

AUGUST 2017



GCU

MAGAZINE



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Phone:

1-724-495-3400
1-800-722-4428

FAX: 1-724-495-3421

info@GCUusa.com
www.GCUusa.com





George N. Juba
President
CEO

Fraternal

"Fraternal" is described in the Merriam-Webster dictionary as:
a: of, relating to, or involving brothers - fraternal love
b: of, relating to, or being a fraternity or society - * a fraternal order *a fraternal chapter house

The first known use of "fraternal" dates back to the 15th Century. So, "fraternal" has been around for quite some time. As we are in the midst of celebrating the GCU's 125th year of operations, our Society has been in business since 1892 and the word "fraternal" was adopted by our founders in describing our "Mission," "Purpose" and "Make Up" of our organization. The Pennsylvania Insurance Department and many other state insurance departments recognize Fraternal Benefit Societies as separate entities apart from mutuals and commercial carriers. All 63 not-for-profit Fraternal Benefit Societies, operating in all 50 states and representing over 8 million individuals, are exempt from paying federal and state taxes. This is in recognition of each societies' commitment in providing volunteer and financial support to the many individuals, organizations and communities in need.

As you may be aware, the GCU just completed a rebranding of our Society in an effort to adapt and become a 21st Century Fraternal. The rebranding included a new logo and fresh contemporary look to all of our communication pieces and the *GCU Magazine*. It may be time now to give our

entire industry a fresh new look as well. As I noted in my remarks to the delegates of our 41st National Convention, studies and surveys show that fraternalists are perceived as "secret, close knit private clubs, secret handshake and all." They are likened to "The International Order of the Friendly Sons of Raccoons" that Ralph Kramden and Ed Norton of the Honeymooners were members of or the "Loyal Order of Water Buffalos" of which Fred Flintstone and Barney Rubble were members. This analogy was actually noted from focus groups that were conducted.

Since my youth, names of many things have been retitled to reflect a more favorable perception. The "dump" was the "dump" and now it is referred to as the "landfill." "Used cars" are now considered "pre-owned vehicles" —it is all about perception. I'm sure we can create a substantial list of similar synonym updates. I believe it is now time to change this perception about fraternalists and start a new legacy that will be relative to all generations. We can no longer be perceived by our younger generations as their "grandparents' organization." My personal thought is that the GCU should also rebrand from being titled as a fraternal benefit society to a "Community Outreach and Financial Services Organization." This would be more relevant to our younger generations. Much more thought and discussions on this matter would need to take place among our

Board of Directors and Insurance Regulators before making this change. Member societies of The American Fraternal Alliance also recently approved funding to undertake a rebranding of the fraternal benefit system that I feel needs a new fresh look as well. The GCU is one step ahead as we have completed the initial phase of our rebranding initiative that we will continue to improve upon.

One aspect of our Society that will never change is keeping our members' and agents' interests at the forefront. Your Board of Directors, Executive Officers, Department Managers and Support Staff are well aware of the importance of providing quality life and annuity products and exceptional service in continuing to earn your trust and business. Our Society's Core Values are most important in upholding this commitment:

"Our Greatest Core Value Is To Glorify God In All That We Do"

From This Foundation We Embrace The Following:

- Our Strength Begins With Our Members
- We Practice Fiscal Responsibility
- Our Product Line Is Of The Highest Quality
- We Value Our Teamwork Concept
- We Are Committed To Quality Service

As I have stated on numerous occasions, we can only be as strong fraternally as we are financially. I am once again pleased to report to you that GCU is experiencing an exceptional year in terms of our financial performance. We continue to experience excellent growth in assets and surplus along with posting strong profitability for the first six months of 2017. As-

sets now total \$1.643 billion with surplus at approximately \$120 million and net income projected at \$13 million. Our CFO Tim Demetres will be presenting a detailed report through June 2017 in the October issue of the *GCU Magazine*. We thank each and every member of our Society and each of our agents for your loyalty and business, which is the primary factor leading to the strong financial performance we have been experiencing.

We continually strive to improve our products and services. An extremely important aspect is receiving feedback and suggestions from our agents. In June, a President's Field Advisory Council meeting was held. Six of our top premium producing agents gathered in an effort to provide guidance and suggestions to us on how we may better service our agents and members. This meeting provided a wealth of information not only upon how the GCU can improve but what we are doing well that places us above our competition. Our appreciation to each of the agents that attended for your invaluable discussions and comments that will enable the GCU to continue to exceed all of our agents' and members' expectations!

I recently attended a Lodge 28 celebration where the 2016 GCU Fraternalist of the Year, Barbara Rebovich was honored. In recognition of her accomplishment, Barbara selected the following charities to receive financial support from her monetary award: Pittsburgh DeafBlind Lions Club, the Western Pennsylvania Lions Hearing Foundation and the Foundation Bon Samaritan, Inc. Congratulations once again Barbara. An article about this event appears under the Fraternal Section on page 14.

I also recently attended an excellent meeting organized to once again discuss the prospects for the lodges of the former District 1 to merge into four distinct Regional Lodges in an effort to strengthen our existing lodges in the greater Pittsburgh area. I received great input from representatives from each of the lodges present at the meeting and anticipate that the members of each of the seven lodges involved will agree to this new structure. I will be scheduling meetings for all of the lodges throughout the GCU to once again discuss for consideration forming a Regional Lodges(s) in their respective areas.

GCU & Byzantine Family Day was recently held at Kennywood Park located outside of Pittsburgh in West Mifflin, PA. There was an excellent turnout with over 759 park entrance tickets sold and over 150 attending the luncheon. The activities began with a Moleben Service, followed by the Slavjane performance, the luncheon, children's games and of course "Bingo"! I was personally surprised by the number of children participating in the games this year that numbered over 50! I took pride in the fact that the GCU played such an important part in getting families together to enjoy some valuable time together and create memories of a lifetime. My thank you to the staff of the GCU's Fraternal Communications Department and other GCU staff volunteers in assisting to make this event so successful! I

invite you to view photos of this event that appear on page 5.

In closing, as we are in the midst of the "lazy days of summer," I do hope that we all take the time to enjoy the rest of the summer season, our families, our friends and all of God's blessings he has created for us to enjoy!

GOODNESS IS GREAT!

George



The poster features a silhouette of a golfer in mid-swing against a blue background. The text is white and yellow. The event is titled "20th Annual CARL BARNHART MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING" and is "Benefitting Mt. Macrina Manor". The date is "SATURDAY SEPT. 16, 2017" at "BIRDSFOOT GOLF COURSE". The location is "225 Furnace Run Road, Freeport, PA 16229". The schedule includes "7:15 am • Registration & Continental Breakfast" and "8:00 am • Shot-Gun Start". The format is "4 man Scramble Format". The price is "\$120 Per Golfer" and includes "continental breakfast, greens fees, cart, unlimited beer & soda, hot dog & drink at turn, prizes & lunch". Prizes include "First place cash prize", "\$10,000 in the putt for dough", "\$30,000 cash: Hole-in-one on 4th hole", "Gift Card: Closest to the pin", and "Gift Card: Longest drive". For more information, it says "For a complete application visit the GCU Website Events Page".

20th Annual
CARL BARNHART
MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING
Benefitting Mt. Macrina Manor

SATURDAY
SEPT. 16, 2017

BIRDSFOOT GOLF COURSE

225 Furnace Run Road
Freeport, PA 16229

7:15 am • Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:00 am • Shot-Gun Start

4 man **Scramble** Format

\$120 Per Golfer **Includes:**
*continental breakfast, greens fees, cart, unlimited
beer & soda, hot dog & drink at turn, prizes & lunch*

PRIZES

First place cash prize

\$10,000 in the putt for dough

\$30,000 cash: Hole-in-one on 4th hole

Gift Card: Closest to the pin

Gift Card: Longest drive

For a complete application visit the
GCU Website Events Page



Very Rev.
Richard I. Lambert
GCU Spiritual Advisor

Welcome Bishop Milan Lach, S.J.

On one of the hottest and most humid days (at least in Ohio) of the summer, the Auxiliary Bishop of the Eparchy of Presov was welcomed into the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Parma, OH on Friday, July 21, 2017. He is beginning his Bishop's service to the Eparchy of Parma as Apostolic Administrator.

A Hierarchical Divine Liturgy was celebrated by Metropolitan Archbishop William Skurla, formerly serving as the Apostolic Administrator of Parma. Concelebrants included Archbishop Christophe Pierre, the apostolic nuncio (representative of Pope Francis) to the United States; Bishop John Pazak of the Eparchy of Phoenix; Bishop John Paul Botean of the Romanian Eparchy of St. George in Canton, OH; Bishop

Milan Lach; Bishop John Kudrick, bishop Emeritus of Parma and Mitred Archpriests John Kachuba & Dennis Hrubciak and other priests of the Eparchy of Parma.

The procession was led into the cathedral by seminarians and servers carrying the cross and candles to be used by the Metropolitan. The large triple candle used in our Byzantine services, icons, and incense. They were followed by deacons, religious, local priests of the Roman Catholic Church, priests of various Eastern jurisdictions, concelebrating deacons, priests, archpriests, bishops and archbishops.

After the proclamation of the Gospel, Archbishop Christophe Pierre addressed the situation of Bishop Milan, an Auxiliary Bishop in Slovakia who now is the Apostolic Administrator of the Eparchy of Parma. The duration of his appointment has

not been determined at this time.

Metropolitan William then welcomed Bishop Milan to the Parma Eparchy and wished him God's blessing and guidance in his new appointment. Metropolitan William mentioned that he has now served in all four eparchies of our Metropolitan Church; as a Bishop he first served in the Eparchy of Phoenix, then served as the Bishop of Passaic, then was appointed Metropolitan Archbishop of Pittsburgh, and for the last year has served as Apostolic Administrator of Parma.

Bishop Milan addressed Archbishop Pierre in Italian. In English he asked for the prayers of all gathered as he assumed these new responsibilities. Bishop assured all present of his continued prayers in return, and invited all present to return to the Cathedral on Sunday for the Divine Liturgy if able. He closed with words in Slovak to the visitors present from Europe.

After the Divine Liturgy, photos and a luncheon followed. I did not attend the luncheon, but I did see and speak with Supreme Tribunal Members: Archpriests John Kachuba & Dennis Bogda, and Judy Weitzel prior to the Liturgy.

Bishop Milan Lach, please accept a warm welcome from all the members of the GCU, and a promise of our prayers as you begin to serve our church in America!

GCU Home Office

Extended Hours of Operation

The GCU Home Office (800.722.4428) is open Monday through Friday 8:30 AM to 5 PM EST.

The Call Center (855.306.0607) accepts calls Monday through Thursday from 8:30 AM to 7 PM EST and Fridays 8:30 AM to 5 PM EST.

5400 Tuscarawas Road, Beaver, PA 15009





Atty. John J. Urban

Lessons in the Law

How Should Vehicles Be Titled?

Like most of what we own, our cars are among the valuable possessions that we intend to leave to people we care about after we pass on. But there are particulars associated with titling our vehicles that everyone needs to know about.

If your vehicles aren't titled properly, they may have to go through probate, which can cost up to \$600.⁰⁰; that's money your estate doesn't need to spend. If you are married and you have three or more vehicles and all vehicles are titled to one person's name, when that person dies the surviving spouse gets to choose two vehicles. The third, if not titled properly, will go through probate.

What you don't want is for you and your spouse to be joint on all vehicles. You want your automobiles to have transfer on death titles and you can have them pass on to your spouse, one of your kids, or whoever you want.

In Ohio, for about \$18 each, you can have your titles amended at the DMV.

When it comes to motor homes, they are not classified as motor vehicles and don't fall under the titling guideline. Motorcycles, however do.

You don't need an attorney for this, but the law applies

to vehicles under \$40,000.⁰⁰. Unless you set up your vehicle titles correctly, issues can occur. Before you make any changes, it might be wise to schedule an estate planning review. Your attorney can cover this and any other questionable ground during the visit.

There can be many issues surrounding the transfer of assets in addition to motor vehicles and they're not always black and white. Most people are very surprised by how much they don't know.

If your vehicles aren't titled properly, they may have to go through probate, which can cost up to \$600.⁰⁰; that's money your estate doesn't need to spend.





Sisters of St. Basil to Celebrate 83rd Annual Pilgrimage

Uniontown, PA. The 83rd Annual Pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help will be held at Mount St. Macrina in Uniontown, PA, September 2 & 3, 2017. This year's theme is Mary: Life-Giving Spring. Preparations for this year's Pilgrimage have already started and will continue throughout the summer.

As in previous years, the Sisters will welcome all those Pilgrims who come from all over the country and beyond. They will continue to welcome those who come early and camp on the race track or stay on the Mount. Light fare will be available at the Lunch Stand starting on Friday evening. Liturgical prayers will be held at the Shrine Altar on Friday evening for those arriving early and Divine Liturgy will be celebrated on Monday morning, September 4 for those who stay on Sunday evening.

"Our guest this year is Bishop Peter Libasci, an American prelate of the Roman Catholic Church who serves as the tenth and current Bishop of the Diocese of Manchester, New Hampshire. Bishop Li-

basci is bi-ritual and celebrates the Divine Liturgy in the Byzantine Ruthenian Catholic Church," said Sr. Ruth Plante, Provincial.

The Festal Icon Walk that was popular last year, will be repeated at the Pilgrimage this year. Other plans for the weekend include many opportunities for participation in the Divine Liturgy of the Byzantine Catholic Church. Also scheduled are Matins, Vespers, sacrament of reconciliation, activities for teens and children, and other services in honor of the Mother of God.

The Pilgrimage holds the distinction of being the oldest and the largest Byzantine Catholic Pilgrimage in the country.

Susan McCarthy | Director of Communications-Sisters of St. Basil the Great

Byzantine Family Day at Kennywood Park



Thursday, July 27 was a beautiful day for the 97th Annual Byzantine Family Day at Kennywood Park in West Mifflin, PA. As the smiling faces in the photos show, it was a fun day for all ages. To see more photos visit the GCU Facebook page.



Holy Annunciation Monastery Sugarloaf, PA



The volunteers from District Five and the Greater Hazleton Regional Lodge.

According to Mother Marija-if it rains by seven, it will be clear by eleven. This was the type of day that volunteers worked through on Saturday, June 3 at Holy Annunciation Monastery for Helping Hands Day. It was raining early in the morning and finally it started to clear up. The sun appeared and everyone got in the mood to help wherever and however they could.

The day began with morning services celebrated by Fr. Anthony Skurla and Deacon Larry Foran at the chapel.

Mother Marija had her list of things that had to be done, there was a lot of weed whacking to do, grass cutting and trimming of some of the trees. It was also time to get the bulbs ready for planting, remove the dead petals off the bushes and

for those who could not work outside, there was the making of the boxes for the Sisters' bake sales. Considering the weather, a lot was done in a short period of time and Mother Marija and the Sisters were all grateful for the work that was completed.

A luncheon was served, at the conclusion of the work. As usual there were delicious homemade cookies, pizza, ice cream and fraternalism. Monetary donations were made to Mother Marija by District Five, GHRL, individuals and other lodges.

Thanks to the Home Office for the new shirts.

Saturday, October 28 is the fall clean-up and all are welcome to come out and lend a helping hand.

Agnes Rohrbach | Secretary & Athletic Director



Donations made to Mother Marija from District 5 at left and Greater Hazleton Regional Lodge at right.

Mt. Saint Macrina Uniontown, PA



The volunteers from the Uniontown and Pittsburgh areas.

On Saturday, June 3, 2017 members of GCU lodges in the Southwestern Pennsylvania area, along with parishioners from local Byzantine Catholic churches joined together to assist the Sisters of St. Basil in Uniontown, PA. The group of over 70 people came together for Helping Hands Day at Mt. St. Macrina to beautify the grounds of the monastery.

The day was under the direction of Sr. Joanne Lickvar and the GCU Fraternal Communications Department. Following a brief prayer service, led by Provincial Sister Ruth Plante, everyone got to work. There was plenty to accomplish, both inside and out. Many headed outside to help clean up debris from the

winter season and to plant flowers in the many beds spread throughout the property. There were trees to prune and additional areas to prepare for the many pilgrims that attend the annual Pilgrimage on Labor Day weekend. As the grateful Sister Ruth stated, “the group accomplished in one day what it would take the Sisters months to do.”

If you missed the chance to help on June 3, there will be an additional day of preparation for the Pilgrimage on Saturday, August 19 (*rain date is Saturday, August 26*) beginning at 9:30 AM—all are welcome. If you have questions or would like additional information, please email GCU Fraternal Communications Director Basil Wahal at bwahal@GCUusa.com.



John E. Oslick Making a Difference



John Eric Oslick, practice manager for Rocky Mountain Veterinary Neurology, was recently a part of something very impactful in the state of Colorado. In late March, he testified in front of the Colorado House of Representatives in support of the passage of House Bill 1179. The bill provides immunity from civil and criminal liability for a person who forcibly enters a locked vehicle for the purpose of rendering assistance to an at-risk person or animal. The bill was sponsored by House Representatives Lori Saine and JoAnn Ginal, and Senators Lois Court and Vicki Marble. In mid-April, Governor Hickenlooper signed the bill into law, and it became effective at the beginning of August.

John is the son of GCU National Director John Oslick and MaryEllen Oslick of Aurora, CO and a member of GCU Lodge 144 in Denver CO. MaryEllen Oslick

Special Year for Anna & John Petrisko



The Petrisko Family will remember 2016 as a special year. On June 30, Anna & John Petrisko celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary (6-30-1951). On August 15, John celebrated his 90th birthday (8-15-1926). The couple have four children, nine grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. The family celebrated together for both of these special occasions.

Anna and John are lifelong members of the GCU. John was a past president of District 9 & Lodge 271 and currently serves as an auditor for Lodge 271.

Austin Chamberlain & Jessica Podnar Wed

On Saturday, June 24, 2017 Austin J. Chamberlain and Jessica M. Podnar were united in marriage in the Links Barn at Firestone Farms, Columbiana, OH. Pastor Teresa Hucko (aunt of the groom) performed the ceremony.

Jessica is the daughter of Craig & Luanne Podnar and Austin is the son of Clint & Chris Chamberlain. Chris is a member of the Fraternal Communications Department at the GCU Home Office.

A reception followed at the Links Banquet Center with 250 in attendance.

The couple honeymooned in Saint Lucia. They make their home in Leetonia, OH along with their three dogs. Austin is a member of Lodge 994.



Michael & Marilyn Fiure Celebrate 60th Wedding Anniversary



Michael & Marilyn Fiure, both members of Lodge 254 and St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church in Hillsborough, NJ, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on May 11, 2017. A Liturgy was celebrated on Sunday, May 14 with family and friends. The pastor at St. Mary is Fr. James Badeaux.

Marilyn and Michael have been in the forefront of activities at both their church and community for many years. Michael is the coordinator of the churches twice per week bingo, monthly Slavic Dinner and tallies the church collections each week. Marilyn, while assisting Michael with these tasks, is also a singer in St. Mary's Choir & serves as a cantor for weekday Liturgies. Additionally, she is the sous chef for the Slavic Dinner. In Manville, Marilyn is a member of the Rescue Squad and Michael is an Exempt Member of the Fire Department.

Charlie Bazaral | Lodge 254 Vice President

Dedication of Ascension Chapel ST. MARY CATHOLIC CEMETERY— BYZANTINE RITE

YOUNGSTOWN, OH

On Sunday, May 28, 2017, approximately 40 parishioners and family of St. Mary's in Youngstown, OH attended the dedication of the nearly 115-year old cemetery's new outdoor chapel. As fresh US flags dotted the grounds, the blessing ceremony was held during the annual Memorial Day prayer service.

Very Reverend Richard I. Lambert led the service with responses sung by Cantor Dan Kovachik. In recalling the icon displayed that weekend at St. Mary's honoring the feast of the Ascension, Fr. Richard compared how the Mother of God and the disciples witnessed Jesus' ascent into heaven to this site where family and friends gather to accompany their loved ones' transition to eternal life. The Gospel reading from St. John, 5:24, 30 also foretold of the glory of God to be seen by the rising of the dead.



The idea to build the cemetery chapel came about in 2002 as a way to provide more substantial shelter for mourners during burial services. A chapel donation fund began that year, which very often became a preferred memorial for deceased parishioners.

After considering several designs for the structure, including options in brick, Fr. Richard and the church's Parish Council selected a 10-sided, wood pavilion. A 2-tiered, shingled roof and a domed cupola cap it. The Byzantine 3-bar cross sits atop at the highest point. The chapel's back wall contains three windows. In the center is a small stained glass image of an angel. Additionally, Fr. Richard and Ragan family siblings Dave, Patti, and Fr. James created two new window designs. Accompanying the words, Eternal Memory and its Slavonic translation, Vichnaja Pamjat', are images of a censer with holy smoke rising and a psalter labeled with Psalm 24:1 (Bible text prayed at every committal service.)

The cemetery's center island had already contained the grave of 22 year old Johan Kinik, who died in the last days of 1904. Also buried in the center island are Rev. Nikolaj Molchany and his wife Anna (Kudrovsky) Molchany. Fr. Nicholas served at St. Mary's from 1915-1918 and is currently the only priest interred there. Between those grave markers is a granite cross that was originally installed on the grounds of St. Mary's former Florence Avenue location. The chapel's new, stamped concrete flooring completely surrounds these three monuments.

Construction of the chapel began in February of this year, with a Memorial Day weekend deadline. Contractors and

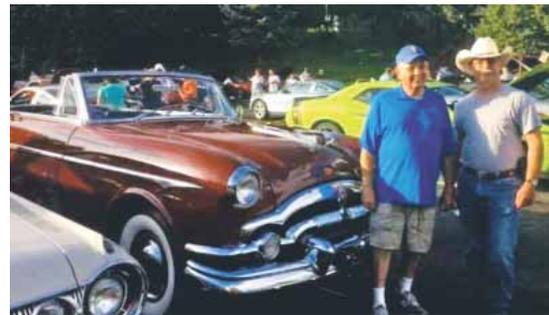


volunteers worked tirelessly to have the chapel structure completed on time. Caretaker-William Allison Jr., Eugene Leson Jr., and Dr. Thomas Sopkovich oversaw onsite work.

Dubbing the new structure as Ascension Chapel, Fr. Lambert concluded with the hymn "Eternal Memory."

Dave Ragan | St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church
Photos provided courtesy of Dave Ragan and St. Mary's

Giving



Church of the Resurrection Parish Expansion

MONROEVILLE, PA

Friday, June 16, 2017 the parking lot at the Church of the Resurrection in Monroeville, PA was filled with classic and antique cars. The social hall of the church was filled with lovers of fried fish, kolbasi, haluski, pirohi, and a host of homemade desserts. A car cruise and fish fry were hosted by the parish and all agreed it was a huge success.

Bubba's baskets (26 in all) were very popular. The cruisers all enjoyed the venue and were talking about the next one at the church. The volunteers for the event included a dozen GCU members, parishioners and friends of the church. Despite a significant rain, which eventually cleared out, everyone had a great time. This Matching Funds project will help with much needed repairs to the parking lot.

Thomas Oslick

District 5

Helping Hands Day | Helping Hands Day was held at Holy Annunciation Monastery in Sugarloaf, PA on Saturday, June 3. After services, plenty of work was assigned. Ten members of District 5 helped with the grass cutting, weed whacking, tree trimming, pruning and weeding, bulb separating and dessert box assembly. Volunteers enjoyed a nice lunch of pizza, homemade cookies, and ice cream. Fall clean-up at the Monastery on Saturday, October 28, 2017 will assist the Carmelite Sisters in preparing their grounds for winter. Please plan on attending.



Volunteers from District 5 and Greater Hazleton Regional lodge work together to prune the rhododendrom bushes.



Ed Keil, John Paul Dolinish, Paul Polanchik and Ed Dolinish, Jr.

Rail Riders Baseball Game | Thirty lodge members attended the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Rail Riders Baseball game and tailgate on Saturday, July 22, against the Charlotte Knights. It was Military Night and those who entered the stadium early, received a camouflage bucket hat. The game was delayed an hour due to rain, which never let up. The food, catered by Ellis Catering, was delicious. The Knights rallied in the top of the ninth, scoring 6 runs to overtake the RailRiders, 10-6. The planned fireworks were canceled due to the rain. Thank you to all who helped set up and clean up at the tailgate. Thanks also to the Home Office for subsidizing the tailgate, providing GCU nail clippers, and the \$25 Amazon gift card, won by Sarah Tanana.

Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup | An Adopt-A-Highway cleanup was held the morning of Saturday, July 22. Five people showed up, one all the way from Maryland, to assist with the endeavor. In less than an hour and a half, the group cleaned the assigned stretch of the entrance and exit ramps of litter, which included car parts, an assortment of bottles, fast food containers and other debris. The group collected 10 bags of garbage in total. The next Adopt-A-Highway cleanup is scheduled for Labor Day Weekend on Saturday, September 2. Additional help would be appreciated-please contact Ed Dolinish if interested.

Note | The district's annual golf tournament was held on Saturday, August 5. A complete report will appear in the next issue. Arrangements are being made for the district's annual meeting, No-Tap Bowling Tournament and Scholarship Brunch. Details will be forthcoming.

The district extends its deepest sympathy to the family of George Skomsky. George was always lending a hand with the Adopt-A-Highway program and at Helping Hands Day in Sugarloaf with the Carmelite Nuns. He was a great golf professional and will be sadly missed. Blessed Repose and Eternal Memory!

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Iлона Dolinish | Fraternal Director



Iлона Dolinish, Joe Gurganus, Macrina Dolinish and her friend Nicole, Ed Dolinish Jr. and John Paul Dolinish.

District 7

UPCOMING DISTRICT 7 EVENTS

Annual Meeting & 125th Celebration

Sunday, November 12 - 1 PM

St. Mary Byzantine Church
1900 Brooks Blvd.
Hillsborough, NJ 08844

Contact Mary Bannworth at 908-447-9212 for details.

District 11

Team Repeats Win in Inter-Parish Mixed Bowling League

The “Lucky 4s” must be more than just lucky, as they repeated their 2016 first-place standing in this year’s District 11 Inter-Parish Mixed Bowling League.

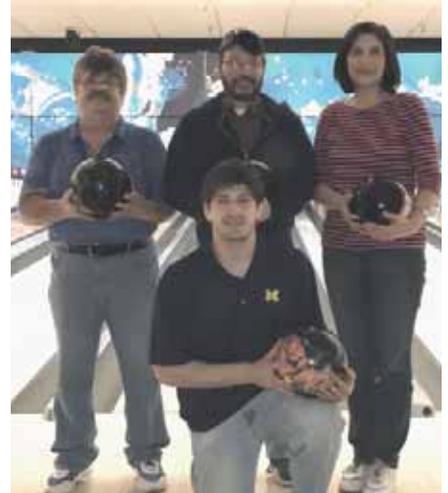
The Digon family—Peter, Pat and Adam along with Fr. Joseph Repko, pastor of St. Nicholas Church in Clinton Township, MI, once again proved the best scoring team in the league. The team was recognized on Sunday, April 30, at the league awards

program featuring a catered meal in a banquet room at Five Star Lanes in Troy, MI, where the league bowled.

The league also conducted officer elections resulting in: Paul Shubeck as president, John P. Minarish as vice president, Gary Mozuras as secretary and Judy Goetz as treasurer.

Bowling will resume in the fall on Sunday, September 17 at Five Star Lanes. All are welcome.

Val Marszalec, | Fraternal Director & Publicity Director



The Lucky 4's (back) Peter Digon, Rev. Joseph Repko and Patricia Digon and Adam Digon (kneeling).

District 15

UPCOMING DISTRICT 15 EVENTS

District 15 Golf Tournament

Sunday, September 17

1 PM Shotgun (includes hot dog, drink & dinner)

Seven Oaks Country Club
Beaver, PA

GCU members: \$50

Non-members \$75

Dinner guest \$20

Hole sponsorships available

Contact Bill Uram 724-287-0689

Annual Meeting

Sunday, November 5

Liturgy at St. Nicholas
Chapel at 10:45 AM

Brunch available at Seven
Oaks following Liturgy at
\$25 per person

Meeting at Seven Oaks
Country Club at 1:15 PM

Motown the Musical

Saturday, November 25

2 PM

Benedum Center, Pittsburgh, PA

GCU members \$56 and Non-members \$76

Deadline for tickets is October 2

“Adapted from Berry Gordy’s own 1994 autobiography, ‘To Be Loved,’ this is an incredible walk down memory lane, as we see how Smokey Robinson got his honey toned voice and how Diana Ross found fame, amongst 50 classic songs that are guaranteed to keep you dancing all night long.” Seats are on the first floor center. Contact Elizabeth Harbist at 412-913-1446. Tickets are first come first served.

Lodge News

Lodge 7

YONKERS, NY

Spring Tag Sale

The St. Nicholas of Myra Church Spring Tag Sale was held on June 23 and 24, 2017. The sale was a smashing success! Over \$1,200.00 was raised by the volunteers who worked very hard and had a great time meeting many people from the community.

Debbie McDonnell | Secretary



Rose Evanko, Debbie McDonnell and Mary Valko overseeing the beautiful merchandise.

Lodge 15

TRENTON, NJ

COOL'S THE WORD!!! Having witnessed six heat waves so far makes one think of an early winter.

Matching Funds Project

The Lodge 15 Matching Fund project was successful and benefited the Mercer County Sunshine Foundation program in the amount of \$900.⁰⁰.

Memorial Day Services

On Monday, May 29, 2017 Memorial Day services were held at Holy Cross Post No.417 Catholic War Veterans located in Trenton, NJ. The peal of the parish church bells one block away signaled the start at noon with the singing of the National Anthem and a recitation of a prayer dedicated to fallen comrades. A memorial wreath was placed at the base of the Post's flag pole. Members fired a rifle salute and as soon as the thunder of this volley died down, melancholy notes of "Taps" filled the air.

Following the conclusion of these military honors, all in attendance participated in the buffet, drinks, and desserts provided by Post 417. The Post Home is most appreciative for the grant received from the GCU Home Office and Marcy Embley's efforts in applying for this grant money.

In a world filled with secularism, political correctness, and relativism, it is important to teach, promote, and remember the supreme sacrifice made by many to assure our freedom. Pray for our veterans, their family members, friends and neighbors. We petition the Dear Lord to continue to shed His grace on the United States of America.

Tom Petty | Treasurer



Soup Kitchen dinner bag assembly line.

Alms Giving

As part of Alms giving during the SS. Peter & Paul Feast, the parishioners of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary in Trenton, NJ, inclusive of many GCU members, assembled 720 dinner bags for the children of the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen. This was organized by Lora Arneo.

Trenton Thunder Baseball Game

Sunny, seasonal weather welcomed members of Lodge 15 and Lodge 20 as they joined 7,456 baseball fans at the third joint lodge baseball game. The event at Arm & Hammer Park in Trenton, NJ on Saturday, June 10 promoted the spirit of fraternalism. The first place Trenton Thunder, a minor league affiliate of the New York Yankees, were playing the Bowie Baysox, a minor league affiliate of the Baltimore Orioles.

Forty GCU members and guests enjoyed a delicious barbeque style buffet in the picnic area of the park while experiencing the passion and excitement that is minor league baseball. Trenton's bats were thunderous as they cruised their way to a 7-3 victory. A personal highlight was watching Rookie, the Thunder's golden retriever mascot, exit the home team's dugout, retrieve the bat and promptly return to the dugout. A thrilling post-game fireworks display concluded a great evening at the ball park. A fun time was had by all and a return engagement next year is in the works!

Marcy Embley | Fraternal Director

UPCOMING LODGE 15 EVENTS

Third Quarter Meeting

Sunday, September 10
Following the 10 AM Divine Liturgy

Assumption of the Virgin Mary Church Social Hall

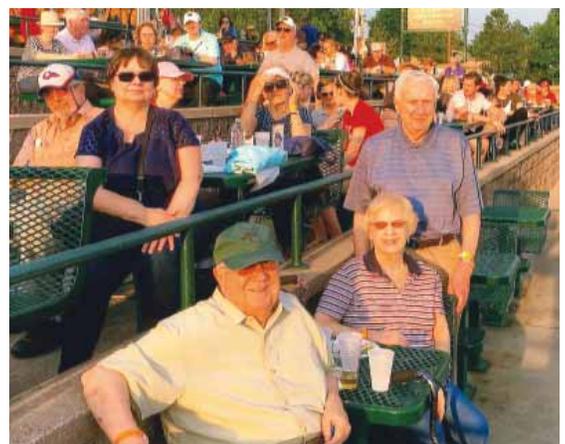
Please join us for refreshments and camaraderie

Bus Trip to Delaware Park and Casino

October 12, 2017

Matching Funds to benefit the Assumption of the Virgin Mary Byzantine Church

Contact Marcy Embley 609-585-3758



Members from Lodges 15 and 20 enjoyed the Trenton Thunder Baseball game.

Lodge 17

OLD FORGE, PA

Helping Hands Day

Six Lodge 17 members assisted the Carmelite Nuns during Helping Hands Day at the Holy Annunciation Monastery, held on Saturday, June 3. There was grass to be cut, bulbs to be separated, flowers to be pruned, tree limbs to be cut, and dessert boxes to be assembled. Please consider volunteering on Saturday, October 28 to help the Sisters with their fall cleanup.



Presentation of check to Holy Annunciation Monastery, Gina & Ed Keil, Mother Marija, Ilona, Ed, Demetrius and Macrina Dolinsh.



Father's Day Celebration

Following the Liturgy on Saturday evening, June 17, a Father's Day celebration was held in St. Nicholas Parish Center. Several GCU members assisted with setting up, preparing the food, baking desserts and cleanup. Sandwiches, salads and desserts were served.

Ed Keil | Secretary Treasurer

UPCOMING LODGE 17 EVENTS

St. Nicholas's Flea Market

Saturday & Sunday, September 16-17

Expect great bargains and hidden treasures along with delicious food, baked goods and a fundraiser. Help is always needed in the kitchen.

Helping Hands Project

Date to be announced

Lodge 28

SOUTHSIDE-PITTSBURGH, PA

Helping Hands Day

On Tuesday, May 23, South Side Lodge 28 held a Helping Hands Day at St. John the Baptist Church. Four people came during the weekday to help clean. Father Tom Schaefer is always most appreciative of the endeavor to keep the church clean.

After a quick continental breakfast and assignments, the hard-working members performed a variety of duties: sweeping, mopping, vacuuming, dusting, bathroom cleaning, weed pulling and glass shining. The volunteers were all nicely dressed in their new GCU t-shirts.

After cleaning, the group convened in the parish hall for a pizza, hoagie and wings lunch, along with dessert. During the social, one member asked if he could come back once a month to do general housekeeping duties. We quickly said "yes" to that request!

The GCU fraternal grant was used to purchase all necessary supplies & equipment to perform the cleaning duties, as well as lunch.



Terry, Karen and Barb.

CONTINUED

Lodge 28 CONTINUED

St. John the Baptist Day

On Friday, June 23, St. John the Baptist Church in South Side-Pittsburgh held a beautiful evening Liturgy in anticipation of the June 24 Holy Day of the birth of St. John the Baptist (their patron saint). Even with a flash flood warning in effect, a nice crowd of participants filled the pews.

Following services, everyone in attendance was invited to the church hall for fellowship. Lodge 28 provided the refreshments.



Keven Beres' jokes have everyone laughing.



2016 Fraternalist of the Year
Barb Rebovich with GCU President/CEO George Juba.

2016 GCU Fraternalist of Year

It's a three-peat! Lodge 28 is happy to boast that it holds the record of three Fraternalists of the Year award winners: Kim Kolesar (2012), Karen Pavlick (2013), and the latest winner, Barb Rebovich (2016).

On Saturday, July 8, a dinner celebration was held in Barb's honor at Arden Courts in Jefferson Hills, PA. This gave the lodge and church members a chance to visit with former Lodge 28 secretary Mary Vavrek, an Arden Court resident.

The afternoon started with several games being played and prizes awarded. Then everyone was invited to go through the buffet line. A variety of homemade and catered food was available. Lodge member, Brent Kolesar, volunteered to be the "bartender" of the pop. He took his job seriously and would not leave his post all evening. A sheet cake with the new GCU logo was served for dessert.

Following dinner, GCU President/CEO George Juba gave a brief speech and presentation of the plaque to Barb. Treat bags consisting of a specially wrapped commemorative candy bar, goodies and GCU giveaways were also given out to all in attendance. It was so wonderful to not only have Lodge 28 and St. John Church members present, but also representatives from Lodge 255 and 288.

For anyone wishing to send Mary Vavrek a card, the address is: Arden Courts, Boathouse Room 51, 380 Wray Large Road, Jefferson Hills, PA 15025.

Kim Kolesar | Secretary Treasurer

Lodge 52

BETHEL PARK, PA

Flag Day & Ice Cream Social

Following Divine Liturgy at St. Gregory Church, GCU Lodge 52 hosted a Flag Day Ceremony in front of the church. Adults and children all received flags and buttons. Following the ceremony everyone was invited to the church hall for refreshments of ice cream sundaes with all the toppings, a big cake with sprinkles, cookies, coffee, tea and sodas. It was a beautiful day and everyone had a lot of fun participating.

Rosemary Tomko | Publicity Director



Lodge 69

POTTSTOWN, PA

Helping Hands Day

Members of Lodge 69 gathered together on the weekend of June 10 & 11 to help clean up around St. John the Baptist Church and school. Debris was cleaned up and unnecessary items from garage and school were discarded in the rented dumpster.

The members also had the opportunity to discard some of their personal unwanted items.

Nancy Harding | Secretary

Lodge 81 UNIONTOWN, PA

Lodge 81 has continued to be involved with church and community activities from spring through summer.

Memorial Day

On Sunday, May 28, Memorial Day weekend, parishioners gathered at the St. John Parish Cemetery. A Panachida service was celebrated by Father Ron Larko, while Cantor Stephen Petruska led the responses for those who attended.



St. John parishioners and lodge members take a break for lunch.

Flag Day

The Flag Day Program which also recognized parish veterans, was held on Saturday, June 10, after the Divine Liturgy. Attendees met at the flag pole beside the church for a brief program. Marcia Harrer led off with a welcome, a prayer and the "Pledge of Allegiance." Richard Harrer led the singing of patriotic songs. The history of the U.S. Flag was told by James Mihalko. Stephen Petruska presented the touching reading "I Am the Flag," by Ruth Apperson Rous. Daniel Sochko, explained the history of the Marine Corps War Memorial (on Iwo Jima) which depicts our nation's gratitude to the Marines. Mention was made of Michael Strank, one of our Rusyn brothers, who was one of the men in the statue of the raising of the flag at Iwo Jima. Bonnie Balas explained the photograph "The Raising of the Flag at Ground Zero," taken by Thomas E. Franklin on September 11, 2001, depicting firefighters raising the U.S. Flag after the September 11 attacks. Next Gerry Dorobish read the Americans' Creed which exemplifies the truths which we as Americans hold dear. The recognition of and thanks to the Veterans present took place and Father Ron concluded the program with a prayer. Refreshments in the St. John Social Ministry room included apple pie and ice cream, beverages, social time, and awarding of prizes. Theresa Petruska, Janet Gaydos, and Helen Ponzurick passed out tickets, prizes, and refreshments.

CONTINUED



Veteran Recognition.

Helping Hands Day

Many St. John parishioners and Lodge 81 members participated in the June 3 Helping Hands Day at Mount Macrina. Marcia Harrer and Stephen Petruska worked at grounds keeping, while Gerry Dorobish and Bonnie Balas did inside jobs assisting at the Religious Gift Shop and cleaning and preparing beds in the Trinity Center respectively.

UPCOMING LODGE 81 EVENTS

87th Annual Pilgrimage

Saturday & Sunday, Sept. 2 & 3

Yearly Food Drive

Mid September

12th Annual Classic Car Show

Sunday, September 24

Registration at 12 NOON

Concludes at 4 PM Rain or Shine

\$10 Registration Fee

St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church Parking Lot
185 E. Main Street, Uniontown, PA.

More than 25 trophies, including one large trophy-Father Ron's Favorite, will be awarded.

Classes include: 1900-1930, 1931-1950, 1951-1960, 1961-1965, 1966-1970, 1971-1976, 1977-1987, 1988-2001, Street Rod/Modified, Trucks 1959 and older and 1960-2001. No judging for 2002 and newer.

Arnie Amber-Oldies DJ, fundraiser, Byzantine Auction, and food will be featured. A golf cart shuttle will be available. Delicious foods, sandwiches, soups, halushki, baked goods, and more.

Proceeds will benefit the St. John the Baptist Byzantine Church Maintenance Fund.

36th Annual Carpatho-Rusyn Celebration

Sunday, October 29

Divine Liturgy 9 AM

12 NOON to 6 PM

FREE

St. John the Baptist Church Social Hall

Call 724-438-6027 for information

Lodge 81

CONTINUED

Birthday/Coffee Social

Sunday, July 17, marked the monthly birthday/coffee social sponsored by St. John Social Ministry. James Mihalko, one of the July birthday celebrants was recognized and surrounded by many family members and friends. Bonnie Balas, member of the Social Ministry helped with the preparations.

Gerry's Good Works

Every Thursday through the summer, Gerry Dorobish volunteers at the Uniontown Public Library with the Summer Reading Program. Approximately 400 children are enrolled and Gerry assists 80-100 children each week to earn prizes for their summer reading logs.

Bonnie Balas | VP & Publicity Coordinator



Gerry Dorobish



Ed Horvat, James Mihalko and Mihalko family children.

Lodge 92

JESSUP, PA

First Corporate Communion

This year, Lodge 92 honored one communicant, Alex Berlinski, who received his First Corporate Communion on May 6, 2017.

Officiating at the Liturgy at Holy Ghost Byzantine Catholic Church, Jessup, PA was Parochial Vicar, Rev. Fr. Richard Rohrer.

First communion instructor is Mrs. Kelly Picillo and religious education coordinator is Mrs. Joyce Covaleski.

Lodge 92 members provided a memorable occasion for Alex as well as for all the parishioners at a small reception held after the 4 PM Liturgy on Saturday evening. The room was elegantly decorated in black & white decorations and gold Byzantine crosses adorned each table.

Along with a rosary, prayer book and candle, the lodge presented Alex with a communicant cross, metal book marker, votive candle, communicant picture frame, a Walmart gift card and a gold Byzantine cross pendant. The GCU Home Office presented Alex with an icon of the St. Nicholas Chapel.

Michaela Mancak | Secretary Treasurer



First Communion Instructor Kelly Picillo, Alex Berlinski, Parochial Vicar Rev. Fr. Richard Rohrer and Religious Ed. Coordinator, Joyce Covaleski.

Lodge 93

NORTHERN CAMBRIA, PA



Helping Hands

It seems that it will be another summer of work in progress at St. John's Byzantine Church Northern Cambria. Lodge members and parishioners gathered to prepare for Pentecost Sunday and clean the church. A thank you to all the helpers for a job well done.

Father's Day

Lodge 93 helped sponsor a Father's Day cake, coffee and light lunch social. A Liturgy was celebrated by Fr. Vasil Polyak for all the fathers. After Liturgy, everyone was invited to the church social hall for a light lunch. GCU swag bags were given to all the fathers. Door prizes were also drawn at the end of the luncheon. A thank you to everyone that helped—it was most appreciated by all.

CONTINUED

Lodge 93

CONTINUED

Heritage Festival

Lodge 93 helped support St. John's Byzantine Church at the annual Heritage Festival. Despite early morning rain the skies cleared and crowds started to gather. Lodge members volunteered their services to help with the gift card basket fundraiser which benefitted the interior church painting project. A thank you to the Home Office for a grant to help defray costs of the festival. There were food vendors, crafts, music, a children's area, career booths, a volley ball tournament, history of the town and fireworks ended the day of festivities. It was a successful day. Plans are already being made for next year. Fr. Vasil is pastor of St. John's Byzantine Church.



Lodge member Walter Rogal presented a check to Don Lowmastre, Director of Good Samaritan Food pantry while at the Heritage Festival.



John Katana (right) presents clothing & personal care items to Captain Jim Davies for the homeless Veterans.

Flag Day

Once again Lodge 93 donated 100 dozen flags to the local American Legions. These are used to distribute to the public at various patriotic parades. The flags are also placed on the graves of veterans at the various cemeteries in the area. A special thank you to the Home Office for a grant to support this project. It is most appreciated and shows support to all veterans.

Homeless Veterans Project

Lodge 93 conducted a clothing and personal care items drive for the homeless veterans in the Northern Cambria region. A thank you to St. John's Byzantine Church for helping with the clothing drive. A special thank you to St. Anne Byzantine Church in Clymer, PA for donating hundreds of personal care items. Fr. William Lascalles is pastor at St. Anne. All items received were in need and greatly appreciated. A job well done by all.

John J. Katana | Secretary

Lodge 109

LYNDORA, PA

Helping Hands Days

On Friday, June 2 and Saturday, June 3, Lodge 109 conducted the annual Spring clean-up and landscaping project at St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church.

The project was split into two parts with one crew in charge of the clean-up and soil preparation and the other taking care of the actual planting of both annual and perennial flowers. The focus was on the entrances to the church and to adorn the front of the statue of the Blessed Mother.

On Saturday, a light lunch of pizza and pop was served to the workers who were joined by Fr. Will Rupp, filling in as pastor for that weekend. The Lodge 109 project was aided by a Fraternal Grant from the GCU Home Office which was used to buy the flowers, planters, mulch, fertilizer and the refreshments for the workers.



Joe, Amanda and Joey Stavish, Helen Musko, Janet Uram and Janet Stetzer. Missing from photo are Jerry & Ellie Tarcha, Bob & Pat Kosar and Bill Uram Jr.

CONTINUED

Lodge 109

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Flag Day Ceremony

On Sunday, June 11 the annual Flag Day observance sponsored by Lodge 109 was held at the Lyndora War Memorial. The Flag was raised by the American Legion Post 778 and V.F.W. Post 249 Honor Guard under the direction of Floyd Case.

As the flag was being raised, Mike Dancisin led the crowd in the singing of The National Anthem after which Christine Cupps led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Invocation followed given by Deacon Paul Simko.

Master of Ceremonies W. William Uram, Jr. recognized GCU District 15 President Elizabeth Harbist and thanked the American Legion for keeping the Memorial clean and neat and for the flags that everyone received. He also thanked the Butler Co. Labor Council for the flowers planted at the Memorial.

Butler Township Commissioner Dave Zarnick spoke briefly about the Flag and its meaning. Alexandria Sertik shared some important facts about Flag Day with the audience. Leah Merhaut recited the lyrics for "Taps," which is often part of patriotic observances.

Guest speaker, retired Air Force Master Sergeant Dave Jackson recalled his 20 years of service worldwide to our country and the Flag.



Honor Guard member Jim Bianchi, lodge Vice President W. William Uram Jr., Leah Merhaut, Mike Dancisin, Air Force Master Sergeant & guest speaker Dave Jackson and Butler Township Commissioner Dave Zarnick.

Jim Bianchi, representing the Honor Guard, presented a short program ending with a volley of rifle fire and the playing of "Taps."

The ceremony concluded with the singing of "God Bless America" led by Mike Dancisin. After which most adjourned to St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church for lunch. A door-prize drawing awarded the winner an American Flag donated by State Rep. Brian Ellis. Many thanks to the GCU Home Office and GCU District 15 for their support in making this event successful.

Janet Uram | Secretary Treasurer

Lodge 151

NEW YORK, NY



Helping Hands Day

Lodge 151 Helping Hands Day at St. Andrew's Church in Westbury, NY was on Tuesday, May 30. The original date was changed after a car crashed into the church. GCU members and parishioners worked together planting and cleaning the grounds.



Flag Day

Lodge 151 held Flag Day at the Cerebral Palsy Center in Roosevelt Long Island. The lodge members gave out pins and flags, played games, sang patriotic songs and read patriotic books. The children loved the red, white, and blue treats and flags. It was a very patriotic day!

Second Quarter Meeting

The lodge's second quarterly meeting was held in Middle Village. Athletic Day was planned in conjunction with the meeting, but with temperatures in the 90's, the decision was made to stay indoors. Thanks to the efforts of Chris Hulak and Ann Kandrato, we played golf trivia instead of miniature golf. GCU member Theresa Hutnick and GCU golfer John Michnya knew most of the answers. Good going! Laura Mulhfeld did a great job organizing the day.

CONTINUED

Lodge 151 CONTINUED

Day at the Races

The lodge's annual Day at the Races took place at Belmont Park. The atmosphere was great, the food was delicious and the horses kept running. It was great seeing Julia Hulak. It was such a nice day that everyone went home a winner.

Pilgrimage at Carpathian Village

A few members attended the pilgrimage at Carpathian Village in Cresco, PA and had a very spiritual day. There was a devotion to St. Nicholas and a Healing Service with anointing of oil. There were nine men who received the order of reader, which is the first step in becoming a priest. Each candidate received tonsure from Bishop Kurt Burnette. We wish all the candidates best of luck.

Marge Russell | President



UPCOMING LODGE 151 EVENTS

3rd Quarter Meeting & Matching Funds Luncheon

Sunday, September 10

10 AM Liturgy with a Panachida for all departed GCU members
Luncheon to follow

St. Andrew's Church
Westbury Long Island

Maureen Daddona will be our guest speaker

Raffles, Games and FUN

Breast Cancer Luncheon

Friday, October 13

\$25 per person

The Seasons, East Meadow

Catered lunch with a guest speaker from Adelphi Group

All proceeds will go to The Adelphi Hotline and Support Programs
Contact Marge at 516-307-1016

Lodge 164 YOUNGSTOWN, OH

Father's Day Bingo

Lodge 164 and St. Mary's Church Bingo held a Father's Day Fundraiser to benefit St. Mary's Assumption Social Center on June 18, 2017. The funds designated for the purchase of an LED electronic sign. The nearly 200 players made this a successful event. Nine gift baskets were donated by six individuals of St. Mary's Lodge 164 and Nannicola bingo supplies. Ticket sales for the baskets resulted in \$375.00 of income.

The bingo had a net profit of \$1,252.00. Combined with the gift basket income, the total profit from the event was \$1,627.00. GCU Matching Funds of \$1,500.00 increased the total donation to St. Mary Church to \$3,127.00.

St. Mary's gave each bingo player a dauber and single strip of games for the Father's Day event and the GCU provided soft-tip ball point pens.



Diana Danko, Director of the Beatitude House Gina Pastella and Dr. Tom Sopkovich.

Donations Made

Lodge 164 made a fundraiser presentation to the Sisters of St. Basil the Great. A total of \$1,740.00 in gift cards from the Soup & Sandwich Lenten fundraiser was presented to the Sisters. Three charities received community donations from the Mother's Day Bingo. St. Vincent de Paul Pantry; Rescue Mission of the Mahoning Valley and the Beatitude House of the Tri-county area each received \$858.33.

Third Quarter Meeting and Picnic

The third quarter meeting was held on July 23 at St. Mary's Social Hall. Members and guests enjoyed a buffet picnic and delicious desserts before the meeting. Fr. David Shortt opened with a prayer and blessing of the food. Edible door prizes were awarded after the meeting.

Dr. Tom Sopkovich | President

Lodge 250

STERLING HEIGHTS, MI

Pascha Bread Project

The smell of fresh baked Easter bread-Pascha, is enough to draw volunteers to assist with this annual project at St. Basil the Great in Sterling Heights, MI. Chaired by Mary Ann & Eric Walters, along with their children, Lauren, Andrew, and Sean, this fundraiser

brings the tradition back home. Parishioners, GCU Lodge 250 members, and friends help braid the Byzantine crosses, roll out the dough, and feed the oven until all orders are filled. This year, profits exceeded \$1700.⁰⁰ which benefit the parish of St. Basil's.



Drew Cipa, Nick Kovalcik, Bernie Cipa, John L. Minarish, J.P. Minarish, Larry Hruska and Jack Kovalcik. Missing from photo were Anita Cipa, Patricia Kent, Deacon Paul Latcha, Pam & Rick Schafer and Nick Serafin.

Helping Hands/Grounds Beautification

Members of Lodge 250, along with parishioners, gathered on Saturday, June 10, for the annual grounds beautification at St. Basil the Great in Sterling Heights. Tree trimming, leaf raking, weeding, and planting were among the chores of the day. A group effort of 13 got the job done under the hot sun, with no complaints. A lunch was provided by Lodge 250 to all attendees. Thanks to all who came with "helping hands," to help get the job done.



Veterans being acknowledged during the Flag Day ceremony.

Lodge 250 Honors our Nation's Flag

Lodge 250 hosted a Flag Day Celebration on Sunday, June 11, at St. Basil the Great in Sterling Heights. Following Liturgy, participants gathered at the flag where a short program was held. President John Minarish led the program. Veterans in the group were asked to step forward for acknowledgement. The existing flag was lowered

and a new, blessed flag was raised by Athletic Director J.P. Minarish and Lenny Hemple. Fr. Mychail Rozmarynowycz spoke of our diversity in America with the Flag, a symbol of our freedom, being that which unites us. Refreshments were served in the church hall to all participants.

Anita Cipa | Treasurer

Lodge 254

HILLSBOROUGH, NJ

Scholarships Awarded

On Sunday, June 11, at St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church in Hillsborough, Lodge 254 presented two \$500 scholarships to graduating high school seniors. The recipients were Meghan Aleo and Sara Urbaniak. Meghan will be going on to Montclair State University where she will be majoring in Animation. Sara will be majoring in Health Sciences at Stockton University.

Both students have impressive resumes. Meghan was an honor student & outstanding clarinetist at Hillsborough High School while Sara is a graduate of Immaculata High School in Somerville, NJ where she served as class volunteer and is also a member of the Finderne, NJ First Aid & Rescue Squad. Sara is presently working for her EMS Certification.

After the presentations, all adjourned to the Fellowship Hall for refreshments.

Charles Bazaral | Vice President



Rev. James Badeaux, Lodge President Elias Zareva, Sara Urbaniak and Meghan Aleo.

UPCOMING LODGE 255 EVENT

Annual Steeler Tailgate

Sunday, November 12

Doors open at 12 noon

Cost is \$10

Steelers vs. Indianapolis Colts

St. John Chrysostom Church
506 Saline Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15207

Questions? Contact
gculodge255@gmail.com or
call 412-521-3963

Lodge 268

MINGO JUNCTION, OH

Pirohi Sale

Lodge 268 recently held two pirohi sales and provided a wonderful lunch to the workers. A special thank you to Suzanne Albaugh, Jeannie Roberts, Cathy Risdon and Carla Gasser for preparing the meals for the workers. Prizes were given out each week from the money the lodge received in last year's convention contest. Everyone enjoyed good fellowship while helping the church. This year the workers hit a milestone of 320 dozen pirohi made in ONE day!



Pirohi workers.



Sara Gasser presenting Alex with her cross and her father David, sister Michal and mother Pam. Father John Kapitan presenting Paul with his cross along with his mother Diane Sogan.

Honoring Veterans & Graduates

On Sunday, May 28, 2017 following Divine Liturgy, Lodge 268 honored parish veterans, Bob Olexia, Father John Kapitan and Bill Kendrach. The lodge also recognized two GCU graduates Paul Voltz and Alex LaRue with wall crosses. A delicious lunch was served with the help of a GCU grant for the event.

Carla Gasser | President



Teen super stars Maria & Gina Palasz with Karly Krown who worked the Yard Sale.

Lodge 271

ORLAND PARK/HOMER GLEN, IL

Yard Sale for the ByzanTEENS

Once again Lodge 271 held a ByzanTEENS Yard Sale to cover the cost to attend the Teen Rally in 2018! The rally is planned to take place at St. Vincent's College in Latrobe, PA. The retreat includes prayers, recreational activities and spiritual development. Byzantine Catholic teenagers from all over the United States attend the event.

The day was sunny and there was plenty to sell: baby/kids clothes, toys, furniture and of course golf clubs. By day's end the event was a great success and the ByzanTEENS came out the real winners. It shows that we work hard and we pray even harder. Thanks to youth leader Catherine Baranko along with Debbie Garthshore and Kathy Diipla for all their help.

Vicki Blidy | Vice President

Lodge 288
CLAIRTON, PA

Helping Hands Day

Lodge 288 participated in the annual Helping Hands Day on Friday, June 2. Volunteers gathered to attack multiple jobs around the Ascension Church in Clairton. The weather cooperated and allowed all of the plans to be completed! Workers shoveled weeds in the parking lot, cleaned out the coat room in the hall, scrubbed & waxed the marble on the Icon screen until it sparkled, and cleaned & polished the church pews. New blinds were added to the CCD class room. The volunteers were more than ready for dinner when the pizza, salad and snacks arrived.

During dinner we learned that two of the volunteers, Sharlene & Jack Lazar, were celebrating their 64th wedding anniversary and chose to spend their special day volunteering for Helping Hands Day!



Helping Hands volunteers.



Jack & Sharlene Lazar

Check Presentation

During the quarterly lodge meeting, a matching funds check was presented to Father Ivan Mina to be used for the parish field trip in the fall. Sharlene Lazar is in the process of researching and confirming plans and more information will be announced later this summer.

Fr. Ivan Mina's Anniversary

The lodge celebrated Father's Day on Sunday, June 18 by recognizing the dads of the parish with carnation boutonnières and wishes for a great day. The following Sunday, June 25 was Father Ivan's 20th anniversary at Ascension Parish. A luncheon was held in his honor.

Trish Roberts | President



Marge Sedor, Fr. Ivan Mina, Trish Roberts, Helen Sowko, Julie Baumgardner and Joann Berchok.

Lodge 302
BRECKSVILLE, OH

Summer Fun

On the beautiful Northeast, OH Saturday evening of July 8, Lodge 302 members enjoyed an Akron Rubber Ducks double-header against the Altoona Curve at Canal Park in Akron, OH. After the game, there was a delightful display of fireworks. To see more information on the lodge's activities follow Lodge 302 on Facebook!

Diane Simpson | Publicity



Lodge 302 members at the Akron Rubber Ducks baseball game.

**UPCOMING
LODGE 302 EVENT**

**"The Addams Family: Do or Die"
Murder Mystery**

Saturday, November 4

6 PM Doors Open

Show starts at approx. 6:30 PM

Ticket price \$35

Includes appetizers & buffet dinner

Cash Bar-beer & wine (outside food & drinks are not permitted)

St. Joseph Byzantine Catholic Church New Orleans Party Center
Benefits the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation

Contact Judy Weitzel at jw1049@aol.com or 440-526-8395 or Diana Simpson at dilynnsi@yahoo.com or 330-205-0476

Lodge 316

PHILIPSBURG, NJ

Easter Brunch

Lodge 316 joined with SS. Peter & Paul Church to host an Easter Brunch for parishioners on Palm Sunday. The day included an Easter Egg Hunt for the children.

Helping Hands Day

Lodge 316 and SS. Peter & Paul Byzantine Church members met on Saturday, June 10 to work on the church grounds. This year the workers included six children all of whom worked very hard.

Flower beds were cleaned, flowers planted and borders placed around every bed. Last year the volunteers had planted perennials, so the flower beds were already in bloom. Keeping with

the previous year's plans, additional perennials were added as well as many annuals. Once everything was planted, mulch was spread in all the beds and around the shrubs. Shrubs were trimmed and the grass was mowed. The grounds looked beautiful! Donuts and bagels were available all morning as the workers took short breaks and had a chance to visit with each other.



Helping Hands volunteers.

The GCU Fraternal Grant Program contributed greatly to the success of Lodge 316's 8th consecutive Helping Hands Day.

Kathleen Meddaugh | Secretary Treasurer

Lodge 336

EUCLID, OH

Flag Day Celebration

On Sunday, June 11, Lodge 336 held a Flag Day celebration and coffee social for lodge members and parishioners. God Bless the USA!

Pat Comai | President



Lodge 340

RAHWAY, NJ

Flag Day Celebration

On Sunday, June 11, 2017, Lodge 340 sponsored the 7th annual Flag Day Celebration at St. Thomas the Apostle Church. Over 100 lodge members and parishioners met on the front lawn of the church after the Sunday Liturgy to celebrate our Flag. The program began with a prayer led by the Right Rev. Archpriest James G. Hayer. A new flag was raised by James Stasicky, a US Marine veteran. The group recited The "Pledge of Allegiance" and sang "God Bless America." Two special guests from the Rahway High School Marching Band, Xavior Lighter and Summer Thompson played "Taps" on the trumpet. Fr. Hayer then blessed the group with holy water. Patriotic colored refreshments were served in the patio room of the church. Flags and flag pins were provided by the GCU Home Office. Gloria Ryan and Joan Gautreau were co-chairs of the event.

CONTINUED



Flag Day celebration.

Lodge 340

CONTINUED

"God Bless America" was the late Anna Rudo's favorite song. She was one of Lodge 340's oldest members when she passed away on May 13, 2017 at the age of 97. She was born in Kiblary, Czechoslovakia and moved to NYC at the age of 20 and became an American citizen. Anna was the wife of John Rudo for 69 years, the mother of Joe Rudo, Ann Marie Howlett and Elizabeth Pentz, grandmother to 7 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren. Her son Joe and daughter Ann Marie are both members of Lodge 340 and Elizabeth is a member of GCU Lodge 254 in Hillsborough, NJ.

Mary Bannworth | President

Lodge 351

INDIANA, PA

Helping Hands Day

Helping Hands Day at St. Jude's Byzantine Catholic Church was held over several days during the month of June due to either it being too hot or too wet to work. Members of GCU Lodge 351, Theresa Frederick, Agnes Klyap, Nicholas Kowalski and Patty Yamrick worked with Ray & Ellen Kulis, and Father Jerome Botsko, pastor at St. Jude's, to plant flowers, spread mulch and pull weeds. Day lilies were purchased this year to help beautify the church grounds. Additional pachysandra were added to the hillside near the rectory to help with the erosion of the soil that occurs during rains.

Patty Yamrick | Publicity Director



The youth group are all smiles as they sell candy.

Lodge 390

MCKEES ROCKS, PA

Youth Group Spring Candy Sale

The Youth Group at Holy Ghost Church in McKees Rocks participates in a variety of social, religious and community service activities throughout the year. The group raises funds to attend the ByzanTEEN Youth Rally, held every two years.

GCU Lodge 390 consistently supports the youth of Holy Ghost parish. This spring a Sarris candy sale kicked off during the Paschal season. The lodge subsidized the purchase of the discounted Sarris candy that the youth sold throughout the community.

A profit of \$480.00 was matched by the GCU Home Office through the Matching Funds Program to provide a total of \$960.00 to the youth group.

Helping Hands Day

Every spring GCU Lodge 390 and Holy Ghost parish gather to spruce up the public areas and grounds. Outdoors the crew pulled all the dirt, weeds and plants from the sidewalks and curbs on the block surrounding the church and school buildings. Bags full of scattered litter were gathered and properly disposed of as well. The activity went on despite the light rain and threatening weather. Many in the community noticed and appreciated the cleaner look on the block after the event. Many thanks to the volunteers for this annual event.



CONTINUED

Lodge 390 CONTINUED

Flag Day June 14

Lodge 390 marked this year's Annual Flag Day with a short program in a light evening rain. Vice President Peter Kacsur welcomed members and guests reminding them to pray for those who serve our country and those who gave their lives defending the freedom the Flag represents. Lodge 390 service veterans raised the Flag and at 7 PM the assembly joined in the "Pause for the Pledge" originated in 1980 at the Star-Spangled Banner Flag House in Baltimore, MD. To conclude the program the assembly sang patriotic songs and a social followed.

Steve Puluka | Secretary Treasurer



Flag Day program with a patriotic cake.



Lodge 442 BOARDMAN, OH

"Month of Sundays" Fundraiser

Congratulations to the winners of the Lodge 442 Matching Funds fundraiser held every Sunday in May: Jeff Walsh, Tina Byzinak, Mary Beth Hayer and Sophie Cimino. Thank you to all lodge members and parishioners who supported the project which benefits the Building and Church Maintenance Fund of the lodge's host parish Infant Jesus of Prague Byzantine Catholic Church. Special thanks to Tillie Chachko and Ken Litwin who sold the most tickets. Two of the winners donated their winnings back to increase the Matching Funds total!

Flag Day Ceremony

A Flag Day ceremony was held on Sunday, June 11, 2017. The Divine Liturgy was celebrated for the parish & community military & civil servants past and present. Father Michael blessed new flags and a flag raising ceremony was held on the south church grounds following Liturgy. Guests included Lodge 252 of Youngstown, OH. Attendees enjoyed a light lunch, socializing and received additional patriotic information

regarding our nation's flag. Thank you to Lodge 442 President Tillie Chachko and Lodge 252 President Theresa Swindler, for their program as well as Ken Litwin, Mary Ellen Hritz and Mary Beth Hayer. A special thank you to those who have served our country.

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Lodge 442

CONTINUED

Parish Picnic

The annual parish picnic for Infant Jesus of Prague Byzantine Catholic Church was held on Wednesday, July 19. Great summer weather, good eats and socializing were enjoyed by all attendees. Highlights included favorite side dishes and desserts brought by parishioners, bocce & corn hole tournaments, a fundraiser and many gift card door prizes. The “guessing game” of number of summertime snacks in containers was especially fun and enjoyed by all ages.



September Matching Funds Project

Lodge 442 will be kicking off a Community Matching Funds Project for The Rescue Mission of the Mahoning Valley. The shelter exists to help anyone who needs food, shelter, safety and a second chance. The lodge will be helping to raise funds and awareness for the “Move the Mission” campaign. The campaign’s goal is to build a new building to house the growing needs of the community. In 2018, the Mission will have served the Mahoning Valley for 125 years. Contact lodge officers for further details in September.

Elaine Chachko | Activities Director



Lodge 625

CONEMAUGH, PA

Jackson Heritage Festival

Lodge 625 was quite busy during June and July preparing for the annual fundraiser at the Jackson Heritage Festival on July 14-16, 2017. Members were busy making pirohi, halupki, haluski and gobs to sale at the lodge’s booth. A Matching Funds grant has been applied to this fund raiser and all the funds benefit Holy Trinity Byzantine Catholic Church. The lodge thanks the Home Office for making the Matching Funds grant available.

Kennywood Park & Note

Members and their families attended the annual Byzantine Family Day at Kennywood Park on Thursday, July 27.

Lodge 625 members who have email addresses are asked to send an email to the lodge email address so that a distribution list can be compiled to keep members informed of upcoming events and activities. The lodge email address is: gculodge625@yahoo.com.

Georgia Lehman | Secretary Treasurer

UPCOMING LODGE 625 EVENTS

3rd Annual Member/Parish Picnic

Sunday, August 20
12 NOON

Highland Park, Johnstown, PA

GCU members & parish family are asked to bring a covered dish to share. The lodge will provide the meats, soda & paper products. There will be bingo & games for the kids.

Third Quarter Meeting

Sunday, August 27
following the 10:15 AM Liturgy

Holy Trinity Church Hall,
217 Fourth Street, Conemaugh, PA

Iconography Workshop

Friday, September 29
Saturday, September 30
Sunday, October 1

Cost is \$125 includes all materials
Deposit of \$25 due September 18

Holy Trinity Church
217 Fourth Street, Conemaugh, PA
Contact Georgia Lehman at 814-242-2083



Rita Benya & Mary Ann Pinto handle card party admissions.

More From Lodge 644

AKRON/BARBERTON, OH

Cowgirl Card Party

On Wednesday, June 21, Lodge 644 sponsored a very successful card party at St. Nicholas Parish in Barberton. With Matching Funds from the Home Office, a profit of \$2,849.⁹² was realized. It was inspiring to see the lodge members and parishioners work in various areas to bring it all together. These funds are earmarked to purchase music books for St. Nicholas Church.

Birthday Celebration

On Sunday, June 11, the parishioners gathered for a party at St. Nicholas honoring Irene Blike on her 90th birthday. A large cake was provided to be enjoyed by all. To everyone's delight, pastor Fr. Miron remarked that there must be a mistake since Irene doesn't look more than 70.

Congratulations Irene, best wishes for good health and happiness in the future. Fortunately, Jim and Tom, two of her four sons, were able to attend along with her grandsons. We are also pleased to note the large number of Blikes with Lodge 644 memberships.



Birthday girl Irene with Tom, Joe and Jim Blike.

Scholarship Recognition

The GCU offers annual scholarships to members and we congratulate Elizabeth Rau who is one of the Academic Performance Scholarship winners. She lives in Flushing, MI and is majoring in

Nutritional Science at Michigan State University. Lodge 644 offers wishes for a bright and successful future.

John Keblesh | Publicity Director



George Nagrant, Jim Van Kula, Bob Kulasa, Karen Kaufman, Steve Terlescki, Kim Kaufman, Gary Mozuras, Duane Vancil and Joanne Mozuras.

Lodge 860

DETROIT, MI

Lenten Fish Frys

The multi-year tradition of Lodge 860 teaming up with St. Nicholas Church in Clinton Township, MI for the parish's Lenten Fish Fry continued this year. The lodge was able to donate over \$3,000.⁰⁰ to the parish, earning the highest GCU Matching Funds amount allowed of \$1,500.⁰⁰.

Lodge Vice President George Nagrant led the kitchen crew of lodge members and parishioners. The delicious fried fish meals were served each Friday evening during the Great Fast. The meals were enjoyed by many folks who stayed for the Pre-Sanctified Liturgy following their meal.

Val Marszalec | Fraternal Director & Publicity Director

Greater Hazleton Regional Lodge

HAZLETON PA

The many woes of summer, hazy, hot & humid temperatures and thunderstorms have had a constant presence this year. Before you can blink an eye however, the season will be changing once again to an array of color. Hopefully, all had an enjoyable summer!

GHRL has been quite busy over the past few months.

Saturday, June 3 was Helping Hands Day at Holy Annunciation Monastery. The next day was Byzantine Family Day at Knoebels Park on Sunday, June 4. Sunday, June 18 was a bus trip to the Sands Casino. Saturday, July 15 was the annual Holupki Open golf tournament. Sunday, July 16 was a celebratory dinner in honor of the GCU's 125th Anniversary and Sunday, July 23 a trip to Hollywood Casino. The lodge's Matching Funds fundraiser also took place during the second quarter and was a huge success. Checks will be distributed to the recipients very shortly.

Bowling League Re-organization

The GCUer's Bowling League will be having a re-organization meeting on Wednesday, August 30 at Bowl-Arena. The regular season begins on Wednesday, September 6. If you are interested in bowling, come to the meeting and join in the fun.

Mother Marija's Anniversary

Congratulations are extended to Mother Marija and the Sisters at Holy Annunciation Monastery. They celebrated their 40th anniversary on June 27. May God grant them many more years.

"Joseph Durkay" Memorial Holupki Open

The 40th annual GCU "Joseph Durkay" Memorial Holupki Open golf tournament was held on Saturday, July 15 at White Birch Golf Course with a new format this year—a 4-person scramble. A field of 64 golfers participated in the event.

Winners included: Low Overall-Thom- as, Andy & John Chulock and Jimmy Curto. First Flight Winners: 1st Place-John Bubblo, Scott Schukraft, Ed Keil & Kevin Kneal. 2nd Place-Joe Petrole, Ed Lukas, Andy Fredley, & Lucky Luksavage. 3rd Place-Greg Sr., Greg Jr. & Mark Barkowski and Walter Rosiecki. Second Flight Winners: 1st Place: Gene Mancini, Dave Flamlery, Jeff Kowalick and Nick Reba. 2nd Place: Tom, Mike, Dave & Michael Sabol. 3rd Place: Tom Olex, Noah Napasteck, Damian Evanko and Dave Hall. Skill awards for closest to pin were: Ed Lukas, Josh Billman, Andy Fredley, Dave Hall, Andy Chulock and John Bubblo. Long Drive winners were: Chris Glessner, Josh Billman, Damian Evanko, Ed Lukas, Dave Hall and Justine Barthalomew.

A buffet dinner was served in the clubhouse and monetary awards were awarded to all the winners and door prizes were also given away. Thanks to the GCU for the grant, the give-aways (towels & sun-screen). All golfers also received golf balls from the lodge. Thanks to the hole sponsors and all volunteers who helped to make this event enjoyable.

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Volunteers at the Holupki Open are Mary Hoppey, Rick Hoppey, Deacon Larry Foran, Athletic Director Agnes Rohrbach, Judy Kringer, National Director Dorothy Ann Foran and Pat Gallagher.



Fr. Jerome Wolbert, OFM, Msgr. Nicholas Puhak, Fr. Gregory Hosler, Fr. Peter Donish and Deacon Larry Foran.

GCU 125th Anniversary Celebration Dinner

On Sunday, July 16 a group of 90 people met at Capriotti's to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the founding of the GCU. A delicious family style dinner was served.

There was a Tricky Tray fundraiser and a grand prize drawing of \$125.00 in cash.

Thanks to the Home Office for the mugs, and all the items and also the program booklet with the history of the GCU.

Many thanks to all the volunteers, those that donated tricky trays and helped make this celebration a real success.

Remember that sometimes dates are subject to change, and if you are unsure about a meeting or an event, please feel free to give me a call at 570-454-4869 or if you are computer savvy check out the GCU website for updates.

Until next time, take care and may God Bless.

Agnes Rohrbach | GHRL Secretary

Byzantine Day at Knoebel's Park

On Sunday, June 4, 2017 once again, Mother Nature did not cooperate with us. This is the second year in a row that the weather was dreary & damp for Byzantine Family Day at Knoebels Park, Elysburg, PA. The forecast was for a cloudy day until later in the afternoon, but lo and behold, it rained all day.

A bus was provided by GHRL to take people to Knoebels from Hazleton, PA. Once at the park, everyone headed to Pavilion A to receive their food tickets and ride tickets. A few of the people braved the weather and headed to the park to enjoy some of the rides and to go gift shopping.

Lunch was served by Knoebels, bingo games were played, the Moleben service was celebrated by Fr. Gary Mensinger and Deacon Larry Foran. A sing along was held and door prizes, courtesy of the GCU, were given out.

Thanks to the Home Office for the gift cards, the give aways and the prize money for bingo.

Agnes Rohrbach | Secretary & Athletic Director



Knoebels Park attendees.

UPCOMING GHRL EVENTS

Back to School Bowling Party

Sunday, August 27

1 PM

Bowl-Arena, West Hazleton, PA

Sands Casino Bus Trip

Sunday, September 17

"Jonah"

Saturday, September 23

Sight and Sound, Lancaster, PA

Hayride at Thomas Farms

Sunday, October 1

1 PM

Thomas Farms
556 St. John's Road
Drums, PA 18222

Fourth Quarter Meeting

Sunday, October 8

1 PM

SS Peter & Paul, Beaver Meadows, PA

Bus Trip (TBA)

Sunday, October 22

Fall Helping Hands Day

Saturday, October 28

9 AM

Holy Annunciation Monastery,
Sugarloaf, PA

Warm Heart-Cold Hands Clothing Drive

November 1-15

St. Nicholas Dinner

Sunday, December 3

1 PM

Capriotti's



Lodge members gather at Walking Trail for clean-up.

Lodge 945 DUNMORE, PA

Nature Trail Clean Up

Once the blizzard of 2017 in Northeastern PA melted and the flowers of spring sprung, Lodge 945 activities steamrolled into action. Beginning with the bi-annual clean up at Dunmore's Nature Walking Trail. Thanks goes out to Leo Sagan and George Kofel for organizing the day. Thank you to lodge members Boris & Cheryl Shihinski, Sharon & George Kofel, Myron Fedor, Chris Zayac, Brandon Shihinski, Topy Zayac, Leo Sagan and Paul Dunda who walked the trail to pick-up unwanted debris.

Remembering Mothers & Fathers

Mother's Day & Father's Day gifts were passed out at St. Michael the Archangel Byzantine Catholic Church in Dunmore on their respective weekends. The gifts were compliments of Lodge 945. Thank you to George & Sharon Kofel for distributing the gifts on Mother's Day weekend and Cheryl Shihinski & Topy Zayac for their efforts on Father's Day weekend.

Helping Hands Day

Lodge members joined forces with District 5 and Greater Hazleton Regional Lodge members for Helping Hands Day at Holy Annunciation Monastery in Sugarloaf, PA. Topy & Chris Zayac and Sharon & George Kofel all agreed it was a great time socializing while helping the Sisters with clean up and preparation. Following a morning of work, the Sisters provided lunch and some of their delicious home baked cookies.



George Kofel, Chris Zayac, Mother Marija, Sharon Kofel and Topy Zayac.



Tom Hurst and George Kofel at Flag Day.

Flag Day

The lodge's second annual Flag Day ceremony was on Sunday, June 11. Thank you to veteran Tom Hurst for leading those gathered in the Pledge of Allegiance. George Kofel presented some facts about Flag Day and the group proudly sang God Bless America. Attendees received a Flag and booklet with Flag Day history. Flags were also made available to St. Mary and St. John Byzantine Catholic Churches in Scranton, PA. The second quarter meeting was held following the Flag Day ceremony. Items discussed included a Matching Funds project to benefit Griffin Pond Animal Shelter. For additional information, please call Cheryl Shihinski at 570-383-2240 or George Kofel at 570-241-2256.

125th Anniversary Celebration

Lodge 945 is planning a GCU 125th Anniversary gathering for late September or early October. Please check the lodge webpage for updated details. Information will be mailed once plans are finalized. The next meeting will be held in conjunction with the anniversary celebration. Again, please check the GCU website, the Lodge 945 Facebook page and watch for a mailing via snail mail with information. Enjoy the rest of the summer.

Elsie Kolcun | Publicity Chairperson.

For Your Information

Events

3rd Annual Farewell to Summer Charity Golf Scramble

Saturday, September 23

1 PM Shotgun Start

\$100 per golfer or \$380 per foursome

Deadline Friday, September 15

Seven Oaks Country Club
132 Lisbon Road, Beaver, PA 15009

Benefits Variety-the Children's Charity
My Bike Program

Contact Basil Wahal at 724-683-3924

Fall Helping Hands Day at Holy Annunciation Monastery, Sugarloaf, PA

Saturday, October 28

9 AM

Contact Agnes Rohrbach at 570-454-4869

61st Annual St. Nicholas Charity Dinner

Sunday, December 3

Moleben at 4 PM

Dinner at 6 PM

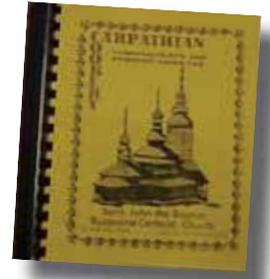
St. John the Baptist Cathedral Center
Munhall, PA

Benefits the Byzantine Catholic Seminary

Available

Carpathian Cookery Cookbook

Having sold over 17,000 copies, the cookbook has entered its 18th printing and was requested by the Library of Congress to be in their ethnic cooking collection. The 330-page cookbook has a new look and features a protective plastic cover. The book includes sections on Christmas and Easter customs and recipes, traditional Rusyn and Slavic foods, other ethnic dishes, and many other tried-and-true recipes of St. John's parishioners. There is a variety of paska bread and kolachi (filled roll) recipes, as well as meatless dishes and Lenten recipes, suitable for the Great Fast, as well as the Pre-Christmas Fast. The cost of the cookbook is \$14.⁰⁰ plus \$4.⁰⁰ postage and handling (\$18.⁰⁰). If ordering from Canada, please send a \$27.⁰⁰ U.S. Postal money order payable in U.S. dollars to reflect the difference in the exchange rate and postage cost. To order please send a check or money order to: Ethnic Craft Club, St. John Byzantine Catholic Church, 201 E. Main Street, Uniontown, PA 15401, call (724) 208-6771 (M-F 6-8 PM) or email carpathiancookery@gmail.com.



Deceased Members

(Lodge-Member-City-State)

83	Mary A. Adams, Ebensburg, PA	83	Robert F. Colclaser, Apollo, PA	401	Darla Hale, Cresson, PA
83	Agnes Adamsko, Albuquerque, NM	321	Collean Copney, Avonmore, PA	8358	Linda Hale, Eagle River, WI
351	Giovanna Aloise, Indiana, PA	271	Bonnie L. Craig, Riverside, IL	316	Selena Hando, Little Egg Harbour, NJ
8327	Helen C. Anderson, West Columbia, SC	83	Carol E. Crum, Duncansville, PA	8358	Lloyd E. Hansen, Whitewater, WI
83	Frank Andrews, Indiana, PA	8358	Kathleen Dalka, Rhinelander, WI	15	Julia Hatrak, Columbus, NJ
83	Mary Antoninka, Tarentum, PA	83	Evelyn Dawson, Toledo, OH	254	Margaret Havrilak, Bethlehem, PA
109	Walter Antoszyk, Butler, PA	83	Raymond Demko, Johnstown, PA	83	Edward Hayes, Simpsonville, SC
945	Lenore Arena, Scranton, PA	271	Kenneth Deraimo, Chicago, IL	8358	Constance A. Heilman, Galesville, WI
83	Julie Aulicino, Elizabeth, PA	2	Ronald A. Deutsch, Pittsburgh, PA	8344	Elizabeth J. Hemphill, Chicora, PA
66	Dorothy J. Bailey, Merrillville, IN	151	Peter Dietz, Staten Island, NY	83	Patricia A. Hicks, Salina, PA
255	Emil Barca, West Mifflin, PA	83	Florence DiNello, Beaver Falls, PA	8344	Donna M. Hoffa, Pottstown, PA
8304	Iva Barker, Anaheim, CA	83	Gladys Dodson, Hollidaysburg, PA	83	Theresa A. Hoffer, Bethlehem, PA
8304	Helen Barnard, Riverside, CA	8344	Florence J. Doran, Carnegie, PA	83	Joan Hoffman, Belle Vernon, PA
69	Nicholas J. Bartko, Ellicott City, MD	83	Kathleen Dougherty, Butler, PA	83	Thomas Hoffman, Belle Vernon, PA
83	Lucille Beck, State College, PA	321	Paul Drexler, Hostetter, PA	83	Ruby Holliday, Pittsburgh, PA
302	Ann Bidlencsik, Cleveland, OH	77	Kathryn Druga, Amherst, OH	999	William Hornyan, Chandler, AZ
83	Francis S. Blaszak, Summerville, SC	10	Marion Dufala, Aliquippa, PA	164	Frank Hoso, Warren, OH
69	John Bogda, West Mifflin, PA	8358	Kenneth Eichenbaum, Bayside, WI	83	Kathleen Huddy, New Brighton, PA
8304	Patricia Bohme, Laguna Woods, CA	271	Norman Epler, Plainfield, IL	8358	Danella Huppler, New London, WI
8358	Ernestine Boisits, Oak Creek, WI	182	John Evans, Kingston, PA	83	Evelyn Hutchison-McCrea, Spotsylvania, VA
83	Rose Bouch, Johnstown, PA	83	Harold Feather, Martinsburg, PA	77	Helen Ilcisko, Amherst, OH
321	Michael Boytim, New Cumberland, PA	83	Paul Fedorchak, Pittsburgh, PA	8358	Rose M. Iseli, Janesville, WI
288	George E. Branick, McKeesport, PA	8304	Leonard Fields, Long Beach, CA	8358	Byron G. Jevne, Madison, WI
83	Grace Broadt, Stroudsburg, PA	83	Francis D. Flaim, Pottsville, PA	8326	Virginia Kay, Waterford, MI
8304	Jacques Brodeur, Ontario, CA	83	Leona F. Flowers, Mineral Point, PA	8344	Elinor J. Keefer, Hopwood, PA
2	Joseph D. Brodmerkel, Imperial, PA	83	Sandra Gabauer, Beaver Falls, PA	83	Betty Jean Kiester, Clairton, PA
8344	Jessie M. Bugg, Sharon, PA	83	Dorothy V. Gaddess, Oil City, PA	83	Mary H. Kleintop, Lehighton, PA
83	Teofilo Burgos, Philadelphia, PA	8344	Helen M. Gallo, Stroudsburg, PA	83	Elizabeth Kochanek, Philadelphia, PA
83	Margaret Callender, Chicora, PA	83	Mary R. Gallo, Pittsburgh, PA	316	Helen Kolchak, Phillipsburg, NJ
994	Eugene Caputo, Freedom, PA	8344	Helen Marie Gates, Brownsville, PA	255	Linda Kortyna, Washington, PA
10	Denise Chapes, Aliquippa, PA	8344	Richard J. Gawlas, Armagh, PA	83	John Kozlowski, Philadelphia, PA
83	Evangeline M. Chase, Warren, PA	GHRL	Steven Gnall, Mahanoy City, PA	83	Nelda Krehling, Boothbay Harbor, ME
83	Anthony Christofano, Butler, PA	83	James Gould, Sigal, PA	83	Marion Kreisler, Berwick, PA
83	Jean Cihota, Uniontown, PA	83	Wesley R. Gould, Souderton, PA	164	Andrew Kresak, Neffs, OH
83	Anna M. Clark, Hollidaysburg, PA	386	Donna Govanucci, Pittsburgh, PA	83	Gloria L. Kuehl, Harrisburg, PA
999	Mary L. Clark, Peoria, AZ	288	Albert Gribshaw, Gibsonia, PA	81	Anna Kushner, The Villages, FL
		999	Gene G. Gunn, Tucson, AZ		

83	Gerald Kuzmick, Berkeley Hts, NJ	83	Beverly Osterholm, Murrysville, PA	83	Samuel Thomas, McKeesport, PA
8344	Patricia J. LaRue, Harleysville, PA	235	Elaine M. Pacinda, New Britain, CT	83	Erma Tortorella, Holicong, PA
8327	Helen D. Leba, Minneapolis, MN	83	Benny Palermo, Pittsburgh, PA	83	Carolyn M. Treme, East Butler, PA
66	Paul O. Leffew, Michigan City, IN	83	Kathleen Palermo, McKees Rocks, PA	401	R. Don Troxel, Portage, PA
8358	Sandra Lehr, DeForest, WI	8304	Douglas Park, Laguna Niguel, CA	8304	Ronald Ure, Vacaville, CA
271	Michael Leroy, Mount Prospect, IL	83	Thomas R. Parry, Hillsborough, NJ	360	William J. VanSuch, Campbell, OH
255	Virginia M. Lipchak, Mt. Pleasant, PA	83	Dorothy Pavlan, Long Valley, NJ	83	Mildred Veslany, Henderson, NV
83	David Loughery, Lansdale, PA	83	Dorothy J. Pletcher, Somerset, PA	8358	Margaret J. Volk, Blairsville, GA
945	John Lucas, Dunmore, PA	83	Carolyn Polito, Shelocta, PA	83	Ruth M. Volpi, King of Prussia, PA
321	Leonard Lucotch, Mt. Pleasant, PA	83	Madeline Power, Philadelphia, PA	8344	Florence M. Waizenegger, Pottsville, PA
83	George Lyczko, Glenshaw, PA	47	Mary Ann Randar, Endicott, NY	83	Mardell Walter, Tarentum, PA
83	Ruth L. Maerkle, South Park, PA	999	S. Christine Reed, Scottsdale, AZ	211	Florence Washo, Eynon, PA
321	Dorothy Mahoney, Latrobe, PA	83	Kathryn Rees, Butler, PA	52	Katherine Wasiecko, Upper St. Clair, PA
255	Gilbert Malek, Pittsburgh, PA	83	Donna Renfrew, Butler, PA	8358	Norman C. Wassmann, Appleton, WI
83	Winifred R Manzo, Beaver Falls, PA	57	Andy Resetar, Speers Hill, PA	53	Richard Weihbrecht, Wilkes-Barre, PA
945	Theresa Marek, Shelton, CT	83	Norma Jean Rodgers, Somerset, PA	83	Cecelia Weiss, Pottsville, PA
83	Owen Marshall, Temperance, MI	2	Ryan Baker Rohe, McMurray, PA	62	John M. Wesdock, Sterling, VA
52	Lois Martindale, Pittsburgh, PA	83	Margaret Ruderman, Colorado Springs, CO	83	Ralph Westerman, Sarver, PA
83	Constance Mastrogiacomio, Verona, PA	340	Anna Rudo, Clark, NJ	83	Frank K. Wilby, Philadelphia, PA
83	Margaret H. Matuza, Murrysville, PA	83	Helen K. Ruebel Thomas, Saltsburg, PA	83	Richard Willis, Pittsburgh, PA
53	Robert Mazur, Wayne, NJ	386	Margaret Rukavina, Russellton, PA	83	Harry S. Wilt, Uniontown, PA
8304	Alissa C. McFadden, Fountain Valley, CA	83	Gloria Salapek, Warren, PA	83	Herbert Wolfe, Brownsville, PA
83	Norman McGuire, Willow Street, PA	83	James Scala, Beaver Falls, PA	83	Florence Wyda, Adah, PA
945	Maureen McHugh, Pittsburgh, PA	83	Fred Schmitz, Fort Recovery, OH	83	Charles Yacono, Pittsburgh, PA
271	Timothy S. McIntyre, Freeport, IL	225	Joanna Shukal, Washington Crossing, PA	83	Mary E. Yeager, Penn Hills, PA
83	Thomas McKenna, Pittsburgh, PA	151	John Sikoryak, New York, NY	8344	Vernon E. Yingling, Delaware City, DE
83	Rebecca A. McKenzie, Edina, MN	83	Barbara J. Sinkus, Pittsburgh, PA	83	Raymond J. Yuhas, East Pittsburgh, PA
390	Earl McKinney, Natrona Heights, PA	47	George E. Skomsky, Berwick, PA	351	John Zbur, Indiana, PA
83	Norma Meyer, Howard, PA	254	William Skuba, Somerville, NJ	83	Genevieve S. Zulick, Warren, PA
83	James Middleton, Fairchance, PA	83	Frances Sluck, Frackville, PA		
994	Vincent Mikulski, Dickson City, PA	83	Joyce Smerilli, Monessen, PA		
83	Carol E. Miller, Howard, PA	83	Mary Sochko, Nutley, NJ		
10	Christopher Milne, Glenwillard, PA	77	John Socotch, Elyria, OH		
83	Joseph Misutka, Springdale, PA	945	Marie Swadeba, Dunmore, PA		
83	Marion Moody, Lady Lake, FL	321	Donald R. Swinehart, Apollo, PA		
83	Leidey J. Muffley, Bethlehem, PA	83	Helen Talling, New Britain, PA		
10	Mary C. Nyilyk, Las Vegas, NV	83	Alfred Taylor, Beaver, PA		
271	Robert Ohlson, Crete, IL				
83	Lorraine Olson, Irvine, PA				

Remembrances

John E. Timo Sr.

John E. Timo Sr., 101, of Bentleyville, PA passed away Monday, June 19, 2017 as a result of natural causes. He was a resident of Mt. Macrina Manor in Uniontown since December 2015.

He was born February 10, 1916 in Donora, a son of the late Michael & Mary Zukovich Timo.

Mr. Timo attended Donora schools and was a proud 1939 graduate of Duquesne University School of Pharmacy. As a drum major for the university band, he was given a partial scholarship, which enabled him to complete his studies. By then, his father was deceased and his mother, who came to the United States from what is today Eastern Slovakia, was of limited means.

In 1945, he opened a drug store in

Bentleyville, which operated for about 25 years. He eventually started working for the Pennsylvania Department of Health as a drug investigator, a job he enjoyed very much.

His wife, Helen Warholic Timo died in 2010 after 68 years of marriage.

Mr. Timo was a lifelong member of St. Michael Byzantine Catholic Church in Donora, proud of his Carpatho-Rusyn heritage and membership in the GCU. He contributed to those organizations, along with a scholarship fund for Duquesne University students and established the John & Helen Timo Foundation to support causes related to his heritage and faith.

The staff at Mt. Macrina Manor provided excellent care to Mr. Timo while he was a resident.

Surviving are three children, John

(Carmen) Timo Jr. and son Phillip of Daisytown, PA; Cathy Silvestri and daughter Maria of Pittsburgh and Peggy (Ross) Bell of Meadville.

Deceased, in addition to his parents and wife, are two daughters, Barbara and Susan Timo.

Family and friends were received at Greenlee Funeral Home in Bentleyville. A Funeral Liturgy was celebrated by Rev. Stephen Wahal at St. Michael Byzantine Catholic Church in Donora. Interment followed in St. Michael Cemetery, Donora.

Memorial contributions can be made to St. Michael BC Church, Donora, PA; Sisters of St. Basil at Mt. St. Macrina in Uniontown; or Duquesne University.

Eternal memory and blessed repose.

Eugene Tarabek

Eugene Tarabek, 85, past president of the former District 1 and a popular GCU member of the lodge, district and national levels, died on July 6, 2017 following an extended illness. Gene was a member of Greenfield-Pittsburgh Lodge 255 (formerly Lodge 46) and a staunch supporter of its activities.

Twelve years to the day of his death was the loss of his beloved wife, the late Florence (Gulyasy). When Gene Tarabek married Flo, he was the "outsider" among the GCU-powerful Gulyasy family, one deeply steeped in GCU history and tradition. Gene fit nicely into the Gulyasy family and into the GCU fraternal family as he and Flo grew a family of their own, first in the Pittsburgh area and then when his work so required, in the state of Indiana. Separated from mainstream GCU and District 1 activities, Gene faithfully attended the GCU National Bowling Tournaments throughout his years in Indiana, coming back to join his Pittsburgh/District 1 bowler friends. When he retired, his family moved back to the Pittsburgh area and he assumed a more "full time" status in GCU fraternal events on the lodge, district and national levels.

He enjoyed a healthy and active retirement and devoted countless hours to GCU fraternal and social activities. Lodge 255 welcomed him back home as did District 1 where he served as athletic director from 1996-2002. In 2002 he became District 1's president and spearheaded an active agenda. Together with his officers he compiled a District 1 History which they presented to members with a PowerPoint video presentation that

included several hundred photos. Members found the narrative and accompanying photos to be equally informative and entertaining.

Later in 2016 when changing times, lifestyles and member preferences became apparent, District 1 members chose to "retire" the district concept after 97 years. They marked the occasion with a festive banquet, commemorative booklet and video presentation. When the GCU Home Office Fraternal Communications Department staff members prepared the booklet and video, it was Gene Tarabek's team of officers research and photo collection that provided much of the content material.

On the national level, Gene Tarabek represented his lodge and district as a delegate to numerous National Conventions. He would serve on Convention Committees, adding his organizational and people skills to assist in the overall smooth operations of proceedings.

Surviving are daughters Deborah A. (Brian) Meyer, of Apex, NC, Judy L. Tarabek, of Pittsburgh, and Lori A. Tarabek, of Pleasanton, CA; grandchildren Richard T., Allison K., Jason D. and Francesca M.; great-grandchildren Kinley, Haley and Bristol; sisters MaryJane (Richard) Davies, Elaine Silinski; sister-in-law Jean Tarabek; nieces and nephews. In addition to his wife he was preceded in death by a sister Louise Lippai, and brother Rudolph Tarabek.

The Funeral Mass was celebrated in the Holy Spirit Church of West Mifflin, PA.

Eternal memory and blessed repose.

Sr. Leona Trudich, OSBM

“Let the faithful rejoice in glory, shout for joy and take their rest.” These words sung at the Divine Liturgy were in our hearts on the morning of Sister Leona’s falling asleep in the Lord on June 20. After 81 years of faithful service to the Lord, she surely deserved both the glory and the rest, and while we could not picture her “shouting,” we could certainly share in her joy.

Sister Leona was born in the village of Hrabske in what was then Czechoslovakia, the daughter of the late John & Mary (Hrabar) Trudich. She entered the Sisters of St. Basil the Great from St. John the Baptist Church in Lansford, PA on June 23, 1936 at the tender age of 16, and she made her Solemn Profession of Vows on November 30, 1944.

Sister Leona served from Chicago to the East coast in the ministry of education as principal, teacher and catechist. During her long academic career, fortified by both a B.S. and M.S. in Education, she taught in 18 schools. When teaching was no longer an option, Sister Leona served in parish ministry in the Hazleton area before retiring to the monastery in 2005. There she looked forward to participating daily in the prayer and activities of the Sisters. One could always depend on meeting Sister in the halls with her rosary beads in her hand.

Sister Leona carried this same spirit of prayerfulness with her when she became a resident at Mt. Macrina Manor in 2013. Her Vespers book was well-used, as she prayed it from cover to cover because she said, “the prayers are so beautiful!” At the age of 82, together with her good friend, Sister Leonora, who preceded her in death by several weeks, she took up learning

to play the violin, and both Sisters were featured in the local newspaper lauding their taking this step in their mature years.

Sister Leona wanted to be remembered for her love of teaching, her love for her parents and family and for her spirit of trust, love and gratitude to the Sisters. To this she added forgiveness and “many thanks to everyone.” Those who knew her or who worked with her would add the qualities of kindness and thoughtfulness of others. As one of the clergy noted, Sister Leona was the perfect person to be at the Welcome Table during Pilgrimage, as she was always ready to greet each pilgrim with a smile.

In his homily, Archbishop William reflected on Sister Leona’s nurturing of the young throughout her many years of teaching. Most importantly, she taught the children about Jesus, the Bread of Life, the Eucharist, which nurtures and strengthens us for the journey of life. This is where Sister Leona found her strength, and surely, this is why, when the Lord came to call her, her face lit up with a big smile.

Sister Leona was the last surviving member of her immediate family, having been preceded in death by her parents and her sisters Mary Bujnak, Anna Oross and Julia Dotsey. In addition to her community, she is survived by several nieces and nephews and their families.

The Parastas Service was celebrated by Monastery Chaplain, Rev. Michael Huszti. In attendance was Very Rev. Ronald P. Larko. The Funeral Divine Liturgy was celebrated by Archbishop William C. Skurla with Rev. Michael Huszti as concelebrant. Assisting was the Very Rev. Andrew Deskevich. In attendance were Very Rev. Archpriest John G. Petro and Very Rev. Ronald P. Larko.

May God grant to his handmaiden, Sister Leona, eternal memory and peaceful repose.

John J. Romanko

John Romanko, 94, Johnstown, PA died July 3, 2017 at Arbutus Park Manor. He was born on November 8, 1922 in Johnstown, PA. Son of John B. & Mary (Hopey) Romanko. Preceded in death by parents, brothers Michael and Charles; sisters Mary Dubosky, Anna Ondreyik and Elizabeth Romanko and a brother and sister in infancy.

Survived by his wife of 66 years, the former Mary Dubay, children Robert (Pamela) Romanko of Coos Bay, OR, Mary Ann (James) Spontak of Etters, PA, Joan (Thomas) Hoenninger of Blue Bell, PA, David (Tamara) Romanko of Hurricane WV and Monica (Thomas) Papuga of Johnstown, PA. He is also survived by 11 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren and a brother Paul (Frances) Romanko of Johnstown, PA.

John was a member of Holy Trinity Byzantine Catholic Church and Conemaugh/Franklin American Legion. John enjoyed camping, fishing, golfing, bowling and the art of painting pysanky eggs. He was an avid fan of the Pittsburgh Penguins. He enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren.

He was retired from Bethlehem Steel Corp. and served in the US Army Air Force during World War II. Divine Liturgy was held Friday, July 7 at Holy Trinity Church with Father Robert F. Oravetz as celebrant. Interment took place at Holy Trinity Cemetery. John was a member of the GCU Lodge 625 and a former Athletic Director for GCU District 4. John participated in many National GCU golf and bowling tournaments.

Eternal memory and blessed repose.

Sr. Leonora Kondrach, OSBM

As peacefully and quietly as she lived, so was Sister Leonora’s departure from this life into the embrace of the Lord on the evening of the first of June. Her gentle spirit, her quiet ways and her sweet smile are how one will always remember her.

The daughter of the late Michael & Margaret (Havrilla) Kondrach, Sister Leonora (Irene) was born in Hazleton, PA. She entered the Sisters of St. Basil the Great from St. Mary’s Church in Freeland, PA on July 4, 1946 and made her Final Profession of Vows on Aug. 28, 1953.

Sister Leonora dedicated over 50 years of her religious life to the ministry of teaching on the primary level, and her love of teaching is one of the ways she wanted to be remembered. In addition to being a teacher, Sister also served as principal. This much-loved ministry was interrupted by a span of five years, when Sister Leonora went on to serve in parish ministry. Teaching, however, was still in her heart, and she readily went on to

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Michael Kovach

Michael Kovach, 96, of Canfield, OH passed away Sunday, February 5 at his home surrounded by his family. Michael was born June 24, 1920 in Campbell, OH. Mr. Kovach was a machinist with City Machine and Welding and later with City Machine Technologies when the company was purchased by his son, Michael, in 1985. Michael was a member of the GCU since 1936.

Michael proudly served in the United States Navy in both World War II and the Korean Conflict. He continued demonstrating his love for his country at age 85 until his death by making and distributing hundreds of handmade cross-stitched bookmarks to active duty service men and women serving around the world through Dyess Air Force Base in Texas. Mr. Kovach received many sincere letters and tokens of gratitude from the service people who had received his bookmarks. One gift, an American flag which was flown over Afghanistan in honor of Veteran's Day 11-11-11, was proudly displayed in his home.

Michael always valued education and instilled that love in all his children and grandchildren. At the age of 92, Michael received his own diploma from Boardman High School in a Veterans Day ceremony honoring his sacrifices.

The Catholic Church was very important to him all through his life. His father was a founding member of SS. Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Church in Struthers, OH and was cantor for over 30 years. Michael followed in his footsteps and was a cantor there for over 20 years. Two brothers, the late Rev.

John and Rev. Blaise Paul, were priests in the Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh. Michael's love of his church was demonstrated in the dozens of replica wooden Byzantine churches he made, the kind carried by early immigrants to parishioners' homes at Christmas. Included in the authentic renderings are hand-made altars, pews, lathe-turned brass chalices and candleholders. They are intricate pieces of art.

Michael is survived by his wife of 66 years, Veronica Kovach, nee Guidos, whom he married on June 1, 1950 and four children; Dr. Rosemary (Robert) Wallace of Texas; Michael Kovach (the late Joan Puharich Kovach) of Canfield; Maureen (Tim) Newell of Boardman, OH and Dr. Christine Kovach of Twinsburg, OH. Michael was also the proud grandfather of seven grandchildren and two great-granddaughters. He also is survived by three sisters, Margaret Haas of California, Ann Agnesi and Jean Kana, both of Campbell, OH. Six siblings preceded Michael in death: Fr. John, Fr. Blaise Paul, George, Joseph, Edward and Mary D'Sidocky.

In recognition of his cantor status, Very Reverend Richard Lambert and Rev. David Shortt conducted part of the Parastas in Old Slavonic at St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church, Youngstown, OH. Michael was laid to rest at St. John's Cemetery in Lowellville, OH.

Eternal memory and blessed repose.

Sr. Leonora Kondrach, OSBM

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serve as a teacher's aide at St. Mary's in Cleveland.

One would think that after a half-century, Sister would be ready to sit back and relax, but this was not so. On returning to the Monastery in Uniontown, Sister Leonora volunteered to help Sister Petronilla in pastoral ministry at the Manor. Here, her cheerful countenance, her pleasing personality, and her encouraging words were welcomed by the many residents she visited or with whom she prayed. Even when she herself became a resident, she continued to visit and spread cheer until serious illness prevented her from doing so. Another way for which she wanted to be remembered was a spirit of trust and compassion, and this Sister surely expressed not only at the Manor but during her many years as a teacher.

Sister Leonora also had a love for music and one of her favorite ways of relaxing was to play the piano. On any given day, she could be found or heard indulging in this recreation. In her later years, she also took up learning to play the violin, and her teacher in the Hazleton area has fond memories of the enjoyment both Sister Leonora and Sister Leona took in this activity.

In his homily at the Funeral Divine Liturgy, Very Rev. Andrew Deskevich noted that in life there are heroic people whose

vision of life has been different from that of many of us. Their way of life and their work has brought blessing on sick people, on old people, on young people. This was Sister Leonora, a sign of hope for us, now experiencing the fullness of life for which we all hope. In closing, Father prayed, "Thank you, Lord, for giving us such a faithful example of what it means to be Your follower. Thank you for giving us a faithful servant; thank you for giving us a gentle, courteous, prayerful woman. Thank you for the privilege that was ours of knowing her and living in the same family, the same community, the same world with her." This prayer and these words were borne out in the many stories shared at Sister's wake and funeral as well as by those who cared for her at the Manor, her final place of ministry.

Sister Leonora was preceded in death by her parents and her brother John. In addition to her members in community, she is survived by her sister Dolores (John) Kanuck, her sister-in-law Susan Kondrach, a nephew and several nieces.

The Parastas Service was celebrated by Rev. Michael Huszti, Monastery Chaplain. In attendance were Very Rev. Archpriest John G. Petro and Very Rev. Ronald P. Larko. The Funeral Divine Liturgy was celebrated by Very Rev. Andrew Deskevich with Rev. Michael Huszti as concelebrant. In attendance were Very Rev. Archpriest John G. Petro, Very Rev. Archpriest Michael Hayduk (who was her student back in 1957); Rev. James A. Spontak and Rev. Stephen J. Wahal.

May God grant to his handmaiden, Sister Leonora, eternal memory and peaceful repose.

GCU & SCS (Slovak Catholic Sokol) 2017 National Bowling Tournament Results

The complete list of scores and prizes appears on the GCU website at www.GCUusa.com.

Men's Team Event

1. Group 7-SCS (H).....3071
2. Run Rats-GCU (H).....3053
1. Club Lanes-GCU (A).....2565

Men's Doubles Event

1. John Moyer/Terry Lindner-SCS (H) 1617
2. Matt Hoenninger/Ryan Papuga-GCU (H) 1607
1. Tom Hoenninger/Matt Hoenninger-GCU (A) 1344

Men's Singles Event

1. Matt Hoenninger-GCU (H)..... 848
2. Tom Hoenninger-GCU (H)..... 825
1. Tom Hoenninger-GCU (A) 750

Men's All Events

1. Terry Lindner-SCS (H)..... 2442
2. Matt Basl-GCU (H) 2414
1. John Niskach-GCU (A)2085

Women's Team Event

1. Barberton Bowlers-SCS (H) 2551
2. Mixed Up-SCS & GCU(H)..... 2419
1. Just Friends-GCU (A).....1836

Women's Doubles Event

1. Karen Bakita/Carol Macko-SCS (H).....1351
2. Amy Degnan-Blasco/Bernadette Jacob-SCS (H) .1300
1. Karen Bakita/Carol Macko-SCS (A).....1075

Women's Singles Event

1. Karen Bakita-SCS (H).....669
2. Dorothy Bakalar-SCS (H)658
1. Melanie Basl-GCU (A).....576

Women's All Events

1. Karen Bakita-SCS (H).....2114
2. Carol Macko-SCS (H).....1938
1. Melanie Basl-GCU (A).....1741

(H) is Handicap Event score.

(A) is Actual Event score.

Bowlers are only eligible to win one prize per event and are paid the prize with highest monetary amount.



2017 National Junior Bowling Tournament —Official Results—

Girls Champions

Age	Games	Name	Lodge	Score
2-3	(1-Bumper)	Natayla Bartko	109	108
4-5	(2-Bumper)	Madelyn Bartko	109	181
6-7	(2-Bumper)	Lauren Shemanski	GHRL	161
8-9	(3)	Sarah Butchko	252	270
10-12	(3)	Sarah Grerco	GHRL	272
13-15	(3)	Emma Bost	255	395
16-18	(3)	Leeann Harris	255	371

Girls High Game

Age	Name	Lodge	Score
2-3	Natayla Bartko	109	108
4-5	Madelyn Bartko	109	106
6-7	Lauren Shemanski	GHRL	98
8-9	Sarah Butchko	252	102
10-12	Amelia Mills	47	124
13-15	Emma Bost	255	142
16-18	Leeann Harris	255	147

Boys Champions

Age	Games	Name	Lodge	Score
2-3	(1-Bumper)	Parker Niskach	255	59
4-5	(2-Bumper)	Archer Brown	625	179
6-7	(2-Bumper)	Reese Mills	83	194
8-9	(3)	Zachary Fetchko	GHRL	332
10-12	(3)	Ethan Alleman	994	484
13-15	(3)	Michael Fekete	321	493
16-18	(3)	Austin Malutic	442	456

Boys High Game

Age	Name	Lodge	Score
2-3	Parker Niskach	255	59
4-5	Dylan Lehman	625	102
6-7	Reese Mills	83	106
8-9	Michael Popovich	10	123
10-12	Ethan Alleman	994	187
13-15	Michael Fekete	321	201
16-18	Austin Malutic	442	171

FAREWELL TO SUMMER



SEVEN OAKS
COUNTRY CLUB

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

1:00 PM SHOTGUN START

GOLFERS \$100
FOURSOME \$380

DINNER GUEST \$30
TEE SPONSOR \$50
PRIZE SPONSOR \$25



Download registration form:
GCUusa.com/events

Call 800-722-4428 ext 3924
for more information