

AUGUST 2018

# GCU

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**George N. Juba**  
President  
CEO

# Life Insurance

**T**he GCU was founded on February 14, 1892 with one aim—to give material and financial aid to its members and their heirs in the event of death. As insurance companies at the time would not insure laborers or miners, due to the dangerous nature of working in coal & iron ore mines and steel mills, the GCU took on the flavor of an insurance company becoming a fraternal insurance carrier. GCU provided an initial death benefit of \$400.<sup>00</sup> to the GCU member laborer and a benefit of \$200.<sup>00</sup> if the wife of a member should pass. Although the GCU founders had other purposes in organizing the GCU, a goal set by its initial charter was to provide insurance to its members, as the GCU has continued to do since its founding 126 years ago!

The GCU began operations with a grand total of \$600.<sup>00</sup> in assets. Today, the GCU is over \$1.8 billion in assets. The primary driving force of our asset growth has been through our annuity products that were first introduced in August of 1977. The GCU has been challenged in increasing our life premium. Over the last few years we have taken an in depth “under the hood” look at each of our permanent life insurance plans that included a review of pricing, commissions, riders and our distribution strategy that will ultimately lead to consistent annual increases in our life premium. We have recently filed with each of the states the GCU is licensed in our new 2017 mortality tables that will enable the GCU to be much more competitively priced in the marketplace.

Educating the consumer and our existing members on the importance of life insurance is another component of our plan. Each September is Life Insurance Awareness Month. We have partnered

with Life Happens, a nonprofit organization dedicated to assisting and educating Americans to take personal financial responsibility through the ownership of life insurance and related products, including disability and long-term care insurance. We invite you to visit the Life Happens website - [www.lifehappens.org](http://www.lifehappens.org) - that contains numerous videos of testimonies of real life situations on how important life insurance can be to a family. Many of the stories are tear jerking and really hit home! Danica Patrick, now a retired professional race car driver, continues to be the Life Happens spokesperson for Life Insurance Awareness Month I invite you to view her many videos and articles relating to the importance of life insurance!

One fallacy most consumers believe is that life insurance is too expensive. You will be pleasantly surprised once you take an in depth look on how affordable it can be. You insure your car, your home and your valuables! You are most valuable to your family, you should assure that you do have the proper amount of life insurance to protect your family. Life insurance proceeds can:

- Pay for funeral costs.
- Help pay the bills and meet ongoing living expenses.
- Pay off outstanding debt, including credit cards and the mortgage.
- Continue a family business.
- Finance future needs like your children’s education.
- Protect a spouse’s retirement plans.

Please visit the GCU’s website - [www.gcuusa.com](http://www.gcuusa.com) - to view our portfolio of life products and contact our Call Center at 855-306-0607 with any questions you may have.

I do believe that our Founders would be “astonished” of the financial success

and continued focus that our Society has in continuing to support our members, our churches, our communities and the many individuals and organizations in need of our financial and volunteer support. Our second quarter of 2018 financial results have been completed. The GCU’s assets and surplus continue to increase as Assets total \$1.802 billion with Surplus now totaling \$146.4 million. Net Income for the first half of 2018 also is excellent at \$12.6 million. I invite you to review the detailed financial report and commentary provided by our Chief Financial Officer Tim Demetres located on page 2.

There is still a lot more summer ahead of us as I invite you to check out all the activities planned by our Lodges, Districts and the Home Office by visiting the GCU’s website - [www.gcuusa.com](http://www.gcuusa.com) - Members - Events. I am particularly looking forward to this year’s GCU National Golf Tournament to be held in partnership with the Slovak Catholic Sokols on Friday through Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> at Oak Tree Country Club and Tam-O-Shanter Golf Course in West Middlesex, PA. The GCU held their 28<sup>th</sup> National Golf Tournament in 1974 at these very same venues that I participated in as a teenager and have not been there since. I would like to also invite all the GCU golfers to participate in the this year’s Charity Golf Scramble on Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at Seven Oaks Country Club benefitting The Carmelite Sisters of Holy Annunciation Monastery. Please see Page 41 of this issue, contact the GCU’s Fraternal-Communications Department or visit the GCU’s website for additional details.

Seven Oaks Country Club has undergone some much needed renovations and these improvements have been receiving rave reviews from everyone! Seven Oaks first opened in August of 1978. A 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration was recently held on Saturday, June 23. We remind all GCU members that as a benefit member of the GCU, you do have use of the Club

though the GCU Corporate Membership. Please visit the GCU's website for additional details on the usage policy.

I will be continuing to address the Regional Lodge Concept for our Lodges and Districts to consider, this will further strengthen our existing Lodge structure.

In closing, my sincere thank you to our entire membership and our agent force that plays 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!



# Second Quarter 2018 Financials



**Tim Demetres**  
Chief Financial Officer  
CFO

GCU is strongly committed to serving its members and certificate holders. It is my pleasure to report our mid-year financial achievements through June 30, 2018.

Our financial strength continues to grow at a measured pace with surplus reaching a new high. Despite the overall industry trend of declining life premiums and sales of fixed annuities, our earnings before realized gains (losses), remained on par with last year and met expectations.

Net Income after realized gains (losses) was \$12.6 million in 2018 compared to \$14.1 million in 2017. In 2018, we realized capital losses of \$1.2 million on sales of certain energy related securities. In 2017, we recognized capital gains of \$1.1 million resulting in a year-over-year change of (\$2.3) million. Surplus grew \$13.3 million to \$146.4 million compared to \$133.0 million at year-end 2017.

Assets grew to \$1.802 billion, an increase of \$89.7 million or 5.2% from \$1.712 billion at year end 2017. The increase is attributed to continued positive operating cash flows from life

& annuity sales, investment earnings and controlled spending.

Liabilities grew by \$76.4 million to \$1.656 billion at June 30, 2018 compared to \$1.579 billion as of December 31, 2017. This increase is due primarily to increased annuity reserves of \$75.2 million from net new deposits and an increase of \$1.3 million for securities purchased—not yet settled.

Total Income decreased \$9.2 million or 5.2% to \$166.7 million from \$175.9 million in 2017. Revenue from life and annuity premiums decreased by \$13.3 million from the prior year. This decrease is partially offset by a \$3.9 million increase in net investment income from the compounded growth in the fixed income portfolio.

Operating Expenses, before the change in reserves, decreased \$13.0 million or 14.2% for the six months of 2018 and totaled \$78.2 million compared to \$91.2 million in 2017. The decrease is primarily due to lower annuity benefits paid and exchanges of \$14 million and a reduction of \$0.8 million of commissions paid on lower sales offset by \$0.9 million increase in pension plan distributions due to retirements of certain long tenured employees earlier in the year.

The Change in Reserves increased \$3.0 million for the six

### Summary of Financial Statistics

(in thousands)	6/30/2018	6/30/2017	Change
Assets	\$1,801,951	\$1,712,285	\$89,666
Total Income	166,719	175,886	(9,167)
Total Expenses	152,795	162,757	(9,962)
Net Income (Loss)	12,595	14,073	(1,478)
Surplus (Net Worth)	146,358	133,042	13,316
Asset Valuation Reserve	19,302	18,662	640
Interest Maint. Reserve	23,224	22,870	354
Total Adjusted Capital (TAC)	\$165,660	\$151,705	\$13,955
Normal Solvency Ratio	108.8	108.4	0.4
Solv. Ratio by Total Adj. Capital	110.1	109.7	0.4

### Reconciliation of Change in Surplus

(000's omitted)	6/30/18
Surplus Previous Year (12/31/17)	\$133,042
Net Income	12,595
Change in Unrealized Gain/(Loss)	1,825
GCU Holding Company & Other	(415)
Changes in Non-Admitted Assets	(50)
Changes in Asset Valuation Reserve	(640)
Net Change in Surplus	13,316
<b>Ending Surplus</b>	<b>\$146,358</b>

months and totaled \$74.6 million compared to \$71.6 million in 2017. Reserve changes are a function of premium deposits, mortality, payment of death & annuity benefits and interest accumulation.

Financial strength and stability is a foundational pillar of GCU. Surplus now stands at \$146.4 million compared to 2017 year-end surplus of \$133.0 million. The increase of \$13.3 in surplus is primarily attributable to net income of \$12.6 million and a \$1.8 million increase in unrealized investment gains reduced by a \$0.6 million increase in the Asset Valuation Reserve and \$0.4 million loss in the investment in GCU Holding and Subsidiaries.

Total surplus is the amount we set aside for unexpected

losses from operations and financial protection against business volatility. Total Adjusted Capital begins with Surplus of \$146.4 million and adds back the Asset Valuation Reserve of \$19.3 million and one-half the dividend liability of \$150,000 and totaled \$165.7 million as of June 30, 2018. This is an increase of \$14 million over year-end 2017. The solvency ratios based on total adjusted capital at June 30, 2018 and December 31, 2017 are 110.1% and 109.7%, respectively. These ratios reflect a strong and stable balance sheet.

Hope everyone is enjoying the warmth of summer. God bless!

Tim

## GCU INCOME STATEMENT Six Months 2018 vs. 2017

INCOME (000's omitted)	6/30/2018	6/30/2017	Change
Life Premium	\$ 989	\$ 2,543	\$ (1,554)
Annuity Premium	108,312	114,355	(6,044)
Annuity Exchanges	9,283	15,086	(5,803)
Accident & Health	346	257	89
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$118,929</b>	<b>\$ 132,241</b>	<b>\$(13,312)</b>
Net Investment Income	44,723	40,862	3,860
Amort. of Int. Maint. Resrv.	1,430	1,245	185
Commissions-Reinsurance	1,382	1,228	155
Other	255	310	(55)
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$166,719</b>	<b>\$175,886</b>	<b>\$ (9,167)</b>
<b>EXPENSES (000's omitted)</b>			
Death Benefits-Life Ins.	\$ 1,715	\$ 1,294	\$ 421
Annuity Benefits Paid	56,319	64,486	(8,167)
Annuity Exchanges	9,283	15,086	(5,803)
Life Insurance Surr. Benefits	626	412	215
Accident & Health Benefits Pd.	294	207	87
Commissions	4,966	5,748	(782)
General Operating Expenses	3,565	3,321	244
Ins., Taxes, Licenses & Fees	161	203	(42)
Pension Plan Payouts	1,257	383	869
Int. on Contract & Dep. Accts.	38	35	3
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 78,220</b>	<b>\$ 91,175</b>	<b>\$(12,955)</b>
Changes to Reserves	74,576	71,582	2,994
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$152,795</b>	<b>\$162,757</b>	<b>\$ (9,962)</b>
<b>Net Gain/Loss Before Refunds</b>	<b>13,923</b>	<b>13,129</b>	<b>795</b>
<b>Refunds to Members</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Net Gain/Loss After Refunds</b>	<b>13,785</b>	<b>12,995</b>	<b>790</b>
<b>Net Realized Gains/(Losses)</b>	<b>(1,189)</b>	<b>1,078</b>	<b>(2,267)</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$ 12,595</b>	<b>\$ 14,073</b>	<b>\$ (1,478)</b>

## GCU BALANCE SHEET Six Months 2018 vs. 2017

ASSETS (000's omitted)	6/30/2018	12/31/2017	Diff.
Bonds	\$1,681	\$1,595	\$86
Preferred Stocks	50	50	—
Common Stocks	14	13	1
Alternative investments	20	16	4
Cash/Short Term Investments	10	11	(1)
Mortgages	2	2	—
Certificate Loans	1	1	—
Real Estate-Home Office	1	1	—
Invest. Income Due & Accrued	23	23	—
Other	1	1	—
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$1,802</b>	<b>\$1,712</b>	<b>\$90</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Life Reserve Fund	\$ 68,796	\$ 69,360	\$ (564)
Annuity Reserve Fund	1,533,093	1,457,906	75,186
Accident Health Resrv. Fnd.	149	141	8
Employee Pension Fund	6,105	6,956	(850)
Convention Reserve	279	279	0
Adv. Prem. & Fut. Ref. Resrv.	360	372	(12)
Pending Investment Trade	1,256	0	1,256
Accounts Payable	747	761	(14)
Refund Accumulations	2,282	1,935	347
Asset Valuation Resrv.-AVR	19,302	18,662	640
Int. Maint. Reserve-IMR	23,224	22,870	354
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$1,655,593</b>	<b>\$1,579,243</b>	<b>\$76,350</b>
Surplus Fund	\$ 146,358	\$ 133,042	\$ 13,316
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Surplus</b>	<b>\$ 1,801,951</b>	<b>\$ 1,712,285</b>	<b>\$89,666</b>
Normal Solvency	108.8%	108.4%	
Solv. Ratio Total Adj. Capital	110.1%	109.7%	

Financial information is unaudited and presented on the statutory basis of accounting. Totals may vary slightly due to rounding.

## Bishop Milan Lach, SJ Enthroned as Bishop of Parma Eparchy

**PARMA, OH** — The youngest ordinary bishop of a Catholic diocese in North America was enthroned on Saturday, June 30, 2018.

Bishop Milan Lach, SJ, became the fifth bishop of the Byzantine Ruthenian Eparchy of Parma during a Divine Liturgy of Enthronement at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, after having served as its apostolic administrator since June 24, 2017. He succeeds Bishop John Kudrick, who resigned in May 2016.

At 44, Bishop Lach is the third-youngest Eastern Catholic ordinary in the world and the first foreign-born bishop for the Parma Eparchy that comprises 12 states in the Midwest. He is among a dozen bishops from other countries that Pope Francis has appointed to the United States.

The Slovak-born bishop has visited almost every parish and mission of the eparchy since his arrival to the United States last summer and has established pastoral priorities that include youth, evangelization, and parish reorganization.

Slovak Greek Catholic Bishop Milan Chautur, CSsR, of Kosice, Slovakia, who was present for the enthronement, said his “wish for all the faithful” in the United States is that they receive Bishop Lach “as a gift from the Slovak church.”

“After the fall of communism, we immediately turned to the Greek Catholic Church in America for material needs, to build churches again. We were liquidated for 18 years (under communism),” the 60-year-old prelate told the eparchy’s Horizons publication. “We sense that, compared with us, there is a certain crisis of vocations and in the spiritual life (in the United States),” he said. “So, just as we received material gifts after the fall of communism, now we can repay with spiritual gifts.”

Bishop Chautur, who ordained Bishop Lach a deacon in 2000 and a priest a year later, was one of three European bishops at the enthronement. The other concelebrating bishops included Bishop Kudrick, Bishop Kurt Burnette of Passaic, Bishop John Pazak of Phoenix, Bishop Bohdan Danylo of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic

Eparchy of St. Josaphat, Bishop Nelson Perez of Cleveland, Auxiliary Bishop Neal Buckon of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, Bishop Milan Sasik of Mukachevo, Ukraine and Bishop Abel Socska of Nyiregyhaza, Hungary.

Archbishop Christophe Pierre, apostolic nuncio to the United States, presided at the enthronement. He read the letter of Pope Francis appointing Bishop Lach to Parma, as well as a message from the prefect of the Congregation for Eastern Churches, Cardinal Leonardo Sandri.

Archbishop William C. Skurla, metropolitan archbishop of Pittsburgh, was the main celebrant and homilist. He urged Bishop Lach in his homily to use his “energy to enliven the spiritual life of the church and protect it from the challenges of secularism and materialism which undermine the faith of our people.”

At the end of Liturgy, Bishop Sasik presented Bishop Lach with an icon of Blessed Theodore Romzha, the Ruthenian bishop of Mukachevo who was martyred by the communists in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Bishop Lach spoke at the end of the Liturgy. “I would like to express to the Holy Father my gratitude for his confidence in me as bishop of Parma. I will try my best to be the successor of the Apostles, to govern and serve,” he said.

Bishop Lach told Horizons he intends to develop action plans in various areas of pastoral ministry and eparchial management to develop a more vibrant church. He underlined the need to offer more catechesis and faith formation to the faithful, and to nurture priestly vocations.

Due to the current priest shortage in the eparchy, Bishop Lach has invited priests from Slovakia to minister here. He said the recruitment of Slovak priests is a short-term measure to try to meet the urgent need for priests. He hopes prospective vocations to the priesthood will be nurtured and there will be American candidates for seminary soon. The eparchy currently has two men in seminary formation and a third who will be ordained a



Bishop Milan Lach, SJ

subdeacon in August.

Bishop Lach recently created an eparchial youth commission to try to jumpstart more youth ministry efforts.

The bishop also said he will consider reorganizing parishes, in order to shift already limited resources, both pastoral and financial, to support the new missions and prayer communities that have developed in the western part of the eparchy.

“Perhaps we will have fewer parishes, but they will be more open (to welcoming others) and more vibrant,” he said.

He said there is an urgent need to get the eparchy in stronger financial shape, which includes reducing costs across the board, and has already reached out to the neighboring Roman Catholic dioceses of Cleveland and Youngstown to share resources.

In an interview with Horizons, the bishop of Cleveland said it has been a “a great blessing” to share resources with the eparchy and to get to know Bishop Lach, whom he described as a “wonderful guy, young guy, very spiritual, very pastoral.”

“The Eparchy of Parma is certainly blessed to have him as their bishop,” said Bishop Perez.

“It’s a great celebration for all of us, Eastern rite and Latin rite,” he said of Bishop Lach’s enthronement. “We all gathered together in an incredible Liturgy and a great moment of joy for the church.”

**By Laura Ieraci** *Published with permission of Horizons, newspaper of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma.*



Atty. John J. Urban

# Lessons in the Law

## If the Kids Live Out of State?

**E**veryone over the age of 18 needs a will, a living will, and powers of attorney for finances and healthcare. But those documents are even more critical if you have children living out of state.

If something were to happen to you, you must have these four documents in place in order for your children who are living out of state, to act on your behalf. If you want your out-of-state children to have control over your affairs, you must have documents specifically naming them. If you don't, the court will appoint a guardian and you will lose control.

What happens if you don't have the documents in place, your children are living out of state, and you become incapacitated and cannot act on your own behalf?

The court will appoint someone to act in your best interests. That person will become responsible for making decisions about your care, your finances, how your bills are paid, and everything to do with your life. It's a frightening prospect.

To illustrate, here is a story about a local woman who was the guardian of her husband. She passed away while he was in a nursing home and a new guardian needed to be appointed, but the couple's children were living out of state. Fortunately, I knew the family and intervened on their behalf. I successfully petitioned the court to appoint me as the guardian so I could carry out the family's wishes, but that won't always be the case.

Without the four critical documents in place, your entire life is in the hands of the court. Any decisions about you and your welfare will be the appointed guardians to make.

## GCU Home Office 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.

**The Home Office will be closed Monday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> in observance of Labor Day.**

5400 Tuscarawas Road, Beaver, PA 15009



# Holy Annunciation Monastery Sugarloaf, PA



Rick Hoppey, Agnes Rohrbach, Mother Marija and GCU National Director Dorothy Ann Foran.



Volunteers from District 5 and the Greater Hazleton Regional Lodge waiting for their work assignments.

**O**n Saturday, June 2, Helping Hands Day at Holy Annunciation Monastery began with Divine Liturgy at the Monastery celebrated by Msgr. Nicholas Puhak.

After Liturgy, Mother Marija was ready to give out assignments to all the individual workers that showed up. There were 40 volunteers from the Greater Hazleton Regional Lodge and District 5.

Outside the grass received a good mowing, the edges of the property and the farm animal's area were weed wacked. Trees were trimmed from recent wind storm damage, rain gutters had to be repaired on the monastery, mulch was spread around the trees, dead flowers picked off the rhododendrons and the tulip bulbs prepared for the next planting.

Several volunteers who could not do outside work, folded over 1,000 boxes for the Sisters' bake sales.

There was coffee and tea available and homemade cook-

ies for the workers as they stopped in for a break.

After the work was completed, it was lunch time and the Sisters of the Monastery serenaded us with a song they had written (Our Lady of Guadalupe). The plan to have a CD available for sale.

GCU National Director Dorothy Foran led us in prayer and then lunch was served. There was pizza, delicious homemade cookies and ice cream sandwiches.

Donations were presented to Mother Marija by GHRL, District 5 and several individuals.

All in all, a lot of work was accomplished and Mother Nature co-operated by not raining on the volunteers while they completed their work.

You are invited to help at the Fall Cleanup on Saturday, October 27. Join in the GCU fraternalism and lend a helping hand.

Agnes Rohrbach | Activities Director



The box building crew.



# Mt. Saint Macrina Uniontown, PA



Many of the volunteers from the Uniontown and Pittsburgh areas.

**O**n Saturday, June 2, 2018 members of GCU lodges in the Southwestern Pennsylvania area, along with parishioners from local Byzantine Catholic churches joined together to assist the Sisters of St. Basil in Uniontown, PA. The group of volunteers came together for Helping Hands Day at Mt. St. Macrina to beautify the grounds of the monastery.

The day was under the direction of Sr. Joanne Lickvar with assistance from the GCU Fraternal Communications Department. Following a brief prayer service, led by Provincial Sister Ruth Plante, everyone got to work. There was plenty to accomplish, both inside and out. Many headed outside to help clean up debris from the winter season and to plant flowers in the numerous flower beds spread throughout the property. There

were trees to prune and additional areas to prepare for the many pilgrims that attend the annual Pilgrimage on Labor Day weekend. As Sister Ruth has stated, “the group accomplished in one day what it would take the Sisters months to do.”

If you missed the chance to help on June 2, there will be an additional day of preparation for the Pilgrimage on Saturday, August 18 (*rain date is Saturday, August 25*) beginning at 9:30 AM—all are welcome. If you have questions or would like additional information, please email GCU Fraternal-Communications Director Basil Wahal at [bwahal@GCUusa.com](mailto:bwahal@GCUusa.com).



### Lodge 302 Member is University's "Top Ten"

Anna Tombazzi, of GCU Lodge 302 (Brecksville, OH), was selected from over 2,700 graduating seniors at the University of Akron to be one of ten graduating students, to receive the *Top Ten Senior Award 2018!* This recognition came with much hard work, dedication and nominations from the faculty staff and students. In addition, Anna's name is on a permanent plaque at the University's Student Union building. Anna is a parishioner of St. Emilian Byzantine Catholic Church in Brunswick, OH (Fr. Jan Cizmar is pastor).

During her college years, Anna has been a regular recipient of GCU scholarships.

The *Top Ten Senior Award* is given "In recognition of exceptional contributions in scholarship, involvement and leadership throughout the undergraduate career." Anna's scholastic achievements consist of a grade point average of 3.79

with a degree in Chemical Engineering, with minors in Applied Mathematics, Chemistry and Business.

Her involvement and leadership activities include being Vice President and Project Manager for the Akronauts Rocket Design Team; membership in Tau Beta Pi, an engineering honor society which represents all engineers; co-treasurer of DreamAkron, an organization of University of Akron Honors College Students who tutor/mentor local High School students; Ski & Snowboard Club and Society of Women Engineers.

Anna is the daughter of Frank & Laurel Tombazzi who are also members of Lodge 302.

Congratulations Anna!



Anna Tombazzi

Photo by Foremost Photography/Parma, OH

### "Tee Off With Tuitt" Mini Golf Classic - Benefitting Project Bundle Up



Ashley Guthridge, Gina Spickerman being held by Stephon Tuitt and Kylie Todd.

On Thursday, May 31, GCU employees Gina Spickerman, Ashley Guthridge and Kylie Todd participated in the Project Bundle-Up Mini-Golf Classic at the Robert Morris University Island Sports Center in Pittsburgh, PA. In its 21<sup>st</sup> year, the WTAE Project Bundle-Up Mini-Golf Classic has raised over a quarter of a million dollars for Project Bundle-Up, a joint community service effort of The Salvation Army and WTAE-TV Channel 4.

This unique program, utilizing over 1,000 volunteers, provides new winter coats, hats, scarves, mittens and boots to thousands of underprivileged Western Pennsylvanian children and senior citizens annually. Over the past 32 years, Project Bundle-Up has raised more than \$14 million and provided new winter outerwear for more than 275,000 individuals.

Not only did Gina, Ashley and Kylie get to meet this year's host Pittsburgh Steelers Defensive Linemen Stephon Tuitt, but they were also interviewed by WTAE's Mike Clark. The interview can be seen on the GCU Facebook page. The Home Office is a strong supporter of Project Bundle-Up each year raising funds for the charity and participating in the local shopping experience with the kids!

## Anais Haftman Begins Next Chapter of Her Life

Anais Haftman, a recent graduate of California Area High School, has received many awards, including the 2018 GCU Athletic Scholarship. Along with being a stand out student academically, Anais has used her talents to foster community service in a variety of ways.

Being a competitive figure skater for Ice and Blades Figure Skating Club, she volunteered her service on Sunday afternoons after Liturgy to teach tots to adults how to skate. Anais is proficient in tap, jazz, ballet, point and hip-hop dance. Using these skills, she was the captain of the California Area Drama Club's dance team, teaching her peers how to dance, some never having danced before.

This year she was awarded The Semper Fidelis Award for musical excellence by the United States Marines along with the John Philip Sousa Award for excelling in her ability to play the trumpet. She was a member of the marching, jazz and concert bands and was the featured soloist during the half-time football shows. She held first seat trumpet, was section leader and a mentor to the younger band members, as well.

In addition to her other abilities, Anais has accrued 230 hours of service at her local hospital's oncology unit, volunteered at Fayette Friends of Animals, is active at St. Nicholas Church and offered many hours of service to the varied



Grandmother Betty Hudnizak, Ken Haftman, Fr. Christopher Burke, Anais & Michelle Haftman.

groups and clubs of which she has been a member.

The next phase will be this fall as Anais starts her journey to become a pharmacist through Duquesne University Honors College. May God bless Anais in achieving her dreams and hold her in His hands to continue to foster service through her academics.

This article was submitted with the assistance and approval of the Haftman Family.

Anais is the daughter of Kenneth & Michelle Haftman of Daisytown, PA, a member of St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church in Brownsville, PA where Rev. Christopher Burke is pastor and a member of GCU Lodge 57.

**Bernie Karoffa** | Lodge 57 Publicity Director



Front Row (L-R) Gina Spickerman, GCU Member/Agent Service Support Rep.; Madelyn Bubeck (Gina's sister); Ashley Guthridge, GCU Sales Assistant and Kylie Todd, GCU Member/Agent Service Support Rep. Back Row (L-R) David Plattner (Cynthia's husband); Cynthia Plattner, GCU Accountant; Scott Schuetz, GCU Exec. VP/COO; Tom Wollaway, GCU IT Analyst; Pam Prodonovich, Member/Agent Service Support Manager; Sam Prodonovich (Pam's husband).

Photo by Lisa Anderson, GCU Fraternal Coordinator

## Home Office Staff Participates in Fire Department 5K/10K Race

GCU was a proud Gold Sponsor of the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Beaver Volunteer Fire Department 5K/10K Race on Saturday, June 2, 2018. In addition to GCU's sponsorship, a group of Home Office staff "ran" the 5K course. The annual race is the sole fundraiser for the Beaver Volunteer Fire Department. Runners' registration fees barely cover the cost of hosting the race, and the department counts on the generosity of local corporate sponsors to generate much-needed funds. This is a perfect example of GCU's tagline: "Investing in the Goodness of Community." By sponsoring the Beaver Volunteer Fire Department, GCU has invested in assisting firefighters' efforts to protect the people and property of Beaver Borough.



# Sisters of St. Basil to Celebrate 84th Annual Pilgrimage

**Uniontown, PA.** The 84<sup>th</sup> Annual Pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help will be held at Mount St. Macrina, Saturday & Sunday, September 1 - 2, 2018. This year's theme is *Mary, Hope of All Generations*.

"For 84 years, the Pilgrimage has brought together generations of young and old to pray, sing and share in the many blessings of this holy time. Come, bring your joys, sorrows, concerns, and fears to Her, and find peace and comfort in Her loving care," said Sr. Ruth Plante, OSBM, Provincial.

Those who plan on attending the Pilgrimage can choose from a variety of accommodations, including camping on the racetrack, Pilgrim houses (first-come, first-served), hotels, motels or bed & breakfasts. Further information is available regarding camping and a complete list of accommodations can be found at [www.sistersofstbasil.org](http://www.sistersofstbasil.org)

A light menu will be available at the lunch stand beginning on Friday evening.

In addition to the scheduled services, programs and events to be held on Saturday and Sunday, Liturgical prayers will be held at the Shrine Altar on Friday evening and Divine Liturgy will be celebrated on Monday morning, September 3.

This year's guest homilist at the 4 PM Sunday Divine Liturgy will be the Most Rev. Edward C. Malesic, J.C.L. Pope Francis appointed Bishop Malesic to be the fifth Bishop of Greensburg, PA, on April 24, 2015.

As Bishop of Greensburg, he is a member of the Board of Governors of the PCC. He also serves on the Boards of St. Vincent Seminary and St. Vincent College, Latrobe, PA; Seton Hill University, Greensburg and on the executive committee of Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania.

Other plans for the weekend include many opportunities for participation in the Divine Liturgy of the Byzantine Catholic Church. Also scheduled are Matins, Vespers, sacrament of reconciliation, activities for teens and children, and other services in honor of the Mother of God.

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

The planning for this year's Pilgrimage started not long

after the 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Pilgrimage. The Sisters and volunteers did the first preparations of the grounds on June 2. The next preparation day is Saturday, August 18. Anyone who is interested in volunteering can contact Sr. Joanne Lickvar at 724.438.8644.

**About the Sisters of St. Basil** *The Sisters of St. Basil the Great (Uniontown Province) will celebrate their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2020-2021. The Sisters respond in sensitivity and service to the needs of the people of our times, particularly those of the Eastern Catholic Church. Their ministries have encompassed prayer; education; communications; cultural & heritage studies; translation & publication of liturgical books; religious education & organizational work; iconography & fine arts; health-related services; retreat work; eparchial offices; seminary administration; and social & pastoral ministry. Today, the Sisters are known internationally for their annual Pilgrimage in Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. For further information, contact the Sisters directly at (724) 438-8644 or visit [www.sistersofstbasil.org](http://www.sistersofstbasil.org).*

**"For 84 years, the Pilgrimage has brought together generations of young and old to pray, sing and share in the many blessings of this holy time." Sr. Ruth Plante**

# First Ever Shave-to-Save Event



On April 13, 2018 the first ever Shave-to-Save event took place at the College of Mount Saint Vincent's SAAC. The event benefited St. Baldrick's Foundation: a volunteer-powered charity that funds more in childhood cancer research grants than any organization except the U.S. Government. The event raised over \$8,000.00 and still counting!! Thank you GCU for the support through the GoGive! program.  
**Jenna McDonnell**



## COMMUNITY

# Giving

## St. John the Baptist Church Parish Expansion

To commemorate the birth of St. John the Baptist and to celebrate the long-awaited summer, St. John Byzantine Catholic Church in Lansford, PA held their summer fundraiser on Saturday, June 23, 2018. Prizes consisted of themed baskets, gift certificates and cash. A church social with food, desserts and beverages was held in conjunction with the fundraiser. St. John parishioners offer a big thank you to the GCU Home Office for the assistance given via the Parish Expansion Matching Funds program.

Susan Seaver

## SS. Peter & Paul Church Parish Expansion

On Sunday, April 15, 2018 GCU Lodge 2 members participated in a very successful spaghetti dinner for the benefit of SS. Peter & Paul Church in Duquesne, PA. The event was well attended by GCU members from neighboring churches. The event also featured a Chinese Auction and other fundraisers. With profits from the event and Matching Funds from the GCU Home Office, SS. Peter & Paul Church received \$1,500.00. A grateful thanks to the GCU for its generosity.

Ann M. Bereznak



Patty Vargo and Ann Bereznak discuss the spaghetti dinner menu with Bob Kacik and Don Vargo.

Photo by Connie Kacey Smith

# District 5

**In Memory |** It is with great sadness that I announce the passing of my Dad, Edward John Dolinish Sr. He loved the GCU and epitomized what a member should be like. He started his involvement at a young age visiting regularly the GCU St. Nicholas Orphanage in Elmhurst, PA with his cousin, Fr. George Bonchonsky. Even before being married, he attended a GCU National Convention, arriving by train. In later years, he and Mom would take planes, buses and cars to the conventions to do their duty as delegates for this great organization. He loved the fraternalism. He was an avid bowler and golfer who enjoyed spending time with his GCU friends—people he might only see once a year at the national tournaments. Nothing was better to him than going to Vegas, not only to bowl, but to gamble, before casinos were allowed in Pennsylvania. He would attend all district and lodge events, such as the outings at Wimmer's Grove, the golf tournaments at Scranton Muni, bowling in the Fr. Dano tournament, the St. Nicholas Scholarship dinners, Founders' Day dinners and even participated in the District's Hoops Contest. Love you and miss you.

Sympathy is also extended to the family of Helen Sologovitch who recently passed away. She was an excellent bowler and golfer who participated in so many GCU athletic events.

Blessed repose and eternal memory.

**The Closing of Stanton Lanes |** On another sad note, Stanton Bowling Lanes (one of the last remaining houses with wooden boards), has closed in Wilkes-Barre, PA. This was the site of many GCU National Bowling Tournaments, along with many District 5 Junior Bowling Tournaments. For years, this was the site of Lodge 182's Sunday Night Bowling League. Hopefully, the lanes will be reopened by a new owner.



Helping Hands Donation: Gina Keil, Mother Marija, George & Sharon Kofel, Chris Zayac, Brandon & Boris Shihinski, Ed Keil and Ed Dolinish, Jr.

**Helping Hands Day |** Helping Hands Day was held at Holy Annunciation Monastery in Sugarloaf, PA on Saturday, June 2. After services, plenty of work was assigned. Eight members of District 5 helped with the grass cutting, weed wacking, trimming & pruning trees, flower garden weeding, separating flower bulbs and assembling dessert boxes. The volunteers were then treated to a nice lunch of pizza, homemade cookies and ice cream. Fall cleanup at the Monastery is planned for Saturday, October 27 to assist the Carmelite Sisters in preparing their grounds for the winter. Please plan on attending.

By the time you receive this publication, District 5 would have held both the RailRiders Tailgate and Baseball Game and Annual Golf Tournament. Details will appear in the next issue. Arrangements are being made for the Annual Meeting, the No-Tap Bowling Tournament, and Scholarship Brunch. Details will be forthcoming.

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

**Ilona Dolinish |** Publicity Director

# District 7

**A Day at TD Bank Ballpark** | Forty members of District 7 with their family and friends came out to TD Bank Ballpark in Bridgewater, NJ on Sunday, June 3, 2018. The home team Somerset Patriots played the Road Warriors. The ballpark also held an Asian-American Festival that day. There was a very colorful show with performing dragons. Everyone enjoyed a BBQ lunch. The outing was assisted financially with a Fraternal Grant from the GCU Home Office. The district invited youth under eighteen years of age to come out to the ball game free of charge. The rainy day didn't discourage everyone from having a great time.

Mary K. Bannworth | President



District 7 baseball fans enjoying the game despite the inclement weather.

# District 11



**Tigers Fans Enjoy Tailgate & Game** | Over 70 Tigers fans gathered for a District 11-hosted tailgate party at St. Nicholas Church in Clinton Township, MI on Saturday, May 26.

Lodge members, parishioners and guests enjoyed the pre-game fare, which included hot dogs, kielbasa & sauerkraut, nachos and pita wrap sandwiches. All provided by District 11 volunteers.

Ticketholders then boarded a chartered bus bound for Comerica Park for a 4 PM game against the Chicago White Sox. The Tigers lost 8-4, but everyone enjoyed the outing!

The group returned on the bus to enjoy pizza and more tailgate food at the church before heading home for the evening.

Val Marszalec | Fraternal & Publicity Director

## UPCOMING DISTRICT 11 EVENT

### Scholarship Applications Now Available to Eligible College Students

#### Deadline is September 3

District 11 offers two scholarship awards, each in the amount of \$500.00 to two college students. Applications can be found on the District 11 web page.

Contact President Gary Mozuras at 586-872-6142

## UPCOMING DISTRICT 15 EVENTS

### District 15 Golf Tournament

**Sunday, September 16**

**12:30 PM shotgun start**

**\$50 GCU members**

**\$75 Non-members**

**\$25 Hole sponsorships available**

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

Includes golf, hot dog, dinner & awards

Contact Bill Uram 724-287-0689.

### Annual Meeting & Election of Officers

**Sunday, November 4**

**Liturgy at St. Nicholas Chapel at 10:30 AM**

**Seven Oaks Brunch following Liturgy**

**Meeting to begin at 1 PM**

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

Reservations for Brunch must be made by contacting Kathy Kapaldo at 412-951-8331 or kkapaldo@comcast.net

### River City Brass Band Christmas Concert

**Thursday, December 20**

**7:30 PM**

**\$20**

Lincoln Park Performing Arts Center  
1 Lincoln Park, Midland, PA 15059

Reservations: Send check payable to GCU District 15 to Elizabeth Harbist, 215 Thornwood Ct., Moon Township, PA 15108

**Like and Share us on Facebook where you can find additional details for all District 15 events.**

# District 15

**District 15 Annual Meeting** | The District 15 Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, November 4 (*additional details at left*). Officer elections will be held this year. Those interested in running for a District 15 office should contact Janet Uram 724-287-0689 by October 28. District 15 continues to enjoy great success with its various activities. Please plan on joining us at one of the upcoming events and invite a friend who might become a new GCU member!

Elizabeth Harbist | President

## Lodge News

### Lodge 2

MUNHALL, PA

#### Helping Hands Day

The lodge once again came through on Wednesday, May 23 at St. John the Baptist Byzantine Cathedral for the annual Helping Hands Day. The flower beds were dug up & fertilized, trees trimmed and pots refilled with fresh soil & fertilizer. Petunias, sunflowers, pansies, begonias, snow balls and lavender plants were added to give an array of color to the front and sides of the Cathedral. Mary Ann & Ernie Varhola spent several hours pressure hosing the wall which had blackened over the years but looks fresh and new again. Thanks to all who helped to beautify the Cathedral again this year.

#### Flag Day Celebration

Following the 9 AM Liturgy on June 17, lodge members and parishioners from the Cathedral joined to celebrate Flag Day. Fr. Andrew Deskevich along with Cantor George Janocsko let the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the National Anthem sung by the congregation. Afterward Lodge 2 hosted a social hour serving doughnuts, bagels, coffee, tea and juice.

Patricia Bovee | Treasurer



President Karen Valko, Secretary-Treasurer Debbie McDonnell and Fr. Igor Vorontsov, pastor of St. Nicholas of Myra Church.

## Lodge 7

YONKERS, NY

### Donation to Parish

On Saturday, June 23 GCU Lodge 7 donated \$1,000.00 to St. Nicholas of Myra Byzantine Catholic Church located in White Plains, NY. A celebration was held after Divine Liturgy celebrated by Bishop Kurt Burnette along with other priests who have served the parish.

Debbie McDonnell | Secretary Treasurer

## Lodge 10

ALIQUIPPA, PA

### Flea Market, Bake Sale & Haluski Sale

On Friday & Saturday, June 22-23, St. George Byzantine Catholic Church hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Flea Market, Haluski Sale and Bake Sale. St. George parishioners cleaned out their closets and attics to donate all types of treasures to help raise funds for the church. Joann Hersh and her crew spent days organizing and pricing hundreds of items for the sale. Parishioners also donated a variety of baked goods, including poppy seed cake, pies and cookies. GCU Lodge 10 members, including President Kathy Kapaldo, Mary Elizabeth Olack, Diane Ketterer, Mary Ann Popovich and Mary Dickey, spent a morning preparing potato dumpling haluski to sell.

At the conclusion of the weekend sale, St. George Church realized a profit of over \$2,000.00.



Mary Elizabeth Olack and Mary Dickey preparing haluski.

### Bingo Party with the Sisters of St. Joseph Mother House

On Saturday, July 28, GCU Lodge 10 with assistance from District 15, held a midsummer bingo party at the Sisters of St. Joseph Mother House in Baden, PA. Ten Lodge 10 members enjoyed the day with 32 retired sisters. The sisters have been active members of the community as foster parents, teachers, nurses, counselors and missionaries. With a GCU grant procured by District 15, the lodge purchased bingo prizes, lottery tickets (a big favorite of the Sisters), cake and ice cream. The Sisters were also given ink pens and eyeglass cleaner. Sister Patty mentioned that Lodge 10 had more participants for bingo than she has at their regular Thursday evening bingos. Past District 15 President Sarah Lebanik has a younger sister, Sister Marguerite who is a member of the community. The Sisters are very appreciative of having visitors and the lodge members enjoy visiting with them.

Kathy Kapaldo | President



Lodge 10 members playing bingo with the retired Sisters of St. Joseph Mother House in Baden, PA.

## Lodge 15

TRENTON, NJ

The good ole days of Summer are upon us!!!

On a more somber note, let us remember the many disasters having occurred in our country and keep those affected by them in our thoughts and prayers.

### Honoring Veterans

This is the fifth year that John Kashner and his supportive crew have placed American flags on veterans' graves. A total of 480 flags were placed at the three cemeteries of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary Byzantine Church. May God bless them for their unconditional dedication!



John Kashner, Mary Ann Biko, Tom Petty and John Sognaie placing flags at veterans' graves.



### Kissing Icons

As one of Lodge 15's Matching Funds projects, a pair of "Kissing Icons" were purchased for the parish. Namely St. Mary of Kazan and Jesus Pantokrator, which are displayed on pedestals in front of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary Byzantine Church icon screen. This affords parishioners the opportunity to kiss, pray and revere them with easy access.

## UPCOMING LODGE 15 EVENTS

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Meeting

**Sunday, September 9**

**Following the 10 AM Divine Liturgy**

Meeting held in the Social Center at Beatty & Adeline Streets, Trenton, NJ

A cordial welcome to all members and friends. Refreshments will be served.

### Matching Funds Trip to Delaware Park & Casino

**Saturday, October 6**

**Departing at 9:45 AM**

The trip will benefit restoration efforts at Assumption of the Virgin Mary Byzantine Church.

### Trenton Thunder Baseball Game

Sunny, seasonal weather welcomed members of Lodges 15 & 20 and their guests as they joined over 8,000 baseball fans for the fourth joint lodge ballgame. The spirit of fraternalism was evident among the GCU participants at Arm & Hammer Park in Trenton, NJ on Saturday, June 9. The Park is the home of the first place Trenton Thunder, a minor league affiliate of the New York Yankees. On this date, the Binghamton Rumble Ponies, a minor league affiliate of the New York Mets, were attempting to send the local fans home unhappy.

The 42 GCU members and guests enjoyed a delicious barbeque style buffet in the picnic area of the Park, while experiencing the passion and excitement that is minor league baseball. Trenton's bats were thunderous in the third inning as they scored seven runs ensuring the patrons an entertaining experience as the Thunder cruised their way to a 9-1 victory. A personal highlight, was watching Rookie, the Thunder's golden retriever mascot, exit the home team's dugout, retrieve the bat and promptly return to the dugout. As if the home team win, comfortably warm weather and the seemingly endless amount of tasty grilled fare was not enough to place a smile on the attendees' faces, a thrilling post-game fireworks display ended the evening. A fun time was had by all!

Enjoy the rest of the summer!!

Marcy Embley | Publicity Director



Fr. Yuiri (in black) enjoying his first baseball game in the USA.

## Lodge 17

OLD FORGE, PA

### Congratulations

Lodge 17 would like to congratulate lodge member, Nicole Dolinish, whose award-winning photo from Greece graced the cover of the June 2018 issue of the GCU magazine.

### Helping Hands Day at Holy Annunciation Monastery

On Saturday, June 2, three Lodge 17 members assisted the Carmelite Nuns during Helping Hands Day at Holy Annunciation Monastery. There was grass to cut, bulbs to separate, flowers to be pruned, tree limbs to be cut and dessert boxes to be assembled. Please consider joining us on October 27 to help the Sisters with their fall cleanup.

### Father's Day Celebrations

On Saturday, June 16 at St. Nicholas Parish Center and Sunday, June 17 at St. Mary's Hall, Fathers' Day celebrations were held after the Divine Liturgies. Several GCU members assisted with set up, making of the delicious foods & desserts and clean up.

Ed Keil | Secretary Treasurer



Helping Hands Day at Holy Annunciation Monastery—Check Presentation:  
From left: Ed Keil, Mother Marija, Ed Dolinish, and Gina Keil.

## UPCOMING LODGE 17 EVENTS

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### St. Nicholas's Flea Market

**Saturday, September 15**

**8 AM - 4 PM**

**Sunday, September 16**

**10 AM - 2 PM**

St. Nicholas Church  
40 Church Sreet, Old Forge, PA 18518

Expect great bargains & hidden treasures, along with delicious food, baked goods and a 50/50 fundraiser. Volunteers in the kitchen are needed.

Contact Ed or Gina at 570-824-1264

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### Helping Hands Day at St. Nicholas Cemetery

**More information will be announced**

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### Fall Helping Hands Day at Holy Annunciation Monastery

**Saturday, October 27**

**9 AM**

Contact Agnes Rohrbach at 570-454-4869



Karen, Sarah & Stephanie Pavlick with Brent & Kim Kolesar.

## Lodge 28

SOUTHSIDE-PITTSBURGH, PA

### Athletic Event

On Thursday, May 31, Lodge 28 held its first ever miniature golf tournament at Copperhead Canyon in Elizabeth, PA. The Christian themed golf course had inspirational Psalms along the beautiful trail. If you bring a church bulletin when you play (which we did), \$1 is reduced from everyone's greens fee. The gentleman in charge was very accommodating providing sunscreen due to the intense sunshine.

Most of the participants did not take the competition seriously. There was plenty of socializing, help and support of each other as the golfers aimed for a hole-in-one. At the conclusion, scores were tallied but held secret. The awards were presented at a reception at Primanti's Restaurant. The Thursday Pizza Bonanza was enjoyed by all. While waiting to be served, the person who won first place was announced - Karen Pavlick. A second award was given to the person who showed the most team spirit even though they came in last place - Brent Kolesar. Both won gift cards to Red Robin.



Lending their Helping Hands are: Stephanie & Karen Pavlick with Kim Kolesar.

### Helping Hands Day

Due to busy schedules and vacations, this year Lodge 28 offered two days to help at St. John Church: Tuesday, June 5 and Sunday, June 10. Volunteers arrived on both days ready to help clean. On Tuesday, the focus was the church hall. On Sunday, the concentration was inside the church. The pews, linoleum & tile floors, carpet, glass windows, kitchen, hall, bathrooms and steps were swept, mopped, dusted and vacuumed. Following completion of the tasks, food was served. This gave the weary bodies a chance to relax and socialize.

### Community Help

On Sunday, June 10, the Pittsburgh Deafblind Lions Club held their annual pancake breakfast from 10 AM to 2 PM at St. John the Baptist church hall, South Side-Pittsburgh. Since a Lodge 28 member was chairing the event, it was a good opportunity to help and volunteer in the community. Lodge members assisted in various positions: preparing the hall, cooking, set-up, fundraisers and clean-up.

Attendees were treated to a choice of plain or blueberry pancakes, sausage, coffee and juice. Over \$700.00 was raised. This money will be used to help those who otherwise could not afford the cost of hearing aids.

Look for this event next year and plan on attending to help a worthwhile cause.

**Kim Kolesar** | Secretary-Treasurer



## Lodge 47

BINGHAMTON, NY

### Helping Hands Day

Binghamton continued to “Buzz” with activity the last few months. Thanks to a GCU Helping Hands Fraternal Grant, new mulch was purchased and delivered to Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church in Binghamton. It was a hot and humid day on Saturday, June 30 as volunteers weeded, trimmed a few trees, spread new mulch and did general clean-up of the parish grounds. The landscapers enjoyed pizza and refreshments in the air conditioned parish center for lunch!

Thank you to the GCU Home Office for the Fraternal Grant, helping hands t-shirts, sunscreen packets and especially their continued support of all lodge projects.

A special thank you to all lodge members and parishioners who participated by offering their “helping hands,” time and service for a job well done!



Check presentation to Rev. Fr. Peter Tomas by Daria Shierly & Bob Sufliita.

### Church Parking Lot Paving Project

With Matching Funds from the GCU Home Office and the income from 2018 Calendar Lottery sales, Lodge 47 was able to assist Holy Spirit Church to complete a parking lot pavement project. Areas were patched & sprayed, a small ramp was added to the Parish Center, curbs painted and new lines striped.

The remaining funds from the project were donated in a check and presented to Rev. Fr. Peter Tomas for Holy Spirit Church by Bob Sufliita and Daria Shierly.

Daria Shierly | Secretary-Treasurer



Lodge and parish members who volunteered for the Helping Hands event.



President Gene Harding (center) handing check to Tina M. while Dr. Alan Goldberg looks on.

## Lodge 69

POTTSTOWN, PA

### Relay for Life

The Pottstown Community held their annual Relay for Life event at Pottsgrove High School. Lodge 69 was represented by President Gene Harding who presented a check for \$100.00 from the lodge. Many teams were present to raise money for local cancer research and transportation for local patients, getting to and from treatment centers. Thanks to all who participated in this year's Relay.

Nancy Harding | Secretary



Stephen Petruska cantoring the Memorial Day panachida.

## Lodge 81 UNIONTOWN, PA

Lodge 81 members have had a full summer of Parish and community activities.

### Parish Activities

On Sunday, May 27, a panachida service (prayers for the deceased) was held at the St. John Cemetery for Memorial Day. It was celebrated by Father Ron Larko with responses led by cantor Stephen Petruska.

Lodge 81 members would not let the rain spoil the annual Flag Day Program held on Sunday, June 10 following the morning Divine Liturgy. The commemoration for the US Flag and Veteran recognition had to be moved into the St. John Social Ministry Room due to the weather. The program, planned and conducted by Marcia Harrer, included

Stephen Petruska leading the Pledge of Allegiance, Bonnie Balas reading "A Little History of the Flag," Julie Pillar and Gerry Dorobish reading the poems respectively titled "The Flag" and "Our American Flag." Patriotic songs sung between the readings were led by Richard Harrer. Those who attended participated in a patriotic trivia game. A patriotic basket donated by Gerry Dorobish was won by Paulette Mehalik, a US Army Veteran. Bernie Karoffa (Lodge 57) also attended the program. Apple pie with ice cream and cold drinks were served as refreshments. Lodge 81 is acquiring a new flag for inside of the church and one for the flag pole on the church grounds.

The Annual Father's Day/June Birthday Breakfast (Sunday, June 17) and St. John patron Saint Luncheon and Graduate Recognition (Sunday June 24) were sponsored by the St. John Social Ministry Committee. Janet Gaydos, Cathy Phillips, and Bonnie Balas (GCU members) assisted at these events. Bonnie Balas also made the center pieces for the Father's Day breakfast and handed out door prizes.

July Birthday Coffee Social was held on Sunday July 15 after the Sunday Divine Liturgy. Bonnie Balas, Debbie Klink, and Barbara Coldren were in charge for this month. Among the birthday celebrants was James Mihalko, whose large family attended to share in his celebration.

### Community Participation

Saturday, June 2 marked the annual Helping Hands Day at Mount St. Macrina to start preparations for the upcoming 84<sup>th</sup> Annual Pilgrimage. Gerry Dorobish helped at the Religious Gift Shop, Bonnie Balas

CONTINUED



Veteran recognition.

## UPCOMING LODGE 81 EVENTS

### 84<sup>th</sup> Annual Pilgrimage

Saturday & Sunday, September 1 & 2

Volunteers are needed

### Annual Food Drive

Mid-September

### 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Classic Car Show

Sunday, September 23

Details appear on Page 41

### 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Carpatho-Rusyn Celebration

Sunday, October 28

Details appear on Page 41



July birthdays: James Mihalko (with nieces & nephew) and Ed Horvat.



Bonnie Balas and Debbie Klink at Lourdes Grotto at Helping Hands Day.

## Lodge 81 CONTINUED

did cleaning and bed preparation at the Trinity Center and Stephen Petruska worked outside on the grounds.

On Sunday, June 10, Bonnie Balas attended a presentation by John Righetti, president emeritus of the Carpatho-Rusyn Society, held in Munhall at the Carpatho-Rusyn Society Cultural Center. The lecture/video presentation was titled, "Carpatho-Rusyns: Where They've Been, Where They Are, and Where They're Going." The presentation gave historical background, present circumstances, and made reference to GCU's involvement in the lives of Rusyn immigrants who came to the US. GCU National Director Dave Oleksa attended the event. GCU was recognized for a donation being made to

preserve and restore the building for the cultural center which was the former St. John the Baptist Byzantine Cathedral.

Gerry Dorobish not only helps at the Religious Gift Shop, but also does much community volunteering. Gerry volunteers weekly at the Uniontown Public Library for the Summer Reading Program. Here role is recording books the children have read, assisting in craft activities & special programs, and presenting rewards & prizes to the children who attend.

Gerry also helped at the St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church's weeklong Vacation Bible School Program which involves children from local catholic churches.

**Bonnie Balas** | Vice President & Publicity Director



National Director Dave Oleksa, Bonnie Balas, John Righetti and MaryAnn Sivak at Carpatho-Rusyn Society event.



Gerry Dorobish (at right) volunteering at Library program.

## GCU Charity Golf Scramble to Benefit Carmelite Sisters-Sugarloaf, PA at Seven Oaks Country Club-Beaver, PA

**Date:** Saturday, September 15, 2018—1 PM Shotgun Start

**Event:** 4 Person Scramble/No Handicap

**Details:** 18 Hole Event—Golfers may form their own foursomes—entries with less than 4 golfers will be teamed together.

**Includes:** Cart, greens fee, sandwich & drink at the turn, buffet dinner and prizes.

**Extras:** There will also be additional fund raising activities.

**Cost:** \$100 per golfer. Complete foursomes are—\$380.

**Deadline:** Friday, September 7, 2018

**Can't Make the Tournament?** We will be accepting tee sponsors, prize sponsors and donations for the Carmelite Sisters of Holy Annunciation Monastery in Sugarloaf, PA.

**Interested?** Visit the GCU website: [GCUusa.com](http://GCUusa.com)—Members—Events—September or call the GCU Frat.-Comm. Department at 724-495-3400 ext. 3810.



## Lodge 93

NORTHERN CAMBRIA, PA

### Father's Day Dinner

Lodge 93 sponsored a Father's Day Dinner after Liturgy on Saturday, June 16. Father Vasil Polyak was the celebrant. The dinner featured a sports theme and picnic food. The menu was super jumbo hot dogs, baked beans, coleslaw, macaroni salad, potato salad, cake, coffee and refreshments. All males received a gift and door prizes were drawn. Fr. Vasil presented a history of Father's Day. A thank you to the cooks and helpers for a job well done.



Fr. Vasil Polyak presenting a history of Father's Day.



The gift card fundraising booth at the Heritage Festival.

### Northern Cambria Heritage Festival

Lodge 93 sponsored a gift card booth at the Heritage Festival to benefit the roof projects for St. John Byzantine Church in Northern Cambria. There were approximately 95 booths from arts & crafts, ethnic food, local historical displays, games & rides for the children, local businesses, health care, a rug making exhibit and variety of bands playing throughout the day. The day ended with late night fireworks. A special thank you to the Home Office for a grant to help with expenses and GCU promotional items. Fr. Vasil Polyak is pastor of St. John Byzantine Church.



Good Samaritan food pantry workers.

### Good Samaritan Food Pantry Basket Auction

Lodge 93 helped support the Good Samaritan Food Pantry Basket Auction as part of the GCU Community Matching Funds program. It was truly a community project with the baskets displayed in the windows of various businesses in the town. People could go in the stores and purchase tickets for the auction. The Good Samaritan Food Pantry services approximately 100 less fortunate families in the Northern Cambria area. A sincere thank you to the GCU Home Office for the Matching Funds. Lodge 93 also supplied t-shirts featuring the Good Samaritan logo and Lodge 93 on the shirts.

John Katana | Secretary Treasurer



Lodge member Walter Rogal presented a donation from profits raised at the Heritage Festival gift card raffle to Fr. Vasil after the St. Elias Liturgy. This donation will benefit the roof projects for the parish and chapel St. John's Byzantine Church.

## Lodge 109

LYNDORA, PA

### Hoagie Sale Successful Matching Funds Project

On Thursday, May 17, GCU Lodge 109 held its semi-annual hoagie sale to raise money for the parish. Members of Lodge 109 and St. John the Baptist Byzantine Church in Lyndora made nearly 500 hoagies. The pre-ordered hoagies sold for \$6 each. The project was split up into two days with the day before the sale being one of preparation. Meats & cheese were sliced, tomatoes, lettuce and onions were also prepared and bagged ahead of time. The assembly line procedure the day of the sale went smoothly to make quick work of the finished project—foot-long hoagies. Thanks to the GCU Home Office for the Matching Funds for this project and the many volunteers who helped make this sale a huge success.



Hoagie crew working on two tables of hoagies (72) in assembly-line fashion.

### Helping Hands Day

During the week of June 2<sup>nd</sup>, St. John the Baptist BC Church grounds were prepared for the annual Flag Day celebration on Sunday, June 10. Weeds were pulled and dead foliage from the Easter flowers was removed to make space for the new annual & perennial flowers being planted. Planters were placed at church entrances and flowers were planted alongside the front steps of the church and in front of the statue of the Theotokos.

A window box was also filled in front of the rectory and some hanging plants hung to brighten up the dwelling of Father Radko Blikkar and his family. Planters were also placed in front of the parish memorial to those whose lives were lost in service of the country.

Thank you to the GCU Fraternal Grant program for the Helping Hands Day funds, sun screen and lip balm.



Terri Molzan, Janet Stetzer, Janet Uram and Helen Musko admiring the flowers just planted in front of St. John's sign.



Joey Stavish (center) leading the Pledge of Allegiance, with Deacon Paul Simko, Bill Uram Jr. and Mike Dancisin participating.

### Flag Day Ceremony

Lodge 109 held its annual Flag Day Ceremony and luncheon on Sunday, June 10 with 100 people attending. The flag raising took place at the Lyndora War Memorial with the members of American Legion Post 778 and V.F.W. Post 249 doing the honors.

While the flag was being raised, Mike Dancisin led the crowd in the singing of the "National Anthem." Bill Uram, MC, introduced special guests GCU District 15 President Beth Harbist and Butler Township Commissioner Dave Zarnick, who gave a few short remarks. Joey Stavish led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and Deacon Paul Simko gave the invocation. Leah Merhaut recited a patriotic poem and Riley Martin sang "America the Beautiful." The main speaker was Al Worsley, Commander of American Legion Post 778. His remarks were followed by an Honor Guard rifle barrage and the playing of "Taps."

After the proceedings at the Memorial, everyone was invited to nearby St. John the Baptist Byzantine Church for a picnic luncheon prepared by Barb Nemcek, Lee Kradel and Betsy Sychak. Many thanks to the American Legion for the Flags given to those in attendance and to the GCU for the Fraternal Grant.

Janet Uram | Secretary-Treasurer

## Lodge 151

NEW YORK, NY

### Cystic Fibrosis Walk

The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation held a walk to raise money in Buffalo, NY. Over \$150,000.00 was raised by over 200 people participating in the three-mile walk. GCU member Emma Lalley helped to initiate a group to participate in the walk, including her mom, Nancy and grandma, Marge Russell. Emma became involved with the event to support her friend Madison who is a Cystic Fibrosis fighter. Maddie goes through treatments daily but does not let the disease prevent her from doing what she loves, dancing. Through the walk, we are closer to making CF stand for Cure Found.



Marge Russell with Nancy & Emma Lalley.

## UPCOMING LODGE 151 EVENTS

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Meeting & Matching Funds Luncheon

Sunday, September 30

**\$35 per person / Children are FREE**

St. Andrew Church  
Westbury-Long Island, NY

Sr. Katarzyna will do a presentation on the Miracles of the Holy Eucharist. She is a missionary Sister of St. Benedict and a great speaker. A luncheon will be served along with a fundraising activity.

Contact Marge at 516-307-1016

### Breast Cancer Luncheon

Friday, October 5

**\$25 per person**

The Seasons  
East Meadow, NY

Catered lunch with a guest speaker from Adelphi Breast Cancer Support Group. All proceeds will go to The Adelphi Hotline and Support Programs

Contact Marge at 516-307-1016

### Trip to See "Gypsy"

Wednesday, October 24

**\$46 per person includes lunch & show**

Westbury Manor

Contact Marge at 516-307-1016

### Youth Day

Sunday, October 28

The Seasons  
East Meadow, NY

Children will receive pumpkins to decorate and treats will also be given out.

Contact Marge at 516-307-1016

### Trip to See "Music of Broadway"

Tuesday, November 13

**\$40 per person**

NYCB Theater, Westbury

Contact Marge at 516-307-1016

### Flag Day

Lodge 151 celebrated Flag Day at the CP Center in Roosevelt-Long Island, NY. Lodge volunteers read books about the flag to various classes. The children recited the Pledge of Allegiance and sang patriotic songs. The students were very happy to receive a flag and a special treat. Pins were given out to aides and teachers. It was a very patriotic day!



Lodge members at the Flag Day celebration.

### Quarterly Meeting

The Lodge 151 second quarter meeting was held at Francesca's Restaurant in Flushing, NY. It was good to have Chaplain Fr. Nicholas Daddona in attendance at the meeting. He discussed his responsibilities within the church. Father Nick is the Director of Deacons, assisting present deacons in their vocation, service and continued development. He also arranges for new candidates to the diaconate program. Fr. Nick assists Bishop Kurt Burnette with record keeping for the Eparchy of Passaic in terms of organization of data, statistics and efficient running of eparchial issues. He is the Syncellus who assists parishes in the New York and New England areas with liturgical and financial matters. Father Daddona is a very educated and accomplished person and priest. The lodge is happy to support him in all of his endeavors.

CONTINUED

## Lodge 151 CONTINUED



Emma Lalley.



Paul Mamay.

### Congratulations

Marge Russell is very proud of her granddaughter Ashley Pajer and Chris Hulak's nephew Gordon Hulak, for receiving the GCU National Scholarship award. Ashley is majoring in business at Manhattan College. Gordon is majoring in mechanical engineering at Penn State University. Congratulations and keep up the good work.

Congratulations to GCU 151 teens on their recent graduations. Marge Russell's granddaughter Emma Lalley graduated from Nardin Academy in Buffalo, NY on May 21. She will attend Notre Dame in the fall. Congratulations to Paul Mamay who graduated from Calhoun HS in Merrick, NY on June 24. He is now attending the Coast Guard Academy. Good luck to both of them.

### Belmont Park Race Track Visit

Over 70 people enjoyed a Day at the Races at Belmont Park Race Track. It was a beautiful day, the fellowship was terrific and the food was delicious, making everyone winners.

Marge Pajer Russell | President



Lodge members at Belmont Park.

## Invested in Education

2018-2019 GCU Scholarship Programs



# FRIENDLY REMINDER...

Applications for scholarships will be available on the GCU web site beginning October 1, 2018.

All applications must be completed online.

[GCUusa.com](http://GCUusa.com)

## Lodge 164

YOUNGSTOWN, OH

### New Flag Donation

Lodge 164 donated a new American made US Flag for St. Mary's Church. On June 17, veterans Emery MacDonald and Don Danko lowered and folded the old flag, then President Dr. Tom Sopkovich presented the new flag to be raised. After the raising, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the attendees.



Emery MacDonald (left) and Don Danko raising the Flag.

### Father's Day Bingo

On Sunday, June 17, nearly 200 players enjoyed 19 bingo games and gift basket/Chinese auction fundraisers. After prizes of \$3,804.00, basket sales of \$500.00 and cash donations of \$70.00, net profits equaled \$1,950.00. With the help of GCU Matching Funds of \$1,500.00 a total of \$3,450.00 will go towards renovations at St. Mary's Social Center. Thanks to all who came out on Father's Day to play bingo and have fun!!



The large crowd, daubing their sheets.

### Picnic and Meeting

Twenty-five people enjoyed a picnic buffet of hamburgers, Italian sausage, hotdogs, pasta salad, baked beans, watermelon & grapes with cake and fruit Jello desserts and beverages. The Sisters of St. Basil the Great-Bernarda & Leocadia were presented \$2,000.00 in gift cards from the lodge's Lenten fundraiser. This included Matching Funds of \$1,000.00 from the GCU.



Lodge members along with Fr. Richard Lambert present Sisters Bernarda & Leocadia with gift cards.



Dr. Tom Sopkovich (left) and Diana Danko (right) presenting a check to a representative of the Rescue Mission of Mahoning Valley.

### Donations Made

Serving the needy of the Youngstown, OH area, Rescue Mission of the Mahoning Valley, St. Vincent dePaul Society Kitchen and the Beatitude House of the Tri-County Area were all given checks in the amount of \$696.00 by Lodge 164. Lodge Secretary Diana Danko and President Dr. Tom Sopkovich presented the checks to each organization. More photos appear on the Lodge 164 web page at [www.GCUusa.com](http://www.GCUusa.com).

Dr. Tom Sopkovich | President

## Lodge 250

STERLING HEIGHTS, MI

*"Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labor."  
- Ecclesiastes 4:9*

### Helping Hands Day

Lodge 250 members, along with parishioners of St. Basil the Great, came together on Saturday, June 2, for grounds work and church cleaning, marking the annual "Helping Hands Day." Weeding, planting, trimming and mulching were on the agenda, preparing the grounds for the summer Michiganders have been

anxiously awaiting. Inside, the church was given a thorough cleaning. Mild temps and sunshine were a welcome addition to the day. A pizza lunch was provided by the GCU through a special Helping Hands Day grant.

Anita Cipa | Treasurer



Jack Kovalcik, Tom Slaby, Drew Cipa, Nick Kovalcik, Rick Schafer, Pam Schafer and John P. & John L. Minarish.



Flag Day celebration at St. Basil the Great Byzantine Church.

### Celebrating Flag Day

"What a wonderful way to honor our Flag!" That was heard many times at the Flag Day celebration on Sunday, June 10. Lodge 250 hosted the event at St. Basil the Great Byzantine Church in Sterling Heights. Following the Divine Liturgy, parishioners gathered outside at the Flag for a short program. Flags were distributed to all attendees, along with a "Celebrating Flag Day" booklet provided by the GCU Home Office. Lodge President John P. Minarish opened the program speaking of the symbolism of our Flag, followed by Fr. Mychail Rozmarynowycz who spoke of our freedom. Refreshments were served in the banquet hall following the ceremony. Chairperson Anita Cipa, wishes to thank all those who attended the annual event and those who helped set up and prepare refreshments.

Anita Cipa | Event Chair & Lodge Treasurer

## Lodge 254

HILLSBOROUGH, NJ

### Scholarship Awards

On Sunday, June 3, 2018, at St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church, Lodge 254 presented \$500.00 scholarships to five college-bound high school parishioners.

After the Liturgy, celebrated by Pastor Fr. James Badeaux, Lodge 254 President Professor Elias Zareva, announced the names of the winners.

The recipients were: Michael Bianco - Champlain College, Burlington, VT – majoring in graphic design & digital media; April Kibalo - College of NJ, Ewing, NJ – majoring in business; Kristina Hlinka - Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA – majoring in nursing; Katrina Stefanik - College of NJ, Ewing, NJ – majoring in biology and Elizabeth Suseck - University of Maryland, College Park, MD – majoring in genetics on a pre-medicine track.

Following the introduction in the church, the festivities continued in the fellowship hall with a delicious buffet luncheon for all the guests and well-wishers.

Creative desserts and a special cake highlighted the lunch, prepared by three GCU members—Elaine Zuzick,



Elias Zareva, Elizabeth Suseck, April Kibalo, Michael Bianco, Kristina Hlinka and Katarina Stefanik with Fr. James Badeaux.

Theresa Tomaszefski and Alberta Folsom.

During the luncheon, each recipient received additional gifts which included a 125 year GCU anniversary mug and a thermal bag, compliments of the GCU Home Office.

Each student addressed the audience speaking about their immediate plans and future aspirations. A previous scholarship recipient, Heather Bianco - Delaware University, spoke to everyone about her experience in college.

Thanks to the GCU members for making this wonderful event happen!

Charlie Bazaral | Vice President

## GCU Student Debt Program Introduced

The GCU Board of Directors, at its March 2018 meeting, approved a budget for a new Student Debt Relief program. The Board realizes that many of our young members complete college with significant Student Debt. In an effort to address this issue, they have developed a program to assist GCU members with a portion of their Student Debt. Applications were accepted beginning on July 1. During the first month of the program 13 members completed all of the necessary requirements and have received their awards.

Members that qualify are eligible for four annual awards of \$500.00 each. Members are required to apply annually to receive the award. Requirements include: GCU membership as of 12/31/2017 with a permanent life insurance certificate or annuity with a current balance of at least \$2,000.00. Proof of at least two years of payments on the student loan(s) and volunteer involvement will also be required. Complete details, program requirements and application are available on the GCU Website: [GCUusa.com](http://GCUusa.com)—Members—Member Benefits—Student Debt.

All applications must be completed online. Once membership requirements have been verified, applicants receive an email with the additional requirements. Awards are presented on a first come, first served basis, based on the date when all required information has been received and not the initial application date.





Lodge members at the bowling banquet.

## GCU Lodge 255

GREENFIELD-PITTSBURGH, PA

### Bowling Banquet

On Friday, June 8 Lodge 255 hosted their bowling awards dinner at Eddie Merlots in downtown Pittsburgh. Bowlers enjoyed an evening together away from the lanes with great food and drink to celebrate the end of the season. Lodge 255 Mixed Bowling League has switched locations and will now be bowling at Coral Lanes in Munhall, PA. The league is looking for additional bowlers for the 2018/2019 season. Email [gculodge255@gmail.com](mailto:gculodge255@gmail.com), for more info!

### Father's Day Brunch

On Sunday, June 17 Lodge 255 hosted a Father's Day Brunch at St. John Chrysostom Church in Greenfield-Pittsburgh.

Participants were asked that in place of purchasing tickets that they make donations during the event for Shepherds Heart. The organization provides transitional housing for veterans. It was a wonderful day of celebrating the dads and helping others in need.



### Flight 93 Memorial Trip

Saturday, July 14 was the Lodge 255 bus trip to the Flight 93 Memorial in Shanksville, PA. The group also enjoyed lunch at Seven Springs Resort and a stop for pie & wine. Despite a mechanical problem with the bus, it was a great day!



## UPCOMING LODGE 255 EVENTS

### 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Meeting & Brunch at Seven Oaks

Sunday, September 9

Liturgy at St. Nicholas Chapel at 10:30 AM

Brunch at 12 NOON

Meeting to follow brunch

Cost for lodge members is \$20 (all inclusive)

Cost for non-lodge members is \$30 (all inclusive)

Seven Oaks Country Club

132 Lisbon Road, Beaver, PA 15009

For reservations contact Patty Niskach at 412-849-2945 or email [gculodge255@gmail.com](mailto:gculodge255@gmail.com)

Payment due by September 2.

### Annual Hayride at Duda's Farm

Saturday, October 6

More details & information to follow

Duda's Farm Inc.

57 Creek Road, Brownsville, PA 15417

Contact Kim Kolesar at 412-999-5714

### Make It Take It - Paint Party

Saturday, October 20

More details & information to follow

### Annual Steeler Tailgate

Sunday, November 4

More details & information to follow

Steelers vs. Baltimore Ravens

St. John Chrysostom Church

506 Saline Street

Pittsburgh, PA 15207

Questions? Contact

[gculodge255@gmail.com](mailto:gculodge255@gmail.com) or

call 412-849-2945

## Lodge 258

HERMITAGE, PA

### Check Presentation

Lodge 258 President Bill Dzuricko recently presented Fr. Kevin Marks, pastor of St. Michael Church in Hermitage, with a check for \$2,500.<sup>00</sup> for the Building & Grounds Maintenance Fund. The check represented fund raising efforts from the lodge.

### Founders' Day

Lodge 258 sponsored a Founders' Day Celebration after both Divine Liturgies at St. Michael on the weekend of Saturday, February 10 and Sunday, February 11. In addition to cake and coffee, Lodge 258 also provided bagels, cream cheese and muffins for the parishioners who attended the Sunday morning Liturgy. It was very enjoyable to see the people take time to sit and relax while enjoying fellowship with each other.



Bowling Event.

### Bowling for Charity Event

Each year the ECF Religious Education students from St. Michael in Hermitage gather to Bowl for Charity. The 13 student bowlers, along with several adults, gathered at Thornton Hall Bowling Lanes in Sharon, PA and raised \$280.<sup>00</sup>. The lodge supported the event by covering the cost of lane and shoe rentals, as well as refreshments. This year's proceeds will be donated to Joshua's Haven City Mission in Sharon, PA.



Lodge & church members celebrating Flag Day.



### Flag Day

Flag Day was celebrated on Thursday, June 14 at St. Michael Church and was sponsored by the lodge. New flags were raised and a pizza social followed. Thanks to Michael & Alyssa Vasil who took photos at the event along with Sophie Misinay and her daughter who prepared the delicious patriotic cupcakes.

William Dzuricko | President

## Lodge 271

ORLAND PARK, IL

### St. Thomas Day/Easter Egg Hunt

Another cool day to celebrate St. Thomas Day and the annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 8. There were quite a few kids who attend the fun event. They retrieved the eggs from the grass and came back to the tables to receive goodies and toys. The children had a great time.

Thanks to the Krown Family (Ken, Karen & Karly) who arranged this joyful event. Secretary Sharon Dorencz and Vice President Vicki Blidy also assisted.



Found One!!



Bowling outing participants.

### Bowling Outing

On May 20, Lodge 271 held its annual bowling outing at Orland Bowl. Lodge teen member Karly Krown and friends enjoyed the bowling and fraternalism. Other lodge members in attendance included Larry & Mary Ventrella, Ken (lodge president), Karen, Krystal & Kelly Krown, Ann Michovich, Sharon (lodge secretary) & Gary Dorencz (lodge athletic director) and Barbie Dorencz with her “future teens” Clara & Kurt Dorencz.

After bowling, everyone enjoyed pizza and refreshments. What a great way to spend an afternoon!

Vicki Blidy | Vice President



Sarris chocolate tasting.

## Lodge 288

CLAIRTON, PA

### June Activities

On Saturday, June 2, 2018, guests were invited to a Norwex fundraiser for Alzheimer’s at Ascension Hall. Norwex products are environmentally safe with a wide range of cleaning uses. We were lucky to get the support of Kim Kolesar when the demonstrator canceled the night before the event. Kim went above and beyond lending her assistance to set up, demonstrate, take orders and locate another local demonstrator to sponsor the fundraiser.

After the demonstration, guests attended a cover dish luncheon. Everyone brought a delicious food item to share and Norm Candelore, a presenter from Sarris Candy, provided the interesting history of Sarris Chocolate’s located in Canonsburg, PA. He also brought a variety of samples for everyone to try. There were enough wonderful chocolates that guests packed up bags to take home! Norm donated a gift basket of Sarris specialties to be awarded as a door prize which was won by an excited Lauren Sowko.

On Father’s Day, the dads were honored with carnations at Liturgy. Helen Sowko volunteered to greet each of the dads and pin their lapels.

### Future Plans

Lodge 288 is working on plans for a Helping Hands Day at the cemetery and a kids’ sports relay race.

Trish Roberts | President



Lauren Sowko & Sarris presenter Norm Candelore.

## Lodge 302

BRECKSVILLE, OH

### Memorial Day

The annual Memorial Day celebration was held at St. Joseph Byzantine Church on Sunday, May 27, 2018 following the 10:30 AM Liturgy. Fr. Bruce Riebe and Lodge 302 President Judy Weitzel officiated at the ceremony outside the church. There was representation from numerous retired military veterans. The service concluded with the singing of God Bless America. A light lunch sponsored by Lodge 302 followed the ceremony. A big shout out to all the volunteers who helped with planning this day of remembrance.



Veterans who attended the Memorial Day celebration.

## UPCOMING LODGE 302 EVENTS

### Clambake Fundraiser

Saturday, September 29

Serving 5:30-7 PM

**\$30-1 dozen Clams and Half Chicken**

**\$9-per dozen for extra Clams**

**\$23-Chicken Dinner**

**\$4-Children's Meal (hot dog, chips & cookie)**

St. Joseph's Church-New Orleans Party Center  
Brecksville, OH

Presale Tickets Only

Benefits Special Spaces Cleveland

*More information located at right*

### Trunk or Treat

Sunday, October 28

Following 10:30 AM Liturgy

St. Joseph's Church, Brecksville, OH

### 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter/Annual Meeting

Sunday, November 4

Following 10:30 AM Liturgy

St. Joseph's Church, Brecksville, OH

### Clambake Fundraiser

A clambake fundraiser for "Special Spaces Cleveland" will be held on Saturday, September 29, 2018 in the New Orleans Party Center at St. Joseph Byzantine Catholic Church. Dinners will be served from 5:30 – 7:00 PM. The cost for a dozen clams and a half chicken dinner—\$30.<sup>00</sup>, chicken dinner only—\$23.<sup>00</sup>, children's meal—\$4.<sup>00</sup> and extra clams—\$9.<sup>00</sup>. The meal includes roll, broth, coleslaw, sweet potato or baked potato and corn on the cob. There will be a cash bar, 50/50 fundraiser and Chinese auction. Presale tickets only—deadline Sunday, September 23. For tickets, please contact Jean Karaffa 216-513-3854 or jmk0724@aol.com or Judy Weitzel 440-526-8395 or jw1049@aol.com or Bonnie Ciresi 330-221-7001 or bjc2@att.net.

Special Spaces is a non-profit corporation founded for the development and construction of special bed rooms for children with a critical illness who spend a lot of time at home in their room. The rooms are a special place designed and dreamed up by the child to become a place that is unique and loved by him or her. Please help us to make this a successful fundraising event!

Diane Richey | Publicity Director



## Lodge 316

PHILLIPSBURG, NJ

### Summer Activities

On June 30 and July 1 & 2, Thomas the Train came to Phillipsburg, NJ. There were train rides, a petting zoo, children's activities and even a trip to a deserted mine where you could search for gems. These activities are an annual sell out and parking is at a premium.

Thanks to a member of SS. Peter & Paul Church who owns a parking lot near the train rides, Lodge 316 was able to use the parking for the event as a Matching Funds project. Partnering with the parishioners of SS. Peter &



Paul Church, parking for the three days was offered to the attendees. Volunteers gave many hours to this successful project! We want to thank all who volunteered their time to raise funds for the church as well as the GCU for this great program!

Earlier in June, a Helping Hands Day took place on the church grounds. It seemed as though every weekend was rainy, postponing the work until June 23. Members and parishioners mowed, pruned, trimmed, planted



Helping Hands Day.

and mulched. The smaller than usual workforce worked hard and accomplished a lot in a short amount of time. Thanks to all the workers and the GCU for making this day possible!

**Kathleen Meddaugh** | Secretary-Treasurer



Deacon Tom Shubeck with boy scout, lodge and church members.

## Lodge 340

RAHWAY, NJ

### Flag Day Ceremony

On Sunday, July 1, 2018, GCU Lodge 340 held its annual Flag Day Ceremony at St. Thomas Byzantine Catholic Church following the 9 AM Liturgy. The ceremony was attended by approximately 50 parishioners and members.

Deacon Tom Shubeck led the assembled in prayer followed by a local musician playing "Taps." Parishioners Adam & Kevin Casaliggi, representing Boy Scout Troop 309 of South Plainfield, NJ, raised the Flag and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. The assembled sang "America the Beautiful" led by cantor Patricia Dietz.

A social gathering with food and fellowship in the patio room of St. Thomas Church followed the ceremony.

**Dorothy Koenig** | Treasurer

## Lodge 351

INDIANA, PA

### Helping Hands Day

Lodge 351 held a Helping Hands Day at St. Jude Church in Ernest, PA. Ray & Ellen Kulis and their nephew Nicholas, John Kowalski and his son Nicholas, Agnes Klyap and Patty Yamrick worked planting marigolds and day lilies, mulching and weeding the church grounds.

Theresa Frederick came from Catonsville, MD to plant pachysandra along a hillside near the rectory to help stop erosion. This has been a great help during the months of June and July as the town of Ernest had very heavy rains which caused some land subsidence in the town. Not on the hill at St. Jude Byzantine Catholic Church where the pachysandra did their job and held the ground in place. Hopefully by next year, the hillside will be completed.

Lodge 351 is looking towards completing a new project on the church grounds. The Veterans Memorial, next to the rectory, is in need of maintenance. Members would like to work toward bringing this memorial back to one that is worthy of the dedication and service of the veterans that it honors.

**Patty Yamrick** |  
Publicity Director



Theresa Frederick planting pachysandra.



New flags being raised.

**Lodge 360**  
CAMPBELL, OH

**Flag Day**

Lodge 360 sponsored a Flag Day Ceremony on Sunday, June 10. New American and Vatican flags were blessed and raised on the parish flag pole. A reception was held afterwards at St. Michael's Hall.

Lisa Kinnick Romito |  
Secretary Treasurer



Flag Day at Holy Ghost Church.

**Lodge 390**  
MCKEES ROCKS, PA

**Flag Day 2018**

Lodge 390 of Holy Ghost Byzantine Church marked this year's Flag Day on June 14 with a short program. President Tina Burns welcomed members and guests reminding them to pray for those who serve our country and those who gave their lives defending the freedom the Flag represents. Veteran members raised the Flag and at 7 PM the assembly joined in the "Pause for the Pledge" originated in 1980 at the Star-Spangled Banner Flag House in Baltimore, MD. As the program concluded, the assembly sang patriotic songs. The annual Flag Day gathering concluded with a social in the parish hall.

Steve Puluka | Secretary Treasurer



Veronica Melcotti, Alyssia Lanzendorfer, Mary Lou Straple, Andrea Sheesley, Jennifer Clossin, Betty Nedrich, Mary Ann Ford and Marina Morey-Sell.

**Lodge 401**  
NANTY GLO, PA

**Chicken & Biscuit Dinner**

St. Nicholas Church hall was the location for the recent GCU Lodge 401 Chicken & Biscuit Dinner.

The dinner was successful in many ways: the number of volunteers was up, the number of dinners sold was up and the profits were up. This kind of success is due to a dedicated staff and loyal patrons.

Adding to the dinner this year was a small flea market in the rear of the hall.

Gene Ostinowsky | Vice President

## Greater Hazleton Regional Lodge

The three H's of summer (Hazy, Hot & Humid) are upon us along with the infamous thunderstorms that strike at a moment's notice. In no time we will be asking, "where has summer gone?" The days are already getting shorter and lo and behold fall will be upon us in the next month.

### Helping Hands Day at Holy Annunciation Monastery

Helping Hands Day at Holy Annunciation Monastery had a good turnout of people. The volunteers were there to lend a helping hand, however and wherever it was needed. A lot of work was completed in 3 short hours. The complete story can be found on page 6.



John Kanyak & Jerome Sabulski getting ready to mulch the trees.



Ann Marie Betterly, Gina Romancheck, Janice Kianyanyak and Nancy Zalutko trimming bushes.

### Byzantine Family Day at Knoebels Park

Sunday, June 3 was the annual Byzantine Family Day at Knoebels Park in Elysburg, PA. Mother Nature co-operated this year and all that attended were glad the rain held off until it was time to leave for home. GHRL provided a bus for the people from the surrounding area and the event was well attended. There were door prizes, free gifts for all, bingo games with prizes and gift cards were awarded. A Moleben prayer service was held and also a sing-along. Some of the folks enjoyed lunch at the pavilion while others opted to go on their own, to eat, enjoy the rides and go gift shopping. Thanks to the GCU Home Office for their assistance in planning and helping to make the day a success.



Members and friends enjoy bingo at Knoebels Park.

### Helping Hands Day at St. John's

The lodge had a Helping Hands Day event at St. John BC Church in Hazleton on Thursday, June 7. The focus was on cleaning the church in preparation for the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. The volunteers energetically got to work and cleaned the church from rafter to rafter. All the church pews were washed down. Once everything was done, the church had a nice fresh clean smell. Thanks for the grant from the Home Office and the GCU t-shirts.

## UPCOMING GHRL EVENTS

### Back to School Bumper Bowling Party

Sunday, August 26

1 PM

Bowl-Arena, 190 Susquehanna Blvd.  
West Hazleton, PA 18202

### Bus Trip to Hollywood Casino

Sunday, September 16

### Hay Ride at Thomas Farms

Sunday, October 7

1 PM

### 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Meeting

Sunday, October 14

1 PM

SS. Peter & Paul, Beaver Meadows, PA

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

Saturday, October 27

9 AM

Contact Agnes Rohrbach at  
570-454-4869

### Christmas Show

Saturday, November 17

Hunterdon Hills Playhouse

Contact Agnes Rohrbach at  
570-454-4869

### St. Nicholas Dinner

Sunday, December 2

Capriotti's

CONTINUED

## Greater Hazleton Regional Lodge

CONTINUED

### Bakeless Bake Sale

In conjunction with the Home Office a Special Matching Funds project was held for Holy Annunciation Monastery. A bakeless bake sale was held throughout the month of July. Proceeds will be gathered at the August GHRL meeting and sent to the Home Office to be combined with Matching Funds and then presented to the Monastery. Thanks to the GCU Fraternal-Communications Department for assisting with the success of this event.

### “Joseph Durkay” Memorial Holupki Open

The 41<sup>st</sup> annual “Joseph Durkay” Memorial Holupki Open was held on Saturday, July 14 at White Birch Golf Course. The event drew 87 golfers this year. Please see page 44 for complete results.

### Looking Ahead

A casino trip was held on Sunday, July 22—Sands Casino and another is planned for September.

The GCU’ers bowling league will have a re-organization meeting on Wednesday, August 29 at Bowl-Arena at 6:30 PM. The regular bowling season begins on Wednesday, September 5. If you are interested in bowling, come to the meeting and join in the fun.

We will also be selling lottery calendars for the month of November—this will be our Matching Funds project for Parish Matching Funds—this year our recipient will be Holy Dormition Friary. If you see someone selling the tickets, buy a ticket and help us to



Volunteers from the St. John's Helping Hands Day. Front row: Deacon Larry Foran, Marie Powell, John & Anne Timcho, Francine Schreffer and Barb Kubiskin. Back row: Jeff Yurek, Monica Washko, Anita Keselick, Ron Yuhas, Judy Betterly, Janice Gilbert and Ann Marie Betterly.

reach our goal for this worthwhile project. It will be greatly appreciated.

As always, remember that sometimes dates are subject to change. If you are unsure about an event or a meeting, 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 | GHRL Secretary



Michael Yewcic & Paul Yackulich Jr. working at Helping Hands Day.

## Lodge 625 Happenings

CONEMAUGH, PA

### Helping Hands Day

Lodge 625 has been very busy this summer. The season began with members working on the cemetery grounds during the Helping Hands Day project on Saturday, May 26. Volunteers gathered old flower arrangements and mulched around the cemetery circle. New solar lights for the cemetery entrance sign were also installed.

### Annual Jackson Heritage Festival

In June & July lodge volunteers prepared for the annual Parish Matching Funds event by making pirohi, halushki, halupki and gobs for the Annual Jackson Heritage Festival. The event was held the weekend of July 20 through July 22 at the Jackson Township Memorial Park in Vinco, PA. Ten roasters of halushki, over 300 halupki and 113 dozen pirohi were prepared for the event. By 7 PM on Saturday, July 21 all of the food was sold out. Thank you to the GCU Home Office for the Matching Funds for this event.



Mary Dubay and Paul Yackulich Jr. in the background, making pirohi.

### Looking Back

Lodge members and their families attended the annual Byzantine Catholic Day at Kennywood Park in West Mifflin, PA on Thursday, July 26. Lodge volunteers prepared items for the annual AmeriServ Music Festival, which was held on August 3 & 4 at People's Natural Gas Park in Johnstown PA. This annual event will be the lodge's Community Matching Funds project.

### Looking Forward

On Sunday, August 19, the lodge in conjunction with Holy Trinity Byzantine Catholic Church, will hold the annual parish picnic at Sandy Run Park in Sidman, PA. The venue was moved in order to accommodate attendees as the park has a kitchen facility as well as pavilions.

Sunday, August 26 is the Lodge 625 third quarter meeting in the church hall at Holy Trinity beginning at approximately 10:15 AM. Moving into the fall, the lodge will hold a chicken dinner on Sunday, September 16 from 11 AM to 2 PM in the church hall at Holy Trinity.

Members of Lodge 625 who would like to be added to the email list are asked to send an email to the lodge email address: gculodge625@yahoo.com.

Georgia Lehman | Secretary-Treasurer

## UPCOMING LODGE 625 EVENTS

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Meeting

**Sunday, August 26**

**Following Liturgy (approx. 10:15 AM)**

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

### Stuffed Chicken Dinner

**Sunday, September 16**

**11 AM-2 PM**

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

### Kids' Halloween Party

**Saturday, October 27**

**Time to be announced**

Holy Trinity Church  
217 Fourth Street, Conemaugh, PA

Contact Georgia Lehman at 814-535-5636 or gculodge625@yahoo.com

## Lodge 644

AKRON-BARBERTON, OH

### Helping Hands Day

This past spring, St. Nicholas parish, held their Helping Hands project with the planting of beautiful flower pots. As part of their project GCU parishioners at St. Emilians in Brunswick, OH are planning to plant a Linden (Lipa) tree in the fall. In keeping with the Slavic Byzantine tradition, branches of this tree are used on Pentecost to decorate the churches. The tree is very prevalent in the Carpathian Homeland.



Sue Irving and Irene Blike.

### Night of the Aces & Fiesta Card Party

Members of the lodge were busy with two Matching Funds activities. On Friday, May 18 members at St. Emilian Parish in Brunswick made the Night of the Aces a success. Members helped-out in activities such as card dealing and preparation of auction baskets. On Wednesday, June 13 in Barberton, lodge members hosted a Fiesta Card Party complete with delicious tacos, rice and refried beans. Most attendees were lucky and went home with door prizes and auction baskets.



Card party workers.



Sue Irving picks a winning ticket.

## UPCOMING LODGE 644 EVENT

### 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Fr. John Keblesh Memorial Golf Outing

**Saturday, August 25  
2 PM**

**\$90 per golfer (includes 18 holes of golf, cart, lunch at the turn and a steak dinner with refreshments (beer, soda & water))**

**\$25 Dinner only**

Bunker Hill Golf Club  
3060 Pearl Road, Medina, OH

Come join us and enjoy a day of great golf, food, fellowship and a lot of FUN!!

Register on line at our event page on the Bunker Hill Golf web site.

Or contact Mike Meador at 440-572-2178 or michael-meador@sbcglobal.net



Soup kitchen workers.

### Soup Kitchen

On Thursday, July 12, Lodge 644 hosted the weekly soup kitchen at First Presbyterian Church in Barberton. The menu included tasty pulled pork sandwiches and everyone enjoyed the dessert... ice cream!

Rick Schen | Publicity



Secretary-Treasurer Bob Kulasa presents Fr. Joseph Repko with a check from funds raised at the Lenten fish frys. Lodge Vice President George Nagrant, director of the fish frys, looks on. Photo by Val Marszalec

## Lodge 860

DETROIT, MI

### Annual Lenten Fish Frys

With Lodge 860 Vice President George Nagrant at the helm, a volunteer crew of lodge members and parishioners prepared and served delicious Lenten meals at St. Nicholas Church in Clinton Township, MI each Friday during the Great Fast earlier this year.

Each week, prior to Presanctified Liturgy, the meatless fare featured golden-crisp fried cod fish, French fries, New England-style clam chowder, and various side dishes at reasonable prices. Total season proceeds were once again enough to reach the maximum Matching Funds amount from the GCU Home Office. The fundraiser provided of over \$3,000.<sup>00</sup> for the church.

Val Marszalec | Fraternal Activities & Publicity Director

## Lodge 945

DUNMORE, PA

### Helping Hands Day

Members of Lodge 945 in Dunmore traveled to Holy Annunciation Monastery in Sugarloaf, PA on June 2, 2018 to take part in GCU Helping Hands Day. Those participating included GCU National Director George Kofel, Sharon Kofel, Boris Shihinski, Brandon Shihinski and Chris Zayac. After a morning of hard work, volunteers were treated to pizza and refreshments. Everyone especially enjoyed the delicious variety of baked cookies the Carmelite Sisters are famous for.

The GCU has designated the Carmelite Nuns



Mother Marija, National Director George Kofel, Chris Zayac and Brandon & Boris Shihinski.

as their beneficiary for a 2018 Special Matching Funds Grant. Lodge 945 utilized this grant by conducting a fundraiser which raised \$801.<sup>63</sup>. With the Matching Funds provided by the GCU, Lodge 945 was able to donate \$1,603.<sup>26</sup> to Holy Annunciation Monastery.



Flag Day Ceremony. GCU National Director George Kofel, Navy veteran Brandon Shihinski, Army veteran William Danalich, current Navy Officer (home on leave) Carissa Shihinski and Lodge President Paul Dunda.

### Flag Day Ceremony

Lodge 945 held a Flag Day Ceremony at St. Michael the Archangel Byzantine Catholic Church in Dunmore, PA after the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, June 10, 2018. Military veteran William Danalich let the group in the Pledge to the Flag. GCU National Director George Kofel delivered a brief history of the Flag and the origination of Flag Day to the 20 plus adults and children in attendance. Adults were given a flag lapel pin while the children were given red, white and blue pinwheels. A poem card entitled "Our American Flag" with a lapel flag attached was also passed out to parishioners attending the June 9 & 10 weekend Liturgies.

Elsie Kolcun | Fraternal Director



## Lodge 999

PHOENIX, AZ

### Americare Hospice Spaghetti Dinner

A large number of people were present for this fundraising event. Attendees enjoyed salad, a spaghetti dinner and ice cream dessert. Everything was prepared by GCU Lodge 999 members. The early part of the day was spent setting up and cooking. Dinner service began at 3 PM and ended at 7 PM.

In addition to dinner, there were multiple fundraising events that took place during the day. A silent auction, 50/50 drawing and bake sale helped to generate additional income for Americare Hospice.

Joanie Mahar | President



# For Your Information

## Events

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Farewell to Summer Charity Golf Scramble

**Saturday, September 15**

**1 PM Shotgun Start**

**\$100 per golfer or \$380 per foursome**

**\$50 Hole Sponsorship**

**Deadline Friday, September 7**

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

Benefits The Carmelite Sisters,  
Sugarloaf, PA

Applications available at GCUusa.com—  
Members—Events—September

Contact Basil Wahal at 724-683-3924

### 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Classic Car Show

**Sunday, September 23**

**Registration at 12 NOON**

**Concludes at 4 PM—Rain or Shine**

**\$10 Registration Fee**

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

The first 150 cars will receive dash plaques and gifts.

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

Classes include: 1900-1930, 1931-1950, 1951-1960, 1961-1965, 1966-1970, 1971-1976, 1977-1987, 1988-2001, Street Rod/Modified, Trucks 1959 and older and 1960-2001. No judging for 2003 and newer.

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

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

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

**Saturday, October 27**

**9 AM**

Contact Agnes Rohrbach at  
570-454-4869

### 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Carpatho-Rusyn Celebration

**Sunday, October 28**

**Divine Liturgy 9 AM**

**12 NOON to 6 PM**

**FREE**

St. John the Baptist Church Social Hall  
201 E. Main Street, Uniontown, PA

Featuring ethnic foods such as holubki, pirohi, halushki, kolbasi and sauerkraut, soup, potato pancakes, pagach, baked goods and much more. The Slavjane Folk Ensemble performs at 2 PM; a Rusyn folk music group will entertain at 12:30 & 4 PM; a speaking presentation on Rusyn culture and customs at 1 PM; a Moleben Service at 3 PM and a speaker and/or video on Rusyn culture and customs at 4 PM. (*Program subject to change.*) The Carpatho-Rusyn Society will have a display of artifacts, authentic costumes, photographs, documents and will assist in genealogical questions.

There will be pysanky, iconography, wood burning, bobbin lace making, folk art demonstrations, music, church tours, children's activities (*including egg art, cookie decorating, coloring/craft projects, and storytelling*), crafts, parish cookbooks, videos and much more. Handicapped accessible. Admission is free. For information call 724-438-6027 M-F 9 AM-3 PM, (leave message.)

### 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual St. Nicholas Charity Dinner

**Sunday, December 9**

**Moleben at 4 PM**

**Dinner at 6 PM**

St. John the Baptist Cathedral Center  
Munhall, PA

Benefits the Byzantine Catholic Seminary

# Deceased Members

(Lodge-Member-City-State)

8344	Joyce Adams, Murrysville, PA	8344	Anna Duh, Bethlehem, PA	53	Barbara Kalanik, St. Augustine Beach, FL
8315	Richard Alexander, Noblesville, IN	8344	Gerald Duke, Trafford, PA	15	John Karmazin, Levittown, PA
8344	Shirley A. Allen, McKeesport, PA	10	Thomas P. Durkin, Coraopolis, PA	8344	Josephine Kastelan, Butler, PA
8344	Ruth Anderson, Beaver Falls, PA	20	Geraldine S. Dwyer, Philadelphia, PA	255	Robert P. Kelley, Munhall, PA
816	Eileen M. Annarino, Punxsutawney, PA	81	Victoria Dzurko, Monessen, PA	8344	Joseph L. Kennedy, Canonsburg, PA
8358	Phyllis M. Arvai, Kenosha, WI	8344	Ann Eckert, Freedom, PA	8344	Claude L. Kirkwood, Warren, PA
268	Steve Balog, N. Industry, OH	18	Margaret Ferens, Dunbar, PA	81	Kathryn Kloc, Bellevue, PA
52	Rita Baraga, Bridgeville, PA	164	David T. Filipcich, Mc Donald, OH	10	George Kocak, Coraopolis, PA
8344	Phyllis Barainck, Vandergrift, PA	8341	Ruth S. Floyd, Akron, OH	8344	Rose Kocerha, Berwick, PA
66	Elizabeth Baranko, Whiting, IN	994	Jacqueline Gamble, Monaca, PA	109	Christine Kondas, Gibsonia, PA
8310	Arthur David Barrow, Thomson, GA	8344	Felice Gianfrancesco, Verona, PA	8344	Stephen T. Kottelich, East McKeesport, PA
390	Helena Barth, Pittsburgh, PA	8344	Bonnie K. Giunta, Warren, PA	8310	Robert M. Kovack, Douglassville, PA
999	Gale Bassett, Danbury, CT	8344	Gerald Goga, New Kensington, PA	8344	Mary A. Krivitsky, Bentleyville, PA
8344	Jane Bicknell, Indiana, PA	8344	Hope P. Goodman, Schnecksville, PA	8344	Ann Kutzar, Downingtown, PA
255	Judi L. Boeltz, Pittsburgh, PA	8327	Lee Graham, Woodbry, MN	8344	Margaret Lafferty, Lafayette Hill, PA
8344	Theresa L. Bohn, Pittsburgh, PA	8344	Linda L. Green, Berwick, PA	8344	Julia Ann Letavec, Philadelphia, PA
625	Marion Brezovec, Johnstown, PA	8344	Eleanor Greiser, Harleysville, PA	8358	Chester C. Linck, Beaver Dam, WI
8344	John Bruno Brochetti, Yatesboro, PA	8344	M Jean Grimes, Brockway, PA	12	Anna Loboda, Deal, NJ
8344	William Brown, Harwick, PA	8344	Alfred L. Grimm, Sewickley, PA	8309	Michael Losko, Fort Pierce, FL
8358	Emily Brushe, Janesville, WI	8358	Kathleen Guetzke, Menomonee Falls, WI	8309	Rose T. Lowery, Fort Myers, FL
8358	Elizabeth A. Brushwood, Walworth, WI	8344	Evelyn D. Harp, Pottstown, PA	319	Mary Lucas, Treasure Island, FL
8344	Anne M. Buckley, Doylestown, PA	28	Mildred Hauck, Pittsburgh, PA	8304	Manuel H. Macias, Anaheim, CA
7	William J. Carney, New City, NY	336	Dolores Havrilla, Waianae, HI	8349	Mary Maher, McKinney, TX
66	Mary L. Carter, Sun City Center, FL	8357	Bertha Hawkins, Morgantown, WV	994	Dolores Matika, Allison Park, PA
8344	Anne Chabon, Johnstown, PA	8344	Irma Hein, Pittsburgh, PA	8344	George E. McDowell, Philadelphia, PA
8344	J. Sam Claypool, Freeport, PA	8344	Robert T. Henck, New Eagle, PA	8344	James F. McInerney, Pipersville, PA
8304	Joan Coffey, Carlsbad, CA	8344	John G. Henderson, Saltsburg, PA	999	George Means, Frederick, CO
2	John Conrad, Munhall, PA	386	Irene Herb, Pittsburgh, PA	144	Raymond Mega, Longmont, CO
8344	Marilyn Conte, Washington, PA	8344	Joanne B. Hetrick, Oakmont, PA	8304	Victor Meghrouni, Anaheim, CA
8357	Betty L. Cottrell, Morgantown, WV	302	Joseph G. Hoehn, Olmsted Falls, OH	271	Kenneth Merideth, Maryville, IL
390	Mary O. Culan, McKees Rocks, PA	8344	Shirley Holler, Delmont, PA	8344	Daniel Midlik, Warren, PA
340	Elizabeth Cwiekalo, South Plainfield, NJ	8344	Lucille J. Hoover, Saxonburg, PA	401	Richard Minor, Portage, PA
8341	Mary C. Davis, Mansfield, OH	66	Morris Hovelsrud, Crookston, MN	8344	Florence Modzelewski, Glenshaw, PA
8344	Catherine Denial, Erie, PA	28	Theodore Hritzko, Pittsburgh, PA	8344	Josephine L. Mosco, New Kensington, PA
8344	Joseph DiFrancesco, New Eagle, PA	8344	Marion A. Hunt, Saylorsburg, PA	401	Mary Jean Mulhollen, Lewistown, PA
254	Clara Dimitriew, Manville, NJ	18	Andrew Huzinec, Verona, PA	8344	Eleanor Mulik, McAdoo, PA
8344	Paula Dindinger, Fombell, PA	8344	Josephine M. Iampietro, Bethlehem, PA		
81	Betty Dirda, Uniontown, PA	8344	John R. Iman, Chicora, PA		
8344	William A. Dotts, New Columbia, PA	17	Mary J. Jalowiec, Avoca, PA		

8344	Leonard Myers, Altoona, PA	8358	Mildred H. Rothamer, Janesville, WI	625	Dorothy D. Sutton, Johnstown, PA
271	Florence M. Naprstek, Downer Grove, IL	8344	Robert A. Rumpf, Minersville, PA	10	John F. Swinker, Beaver, PA
8344	Joseph Nehela, Fairbank, PA	8358	Dulsie E. Ryan, St. Germain, WI	8344	April F. Swisher, Shamokin Dam, PA
8344	Carl Nelson, White Oak, PA	8344	Annetta H. Sampey, Pleasant Hills, PA	945	George Sworin, Auburndale, FL
8344	Carl A. Nester, New Ringgold, PA	8344	Rita A. Sanelli, Warrington, PA	994	Dolores Szurley, Midland, PA
8344	Blanche A. Nigro, Ferndale, PA	336	Stephen Sass, Cleveland, OH	8344	Josephine A. Szymala, Cresson, PA
8344	David Novatnak, Cressona, PA	8344	Helen M. Schade, Pittsburgh, PA	8304	Norbert W. Tietz, Atlanta, GA
8304	Marlene Nunziata, Georgetown, TX	252	Jerry L. Schafer, Mineral City, OH	8344	Simon Toback, Orwigsburg, PA
8344	Anita M. Oaks, Warren, PA	8304	Jean L. Schanz, Mission Viejo, CA	665	Mark S. Tomline, Highland Park, NJ
109	Joseph Ondo, Natrona Heights, PA	2	Thomas Scheetz, Munhall, PA	8358	Rosalie Toth, Horicon, WI
8306	Barbara Onufer, Hamden, CT	8344	Irma Schopf, Pittsburgh, PA	288	Denise Totterdale, Houston, PA
8344	Richard Orlosky, Portage, PA	8344	Richard Schrecongost, Dayton, PA	8344	Esther Tozzini, Carlisle, PA
625	Helen Ostrosky, Atlanta, GA	8344	Jeanne L. Shoop, Hollidaysburg, PA	351	Doris J. Trimble, Home, PA
8344	Betty J. Parks, Cabot, PA	8358	Martin Slater, Mequon, WI	401	David Truscott, Nanty Glo, PA
8358	John Penglase, DePere, WI	10	Gregory A. Slatniske, West Aliquippa, PA	8358	Virgil D. Turk, Waupun, WI
8344	Emerson Perseghetti, Freeport, PA	8344	Henry G. Sommers, Portersville, PA	258	Michael Vasil, St Charles, IL
288	George Pesch, Pittsburgh, PA	8344	Sande Sommers, Royersford, PA	390	Shirley Veneziale, Pittsburgh, PA
860	Sue Carole Peterman, Clawson, MI	2	Helen Sovelenko, Munhall, PA	8344	Frank Vulcano, Houston, PA
8327	Ethel Petry, Ada, MN	8344	Raymond C. Starn, Oakmont, PA	8344	Alberta Walker, Apollo, PA
644	MaryAnn Pinto, Akron, OH	254	Mary F. Stasilowicz, Rutherford, NJ	53	Andrew Wasilko, Kingston, PA
8344	Marie J. Polly, Houston, PA	81	Helen Stefancin, Uniontown, PA	8344	Robert G. Weinzierl, Johnstown, PA
8344	Mary Rasely, Butler, PA	66	Constance Stepp, Simpsonville, SC	8344	Tennyson A. Weller, Hummelstown, PA
390	Charles Rauch, Pittsburgh, PA	8344	Andrew R. Stevenson, Erie, PA	2	Carol A. Wills, Braddock, PA
321	Mary Rega, Mount Pleasant, PA	8344	Catherine Strushensky, Johnstown, PA	8344	Stephen Wursta, Allentown, PA
390	Stephen Revtai, McKees Rocks, PA	8358	Clara Sulzer, Mosinee, WI	8344	Ruth E. Yeager, Ligonier, PA
255	Mark A. Robinson, Whitaker, PA	340	John N. Surmay, Elizabeth, NJ	994	Linda L. Zajac, New Brighton, PA
8344	Ethel Rogg, Freedom, PA			8344	Nancy Zatezalo, Export, PA
625	Ruth Roman, Smyrna, GA			8344	Helen Zavasky, Erie, PA
8344	Elizabeth Ross, Warren, PA				

# 2018 Junior Bowling Scholarship Winners



Michael Fekete

Congratulations to the 2018 GCU National Junior Bowling Scholarship winners!

Each of the winners will be awarded a \$1,000.00 toward further education.

The female winner in the Age 16-18 category is Karly Krown. Karly is a member of GCU Lodge 271.

The male winner in the Age 16-18 category is Michael Fekete. Michael is a member of Lodge 321 in District 4.



Karly Krown

## “Joseph Durkay Memorial” Holupki Open

Sunday, July 15 was a picture perfect clear day for the 87 golfers at the 41<sup>st</sup> GCU “Joseph Durkay Memorial” Holupki Open held at White Birch Golf Course

Following is the list of winners for the 4-person scramble: **Low Score:** Charlie Seliga, Joe Schaeffer, Jan Garby and Dan Sutton. **First Flight Winners:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place—Joe Petrole, Andy Fredley, Bob Williamson and Ed Lucas. 2<sup>nd</sup> Place—Al Kringer, Josh Billman, Tom Billman and Veronica Billman. 3<sup>rd</sup> Place—Ed Keil, Scott Schukraft, Joey Hardiski and Gary Narcirk. **Second Flight Winners:** 1<sup>st</sup> Place—Gene Mancini, Mark Margis, Francis Maczuga and Todd Kem. 2<sup>nd</sup> Place—Brian Smith, Tony Glovas, Mike Malozzi and Joe Oravec. 3<sup>rd</sup> Place—Christiana Genna, Alyssa Garber, John Metzger and Justine Bartholomew. **Closest to the Pin Contest:** Yogie Buchinsky, Mark Margis, Justine Bartholomew, R.E. Allen, Andy Fredley and Jerry Witner. **Long Drive Winners:** Mark Barkowski, Josh Billman, Greg Barkowski Jr., Bob Williamson, Bill Jones and Justine Bartholomew.

The “Dixon Golf Challenge” was available for those who wanted to participate as was the usual skins game.

All of the players received a complimentary GCU golf towel from the Home Office and a GCU golf hat from the GHRL. Food and beverage were available all during play.



Registration workers: GHRL President Deacon Larry Foran, Agnes Rohrbach, Marge & Rick Hoppey, Judy Kringer, Cathie Cramond and GCU National Director Dorothy Ann Foran.

Following play, participants were served dinner in the grove facility. Prize money and door prizes were awarded.

Thanks to the Home Office for the Fraternal Grant and the golf towels. Also, thanks to the hole sponsors, the scorekeepers and all the volunteers who helped make this tournament a great success. Thanks to all the golfers for their great participation (District 5) and all who attended. Hope to see you all next July.

Agnes Rohrbach | GHRL Athletic Director

# GCU & SCS (Slovak Catholic Sokol) 2018 National Bowling Tournament Results

The complete list of scores and prizes appears on the GCU website at [www.GCUusa.com](http://www.GCUusa.com).

## Men's Team Event

- 2K Reading/Lucky Lane-SCS (H) .....3039
- Run Rats-GCU (H) .....2847
- 2K Reading/Lucky Lane-SCS (A) .....2448

## Men's Doubles Event

- Scott Pitman/Mike Horvath-SCS (H) .....1535
- Marc Kudlacik/Don Salmanowitz-SCS (H) .....1438
- Scott Pitman/Mike Horvath-SCS (A) .....1232

## Men's Singles Event

- John P. Minarish-GCU (H) .....826
- Marc Kudlacik-SCS (H) .....782
- John P. Minarish-GCU (A) .....673

## Men's All Events

- John P. Minarish-GCU (H) .....2234
- William Gemoll-SCS (H) .....2209
- Brian Risko-SCS (A) .....1981

## Women's Team Event

- Lollie Pops-GCU (H) .....2385
- 2+2-SCS & GCU(H) .....2378
- 2+2-SCS & GCU (A) .....2021

## Women's Doubles Event

- Helen Minarish/Joanne Mozuras-GCU (H) .....1215
- Kami Simon/Caroline Gemoll-SCS (H) .....1202
- Karen Bakita/Carol Macko-SCS (A) .....1019

## Women's Singles Event

- Phyllis Johnson-GCU (H) .....635
- Evie Catanzante-SCS (H) .....615
- Jean Karaffa-GCU (A) .....496

## Women's All Events

- Helen Minarish-GCU (H) .....1872
- Joanne Mozuras-GCU (H) .....1824
- Jean Karaffa-GCU (A) .....1591

(H) is Handicap Event score.

(A) is Actual Event score.

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



# 2018 National Junior Bowling Tournament

## —Official Results—

### Girls Champions

Age	Games	Name	Lodge	Score
2-3	(1-Bumper)	Nova Rea Lehman	625	85
4-5	(2-Bumper)	Lilly Groff	625	148
6-7	(2-Bumper)	Mary Nagrant	302	190
8-9	(3)	Aubrey Cammisa	GHRL	278
10-12	(3)	Amelia Mills	47	311
13-15	(3)	Emily Sharrer	GHRL	312
16-18	(3)	Karly Krown	271	320

### Boys Champions

Age	Games	Name	Lodge	Score
2-3	(1-Bumper)	Parker Niskach	255	82
4-5	(2-Bumper)	Connor McAlarney	GHRL	181
6-7	(2-Bumper)	Stephan Sedon	53	177
8-9	(3)	Michael Popovich	10	389
10-12	(3)	Preston Smith	255	439
13-15	(3)	Gavin Vercusky	GHRL	459
16-18	(3)	Christopher Nahay	GHRL	558

### Girls High Game

Age	Name	Lodge	Score
2-3	Nova Rea Lehman	625	85
4-5	Lilly Groff	625	148
6-7	Mary Nagrant	302	104
8-9(tie)	Sarah Butchko	252	100
	Aubrey Cammisa	GHRL	100
10-12	Amelia Mills	47	112
13-15	Emma Bost	255	160
16-18	Veronica Martonik	GHRL	142

### Boys High Game

Age	Name	Lodge	Score
2-3	Parker Niskach	255	82
4-5	Douglas Lazar	GHRL	100
6-7	Stephan Sedon	53	94
8-9	Michael Popovich	10	148
10-12	Preston Smith	255	160
13-15	Zachary Grove	625	180
16-18(tie)	Michael Fekete	321	195
	Christopher Nahay	GHRL	195

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