to August 26, 2009, to meet the application postmark deadline of September 3, 2009.**

Announcing Twin Members!

Teresa and Delbert Worth of Trucksville, Pennsylvania, proudly announce the birth of their twin son and daughter, David Mark and Abigail Grace. The twins were born in the Lehigh Valley Hospital, Allentown Pennsylvania, on April 6, 2009.

David and Abigail's maternal grandparents are Antoinette and David Belles of Trucksville. Paternal grandparents are Susan and Delbert Worth, Jr. of Shick-shinny, Pennsylvania. Their great-grandparents are Josephine and the late David Royer, Sr., Larksville, Pennsylvania; Patricia and the late Delbert Worth, Sr., Ramsey, New Jersey; the late Antoinette and Joseph Dimino, and the late Mary and William Belles.

David and Abigail are participating in the LPSCU's Newborn Benefit Program. Their dad, grandma Sue, and great-grandma Josephine are members of Branch 94, Larksville.



Abigail and David Worth

**SIGN A
NEW MEMBER
TODAY!**

Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union 2008 Year End Report

Assets	Year End 2008	Year End 2007
Investments	\$ 11,412,159.00	\$ 13,918,370.00
Certificate of Deposit	\$ 1,055,000.00	\$ 1,246,000.00
Cash on Deposit	\$ 1,602,673.00	\$ 918,709.00
Mortgage Loans	\$ 24,718.00	\$ 29,004.00
Real Estate Owned	\$ 140,216.00	\$ 139,518.00
Other Assets	\$ 59,491.00	\$ 73,563.00
Totals	\$ 14,294,257.00	\$ 16,325,164.00

Liabilities & Fund Balance	Year End 2008	Year End 2007
Fund Balance	\$ 3,950,452.00	\$ 5,505,123.00
Interest Maintenance Reserve	\$ 339,663.00	\$ 366,045.00
Amt. Retained as Trustee	\$ 50,098.00	\$ 52,258.00
Aggregate Reserve-Life Certificates	\$ 9,703,619.00	\$ 9,638,665.00
Other Liabilities	\$ 250,425.00	\$ 763,073.00
Totals	\$ 14,294,257.00	\$ 16,325,164.00

Revenues	Year End 2008	Year End 2007
Premium Income	\$ 203,837.00	\$ 236,848.00
Investment Income	\$ 800,441.00	\$ 758,092.00
Income - Other	\$ 40,861.00	\$ 33,305.00
Totals	\$ 1,045,139.00	\$ 1,028,245.00

Expenses	Year End 2008	Year End 2007
Death Claims	\$ 320,539.00	\$ 259,796.00
Endowments	\$ 54,924.00	\$ 54,374.00
Cash Surrenders	\$ 66,339.00	\$ 50,263.00
Dividends	\$ 56,435.96	\$ 58,911.00
Increase in aggregate reserves	\$ 64,954.00	\$ 179,414.00
Commissions (new and renewals)	\$ 30,792.00	\$ 32,242.00
General Operating Expenses	\$ 330,066.57	\$ 362,144.40
Officers and Committee Expenses	\$ 38,911.82	\$ 40,080.28
Actuarial/Accounting Expense	\$ 71,305.00	\$ 55,734.94
Investment Mgt. Fee	\$ 24,083.05	\$ 30,742.56
Official Publications	\$ 59,091.12	\$ 76,757.37
Travel Expense	\$ 13,580.16	\$ 9,510.77
Bureau and Association Dues	\$ 4,460.00	\$ 3,846.19
Donations	\$ 19,080.00	\$ 5,751.72
Scholarships	\$ 6,219.03	\$ 12,780.00
Fraternal Activities	\$ 15,661.29	\$ 16,682.77
Insurance Taxes, Licenses & Fees	\$ 28,571.00	\$ 30,935.00
Sub Total	\$ 1,205,013.00	\$ 1,279,966.00

Net Gain/Loss From Operations	\$ (159,874.00)	\$ (251,721.00)
Net Realized Capital Gain (Loss)	\$ (1,177,503.00)	\$ (23,175.00)
Total	\$ (1,337,377.00)	\$ (274,896.00)

Surplus Account	Year End 2008	Year End 2007
Surplus, December 31, previous year	\$ 5,505,123.00	\$ 5,714,012.00
Net income from operations	\$ (1,337,377.00)	\$ (274,896.00)
Change in net unrealized capital gains (losses) ..	\$ (548,386.00)	\$ 132,866.00
Change in asset valuation reserve	\$ 331,093.00	\$ (66,859.00)
Aggregate write-ins for gains and losses	\$ -	\$ -
Net change in surplus for the year	\$ (1,554,670.00)	\$ (208,889.00)
Surplus, December 31, previous year	\$ 3,950,453.00	\$ 5,505,123.00

**Support Your Local Branch
— Participate in Branch Activities —**

LPSCU Branch 83 Celebrates Centennial

LPSCU Branch 83, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, celebrated its Centennial Anniversary with a Mass of Thanksgiving and Luncheon on Sunday, April 19, 2009. Mass was celebrated at 10:30 a.m. at Incarnation of Our Lord Church (formerly SS. Cyril and Methodius Church) in Bethlehem, by Msgr. William Baker, pastor. Msgr. Baker extended a warm welcome to Branch 83 members and guests. He congratulated the Branch on 100 years of fraternal service to its members and wished the Branch continued success.

Branch 83 member Theresa Nishnic was lector and gift bearers were Branch 83 officers, President Mary Shannon and Secretary Mary Ann Ackerman. Beautiful liturgical music was provided by the parish choir, with Bruce Bratkovits as organist and Milissa Bolcar as trumpeter.

Following the Mass, a punch reception and luncheon were held at the beautiful Candlelight Inn in Bethlehem. Ninety-five members and guests attended the event. Honored guests included Msgr. William Baker, Msgr. Michael J. Chaback, former pastor of SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, and LPSCU National Officers: President Theresa Kluchinski, Secretary-Treasurer Mary Jo Savidge, Chair of Trustees Mary Ann Ewasko, Trustees Dolores Evanko and Margaret Jollimore, and Fraternal Activities Director Cecilia B. Gaughan.

Branch 83 Vice President and National Public Relations Director Margaret A. Ferri served as the toastmaster. Branch President Mary Shannon welcomed everyone to the Centennial celebration and Msgr. Baker offered an inspirational Invocation. Branch Secretary Mary Ann Ackerman offered a toast congratulating Branch 83 on its Centennial and wishing the Branch continued success.

Following a delicious buffet luncheon, the toastmaster introduced the head table and the LPSCU National Officers present. She also introduced our fraternal brothers and sisters in attendance from the Slovak Catholic Sokol and First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association.

Principal speaker was National President Theresa Kluchinski who presented the history of Branch 83. She also highlighted many fraternal benefits offered by the LPSCU. On

behalf of the LPSCU, President Kluchinski presented a monetary gift for Branch 83 to Branch Secretary Mary Ann Ackerman to mark the occasion of the Branch's Centennial Anniversary.

Toastmaster Ferri recalled the various accomplishments and successful events of Branch 83 during the past century. She acknowledged the following Branch 83 members who served as National Officers: Elizabeth Spisak (trustee), Mary Kacmar (Supreme Court member and second vice president), Mary Ann Ackerman (trustee and vice president), and Mary Ford and Margaret A. Ferri (public relations director). She also mentioned that Branch 83 leaves a legacy to the LPSCU motto "from generation-to-generation" in that some of the 5-generation members within Branch 83 are the families of Spisak/Ivanitch, Posivak/Shannon, and Fecko/Ackerman.

The program concluded with a Benediction offered by Msgr. Chaback.

The Centennial celebration of Branch 83 reflected a century of true fraternalism and fond memories among its members and a legacy of continued success for its future generations of members.



LPSCU National Officers attending the Centennial Celebration are, seated L-R: Mary Ann Ewasko, chair of trustees; Margaret Jollimore, trustee; and Cecilia B. Gaughan, fraternal activities director. Standing L-R: Dolores Evanko, trustee; Mary Jo Savidge, secretary-treasurer; Theresa Kluchinski, president; and LPSCU member Thomas Gaughan.



Seated, L-R: Msgr. Michael J. Chaback, former pastor of SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish, and Branch 83 officers: Mary Ann Ackerman, secretary; Mary Ford, treasurer; and Mary Shannon, president. Standing are Margaret A. Ferri (left), Branch 83 vice president, and Msgr. William Baker, pastor of Incarnation of Our Lord Parish.



Members of the 5-generation Shannon-Posivak-Kessler family who attended the Centennial celebration are, seated L-R: Mary, Michael and Annette Shannon, and Peggy Posivak. Standing L-R: Michelle, Patrick, Beth and James Shannon, Jamie Kessler, Frank Posivak, and Trish Kessler.

THE 3 PAYMENT LIFE PLAN

The 3 Payment Life Insurance Plan offered by the LPSCU is an economical and beneficial plan for anyone from age 0 to 85. Under this plan, there is a minimum purchase of life insurance. For those age 0-70, the minimum purchase is \$5,000; for ages 71-85, the minimum purchase is \$2,000. Premiums are payable for three (3) years from issue date. If the insured dies within the 3-year period following the issue date, no additional premiums are due and payable, and the face amount of the certificate is paid to the named beneficiary, except as provided within the contract regarding Suicide and Contestability.

The plan allows for premium payments to be made monthly, quarterly, semiannually, or annually. The certificate becomes fully paid at the end of three (3) years, and coverage remains in full force and effect for the entire life of the insured without any additional premium payments required. Upon the death of the insured, the face amount of the certificate is paid to the insured's named beneficiary.

A member with a 3 Payment Life Plan is entitled to all fraternal benefits of the LPSCU including educational awards, youth and adult activities, newborn benefits, prescription discount card, official publication, and discount car rental.

The 3 Payment Life Plan is perfect for both youth and adults - especially anyone who prefers to have their life insurance paid within three (3) years.

During these unstable economic times, the 3 Payment Life Plan offered by the LPSCU is economical and beneficial for estate planning and can especially help with the high cost of funeral expenses.

To apply for this specific plan, or any other insurance plan offered by the LPSCU, contact your Branch Secretary or the LPSCU Home Office.

Listed below are the Annual and Monthly Premium Schedules for the 3 Payment Life Insurance Plan. The premiums listed are based on \$1,000 of life insurance coverage. Semiannual and quarterly premium rates are also available by contacting your Branch Secretary or the Home Office.

3 PAYMENT LIFE ANNUAL AND MONTHLY PREMIUM RATES PER \$1,000 Based on 2001 CSO Male and Female Mortality Tables Based on Age at Last Birthday

Issue Age	Annual		Monthly	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0	23.91	20.15	2.15	1.81
1	24.60	20.80	2.21	1.87
2	25.42	21.53	2.29	1.94
3	26.31	22.30	2.37	2.01
4	27.28	23.12	2.46	2.08
5	28.30	23.98	2.55	2.16
6	29.36	24.89	2.64	2.24
7	30.46	25.81	2.74	2.32
8	31.59	26.76	2.84	2.41
9	32.79	27.76	2.95	2.50
10	34.02	28.80	3.06	2.59
11	35.30	29.87	3.18	2.69
12	36.62	30.99	3.30	2.79
13	37.98	32.13	3.42	2.89
14	39.36	33.31	3.54	3.00
15	40.77	34.52	3.67	3.11
16	42.19	35.77	3.80	3.22
17	43.62	37.08	3.93	3.34
18	45.08	38.41	4.06	3.46
19	46.56	39.80	4.19	3.58
20	47.64	40.84	4.29	3.68
21	49.19	42.29	4.43	3.81
22	50.80	43.79	4.57	3.94
23	52.47	45.35	4.72	4.08
24	54.20	46.97	4.88	4.23
25	56.00	48.65	5.04	4.38
26	57.86	50.38	5.21	4.53
27	59.78	52.18	5.38	4.70
28	61.77	54.04	5.56	4.86

Issue Age	Annual		Monthly	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
29	63.84	55.96	5.75	5.04
30	65.99	57.96	5.94	5.22
31	68.24	60.02	6.14	5.40
32	70.59	62.16	6.35	5.59
33	73.03	64.36	6.57	5.79
34	75.56	66.64	6.80	6.00
35	78.19	68.99	7.04	6.21
36	80.91	71.41	7.28	6.43
37	83.73	73.91	7.54	6.65
38	86.65	76.49	7.80	6.88
39	89.65	79.16	8.07	7.12
40	92.76	81.92	8.35	7.37
41	95.96	84.78	8.64	7.63
42	99.26	87.72	8.93	7.89
43	102.65	90.76	9.24	8.17
44	106.14	93.90	9.55	8.45
45	109.69	97.13	9.87	8.74
46	113.34	100.46	10.20	9.04
47	117.08	103.89	10.54	9.35
48	120.91	107.39	10.88	9.67
49	124.87	110.98	11.24	9.99
50	128.97	114.66	11.61	10.32
51	133.20	118.42	11.99	10.66
52	137.64	122.35	12.39	11.01
53	142.19	126.35	12.80	11.37
54	146.85	130.44	13.22	11.74
55	151.60	134.61	13.64	12.11
56	156.43	138.86	14.08	12.50
57	161.32	143.20	14.52	12.89

Issue Age	Annual		Monthly	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
58	166.32	147.60	14.97	13.28
59	171.46	152.09	15.43	13.69
60	176.76	156.67	15.91	14.10
61	182.18	161.34	16.40	14.52
62	187.70	166.12	16.89	14.95
63	193.28	170.99	17.40	15.39
64	198.91	175.98	17.90	15.84
65	204.58	181.07	18.41	16.30
66	210.31	186.29	18.93	16.77
67	216.15	191.62	19.45	17.25
68	222.09	197.07	19.99	17.74
69	228.21	202.65	20.54	18.24
70	234.56	208.38	21.11	18.75
71	241.15	214.22	21.70	19.28
72	247.91	220.19	22.31	19.82
73	254.77	226.28	22.93	20.37
74	261.77	232.50	23.56	20.93
75	269.00	238.86	24.21	21.50
76	276.54	245.38	24.89	22.08
77	284.46	252.05	25.60	22.68
78	292.74	258.94	26.35	23.30
79	301.36	266.11	27.12	23.95
80	310.31	273.72	27.93	24.63
81	319.56	281.65	28.76	25.35
82	329.11	289.72	29.62	26.07
83	339.20	297.96	30.53	26.82
84	349.95	306.47	31.50	27.58
85	361.45	315.31	32.53	28.38

Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union 1st Quarter Report

Assets	1st Quarter 2009	1st Quarter 2008
Investments	\$ 13,018,856.00	\$ 13,420,051.00
Certificate of Deposit	\$ 671,000.00	\$ 1,534,000.00
Cash on Deposit	\$ 195,919.00	\$ 814,555.00
Mortgage Loans	\$ 20,534.00	\$ 27,864.00
Real Estate Owned	\$ 138,216.00	\$ 137,518.00
Other Assets	\$ 59,989.00	\$ 68,198.00
Totals	\$ 14,104,514.00	\$ 16,002,186.00

Liabilities & Fund Balance	1st Quarter 2009	1st Quarter 2008
Fund Balance	\$ 3,808,844.00	\$ 5,497,837.00
Interest Maintenance Reserve	\$ 301,663.00	\$ 333,066.00
Amt. Retained as Trustee	\$ 60,280.00	\$ 48,678.00
Aggregate Reserve-Life Certificates	\$ 9,698,619.00	\$ 9,643,665.00
Other Liabilities	\$ 235,108.00	\$ 478,940.00
Totals	\$ 14,104,514.00	\$ 16,002,186.00

Revenues	1st Quarter 2009	1st Quarter 2008
Premium Income	\$ 36,035.00	\$ 50,531.00
Investment Income	\$ 215,242.00	\$ 178,567.00
Income - Other	\$ 38,011.00	\$ 35,725.00
Totals	\$ 289,288.00	\$ 264,823.00

Expenses	1st Quarter 2009	1st Quarter 2008
Death Claims	\$ 106,298.00	\$ 82,063.00
Endowments	\$ 2,837.00	\$ 18,080.00
Cash Surrenders	\$ 20,219.00	\$ 9,587.00
Dividends	\$ -	\$ 14,070.00
Increase in aggregate reserves	\$ (5,000.00)	\$ 5,000.00
Commissions (new and renewals)	\$ 745.00	\$ 1,715.00
General Operating Expenses	\$ 55,527.35	\$ 57,415.42
Officers and Committee Expenses	\$ 9,273.29	\$ 1,030.42
Actuarial/Accounting Expense	\$ 27,400.00	\$ 28,095.00
Investment Mgt. Fee	\$ 4,517.14	\$ 6,648.79
Official Publications	\$ 25,783.50	\$ 19,062.61
Travel Expense	\$ 59.40	\$ 3,518.46
Bureau and Association Dues	\$ 275.00	\$ 1,125.00
Donations	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,610.00
Scholarships	\$ -	\$ (1,340.00)
Fraternal Activities	\$ 6,193.32	\$ 2,656.30
Insurance Taxes, Licenses & Fees	\$ 8,435.00	\$ 8,426.00
Sub Total	\$ 263,563.00	\$ 259,763.00

Net Gain/Loss From Operations	\$ 25,725.00	\$ 5,060.00
Net Realized Capital Gain (Loss)	\$ (24,334.00)	\$ (45,482.00)
Total	\$ 1,391.00	\$ (40,422.00)

Diabetes Association Receives LPSCU Donation



American Diabetes Association representative Lauren Wiley is pictured at left above accepting donation checks from LPSCU Fraternal Activities Director Cecilia Gaughan. The donations, which were collected from members of the LPSCU through our annual Father's Day tributes published in the May/June issue of *Zornicka*, amounted to \$275 this year. This is the eighth year we have chosen the American Diabetes Association as the recipient of monies collected from this worthwhile fraternal activity. Ms. Wiley is the communications director of Northeastern Pennsylvania for the American Diabetes Association.

Slovak Embassy in Washington Announces New Website

The Embassy of the Slovak Republic in Washington, D.C., announces the new and only official website of the Embassy is at www.mzv.sk/washington. The previous website www.slovakembassy-us.org (or any other) is no longer administered by the Embassy and thus the Embassy does not control nor is it responsible for its content.

NOTICE

REGARDING SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES & PHOTOS

When submitting articles and photos for publication in *Zornicka* to the Public Relations Director, Margaret A. Ferri, please **include a phone number** with your name. That way, if there is any question regarding the material you submit, it will make it easier to contact you.

Districts & Youth Groups Join Together

Msgr. Beeda District



L-R: Michael Ecker, Holy Family Academy; Caitlin Kennedy, Holy Family Academy & St. Joseph Youth Group; Emily Alvear, Holy Family Academy & St. Joseph Youth Group; Anita Gregory, Mary Ann Litchock and James Yocum, Msgr. Beeda District Officers; and Zelda Ondish, Holy Family Academy & St. Joseph Youth Group.

The Msgr. Beeda District of the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union, St. Joseph Youth Group, and the Holy Family Academy joined together this year to celebrate Join Hands Day. The combined group sponsored a Food Drive to collect non-perishable food items for their local food pantry. The project was a huge success thanks to the generosity and continued support of our LPSCU members as well as the many non-members who contributed to this worthwhile fraternal project. We especially would like to commend all our young people for their participation with the drive. They truly are making a difference in their community by reaching out to help others.

Lehigh Valley Okres

On Saturday morning, May 2, 2009, officers and members of the Lehigh Valley Okres delivered a large amount of men's, women's, and children's clothing to Second Sight as their Join Hands Day project. Second Sight is an upscale thrift shop located at the Trolley Station, Route 191 in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. It is owned and managed by the Visibly Impaired and Blind Association of Northampton County, Pennsylvania. A well-organized merchant, Second Sight is known for its resale of better and designer-named clothing. The shop also donates business attire to those on state assistance who are seeking employment, thus helping them present a more professional appearance at interviews and enhancing their chances of becoming employed.

Members of the Lehigh Valley Okres began collecting from their neighbors and friends well in advance of Join Hands Day. In all, over 30 boxes and bags filled with clothing and shoes were donated. Branches of the Okres previously held a clothing drive for Second Sight in October of 2008. This time, the Okres went all out to sponsor a huge Spring clothing drive for Join Hands Day. At least 35 adults and 15 children participated in this project.



Lehigh Valley Okres officers and members delivering clothing to Second Sight in Bethlehem are, L-R: Margaret A. Ferri, Valeria Lukish, Marie Ford-Clemens, Mary Ford, Mary Ann Ackerman, Jean Kosalko, and Cecilia B. Gaughan.



to Celebrate Join Hands Day



Reverend Dianiska District

On May 2, 2009, the Reverend Dianiska District participated in Join Hands Day by volunteering at The Laurels Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Fourteen adults and ten youth from the District, along with five members from Saint Nicholas Byzantine Church, Swoyersville, Pennsylvania, played bingo with approximately 40 residents from the facility. Prizes were donated by District members and everyone was presented with a gift and refreshments.

Our young members were actively involved with the residents who did not attend the bingo in the social hall by distributing cake and a gift to them in their rooms. The beautifully decorated cake was donated by Gerrity's Supermarket in Wyoming, Pennsylvania.

The residents were very excited to have our District entertain them and they enjoyed the camaraderie, especially with the young members. The staff at The Laurel's was very pleased that the District once again chose their facility for its Join Hands Day project.

Melissa Chisdock, Cecilia Chisdock, and Paul Gregory Jason distribute cake to the residents in their rooms.



Our proud young members who volunteered at The Laurels Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.



Adult and youth participants of Join Hands Day surround two Laurels residents, Mary Hawley (left) and Margaret Pesta, who are members of the Rev. Dianiska District.



Residents enjoy a game of bingo during our Join Hands Day celebration. At left is Mary Hawley with her great-granddaughter, Anna, close by.



John Ferri Named 2009 LPSCU Fraternalist of the Year



John Ferri

The Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union is proud to announce that John Ferri of Branch 83, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, is our 2009 Fraternalist of the Year. John has been a member of the LPSCU for over 20 years. He was nominated for this award by Mary Shannon, president of Branch 83.

John is a very active member of the LPSCU. He participates and helps with all activities of the Branch and the Lehigh Valley Okres. For the annual Christmas

party and other social and family events, he helps to transport various necessary items to the event site. He has also been a delegate at the past five National Conventions. John is a dedicated and caring fraternal member of our organization.

John has been a parishioner of Bethlehem's Incarnation of Our Lord Parish (formerly SS. Cyril and Methodius) for some 57 years. He has been an active member of the Parish Activities Group for over 30 years and assists with the parish's dinners, bingo socials, and bus trips. He is also a collector at Mass. John recently retired as a lector, where he served for over two decades.

As an active member of the Cardinal Tomko Chapter of the Slovak Catholic Federation, John volunteers at the Chapter's Easter and Christmas bake sales by sorting baked goods, completing orders, and delivering them to dozens of families. He attends Chapter meetings and also helps with the Chapter's fundraisers such as halupki dinners, bingo and fashion show socials, and pilgrimage bus trips.

John volunteers for the Liberty High School Booster Concession Stand for all school sports events during football, basketball, baseball, wrestling, track, and volleyball seasons.

Every Monday afternoon from September to May, John teaches bowling to Special Olympians at Town & Country Lanes in Bethlehem. Each summer at the Special Olympics Track Tournament held at Bethlehem's Liberty High School, John volunteers by preparing Special Olympians for their track events. He is a great motivator of his Special Olympic athletes, encouraging them to do their best, to be kind and caring to one another, and to pledge that all are winners. As an active member of the MORA Club in Bethlehem, he also volunteers to help autistic children bowl once a week.

Every year for the past five years, John has volunteered as Santa Claus for Gracedale, Northampton County's Nursing Home in Nazareth, Pennsylvania. He visits with over 750 residents personally, presents each with a gift, and shakes their hands. This is one of his most enjoyable projects.

John also participates in the annual Join Hands Day projects sponsored by the Lehigh Valley Okres where he leads and motivates the adult and youth participants to work together for a successful event and to respect and enjoy one another.

John is the husband of Margaret A. Ferri, who is Public Relations Director for the LPSCU. They are the parents of three children, Jack of New Market, Maryland; David of New York City; and Patricia of Malvern, Pennsylvania. They also have six grandchildren, Angelina and Nicole Ferri; and Victoriana, Jenna, Jace, and Tate Kienzle.

Truly, John Ferri has exhibited extraordinary acts of fraternalism in his Branch and the Lehigh Valley Okres, and outstanding volunteer service to his church and community to qualify for the distinct honor of being named the 2009 LPSCU Fraternalist of the Year.

Congratulations, John! The LPSCU is very proud of you.

Slovak Heritage Society Presents Lecture on Aging

A free lecture, "Live Long – Die Short (Ills, Skills and Pills on Aging)" was presented recently by the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania and Mary's Ministeries and Holy Name Society at St. Ignatius Church in Kingston, Pennsylvania.

Guest lecturer was James Siberski, assistant professor and coordinator of Gerontological Education at Misericordia University, Dallas, Pennsylvania.

In his comments, Professor Siberski outlined points of successful aging and encouraged all to strengthen "the ability to maintain low risk of disease or disability, high mental and physical function, and active engagement with life." He added that "if one learns the necessary skills to successful aging, one will need fewer pills over a lifetime to prevent the ills that one can acquire."

Attendees enjoyed the informative and colorful presentation by Professor Siberski, interwoven with varied stories of living life with a positive attitude.



Enjoying a conversation following the lecture are, from left, Philip R. Tuhy, Slovak Heritage Society chair; Professor James Siberski, guest speaker; Kay Connor, Mary's Ministeries; and Michael Stretanski, Slovak Heritage Society board member and co-chair of the lecture.

LPSCU to Honor Our Military and Veterans

Once again this year, the LPSCU is sponsoring a Veterans' Day Honorary/Memorial Program to appear in the November/December issue. If you missed this wonderful tribute to our veterans and active military in past years, don't pass up this chance to participate.

Through our Veterans' Day Honorary/Memorial listings, the LPSCU is affording our members an opportunity to honor loved ones, co-workers, friends, and neighbors who are presently serving in our military, and to remember those veterans who have served in any branch of the service in the past.

Tributes will be limited to 2-5 lines and should not exceed 25-30 words. There is no charge for placing a message, but a good will donation of \$5.00 per listing would be appreciated.

In keeping with the benevolent and fraternal nature of our Catholic organization, all proceeds from these tributes will again be donated to the **Catholic War Veterans**, an organization whose primary objective is to make the entire nation aware of the struggle and needs of many veterans, their widows and children. The CWV cooperate fully with all veterans organizations to better serve the interests of the men and women who served in each of the wars in which our nation has been involved. Further, as a Catholic organization, the CWV strives to serve God by demonstrating love and respect for individuals without regard to race, creed, color, or national origin. They also seek to instill in today's youth a respect for our flag, our national anthem, and our country's great traditions. The CWV was founded in May of 1935 by a Catholic priest and former Army chaplain, Msgr. Edward J. Higgins of the Diocese of Brooklyn, New York. It was officially recognized as a veterans organization by the Veterans Administration in Washington in July of 1940. To learn more about the CWV and their mission, visit their website at www.cwv.org.

A few examples of Honorariums/Memorials follow:

*In honor of our son serving in Iraq,
Marine Gunnery Sgt. Jack Gibbs
We pray every day for your safe return home.
Your loving parents, John and Mary Gibbs*

*In honor of my husband,
Lt. Harmon Elliott
presently serving his country in the U.S. Navy.
With love and pride from your wife Sara*

*In memory of our father,
Pfc. Arthur Bauer
who served with the U.S. Army in Korea.
We love and miss you – Tom and Chrissy*

Tribute messages, along with all donation checks (made payable to "Catholic War Veterans"), should be mailed to Fraternal Activities Director Cecilia B. Gaughan, 325 Florida Avenue, Whitehall, PA 18052. If you have any questions, contact Ceil at 610/433-4610 or e-mail CBGaughan@msn.com.

Deadline for submitting a veterans/military tribute is September 25, 2009.

We hope that many of our members will participate in this worthwhile fraternal activity which allows them to honor their family members, friends and neighbors who were members of the armed forces and/or those who are presently serving our country in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kosovo, and other parts of the world. This is a wonderful way to show our love and appreciation to those serving our country and to show the concern and compassion the LPSCU has for our fellowman.



Letters

Dear LPSCU,

Youngstown Sister Cities would like to thank you for the donation of \$150 which we received to help fund our projects. We currently have two students from Slovakia in area high schools and one student from the U.S. is now attending school in Spisska Nova Ves. Your donation will assist with airfares and also transportation costs of sporting goods/sports uniforms we recently shipped to elementary schools in our sister city. Thank you for your continued support.

Bernie Demechko

Secretary,
Youngstown Sister Cities

Dear Ms. Gaughan,

I really appreciate your organization's continued support for the fight against diabetes. In this tough economic climate, every dollar is a huge help to our efforts to combat this epidemic. With nearly 24 million Americans living with diabetes today, and 1 in 3 children expected to be diagnosed in their lifetime, we need to work harder than ever to educate the public about type 2 diabetes prevention.

As of this fall, I'll have worked for the ADA [American Diabetes Association] for seven years. I was communications director in Boston for three years and became director of Northeast Pennsylvania in 2005. I oversee 17 counties in the northeast corner of the state, helping connect local residents to ADA services. As the local director, I organize two fall fundraising walks, oversee our School Walk program, give talks on diabetes prevention and work with local hospitals on education events. This year's walks will be held in Dallas, Pennsylvania, on October 3, and in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, on October 24. You can register online at www.diabetes.org/stepout or by calling me.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you!

Lauren Wiley

Director
Northeastern Pennsylvania
American Diabetes Association

continued on page 19

Branch 64 Honors Fallen Troops



UTILIZATION REPORT

Joining hands with American Legion Post #681 of Brighton Heights, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, members of LPSCU Branch 64, North Side Pittsburgh, helped to place 1,500 American flags on the graves of fallen servicemen and women at Highwood Cemetery in Pittsburgh on Friday, May 22, 2009. Branch 64 members who participated in the flag placement were Ed Silay, Elva Silay, Mary Ann Kaylor, Helen Lorinc, Malcolm Bowman, Rachel Bowman, and Mary Ann Bowman.

On Memorial Day, May 25, 2009, several members of LPSCU Branch 64 participated in the American Legion's Memorial Day Ceremony held at the local Honor Roll Monument where Branch 64 member Tom Kaylor placed a flag at each of the bronze war markers representing the following conflicts: War of 1812 (1812-1814), Civil War (1861-1865), Spanish-American War (1898-1902), World War I (1917-1919), World War II (1941-1945), Korean War (1950-1955), Vietnam War (1959-1975), and the First Gulf War (Desert Storm, 1991). Taps were played and a salute to our deceased veterans was made. Tom Kaylor was one of the riflemen.

What an honor it was for members of LPSCU Branch 64 to participate in such memorable events!

	For April 2009	Year-to-Date 2009
Prescriptions Filled:	23	81
Normal Retail Pricing:	\$1,006.61	\$ 3,353.30
ScriptSave Pricing:	\$ 693.20	\$ 2,131.79
Total Dollars Saved		
by LPSCU Cardholders:	\$ 313.41	\$1,221.51
Average Saved per		
Discounted Prescription:	\$ 19.59	\$ 20.36
Overall LPSCU Discounted Prescription Savings:	34.25%	40.28%

April 2009 was a good savings month for our ScriptSave® card members. Our group's discounted prescription savings for April 2009 amounted to 34.25%. During these tough economic times, a ScriptSave® card will provide savings to you on your prescriptions. 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 54,000 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 more than 23%, or more than \$13.00 per prescription (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 lpescu@lpescu.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.



Placing flags at the graves of fallen servicemen and women are Malcolm and Rachel Bowman (in front) with, from left, Ed Silay, Elva Silay, Mary Ann Kaylor, Helen Lorinc, and Mary Ann Bowman.



Flags decorate the graves of fallen military in Pittsburgh's Highwood Cemetery.

Anthony C. Bucha Awarded Eagle Scout Ranking



**Eagle Scout
Anthony Bucha**

Anthony C. Bucha, a member of Boy Scout Troop 301, Colesville, Pennsylvania, received the rank of Eagle Scout on November 13, 2008. Troop 301 is chartered by Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church, Colesville. The Scoutmaster is Richard Thompson.

Anthony began his scouting career in 1999, earning the Arrow of Light award in Cub Scout Pack 199 at St. Joseph Church. During his years as a Boy Scout, Anthony has earned 26 merit badges, become a member of the Order of the Arrow, and participated in two

High Adventures. He has also served his troop as Librarian, Patrol Leader, and Senior Patrol Leader.

For his Eagle project, Tony was responsible for modifying the Blessed Mother's outdoor shrine at the Carmelite Monastery in Coopersburg, Pennsylvania. The 45-year-old shrine had many overgrown shrubs which Anthony's team uprooted. The garden area was modified and redesigned with new shrubs, topsoil, and mulch. In addition, many tall trees were trimmed back. Six 24" concrete pillars were chiseled out with a jackhammer. Anthony then received two old concrete and wood benches which he refinished and positioned in the landscaping in front of the shrine. The project took over 165 hours to complete with the help of many fellow scouts, family members, leaders, and friends.

Anthony is a 2009 graduate of Allentown Central Catholic High School in Allentown, Pennsylvania, where he was president of the Ecology Club, participated in the Science Olympiad, Best Buddies, and was a member of the stage crew for the high school play. He plans on studying Computer Engineering at college in the fall.



The Blessed Mother's outdoor shrine at the Carmelite Monastery in Coopersburg, Pennsylvania, received a facelift courtesy of Anthony Bucha's Eagle Scout project.

Anthony is the son of Anthony and Jennifer Bucha. He is a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church where he has been an altar server for nine years. He is also a member of LPSCU Branch 38 in Whitehall, Pennsylvania, along with his sisters, Mary and Ann.

LPSCU To Honor Its 2009 Graduates

Once again this year, the Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union would like to honor all our 2009 graduates with a photo and message in our magazine. If you know of a member who graduates this year 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, 2009.

Minutes of the Executive Finance Committee

Home Office, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

March 18, 2009

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 February 25, 2009, Executive Finance Committee meeting.

Correspondence and Requests

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

- ❖ Benedictine High School requesting a donation for the 7th Annual Blue and White Gala. *Approved \$100.00.*
- ❖ School Sisters of St. Francis requesting a donation for their 2009 Spring Festival. *Approved \$50.00.*
- ❖ Branch 83 is celebrating the 100th Anniversary of its origination. President Kluchinski suggested a monetary gift. *The committee approved \$100.00.*

Financial Statement

The committee reviewed the following checking accounts as of February 28, 2009: M&T Bank – General Operating Account, M&T Bank – Home Office Checking Account and Smith Barney Checking Account.

Bond/Stock/Pension Portfolio

The committee was provided copies of all reports from February 28, 2009, 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: Budget, Pennsylvania Insurance Department Audit, and Disaster Recovery Plan.

There being no further business, the EFC adjourned.

April 22, 2009

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 18, 2009, Executive Finance Committee meeting.

Correspondence and Requests

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

- ❖ Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress requesting a donation of \$100.00 which will entitle (2) representatives to attend the Legislative Luncheon on May 5, 2009.

Financial Statement

The committee reviewed the following checking accounts

as of March 31, 2009: M&T Bank – General Operating Account, M&T Bank – Home Office Checking Account and Smith Barney Checking Account.

Bond/Stock/Pension Portfolio

The committee was provided copies of all reports from March 31, 2009, 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: Pennsylvania Insurance Department Audit, Disaster Recovery Plan and seminars which the President and Secretary-Treasurer attend.

There being no further business, the EFC adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jo Savidge

National Secretary-Treasurer

LPSCU Representatives Attend PFC Legislative Luncheon

On Tuesday, May 5, 2009, LPSCU President Theresa Kluchinski and Secretary-Treasurer Mary Jo Savidge joined other members of the Fraternal Societies of Northeast Pennsylvania in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, for the Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress's Legislative Luncheon. Over one hundred twenty-five Senators and State Representatives from all over the Commonwealth joined the group for lunch outside the Lieutenant Governor's Office at the State Capitol Building.

Senator Michael O'Pake (Berks County), of Slovak ancestry, took time out of his busy schedule to meet with us. Pictured is President Kluchinski (seated) and standing beside Senator O'Pake is Secretary-Treasurer Savidge.



Ceremony Commemorates Anniversary of Father Jozef Murgas' Death

A Commemorative Ceremony and Wreath Placement was held on May 11, 2009, by the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the death of Slovak scientist, inventor, artist, and priest, Rev. Jozef Murgas.

The wreath laying ceremony was in Sacred Heart of Jesus Cemetery, Dallas, Pennsylvania, and was co-sponsored by the State Scientific Library in Banska Bystrica, Slovakia. A Litany was offered by Rev. David Betts, parochial vicar, Catholic Community of North Wilkes-Barre, with prayers for Rev. Murgas and all the faithfully departed.

Remarks were given by Igor Pokojny, consul general of the Slovak Republic in New York, praising the radio telegraphic achievements of Rev. Murgas and reminding that his primary concern was the local Slovaks. "Rev. Murgas took care of Slovak immigrants," Pokojny said. "He built a new church, library, cemetery, several schools, a gymnasium and playgrounds, all still used by American Slovaks."

The program concluded with singing of the Slovak hymn, "Hej, Slovaci" and "God Bless America" by the more than 50 in attendance.

On Thursday, May 21, a Slovak-America Connection via a DVC (teleconference) took place at 8:00 a.m. in Luzerne County Community College, Nanticoke, Pennsylvania. U.S. participants included Chair Philip Tuhy and Magdalen M. Benish of Plains, Pennsylvania, Slovak Heritage Society representatives, and Rev. David Betts. Joseph and Anna Biros attended the conference in Slovakia and represented the Slovak Heritage Society. The teleconference also included a symbolic wreath placement in Bratislava on the 80th anniversary of Rev. Murgas' death.

William A. Zdancewicz

Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania



Placing a wreath at the grave of Rev. Jozef Murgas are Philip R. Tuhy (left), Wilkes-Barre, chair of the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania, and Igor Pokojny (right), consul general of the Slovak Republic in New York. In the background holding flags of America and Slovakia are Joseph and Anna Biros, residents of Bratislava, Slovakia, and Middletown, Pennsylvania.

Letters continued from page 15

Dear Theresa and the LPSCU,

Thank you so much for the beautiful wedding cross. We just bought our first home and are looking forward to finding a special place for it. Again, thank you so much for remembering us during this special time in our lives. God bless.

Natalie and Jonathan Gregory

Branch 60, West Hazleton, Pennsylvania

LPSCU Offers Group Dental Insurance Plan

Caring for your teeth should be part of a sound health care program. Yet such basic care can cost hundreds—if not thousands—of dollars annually. Now you can enjoy important dental protection designed specifically to meet the needs of you and your family. As a member of LPSCU, you are entitled to quality dental insurance at economical group rates.

Dental care isn't cheap. Why risk paying expensive dental bills out of your own pocket? Go online and visit www.membersdental.com/lpsc to start taking advantage of the LPSCU Group Dental Insurance Plan today or call 1-866-795-6128 for more information.



Cooking Corner

BROCCOLI CHEESE SQUARES

- | | |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 3 Tbsp. butter, softened | 1 tsp. baking powder |
| 2 (10 oz.) pkgs. frozen chopped broccoli | 1 tsp. salt |
| 3 large eggs | 1 lb. mild cheddar cheese, coarsely chopped |
| 1 cup milk | 2 Tbsp. finely chopped onion |
| 1 cup flour | Seasoned salt |

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease a 13 x 9-inch pan with butter. Steam broccoli until partially cooked (about 3 minutes). Cool and press dry. Beat eggs and milk until frothy. Thoroughly mix flour, baking powder, and salt; stir into egg mixture, mixing well. Fold in broccoli, cheese, and onion. Spoon into baking dish, spreading evenly. Sprinkle with seasoned salt. Bake 35 minutes or until set and lightly brown. Let stand 5 minutes. Cut into 1½ inch squares. Makes 4 dozen.



Concert Held in Memory of Trude Check Tuhy

A memorial concert for Trude Check Tuhy, co-founder of the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania, was held recently, featuring a trio of young virtuosos from the



Philip R. Tuhy stands beside a photo of his late wife, Trude Check Tuhy, in whose memory the concert was held.

Slovak Republic. The young musicians were from the Bratislava Conservatory of Music and their appearance was sponsored in part by the Slovak Embassy and World Artists Experience, Washington, D.C. The Great Hall of Wyoming Seminary was the site of the concert, hosted by the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeast Pennsylvania and the Seminary.

The memorial concert featured classical music performed by violinist Karol Danis, 14, and his pianist brother, Norbert, 16. Included were works by Bach, Chopin, Beethoven, and Slovakian composer Eugen Suchon.

Baritone soloist Pavol Kuban, an opera graduate from Bratislava State Conservatory, opened the concert with "Angelicus" in memorial remembrance of Trude Check Tuhy and featured "Vinko, Vinko," an encore selection from the Heritage Society tape, "Spev Sings – Trude Sings."

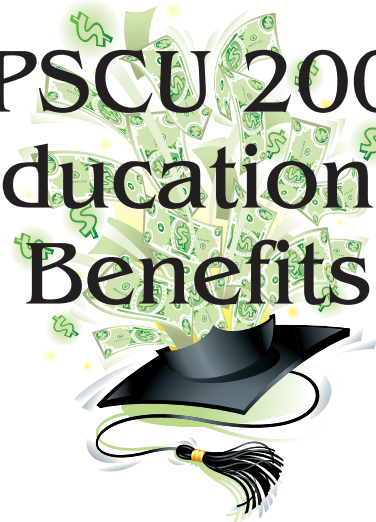
An audience of 130 were spellbound by the depth and quality of the young performers from Slovakia. They were truly attentive so as not to miss one note of this high caliber performance. Each song was performed with great harmony of violin, piano, and voice, all drawing attention to the gifted young performers. The trio received a well-deserved standing ovation.



Shown by a framed photo and floral tribute to Trude Check Tuhy, are, from left: Prof. Iveta Sabova, accompaniment department head and Daniela Sliacka, assistant director, State Conservatory of Bratislava; Norbert Danis, pianist; Pavol Kuban, soloist; Karol Danis, violinist; Philip R. Tuhy, Wilkes-Barre, Slovak Heritage Society chair; Michael Stretanski, Kingston, concert host chair; and John Vida, Wyoming Seminary music department chair.

During their stay locally, the trio also performed during Saturday Mass at St. Ignatius Church, Kingston, Pennsylvania, and Sunday morning services at First Presbyterian Church, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Their U.S. tour also included concerts in Washington, D.C., Annapolis and Baltimore, Maryland, Allentown, Pennsylvania, and New York City.

LPSCU 2009 Educational Benefits



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 31, 2009.**

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, 2008 and August 30, 2009.
- Provide photocopy of diploma received.
- Provide a wallet-size color photo.
- Application must be postmarked by **August 31, 2009.**

Applicants must meet all criteria and provide data indicated to be eligible. Incomplete applications or those missing data requirements will not be considered. All materials become the property of the LPSCU and will not be returned. Applications can 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
 Website — www.lpscu.org

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

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.

NJFC Announces 2009 Youth Volunteer Award Program

The New Jersey Fraternal Congress announces its 2009 Youth Volunteer Award Program to recognize deserving young students from a member society, based on their volunteer achievements with their society as well as the community at large. This year, thanks to the generosity of the Recreation Farm Society, each award winner will receive \$500, with an additional \$500 award going to their designated charity. The number of awards will be based on the proceeds of the Convention ad book.

To apply for the award, the applicant must:

- Be a resident of New Jersey and a member of a Fraternal Benefit Society that is a member of the NJFC. (The LPSCU is a member of the New Jersey Fraternal Congress; therefore, our New Jersey members could qualify for the award.)
- Be between the ages of 16 and 22 at the time of application.
- Obtain a recommendation letter from the LPSCU President.
- Sign the *Statement of Application* which appears in the Application.
- Return the completed application and letter of recommendation, postmarked no later than September 1, 2009, to the NJFC Youth Volunteer Award Committee.

Judging will be done by the Youth Volunteer Award Committee of the NJFC. Awards will be announced at the Annual NJFC Convention to be held at the Hilton Casino Resort in Atlantic City, New Jersey, on October 8-9, 2009.

To request a Nomination Form, please call the LPSCU Home Office at 570/823-3513 or toll free 888/834-6614. **Completed Nomination Forms must be sent to the LPSCU Home Office by August 20, 2009**, for endorsement by the National President, who will then mail the Nomination Form to the NJFC Youth Volunteer Award Committee. The NJFC has set a deadline that all completed Application Forms sent to its Chairperson must be post-marked no later than September 1, 2009.

Slovaks and Slovakia: Historic Photographs

A photo exhibit celebrating the history of immigration from Slovakia to the United States will be on display on July 13, 2009, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Brooklyn Branch Library, 4480 Ridge Road, Brooklyn, Ohio. The photographs will remain on exhibit for a month. The evening will begin with a reception at 7:00 p.m. keynoted by Dr. Edward Keshock, honorary consul for Slovakia, State of Ohio.

Entertainment will include both Slovak and Rusyn music and songs. The Cleveland-Bratislava International Sister Cities organization and the Brooklyn Branch Library of Cuyahoga County Libraries are sponsoring the exhibit.

For more information, contact Joseph Olsavsky at mandjols@aol.com or call 440/845-1886.

Dear Junior Members,

Have you met the lady with the green skin? You probably have, but didn't think of her that way. She is our Statue of Liberty that has been standing tall over New York Harbor for over 100 years. The Statue was a gift to our country by the people of France in recognition of the friendship established during the American Revolution. French sculptor Frederic Auguste Bartholdi, a great admirer of American democracy, was commissioned to design the sculpture. The Statue was a joint project of America and France, with the U.S. agreeing to build the base and France responsible for the Statue itself. Lady Liberty was originally intended to be completed in 1876, but difficulty in raising funds on both sides of the Atlantic pushed the date back to 1886. Bartholdi visualized a grand monument with a glowing torch welcoming voyagers to America. The seven spikes of Liberty's crown represent the seven seas and seven continents.



Bartholdi planned to build the Statue in France and then move it across the Atlantic. At the time, large statues were being constructed of stone, bronze and/or cast iron. This was much too heavy to ship, so he decided on copper over an iron skeleton, believing the lightweight copper would be able to withstand the harsh winds and salt air of New York Harbor. In a specially built Paris workshop, forms were made out of plaster. The model was divided into 300 sections. Carpenters then made wooden molds of each section, and metal craftsmen hammered shiny copper sheets into the molds.

The designer who engineered the Statue was Gustave Eiffel, the designer of the Eiffel Tower. His design included a space inside for a stairway. While this was being constructed, it looked like a spider web of iron bars that contoured to the statue's final form. After each piece of copper skin was hammered into shape, it was attached to the iron framework. We're used to seeing the weathered green patina of the Lady Liberty today, but imagine how she looked then – like a shiny new copper penny!

The Statue was shipped in 350 individual pieces packed in 214 crates. Reconstructing her was like putting together a giant jigsaw puzzle. Thousands of rivets were needed to attach the hundreds of pieces of copper skin to the iron web. The Statue was reassembled on the awaiting pedestal in just four months.

Finally, on October 28, 1886, President Grover Cleveland unveiled the Statue at a huge dedication ceremony. This was 15 years after Bartholdi's first trip to the United States. Lady Liberty was unveiled exactly as her proud sculptor envisioned her.

Shortly after her unveiling, the Statue of Liberty's shiny copper skin began to turn a dull brown, like an old penny, but streaked with black and green. Gradually it changed to the blue-green patina that she wears now. This is the crust that forms when a copper surface is exposed to the elements. It serves to protect Lady Liberty well from New York's summer heat and humidity, rain and snow, as well as pollution from surrounding industry. Over time, some

interior work was done to replace some badly corroded iron in her web structure, and a glass elevator was installed.

The United States Lighthouse Board had responsibility for the operation of the Statue of Liberty until 1901. In 1933, the care and administration of the National Monument was transferred to the National Park Service.

In 1982, fundraising began through private sector donations to raise the \$87 million needed to restore the Statue and neighboring Ellis Island, also under National Park Service jurisdiction. The money was raised through a public/private partnership between the National Park Service and the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc., the most successful such partnership to date in American history. The newly restored statue re-opened to the public on Liberty Weekend, July 5, 1986.

The Statue was closed completely following the tragedy of September 11, 2001. While Liberty Island, on which the Statue stands, reopened to the public after 100 days, Lady Liberty herself did not again receive visitors until August 3, 2004. Even then, access was only to the Statue's pedestal observation deck, promenade, and museum.

Just recently, Department of the Interior Secretary Ken Salazar announced that the Statue of Liberty's crown will once again be open to the public beginning on July 4th of this year. Because space in the crown is limited and the narrow 168-step circular stairway can only accommodate so many people at a time, admission to the crown will be through means of a lottery, giving everyone an equal chance to access the top. Maybe you'll be one of them one day!

Cecilia B. Gaughan, Fraternal Activities Director

Fun Summer Activities

There is nothing better than gathering the family together for a summer picnic. Use your leftovers and it shouldn't cost you a dime. Or ask family and friends to bring a dish to share.

Kids love to perform. Put their energy to use and give them some ideas to show off their talents. Can they sing (or lipsync), dance, twirl a baton, do gymnastics, or play an instrument? Put on a show for your picnic guests. Everyone can be a star. Take some time beforehand to help the kids rehearse. Make costumes from old gowns, Halloween costumes, or assorted clothing. You will be surprised at all the fun they – and you – will have. Make sure they have an audience. Grandma and Grandpa, aunts, uncles, cousins, and neighbors can enjoy the show. Serve some homemade lemonade and snap photos of the performers with your camera.



No matter what you do this summer, remember that you don't have to spend money to have fun with your kids, and you'll create memories that will last a lifetime.

Arts and Crafts

SHELL CANDLES

Here's a fun thing to do with all those shells you gathered during your sea-shore vacation. Let's make this candle with them. An adult can help you with controlling the wax.



This is what you will need:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| ½ inch rope cut in 30 inch lengths | Wicking and wick tabs |
| Hot glue gun | Crayons |
| One large conch-type shell | Pencils |
| Large spaghetti pot | Small shells |
| Disposable foil roasting pan | Tacky glue |
| Paraffin (1 pound makes 6-8 candles) | Ladle |

Prepare the base of your candle ahead of time. Twist the rope into a coil and hot glue it to the bottom of the large conch shell, leaving the open part of the shell facing up. Check the shell for holes and repair them with hot glue.

With an adult's supervision, make your own double boiler by setting a foil pan snugly into the mouth of a large pot. Never put the container of wax directly on the flame! Fill your pot until the water reaches halfway and heat on the stove burner. Now drop the wax into the foil pan. You can add pieces of crayon for color. Once the wax is melted, turn off the heat.

Take a 10-inch length of wicking and a wick tab. Thread the wick through the wick tab and press it down to crimp the wick in place. Take the wick, wrap it around the pencil, and suspend it over the opening in the large shell, placing the wick tab inside the opening. Now you can carefully ladle the hot wax into the shell. After the wax has set and hardened, you can hot glue other smaller shells to decorate around the base of the large shell.

Summertime

It's the time of year when the thermometer climbs and everyone heads outside. The sun is shining and we all want to go out and enjoy it. But let's be smart about it! Here are some tips to keep you and your family safe and comfortable in the hot weather:

- Drink plenty of fluids. Be especially sure to replenish your fluids after exercising, working hard outside, or excessive sweating. Water or sports drinks are best.
- Dress properly. Cover as much of the skin as possible. When the sun's rays are strongest, wear dark colors because they prevent more harmful rays from reaching your skin. Pay extra attention to your clothes if you are fishing or if you are in the water. Wet fabric is less protective than dry fabric. Outdoor clothing that is treated with special UV protectorants is a good investment if you spend a lot of time in the sun.
- A hat is one of the most essential items for sun protection. Pick one with at least a three- to four-inch brim all around to protect the areas that are often exposed like your nose, forehead, and tops of your ears.
- Research has shown that long hours in the sun without adequate eye protection increases the chances of developing eye diseases. Wear sunglasses that block 99 to 100% percent of harmful rays. Keep in mind that children need a smaller version of real protective adult sunglasses.
- Don't leave the house without sunscreen! Apply it generously and use at least an SPF of 30 which will block out 97% of burning UV rays. Reapply frequently during the day, especially if you're in and out of the water. And don't forget your lips. Use lip balm with an SPF of 30 or higher to protect them.
- UV rays are most intense during midday, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. when the sun is highest in the sky. If you are unsure about the sun's strength, take the shadow test: If your shadow is shorter than you, the sun is highest in the sky. It is best to stay out of the sun during these times if at all possible.
- There are many ways to keep insect bites at a minimum when you go out. Don't wear perfumes or other strong scents that can attract bees. To keep mosquitoes from bugging you, avoid being outside around dusk and dawn when they are most active. Use a citronella candle on your deck or patio. The scent keeps mosquitoes at bay.



Take some common sense precautions and you'll have a safe and healthy summer.

Kids in the Kitchen

PEACH BERRY PARFAIT

A juicy peach is one of summer's sweetest pleasures. Drop fresh peach slices and blackberries or raspberries into a frosted parfait glass. Add a scoop of frozen yogurt, ice cream, or sherbet. Top with more fruit and serve.

PEACH CRUMBLE

First, make the topping by combining ½ tsp. of nutmeg, one teaspoon of cinnamon, a pinch of brown sugar, and pinch of salt in a bowl. Cut in 4 teaspoons of butter and mix with your fingers until crumbly. Set aside.



Peel and slice about 6 fresh peaches into a buttered 1-quart baking dish. Cover with the topping and bake at 450 degrees for 20 minutes. Serve warm with ice cream or whipped cream.



The Year of the Priest

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First and foremost, the Mass was for John Marie Vianney the great joy and comfort of his priestly life. He took great care, despite the crowds of penitents, to spend more than a quarter of an hour in silent preparation. He celebrated with recollection, clearly expressing his adoration at the consecration and communion. He accurately remarked: "The cause of priestly laxity is not paying attention to the Mass!"

The Curé of Ars was particularly mindful of the permanence of Christ's real presence in the Eucharist. It was generally before the tabernacle that he spent long hours in adoration, before daybreak or in the evening; it was towards the tabernacle that he often turned during his homilies, saying with emotion: "He is there!" It was also for this reason that he, so poor in his rectory, did not hesitate to spend large sums on beautifying his Church. The appreciable result was that his parishioners quickly took up the habit of coming to pray before the Blessed Sacrament, discovering, through the attitude of their pastor, the grandeur of the mystery of faith.

John also had the courage to denounce evil in all its forms; he did not keep silent, for it was a question of the eternal salvation of his faithful people: "If a pastor remains silent when he sees God insulted and souls going astray, woe to him! If he does not want to be damned, and if there is some disorder in his parish, he must trample upon human respect and the fear of being despised or hated." This responsibility was his anguish as a parish priest. But as a rule, "he preferred to show the attractive side of virtue rather than the ugliness of vice," and if he spoke – sometimes in tears – about sin and the danger for salvation, he insisted on the tenderness of God who has been offended, and the happiness of being loved by God, united to God, living in his presence and for him. Certainly for these, and many other reasons, we can understand why both the late Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict hold Saint John Marie Vianney in such high esteem, especially as a role model for all priests.

During this "Year of the Priest," I invite you to pray for your priests who, day in and day out, try their best to serve God and God's people. In particular, pray that our priests, like Saint John Marie Vianney, would not simply content themselves with the ritual carrying out of the activities of daily ministry. Rather, pray that God would strengthen our priests to daily grow in their desire to become more like Christ, the High Priest. Above all, let us ask the Holy Spirit to call to the Church's service many more priests of the caliber and holiness of the Curé of Ars. In our time, the Church has so great a need of faithful and holy priests. Please pray for vocations and encourage those who are attempting to seriously live their priestly vocation! Saint John Vianney, pray for us ... and our priests!

Rev. Philip A. Altavilla, V.E.

New Insurance Issued

State	Branch Representative	Apr/May 2009	Year-to-Date Total
PA	Mary Ann Ackerman	\$ 56,000.00	\$ 56,000.00
PA	Cecilia B. Gaughan	\$ 31,000.00	\$ 36,000.00
PA	Jean Kosalko	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
PA	Joan Ellen Friendak	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 23,000.00
PA	Margaret A. Ferri	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
PA	Ann Tirpak	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
IN	Ann Dobias	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
IN	Joan T. Hladek	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
PA	Charles Simalchik	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
PA	Mary Ann Ewasko	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
PA	James Tomasic	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
PA	Elva Silay		\$ 6,000.00
PA	Agnes McLaren		\$ 5,000.00
PA	Anita Gregory	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
PA	Verna Prawdzik		\$ 4,000.00
PA	Br. Joseph Venonsky		\$ 3,000.00
PA	Elizabeth Pison	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
OH	Lucille Komorosky	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
PA	Cecilia Sarocky	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
		\$ 214,000.00	\$ 259,000.00

Michael Petrichko Makes First Communion



Michael B. Petrichko

Michael B. Petrichko, 8, recently received his First Holy Communion at St. Joseph's Church in Hazleton, Pennsylvania. Michael has been a member of LPSCU Branch 124, Hazleton, Pennsylvania, since birth. He is the son of Cary and Amy Petrichko of Drums, Pennsylvania, and the grandson of Albert and Martha Zellner of Hazleton, Pennsylvania.

The LPSCU congratulates Michael on this very special milestone in his religious life.



New Group Dental Benefit

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