

Fraternally Yours®

 **FCSLA**Life

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First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association

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What You Sow, You Will Reap...

If you plant honesty, you will reap trust.

If you plant goodness, you will reap friends.

If you plant humility, you will reap greatness.

If you plant perseverance, you will reap victory.

If you plant consideration, you will reap harmony.

If you plant hard work, you will reap success.

If you plant forgiveness, you will reap reconciliation.

If you plant openness, you will reap intimacy.

If you plant patience, you will reap improvements.

If you plant faith, you will reap miracles.

But...

If you plant dishonesty, you will reap distrust.

If you plant selfishness, you will reap loneliness.

If you plant pride, you will reap destruction.

If you plant envy, you will reap trouble.

If you plant laziness, you will reap stagnation.

If you plant bitterness, you will reap isolation.

If you plant greed, you will reap loss.

If you plant gossip, you will reap enemies.

If you plant worries, you will reap wrinkles.

If you plant sin, you will reap guilt.

So be careful what you plant now,

It will determine what you will reap tomorrow.

Dear Friends,

This month, keep in mind that everything you do, everything you say, every choice you make, sooner or later comes back around in one form or another. Take time to reflect on the words of Robert Louis Stevenson, "Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant."

Until Next Month,

Warmly,
Carolyn



September ... A Special Time

Reverend Monsignor Peter M. Polando, D. Min., J.C.L., National Chaplain

The month of September is a special time for those of us who are Slovak or of Slovak decent. On 15 September, we celebrate the *Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows*, who is the Patroness of the Slovak Republic. The most classical piece of art work and sculpture that reminds me of one of Mary's sorrows is Mary holding her Son's dead body in her arms at the base of the wooden Cross on Good Friday. Many have seen the mournful Mother's sadness through the artistic hands of Michelangelo's *Pieta* immediately at main right entrance into the Basilica of Saint Peter in Rome. This statue of art was temporarily removed from Saint Peter Basilica and travelled to the United States to be displayed in the Vatican Pavilion of the 1964-1965 *New York World's Fair*. My oldest brother, Paul, and his friend were two of the over fifty million people who travelled to New York City for the *Fair*. He brought our mother a replica, in stone, of the *Pieta*. It was precious to her and was a source of consolation and hope when she buried my father in 1977 and my brother, John, in 2002.

There is a chaplet of Our Lady of Seven Sorrows that is easy to pray. It starts with making the Sign of the Cross and praying your Act of Contrition. Begin each segment by reading of the introductory statements below, followed seven Hail Mary's and one Our Father. Then repeat with the next six segments.

After each intercessory petition, I have placed the biblical foundations that are the bases for these petitions. They are there for your biblical understanding of each petition of the Sorrowful Mother Novena You may want to bookmark your Bible for further meditation. These biblical foundations are not a part of praying the chaplet. Here is how to pray the chaplet.

*Make the Sign of the Cross.

*Pray your Act of Contrition.

*Begin by reviewing each Sorrow:

1. I grieve for you, O Mary most sorrowful, in the affliction of your tender heart at the prophecy of the holy and aged Simeon. Dear Mother, by your heart so afflicted, obtain for me the virtue of humility and the gift of the holy fear of God. Pray seven Hail Mary's and one Our Father. (*Luke 2:34-35*)

2. I grieve for you, O Mary most sorrowful, in the anguish of your most affectionate heart during the flight into Egypt and your sojourn there. Dear Mother, by your heart so troubled,

obtain for me the virtue of generosity, especially toward the poor, and the gift of piety. Seven Hail Mary's and one Our Father. (*Matthew 2:13-21*)

3. I grieve for you, O Mary most sorrowful, in those anxieties which tried your troubled heart at the loss of your dear Jesus. Dear Mother, by your heart so full of anguish, obtain for me the virtue of charity and the gift of knowledge. Pray seven Hail Mary's and one Our Father. (*Luke 2:41-50*)

4. I grieve for you, O Mary most sorrowful, in the consternation of your heart at meeting Jesus as He carried His Cross. Dear Mother by your heart so troubled, obtain for me the virtue of patience and the gift of fortitude. Pray seven Hail Mary's and one Our Father. (*John 19:17*)

5. I grieve for you, O Mary most sorrowful, in the martyrdom which your generous heart endured in standing near Jesus in His agony. Dear Mother by your afflicted heart obtain for me the virtue of temperance and the gift of counsel. Pray seven Hail Mary's and one Our Father. (*John 19:18-30*)

6. I grieve for you, O Mary most sorrowful, in the wounding of your compassionate heart, when the side of Jesus was struck by the lance before His Body was removed from the Cross. Dear Mother, by your heart thus transfixed, obtain for me the virtue of fraternal charity and the gift of understanding. Pray seven Hail Mary's and one Our Father. (*Matthew 27:57-59*)

7. I grieve for you, O Mary most sorrowful, for the pangs that wrenched your most loving heart at the burial of Jesus. Dear Mother, by your heart sunk in the bitterness of desolation, obtain for me the virtue of diligence and the gift of wisdom. Pray seven Hail Mary's and one Our Father. (*John 19:39-42*)

*Pray three Hail Mary's in honor of the Blessed Mother's tears,

*Let us pray. Let intercession be made for us, Lord, Jesus Christ, now and at the hour of our death, before the throne of Your mercy, by the Blessed Virgin Mary, Your Mother, whose most holy soul was pierced by a sword of sorrow in the hour of Your bitter Passion. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

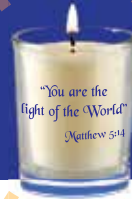
*" Our Lady of Sorrows, pray for us. (three times)

*Make the Sign of the Cross.

Our Lady of Sorrows, pray for us!

Message from our National President

CYNTHIA M. MALESKI



Dear fellow members,
September marks National Life Insurance Awareness Month, a time dedicated to highlighting the importance of life insurance in financial planning and security.

The Insurance Barometer Study, conducted annually, has indeed shown a significant surge in interest in life insurance, particularly following the life-altering events brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic. This heightened awareness is particularly notable among the younger demographic who are at pivotal stages of their lives—starting careers, getting married, or expanding their families. These milestones often prompt the consideration of financial protection, and the role life insurance can play in safeguarding one's future.

Life Insurance Awareness Month was created in 2004 by an industry education group "Life Happens." It is an annual campaign designed to educate Americans about the importance of life insurance and how it provides financial security for families.

In the United States, life insurance has existed for hundreds of years. In many instances, life insurance companies, whether commercial, mutual, or fraternal benefit societies may have a common bond defined by religion and/or ethnic identities. In 1759 the Presbyterian Synod of Philadelphia established the Presbyterian Ministers Fund as the very first Life Insurance Company in the New World. The intent was to care for their families if a loved one

passes away. When I had the honor of serving as Pennsylvania Insurance Commissioner, I visited the office where that company was still in operation under a successor name.

We were successful in working with the industry then effectuating a merger with a like-minded mutual company. The successor company still exists today, providing access to financial security for successive generations of families who founded that original life insurance company in the New World in 1759, when we were English Colonies.

The mission has remained alive and well.

Life insurance is indeed a crucial aspect of financial planning, not as costly as one might assume, and the earlier one secures a policy, the more cost-effective it becomes. It's a strategic component of a well-thought-out estate plan. There's no better time than now to take action and secure a policy. Starting with a calculation of your needs is wise, considering factors like savings, debts, dependents, and the duration of financial support required. It's essential to review your policy annually to ensure that beneficiary details and coverage needs are current. Keeping your family informed about the policy's location is also vital.

The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association boasts a rich history of prudent leadership, with branches, districts, field workers and volunteers all dedicated to the noble mission of providing financial security since 1892. The dedicated staff in the home office and in the field are always ready to support and assist with your needs. It is recommended to reach out to your branch officer or producer for guidance in continuing the legacy of protection for yourself and future generations.

Cynthia M. Maleski,
National President



This year Labor Day falls on Monday, September 2, 2024. Labor Day marks the day in 1894 that Congress declared the first Monday in September a national holiday to honor the nation's workers and their contributions to the well-being of the country.

On Friday, August 9th all FCSLA Life employees received the following message of gratitude from our National President.

Good afternoon, everyone.

As we all look forward to a restful weekend, I would like to thank all of you for your efforts and dedication, especially during this past week of power outages, loss of electricity and property damages for a number of us. Even with all these disruptions and major unexpected personal issues, in many instances, we have been able to move forward in many ways and get our work done for the benefit of our members and customers.

Your efforts are truly appreciated as we move forward as a great team! You are to be commended.

With Gratitude, I am

Cynthia M. Maleski

Cynthia M. Maleski
National President/CEO

EASTERN PA FALL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The FCSLA Life Eastern PA Frances Jakabcin District will hold their Spring Meeting on Sunday, September 15, 2024, at the Heintzelman Carriage House, located behind the Heintzelman Funeral Home on 326 Main Street, Hellertown, PA, 18055. The Luncheon will begin at 1:00 PM. Senior Life Branch S089, Hellertown, will be the host for this meeting. Branches should RSVP with attendance to District President, Michele Mrazik Grasso at 610- 762-1973 by September 8.

NATIONAL SEARCH FOR A CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR FCSLA LIFE

Per the Bylaw changes approved at the last Quadrennial convention in October 2023, the National Board has initiated a national search for a Chief Executive Officer for FCSLA Life. A special Board Committee was appointed at the January 2024 Board meeting consisting of 5 Board members. The Committee has worked to define the job and job requirements and has selected Jacobson Executive Search, a national executive search firm, to identify qualified candidates. Qualified candidates may contact Jack Walsh, Managing Director at the Jacobson Group, at 312-505-4311 or via email at JWalsh@JacobsonOnline.com if you are interested in learning more.

SCHOLARSHIP CORRECTIONS

The following photos were missing from last month's issue, scholarship section.

COLLEGE SOPHOMORE AWARDS

\$1,250 Each



Hope Rose Heinle
Branch S010
Cleveland, OH
University of Dayton

1ST GRADE AWARDS

\$750 Each



Peter A. Miklovic
Branch J011
Saint Louis, MO
Saint John Paul II Prep School

DYNGUS DAY 5K PIEROGI RACE

The Family friendly, timed, 5K Run or walk was held at the North Park Boathouse Run, 10301 Pearce Mill Rd, Allison Park, PA 15101 on Saturday, April 13, 2024, with Pierogi Pete, Evie Eagle to motivate runners, along with AMO, the mascot of the Riverhounds. Everyone enjoyed a sampling of delicious pierogies at the finish, all while dancing to music of the Chardon Polka band! One of the race sponsors was FCSLA Life, along with the Pittsburgh Kosciusko Foundation Chapter, where Mary Lou Ellena Wygonik, Z721 serves as President. Our very own Elizabeth Groch, (S313, daughter of National President Cynthia Maleski and Dr. Andrzej Groch, S313) sang the National Anthem to kick off the day's festivities. Dr. Groch served as timekeeper at the halfway mark and many, including President Maleski, handed out water and fruit to the runners. There were over 270 runners, and everyone had an enjoyable day, despite the cool temperatures.







New Annuities, New Rates!

It's Up, Up and Away with FCSLA Life's NEW flexible premium deferred Elite Annuity contracts!

PLATINUM

5.20%
APY*

(10 Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity – Contract FPA(10)-0415)
(Maximum Issue Age 79)

GOLD

5.10%
APY*

(7 Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity – Contract FPA(7)-0713)
(Maximum Issue Age 85)

SILVER

5.00%
APY*

(5 Year Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity – Contract FPA(5)-0713)
(Maximum Issue Age 85)

***The Guaranteed minimum rates for the three products listed above issued on January 1, 2023, or later will be 3.00%.** The crediting rate is reviewed quarterly by the Board of Directors and will never go below the minimum guaranteed contracted rate. Anyone who purchases an Elite Series annuity is a member of FCSLA Life and may be eligible for generous fraternal benefits of membership.

- FCSLA Life founded in 1892
- FCSLA Life is rated A- Excellent by AM Best (October 2023)
For the latest rating and more information, access www.ambest.com.
- FCSLA Life has over \$1.1 billion of assets invested in highly rated and well diversified portfolio.

For more information, contact your local recommender, agent or the FCSLA Life Home Office at 1-800-464-4642 ext 1065.



First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association of the United States of America • a fraternal benefit society domiciled in Beachwood, OH • 24950 Chagrin Blvd., Beachwood, Ohio 44122 • 800.464.4642 • www.fcsla.com



Katelyn Prevenslik
 NYU - College of Dentistry
 Class of 2024

Katelyn Prevenslik, S044 recently graduated from NYU College of Dentistry. She was a recipient of a FCSLA scholarship for her freshman year of college.

Marianne Malone Memorial Award

Congratulations to **Charles Sollin Jr.**, J015, a recent 8th grade graduate from Lynbrook, NY on being awarded the Marianne Malone Memorial Award. This award is part of the Sodality's commitment for the encouragement of continued Catholic education. Charles will be attending Chaminade High School, Mineola, NY in the Fall.



W187 VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT DONATION

Branch W187 from Sts. Mary & Joseph Church in Valparaiso, NE recently donated \$1,000 to the Volunteer Fire Department. They purchased a new, fully equipped ambulance replacing their 30-year-old one. *Pictured at the presentation are L-R a paramedic, Branch Vice-President Mike Devine, Secretary, Clarice Sabata, Treasurer, Ken Sabata and Fire Chief Skyler Leggett.*



FCSLA Chicago Young Adults Enjoy Trivia Night

On March 12th, the Anna Hurban Chicago District hosted its first young adult event! District members and friends gathered at the Alter Brewing Company in Downers Grove II for a fun filled evening of trivia questions and comradery. Trivia was hosted by Alter Brewing, with prizes for the top scoring teams. The FCSLA young adult team did a great job of collaborating and answering the majority of their questions correctly. The group enjoyed pizza while deliberating their answers, and getting to know each other better. Although they did not place in the final 3 teams, all had a great time and enjoyed this casual, fun event. The Anna Hurban Chicago District thanks everyone who came out for this event, and looks forward to hosting more young adult events in the future.



If you are interested in hearing more about the Chicago District young adult events, getting involved and meeting new friends, send an email to fslachicagodistrict@gmail.com to receive notices of upcoming events.

National Youth of the Year

Do you know of a young member who exemplifies youth leadership and service? Someone who stands out as a role model for others? FCSLA Life has a long history of encouraging and supporting youth and we continue the tradition of youth engagement with the National Youth of the Year award. This is your opportunity to nominate that outstanding young person. Our young members are the future of FCSLA Life!

Guidelines

- * Any FCSLA Life member may submit a nominee for this award.
- * Nominee must be an FCSLA Life member for at least three years.
- * Nominee must be between 12 - 22 years old. (Received date will determine the age.)
- * Family members of Home Office staff and National Officers are eligible to be nominated.
- * Previous awardees are not eligible.
- * Service projects and volunteerism included on nomination form can only be from 2020 - 2024.
- * A headshot photo of the nominee must be included with the nomination.
- * Nominations must be received at the Home Office by Tuesday, September 17, 2024.
- * Decisions are final.
- * The winner will receive \$250 and be featured in *Fraternally Yours*, on our website, and social media pages!



Nomination forms can be found at www.fcsla.com or by contacting the Fraternal Department at (800) 464-4642 x1051 or fraternal@fcsla.com.

National Fraternalist of the Year

The National Fraternalist of the Year award is an honor presented to an individual in our association who, through example and accomplishment, has provided outstanding volunteer service to their branch, church, and community.

Guidelines

- * Any FCSLA Life member may submit a nominee for this award.
- * Nominee must be at least 23 years old (received date will determine age).
- * Previous winners, Home Office staff, and national officers are not eligible to be nominated.
- * A headshot photo of the nominee must be included with the nomination.
- * Decisions are final.
- * Nominations must be received at the Home Office by Tuesday, September 17, 2024.
- * The winner will receive \$250 and be featured in *Fraternally Yours*, on our website, and social media pages!



Welcome Home Event



Honoring Military Spouses, Mother's and Daughter's who are the silent heroes who hold down the fort. Their love can withstand the toughest of missions. Behind every strong soldier, there is an even stronger woman who stands behind him, supports him, and loves him with all her heart. We Thank "You"!!! The photos are the Build A Bouquet Memories Event held on Saturday, 6/8/24. Special Thank You to FCSLA Lorraine & Tom and Veteran Voices who Co-Sponsored this beautiful Day! Thank You Karisma Boutique, Saraboo Creek, Naper Nuts & Sweets, Sweet Water Coffee & Tea, Jewel, Brighton Collectibles, Danny's Bar & Grill, Florist JoAnna!

Branch S172 Wilkes-Barre, PA - A Corporal Work of Mercy

If we have been fortunate throughout our lives, we may not know what it is to be truly hungry. And for some, the need to feed their families comes in unexpected circumstances that can lead to hard times. But feeding the hungry is what the St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen does, and they were supported with a fund-raiser by FCSLA Branch S172 that raised \$1,200. This support allows them to serve nutritious meals every day of the year. The generosity of Branch S172 helps to ensure that the Kitchen stays open to assist those in need.

Pictured L-R: Anna M. Hudock, District Treasurer; Magdalen I. Iskra, S172 Branch President; Maike Cianciottz, Kitchen executive Director; and Martha A. Iskra, S172 Branch



FCSLA LIFE 2024 PHOTO CONTEST

Send Us Your Best Photos!



FOOD



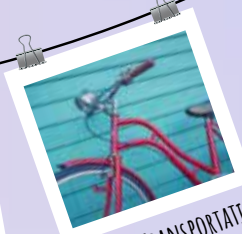
BLACK & WHITE PHOTOGRAPHY



LAUGHTER



FOUR



MODE OF TRANSPORTATION

Categories

Food
Black & White Photography
Laughter
Four
Mode of Transportation

Description

Any food you find tasty
Black & white only, no color
Capturing the tickling of a funny bone
Four of anything
Vehicles that take us from here to there

Category Prizes

1st Place - \$75.00 Gift Card
2nd Place - \$50.00 Gift Card
3rd Place - \$25.00 Gift Card

Entries will be judged on artistic expression, creativity, adherence to category, and quality.
Winning photos will be published in *Fraternally Yours*, on fcsla.com and on our social media pages!
All entrants will be acknowledged in *Fraternally Yours*.

Contest Eligibility

- Open to FCSLA Life members in **two** age categories: **A (13-17) and B (18 & up)**.
- Photo must have been taken in the years 2023 or 2024.

Contest Rules

- Photo must be taken by the member entering it.
- A member is someone who holds a current policy in their own name.
- Only one entry per member.
- No professional or studio photos. This is an amateur photography contest.
- Photo may be in color or black & white.
- Photo must be 4x6, unmounted, and on photo paper.
- No digitally enhanced photos permitted. Cropping is acceptable.
- Photo must be accompanied by a completed entry form (below).
- Previously winning photos are not eligible.
- Entries without a checked category or with more than one won't be judged.
- Decisions are final.

Entry Deadline

Monday, October 14, 2024

Emailed entries not accepted

Mail to: FCSLA Photo Contest
24950 Chagrin Blvd
Beachwood, OH 44122

Questions?

fraternal@fcsla.com
or (800) 464-4642 x1025

FCSLA Life 2024 Photo Contest

Entry must be received by Monday, October 14, 2024

By submitting a photo, you acknowledge you have personally taken the photo and it may be published.

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____ Branch# _____

Complete mailing address _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Circle one: Age Group A (13-17) or B (18 & Up)

PHOTO CATEGORY (check one)

Food B&W Photography Laughter Four Mode of Transportation

Month and Year taken _____ Brief description of photo if separated from entry form _____

June Board meeting of the St. Isidore District 11 Nebraska

The June Board meeting of the St. Isidore District 11 (Nebraska) was hosted by Cecilia Hall in the Parish Hall of Sacred Heart Church in Cedar Hill, Nebraska on Tuesday, June 11, 2024.

Sacred Heart is currently celebrating its 145th Anniversary! The Parish Center has become the Parish's Hall of History over the years. The many wedding photos of couples married at Sacred Heart dating back to 1880 drew the attention of everyone attending the meeting.

One item in particular fascinated the women attendees - the wedding gown of Mary Bauer who married Frank Vojtech 120 years ago. The dress was not white taffeta and lace, but pale purple with light pink accents and was handmade. Mary was a practical woman and made her wedding dress so she could wear it many times after all her work sewing it. Mary and her husband Frank were members of Catholic Workman, Branch 55. (Branch 55 eventually became FCCLA Life Branch W-055)

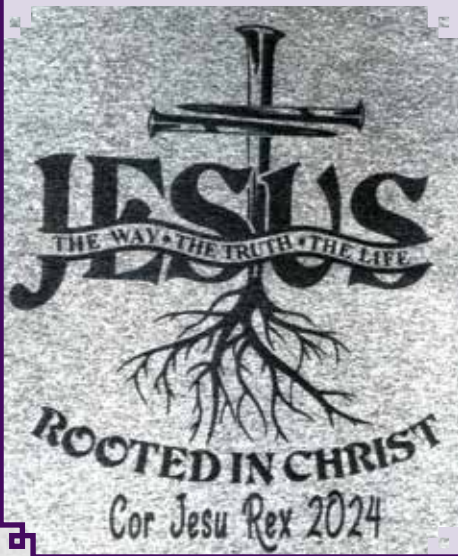
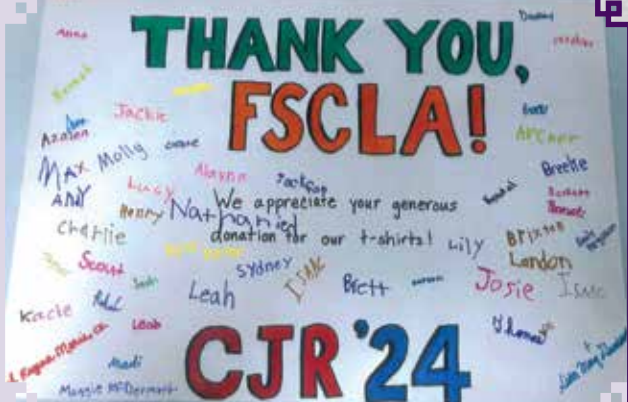
Pictured, top - District President Cecilia Hall and Margie Hladik, Fraternal Coordinator, look at Mary Bauer's wedding dress (far left) but are distracted by a Cedar Hill baseball uniform worn by Cecilia Hall's dad Joseph Vojtech. Or maybe the photographer was distracted?

Pictured, bottom - One of several displays of brides and grooms who were married at Sacred Heart over the years. Mary and Frank's son Joseph married his wife Evangeline at Sacred Heart in 1942. Their daughter Cecilia married her husband Jerry Hall at Sacred Heart in 1964.



W187 - Cor Jesu Rex

Fifty-one (51) students from Sts. Mary & Joseph Parish in Valparaiso, NE attended Cor Jesu Rex, a religious summer school taught by the Marion Sisters from June 24 - 28th, 2024. Their T-shirts were purchased and donated by Branch W187. Classes included daily Mass, religion classes and a pizza party on the final day.



W130 - Annual Picnic

On Sunday, July 21, the FCSLA Lodge W130 of Clutier, IA held their annual picnic. 34 members and guests enjoyed a potluck meal at noon, with the lodge furnishing the fried chicken and drinks. Jack Colvin, son of Tim & Shawna Colvin of Tiffin, IA and grandson of Warren & Bev Colvin of Traer, received the lodge's \$500 scholarship. All are members of Lodge W130. Jack will attend his 2nd year at Iowa Western in Council Bluffs, IA. The rest of the afternoon was spent playing bingo with the lucky winners going home with watermelons, muskmelons and gift cards.



W130 - Playing "The Big 5 Ohh"

On the following Sunday, July 28, the FCSLA Lodge W130 hosted 28 members and guests to the play, "The Big 5 Ohh" in Brooklyn, IA. A great time was had by all!



Medal of Honor

The Boy Scouts of America, via the Deputy Scout Executive from the St. Louis Council, awarded the Medal of Honor to Joshua Miklovic (S101) and the Medal of Merit to Louis Miklovic (J011) for their heroic actions on September 1st last year when Peter



Miklovic's (J011) footing gave way when exiting a cave on a hiking trail in Washington State Park. The ground on the trail beneath him crumbled, and he began to teeter precariously on the edge of a steep bluff. Fear seized Peter as he started to fall. Without hesitation, Joshua, the loving father and seasoned U.S. Marine & Eagle Scout, leapt towards his son. His instincts kicked in, and he grasped Peter, pulling him close to his chest and abdomen as they tumbled down the rocky bluff. The two of them fell approximately 80 feet off the cliff's edge, followed by another 100 feet of steep incline. Joshua executed a barrel roll, shielding Peter from the worst of the rocky surroundings, absorbing the impact as they descended, his heroic actions most likely saved Peter's life.

Ava Arnold, U320

Ava Arnold is the 16-year-old daughter of Jim and Lisa Arnold of Old Forge, PA. Ava was recognized in the local news as an outstanding player for Old Forge High School. The sophomore first baseman had a great year. She batted clean-up, hitting .385 (25 for 65) with two doubles, two home runs, 20 runs scored and 18 RBIs. She led her team



in winning a fifth straight District 2 title and reach the PIAA Class 1A semifinals. Ava is a member of U320 (former Polish Union group). Since her childhood she participated in all the children's parties and events as well as being a Page Girl in 2012 in the Annual Debutante Ball. Her parents as well as her sister Brooke are also members of U320, which makes them a 100% FCSLA Membership Family.

FSCLA Pittsburgh District Salutes Andrew Joyce

As a way of celebrating the students' and their families' diverse cultural backgrounds, the Hoover School held a "Heritage Night."

The Pittsburgh District proudly recognizes Andrew Joyce, member of Branch 433, whose son Ellis chose to celebrate his Slovak heritage as his entry. Ellis with the help of his family and Pittsburgh District members brought Slovak pastries and cultural exhibits for his entry.

Congratulations to Andrew for supporting his children in their Slovak heritage.



Senior Branch 144 (Mt. Pleasant, PA) recently honored their 2024 scholarship winners



Pictured L-R are Kathryn Janesko, Loretta Hunker, Logan J. Sebek (scholarship winner), and Elizabeth Butler. Logan is in the civil engineering program at the University of Colorado Boulder.



Pictured L-R are Elizabeth Butler, Kathryn Janesko, Grace Elizabeth Dolin (scholarship winner) and Loretta Hunker. Grace is pursuing a nursing degree at Xavier University.

We Want to Hear From You!

- Did your children, grandchildren receive special awards or achievements in school?
- Baptisms? Confirmations? New Members?
- Participated in Volunteer & Community Projects?

If they are members of the FSCLA Life please email us a photo and short article about their special achievements!

E-mail: zjbazik@comcast.net



MATCHING FUNDS ACTIVITIES

BRANCH S172 WILKES-BARRE

Refurbishing Tombstones

The Matching Funds event, sponsored by Senior Branch 172 to raise funds for refurbishing tombstones in St. Michael's Cemetery in Jessup, PA, was a great success. Funds were raised during the month of June 2024 at each weekend Mass celebrated in Queen of Angels Parish church. How delighted and thankful are the parishioners to FCSLA National President Cynthia Maleski, as you can see from the photos published by FCSLA National Editor Carolyn Bazik. Mary Ann Murray, chairperson of the parish Cemetery Committee, commented that the shopping totes were large in size and sturdy. Mary Ann also renewed the pledge that the Committee will continue to have an active interest in the upkeep of the final resting place of relatives, friends, neighbors, and parishioners, many of whom are war veterans, in a beautiful and dignified condition.



Pictured L-R: Jean Fitcho, Margaret Conway, and Cathy Williams



Pictured L-R; Clare, Paul and Shari Menichello



Pictured L-R; Jean Fitcho, Teresa and Brain Newburg



Pictured Front Row L-R: Ava Nagy, Father Gerard McGlone; Standing L-R Brandon Nagy, Jean Fitcho, Andrew Fitcho, and Brain Newburg

Branch S172 Wilkes-Barre, PA Raises Funds for Sacred Heart Slovak Cemetery

Branch S172 (Wilkes-Barre, PA), along with Magdalen Iskra, branch president and Martha Iskra, branch treasurer, have raised donations for repairs to Sacred Heart Slovak Cemetery, Plains, PA. The cemetery is one of eight managed by the parish of Saints Peter & Paul. The original parish cemetery was founded in 1899 by Rev. Jozef Murgas, the "radio priest", artist, inventor and pastor of Sacred Heart Slovak church in Wilkes-Barre, PA. Most of the headstones are over 100 years old with many broken pieces. Headstones are being cleaned, up righted, reassembled and made readable again with new bases being installed as needed. The project has helped relatives locate graves they could not find or didn't know were there and restore these headstones to pristine condition. All repairs are being done by Lou Zuzelski and Don Crane.

Pictured seated L-R: Antoinette Kravits, Florence McCabe, Ann J. Dougher, Martha Iskra, and Magdalen Iskra. Standing L-R: Diane Gregor, Anna Hudock, Lou Zuzelski, headstone repair; Rita Kcenich; Joan Cavanaugh, repair project coordinator; and Donald Crane, headstone repair.





IN MEMORIAM

Jerome L. Ostry, W013



Jerome L. Ostry, 81, of Prague, died on June 22, 2024 at St. Joseph's Villa in David City, NE. He was born October 13, 1942 to Louis and Lydia (Humlicek) Ostry in Prague. He graduated from Prague High School in 1960. He enlisted with the Nebraska Air National Guard in 1962. After a tour at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, TX, was discharged in 1968. He continued farming the family farm that was settled by his grandparents, Frank and Marie Ostry. On October 3, 1970, he was united in marriage to Mary Ann Rerucha at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Bruno. He was a member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, FCSLA Branch W013, was a past trustee, served on the Farmers Union CO-OP board for 26 years. He was an insurance agent and on the board of Farmers Mutual United Insurance Company in Wahoo for almost 40 years. He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann; son, Mark of Bruno; sisters, Marie Havlovic of David City and Edith Sousek of Morse Bluff; brother, Herman Ostry of Bruno; brothers-in-law, Frank Sousek and Leonard Snitily both of Prague; many nieces, nephews and their families.

Paula Griffith, S295



Paula Griffith, born to John Kelly and Pauline Agnes (Tylka) Griffith on 14 June 1953, died on 22 May 2024 after living fully for a year and a half with cancer. In that accomplishment, she would gratefully acknowledge the help from Missouri Baptist's committed and inventive oncology unit and the generous BJC hospice team. Predeceased by her parents and a sister, Susan, she is survived by loving family members, a sister, Margaret, brothers James (Kathleen) and Steven, and several nieces and nephews and friends. She enjoyed many years employed as clerical staff at the law firm of Greensfelder, Hemker, and Gale, and after retirement, she enjoyed visiting parks—especially Lone Elk—going out to dinners with long-time friends, and tracing and writing about the family's history. In completing her own branch of the family tree, she joins that history and now knows all of it.

Catherine Ann (Drahozal) Sheka, W137

Catherine Ann (Drahozal) Sheka, 88, died peacefully,



Wednesday, April 17, 2024, after a brief illness. Catherine was born on November 29, 1935, at Mercy Hospital in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, to Bridget (Hruska) and Rudolph Drahozal. She attended St. Ludmila Elementary School, graduated from St. Wenceslaus High School in 1953, and received her RN from the Mercy School of Nursing in 1957 (where she was simply known as "Draz" to her friends). She went on to work nights in Labor and Delivery at Mercy Hospital, but her actual full-time job was taking care of her family. Catherine is survived by her six children – Ann (Bob) Petrzelka, John, Tom (Jenny), Mary (Don Piper), Theresa (Haim Sabo), and Liz; twelve grandchildren – Emily (Murphy), Joe (Lissa), Jake (Haley); Lynn (Brendan), Adam (Adam), Kate (Kyle), and their mom, Cheryl Conard; Emma, Ben, Lydia; Autumn (Adam), Lindsey; and Kayla (Daniel); and six great-grandchildren – Raegan, Ava, Callum, Zoe, Deegan, and Reed. She is also survived by three brothers: Bernie Drahozal, Denny Drahozal, Mike (Jan) Drahozal, and one sister, Theresa (Leroy) Wieser; many extended family and friends. Mom "married Dad – William "Bill" Sheka – on May 10, 1958 at St. Ludmila's Catholic Church; they were married for 65 years before his death last May. The family they created would become her most important work and interest for the rest of her life.

William "Bill" Joseph Leskanich, S066



William "Bill" Leskanich, 53, was called from this world by our Almighty God and Creator at his Ottawa, Illinois residence. He slept peacefully as he entered the next life on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 7, 2024. The Divine Mercy Chaplet was his favorite prayer. He also had a devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Born in Streator, Illinois on November 14, 1970, Bill was the son of Marcie (Hanusik) and Ed Leskanich, Sr. He graduated from Woodland High School in 1988, entering the U. S. Marines, proudly serving his country in Operation Desert Storm. He attended Illinois Central College, East Peoria, then graduated from the University of Illinois, Champaign, (Grainger Award Recipient) as an electrical engineer. He worked for Com-Ed and Exelon. Bill belonged to St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Ottawa and volunteered at OSF Ottawa Hospital.

[continued on next page](#)



IN MEMORIAM

Amidst numerous struggles (including PTSD) God, family, country, helping others, and his Slovak roots were important to him. He leaves behind his children, Anita and Josh. Also surviving is his mother, Marcella and siblings; Diane (Phil) Spaniol; Butch (Karen) Leskanich, Mark (Georgia) Leskanich; Lynda (Kevin) Williams; Debbie (Dirk) Locascio; seven nieces; seventeen nephews; fourteen great nephews and nieces and a cherished godson, Luke. Bill fought hard through his challenges and is now in our merciful Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ's loving care.

Eleanor B. "Ellie" (Burzenski) Sendrowski, Z031



Eleanor B. "Ellie" (Burzenski) Sendrowski died Friday, March 15, 2024. She leaves her husband of almost 58 years, Joseph E. "Joe" Sendrowski; 2 daughters, E. Sendrowski of Webster and Paula Kohler and her former husband Roger of Sandisfield, MA; 4 grandchildren; 5 siblings, Chester Burzenski and his wife Claire of Clinton, twin Paul Burzenski and his wife Andrea of Clinton, twin Paula Gosselin and her husband Joe of North Middlesex, VT, Mark Burzenski and his wife Tessie of Clinton, and Ann Martin and her husband Craig of Bolton; a close brother-in-law, John Sendrowski and his wife Leila of Thompson, CT; nieces, nephews and extended family. She was born in Clinton and raised there, a daughter of Charles H. and Eleanor "Alice" (Rzegota) Burzenski. She graduated from Clinton High School where she was a defensive guard on the varsity basketball team. She moved to Dudley in 1966. Mrs. Sendrowski was a senior clerk typist at Worcester State Hospital where she worked for 14 years. She then was a substitute teacher and a teacher's aide in Webster, Dudley and Sturbridge for many years before retiring. She belonged to Saint Louis Church in Webster. Previously she was a member of Saint Andrew Bobola Church where she taught CCD classes and belonged to the former Holy Rosary Sodality at the church. She was also a member of the Holy Rosary Sodality at Saint Joseph Basilica in Webster. Ellie was a member of the Polish American Veterans in Webster and of the Polish National Alliance in Dudley.

Eugene Henry Figgner, W006

Eugene Henry Figgner, 94, of Clarkson, Nebraska, died February 8, 2024. Gene was born on January 4, 1930, in rural Dodge County to Henry and Ruby (Rumery) Figgner.



He loved polka and Country & Western music, and his radio would always be tuned to one station or the other. In August of 1948, Eugene met Jerane Faltys at her sister's wedding dance and they were married at SS Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church in Clarkson two years later. Gene was a lifelong farmer in the Clarkson area. He proudly

served on the Colfax County Weed Eugene delighted in showing his grandchildren the baby animals that appeared on the farm – bunnies, kittens, calves, chicks, piglets, and even featherless baby pigeons. He and Jerane retired from farming in 1996 and moved to Fremont. The Catholic Church and saying the rosary were very important in Eugene's life. He was a member of Holy Trinity in Heun and St. Patrick's in Fremont, where he was a longtime Saturday Mass usher. He is survived by his four daughters: Sharyn (Bruce) Mueller of Columbus; Phyllis (Chuck) Prachensky of Papillion; DyAnne (Rollie) Holoubek of Adel, Iowa; and Kristyn (Jeff) Ginther of Oro Valley, Ariz; eight grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; brother David Figgner of Albion, sister Joan Schalk of Cedar Rapids, and sisters-in-law Janice Figgner of Albion and Esther Faltys of Early, Texas. In lieu of flowers, his family asks that you honor Gene's memory with a donation to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (<https://pancan.org>) or Holy Trinity Catholic Church Cemetery in Heun.

Mary Ann Maruska, W001



Mary Ann Maruska, age 97, longtime member of Br. W001 in New Prague, MN, passed away on July 20, 2024. Mary Ann was born on September 15, 1926 on the family farm in Wheatland Township, Rice County, Minnesota to Ben and Anna (Schoenbauer) Barta. She married Edward J. Maruska on September 25, 1945 and they raised nine children on the family farm near New Prague. Mary Ann is survived by children, Patricia (Dr. Bill) O'Neill-Scheidt, Larry (Kristi) Maruska, Jack (Sheree) Maruska, Barb Maruska (Scott Werner), Carol (Arv) Olson, Margaret (Dr. Dave) Perry and Paul (JoAnne) Maruska; sister, Ann (Marvin) Schaak; daughter-in-law, Ginny Maruska and son-in-law, John (Janice) Henggeler. She had 26 grandchildren and 54 great-grandchildren.

Inaugural Director's Classic Diocese of Joliet Golf Outing



Sr. Branch 53 of the Helen Kocan District was a top tier sponsor of the Inaugural Director's Classic Diocese of Joliet golf outing. 150 deacons, priests and guests along with numerous people running the June event enjoyed golf, lunch, wine raffle and gift bags containing FCSLA Life swag which included golf towels and product brochures. The golf foursome that was included with our sponsorship was generously given to four deacons in need, so that they could enjoy a day out that they normally would not have afforded. Proceeds benefit the St. Stephen Fund, which provides financial assistance for diocesan deacons in need. This event was a huge success and the organizers are extremely grateful for FCSLA participation.



Pictured in the photo, along with golfers, is Karen Wojnarowski, Secretary S53 Joliet.

46TH ANNUAL SAINTS CYRIL AND METHODIUS APPEAL UPDATE

The Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal is in its 46th year raising money to assist the Pontifical Slovak College of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Rome with its day-to-day operations. The Appeal relies upon the generosity of individual donors in addition to collections taken up in personal parishes of Slovak ancestry. A direct mailing asking for donations was sent in February to local district and branch leaders from the four Catholic Slovak Fraternal Organizations, members of the Slovak Catholic Federation, clergy with Slovak ancestry, and previous donors.

As of May 15, the 2024 Appeal has received \$22,492.94 from 160 donors. Among the 44 donations received from Catholic Slovak Fraternal Branches and Districts, Branches S10 & J386, Branch 107, Branches S301 & J143, Branches S414 & J272, Branch S475, Branch S615, the Magdalen I. Iskra District, and the Home Office of the FCSLA have donated a combined total of \$1,700. Donations to date have also been received from 6 churches, 25 clergy and religious, and 85 individuals. On behalf of the Pontifical College, thank you for your continued generosity and support.

All wishing to contribute to the 2024 Appeal are asked to fill out the information in the box at the bottom of this article and mailing it along with your check payable to the Slovak Catholic Federation to the address provided. Donations in any amount are deeply appreciated and are acknowledged. **Gifts received after November 30, 2024 will be credited toward the 2025 Appeal.** Thank you again for your goodness and generosity.

The Slovak Catholic Federation was founded in 1911 by Rev. Joseph Murgas, founding Pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Slovak Church, Wilkes-Barre, PA. The Federation brings together under one banner both individuals of Slovak heritage as well as Catholic Slovak Fraternal Organizations for cultural, religious and educational needs. Serving as Moderator is the Right Reverend Gary Hoover, O.S.B., Abbot of St. Andrew Svorad Abbey, Cleveland, OH. National President is Reverend Andrew S. HvozdoVIC, V.F., Supreme Chaplain of the Slovak Catholic Sokol and Pastor of Our Lady of Victory Parish, Harveys Lake, PA and Gate of Heaven Parish, Dallas, PA Reverend Thomas A. Nasta, National Chaplain of the First Catholic Slovak Union and Parochial Vicar with Senior Priest status at Our Lady of Grace Church, PennDel, PA, serves as First Vice President of the Federation and is the Appeal Coordinator.



46th Annual Saints Cyril and Methodius Appeal

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Amount \$ _____

*Please make check payable to
Slovak Catholic Federation and mail to:*

Rev. Thomas A. Nasta, National First Vice President
Slovak Catholic Federation
Our Lady of Grace Church
225 Bellevue Avenue
PennDel, PA 19047-4052

Who Is Your Beneficiary?

Have you updated your policy beneficiary? Your FCSLA Life life or annuity policy was an important purchase. Keeping your beneficiary information current should be one of your top priorities. As your life changes, it is important to make sure you update the beneficiary information on all your accounts. Life events like marriage, divorce, birth of a child, and passing of a loved one are just some of the significant life events that may have an impact on your beneficiary information.

- It eliminates any doubt as to what you wish to be done with your hard-earned money or insurance proceeds.
- It saves time—if beneficiaries cannot be located or they are deceased, state regulations mandate how those funds are to be paid. It causes delays and possible legal expense. Unfortunately when we cannot locate beneficiaries, funds may become payable to the state as unclaimed property.
- It helps ensure the financial wellness of your loved ones. You most likely purchased a life insurance or annuity policy to help cover funeral expenses or replace income.

It's not difficult, here's how...

Go to our website **FCSLA.com** home page and click on the orange **Change of Beneficiary Form** button located under "Announcements". Print the page, complete the form, and mail it to the FCSLA Home Office for processing. You can also request that a form be sent to you by calling 1-800-464-4642 ext 1027 or email us at lifeclaims@fcsla.com.

You or someone you love worked hard to purchase this policy. Make sure you take the extra step **NOW** and do the right thing for yourself and your loved ones – **keep your beneficiaries current**.



ATTENTION!

If you would like to receive *Fraternally Yours* by email instead of through the mail please return this form to the attention of Member Services at the Home Office.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email Address: _____

You will begin to receive *Fraternally Yours* by email as soon as the changes can be made.



FCSLA Life is proud to present the 27th printing of the original **Slovak-American Cook Book**

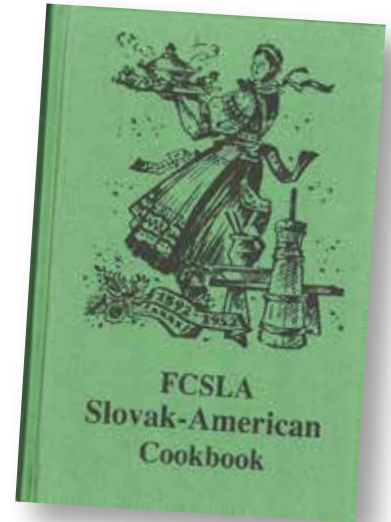
**featuring hundreds of well-loved, time-tested recipes
to keep tradition alive in your kitchen!**

This edition contains your favorite Slovak recipes published in the first edition over half a century ago. We are thrilled to offer this cookbook as one of the many ways we promote and preserve our Slovak heritage and culture among our members and community.

The cookbook is \$15 plus shipping (\$5 USPS Media Mail *or* \$12 USPS Priority Mail per book, shipping only to the 48 contiguous states). Please place your order using the form below. At this moment we are only taking mailed payments by check or money order. Please do NOT send cash.

Deliciously Yours,
FCSLA Life

\$15.00
plus shipping



 **FCSLALife®**
First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association
of the United States of America
a Fraternal Benefit Society domiciled in Beachwood, OH
FRATERNAL LIFE INSURANCE AND ANNUITIES



Please call (800) 464-4642 x1080 with any questions.

- _____ Cookbooks (\$15 each)
- _____ USPS Media Mail (+\$5 PER BOOK)
- _____ USPS Priority Mail (+\$12 PER BOOK)

\$ _____ Total

Mail to: _____
Address: _____

Phone: _____
Email: _____
Ordered by (if different than Mail to: _____

Please make check payable to FCSLA Life.

Enclose check or money order
and mail this order form to:

FCSLA Life
Attention: Cookbook Department
24950 Chagrin Blvd.
Beachwood, OH 44122

REPORT OF THE FCSLA NATIONAL TREASURER

Balance Sheet

Income Statement For Period Ended

	04/30/2024
Assets	
Cash & Short Term Investments	\$ 27,154,160
Bonds	1,039,894,542
Preferred Stock	1,020,000
Common Stock	331,814
Investment Income Due & Accrued	13,620,616
Property Plant & Equipment, Net	4,466,713
Certificate Loans & Accrued Interest	1,707,342
Other Assets	757,736
Total Assets	\$ 1,088,952,923
Liabilities	
Life Reserves	\$ 307,404,422
Annuity Reserves	652,352,560
Death Claims Payable	2,697,271
Unearned Premiums	374,191
Matured Endowments	347,827
Provision for Dividends Payable	1,400,000
Accumulated Dividends & Interest	5,273,245
Accrued Convention Donations	87,500
Provision for Future Conventions	102,081
Asset Valuation Reserve	12,109,598
Interest Maintenance Reserve	(4,531,347)
Other Liabilities	1,732,334
Total Liabilities	\$ 979,349,682
Surplus	109,603,240
Total Liabilities and Surplus Funds	\$ 1,088,952,923

	04/30/2024
Revenue	
Insurance Premiums	\$ 987,687
Annuity Premiums	4,931,014
Investment Income	17,018,185
Amortization of Interest Maintenance Reserve	(10,164)
Rental Income	146,107
Other Revenue	21,997
Total Revenue	\$ 23,094,826
Expense	
Increase in Reserves - Life	\$ (122,659)
Increase in Reserves - Annuity	(10,023,112)
Insurance Benefits	2,967,086
Annuity Benefits	23,865,109
Commission Expense	145,357
Surrender Benefits	1,198,305
Matured Endowments	2,330
Interest Expense	168,607
Salaries - Employees	215,292
Payroll Tax Expense	18,511
Underwriting Expense	11,368
Life and Annuity Expenses	18,446,193
Revenue Less Life and Annuity Expenses	\$ 4,648,633
Bank Service Charges	44,173
IT Expenses	119,607
Accounting Fees	66,672
Actuarial Fees	95,765
Legal Fees	25,000
Consulting Fees	19,146
Employee Benefits	321,571
Fees - Directors	84,309
Salaries - Employees	509,738
Salaries - Officers	192,082
Temporary Office Expenses	15,180
Payroll Tax Expense	66,310
Depreciation Expense	85,681
Utility Expense	41,841
Postage and Printing	81,883
Advertising & Marketing	46,152
Travel Expense	15,730
Insurance Department Fees	19,752
Sales Related Expense	80,407
Rental Expense	146,107
Building Expense	64,026
Insurance Expense	20,152
Office Related Expense	51,516
Dues & Subscriptions	36,514
Human Resources	28,470
Other Expense	3,142
Investment Expense	53,788
Sales and Operating Expenses	2,334,715
Revenue Less Sales & Operating Expenses	\$ 2,313,918
Post Mortem Benefits	558,058
Misc. Member Benefits	17,307
Donation Expenses	26,845
Change in Accrued Convention Donations	50,000
Convention Expenses	58,332
Branch and District Funding	263,968
Fraternal Activities	(8,300)
Official Publications	235,975
Scholarship Awards	189,375
Direct Fraternal Expenses	1,391,560
Income (Loss) from Operations	\$ 922,358
Dividends to Members	513,253
Subtotal INCOME (LOSS)	\$ 409,105
Capital Gains (Loss)	825,120
NET INCOME (LOSS)	\$ 1,234,225

Placing a Memorial in *Fraternally Yours*



A memorial for a deceased member may be placed in *Fraternally Yours* at the request of the family. They are published as space allows and include up to 250 words and a head shot photo. There is no fee associated with publication of the memorial.

To submit information you may:

Send a link to the on-line memorial to zjbazik@comcast.net; memorials are edited to 250 words or less; email a head shot and your own edited version of what you would like to appear keeping it to 250 words or less to zjbazik@comcast.net or send a hard copy of the information to: Editor, PO Box 1617, Reading, PA 19603-1617.



Sounds Delicious!

APPLE CINNAMON PANCAKES WITH OOZY, GOOEY APPLE TOPPING

3/4 cup milk
1 1/2 tablespoons vinegar
1 cup flour
3 tablespoons sugar
1 teaspoon cinnamon, (if you are a cinnamon lover you can add another 1/2 teaspoon)
1 teaspoon baking powder
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt

1 egg
2 tablespoons vegetable or canola oil
Apple Topping

2 tablespoons butter
2 apples, peeled, cored, and diced (granny smith, honeycrisp, golden delicious, braeburn, or jonagold)
2 tablespoons brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
1/3 cup maple syrup

Preheat a skillet to medium-high heat (275 degrees).

Whisk together the milk and vinegar and allow to rest for 5 minutes.

While milk is curdling, whisk together flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, and salt in a large bowl.

Whisk egg and oil into milk. Add wet ingredients to dry ingredients and stir until combined (be sure not to over-mix or you'll lose the fluffiness, it should still have some lumps).

Spray skillet with cooking spray.* Use a 1/4 cup measuring cup to pour batter onto skillet. Cook about 2 minutes until bubbles form and the edges start to look "dry". Use a spatula to flip the pancake and cook another 1 1/2 - 2 minutes on the other side. Set pancakes aside and repeat with remaining batter.

Add butter, apples, brown sugar, and cinnamon to a medium sauce pan. Stir over medium heat 3-5 minutes until apples are very tender. Stir in syrup. Serve apple topping over warm pancakes.

* *Butter your griddle or skillet instead of using cooking spray if you want to make your pancakes on the buttery side.*

CRUSTLESS SWEET CORN AND ZUCCHINI PIE

4 tablespoons butter
half of a yellow onion, diced
2 ears sweet corn (or 1 1/2 cups cleaned corn)
2 large zucchini, sliced very thinly (about 4 cups)
8 ounces sliced mushrooms
1 tablespoon dried basil
1 teaspoon dried oregano
1/2 teaspoon salt
12 ounces shredded cheese (both Mozzarella and Swiss mixture)
4 eggs, beaten

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. Heat the butter in a large, deep skillet over medium high heat. Add the onions, zucchini, and mushrooms. While the vegetables saute, cut the corn kernels off the cob. Add them to the pan and continue to saute until the veggies are soft, 5-10 minutes. Remove from heat.

Once the mixture has cooled for a few minutes, stir in the basil, oregano, salt, cheese, and the beaten eggs. Line a pie pan (9-inch or larger) with parchment paper or just grease a pan with nonstick spray. Transfer the mixture to the pan. Arrange the top so the zucchini slices lay flat and look nice. Top with a little extra cheese for looks, cover with greased foil, and bake for 20 minutes. Remove foil and bake for an additional 5 minutes to brown the top. Let stand for 10-15 minutes before cutting into slices.

FONTINA ROLLED CHICKEN

4 ounces cream cheese, softened
1 cup shredded fontina cheese
5 bacon strips, cooked and crumbled
4 green onions, chopped
1/4 cup chopped fresh Italian parsley
1/4 cup julienned oil-packed sun-dried tomatoes, drained, chopped and patted dry
1/2 teaspoon salt, divided
3/4 teaspoon pepper, divided
1 large egg

1 1/2 cups panko bread crumbs
1 teaspoon paprika
4 boneless skinless chicken breast halves (6 ounces each)
1 tablespoon olive oil

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. In a bowl, mix the first six ingredients; stir in 1/4 teaspoon each salt and pepper. In a shallow bowl, whisk egg and the remaining salt and pepper. In another shallow bowl, toss bread crumbs with paprika.

Carefully pound chicken breasts with a meat mallet to 1/4-inch thickness. Spread cheese mixture over chicken. Roll up chicken from a short side; secure with toothpicks.

Dip chicken in egg, then coat with crumbs. Place in a foil-lined 15x10x1-inch baking pan, seam side down. Drizzle tops with oil.

Bake, uncovered, 30-35 minutes or until golden brown and chicken is no longer pink. Let stand 5 minutes; discard toothpicks before serving.

OLD FASHIONED PEACH CRISP

16 cups peeled and thinly sliced fresh peaches
1 cup granulated sugar
1 cup plus 4 tablespoons all-purpose flour, divided
2 tablespoon cornstarch
4 teaspoons ground cinnamon, divided
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 1/2 cup packed light brown sugar
1 cup (2 sticks) salted butter, room temperature
3 1/2 cup old-fashioned oats

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Butter a 9x13 baking pan, and set aside.

Mix the peaches, granulated sugar, 2 tablespoons flour, cornstarch, 2 teaspoon cinnamon and salt together in a large bowl until well combined. Pour the peach mixture onto the prepared pan and set aside.

In the same large bowl, cream together the brown sugar, remaining 1 cup flour, butter, and remaining teaspoon of cinnamon until it forms a wet, clumpy mixture. Add the oats and stir to form a coarse mixture. (This is easier to do with your hands.)

Crumble the oats on top of the peaches in an even layer. Bake for approximately 30 to 35 minutes, until the oats start to turn a light golden color around the edges. Remove from the oven and let rest for 10 minutes to cool and set up.

Serve warm, with vanilla ice cream if desired.

A vibrant field of sunflowers under a clear blue sky. The sunflowers are in various stages of bloom, with bright yellow petals and dark brown centers. The green leaves are large and healthy, creating a lush, natural background.

PERIODICAL

9/24

The FCSLA Life Mission Statement

We provide financial security to our members while embracing our Catholic values and Slavic traditions.

The FCSLA Life Vision is to:

Be a Premier Fraternal Benefit Society that offers quality financial products and benefits.