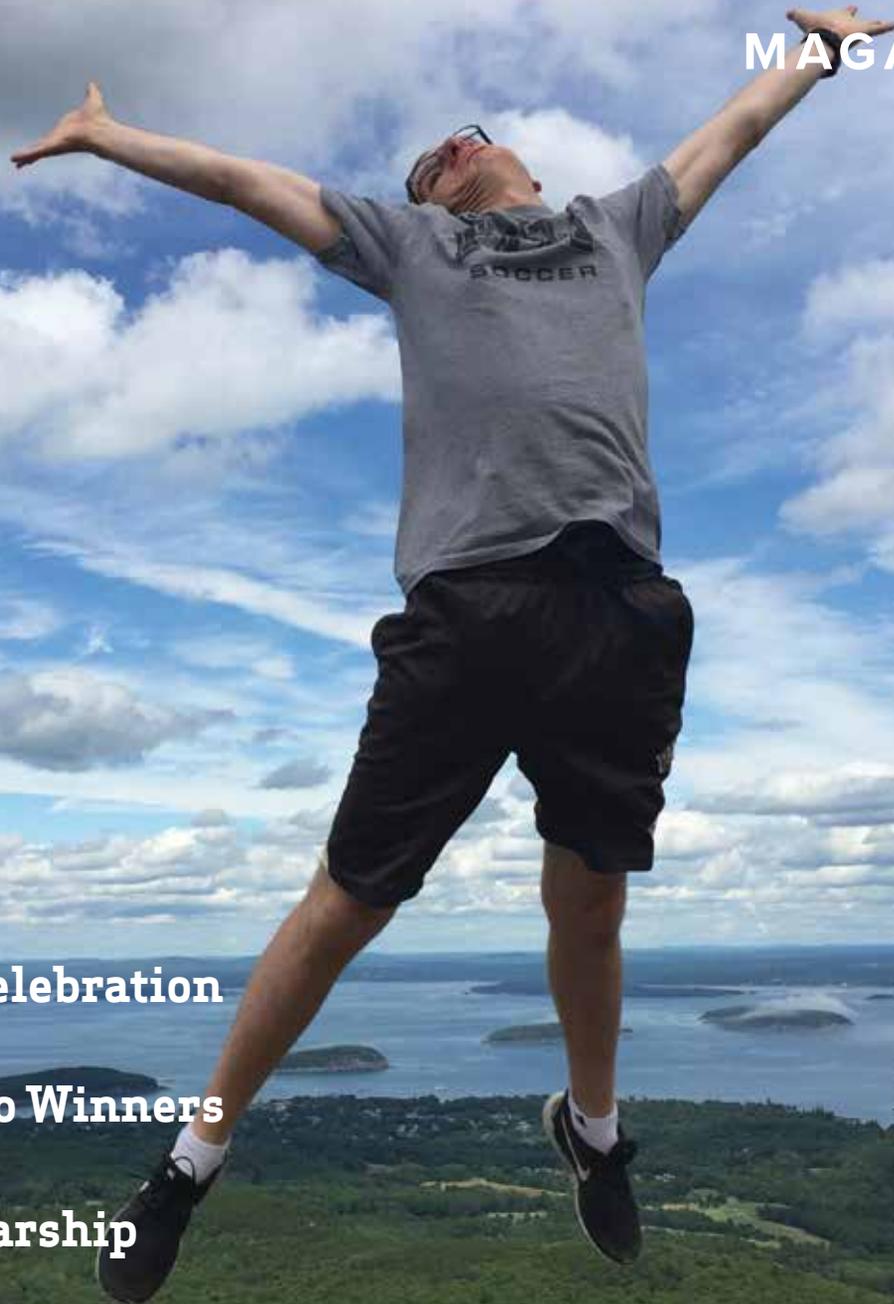


JUNE 2017

GCU



MAGAZINE



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Editor

Basil M. Wahal,
Managing Editor

On Our Cover: The winning photo from the GCU Photo Contest Age 19-23 group. All winners appear on page 9 of this issue. *Photo by Hannah Goodnight*

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George N. Juba
President
CEO

Celebration

“Celebrate”—to observe (a day) or commemorate (an event) with ceremonies or festivities. There are numerous days and events we celebrate over the course of our lifetime, some personal such as our birthday, the birth of a child and many other achievements we attain, some religious such as Christmas and Easter, some governmental such as national holidays, i.e. Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Veterans Day, etc. I am sure we can research the Internet and find that each and every day there is an observance or a reason to celebrate.

Although I am not one to call attention to myself, and being a modest individual, I tend to give accolades to others in celebration of my personal and business achievements. As we recently celebrated Mother’s Day on May 14 and will be honoring our fathers on June 18, I dedicate most of my success to my parents, they molded me into the individual I am and guided me throughout my entire life, no matter at what age I was. As both of my parents are now deceased, I do miss them dearly and think about them often. I am sure that you as well may have been fortunate to have had the same type of caring parents that I had. So please be sure to always **“Celebrate”** in honoring

your Mother and Father, their parental bond and the many memories they have created for us that will always be cherished!

The GCU also has a reason to **“Celebrate”**! May 6, 2017 featured an event held at Seven Oaks Country Club to **“Celebrate”** the GCU’s 125th Anniversary as our Society was founded on February 14, 1892. We are so thankful to the over 230 GCU members and guests that attended in honoring this historic milestone. A special thank you to each of our program participants. Photos of the event and highlights of the program that was held are published on page 6 for your enjoyment. A special thank you to Basil Wahal, GCU Fraternal Communications Director and Stephanie Yackovich, GCU Membership and Community Relations Manager and the entire staff of the GCU and Seven Oaks that contributed to the overwhelming success of this event.

The continued financial success of our Society gives us another reason to **“Celebrate”**! Our first quarter of 2017 financial results have been completed. The GCU’s assets and surplus continue to grow with assets now totaling \$1.559 billion with surplus reaching \$113 million. Net income

also remains strong at \$6.6 million which is the primary factor contributing to our surplus growth. I invite you to review the detailed financial report by the GCU’s Chief Financial Officer, Tim Demetres, located on page 3.

The GCU has been truly blessed with the past and current successes we have experienced. However, we must be continually cognizant of the ever changing economic and financial markets and society itself. Change is never easy as we tend to get complacent and comfortable especially when the “going is good”! I recently attended a conference regarding the need to change whether it involves governance, operations or any other aspects within an organization. The presenter made a statement that resonated with absolutely everyone – “You should never be shackled by your legacy”!

We have recently taken significant action to further become a 21st Century Fraternal Benefit Society. Our initial steps include the changing of our Society’s name to “GCU” and our recently launched branding initiative which introduced a new logo and fresh new contemporary look to each of our communication pieces. The April Annual Report issue of the GCU Magazine was your initial introduction to our “new look.” We have received very excellent feedback from many of our members on the new format of the magazine. We also launched the GCU’s new website in May which we invite you to take a peek at – www.gcuusa.com. We have received rave reviews from our members and agents on our updated website as well. Further enhancements to our website will include improvements to our existing agent portal, the development of a member portal and improved online accessibility to additional detailed information on each of your GCU accounts.

We continue to address the challenges

The continued financial success of our Society gives us another reason to “Celebrate”!

we are faced with in having more of our members engaging in the fraternal aspects of the GCU. We are aware that many of our members and potential members support a variety of charitable and benevolent initiatives. We will focus on developing programming that will support each of our members' interests in volunteering and providing financial assistance to their own individual causes. One such program that is currently available under this format is the GCU's GoGive Program! Please visit the GCU's website - www.gcuusa.com - under Giving Back for additional details about this program. We are also launching the GCU's Cause of the Quarter as we have chosen Variety-the Children's Charity as our third quarter initial organization for this program.

Learn more about Variety in the "My Bike" article on page 7 of this issue. Additional information will be presented on the GCU's website on how you may support or get involved in a local Variety tent in your area. The GCU's Board of Directors and our Fraternal and Communications Department will continue to address this challenge and develop further programming in an attempt to get more of our over 50,000 members involved with the fraternal aspects of our Society.

The Board of Directors and our Fraternal Communications Department will always continue to support our local lodges and districts in each and every way possible. Our lodges and districts continue to conduct many outstanding activities in support of our Byzantine Catholic parishes and their communities. We invite you to review the Fraternal and Community Sections of

this magazine that promotes the many activities our lodges and districts conduct in support of the GCU's mission.

I will start to conduct a second wave of meetings to address the Regional Lodge Concept for our lodges and districts to consider in our administration's ongoing effort to further strengthen our existing lodge structure.

In closing, my sincere thank you to our entire membership and our agent force that play a most integral part of our Society's success. We thank you for the business you have placed with the GCU and we pledge our continued support in servicing your needs that will exceed your expectations. My best wishes to you and to your family for a fun, safe and memorable summer season. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Goodness is Great!



2016 Annual Fraternal Report

Charity and caring for each other is the foundation of our lodges and the GCU. While our members and staff do good because it's the right thing to do and it makes them feel good, it has become imperative to put those acts into trackable quantifiable figures.

Lodges are required to submit quarterly reports (and this year an end of year survey) to tell us about their events and volunteer hours. Thank you to lodge officers and members for not only being charitable, but holding meetings, organizing events, and reporting to us.

This year's fraternal report is slightly different than before; it is broken into only two categories that reflect the new reporting system lodges are following.

Community Service is defined as assisting those in need or improving the community-at-large. Social activities that benefit a charity or cause are considered community service.

Fraternal Fellowship & Support is defined as social, educational, cultural, religious, recreational, or patriotic activities as well as activities necessary to maintain the local lodge, personal development of members, or those that advance our mission or build

fellowship among members.

In a world with many distractions, our members should be proud to be part of an organization that puts God, family and community at the top of the list.

Stephanie Yackovich | Membership & Community Relations Manager

GCU Annual Fraternal Report

Community Service	1127 events
Fraternal Fellowship and Support	349 events
Total Volunteer Hours	119,915
Matching Funds Donations—Lodges & Districts (GCU Contribution-\$113,660.00)	\$291,907.00
Parish Expansion Matching Funds Donations (GCU Contribution-\$10,842.00)	\$70,657.61



Atty. John J. Urban

Lessons in the Law

Who Knows Where They Are?

Most people have no idea where their important documents are - and that's a problem if they pass away or become incapacitated.

People don't tell anyone where to find their four documents (their will, powers of attorney for healthcare and finances, and their living will). Then they end up dying and nobody knows where anything is. You need to make sure you tell someone where to find your papers.

The other thing you need to do is make sure that you have your documents stored in the right place. And, no, a safety deposit box is not the right place.

Those papers should be kept in a fire box or some other secure container somewhere dry in your home. A lot of people make the mistake of putting these important documents in a safe deposit box only to die and make it impossible for anyone to gain access to them. A bank is not going to let anyone into the box, even if there is an executor to the will or someone joint on the bank account. If your name isn't on the safe deposit box, you aren't getting into it without going through a whole lot of expensive trouble.

If you don't know where your documents are, then it's time to have new ones created. And if your important papers are more than five years old, it's time to have them updated.

Copies of your important documents are a nice reference and you can give them to someone close if you'd like, but they can't be used in any official capacity. I caution people who are considering giving someone copies to think about whether that person would be offended if there was a change. It's a personal choice.

A lot of people make the mistake of putting these important documents in a safe deposit box only to die and make it impossible for anyone to gain access to them.

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





Tim Demetres
Chief Financial Officer
CFO

First Quarter 2017 Financials

GCU is committed to serving our members and certificate holders. As we approach the mid-way point in 2017, it is my pleasure to report on the strong financial achievements for the three months ended March 31, 2017. Highlights of the first quarter are as follows:

Our financial strength is at an all-time high. The first quarter continues to show spectacular financial results with Net Income totaling \$6.555 million compared to Net Income of \$6.270 million in 2016 and surplus now stands at \$113.2 million compared to \$108.5 million at year-end 2016.

Assets totaled \$1.599 billion, an increase of \$48.9 million or 3.2% from year end 2016 that totaled \$1.550 billion. This increase can be attributed to continued positive cash flow from strong life and annuity sales and growth in investment earnings.

Liabilities grew by \$44.3 million to \$1.486 billion for the first quarter of 2017 compared to \$1.441 billion as of December 31, 2016. This increase is due primar-

ily to higher life and annuity reserves of \$41.2 million from increased sales; \$1.7 million payable for securities purchased not yet settled and a \$1.4 million increase in the Asset Valuation Reserve.

Total Income increased \$8 million or 9.6% to \$91.4 million compared to \$83.4 million in 2016. The increase is primarily due to strong life and annuity sales increasing by \$6.2 million and net investment income by \$1.4 million from our growing fixed income portfolio.

Operating expenses before the change in reserves increased \$6.4 million or 16.7% for the first three months of 2017 and totaled \$44.8 million compared to \$38.4 million in 2016. The increase is primarily due to higher annuity paid benefits of \$5.1 million and higher commissions paid to producers of \$1.1 million. We continue to control our general insurance expenses which were consistent with the

first quarter of 2016 at \$1.7 million.

The increase in Reserves for Life and Annuities for the three months totaled \$40.5 million compared to \$38.5 million in 2016. Reserves are established on new premiums and the emergence of claims.

Financial strength and stability is a foundational pillar of GCU. Surplus now stands at \$113.2 million compared to 2016 year-end surplus of \$108.5 million. The \$4.7 million increase in surplus for the three months ended March 31, 2017 is primarily attributable to net income of \$6.5 million reduced by a \$1.4 million increase in the Asset Valuation Reserve and the change in net unrealized losses of \$0.5 million.

Total surplus is the amount we set aside for unexpected losses from operations and financial protection against business volatility. Safety Funds that includes Surplus of \$113.2 million, Interest Maintenance Reserves of \$18.1 million, and Asset Valuation Reserve of \$19.0 million totaled \$150.3 million for the first quarter of 2017. This is an increase of \$24.3 million compared to Safety Funds reported as of March 31, 2016. In addition, the solvency ratios for the three months of 2017 are 107.7 and 110.4 that includes Special Reserves, Asset Valuation Reserves (AVR) and Interest Maintenance Reserves (IMR). These ratios reflect a strong and stable balance sheet.

Summer is upon us, enjoy!

Summary of Financial Statistics

<i>(000's omitted)</i>	<u>3/31/17</u>	<u>3/31/16</u>	<u>Change</u>
Assets	\$1,598,872	\$1,407,809	\$191,063
Total Income	91,414	83,220	8,194
Total Operating Expenses	85,290	76,906	8,384
Net Income	6,555	6,270	285
Surplus	113,165	96,250	16,915
Asset Valuation Reserve	18,973	13,032	5,941
Interest Maint. Reserve	18,151	16,762	1,389
Surplus & Spec. Reserves	150,289	126,044	24,245
Normal Solvency Ratio	107.6	107.4	0.23
Solv. Ratio/Special Reserves	110.4	109.9	0.52

Reconciliation of Change in Surplus

<i>(000's omitted)</i>	<u>3/31/17</u>
Surplus Previous Year 12/31/16	\$108,532
Net Income	6,555
Change in Unrealized Gain/(Loss)	146
GCU Holding Company & Other	(671)
Change in Non-Admitted Assets	19
Change in Asset Valuation Reserve	(1,416)
Net Change in Surplus	4,633
Ending Surplus 03/31/17	\$113,165

GCU INCOME STATEMENT

Three Months 2017 vs. 2016

INCOME (000's omitted)	3/31/2017	3/31/2016	Change
Life Premium	\$ 2,057	\$ 428	\$1,629
Annuity Premium	63,235	59,288	3,947
Annuity Exchanges	4,484	3,824	659
Accident & Health	142	40	102
Sub Total	69,918	63,580	6,337
Net Investment Income	20,213	18,850	1,363
Amort. of Int. Maint. Resrv.	586	633	(47)
Commission—Reinsurance	599	185	414
Other	98	172	(74)
Total Income	\$91,414	\$83,420	\$7,994

EXPENSES

Death Benefits	\$ 509	\$ 678	(\$169)
Annuity Benefits Paid	34,687	29,590	5,096
Annuity Exchanges	4,484	3,824	659
Surrender Benefits	188	353	(165)
Accident & Health Benefits Pd.	118	20	99
Commissions	2,924	1,812	1,112
General Insurance Exp	1,674	1,749	(76)
Ins., Taxes, Licenses & Fees	130	191	(62)
Pension Benefits Paid	83	156	(73)
Int Contract & Dep. Accounts	18	17	1
Subtotal	\$ 44,815	\$38,392	\$6,423
Increase in Reserves	40,475	38,514	1,961
Total Expenses	\$85,290	\$76,906	\$8,384
Net Gain/Loss Before Refunds	6,124	6,514	(390)
Refunds to Members	63	62	2
Net Gain/Loss After Refunds	6,061	6,452	(392)
Net Capital Gains (Losses)	494	(182)	676
Net Income	\$ 6,555	\$ 6,270	\$ 284

BALANCE SHEETS

March 31, 2017 vs. December 31, 2016

ASSETS (000's omitted)	3/31/2017	12/31/2016	Change
Bonds	\$ 1,488,221	\$1,430,407	\$ 57,814
Preferred Stocks	40,992	44,259	(3,267)
Common Stocks	11,284	11,797	(513)
Cash//Short Term Invest.	19,588	26,262	(6,674)
Mortgages	1,535	1,552	(17)
Certificate Loans	617	626	(9)
Real Estate			
Beaver Home Office	575	591	(16)
Inv. Income Due & Accrued	22,368	21,432	936
Other Invested Assets	12,390	11,945	445
Other	1,302	1,090	212
Total Assets	\$1,598,872	\$1,549,961	\$ 48,911

Percentage Total Change Period to Period—3.2%

LIABILITIES

Life Reserve Fund	\$ 66,763	\$65,078	\$1,685
Annuity Reserve Fund	1,367,095	1,327,609	39,486
Accident & Health Reserve	152	134	18
Employee Pension Fund	7,142	7,068	74
Convention Reserve	204	179	25
Adv. Prem. & Fut. Ref. Resrv.	341	345	(4)
Pending Investment Trades	3,530	1,799	1,731
Accounts Payable	438	650	(212)
Refund Accumulations	1,770	1,803	(33)
Overfunded Pension	1,148	1,148	0
Asset Valuation Reserve-AVR	18,973	17,557	1,416
Interest Maint. Reserve-IMR	18,151	18,059	92
Total Liabilities	\$1,485,707	\$1,441,429	\$44,278
Surplus Fund	\$113,165	\$108,532	4,633
Total Liabilities & Surplus	\$1,598,872	\$1,549,961	\$48,911
Normal Solvency	107.6%	107.5%	
New Solvency Ratio*	110.4%	110.3%	

*Adds IMR & AVR to surplus.

Financial information is unaudited and presented on the statutory basis of accounting.

GCU Celebrates 125 Years of Goodness

Saturday, May 6 was a day of celebration at the GCU Home Office, St. Nicholas of Myra Chapel and Seven Oaks Country Club in Beaver, PA. The day of festivities was in honor of the 125th anniversary of the founding of the GCU.

The events began with an open house at the GCU Home Office and the adjacent St. Nicholas Chapel. Visitors were welcome to see the office and chapel facilities and to enjoy light refreshments.

A Moleben to St. Nicholas celebrated at the Chapel gave thanks for all of the blessings and success GCU has enjoyed since its founding on February 14, 1892. GCU Spiritual Advisor Very Rev. Richard I. Lambert concelebrated the Moleben with Metropolitan William Skurla, Archbishop of Pittsburgh; Most Rev. John Pazak, Bishop of the Eparchy of Phoenix and Supreme Tribunal Chairperson Right Rev. Mitred Archpriest John Kachuba. Deacon Larry Foran, president of the Greater Hazleton Regional Lodge, assisted with the celebration. Very Rev. Andrew Deskevich served as the cantor.

The celebration then moved down the road to Seven Oaks Country Club for a celebratory dinner. Guests enjoyed cocktails and hors d'oeuvres as they entered the clubhouse. A short program and introduction of invited guests preceded the sit-down dinner. The program included a brief video presentation highlighting the GCU's 125 years of history and the following speakers: Toastmaster John Righetti, President Emeritus C-RS; GCU Director & Chairman of the Board Gregory Vladika; Metropolitan Archbishop William Skurla, American Fraternal Alliance President/CEO Joe Annotti and GCU President/CEO George Juba. GCU Spiritual Advisor Very Rev. Richard I.



Lambert intoned the invocation. Following dinner, Bishop John Pazak gave the benediction.

In addition to celebrating the history of GCU, the event also highlighted the

goodness and charitable aspect of GCU. Variety-the Children's Charity received the proceeds from patron ads and a portion of the ticket cost. On hand to thank the GCU for the donation and to present a video showing how Variety changes the lives of children and their families was Chairman of the Board Mike Schneck. (See the "My Bike" story on the next page describing the good things Variety does for those in need.)

The evening concluded with a video produced by Wall-to-Wall, the brand design agency that researched and developed the new look, that introduced the attendees to the GCU Branding project. As guests exited the event, they received commemorative items honoring the 125th anniversary and celebrating the new logo.



Basil M. Wahal



Mike Schneck, Joe Annotti and GCU President/CEO George N. Juba.



My Bike

It was a beautiful spring day – the kind of day that makes you want to run barefoot in the green grass but still a bit chilly. As I hurried toward the door, Gram stopped me to make sure my jacket was on and zipped. My seven-year-old self, with my jacket on and shoes tied tight, headed outside to learn something new.

It was a big day – I was going to ride my brand-new bike for the first time. My uncle made sure my helmet was buckled and gave me the basics of steering and most importantly, how to use the brakes. I'll never forget the nervous pit in my stomach that quickly dissipated as I cruised around Gram's driveway. The wind blowing through my hair and the freedom I felt was incredible!

Many of my childhood days were spent riding that bike with friends - probably like a lot of other kids. Not all kids get to have that feeling or be included with friends and siblings, though. Kids with disabilities or other special needs are often left out.

Variety – the Children's Charity "My Bike" program works to provide adaptive bikes to children so they don't have to miss out on the fun and can live life to the fullest. As their name suggests, Variety helps with various unmet needs rather than a single problem or issue. They have programs like "My Voice" and "My Stroller" that offer life-changing equipment for mobility,



Mike Schneck, Stephanie Yackovich and Basil M. Wahal.

If you or someone you know has a child with a documented disability, please visit variety pittsburgh.org

independence and social inclusion.

Variety has been chosen as our first 'Cause of the Quarter' charity. GCU has sponsored an adaptive bike and additionally, the proceeds from the GCU 125 Celebration and the upcoming Charity Scramble at Seven Oaks will benefit Variety. Along with seeking donations, we are helping spread the word about Variety so kids who qualify can benefit from their programs.

If you or someone you know has a child with a documented disability, please visit variety pittsburgh.org.

Not in Pittsburgh? There are Variety 'tents' across the nation and around the world! Find your local tent at variety.org.

Stephanie Yackovich | Membership & Community Relations Manager

This year's theme was **"For Goodness Sake"**

2017 Art Contest Winners



Honorable Mention Age 6 & Under
Leah McGee, Aliquippa, PA Lodge 994

I help Grandma plant flowers.



First Place Age 7-9
Emanuel Revilak, Munhall, PA Lodge 2

My passion is to pray. I offer my prayers by the altar for people in hospitals, newborns, dying, for those who travel, for children in schools, for good weather and healthy environment, and especially for those who are in great need of mercy.



First Place Age 10-12
Margaret Baca, Baytown, TX Lodge 994



I am feeding and watering my great Uncle's horse because he is unable to do it himself.



Second Place (tie) Age 7-9
Isabella Patch, Belle Vernon, PA
Lodge 81



Second Place (tie) Age 7-9
Nathan McGee, Aliquippa, PA Lodge 994



Second Place Age 10-12
Cheyenne Williams, Steamboat Springs, CO
Lodge 144

This year's theme was **"For Goodness Sake"**

2017 Photo Contest Winners



First Place Age 13-15
Dayne Dassinger, Church Point, LA Lodge 83

The mums in the photo are my mother's favorite flowers and when I bring them to her it puts a smile on her face. I shot the photo so that she could enjoy them all the time.



First Place Age 16-18
Jessica Palakovich, Freedom, PA Lodge 994

Capturing God's creation of goodness in my photo-sunset at Devil's Den, Gettysburg, PA.



First Place Age 19-23
Hannah Goodnight, Harrisburg, PA Lodge 255

Enjoying the simple pleasure of spending time with family who was very excited to reach the top of the mountain.



Second Place Age 13-15
Hailey Sitko, Dunbar, PA Lodge 18



Second Place Age 16-18
Sarah Pavlick, Pittsburgh, PA Lodge 28



Second Place Age 19-23
Katie Hammes, Uniontown, OH Lodge 83



Basil M. Wahal
Fraternal-Communications
Director

2017 Scholarships

The GCU National Scholarship Committee met on Thursday, May 4 and announced the awarding of 35-\$1,500.⁰⁰ National Scholarships for the current year, together with 56 Academic Performance Scholarships in the amount of \$750.⁰⁰ each. Awardees appear over the next five pages.

Scholarship Committee members include: GCU National Directors Dorothy Foran-chairperson, Melanie Basl, Lisa Gulibon, Barbara Kushner and David Oleksa; Judith A. Gula of Lodge 255, Patricia Dietz of Lodge 151, John J. Katana of Lodge 93 and Jack Mendenhall of Lodge 10.

GCU National Scholarship recipients must maintain a minimum 2.75 GPA and submit a required essay. One of the awardees this year will receive an additional \$500.⁰⁰ award for maintaining a 4.0 GPA: Aaron Gulibon of Lodge 321 in Bradenville, PA. The essay theme for this year was "Community Service and You." There was a two way tie for first place for Best Essay. Aaron Gulibon and Michael Danovich of Lodge 83 were determined to have written the best essays. Both will receive an additional \$500.⁰⁰ award for their essays and each will receive a \$250.⁰⁰ GCU GoGive! award to use towards a fundraising event for their particular cause. An excerpt of each essay appears below.

Congratulations to all of our scholarship recipients!



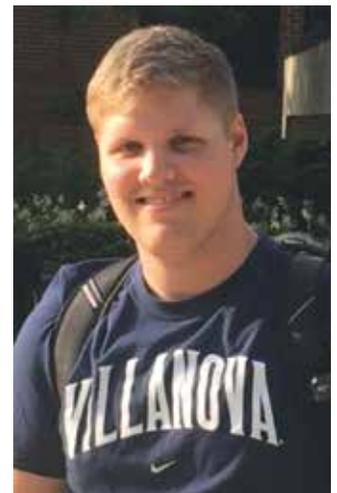
Aaron Gulibon
Souderton, PA L321 D4
University of South Carolina
Major: Business
Economics/Accounting

4.0 GPA and Best Essay

Aaron Gulibon: "Not everyone is afforded the same opportunities, experiences and quality of living that I was. I was blessed to have grown up in a family with parents that guided me, and put an emphasis on helping those in need."

Best Essay

Michael Danovich: "I am so thankful that God has blessed me by introducing me to the special needs community. I cannot imagine what my life would be without the Challenger League and Special Olympics."



Michael Danovich
Sewell, NJ L83 DA
Villanova University
Major: Computer Engineering



Stephen Betterly
 Hazleton, PA **L600 DA**
 Pennsylvania State University
 Major: Chemical Engineering



Grant Bittner
 South Park, PA **L390 D1**
 University of Northwestern Ohio
 Major: Associates of Applied Science



David Columbus
 Belle Vernon, PA **L255 D1**
 The Pennsylvania State University-Eberly Campus
 Major: Secondary Education



Kathryn Donnelly
 Pittsburgh, PA **L390 D1**
 Elon University
 Major: Marketing



Gregory N. Duch
 Wyckoff, NJ **L12 D7**
 Lehigh University
 Major: Economics and Astrophysics



John Taylor Durica
 Johnstown, PA **L625 D4**
 Coastal Carolina University
 Major: Marine Science



Mallory Eperesi
 Mars, PA **L390 D1**
 Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Major: Nursing



Abigail Fullard
 Pleasant Hills, PA **L390 D1**
 CCAC
 Major: Dental Hygiene



Stephen Haralambis
 Chapin, SC **L360 DA**
 Charleston Southern University
 Major: Business Administration



Robert J Hodovanich
 Aliquippa, PA **L994 D15**
 Penn State Beaver
 Major: Business



Brendan Howell
 North Braddock, PA **L2 D1**
 University of Pittsburgh - Greensburg
 Major: Management Accounting



Kyle Harrison Jasuta
 Manhattan Beach, CA **L17 D5**
 Springfield College
 Major: Finance/Accounting



Jessica Jones
 Mechanicsburg, PA **L10 D15**
 Slippery Rock University
 Major: Exercise Science



Madeline Karaffa
 Grafton, OH **L302 DA**
 Kent State University
 Major: Fashion Merchandising



Christopher Lewis
 Virginia Beach, VA **L20 D7**
 Brown University
 Major: International Relations



Jenna McDonnell
 Dobbs Ferry, NY **L7 D7**
 College of Mount Saint Vincent
 Major: Biology, Pre-Physical Therapy



Jenna Claire McGee
 Mentor, OH **L336 DA**
 The Ohio State University
 Major: Actuarial Science

SCHOLARSHIPS



Viviana Montalvo
Scottsdale, AZ
L999 DA
Arizona State University
Major: Finance



Macy Mora
New Brighton, PA
L994 D15
Gannon University
Major: Pre-Physical Therapy



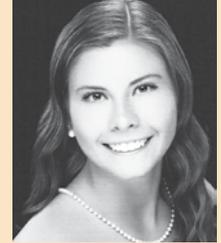
Leah Marie Narkevic
Mckees Rocks, PA
L83 DA
Penn State University
Major: Kinesiology



Emily Melinne Olack
Mount Pleasant, SC
L10 D15
Clemson University
Major: Microbiology - Biomedicine



Rachel Pawluszka
Warren, MI
L250 D11
Drexel University
Major: Business Administration



Marina Pegula
Dunmore, PA
L92 D5
Philadelphia University
Major: Undeclared



Leslie Peters
Mechanicsburg, PA
L600 DA
University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Major: Accounting



Zachary Petey
Aliquippa, PA
L994 D15
Penn State
Major: Meteorology



Olivia Presecan
Beaver Falls, PA
L83 DA
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania
Major: Biology



Mason Prickett
Coraopolis, PA
L10 D15
University of Pittsburgh Johnstown
Major: Biology
Minor: Chemistry



Vince Patrick Rose
Rochester, PA
L10 D15
Washington and Jefferson
Major: Physics



Ashley Shutack
Hamilton Square, NJ
L254 D7
University of Pittsburgh
Major: Pre-Medicine



Kristina Skvarek
Schererville, IN
L66 DA
Indiana University Bloomington
Major: Human Resources Management



Mackenzie Smith
Oakland, MD
L255 D1
Frostburg State University
Major: Exercise Science



Daniel Edward Terek
Cresson, PA
L625 D4
The Pennsylvania State University-Schreyer Honors College
Major: Accounting



Sarah Wood
Jeannette, PA
L321 D4
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Major: Criminology and Spanish

Academic Performance

Scholarships

Theodore Alt

Stuart, VA L665 D7
Virginia Tech
Major: Music Education

Veronica Behonick

Rutland, MA L945 D5
Belmont University
Major: Master's of Sport Administration

Jill Renee Bender

Indiana, PA L401 D4
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Major: Safety, Health and Env. Sciences

Joseph Thomas Benson

Canfield, OH L164 DA
The Ohio State
Major: Accounting

Emily Ann Betterly

Hazleton, PA L600 DA
Misericordia University
Major: Early Childhood and Special Edu.

Brooke Bonaparte

Prosper, TX L10 D15
Stephen F. Austin State University
Major: Communications Disorders

Emily Anna Bordas

Marietta, GA L390 D1
Georgia College and State University
Major: Economics

David Bratnick

North Royalton, OH L302 DA
Bowling Green State University
Major: Film Production

Dylan Casey

Wilmette, IL L665 D7
Villanova University
Major: Economics

Sean Casey

Wilmette, IL L83 DA
Boston College
Major: Political Science

Timothy Catalfamo

Marlboro, NJ L665 D7
Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
Major: Journalism/Media Studies

Angela Cramer

McMurray, PA L52 D1
California University of PA
Major: Gerontology

Evon Michael Danscak

Pittsburgh, PA L2 D1
Robert Morris Univeristy
Major: Accounting/Masters Cyber Security

Michael Dautlick

Patton, PA L93 D4
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Major: Safety, Health, and Env. Sciences

Cori Dowell

Hubbard, OH L252 DA
Grove City College
Major: Biology

Matthew Eperesi

Mars, PA L390 D1
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Major: Accounting

Meghan Erwin

Quakertown, PA L20 D7
University of Scranton
Major: Occupational Therapy

Kevin Forrester

Canonsburg, PA L52 D1
Thiel College
Major: Criminal Justice and Sociology

Haylee Gans

Pittsburgh, PA L52 D1
University of Notre Dame
Major: Psychology

Matthew Grzywinski

Pittsburgh, PA L390 D1
Thomas Jefferson University
Major: Medicine

Alexander Hardoby

Rahway, NJ L340 D7
Providence College
Major: Marketing

Kyle Joseph Karaffa

Wadsworth, OH L302 DA
Heidelberg University
Major: Accounting and Finance

Adam Robert Macala

Boardman, OH L360 DA
Youngstown State University
Major: Information Technology

Katie Nan

Moon Twp, PA L994 D15
University of Pittsburgh
Major: Spanish

Christian Nonnemacher

Hazleton, PA L600 DA
Penn State Hazleton
Major: Rehabilitation and Human Services

Harry Olenick

Weirton, WV L697 D15
Franciscan University of Steubenville
Major: History, Secondary Edu., Special Edu.

Elena Nicole Patchan

Haymarket, VA L83 DA
West Virginia University
Major: Biometric Systems and Computer Engineering

Stephanie Pavlick

Pittsburgh, PA L28 D1
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Major: Electrical Engineering

Craig Pezak

Archbald, PA L92 D5
University of Pennsylvania
Major: Geology

Emma Planitzer

Venetia, PA L255 D1
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Major: Management Information Systems

Elizabeth Rau

Flushing, MI L644 DA
Michigan State University
Major: Nutritional Science

Carolyn Anne Ridella

Detroit, MI L860 D11
Michigan State University
Major: Creative Advertising

Thomas Ridella

Detroit, MI L860 D11
Michigan State University College of Human Medicine
Major: Doctor of Medicine

Christina Ridella

Detroit, MI L860 D11
University of Michigan
Major: Accounting

Laura Marie Riebe

Birdsboro, PA L69 DA
West Chester University
Major: Early Grades Preparation and Special Education

Ashlea-Anne Rosnick

Pittsburgh, PA L255 D1
Duquesne University
Major: Early Childhood Education

Julianne Shirilla

Brunswick, OH L302 DA
The Ohio State University
Major: Nursing

Alexandria Shirilla

Brunswick, OH L302 DA
The Ohio State University
Major: Health Sciences

CONTINUED

Michael Skvarek

Schererville, IN L66 DA
Purdue
Major: Computer and Information
Technology: Network Engineering
Technology

Diane E. Smith

Export, PA L2 D1
Ohio University
Major: Communication Sciences
and Disorders (Speech Language
Pathology)

Mark Solanick

Freeland, PA L600 DA
Pennsylvania College of Tech-
nology
Major: Building Automation
Technolgy

Jacob Spillane

Syracuse, NY L211 D5
University at Buffalo
Major: Pharmacy

Evelyn Stumphauzer

Brighton, MI L77 DA
Franciscan University of Steu-
benville
Major: Psychology

Catherine Susco

Clifton, VA L83 DA
James Madison University
Major: Computer Information
Systems

Mary Swick

Pittsburgh, PA L390 D1
Franciscan University of Steu-
benville
Major: Mathematics

Kaitlin Swick

Pittsburgh, PA L390 D1
Franciscan University of Steu-
benville
Major: Psychology

Nicole Tanana

Olyphant, PA L945 D5
Marywood University
Major: History/ Political Sciene
(Pre-Law) & Applied Philosophy

Shannon Terek

Cresson, PA L625 D4
Washington College
Major: Biology

Stacy Ann Tomaszfski

Lancaster, PA L254 D7
Rider University
Major: Accounting

Anna Tombazzi

Hinckley, OH L302 DA
University of Akron
Major: Chemical Engineering

Emily Torres

Crosswicks, NJ L15 D7
Rutgers University
Major: Evolutionary Anthropology

Jasmin Wadsworth

Brownsville, PA L57 DA
California University of
Pennsylvania
Major: Biology Pre-Medicine

Maria E. Wahal

Munhall, PA L255 D1
Westminster College
Major: Chemistry

Erica Lynn Wellman

Youngstown, OH L164 DA
The University of Akron
Major: Political Science

Kelsey Wilson

Rochester Hills, MI L250 D11
Michigan State University College
of Human Medicine
Major: Medicine

Andrew Witherow

Reynoldsville, PA L816 D4
Pennsylvania State University
Major: Information Sciences &
Technology

2017 Athletic Scholarships

The GCU Fraternal/Athletic Committee, consisting of six GCU National Directors, is pleased to announce the winners of the 2017 Athletic Scholarship. The awardees for this year are Krista Marie Kissell of Cresco, PA (District 5, Lodge 945) & Andrew J. Oriss of Pittsburgh, PA (District A, Lodge 2). Each awardee will receive a \$1,500.⁰⁰ scholarship to assist with the first year expenses of post-secondary education.

Krista excelled in soccer and basketball and received varsity letters in golf, tennis and track & field. She scored over 1,000 points in her four year basketball career and 126 goals for the soccer team. She also ranked first in her class academically.

Andrew was an outstanding member of his varsity soccer team. He helped the team to win the section championship. His coach describes him as a leader both athletically and academically.

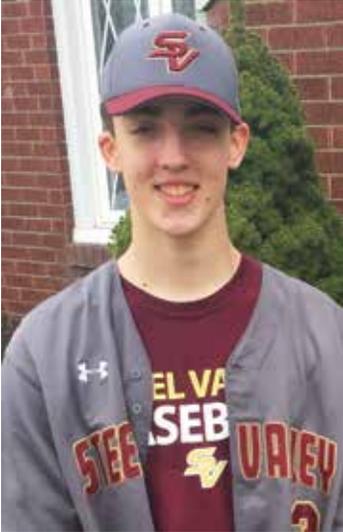
Will you be the 2018 Athletic Scholarship awardee? We will begin accepting online applications from high school senior athletes at www.gcuusa.com beginning on October 1, 2017.



Krista Kissell



Andrew Oriss



Nick Harhai Has Successful Freshman Season

GCU Lodge 2 member Nick Harhai completed a successful freshman season as a pitcher for Steel Valley High School in Munhall, PA. The varsity team won the Section 3A Championship with a 10-0 record.

Nick started five games and pitched in three other games in a relief role. He finished with a 4-0 record. To add to his accomplishments, he threw a no-hitter against Maplewood HS in his first varsity start.

Nick was also a member of the Steel Valley varsity basketball team. He serves his community as a junior volunteer firefighter with the West Homestead VFD. Nick is an altar server at St. Elias Byzantine Church and a member of the church youth group.

Hannah Goodnight Recipient of 2017 Outstanding Dietetic Student



Hannah Goodnight has been named as the recipient of the Outstanding Dietetic Student for 2017 by the Pennsylvania Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. The award was presented at the Academy's annual meeting on April 23, 2017. The award is presented based on both academic qualifications and accomplishments. Hannah is a senior at the University of Pittsburgh.

Hannah's interest in the field of nutrition was strengthened during an internship at Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) office, where she discovered how she wanted to put her nutrition degree to use. While there she learned the value of using cultural knowledge to develop effective nutritional approaches for people from various regions and backgrounds. She also volunteered at Community Human Services (CHS) in Pittsburgh. CHS provides a variety of fresh produce while de-emphasizing canned and packaged items. She spent the summer of 2015 at the Woodlands Foundation in Wexford, PA as an on-site health care associate and counselor to participants with physical and intellectual disabilities. This past summer she expanded her knowledge of the nutritional needs and challenges of people with disabilities while studying abroad in Ireland through Pitt's School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences. While in Ireland she visited schools for people with special needs in the Belfast area and spent time at St. James Community Hospital where she shadowed a registered dietician who was consulting with patients who had esophageal cancer.

She worked with the University of Pittsburgh athletics department, under the guidance of the registered dietician for student athletes, this past academic year. The position introduced her to both sports nutrition and food service management. She worked during football training camp and then with the men's and women's basketball teams.

In the fall of 2017 she will be pursuing a Master's Degree in nutrition and dietetics at the University of Pittsburgh. She is the daughter of David & Debbie Goodnight of Harrisburg, PA and the granddaughter of the late Mark & Helen Brandon of Pittsburgh. She is a member of St. Ann's Byzantine Church in Harrisburg, PA.



Staff Sergeant Christopher Little

Run Ranger Run – The Gallant Few

Christopher Little, Staff Sergeant of the United States Marine Corps and husband of Katie Little, a member of Lodge 351, completed the 565 miles for the Run Ranger Run program sponsored by The Gallant Few.

The Gallant Few is a non-profit organization that raises awareness and funds through the Run Ranger Run program for veterans in all branches of the military. This very worthy cause benefits the many unemployed veterans experiencing difficulties finding jobs. Because of the connection to Christopher, Lodge 351 applied for the Matching Funds program to increase the amount that he was able to raise during the month of February. More information about the program and Chris is available at the following website: <http://www.runrangerrun.com/feature-stories/>

Patty Yamrick | Publicity Director

Mary Stasilowicz Celebrates 100!

On Saturday, March 11, 2017 sixty relatives and friends gathered to celebrate with Mary Stasilowicz of Rutherford, NJ for her 100th birthday. Mary was born Mary Fetko in Buck Mountain, PA on March 9, 1917. In 1944 she married Stanley Stasilowicz and began her life in NJ.

The celebratory day began with a Divine Liturgy at SS. Peter & Paul Polish National Church in Passaic, NJ. A luncheon followed. Pastor Fr. Stanley Skrypec provided insights into Mary's life and long devotion to her church. Numerous relatives and friends organized and attended the event, along with the Senior Womens' Club of SS. Peter & Paul. All enjoyed the festivities but none more than Mary, who glowed in the adulation of her guests. Among those in attendance were more than 20 great and grand nieces and nephews and a great, great, great nephew, Michael Sniscek IV who recently had celebrated his second birthday. EVERYONE got a special piece of cake and sang to Marys' health.

Happy Birthday "GREAT AUNT MARY," GOD has granted you many years!

Elias Zareva | President of Lodge 254



Mary cutting her birthday cake while her niece Lodge 254 Treasurer Theresa Tomaszfski looks on.



Alexis Brady

Alexis Brady Receives Scout Award

Alexis Brady received the Elizabeth Ann Seton Girl Scout religious award at a Scout Convocation on Sunday, April 23, 2017. Bishop William Winter presented the award at Saint Paul Cathedral in Oakland-Pittsburgh, PA.

The purpose of this diocesan award is to lead the participants in examining different areas of work and service, and to prepare them for future decisions.

In the past, Alexis received the Guardian Angel; Family of God; I Live My Faith; Kateri; Marian and The Spirit Alive Girl Scout religious emblems. She has also received the Region III pin for completing at least three of the four national emblems and two of the three diocesan emblems and the Pillars of Faith for earning all four national emblems.

Congratulations to Alexis for earning all nine of the Girl Scout religious awards offered by the Catholic Committee on Scouting. Alexis attends Holy Trinity Byzantine Catholic Church in Wall, PA and is a member of Lodge 2 in Munhall, PA.

Nicholas Daddona Ordination

Congratulations to longtime GCU member Nicholas Daddona on his ordination into the Sacred Order of Presbyter (priest) by Bishop Kurt on April 25, 2017 at St. Catharine Church in Spring Lake, NJ. GCU member Deacon Larry Foran presented Nicholas Daddona to the bishop to be ordained. This ordination was an historic first as Father Nicholas is the first married man to be ordained to the priesthood for service in the Eparchy of Passaic.

Father Nicholas has been a Deacon at St. Andrew's Church in Westbury for many years. He is also eparchial chancellor. Con-celebrating with Bishop Kurt were past and current administrators of St. Andrew's church, Father Jack Custer and Father Tyler Strand. Many new and former parishioners of St. Andrew's were happy to attend the ordination. GCU Director Dorothy Foran and Supreme Tribunal member Marge Pajer Russell were just 2 of many GCU members who were present.

Father Nicholas has a GCU family which includes his wife Maureen, daughters Alessandra, Adriana and Nicholas Jr., spouses and seven grandchildren. Father Nicholas and his family have been strong supporters of the GCU participating in many GCU activities. Congratulations and God grant him many blessed years! Below is a tribute by his wife Maureen, honoring Fr. Nicholas' journey.

God must like circles - because life is never a straight path.

Nicholas Daddona had been an altar boy, an extraordinary minister and a seminarian in the Franciscan Washington Theological Coalition before I ever met him. He was an educator for over 30 years on the high school and college levels. Married over 43 years now, we have worked together to achieve God's plans for us.

We are the parents of three successful children Alessandra, a speech pathologist, Adriana, a math teacher, and Nicholas Jr., a forensic toxicologist and drug recognition expert for the Nassau County Police Force. With their spouses, they have blessed us with 7 wonderful grandchildren (Philip, Nicholas, Juliana, Jonathan, Christopher, Matthew and Mia).

Taking turns in accomplishing our personal dreams, I held down the fort while Nick studied and prayed and worked for four years to complete the diaconal program and be ordained a Deacon by Bishop Michael Dudick. Then he shouldered the majority of the duties, so I could earn my PhD in Neuroendocrinology. I also serve as Victim's Advocate for our diocese and am a retired



Fr. Nick, his wife Maureen with their family.

college professor having taught Human Genetics and the biochemistry of human nutrition for over 30 years.

In the past 29 years Deacon Nick has served God at St. Andrew's Church in Westbury, Long Island. He has been Deacon, Acting-Administrator of the Parish, Director of Deacons and Chancellor for the Eparchy of Passaic. In his continued wish to serve God and his people, Deacon Nick asked Bishop Kurt to be considered for the priesthood.

Fr. Nick celebrated his first Divine Liturgy of Thanksgiving at St. Andrew the Apostle Church on Sunday, April 30. He thanked the parishioners of St. Andrew's and all his friends and family for their prayers, support and encouragement throughout the years.

Fr. Thomas Caserta, Fr. Nick's spiritual advisor during his deacon formation period, gave the homily on April 30. I found it very telling that Fr. Charles Kohli, who counseled us and married us over 43 years ago, is Fr. Nick's spiritual advisor now as an ordained priest. God must like circles.

Marge Pajer Russell & Maureen Daddona

Supreme Tribunal Report

The Supreme Tribunal, the judicial authority of the GCU, held a meeting prior to the celebration of the GCU 125th Anniversary. Attending the meeting were Chairperson Archpriest John Kacuba, Archpriest Dennis Bogda, Rev. Frank Firko, Marge Russell, Judy Weitzel, and the two newest members Greg Barkowski, and John J. Gula were welcomed. It was a very informative meeting with a discussion on the purpose and role of the Supreme Tribunal. The members will continue to support the SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary. Congratulations to 12 year Tribunal Member Father Bogda, he celebrated 50 years as a priest in April 2017. Congratulations to Father Nicholas Daddona on his ordination. May God grant Father Bogda and Father Daddona many more blessed years.

Marge Russell

**God must like circles,
because life is never
a straight path.**

People



Ryan Solnosky with President of the American Concrete Institute Michael Schneider.

Junior Faculty Achievement Award

Ryan L. Solnosky of State College, PA received the Walter P. Moore, Jr. Faculty Achievement Award on March 26, 2017 in Detroit, MI. This award recognizes new faculty members for excellence and innovation in the teaching of concrete design, materials, or construction.

The American Concrete Institute Board of Direction presented him the award for his work in virtual technologies and engineering informatics and for his use of Building Information Modeling and Integrated Project Delivery technologies in multi-disciplinary team-based capstone design projects.

Ryan received his PhD in Architectural Engineering from Penn State where he currently teaches. He is the son of Dan & Kathy Solnosky. All are members of Lodge 93.

John J. Katana | Lodge 93 Secretary

Giving

St. John's Parish Expansion

SCRANTON, PA

St. John's Byzantine Catholic Church held a Lenten food sale to benefit the parish. Volunteers made Manhattan clam chowder and potato/cheese pirohi. St. John's is very grateful for loyal workers, the customers whose purchases have helped to sustain the parish and the GCU parish expansion matching funds program.

Joan M. Roskos



St. Michael Parish Expansion

CANONSBURG, PA

Every Monday morning from the beginning of September through the end of May, volunteers gather in St. Michael's Byzantine Church hall in Canonsburg for the nut roll fund raising effort.

First to arrive is the incredible dough duo of Betty & John Sopiak. They mix up three to five batches of dough. Then chairlady Judy Shuba takes over assigning volunteers as dough rollers, nut spreaders, wrappers or dishwashers. Occasionally pastor Very Rev. Joseph Raptosh checks in and praises this team who work so diligently for nine months a year.

If you happen to be in the neighborhood on a Monday morning stop in and treat your family to one of these delicious nut rolls for a worthy cause - St. Michael Church.

Barbara Kushner

District 4

Jr. Bowling Tournament | This year's GCU District 4 National Bowling Tournament took place at Richland Bowling Lanes in Johnstown, PA., on Saturday, March 25, 2017. There were 8 boys and 8 girls ranging in age from 2 to 18 years old. The kids had a great time bowling and socializing. Bowlers and adults enjoyed pizza, soda, and cake at the conclusion of bowling.

Upon completion of the tournament, winners received medals and trophies in each age group. All bowlers received a gift from the GCU Home Office.

Thank you to all that participated and the parents



District 4 kids who participated in the Jr. Tournament.

and grandparents that brought the youngsters to the tournament. These youngsters are the future of GCU.

Paul Yackulich, Jr. | Athletic Director

District 5



The kids who participated in the Binghamton, NY Tournament.

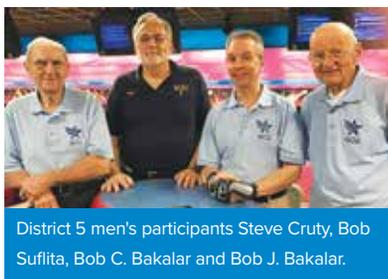
Binghamton, NY Junior Bowling Tournament | On March 19, 2017 Lodge 47 conducted the District 5 Binghamton, NY area Junior Bowling Tournament. Seven kids participated this year. They bowled 3 games, and enjoyed pizza, soda, snacks, and each received a McDonald's gift certificate.

Bob Suflita | President



AJ and Ali Sluko, Morgan Fuller, Demetrius and Macrina Dolinish .

Wilkes-Barre, PA Jr. Bowling | On April 23, twelve children bowled, had pizza and soda and received McDonalds gift cards from District 5. Ali and A.J. Sluko are the representatives from the district vying for the National Bowling Scholarships.



District 5 men's participants Steve Cruty, Bob Suflita, Bob C. Bakalar and Bob J. Bakalar.



District 5 women's participants Marlene Yuschak, Daria Shierly, Janet Kumpon, Dottie Bakalar, Gina Keil and Colleen Evans.

GCU & SCS National Bowling Tournament | The GCU and Slovak Catholic Sokol National Bowling Tournament took place on May 19 & 20 at Chacko's in Wilkes-Barre, PA. Colleen Evans & Gina Keil combined with SCS bowlers Marianne Nalli & Chris Sofranko unofficially capturing 2nd place in the women's handicap team event. Dottie Bakalar, unofficially, was the 2nd place singles handicap winner. Congratulations to all the winners.

District 5

(continued)

No Tap Bowling Tournament | The 29th Annual District 5 No-Tap Bowling Tournament was Saturday, May 6, 2017 at Chacko's Family Bowling Lanes. The 16 bowlers and 4 guests enjoyed a great time. Congratulations to the winners. Women's 1st place went to Colleen Evans & Gina Keil, 2nd place, Daria Shierly & Janet Kumpon, 3rd place, Agnes Rohrbach & Coleen Dubitsky and 4th place Marlene Yuschak & Dottie Bakalar. Men's 1st place went to John Evans & Rick Hoppey, 2nd place, Bob C. & Bob J. Bakalar, 3rd place John Moyer & Al Kringer and 4th place, Steve Cruty & Bob Suflita. Women's High Series Scratch went to Gina Keil. Women's High Game Scratch went to Daria Shierly. Men's High Series Scratch and Men's High Game Scratch went to Bob C. Bakalar. Mixed doubles 1st place went to Gina Keil & John Evans and 2nd place went to Colleen & John Evans. Bob Suflita, Marlene Yuschak, and Bob C. Bakalar were fundraiser winners. Thanks to the attendees and the Home Office for the grant and help with the event.

Note | Sincere sympathy to the family of John Evans who passed away recently. John was a past president of District 5 and remained very active in our district. He was an avid golfer and bowler attending both district and national tournaments over the years. He will be sadly missed. Eternal memory and blessed repose.

Ilona Dolinish | Fraternal Director



No Tap Bowling Group.

UPCOMING DISTRICT 5 EVENTS

Tailgate & Rail Riders Baseball Game

Saturday, July 22, 2017
PNC Field

Contact Ed Keil at 570-824-1264. Game against the Charlotte Knights (a Chicago White Sox affiliate). The promotion is a reversible camouflage bucket hat.

Golf Tournament

Saturday, August 5
8:30 AM Shot Gun Start
Pig Roast to Follow

Sugarloaf Golf Club

Applications will be available on the website. Contact Ed Keil at 570-824-1264 for details.

District 7

Social Event | District 7's annual Social Event took place on Sunday, May 3, 2017. There were 37 members and guests in attendance at Hunterdon Hills Playhouse in Hampton, NJ. The dinner/theater venue was presenting the play "Born Yesterday" a Garson Kanin's comedy classic. Several attendees reminisced about the original screenplay of "Born Yesterday" that was released in 1950, starring Judy Holliday, Broderick Crawford and William Holden.

The district held a brief 2nd quarter meeting in the atrium of the Playhouse prior to dinner. The event included dinner before the play and a dessert buffet at intermission. The GCU Home Office provided favors for everyone. A wonderful afternoon of good food, great entertainment and wonderful company.

Mary K. Bannworth | President



Members attending the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse.

UPCOMING DISTRICT 7 EVENTS

Golf Tournament

Saturday, August 5
10 AM Shot Gun Scramble Format

Green Pond Country Club
3604 Farmersville Road
Bethlehem, PA 18020
GCU member \$62
Non-member \$82
Non-golfer \$20

Contact Mike Geles 732-574-9623.

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

Junior Bowling Tournament | Junior bowlers from District 11 and their guests participated in this year's District 11 Junior Bowling Tournament. Family members and friends cheered them on at Five-Star Lanes in Sterling Heights, MI, on Saturday, March 25.



The group of junior bowlers.

A good turnout, a pizza luncheon, fun awards and prizes made for a very nice day for all! The event was a success in no small part due to the efforts of fellow District 11 officers: President Gary Mozuras, Auditor Karen Kaufman and event organizer, Athletic Director John P. Minarish.

Val Marszalec | Fraternal & Publicity Director



Mary Ann Gilbert and Martha Seech watching the dice roll.

District 15

Ladies Luncheon & Bunco | Not only was the annual Ladies Luncheon and Bunco a blast the event made money, too! The event is the major fundraiser benefitting District 15's Senior Awards. This year, we \$1,520.00 was raised and with matching funds, the total is over \$3,000.00 for the district scholarship account. It was a lovely afternoon complete with a delicious Seven Oaks Country Club lunch, friendship and fun. Many thanks to the many table sponsors & auction donors. District 15 is especially grateful for the hard work of Kathy Kapaldo, who heads up this annual event.

Elizabeth Harbist | President

UPCOMING DISTRICT 15 EVENTS

An Afternoon at Narcisi Winery

**Sunday, August 27, 2017
12 NOON-4 PM**

Narcisi Winery, Gibsonia, PA
GCU members \$10
Non-members \$20

Enjoy fraternalism, wine tasting, light refreshments and the "rhythmic feel-good acoustic music" of the Doug Edgell Band. Contact Diane Ketterer Dianek112@gmail.com or Kathy Kapaldo kkapaldo@comcast.net or 412-951-8331.

District 15 Golf Tournament

**Sunday, September 17, 2017
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

Motown the Musical

**Saturday, November 25, 2017
2 PM**

Benedum Center
Pittsburgh, PA
GCU members \$56
Non-members \$76

"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." (www.pittsburgh-theater.com). Seats are on the first floor center. Contact Elizabeth Harbist at 412-913-1446. Tickets are first come first served.

Lodge News

Lodge 15

TRENTON, NJ

Annual Clean-Up

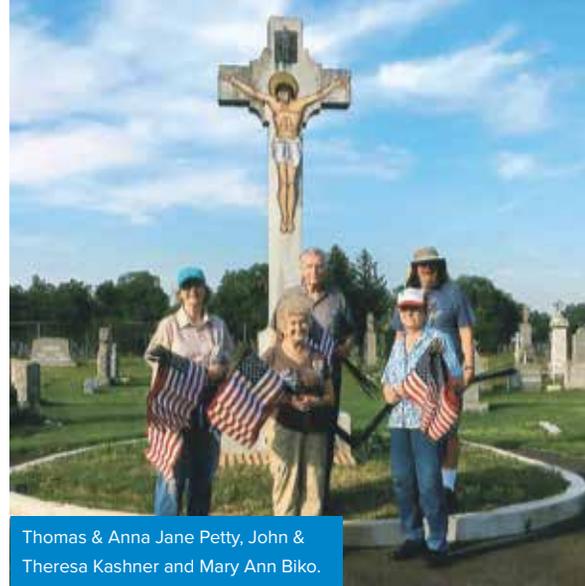
On Lazarus Saturday, April 8, 2017 members of Lodge 15 joined fellow parishioners on the grounds of The Assumption of the Virgin Mary Byzantine Catholic Church, to participate in the annual clean-up of the property.

Volunteers pruned the shrubbery and removed debris from the church, rectory, convent, social hall and parking lot areas. While the workers were executing the clean-up, GCU members Emma Treglia and Marcy Embley provided refreshments for the volunteers. After three hours, in the barely above freezing temperatures, the extensive task was completed and the property ready to welcome the faithful for Holy Week and the Resurrection of Our Lord.

Thank you to all the volunteers for such a successful project.



Clean-Up workers.



Thomas & Anna Jane Petty, John & Theresa Kashner and Mary Ann Biko.

Memorial Day Flags

Memorial Day gave several Lodge 15 members, namely Thomas & Anna Jane Petty, John & Theresa Kashner and Mary Ann Biko, the chance to honor the deceased veterans.

In a much too soon 90 degree "heat wave," they placed 420 flags at the graves of parish veterans interred in the three cemeteries of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary Byzantine Catholic Church in Trenton, NJ. The cemeteries were established in 1895, 1912 & 1948; therein rests the many founders, benefactors and parishioners of the nearly 125 year old parish.

We sincerely thank you and pray that God Bless you for your honorable and respectful deed.

"Blessed repose and eternal memory for all the veterans' souls and all those interred therein. Amen." GOD BLESS AMERICA!

Marcy Embley | Fraternal Activities Director

Lodge 17

OLD FORGE, PA

Ham Bingo

GCU Lodge 17 assisted St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church with the 7th Annual Ham Bingo on Sunday, April 2, 2017. The matching funds project will help with additional repairs of the church's bells. There were 175 participants including workers. Winners of the 20 regular bingo games received hams as prizes. The four special game winners received rings of kielbasa for their prizes. Fifty-two baskets and additional door prizes completed the day's awards. Thanks to all the workers, contributors, and participants for making this event a success.



Macrina Dolinish, Morgan Fuller, Ed Dolinish Jr. and Ed Keil with the prizes of ham and kielbasa.



Ed Dolinish and Mike Mokay preparing food.

Mother's Day Turkey Dinner

St. Nicholas Church with assistance from GCU Lodge 17 members, hosted a delicious turkey dinner to honor the parish mothers after Divine Liturgy on Sunday, May 13. Mike Mokay was in charge of the kitchen, cooking the turkeys, stuffing, mashed potatoes, candied julienne carrots and gravy. Cranberry sauce, rolls, and wonderful desserts completed the meal. Thanks to all who assisted from set up to clean up.

Ed Keil | Secretary Treasurer

Lodge 28

SOUTHSIDE-PITTSBURGH, PA

St. Patrick's Day Social & Fundraiser

On Sunday, March 19, Lodge 28 held a St. Patrick's Day social and first quarter meeting. A continental breakfast, green & white decorations and special holiday sheet cake highlighted the event.

Later that day, St. John the Baptist church held a LuLaRoe fundraiser. Parishioner Janet Wisloski was the demonstrator. Many arrived early and watched while Janet set up rows of clothing. When given the green light, the ladies ran to the racks (reminiscent of "Running of the Brides") to pick outfits to try on in the fitting rooms before purchasing. What a fun day!

The total profit received from the demonstrator and the LuLaRoe company was \$273.⁰⁰. With GCU matching funds through Lodge 28, St. John Church received a total of \$546.⁰⁰ towards necessary repairs and upkeep costs.

125th Anniversary Celebration

On Palm Sunday, April 9, 2017, Lodge 28 celebrated the 125th Anniversary of the founding of the GCU. Palm Sunday Liturgy was beautiful with several additional celebrants assisting Father Tom Schaefer on the altar. Those assisting included: Fr. Jean and Fr. Innocent from the Congo; Fr. Peter, a Ukrainian priest from California; Deacon Tom Klacik and server Tim Mullen.

Following Liturgy, everyone was welcome to the church hall. Delicious homemade pirohi (potato/cheese and cabbage) from neighboring St. Pius Church, croissant sandwiches, chicken nuggets and a special sheet cake commemorated the occasion.

Kim Kolesar | Secretary Treasurer



The priests who were at the celebration.

Lodge 47

BINGHAMTON, NY

Parish Matching Funds

Lodge 47 conducted a fundraiser on Sunday, April 30, 2017 to benefit Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church during the annual "Slavic Festival." The prize was a color TV.

The Slavic Festival drew nearly 600 people. The attendees enjoyed a polka band, gift baskets and guided tours conducted by Bob Suflika and Diane Metzlar.

Lodge 47 presented a check for \$375.⁰⁰ to Father Peter Tomas, pastor of Holy Spirit Church, on Sunday, May 14 from the proceeds of the TV fundraiser.

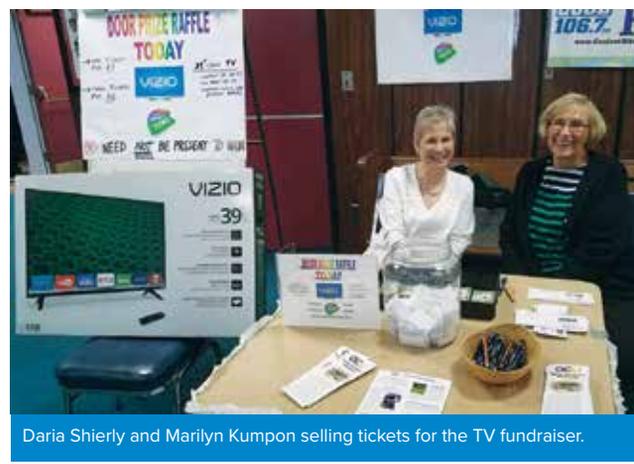
Calendar Fundraiser

Lodge 47 conducted a "Calendar" fundraising project throughout 2016. With the fine help of the GCU Home Office staff, who printed the 1,000 calendars, the lodge sold them for \$25.⁰⁰ apiece to lodge members, church parishioners, bingo players, and the Binghamton, NY general public. Participants could win a prize for each day of 2016. With the help of GCU Matching Funds, at the end of the project, Lodge 47 was able to present a check for \$5,000.⁰⁰ to Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church for the benefit of their "Golden Domes Repair Fund."

Bob Suflika | President



Committee persons Fraternal Activities Director Pamela Suflika and President Robert Suflika presenting the check to a smiling Father Peter Tomas, pastor of Holy Spirit Church located in Binghamton, NY.



Daria Shierly and Marilyn Kumpon selling tickets for the TV fundraiser.

Greater Hazleton Regional Lodge

HAZLETON PA

Seasons come and seasons go, but I think there were three seasons in one month. Hopefully, we get more warm sunshine and get to enjoy the summer weather that is fast approaching.

Greater Hazleton Regional Lodge has been quite busy. Thanks to the Home Office for the grants and other assistance in making the events a success.



GCU Strikers-Riley Nahay, Kaitlyn Bindas, Gavin Vercusky, JT Bindas & Nicole Ritz

Big Brothers-Big Sisters Bowling

On Saturday, March 25, two teams bowled for the Big Brothers-Big Sisters organization.

This is the tenth year that the lodge has sent at least one team. This year's teams were: GCU Premiums-AI & Judy Kringer, Claire Lorince, Rick Hoppey and Agnes Rohrbach and the GCU Strikers-Riley Nahay, Gavin Vercusky, JT & Kaitlyn Bindas and Nicole Ritz. Each team raised an additional amount to be donated to the organization.

Bowlers received a "Bowl for Kids Sake" t-shirt, a free coffee mug and a chance to win a Tricky Tray.



GCU National Director Dorothy Ann Foran & GHRL Athletic Director Agnes Rohrbach with the bowlers age 2-5.

Jr. Bowling Tournament

Thirty-one children ages 2 to 16 participated in the Jr. Bowling tournament on Sunday, March 26 at Bowl-Arena in West Hazleton, PA. In addition to bowling, the children enjoyed a hot dog or pizza, a drink and chips and each received a wooden bowling pin with their high game score.

This is the first year that the boys and girls in the same age categories placed in the high game and also the high series events. Following are the winners: Age 2-3 Caden Kasarda; Age 4-5 Connor McAlarney & Adrianna Simon; Age 6-7 Collin Remenar & Lauren Shemansky ; Age 8-9 Zachary Fetchko & Kaitlyn McAlamey; Ages 10-12 Nathan Houser & Sarah Greco; Ages 13-15 Thomas Betterly & Emily Sharrer and Ages 16-18 Nicole Ritz.

Thanks to Eric at Bowl-Arena for setting up the tournament and the volunteers who helped with the tournament.

Children's Easter Celebrations

Greater Hazleton Regional Lodge held three separate children's Easter parties in April. The locations included: St. John's, Lansford, PA on Sunday, April 9; St. John's, Hazleton, PA on Saturday, April 22 and SS. Peter & Paul Church, Beaver Meadows, PA on Sunday, April 23. Thanks to Joe & Marie Galgoci for their help and also the Pysanky egg demonstration by Joe at St. John's in Lansford. Easter Egg hunts were held at St. John's in Hazleton and SS. Peter & Paul in Beaver Meadows. The children and adults at the events enjoyed the activities.



Easter party in Lansford, PA.



Easter party in Hazleton, PA.



Easter party in Beaver Meadows, PA.



Standing Rick Hoppey, John Moyer, Eve Wilson, Ed Dolinish III & Agnes Rohrbach. Seated Marge Hoppey and Tony Blackwell.

Blind Doubles No-Tap Tournament

On Saturday, April 1, 28 bowlers participated in the annual No-Tap Blind Doubles Tournament held at Bowl-Arena in West Hazleton.

Doubles winners included: Marge Hoppey & Tony Blackwell-1181; Agnes Rohrbach & Ed Dolinish III-1178; Eva Wilson & John Moyer-1171 and Arlene McHale & Rick Hoppey-1071. Single's event winners were: Tony Blackwell & Austin Blackwell (280) and Ed Dolinish III (266); Arlene McHale (237), Eva Wilson (228) and Danielle Watkins (202). We also honored the lowest 2 bowlers for their single games of 104-Janice Moyer and Jay Lindsey.

A banquet followed at Bonanza Restaurant with prize distribution.

Thanks to Eric at Bowl-Arena for setting up the tournament and to the guests and bowlers from District 5 and the lodge.



GHRL members at Hunterdon Hills Playhouse.

“Born Yesterday”

On Saturday, April 29, 36 people boarded the bus at St. John’s BC Church parking lot and headed off to Hunterdon Hills Playhouse to see the Garson Kamin Comedy “Born Yesterday.” One of the longest shows that played on Broadway-the movie made Judy Holliday a star. In addition to the play the day included a delicious dinner and wonderful desserts at Hunterdon Hills Playhouse.

Bowling League Concludes

The GCU’ers Bowling league completed their 2016-17 season with a roll-off for first place. Team Dollars (Mary Lou Junas, Eileen Bunk, Coleen Dubitsky and John Moyer) defeated team Cents (Marge Hoppey, Rick Hoppey, Mary Ellen Fichter and Carolyn Koscuk) for the championship. The league’s winners received monetary awards at the end of season banquet at Leonard’s Restaurant. Long before you know it, the next season will be here.

National Bowling Recap

Two teams (1 men’s and 1 women’s) represented GHRL at the National Bowling Tournament in Wilkes-Barre, PA. Congratulations are extended to Terry, John, Rick and Paul for placing in different divisions. Way to go guys!

Second Quarter Meeting

The second quarterly meeting was Sunday, May 21 at SS. Peter & Paul in Minersville, PA. Tickets for the 125th Anniversary Dinner on Sunday, July 16 at Capriotti’s are available. Everyone is invited. Come join us as we celebrate 125 years of the GCU.

Notes

Remember that Father’s Day is on Sunday, June 18-please keep them in your prayers and thoughts.

Let’s also celebrate our 241 years of being a great country on Independence Day-Tuesday, July 4.

If anyone is interested in going to see “Jonah” at Sight and Sound on Saturday, September 23, kindly contact Agnes at 570-454-4869. Ticket orders need to be placed soon.

As always, dates and times are subject to change. If you are unsure about a meeting or an event, please feel free to call 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 | Secretary

UPCOMING GHRL EVENTS

40th Annual Holupki Open

Saturday, July 15
10 AM Shot Gun Start
NEW Format:
Four Person-Captain & Crew

White Birch Golf Course
 Barnesville, PA
 GCU member \$65
 Non-member \$70

GCU 125th Anniversary Dinner

Sunday, July 16
1 PM

Capriotti’s
 GCU members \$15
 Non members \$25

An assortment of tricky trays will be chanced off. Contact Dorothy at 570-459-0880 or Agnes at 570-454-4869.

Third Quarter Meeting

Sunday, August 13
1 PM

St. John’s, Hazleton, PA

Back to School Bowling Party

Sunday, August 27
1 PM

Bowl-Arena, West Hazleton, PA

Lodge 52

BETHEL PARK, PA

Easter Egg Hunt

On Sunday, April 23 candy filled plastic Easter eggs were hidden on St. Gregory Church grounds. The younger children had fun finding them on a level area while the older children had to find the eggs in areas with more bushes and trees. Cake, cookies and drinks were served before the hunt.

GCU Lodge 52 members and the St. Gregory ECF staff sponsored the best Easter Egg Hunt ever.

Rosemary Tomko | Publicity Director



Easter Egg Hunt participants.

Lodge 53

WILKES-BARRE, PA

Easter Egg Hunt

The members of GCU Lodge 53, recently held an Easter egg hunt for the youth of their parish. It was held on Palm Sunday, April 9, 2017. The lodge had 39 youth attend the event. All the children had smiling faces.

Thank you to the Home Office for the coloring books, jelly beans and grant to help fund the children's Easter baskets.

Linda Bealla | Secretary Treasurer
John Marko | Vice President



The beautiful baskets that the children received.

Lodge 57

BROWNSVILLE, PA

Lenten Pirohi Sale

St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church in Brownsville, PA conducted a Lenten pirohi sale from March 5 until April 13, 2017. During those weeks, they prepared nearly 1,400 dozen pirohi and 108 pounds of noodles! The sale generated \$8,000 for repairs needed on the church. Those in charge included Lodge 57 Treasurer Becky Thomas and several other lodge members and parishioners.



Volunteers making pirohi.



Members at the Lenten Reflection activity.

Lenten Reflection

Several Lodge 57 members and other parishioners of St. Nicholas Church in Brownsville, PA attended a Lenten Reflection activity on Sunday, March 26, 2017 at St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic in Scottdale, PA.

The afternoon activities included a discussion of how to get the most out of your Lenten journey, a Lenten vesper service, followed by individual confessions. After the prayer service and confessions, attendees enjoyed refreshments in the social hall.

Thank you to the pastor and parishioners of St. John for hosting this event.

GCU 125th Celebration

Two members of Lodge 57 attended the GCU's 125th Anniversary Celebration on May 6, 2017, at Seven Oaks Country Club in Beaver, PA. The evening was very enjoyable. The food was delicious and the friendliness of everyone was great. The GCU staff did a wonderful job organizing this event. Thank you!

Bernadette Loya-Karoffa | Publicity



Enjoying the 125th Anniversary is Lodge 644 member Natalie Washlock, Lodge 57 members Bernie Karoffa and Becky Thomas with Lodge 81 members Steve Petruska and Jim Mihalko.



Lodge 62

PUNXSUTAWNEY, PA

Pirohi Matching Funds

Lodge 62 participated in a matching funds project to replace the AC unit in the social hall of SS. Peter & Paul Church. Members made 250 dozen pirohi to fill orders that were taken in advance. The volunteers enjoyed working together and the fellowship shared with each other. Thanks GCU for the Matching Funds.

Helen Meko | President

Lodge 69

POTTSTOWN, PA

Easter Egg Hunt

Lodge 69 and St. John the Baptist Church held an Easter Egg hunt for the parish children. The older children hid the eggs for the younger children. There were prizes for different categories. All the participants had a great time.

Nancy Harding | Secretary



Kids enjoying the Easter Egg Hunt.

Lodge 81

UNIONTOWN, PA

Members of Lodge 81 engaged in many activities during the Lenten season. Secretary Stephen Petruska cantored the weekly Liturgies of Presanctified Gifts and Sunday Liturgies.



Lois Winslow and helper Monica from St. Nicholas, Perryopolis, PA.

Egg Eggstravaganza

The main event was the 12th Egg Eggstravaganza held on Sunday, April 2, at St. John Social Hall. This year's attendance, as well as income, far exceeded previous years. The participating artists who came from far and wide, were Mark Jesko, Julie Pillar and Abigail Miller, Allen Krynicki, Dee Ruckert, Jeanie Curtis (with her Pysanky mobile) and Francoise, Lois Winslow, Joseph Borytsky, the Luschas family, Jennifer Mudery, and Larry Kozlowski. Vendors adding to the event were Sister Ruth Plante—Mt. St. Macrina Religious Gift Shop and Charlotte Orient—Carpatho-Rusyn Society. Lodge members who also did their part were Bonnie Balas, Janet Gaydos, Rich & Marcia Harrer, Ann Kormanik, Theresa Petruska, Helen Ponzurick, Stephen Petruska, James Mihalko, Cathy Phillips and Gerry Dorobish. It was great to see so many who came from other lodges to support this event. The income with added matching funds from GCU will be applied to the cost of a new roof for St. John Church. The 13th Egg Eggstravaganza is planned for Sunday, March 18, 2018.

CONTINUED

Lodge 81

CONTINUED

First Reconciliation

Second grade ECF teacher Gerry Dorobish prepared Samuel Denny, Samantha Carl, and Donte Rugola for First Reconciliation on Palm Sunday. St. John Social Ministry Committee sponsored a brunch social in their honor. Marcia Harrer, ECF coordinator, met with ECF teachers, students, and parents to plan for the upcoming year. Marcia encouraged the families to attend and assist at Helping Hands Day at Mt. St. Macrina on Saturday, June 3. As a conclusion to the 2016-2017 catechetical year, Lodge 81 sponsored a pizza/bowling party for the ECF students and their families at Mount Vernon Lanes in Uniontown.

Busy May 5th Weekend

The weekend of May 5 was a busy one for some Lodge 81 officers. Gerry Dorobish attended the Women's Day held at St. John Cathedral and James Mihalko and Stephen Petruska were honored to attend the GCU 125th Anniversary program and dinner.

Mother's Day

On Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14, the men of the parish held a breakfast for the parish mothers and May birthday celebrants. Richard Harrer and Stephen Petruska assisted in planning and preparation. Lodge member Helen Ponzurick, was recognized for her 90th birthday (May 5). God grant you many more years, Helen!



Nadine Morgan with Helen Ponzurick (90th Birthday) and Ida Morganosky.

Lodge 93

NORTHERN CAMBRIA, PA

Helping Hands

Lodge 93 and parishioners of St. John's Byzantine Church volunteered for an early "Helping Hands" by cleaning the church, social hall and the preparing of palms and pussy willows for Easter. Thank you to all participants a job well done.

Basket Fundraiser

Lodge 93 sponsored a fundraiser at St. John's Byzantine Church in Northern Cambria to help benefit the interior painting of the church, local library and the Good Samaritan Food Pantry. There were baskets featuring children's items, appliances, household and cleaning items, plants, gift cards and several

variety baskets. A special thank you to Helen Kost for her efforts in obtaining items for the event. A thank you also to all the event volunteers. Participants enjoyed complimentary coffee, cake, snacks and drinks. A fall basket fund raiser is planned.

Mother's Day Social

Lodge 93 helped sponsor a Mother's Day social. Fr. Vasil Polyak celebrated a Liturgy for all the mothers. Attendees shared a light luncheon in the church social hall. All the ladies received a GCU swag bag. A thank you to the Home Office for supplying the items for all of these events.

As part of the monthly educational and cultural series, John Katana



Gerry Dorobish and Marcia Harrer with Samantha Carl, Sam Denny and Donte Rugola (1st Penance).

Quarterly Meeting

The lodge's quarterly meeting was Sunday, May 21. Lodge 81 made a sizable donation for the purchase of a cabinet for the renovation of the St. John Social Ministry room; a donation for the use of the meeting room and for materials for the upcoming Helping Hands Day. Plans for the Flag Day program on Saturday, June 10 were finalized. The next quarterly meeting is Sunday, August 13 following the Divine Liturgy.

Bonnie Balas | Vice President & Publicity Coordinator



The cleaning crew and preparation of palms & pussy willows.

presented a, "History of the GCU." This was well received by all and many were unaware of the GCU's rich history. A thank you to everyone that brought a covered dish for the luncheon.

John J. Katana | Secretary

Lodge 109

LYNDORA, PA

Easter Egg Hunt

On Palm Sunday, April 9, Lodge 109 held its annual Easter Egg Hunt for the parish children in the church hall due to inclement weather.

Sixteen children participated in searching out the 200 plus candy and coin-filled eggs. The search was lively and was completed in less than 10 minutes. All the children received a chocolate three bar cross from Helen Meaders.



Members of Lodge 109 who volunteered to help out with the V.A. bingo night.

Bingo with the Veterans

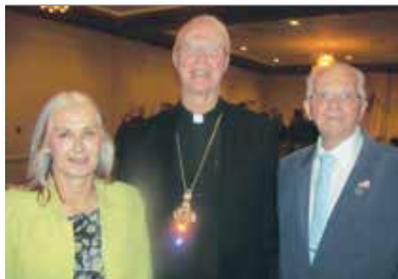
On Monday, April 24, Lodge 109 sponsored a night of bingo for the veterans at the Butler V.A. Medical Center. Winners received canteen booklets purchased by the lodge. Lodge volunteers enjoyed the time spent visiting with the veterans. This is an event that is anticipated by both groups each year.

Lodge 109's helping hands project is scheduled for early June at St. John's. The lodge will use a GCU fraternal grant to beautify the church property.

Janet Uram | Secretary Treasurer



The parish children gather around Helen Meaders (center of back row) after the Easter Egg Hunt.



Lodge 144 Auditor Audrey Peek, Most Rev. John S. Pazak-Bishop of the Eparchy of Phoenix and GCU National Director John W. Oslick.

Lodge 144

AURORA, CO

GCU's 125th Anniversary

Lodge 144 members and officers attended the 125th Anniversary celebration on Saturday, May 6 at Seven Oaks Country Club in Beaver PA.



Lodge 151

NEW YORK, NY

Matching Funds Luncheon

On April 30, 2017 the church hall of The Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary was bustling with Easter joy. Church members and GCU members met for the first time with an abundance of gratitude and old world songs.

GCU Lodge 151 and Annunciation parish hosted a grand afternoon dinner with Very Reverend Canon Zbigniew Brzezicki praying over the haute cuisine of the day—babka, kielbasa, ham, horseradish, potatoes, spanakopita, soup and a dessert buffet. Many thanks to all parishioners for their hospitality and good will and endless hours of preparation. Best wishes to Eleanor Dietz, it is good to see you are feeling better.

Christine Hulak | Treasurer

Lodge 164

YOUNGSTOWN, OH

Lenten Luncheon Report

Every Wednesday of Lent following Presanctified Liturgy, Lodge 164 sponsored Lenten Luncheons. The luncheons averaged over 20 people each week. St. Mary's Church donated the cost of the food for the luncheons. Lodge Fraternal Activity Director Jackie Leson and Barb Fleet prepared the food along with other GCU lodge members.

Total donations received from attendees and parishioners of St. Mary's were \$870.⁰⁰.

Along with GCU Matching Funds, Sisters Bernarda and Leocadia of St. Basil the Great serving the Youngstown area Byzantine Churches, will receive gift cards for food, gasoline, and dry goods in amount of \$1,640.⁰⁰.



Volunteers serving at the Lenten Luncheon.



Mother's Day Bingo.

Mother's Day Bingo

Lodge 164 and St. Mary Church Bingo held a fundraiser to benefit three charities in the Mahoning Valley on Mother's Day, May 14, 2017. A special Sunday evening bingo held at St. Mary's

Assumption Social Center in Youngstown, OH. Two hundred and fifteen bingo players helped make for a very successful fundraiser. With 16 GCU members working the bingo games along with some church members, players enjoyed a free dauber and an extra free strip of games compliments of St. Mary's for Mother's Day. The GCU provided attendees with a pen as a giveaway.

The net profit from the event was \$1,945.⁰⁰. This will be matched by the remaining Lodge 164 2017 GCU Funds for Community service of \$680.⁰⁰. Giving the Rescue Mission of the Mahoning Valley, the St. Vincent dePaul Society Kitchen and the Beatitude House of the Tri-County Area each a donation of \$875.⁰⁰.

Dr. Tom Sopkovich | President

Lodge 255

GREENFIELD-PITTSBURGH, PA

125th Celebration & Mother's Day Brunch

Lodge 255 held a 125th Celebration/Mother's Day Brunch and provided a brief history of the GCU. The brunch on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14 was at St. John Byzantine Catholic Church in Greenfield. With neighboring lodges invited the attendance was 100 people. The Women's Shelter of Pittsburgh received \$800.⁰⁰ from donations collected at the event.

Melanie Basl | Publicity



GCU cake with the new logo and the Mother's Day cake.

Lodge 271

ORLAND PARK, IL

Sports and Spirituality!

GCU Lodge 271 held its annual Super Bowl and March Madness fundraisers to start off the 2017 calendar year. The events not only raised funds for the church but resulted in a mix of community fun, jesting and even a little spirituality. "...and the last shall be first!" replied Father Thomas Loya of Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Church quoting scriptures after his assigned team, North Carolina, won the March Madness championship. Father Tom pointed out that he took the last spot left before the pool sold out. Lodge 271 unofficially responded saying it might charge double the price for the last spot sold next year!

The fundraisers resulted in over \$3,000.⁰⁰ of donations with Home Office matching funds for Annunciation Byzantine Catholic parish in Homer Glen, IL. A great start to 2017!!!

Robert A. Palasz | Treasurer



Lodge 271 President Ken Krown presents donation to Father Thomas Loya for Annunciation parish as well as Fr. Tom's winnings for drawing the winning North Carolina team as GCU members Vickie Blidy (holding Zeon, the parish dog), Anne Petrisko, Bill Petrisko and Esther Thomas gather around the March Madness board for the GCU Lodge 271 sponsored fundraiser at Annunciation parish in Homer Glen, IL.

Bowling Outing & Jr. Bowling Tournament

On Saturday, April 1, adults and juniors gathered at Orland Bowl to have an afternoon of bowling, socializing, pizza and most of all, FUN!!

Karly Krown qualified to represent Lodge 271 for the National Jr. Bowling Scholarship. Thanks to all who helped make this event a success.



Bowling Outing attendees.

2nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Lodge 271 held its 2nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Annunciation Byzantine Church on April 23. Twenty-one kids attended the fun event. Gary Dorencz had all the children line up to start the hunt. As always the younger ones went first, but once they are out of the way, the big kids finished the hunt for the eggs. The kids all got to pick out prizes after the hunt and enjoyed the treats inside the eggs. Thanks to the Krown Family (Ken, Karen and Karly) for arranging this joyful event and lodge officers Treasurer Robert Palasz, Secretary Sharon Dorencz and Vice-President Vicki Blidy for helping out everywhere in between.

Vicki Blidy | Vice President

UPCOMING LODGE 271 EVENT

Prairie Fest 2017

Friday, August 11—5-10 PM

Saturday, August 12 —12-10 PM

Saturday, August 13—11 AM-5 PM

Annunciation Byzantine Church
14610 Will-Cook Road
Homer Glen, IL 60491



Kids at the Easter Egg Hunt.

Lodge 288

CLAIRTON, PA

Easter Party

The annual Lodge 288 family Easter party took place on April 9 at Ascension Church hall. The afternoon included lunch and craft activities. The kids created a prayer card and an Easter Diorama in an egg. The Easter bunny paid a visit to hand out treats and to lead the Easter Egg Hunt. The weather was perfect. Everyone collected eggs with treats and toys along with GCU eggs with fun clay to mold.



Marcy Disman helping create prayer cards.



Garden Party guests.

Mother's Day

Volunteers pinned carnation corsages on the moms to celebrate Mother's Day on Saturday and Sunday, May 13-14 before Liturgy.

Garden Party

The Lodge 288 Garden Party was Sunday, May 21. Guests provided salads and desserts for the delicious buffet. It was so much fun to try some of the unique dishes prepared by the guests. Everyone had an opportunity to decorate a flower pot. Guests also received potting soil

and a seed pack. Darlene Capper gave a presentation on growing, preserving and health benefits of using herbs. She shared herbs from her gardens, passing them out to sample smells and tastes. Darlene also provided the beautiful potted herbs for the centerpieces and garden flower arrangements used to create a colorful display. The plants were given away as game prizes and door prizes to conclude the event.

Trish Roberts | President

Lodge 302

BRECKSVILLE, OH

Easter Egg Hunt

The Lodge 302 Easter Egg Hunt was a successful event for all the children who attended. The Easter Bunny and helpers scattered many eggs for the children to find.

They enjoyed their treat bags and candy along with taking photos with the Easter Bunny. Thanks to the Home Office for the grant and children's coloring books. Peanut butter and jelly were also collected to make sandwiches for the hungry. The lodge presented Pat Leznik a check of \$110.00 for the Hunger Outreach Program.

Who was the Easter Bunny? None other than Jean Karaffa!



Easter Egg hunt.

Memorial Day

A Memorial Day Celebration took place at St. Joseph Byzantine Church on Sunday, May 28 after the 10:30 AM Liturgy. Fr. Bruce Riebe officiated the ceremony along with representation from both retired and active military. President Judy Weitzel along with Publicity Director Diane Richey and Anne Andrako conducted the Lodge 302 presentation.

The ceremony concluded with a light lunch sponsored by Lodge 302. A big shout out goes to, Bea Chrusic, Barbara Shepard, Barbara Zimborowski, Diana Simpson and all the volunteers who helped with planning this day of remembrance.

Diane Richey | Publicity Director



Memorial Day event.

UPCOMING LODGE 302 EVENT

A Night at Canal Park

Saturday, July 8
7:05 PM

Akron Rubber Ducks vs Altoona Curve + Fireworks

GCU members \$8
Non-members \$18

Contact Jean Karaffa at 216-513-3854 for tickets.

Lodge 340

RAHWAY, NJ

Easter Preparation

On Thursday, April 6, 2017, fourteen GCU Bakers gathered for the annual Paska baking in the St. Thomas Church kitchen. The baking started at 7 AM and went well into the afternoon. This year 100 paskas, eight mini paskas for the Easter Baskets for the shut-ins project, 24 cupcake size paskas for the ECF children and two Artos breads for St. Thomas Sunday were baked.

During the month of March and into April, Lodge 340 sold Chocolate crosses and homemade Easter Cookies after each Sunday Liturgy. The crosses were made of dark, milk and white chocolate. The beautifully decorated cookies had pysanky, bunny and chick designs on them. St. Thomas parishioners look forward to placing a cross or cookie in their Easter basket to be blessed.

All three projects were sold out and benefited from the matching funds program at Home Office. Profits realized from these sales will all be donated to charities. The Right Rev. Archpriest James G. Hayer is pastor at St. Thomas Church and Lodge 340 chaplain.

Mary Bannworth | President



Volunteers preparing Paska bread.



Homemade Easter cookies.

Lodge 351

INDIANA, PA

Walking Decathlon

Lodge 351 believes in promoting walking as a means to stay healthy, so

members teamed up with the Indiana County Walking Decathlon for an event that ran from February through May. Lodge 351 used a grant to assist Indiana County with the purchase of prizes for participants in the many events planned. It began with the "Chili Walk to Warm Up the Winter Blues" on Saturday, February 11 at Blue Spruce Park near Ernest, PA, and ended with the "Now You

See Them—Spring Ephemeral Plant Walk," on Saturday, May 13 at the Rexis Branch of the Ghost Town Trail in Vintondale, PA.

Participants received stamps at the various walks held throughout Indiana County. The stamps could then be redeemed for prizes depending on the number of walks participated in. The walks ranged from Special Events, which included a

Walkers at the Indiana County walking decathlon.



family friendly Easter Egg Hunt, to individual walks on the many hiking trails and PA walking routes that are in Indiana County. Indiana County Parks & Trails, WalkWorks of Indiana County and the YMCA all participated in the planning of the event.



Fr. Jerome Botsko, Stryker Little and John Kowalski.

Check Presentation

In January, Lodge 351 members John Kowalski and Stryker Little, presented Father Jerome Botsko, administrator of St. Jude's Byzantine Catholic Church in Ernest, PA, the matching funds check from the Ham and Halupki dinner.

Patty Yamrick | Publicity Director

Lodge 401

NANTY GLO, PA

Members Attend Cardinal Dolan Mass & Dinner

His Eminence, Cardinal Timothy Dolan visited Saint Francis University, Loretto, PA on Thursday, March 30, 2017. Cardinal Dolan celebrated Mass for nearly 1,500 worshippers prior to a dinner honoring friends of the Cardinal.

Among the many participants at the Mass and dinner were the following: Betty Buffoni-Amigh, Mary Lou Straple; Very Rev Father Andrew Deskevich. Mary Lou is a member of Saint Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church, Nanty Glo and Fr. Deskevich is pastor of St. Elias Byzantine Catholic Church, Munhall, PA.



Mother's Day Social.

Mother's Day Social

On Sunday, May 14, GCU Lodge 401 sponsored a Mother's Day Social following Liturgy at St. Nicholas Byzantine Church in Nanty-Glo.

Approximately 30 people attended this popular event.



Food Pantry Donation

On May 21, 2017, Jerry Nedrich (at right), a volunteer at the Interfaith Community Food Pantry, received a \$300 check from Lodge 401 Secretary-Treasurer Steve Bender (at left). Both men are parishioners of St. Nicholas Church in Nanty-Glo. Lodge 401 received the check from District 4 President John Katana, to assist with expenses at the Food Pantry.

Eugene Ostinowsky | Vice President



Lodge 442

BOARDMAN, OH

Easter Candy Day

Lodge members enjoyed sponsoring "Easter Candy Day" for the youth of Lodge 442 and host parish, Infant Jesus of Prague Byzantine Catholic Church. Event chairmen Bernie & Ken Litwin gave the children and altar servers bags of Easter candy following Palm Sunday Liturgy on April 9.

Easter Bake Sale

Palm Sunday weekend was the Annual Easter Bake Sale held on Saturday & Sunday, April 8-9. Lodge 442 members partnered with the Altar and Rosary Societies of the church. Kolaches, strudels and a variety of baked goods were available. Thank you to everyone who baked and bought. Special thanks to Maryna Farynets, Nina Zavetsky and Mary Novak for their time and energy. Proceeds were divided and Lodge 442 donated their share to the 2017 Matching Funds Parish project for the church building and maintenance fund.

UPCOMING LODGE 442 EVENTS

Ethnic Food Festival

Saturday, June 24
11 AM-4 PM

St. Michael's Hall
Robinson Road, Campbell, OH

Lodge members are encouraged to participate in the bake sale at the Ethnic Food Festival and volunteer their time and talents to make the festival a huge success. Don't forget to invite friends, family and neighbors to taste the delicious food!

Bus to Kennywood Park for Byzantine Family Day

Thursday, July 27

Contact Elaine Chachko at
330-755-6243 for details.

CONTINUED

Lodge 442

CONTINUED

Helping Hands Day

The Lodge 442 Helping Hands landscaping project took place on Saturday, May 20, 2017. Volunteers cleared shrubbery and trees from storm damage, weeded, planted and refreshed our church grounds. "Helping Hands" volunteers received a light lunch and beverages at the conclusion of their work. Additional work will be completed as weather and repairs continue including relocating the statue of the Blessed Mother to the south side of the church.

Flag Day

The Lodge 442 Flag Day Ceremony was Sunday, June 11 with Lodge 252 as guests at Infant Jesus of Prague Byzantine Catholic Church.

Elaine Chachko | Fraternal Activities Director



Helping Hands volunteers.



The Russin, Croft and Kalinyak families.

Lodge 625

CONEMAUGH, PA

Founders' Day Breakfast

Lodge 625 hosted a Founders' Day breakfast in honor of the GCU 125th Anniversary on February 12. Everyone received a small gift from the GCU Home Office and information about GCU products and services. Secretary-Treasurer Georgia Lehman presented a brief history of the GCU.

Spaghetti Dinner

On March 19, the lodge held a spaghetti dinner, serving more than 75 meals. The proceeds assist in funding lodge events throughout the year.

Easter Party/Hunt

As we welcome spring, we welcomed the annual Lodge 625 Easter Party/Egg Hunt for the lodge children on April 9 at Holy Trinity Church hall.



Easter Party participants.



Paul Yackulich Jr. and Barb Hunt.

Check Presentation

On April 25, 2017 GCU Lodge 625 President Paul Yackulich, Jr., presented a check to Director Barb Hunt of the Franklin Street United Methodist Church's Food Pantry in Johnstown, PA. This check was one of seven presented to food pantries located in the GCU District 4 area.

CONTINUED

Lodge 625

CONTINUED

Family Bowling Party

Lodge 625's annual lodge bowling party was held on April 30, at the Richland Lanes in Johnstown. All members and families who attended had a great time.



Family Bowling Party.

Mother's Day Social

The lodge hosted its annual Mother's Day Social on May 14, following Divine Liturgy. The lodge also supported Birthright of Johnstown, Inc. by selling carnations. Funds raised through this annual event, help to support Birthright's programs and services to pregnant women.

Helping Hands Day

On May 27, lodge members gathered at the church to work on the Annual Helping Hands Day. Clean up of the cemetery and church grounds took place along with other needed clean up and repairs.

Moving into Summer

June 18, 2017 is the annual Father's Day social following Divine Liturgy. Sunday, June 25, 2017 is the 2nd quarter lodge meeting following Divine Liturgy at approximately 10:15 AM in the church social center.

Friday thru Sunday, July 14-16, 2017 is the lodge matching funds event at the Jackson Heritage Festival. Lodge 625 prepares and sells pirohi, halupki, gobs.

Note

As a reminder, members of Lodge 625 with email addresses are asked to send an email to GCUlodge625@yahoo.com, the lodge email address. A distribution list is being compiled to keep members informed of upcoming events and activities.

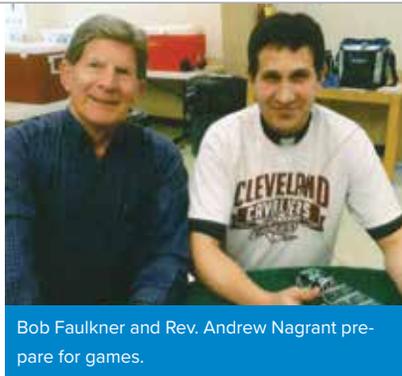
Georgia Lehman | Secretary-Treasurer

Lodge 644

AKRON/BARBERTON, OH

Card Party

On May 5 Lodge 644 sponsored a successful card party at St. Emilian Church in Brunswick, OH. It was promoted by Natalie Washlock and other GCU members. With help from parishioners and matching funds from the Home Office, a profit of \$3,870.⁰⁰ was realized, to be used for a parish project. We congratulate them for a job well done.



Bob Faulkner and Rev. Andrew Nagrant prepare for games.

Donation

Lodge 644 donated \$100.⁰⁰ to the ECF Mother's Day Project and agreed to provide a future parish breakfast at St. Nicholas.

Have a safe and enjoyable Summer vacation.

UPCOMING LODGE 644 EVENTS

Local Card Party

Wednesday, June 21
6-9 PM

St. Nicholas Church

Lodge Meeting

Sunday, July 23
following the 9:30 AM Liturgy

St. Nicholas Church
All are invited to attend

Barberton Soup Kitchen & Helping Hands

There was also a lot of Lodge 644 activity in Barberton. On April 6 the lodge prepared and served meals at a Barberton soup kitchen. Thanks to the members who gave their time for this successful program. In addition, President Sue Irving coordinated the Helping Hands project on May 13. The lodge purchased flowers and arranged them in planters at the church entrances. Thanks to the Home Office for grants to help support these activities. Additional photographs of these events may be viewed on the GCU website www.gcuusa.com.

John Keblesh



Volunteers at Barberton Soup Kitchen.

Lodge 860

DETROIT, MI

Lenten Day of Reflection

Lodge 860 co-sponsored with St. Nicholas Church in Clinton Township, MI, a Lenten Day of Reflection on Saturday, April 1, 2017.

The event at St. Nicholas Church featured Sister Barbara Jean Mihalchick, OSBM, as speaker, following the book *Making Sense of Out of Suffering* by Peter Kreeft. Copies of the book were provided for attendees, as was lunch.



Lodge members and parishioners in attendance listen to speaker Sister Barbara Jean Mihalchick on the topic of suffering. Photo courtesy of John Der-Ghazarian.

The one-day mini retreat began with a continental breakfast and opening prayer, and concluded with Divine Liturgy.



Parish youth Salome Der-Ghazarian and Sarah Dinsmore wear their t-shirts as they help beautify the grounds of St. Nicholas Church.

Helping Hands Day

The lodge aided parishioners with many upkeep projects on the 10-acre parish grounds, along with some indoor work, at the St. Nicholas Parish Beautification Day, held on Saturday, April 29.

The annual event began with a morning Divine Liturgy in the church, located in Clinton Township. The lodge co-sponsored the event through a Helping Hands grant which helped provide outdoor supplies and a sandwich luncheon, as well as several promotional items such as t-shirts and water pouches.

Val Marszalec | Fraternal Director & Publicity Director

Lodge 999

PHOENIX, AZ

Rummage Sale

The first ever Lodge 999 Rummage Sale on Saturday, April 22 at St. Stephen's Church Hall, was successful considering it was a first attempt at such an event. Sales of cinnamon rolls, cookies, hot dogs and chips added to the bottom line. Thanks to all who donated items for the sale. Also thanks to Americare Hospice (the only Catholic Hospice located in Arizona) who stopped in to support the sale.

Mother's Day Tea

The lodge held a Mother's Day Tea on Sunday, May 13. Ladies wore decorative hats and ate fresh baked scones, sandwiches and homemade desserts. The day concluded with attendees playing games and winning prizes. All enjoyed the event.

Joanie Mahar | Secretary



Women at the Mother's Day Tea showing off their fancy hats.

Events

St. Elias Church
Munhall, PA
17th Annual Food
& Music Festival

July 14-16, 2017
Friday & Saturday 5-9 PM
Sunday 12-6 PM

Enjoy delicious ethnic food, live music and plenty of other fun all three days. No admission charge and plenty of free parking. To learn more visit www.steliasmunhallpa.weebly.com.



GCU
Byzantine Family Day
SAVE THE DATE
July 27, 2017
97th Annual Byzantine Catholic Family Day
at Kennywood Park - West Mifflin, PA
To order tickets please visit
GCUusa.com
or call 800-722-4428 ext. 3809

Kennywood
Unforgettable



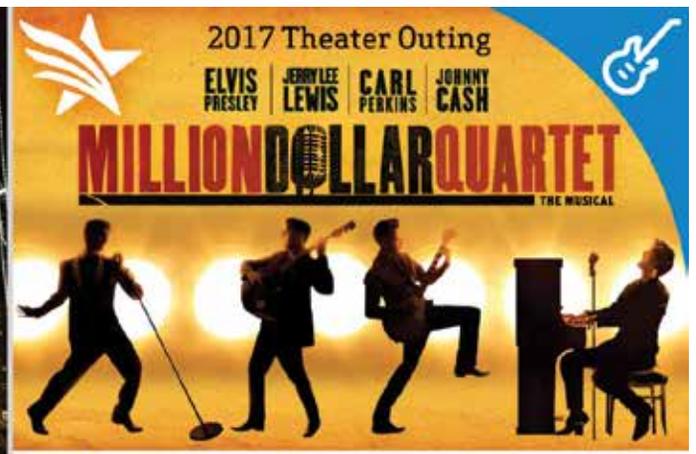
2017 Pirate Outing
We invest in the ol' ball game

PITTSBURGH PIRATES VS St. Louis Cardinals

Friday, August 18 at 7:05
Zambelli Firework Night
Members: \$20
Non-members: \$25
Sec. 327



Credit Cards Accepted **800-722-4428** **GCUusa.com**



2017 Theater Outing
We invest in rock & roll

ELVIS PRESLEY | JERRY LEE LEWIS | CARL PERKINS | JOHNNY CASH
MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET
THE MUSICAL

Sunday, August 13 at 2PM
The Benedum Center for the Performing Arts
Pittsburgh, PA

THE PITTSBURGH CULTURAL TRUST

Members: \$50
Non-members: \$60



Credit Cards Accepted **800-722-4428** **GCUusa.com**

Deceased Members

(Lodge-Member-City-State)

321	Theodora M. Adamsky, Greensburg, PA	8327	Phyllis Flesberg, Argusville, ND	151	Mary Ann Kovacs, Dix Hills, NY
83	Robert Alexander, N Huntingdon, PA	83	James Fritz, Apollo, PA	83	Arlene M. Kramer, Douglasville, PA
625	Dolores Allison, Munster, IN	83	Vernon F. Garner, Kittanning, PA	83	Elizabeth Kunkle, Indiana, PA
83	Anella Andres, Greenville, NC	83	Kathryn Gehman, Souderton, PA	254	Emily Kuzmak, Chester Springs, PA
83	Kathryn Balach, Houston, PA	336	Ann Glavan, Broadview Heights, OH	316	Mary Kuzmak, Lavallette, NJ
8358	Georgina I. Balliett, Wauwatosa, WI	66	Walter Gonser, LaGrange, IN	83	Elsie M. Lehman, Johnstown, PA
83	Nancy Bartlett, Bethel Park, PA	271	Raymond Goyda, Belleville, IL	83	Lois Lewis, Pittsburgh, PA
254	Francis Becker, Manville, NJ	697	Victor Greco, Weirton, WV	83	Anna L. Liberatore, Pittsburgh, PA
83	Irene Bekech, Trumbull, CT	83	Agnes P. Green, Meadville, PA	83	Rhonda Liggett, California, PA
255	Barbara P. Benko, Pittsburgh, PA	83	Andy Grinnik, Sewickley, PA	83	Dorothy L. Lloyd, Revloc, PA
8344	Judith A. Birtle, Houston, TX	83	Monica Gugenheim, E Stroudsburg, PA	83	Jennie M. Macosko, Mesa, AZ
83	Frank Biseda, Monessen, PA	83	Juliano A. Guiducci, Pittsburgh, PA	83	F Patrick Madden, Hollidaysburg, PA
66	Donald Bolden, East Chicago, IN	83	Mary E. Guyer, Needmore, PA	83	Lois Matafka, North Charleroi, PA
83	Keith Bradley, Belle Vernon, PA	321	Helen Hall, Latrobe, PA	83	Mary G. Mattis, Murrysville, PA
83	Margaret M. Breeze, Pittsburgh, PA	8358	Pauline M. Hammel, Hartland, WI	7	Gary J. McAvoy, Monassis, VA
83	Christine Brown, Duquesne, PA	8324	Rosemary Hanyok, Lewes, DE	83	Margaret McClain, Seward, PA
999	Ruth Brown, Tucson, AZ	83	Emanuel Harris, Warminster, PA	83	Rita McCready, Hunker, PA
83	Sadie Brzezinski, Warren, PA	83	Eleanor Healy, Perkasio, PA	83	Eleanor McCullough, Rural Valley, PA
83	Melvin Buchin, Trafford, PA	288	Eugene Heintz, Mckeesport, PA	8344	Madeline M. McLaughlin, Philadelphia, PA
386	Olga Burik, Pittsburgh, PA	83	Randy S. Henry, Indiana, PA	83	Carolyn A. Merritts, Altoona, PA
83	Antonietta Carafa, Orelan, PA	83	Rolin Herron, Atlanta, GA	28	Lois Micklo, Verona, PA
8309	Fanny Carlson, Nokomis, FL	83	Ann Hmiel, Cranberry Twp, PA	83	Harold Miller, Pittsburgh, PA
8358	Mary M. Carroll, Milton, WI	83	David Hoffman, Claridge, PA	83	Barbara Milliron Sinwell, New Kensington, PA
83	Dorothy Cernansky, Johnstown, PA	999	Cheryl Holgerson, Tucson, AZ	15	Sophie Mladenetz, Bordentown, NJ
255	George H. Cherevka, Beaver, PA	83	Kenneth Horton, Saylorsburg, PA	83	Louise Montali, Apollo, PA
83	Edwinna Clay, Sarver, PA	83	Peter Hrip, Lyndora, PA	252	Ann Mravich, Chalfont, PA
83	Harvey Comfort, Bloomsburg, PA	28	Johanna Hrydil, Pittsburgh, PA	390	Rosemarie Muehlbauer, Pittsburgh, PA
83	Francis Condrack, Seltzer, PA	83	Joseph Husowitz, Pottsville, PA	83	Uldine M. Musca, Verona, PA
83	Stephen J. Curry, Mars, PA	83	Kevin T. Hutson, Pittsburgh, PA	271	Jeannine Nelson, Woodstock, IL
83	Marjorie DeBlasio, Canonsburg, PA	600	Helen Hydock, Mahanoy City, PA	10	Joseph Olack, Aliquippa, PA
83	Lena Detwiler, Martinsburg, PA	83	Philip Icenhour, Beaver, PA	83	Mary E. Olinyk, Altoona, PA
47	George Dranichak, Pavilion, NY	254	Fred Kalpin, Ewing, NJ	83	Sophia Orlovich, Industry, PA
83	Sadie Dubendorf, Schuylkill Haven, PA	83	Vera Kearney, Eustis, FL	83	Evelyn Overly, Greensburg, PA
81	Elizabeth Dursa, Uniontown, PA	83	Irene Keister, Brockway, PA	10	Mary Ozimok, Aliquippa, PA
66	Mary Dykterok, Munster, IN	83	David H. Kilmer, Philadelphia, PA	83	Ann Palchinsky, Tarentum, PA
600	Marlene M. Eisenman, Mcadoo, PA	8344	Darlene J. Kirkner, Narvon, PA	83	Frederick Panzer, Greensburg, PA
83	Allen D. Elwell, Dawson, PA	20	Anne Koch, Hatfield, PA	999	John Peters, Peoria, AZ
83	Anna Mae Emery, McKees Rocks, PA	255	Christopher Kopay, Venetia, PA	83	Ann M. Presciutti, Shavertown, PA
8344	Thomas E. Fabina, Johnstown, PA	255	Margaret Kopay, Pittsburgh, PA	83	Ann Prokop, Warren, OH
83	Marrianne Fedorchak, Leesburg, FL	66	Josephine M. Kopchik, Crown Point, IN	83	Genevieve A. Rachwal, Lyndora, PA
83	Stephen Fedorko, Sunriver, OR	625	John Koshute, Windber, PA	83	Hanna Ramke, Pocono Pines, PA
8344	Dorothy M. Fetrow, Hummelstown, PA	83	Josephine Koshute, Windber, PA	83	Nemesia Rance, Stroudsburg, PA
83	Anne R. Finnen, California, PA	250	Eugene J. Kovacs, Fraser, MI		

- 999 Karen L. Remaley, Tucson, AZ
 302 Ronald Riendeau, Canal Fulton, OH
 83 Paul Ritz, Randolph Twp, NJ
 999 Alvin Roach, Mesa, AZ
 83 Wanda Rodgers, Karns City, PA
 83 Doris Jean Rossi, Washington, PA
 83 Helen Rozdil, Stratford, CT
 945 Emma Rutherford, Scranton, PA
 8344 Pauline R. Sarvis, Youngsville, PA
 83 Ann Schaeffer, Pittsburgh, PA
 250 Joseph Schmondiuk, Macomb, MI
 321 Frank L. Secosky, Greensburg, PA
 15 Michele A. Seiler, Trenton, NJ
 600 Ann Semanchik, Drums, PA
 53 Bernadine Serafin, Souderton, PA
- 83 Clara E. Shelly, Danielsville, PA
 151 Anna Sinisko, Alexandria, VA
 211 Stanley Slovinsky, Jermyn, PA
 83 Mary Jane Soldo, Coraopolis, PA
 2 Robert Solomon, West Mifflin, PA
 302 George Stibora, North Royalton, OH
 8327 Clayton B. Stowe, Rochester, MN
 999 Josephine Strycharz, Tucson, AZ
 66 Helen Sudicky, Munster, IN
 271 Karl Szersba, Schaumburg, IL
 83 Margaret Temme, Pittsburgh, PA
 994 Albert Tiberio, Midland, PA
 83 Robert Tipton, Friedens, PA
 83 Carla Trautman, Point Marion, PA
 83 Alfred Trempus, Gibsonia, PA
- 28 Eileen Ullman, Pittsburgh, PA
 255 Helen Vasil, Russellton, PA
 83 Dorothy Vernaccini, Sebastian, FL
 994 George Vonakis, Beaver, PA
 83 Katrina Waddington, N. Huntingdon, PA
 83 Gail P. Wagner, Sanatoga, PA
 52 Ralph M. Wegener, Pittsburgh, PA
 93 Gilbert D. Whited, Northern Cambria, PA
 83 John Williams, Glassport, PA
 52 John J. Wozniak, South Park, PA
 83 Alphonse Yauch, Pittsburgh, PA
 83 Martha Yohe, Finleyville, PA
 83 Jenny A. Zalepa, Springdale, PA
 10 Andrew Zapotocky, Monaca, PA
 271 Sophie Zavada, Matteson, IL

Remembrances

John Evans

John Evans, 92, of Kingston, PA passed away peacefully at home on April 22, 2017, surrounded by his loving family. He was a lifetime GCU member, past president of District 5, past officer of Lodge 182 in Kingston, a loyal GCU fraternal supporter on the social, athletic, lodge, district and national levels, and in short, one who could truly deserve the unofficial title, "Mr. GCU." He did all of that without being asked, without being compensated, and perhaps too often, without being appreciated. John Evans could be considered one of those disappearing individuals who embodied all of the attributes that he quietly and successfully did in his own humble way.

He was born in Larksville, PA, the son of Joseph Evans and Verna (Sidelko) Evans. John graduated from Kingston High School and the University of Scranton, was a U.S. Navy Veteran of World War II and the Korean conflict. He was employed at the White Haven State School and Hospital, and retired as a

casework supervisor. John was honored as Pennsylvania Caseworker of the Year.

John was an avid golfer, bowler and gardener. He enjoyed watching baseball, especially the Phillies. He looked forward to family vacations and spending his summers at the lake.

A dedicated member of St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church in Kingston, John served as a council member, custodian, choir member and a lot of other duties that typically go unnoticed.

As a life member of the GCU, in addition to serving as president of District 5, he was president and activities director of Lodge 182. In both his lodge and district he was named Fraternalist of the Year award recipient. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, Luzerne, PA.

John is survived by his wife of 64 years, Mary Ann Wischak Evans; son, Dr. John George Evans and wife, Colleen,

Plymouth, PA; daughter, Marlene Evans Williams and husband, Jonathan, Harding, PA; and daughter, Laure Evans Marcin and husband, Jeffery, Shavertown, PA; his five grandchildren, who lovingly called him Grandpop, Jonathan, Kristina, Meghan, and Dorianna Williams, and Jason Marcin, all of whom revered him and held him in greatest esteem as the family patriarch.

Preceding him in death were his sister, Dorothy Evans Smith; his brother, Dr. Joseph Evans; and infant grandson, Christopher John Williams.

The Divine Liturgy with Office of Christian Burial services was celebrated in St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church by the Rev. Mykhalo Prodanets.

Eternal memory and blessed repose.

Sister Jean Marie Cihota, OSBM

“I will lead her into the desert . . .”

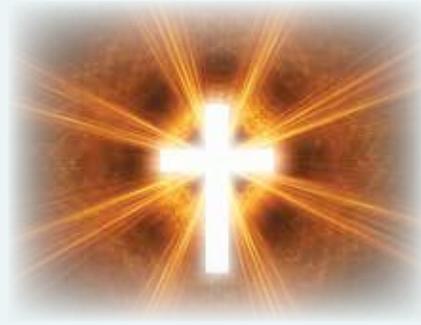
Some last minute preparations at the Pastoral Center in Phoenix, Ariz., would be the last joyful and loving service Sister Jean Marie would offer in the long list of her missions as a Sister of St. Basil. It was from that place that Jesus called her to Himself on Thursday evening, the 18th of May. In a reflection for the Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt, she wrote. “As a nun with the Sisters of St. Basil the Great, I have been missioned to live in the desert of Phoenix, Arizona. Like Mary of Egypt, I am espoused to Christ; unlike Mary of Egypt, I do not walk on water. But in this desert, I am gradually coming to enter into a deeper relationship through the grace of God.”

Sister Jean Marie (Jean Ann) Cihota was born in Mingo Junction, Ohio, the daughter of the late John and Anna (Burch) Cihota. She entered the Sisters of St. Basil from St. Nicholas Church in McKeesport, PA, on Feb. 2, 1956, and made her Final Profession of Vows on Aug. 20, 1961.

Sister Jean Marie began her ministry as a teacher on the elementary level for about a dozen years before being called to be part of the team which organized the Religious Education program and office in Pittsburgh. As part of this group, she collaborated in initiating the God With Us series for Eastern Christian Formation. Her years in this ministry included beginning the same office in the Parma Eparchy. The office being firmly established there and in Pittsburgh, Sister Jean Marie was called to Pastoral Ministry for the Passaic Eparchy at St. Therese Church in St. Petersburg, Fla. Here her many talents and gifts were put to good use until she answered the call to community ministry as the Assistant to the Provincial.

Sister Jean Marie held this position for ten years, also coordinating the

many aspects of life in the monastery. Additionally, she served as Vocation and Affiliate Directress for the community and was also appointed Assistant Vocation Director for the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh. Her term of office concluded, the West beckoned Sister Jean Marie, and the Eparchy of Phoenix became the home of her heart for the last years of her life. She was no less generous in expending her efforts in this mission



territory than in all her previous years.

In his homily, Archbishop William noted that Sister Jean Marie had the distinction of serving in all four of the Eparchies of our Metropolitan Church. Wherever she was, he noted, she was ready to reach out to young and old and in-between. She was so full of life and energy, that she brightened a room whenever she entered. When she came to meetings, Sister Jean Marie always came prepared and ready to put plans in motion that would further God's Kingdom. More often than not, the operative word was “now.” While she may be remembered for the Myrrh-Bearers Retreat, for her work in

Safe Environment, and her continuing involvement in Religious Education, Sister Jean Marie herself wrote that she would like to be remembered for “my love of the Lord and all I come in contact with! My great love and zeal for our Byzantine Catholic Church! Spreading the Good News of Christ!” This she truly lived fully for more than 60 years as a Basilian Sister.

Sister Jean Marie was preceded in death by her parents, her stepmother Mary Ferko Cihota, and her sister Patricia Bellis. In addition to her members in community, she is survived by her brother John, her sister Mary Lynn Rebholz, her stepsister Rita Ferko Joyce, and many devoted nieces, nephews and their families, all of whom she cherished with the great love that was the hallmark of her life.

The Parastas Service was celebrated by Rev. Michael Huszti, Monastery Chaplain. The Funeral Divine Liturgy was celebrated by Metropolitan Archbishop William C. Skurla. Concelebrants were: Monastery Chaplain, Rev. Michael Huszti; Rev. Robert Karl, Rev. John Zeyack, Rev. Thomas Loya, and Rev. Andrew Summerson, with Very Rev. Andrew Deskevich assisting. The number of clergy, religious, relatives and friends in attendance at both the Parastas and Funeral Divine Liturgy gave testimony to Sister Jean Marie's life of dedicated service and love of all who crossed her path.

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



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GOLF



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Du Bois, Pennsylvania

Full Golf Package: \$285.00
(Includes practice round & two tournament rounds of golf with cart, hotel room for Friday & Saturday, Friday Hospitality and Saturday Banquet)

Golf Only Package: \$145.00
Non Golf Package: \$140.00
Banquet Only: \$25.00

Half Golf Package: \$215.00
(includes Hotel)
(9 holes on Saturday & Sunday - no practice round)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18 - SUNDAY, AUGUST 20



3rd Annual
GCU *Charity*
Golf Scramble

1

SEVEN OAKS

COUNTRY CLUB

Beaver, PA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

CALL 800-722-4428 EXT 3924
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variety
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