

AUGUST 2019

# GCU

MAGAZINE



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George N. Juba  
President  
CEO

# The Human Touch

**A**s I observed and experienced all of the technological innovations over the last twenty years or so, I do not necessarily embrace each and every one, especially those that do not necessarily have an impact for the betterment of mankind. I do especially admire and I am personally astounded by the incredible medical advancements that have taken place over my lifetime—transplants, drug treatments, durable medical equipment, non-evasive surgeries, robotic surgeries and the list goes on and on.

No matter what technological advancements are achieved, the human element can never be replaced by science. I applaud all health care professionals from the researchers, physicians, nurses, rehabilitation specialists, caregivers, administrators and all other professions associated with healthcare that certainly do contribute to the betterment of mankind!

In times of having to deal with health issues or unexpected incidents whether it occurs to yourself, a family member, a friend or the many tragedies we hear about each day, no technology could ever replace the human element. The love, support and concern received from a hug, a hand shake, a greeting card, a phone call, a handwritten note and sometimes just having someone to talk to, can never be replaced.

Seven months ago, my son Christopher was involved in a very serious automobile accident. Our entire family cannot express enough gratitude to the entire medical staff at UPMC Hospitals that provided exceptional care to him from his initial surgeries to his rehab. We are so thankful to our family, friends, the GCU Board of Directors, staff and members as well as the Seven Oaks staff and members for your overwhelming outreach, financial support, thoughts and prayers as Chris continues to recover. THANK YOU!

There are so many needs that are not funded by government programs and tax dollars within our communities, they are supported solely by caring people. A segment of the GCU's Mission Statement is **"Strengthening Communities,"** as this mission can relate to so many organizations throughout each and every community within our great Nation.



Pat Nardelli, GCU President/CEO George Juba, Joe Namath and Frank Namath.

I was honored to be invited by Pat Nardelli, president of Castlebrook Development, to a recent reception sponsored by the Larry Bruno Foundation. As a point of information, Mr. Bruno was a legendary high school and college football coach. He coached teams for Beaver Falls and Rochester High Schools and Geneva College located in Beaver County, PA. The most recognizable player he coached is the legendary quarterback from Beaver Falls, Joe Namath. The Larry Bruno Foundation was established in honor of Coach Bruno and the young mens' lives he touched throughout his coaching career. The Larry Bruno Foundation fulfills the needs of providing scholarships and offerings to stu-

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**...“take time to smell the roses”  
as we never know what lies  
ahead! A smile, eye contact, a  
handwritten note and just a  
“hello” goes a much longer way  
than an email or text message!**

dents from Beaver Falls and surrounding communities for their academic and athletic achievements.

I admire Mr. Namath. Despite the fame he achieved from his career as a quarterback for thirteen years in the National Football League, he has never forgotten his roots as a Beaver Falls native. He is an avid supporter of the Foundation and the Beaver Falls community, attending the annual achievement award dinner of the Foundation each year. Joe “Willie” is doing great as you can see from the photo I had taken with “Broadway Joe,” Pat Nardelli and Joe’s brother Frank.

I am a graduate of the University of Miami of Florida and an avid Miami Hurricane football fan. One of the individuals I also met at the Foundation festivities was Mr. Glenn Dennison. Glenn played high school football for the Beaver Falls Tigers under Coach Bruno and went on to play college ball for the Miami Hurricanes. He was a top receiver for another legendary quarterback, Bernie Kosar. (By the way, Mr. Kosar is a GCU member.) Glenn and Bernie teamed up in 1983 to win the first collegiate national championship for the “Canes” where Glenn caught two touchdown passes to upset the Nebraska Cornhuskers 31 - 30. This is still considered one of the greatest games ever played in college football history. Glenn went

on to play in the National Football League and International Football League. I enjoyed having a photo taken with Glenn as we show our support of the Miami Hurricanes with Glenn sporting his 1983 national championship ring. My congratulations to Glenn for being honored as an inductee into this year’s Larry Bruno Foundation’s Hall of Achievement!

We hope that the GCU is considered a National Champion within the fraternal life insurance and fixed annuity marketplace by our current members and agents. We continue to grow our assets and surplus and achieve excellent profitability. We project that GCU total assets will exceed \$2 billion in the very near future. We are in the process of completing our second quarter financial reports with projected strong results. Chief Financial Officer Tim Demetres will be publishing the detailed second quarter results and his commentary in the October 2019 issue of the *GCU Magazine*. We once again express our sincere gratitude to our members and agents for the confidence you express by entrusting the GCU with your own and your clients’ business.

Fraternally, we thank our lodges and districts for all the great planning of various volunteer, fundraising and social events. Our 2019 National Golf Tournament is being held at Seven Oaks Country Club this year in partnership with the Slovak Catholic Sokols. The event always promises a fun filled time with great fraternal comradery.

My article for this issue of the GCU focused more on the human element side of society as sometimes business and personal responsibilities take a front seat. My advice, which I should practice as well, is to “take time to smell the roses” as we never know what lies ahead! A smile, eye contact, a handwritten note and just a “hello” goes a much longer way than an email or text message! As Mr. Burton Brubaker stated, “It’s So Nice To Be Nice”.

Continue to have a safe and fun summer—there is still a lot of sunshine left to enjoy!

GOODNESS IS GREAT!

*George*



Glenn Dennison and GCU President/CEO George Juba.



# Sisters of St. Basil to Celebrate 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Pilgrimage

The 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help will be held at Mount St. Macrina, Saturday, August 31 & Sunday, September 1, 2019. This year's theme is *Mary, Cause of Our Joy*.

"As we approach the 85<sup>th</sup> Pilgrimage, we invite everyone to become a true pilgrim. Come open to discover the God who longs to fill your every true need," said Sr. Ruth Plante, OSBM, Provincial.

Those who plan on attending the Pilgrimage can choose from a variety of accommodations, including camping on the race-track, Pilgrim houses (first-come, first-served), hotels, motels or bed and breakfasts. Further information is available including the schedule, camping and a complete list of accommodations 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 2.

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 84<sup>th</sup> Annual Pilgrimage. The Sisters and volunteers did the first preparations of the grounds on Saturday, June 2. A second day of preparation is planned for Saturday, August 17 beginning at 9 AM. Anyone who is interested in volunteering can contact Sr. Joanne Lickvar at 724.438.8644.

**"As we approach the 85<sup>th</sup>  
Pilgrimage, we invite everyone to  
become a true pilgrim. Come open  
to discover the God who longs to  
fill your every true need,"  
Sr. Ruth Plante, OSBM, Provincial.**



## The Byzantine Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration—Sunday, June 23, 2019



Leonardo Cardinal Sandri and Archbishop William Skurla.



The Clergy, Religious and Faithful of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh joined together to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Archeparchy on Sunday, June 23, 2019. A Hierarchical Divine Liturgy was celebrated at St. John the Baptist Byzantine Cathedral in Munhall, PA followed by a banquet in the Cathedral Center. Leonardo Cardinal Sandri, Prefect of the Congregation for the Eastern Churches at the Vatican in Rome, was in attendance representing Pope Francis.

## Mother Marija Elevated as the Hegumena for the Byzantine Catholic Nuns of the Diocese of Passaic

The election and blessing of Mother Marija by Bishop Kurt Burnette as the Hegumena for the Byzantine Catholic Nuns of the Diocese of Passaic at Holy Annunciation Monastery in Sugarloaf, PA took place on Monday, June 17, 2019. GCU Vice-Chairman/National Director George Kofel and National Director Dorothy Foran were in attendance for the ceremony and

presented a check to Mother Marija from GCU for \$1,000.00 to Holy Annunciation Monastery. Last summer, GCU made a donation of \$5,000.00 for new lawn equipment to assist the Sisters in the maintenance of the monastery's grounds.



GCU Director Dorothy Foran, Mother Marija and Vice Chairman & GCU Director George Kofel.



GCU Director Dorothy Ann Foran, GHRL President Deacon Larry Foran, Mother Marija and GHRL Secretary Agnes Rohrbach. Mother Marija is holding a presentation from the Pope from Mike & Mary Sue Komishock.



Atty. John J. Urban

# Lessons in the Law

## Resolve to Secure Your Estate

**W**ith our list of new year's resolutions long forgotten, there is one area of our lives that simply cannot fall by the wayside. People dedicate themselves to some sort of self-improvement throughout the year, whether it's losing weight or deciding not to text and drive. I'd like to encourage everyone to think about where they are with their personal affairs and make it a point to get them in order.

**1) Is your will/trust current?** Do you still have a relationship with the person you've appointed as your executor? Do you have established guardians for your children? Can they be found? If your children are adults, do you want to make provisions for them that are different from when they were minors? Have your assets changed? Who's going to get what? Has your estate been valued?

**2) Make yourself heard.** Who will make decisions for you if you are no longer able to? Who will make sure your bills are paid, your pets fed and your affairs kept in order? Without good planning, decisions might be made that aren't what you would have wanted.

It's crucial to update your living will and your health care and financial powers of attorney to make sure your voice is heard.

**3) No good deed...** There is specific language that needs to be included on your deed that if it isn't there, means the inherited portion of the home will need to go through probate—even if you have a will. Title to the property may not automatically transfer to your spouse.

Any day of the year is a perfect time to review your important papers and legal documents. If you haven't done it yet in 2019, then today is the day!

I'd like to encourage everyone to think about where they are with their personal affairs and make it a point to get them in order.

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> in observance of Labor Day.**

5400 Tuscarawas Road, Beaver, PA 15009



# It's Not "Just" Life Insurance, it's INCOME REPLACEMENT

**P**eople purchase life insurance for many reasons: to protect their business, for estate planning or to donate to charities, to name just a few. But by far the most important reason is to protect their family from the financial loss that occurs when a wage earner dies. The death benefit paid to the beneficiaries can be used to replace lost income, guarantee that the family can stay in their home, purchase food and clothing, pay funeral expenses, and even create a fund to meet future expenses or education costs.

Consider this example: Bob and Tina Smith are both hard working people who place high value on their family. Bob is a heavy equipment salesman, with the same employer for 12 years. He makes roughly \$90,000.00 per year. Tina works as a nurse at the local hospital, earning about \$65,000.00 per year. She went back to work when their youngest started pre-school. Their son Jacob is 11 and their daughter Emma is 9. After saving for several years, they finally bought their dream house in a new suburb that isn't far from Tina's parents. They've all settled comfortably into the community. Jacob plays hockey and Little League. Emma takes dance lessons and plays soccer. Best of all, Tina's job is only a few miles away—her short commute means she's able to spend more time with her family and get the kids to their games on time—especially important since Bob's job often takes him out of town.

They still have challenges, like all of us, but they've succeeded in making their day-to-day lives just about perfect.

Now... fast forward a few years.

Bob was returning home from a week of sales calls when he was in a serious traffic accident. Unfortunately, Bob was pronounced dead at the hospital. This story *could* have *two* endings, depending on the amount of life insurance coverage Bob had on his life:

- **Bob had no life insurance:** Tina is devastated by the loss of her best friend and husband. After she got through the ordeal of the funeral, she realized she couldn't afford the mortgage payments on her salary. She was forced to sell the house and rent an apartment that was more within her means. Unfortunately, the apartment isn't in the same neighborhood as the old house. The kids had to change schools and make new friends. For the

**...by far the most important reason to buy life insurance is to protect their family from the financial loss that occurs when a wage earner dies.**

kids, the devastating loss of their father was compounded by this upheaval in their lives. Tina now has a longer commute and her parents aren't nearby if she is late getting home. Worse, the dreams that she and Bob had for their children's college education and for their own comfortable life through retirement seem far off and unobtainable now.

- **Bob had life insurance:** Tina is devastated by the loss of her husband and best friend. However, she and the kids have managed to move on with their lives. Thanks to Bob's deep sense of responsibility, **there was enough life insurance to pay off the mortgage and to set aside money for both kids' college educations and other future needs.** The kids are still active in sports and Emma has started acting in school plays. Tina's parents are still nearby and drop by to help when needed. She wonders what she and the kids would have done had Bob not insisted on buying enough life insurance to offset his income in the event of his death. She can only imagine how difficult it would have been.

This story can't capture the pain of losing a loved one, but it does demonstrate the important role life insurance can play in the lives of real people.

The unexpected happens every day. Be sure to take a few moments to review *your* Life Insurance plan with your GCU representative, or call the GCU Call Center 855.306.0607 for a free Life Needs review.



**Lisa Goodman**  
Professional Wellness Coach

# Invested in Our Members' Wellness

## What is a Health Coach?

I get this question often. The profession has grown significantly in recent years and many companies have added health coaching as part of their employee-based wellness programming. Favorable outcomes have been proven over a recommended three-year piloting. Using health coaching improves employee overall health & morale and cuts claims costs.

If you have had the same health and wellness goals for a lengthy period of time and have succeeded and then taken steps back, or if you just simply haven't even come close to your goals, despite having good intentions, a qualified health coach may be just what you need. A health coach partners with clients seeking self-directed, lasting changes, aligned with their values, which promote health and wellness and, therefore, enhance well-being.

A skilled health coach focuses on total whole health wellness. In the past, wellness has focused primarily on the physical aspect—most commonly known as Body Mass Index or BMI (which can be so frustrating!) I am attempting to continue where we left off in my previous article in which I talked about the many facets of wellness: physical health, emotional health, social health, financial health, occupational health, environmental health, spiritual health, and intellectual health. Because mental health and physical health are so closely linked, problems in one area can impact the other. Improving your physical health can also benefit your mental health and vice versa.

Health coaching focuses on ALL aspects of wellness and can assist individuals in discovering where and how their wellness can be improved. Sessions can be done via phone or virtually

and are typically held weekly. Many health coaching programs ask for a commitment anywhere from 3 months up to one year to allow adequate time to make lifestyle changes and to enforce that clients are fully committed to the program. Costs can vary widely from \$30 up to \$150 per session for some coaches.

If you are interested in learning more about health coaching, feel free to contact me to schedule a free introductory session. My email is [Lisa.Goodman2013@gmail.com](mailto:Lisa.Goodman2013@gmail.com). Remember that wellness is not the ABSENCE of illness or stress. You can still strive for wellness even if you are experiencing these challenges in your life... it is a constant state of motion.

**Because mental health and physical health are so closely linked, problems in one area can impact the other. Improving your physical health can also benefit your mental health and vice versa.**

# Holy Annunciation Monastery Sugarloaf, PA



Presentation to Mother Marija from GHRL.



Presentation to Mother Marija from District 5. Chris & Topy Zayac, Ilona Dolinish, Mother Marija, Ed & Gina Keil.

**H**elping Hands Day at Holy Annunciation Monastery on Saturday, June 1, 2019 began with a Divine Liturgy celebrated by Msgr. Nicholas Puhak. Then it was time to get down to do some chores on the property.

Mother Marija and all the Sisters had a whole bunch of activities lined up for the volunteers. There was plenty of grass to cut & edge, weed whacking and tree pruning. It was also time to prepare the bulbs for the fall, take the dead leaves off the rhodendron bushes, plant flowers and help clean up debris from the fall and winter.

For those who couldn't work outside, there were plenty of boxes to be made, Hershey kisses to unwrap and raisins to be cleaned.

After all the work was completed, it was time for a pizza lun-

cheon, homemade desserts and of course some good old fashion fraternalism among everyone. The volunteers had the opportunity to meet Sister Katherine and Kristina's relatives from Slovakia. They were given Helping Hands Day t-shirts and made honorary members for the day.

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

Thanks to the Home Office for the t-shirts!

The fall Helping Hands Day will be Saturday, October 26. All are welcome to come out to help the Sisters prepare their grounds for the winter season.

**Agnes Rohrbach** | GHRL Activities Director



Sister Katherine, Sister Kristina, Mother Marija and GCU Director Dorothy Ann Foran with the GHRL's adopted families from Slovakia.



Joe Galgoci edging the grass.



Mike Komishock and Tom Katchur getting ready to work on the roof.

# Mt. Saint Macrina Uniontown, PA



Many of the volunteers from the Uniontown and Pittsburgh areas.

**O**n Saturday, June 1, 2019 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 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 accomplishes in one day what it would take the Sisters months to do.”

If you missed the chance to help on June 1, there will be an additional day of preparation for the Pilgrimage on Saturday, August 17 beginning at 9 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).



# Giving

## Holy Spirit Church Parish Expansion

**Shadyside-Oakland, PA.** Holy Spirit Church held its annual Easter Basket drawing on Sunday, April 28, 2019. There were 22 prize baskets which included children's interests, entertainment, dining, cooking, sports, lottery tickets and a 43" television. Ten of the lucky winners were from outside the parish. The hard work of the event's coordinators, Phyllis O'Donnell and Alexandria Bacasa, in soliciting and assembling the prizes, is much appreciated. Monsignor Russell A. Duker is the pastor at Holy Spirit Church. Thank you to all who donated prizes, sold and/or purchased tickets for making this the most successful fundraiser to date! A big "Thank You" to the GCU for providing Parish Expansion Matching Funds! Proceeds will be used for church repairs.

**Mary Dzurichko**



Monsignor Russell A. Duker, Phyllis O'Donnell and Subdeacon Raphael Ruggiero.

## St. Andrew Byzantine Catholic Church Parish Expansion



**Gibsonia, PA.** St. Andrew Church utilized GCU Parish Expansion Matching Funds for their pirohi sales. The sales provide a great source of both fellowship and fund raising. Through the Great Fast, workers prepared and distribute these staples of Slavic kitchens. Thanks to all the volunteers and the community, which really appreciates these treats. The parish's annual Palm Sunday party was also an exceptional success. Following lunch, the children played games, did crafts and hunted down about 300 hidden Easter eggs filled with candy and small toys. Support from the GCU and the Northwest Pittsburgh Regional Lodge, helped to fill gift bags with coloring books, key chains and pinwheels for the children and teens. Overall, the children, teens, and adults alike all had a wonderful time filled with food, faith and fun.

**Steve Puluka**

## SS. Peter & Paul Church Parish Expansion

**Duquesne, PA.** Two fund raising events were held to raise funds for SS. Peter & Paul Church. A spaghetti dinner was held on Saturday, April 27 by the Parish Club and GCU lodge members. The event featured assorted fund raising activities and a Chinese Auction which netted a favorable profit.

A second fundraiser was held on Election Day, May 21, by the same group of volunteers. This was a hoagie & haluski project along with a bake sale. The profit realized enabled the church to qualify for Parish Expansion Matching Funds. Thanks to the GCU Home Office for its generosity.



GCU member Patty Vargo selling "Lucky" winning tickets to Tiffany Petrisko.



Smiling GCU members at the spaghetti dinner: Jean Mayher Hall, Patty Tarcy, Ann Berezna and Joe Tarcy.

Photos by Connie Smith

**Ann M. Berezna**

## Saint Melany Byzantine Catholic Church Parish Expansion

**Tucson, AZ.** On May 12, 2019, the youth of Saint Melany held a rummage sale to raise funds for the ByzanTeen Youth Rally planned for San Diego, CA in 2020.

Many items were donated from the parishioners and from those outside the parish community. The youth and their families put in many hours of preparation for the event.

The rummage sale brought in \$3,000.00 in revenue and also worked to get the greater community in the doors of the parish.

The entire parish of Saint Melany is very grateful for the help of the GCU Parish Expansion Matching Funds project in assisting the youth for the Byzantine Youth Rally in 2020.

**Josh Mangels**



Youth volunteers with some of the donated items.

## St. Nicholas Orthodox Church Parish Expansion

**Whitestone, NY.** St. Nicholas held its annual Fourth of July Celebration on Sunday, July 7, following Divine Liturgy. The event helped raise over \$1,000.00 to buy new vestments for the priest and altar boys. Thanks to all who volunteered their time and/or contributed food.

After lunch, the parish children had fun decorating cookies with red, white and blue icing and sprinkles and playing games in the church playroom. The afternoon concluded with testing attendees' knowledge of American history with a lively game of trivia, a sing-along of patriotic songs and a drawing.

The afternoon was a wonderful opportunity to socialize with friends, help the church, and reflect on how privileged the citizens of the United States are, to live in this great country. The parish is most grateful to GCU for providing Parish Expansion Matching Funds for this event.

**Laura Muhlfeld**



## Samaritan Purse Project



Local Samaritans Purse organizers and helpers.

**Elderton, PA.** Lodge 93 member Tom Spencer initiated a GCU GoGive! fundraiser and used the seed money to purchase standard size shoe boxes for the Samaritan Purse Project in the Elderton, PA area. Their goal is to fill 1,500 boxes with a variety of personal care items. The boxes will then be distributed to needy countries around the world. When this year's project is completed, 7,500 boxes will have been distributed in the last 5 years.

**John J. Katana** | Lodge 93 Secretary



Jennifer and Kathy Jo preparing a Samaritan Purse shoe box.

## Grace Allhouse Helps the Epilepsy Association

Grace Allhouse received seed money from GCU GoGive! to raise funds for the Epilepsy Association of Western Central PA (EAWCP). The EAWCP is dear to her family's heart, as Grace was diagnosed at age 5 with Epilepsy. The EAWCP was instrumental in directing the family through advocacy and educational programs. The EAWCP offers free parent trainings, school personal trainings and Camp Frog, which allows children with epilepsy to experience and enjoy outdoor recreation. Grace used the seed money to knit scarves and blankets. Grace then posted her scarves on her mom's Facebook page. Over the course of a few months, Grace was able to raise over \$200. In addition to the knitting, Grace and her family participated in the EAWCP Family Fun Run on July 13 at PNC Park by raising additional donations. Team Sassy's grand total was \$1,200.00!



Grace with one of her knitted scarves and at PNC Park for the EAWCP Family Fun Run.

GCU  
GoGIVE

To learn more about GCU GoGive! and how it can help you with your fundraising event visit the GCU Website [www.GCUusa.com](http://www.GCUusa.com) and click on Giving Back



Andy & Mary Ann Balog.

## Celebratory Year for Mary Ann & Andy Balog

The Balog Family will remember 2019 for a lot of special reasons. On June 2, 2019 Mary Ann & Andy Balog toasted their 68<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. The couple was married at St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church in Wilkes-Barre, PA on June 2, 1951.

Mary Ann celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on July 16 and Andy will mark his 97<sup>th</sup> birthday on November 27. They have two daughters, five granddaughters and anxiously await the arrival of their fifth great-grandchild in a few weeks!

Before the two longtime parishioners of Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church in Binghamton, NY moved to the Erie, Pa area to be closer to their daughter, they gathered for Divine Liturgy on July 13, 2019 with their loving family, friends, fellow Lodge 47 members and parishioners. Father Peter Thomas, pastor of Holy Spirit Church, commemorated the occasion by bestowing a special blessing at the conclusion of the Liturgy on the couple who have been parishioners of the church since 1951.

As they begin the next chapter of their lives, Lodge 47 extends well wishes. Thank you for sharing so many wonderful years in Binghamton, for your kindness, friendship, support, patronage and dedication. May God grant you good health, peace & happiness for many blessed years!

**Daria Shierly** | Lodge 47 Secretary-Treasurer

## William & Margaret Kendrach Celebrate 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

Congratulations to William & Margaret Kendrach on the occasion of their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. The couple was married on July 11, 1959 at St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church in Weirton, WV by Rev. Michael Kushner. They have been members of St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church in Mingo Junction, OH since marriage. The couple was blessed with six children (Carla, Bill, Joanne, Cindy, Mike and John) and four grandchildren (Sara, Josh, Jacob and Kash).

The anniversary celebration was organized by their children and held at the Williams Country Club in Weirton. In attendance at the celebration were almost 70 family members, many traveling from vast distances (CA, TX, MN, FL, VA, AL, NC, NJ, PA, OH) to partake in this major lifetime milestone.

May God continue to grant William and Margaret many happy years in peace, health, and happiness.

**Mike Kendrach**



William & Margaret Kendrach holding a photo from their wedding day 60 years ago.



## John B. Kutzfara Medical School Graduate

John Basil Kutzfara, DO, graduated from the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (WVSOM) in Lewisburg, WV on Saturday, May 25, 2019, with honors (top ten percent of his class). He had completed his undergraduate degree in biology at Washington and Jefferson College, in Washington, PA. Dr. John received his academic hood from his then fiancée, Angela Giglio, Esquire, who has a law degree from Duquesne University, in Pittsburgh, PA.

He is the son of proud parents John & Patricia (Wahal) Kutzfara of Elizabeth, PA; the brother of Jacqueline and Dan-

iel; and the grandson of Donna (Linn) and the late Carl Kutzfara, and Barbara (Lopata) and the late Basil Wahal.

John is currently working in a one year residency in general surgery in Columbus, OH. Next year, he will begin a residency program in radiology in Buffalo, NY. John and his family are all members of GCU Central Pittsburgh Regional Lodge (CPRL).

## Emma Ann Planitzer Graduates

On Saturday, May 11, 2019, GCU member Emma Ann Planitzer, daughter of John & Carol (Tihey) Planitzer, graduated from Indiana University of Pennsylvania's Cook Honors College with double majors in Information Technology and Information Systems and a minor in Marketing. While a student at IUP, Emma was active in the university's Ski & Snowboarding Club, The Association for Management Information Systems (AMIS), College of Business Student Advisory Council (COBSAC) and Phi Sigma Pi National Honor Fraternity.

Prior to graduating, Emma held intern positions as a Systems Analyst at U.S. Steel, Pittsburgh, PA and as a Data Analyst at Crown Castle, Canonsburg, PA following her sophomore and junior years, respectively. Emma accepted a position with Dick's Sporting Goods, Inc. as an Associate Business Analyst-Product Development.



## Genevieve Oslick Achieves Black Belt Status

On Saturday, June 29, 2019 Genevieve Oslick age 10, successfully tested and achieved the status of Tae Kwon Do Black Belt. Tae Kwon Do in Korean terms is defined as kicking, punching, the way of life. Martial Arts were developed thousands of years ago as a form of self-defense. Tae Kwon Do originated in Korea. In terms of technique, Tae Kwon Do emphasizes kicks more than the other martial arts, making it ideal for improving balance, flexibility and endurance.

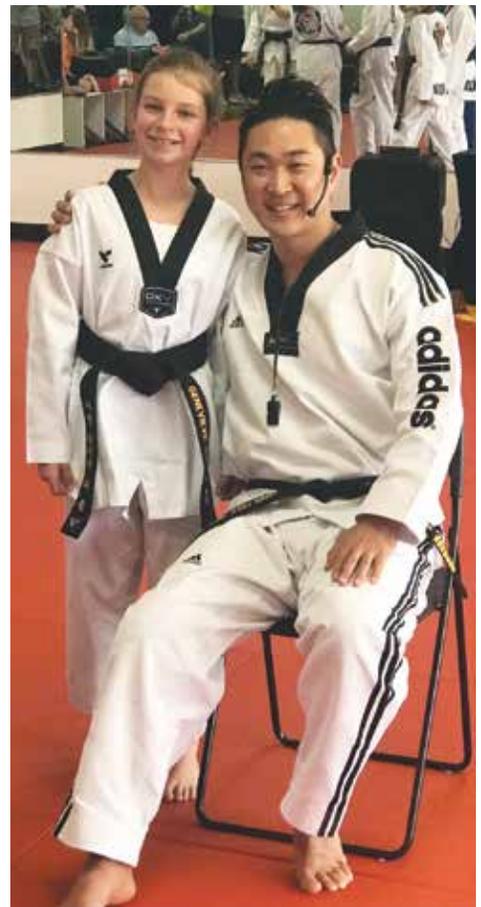
Genevieve began her road to Black Belt as a seven year old at Tiger Lees World Class Tae Kwon Do School in Parker, CO. Over the course of her three year training, she learned the disciplines of focus, goal setting, perseverance and respect needed to become a Black Belt. Tae Kwon Do students are taught to be humble, courteous and respectful along with being careful about where and when they practice their self-defense skills.

There are 11 belts which must be perfected before earning Black Belt status. Each belt requires a different form and different Korean terms. To achieve Black Belt status Genevieve perfected each form and is able to respond in the Korean language.

Having achieved Black Belt status, Genevieve will receive a signed certificate from the National Federation of Tae Kwon Do in South Korea and her name will be forever etched in their books. Genevieve's brother Alexander (7) is also a student of Master Lee. He has achieved a double black stripe belt.

Genevieve and Alexander are the children of Kevin & Michelle Oslick of Parker and the grandchildren of GCU National Director John Oslick and his wife Mary-Ellen Oslick.

They are a 100% GCU family.



Genevieve Oslick and Master Lee.



Angela & John Kutzfara.

## John Kutzfara & Angela Giglio Wed

Dr. John Basil Kutzfara and Angela Florence Giglio, Esq. were married on Saturday, June 1, 2019, in Saints John and Paul Roman Catholic Church, Sewickley, PA. Reverend Michael Roche, parochial vicar, officiated. Reverend Stephen Wahal, the bridegroom's uncle, con-celebrated, preached, and bestowed the nuptial blessing.

A dinner reception for family and friends followed at Holy Trinity Center, McCandless, PA. The rehearsal dinner on Friday was held at Narcisi Winery, Gibsonia, PA.

John is the son of John & Patricia (Wahal) Kutzfara of Elizabeth, PA, and Angela is the daughter of Ross & Florence (Perez) Giglio of Sewickley, PA. The groom's brother, Daniel, served as best man, and the groom's sister, Jacqueline, as maid of honor. The bride's brother, Ross Michael, and five friends rounded out the bridal party.

John is working in a one-year surgical residency in Columbus, OH, and Angela is an attorney in Pittsburgh, PA. Next year they plan to move to Buffalo, NY, to pursue their career paths. John and his family are all members of GCU Central Pittsburgh Regional Lodge (CPRL).

# District 5

## Helping Hands

**Day |** Five District 5 members assisted the Carmelite Nuns on June 1 during Helping Hands Day at the Holy Annunciation Monastery. It was a beautiful day for all of the outside work. Inside, volunteers assisted with preparation for the Sisters's baking projects. We were treated to pizza, homemade cookies and delicious peach meringue tarts. Please consider helping out the Sisters on October 26 as they prepare their grounds for the winter.



Mark & Louise Breakstone with Joann, Paul & Sean Pezak at the tailgate party.

**Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders Baseball Game |** Thirty members attended the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders baseball game and tailgate on Saturday, July 20, against the Louisville Bats (a Cincinnati Reds affiliate). It was an extremely hot night for baseball. The food, catered by Piloni Family Catering, was delicious. Chicken bites with an assortment of sauces, hot dogs & sauerkraut, pulled pork, sausage & peppers, mini pierogies, pasta salad, baked beans, watermelon, and brownies were on the menu. The home team RailRiders won in a close contest, 5-4. It was Military Appreciation night with t-shirts given to those who entered the stadium early. Thank you to all who helped set up and clean up at the tailgate. Thanks also to the Home Office for subsidizing the tailgate, providing GCU hand sanitizers and the \$25 Target gift card, won by Andy Sluko.

**Note |** By the time you read this article, the district's annual golf tournament held on August 3, will be over. A full report will be included in the next magazine. The next article will also include information on the district's annual meeting and scholarship brunch & awards.

Gina Keil | President

# District 7



District 7 members at the celebration with Fr. Jim Badaeux.

**Ordination Anniversary |** GCU District 7 members joined the St. Mary Church community to help celebrate the anniversary of Fr. Jim Badaeux's 20<sup>th</sup> ordination year. The festivities began on Sunday, June 2, 2019 with a Divine Liturgy celebrated by Fr. Badaeux. A reception followed in the church hall. There was a cocktail hour with tasty hors d'oeuvres, a buffet luncheon, cake and music. We wish Fr. Jim many more years!

Mary Bannworth | President

## UPCOMING DISTRICT 7 EVENTS

### Annual Golf Outing

**Saturday, August 24**

**11:30 AM Shotgun Scramble Format**

**Deadline is Friday, August 16**

**\$75 GCU Members (golf, cart & buffet)**

**\$85 Non-Members (golf, cart & buffet)**

**\$25 Buffet Only served at 1 PM**

Green Pond Country Club

3604 Farmersville Road, Bethlehem, PA 18020

Contact Mike Geles 732-423-5754

or email him at [mikegeles@gmail.com](mailto:mikegeles@gmail.com)

### 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

**Sunday, October 20**

St. Mary Church

1900 Brooks Boulevard, Hillsborough, NJ 08844

# District 11

## UPCOMING DISTRICT 11 EVENT

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### 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 District 11 college students. Applications can be found on the District 11 web page.

Contact President Gary Mozuras at 586-872-6142



**Friday, September 13, 2019**

7 to 9 PM

Ace Axe Throwing

145 East 8th Avenue, Homestead, PA 15120

Try the newest sport in the area, Axe Throwing!

Rather do something more team oriented, try a 1 hour Escape Room session. *The Escape Room is located in the same building as the Axe Throwing.*

Want to do both? Sign up for an hour of Axe Throwing and an hour of Escape Room.

Includes admission, food and 1 beverage from the bar (cash bar available for additional beverages).

Axe Throwing is limited to the first 40 applicants and the Escape Room is open to the first 16 applicants.

Cost is \$20 for GCU and Non-GCU members.

If you have any question call 724-495-3400 ext. 3924 or email [bwahal@gcuusa.com](mailto:bwahal@gcuusa.com).

To reserve a spot visit [www.GCUusa.com/events/axe-throwing-escape-room](http://www.GCUusa.com/events/axe-throwing-escape-room).

# District 15

## UPCOMING DISTRICT 15 EVENTS

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### An Afternoon at Narcisi Winery

Sunday, August 25

12 NOON-4 PM

**\$15 GCU Members & \$25 Non-Members**

Narcisi Winery

4578 Gibsonia Road, Gibsonia, PA 15044

Enjoy fraternalism, lunch, wine tasting, door prizes and acoustic Italian music by Jamie Wright.

For reservations contact Elizabeth at 412-913-1446 or email [etharbist@yahoo.com](mailto:etharbist@yahoo.com)

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### District 15 Golf Tournament

Sunday, September 15

Hole sponsorships available

Seven Oaks Country Club

132 Lisbon Road, Beaver, PA 15009

Includes golf, hot dog at the turn, dinner, prizes & golf/cart fees. Dinner guest ticket available.

Contact Bill Uram 724-287-0689

Applications available on web page

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### Matilda the Musical

Sunday, October 13

1 PM Refreshments / 2 PM Show

**\$15 Adults & \$10 Children under 18**

Lincoln Park Performing Arts Center

1 Lincoln Park, Midland, PA 15059

Refreshments before the show and during intermission will be provided for District 15 guests in the community room on the second floor of the theater. **The district has a limited number of tickets, which will be mailed as soon as payment is received.** Questions? call Elizabeth at 412-913-1446.

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

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### Annual Meeting

Sunday, November 3

More information to come.

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

# Lodge News

## Lodge 7

YONKERS, NY

### Supporting Fr. Miro Babic's School

On Sunday, May 26, 2019 Lodge 7 sponsored a fundraiser/luncheon supporting Fr. Miro Babic's school in Kenya, Africa. Over \$1,000.00 was raised and sent directly to Fr. Babic. All the food was donated by Lodge 7 to make this event even more profitable!

Debbie McDonnell | Secretary-Treasurer



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



Mary Ann Biko and John Kashner.

## Lodge 15

TRENTON, NJ

### Celebration of Memorial Day!

"Fly 'em High;" "Let 'em Wave" and let us "Pledge Allegiance to the Flag!" The country's Memorial Day commemoration once again had John Kashner, acting on behalf of the lodge, rallying his dedicated volunteers Anna Jane & Tom Petty, Mary Ann Biko and John Soganic. The team undertook and completed their gratifying activity of placing US Flags at the graves of 400 veterans in the cemeteries of St. Mary of the Assumption Byzantine Catholic Church.

Through their time and effort, it broadens the exposure for all of us to focus on the remembrance of those who fought, served and made the ultimate sacrifice for this country. God Bless America!

Hope everyone is having a wonderful and relaxing summer!

Marcy Embley | Fraternal Director

## UPCOMING LODGE 15 EVENTS

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

**Sunday, September 8**

**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

**Thursday, September 26**

**Departing at 10 AM**

**Return around 7 PM**

**\$35 per person / \$30 free play**

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

Contact Marcy Embley at 609-585-3758

## Lodge 17

OLD FORGE, PA

### Helping Hands Day

Three Lodge 17 members assisted the Carmelite Nuns during Helping Hands Day at the Holy Annunciation Monastery on Saturday, June 1. There was grass to mow, flower bulbs to separate, flowers to prune, tree limbs to cut, dessert boxes to assemble, raisins to separate and chocolate kisses to unwrap. Please consider joining other GCU members on Saturday, October 26 to help the Sisters with their fall cleanup.



Agnes Rohrbach, Ilona Dolinish and National Director Dorothy Foran.

### Father's Day Celebration

On Saturday evening, June 15, after Divine Liturgy, a Fathers' Day celebration was held in St. Nicholas Parish Center. Several GCU members assisted with setting up, preparing the food, baking desserts and cleanup.

Ed Keil | Secretary-Treasurer

## UPCOMING LODGE 17 EVENTS

### St. Nicholas Flea Market

**Saturday & Sunday, September 14 & 15**  
**Saturday, September 21**

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

Expect great bargains & hidden treasures at the flea market, 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

### Fall Helping Hands Day at Holy Annunciation Monastery

**Saturday, October 26**  
**9 AM**

Contact Agnes Rohrbach at 570-454-4869

**Invested in Education**  
2019-2020 GCU Scholarship Programs

**FRIENDLY REMINDER...**

Applications for scholarships will be available on the GCU web site beginning October 1, 2019.

All applications must be completed online.

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

## Lodge 47

BINGHAMTON, NY

### Parish Matching Funds Check Presentation

Father Peter Tomas was presented with a check for \$4,000.00 from GCU Lodge 47 on June 22, 2019 to be used for lawn and maintenance funds at Holy Spirit and SS. Peter & Paul cemeteries in Binghamton and Endicott, NY. The check represented proceeds from the lodge's annual calendar lottery project.

A sincere thank you to the GCU Home Office for approving our request for Parish Matching Funds and to everyone who purchased and helped sell the calendars. An extra special thank you to all who continue to support our fund-raising activities. We are a success because of your dedication, and truly appreciate the time and generosity of everyone's efforts.



Daria Shierly, Fr. Peter Tomas and Pam Sufilita.



Lance Corporal David M. Foran.

### Honor & Pride

GCU Lodge 47 is proud to honor and recognize all members of the lodge who actively serve the country, home and abroad. Please join Lodge 47 in saying thank you to the women and men (active duty military and veterans) who are part of the nation's Armed Forces. The lodge respects, appreciates and remembers all the women and men, past and present who have served and currently serve with courage and dedication.

### Congratulations

GCU Lodge 47 member David M. Foran enlisted for military service following graduation from Vestal High School in June 2018. He proceeded to Marine Corps Boot Camp at Parris Island, SC, where he qualified as an expert marksman and was an Honor Platoon Graduate in January 2019.

David trained and graduated from the Marine Corps School of Infantry, East at Camp Geiger, NC in February 2019 before heading to Fort Lee, VA in April 2019 where he successfully completed the necessary courses and requirements to work as both a

Petroleum Supply Specialist and a Bulk Fuel Specialist. Recently promoted to Lance Corporal, David is currently stationed at Camp Hansen in Okinawa, Japan.

Applause is also in order for Sarah Foran, David's older sister, for receiving a 2019 GCU Academic Performance Scholarship. Sarah is a senior majoring in Psychology and Art (minor) at Binghamton University. She is also a research assistant in the Psychology Department and plans to pursue graduate school after her May 2020 Graduation. She is a member of Psi Chi and Tau Sigma National Honor Societies. When not studying or in the Psychology Department, you can find Sarah working at Panera Bread in Vestal, NY.

Daria Shierly | Secretary-Treasurer

## Lodge 69

POTTSTOWN, PA

### Relay for Life Event

The Pottstown Community held their annual Relay for Life event at Pottsgrove High School. Many teams were represented to earn money for local cancer research through the American Cancer Society. Participants from each team took turns walking around the track during the 12 hour event.

Relay for Life raises money for cancer research and to help, support and provide lodging for cancer patients and their families during treatment.

Nancy Harding | Secretary



PMSI and Pals co-captain's Christine K. and Kim S.



Lodge President Gene Harding with daughter Ann at the recent Hollywood Casino trip.



Lodge 77 Helping Hands Day volunteers.

## Lodge 77

LORAIN, OH

### Helping Hands Day

GCU Lodge 77 Helping Hands Day 2019 took place throughout the month of June. The project consisted of cleanup and beautification of the landscaped Byzantine cross on the property grounds of St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church.

Parishioners and lodge members removed weeds and added beautiful river rock within the interior of the cross, then outlined the cross with solar landscape lights. A memorial plaque will be placed at the foot of the cross as a dedication to those who built it along with the deceased members of Lodge 77.

### St. Nicholas Church Parish Picnic

GCU Lodge 77 sponsored the children's game during the parish picnic held on June 13, 2019. All enjoyed the fellowship.

Kathy Knick | President



Kids enjoying the games.

## Lodge 81

UNIONTOWN, PA

Numerous community and parish events kept GCU Lodge 81 busy throughout the summer.



Joan Bridges, Mark Jesko, Sr. Barbara Jean and Bonnie Balas at the walk.

monastery. Mark Jesko, Bonnie Balas, Debbie Klink and Joan Bridges from St. John Church were among the nearly 100 participants who attended.

Gerry also continued to volunteer at the Uniontown Public Library summer reading programs. She also assisted with the Vacation Bible School Program, which included about 60 children from local Catholic parishes, at St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church in Uniontown.

### Community

Gerry Dorobish and Bonnie Balas took part in the Mt. Macrina Helping Hands Day held on Saturday, June 1. Gerry did inventory in the Religious Gift Shop. Bonnie Balas and others cleaned and prepared the Trinity Center rooms for the upcoming pilgrimage.

On Wednesday, June 12, the Fayette Fitness Program held their weekly Wednesday Walk on the grounds of Mount St. Macrina. Sister Barbara Jean Mihalchick, directed the tour explaining many points of interest as well as historic and religious aspects of the



Bonnie Balas & Amber Kilkullen at Helping Hands Day.



Gerry Dorobish & Destiny volunteering at the Library.

### Parish

Lodge 81's annual Flag Day Program/Veteran Recognition program took place on Sunday, June 9 in the St. John Social Ministry room. Marcia Harrer developed and directed the program which included prayers, patriotic songs, readings, and activities. Stephen Petruska, Bonnie Balas, Gerry Dorobish and Marcia & Richard Harrer were all part of the program. Gerry and Bonnie donated baskets of patriotic items which were awarded. New flags for the church and flag pole were also presented at this event. Apple pie with ice cream and refreshments were served at the conclusion of the program.



Officers Bonnie Balas, Gerry Dorobish, Marcia Harrer and Stephen Petruska

The Father's Day Brunch/ June Birthday Recognition was held on Sunday, June 16, in St. John Social Hall. Social Ministry and GCU members Cathy Phillips, Joan Bridges, and Bonnie Balas helped with the set up, food preparation, serving and awarding of the door prizes to the men in attendance

On Sunday, June 30, the Parish Feast Day luncheon was held in St. John Social Hall. The event began with Bonnie Balas presenting a reading about John the Baptist titled "The Man



Officers & members displaying new flag for church.



Morgan & Gaydos families enjoying the Feast Day luncheon.

Who Was a Lamp." Joan Bridges, Janet Gaydos, Cathy Phillips, Bonnie Balas along with other social ministry members decorated, donated items, and prepared

and served food for the well-attended event. Lodge 81 members and parishioners enjoyed the covered dishes, games and fellowship.

CONTINUED

## Lodge 81 CONTINUED



July birthdays and coffee social.

The July Birthday Recognition/Coffee social was held following Liturgy on Sunday, July 14. Joan Bridges and Bonnie Balas were responsible for preparing and serving the snacks. Among those recognized were Mark Jesko and James Mihalko.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarterly meeting was held on Sunday, August 11, following the Sunday Divine Liturgy.

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

## UPCOMING LODGE 81 EVENTS

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### 2<sup>nd</sup> Helping Hands Day for Upcoming Pilgrimage

**Saturday, August 17**

Volunteers are needed

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### Parish Picnic

**Sunday, August 18**

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### Annual Food Drive

**To be announced**

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

**Sunday, September 22**

Details appear on Page 40

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

**Sunday, October 27**

Details appear on Page 40



Walter Rogal presenting a Helping Hands donation to St. John pastor Fr. Vasil Polyak for the building of the wall project.

## Lodge 93

NORTHERN CAMBRIA, PA

### Helping Hands Wall Debris Clean Up

The wall in front of St. John Byzantine Church collapsed this spring. Members of the Helping Hands wall crew worked to clean up the debris. The wall is 7 feet high and all 228 feet of the wall needs to be replaced. Thank you to the Home Office for the Helping Hands program. If you would like to make a donation to help defray costs of the wall rebuild, send it to: St. John BC Church Wall Fund, 704 Chestnut Avenue, Northern Cambria, PA 15714.

### Father's Day Get Together

St. John Byzantine Church and Lodge 93 sponsored a Father's Day get together after 4 PM Liturgy on Saturday, June 16. Pizza, salad, cake and refreshments were served. All men received a Father's Day gift. Door prizes were drawn. Fr. Vasil presented a short presentation on Father's Day. Thank you to the Home Office for the GCU promotional items. Another thank you to the cooks and helpers for a job well done.

**John J. Katana** | Secretary

## Lodge 109

LYNDORA, PA

### Helping Hands Day 2019

During the week of June 2<sup>nd</sup>, the annual Spring clean-up took place on the grounds of St. John the Baptist Byzantine Church in Lyndora.

Weeds were pulled, ground prepared and dead foliage cut back to make space for the new flowers being planted. Planters were placed at all the entrances of the church 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 Blichar and his family. A large planter was placed in front of the parish memorial to those whose lives had been lost in service to the country.

We wish to thank the Fraternal Grant program for the funds to buy the flowers, planters and mulch for the project. Sunscreen, sun glasses and shirts from the Home Office were given to those helping with the project. A special thanks to Fr. Radko



Janet Uram, Fr. Radko and Helen Musko admiring some of the new plants in front of the church sign. Missing from the photo was Bill Uram Jr. who prepared the ground and spread the mulch before the planting.

who pitched in welding a yard vacuum to clear up dead leaves and weeds before the flowers were planted.



Lou Pocchiari, Al Worsley, Bill Uram Jr., Marci Mustello, Sam Zurzolo, S. Freeman and Jim Lockhaiser Jr. In front: Joey & Ben Stavish.

### Flag Day Observance

On Sunday, June 9 Lodge 109 held its annual flag raising ceremony at the Lyndora War Memorial followed by a luncheon at St. John the Baptist Church.

The program at the Memorial was conducted by Vice President Bill Uram Jr., who welcomed everyone followed by the raising of the Flag by the Honor Guard. Lou Pocchiari led all in the singing of the National Anthem. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by young Joey Stavish after which the Invocation was given by Deacon Paul Simko. Bill recognized special guest, 98 year old Helen Meaders, who began the lodge's flag raising ceremony many years ago with only four people in attendance.

Pertinent remarks for the occasion were offered by past commander of American Legion Post 778 Al Worsley; newly elected PA State Representative Marci Mustello and Butler Township Commissioner Jim Lockhaiser Jr. The speakers remarks were followed by a short program by the Honor Guard which included a volley of rifle fire and the playing of "Taps."

The ceremony concluded with the singing of "God Bless America" led by Lou Pocchiari after which all were invited to attend a picnic lunch served at the church prepared by Barb Nemcek, Lee Kradel and Betsy Sychak. Many thanks to the GCU Home Office for the Fraternal Grant and District 15 for their help in making this day a success.



Helen Meaders surrounded by parish children at Flag Day lunch.

Janet Uram | Secretary-Treasurer



President Janet Stetzer presenting a check from the hoagie sale profits and Matching Funds to Fr. Radko Blichar surrounded by some of the "Hoagie" team who helped make the project so successful. Pictured are Janet Uram, Gloria Hoffman, Fr. Radko, Amy Uram, Helen Musko, Janet Stetzer, Pat Kosar, Pam Gagen, Bob Kosar and Deacon Paul Simko.



National Director John Oslick preparing to ship willow branches.

## Lodge 144

DENVER, CO

### Palm Sunday Pussy Willows

GCU Lodge 144 was pleased to supply the Palm Sunday pussy willows to five churches in the Eparchy of Phoenix.

Thanks to Viera Semanova Tessmer, Audrey Peek, Russ Haas, Mary Ellen Oslick and National Director John Oslick for their work on this project.

John W. Oslick

## Lodge 151

NEW YORK, NY

### Volunteers Luncheon

The Church of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary held a Liturgy and luncheon for its volunteers. The pastor Very Rev. Canon Fr. Zbigniew Brzezicki invited several GCU members because of the support Lodge 151 has provided the last few years. The lodge attendees were absolutely delighted to be invited and had a great time.



Lodge 151 members at the Volunteer Luncheon.

### Flag Day

Lodge 151 celebrated Flag Day on June 14, 2019 at the Cerebral Palsy Center in Roosevelt, Long Island. GCU members read books, sang songs and talked about the Flag to the children at the school. Treats, pins and GCU coloring books were given to teachers and children. God Bless America!



Flag Day at Cerebral Palsy Center.



Volunteers at Helping Hands Day.

### Helping Hands Day

Seven GCU members volunteered for Helping Hands Day at St. Andrew Church in Westbury, NY. The group cleaned the grounds and then planted flowers. What a difference when you add flowers around the church—it is a very welcoming and warm feeling. GCU college students Lauren Mamay and Ashley Pajer along with Fr. Nicholas Daddona and Marge Russell helped with the arrangement.

### Congratulations

Congratulations to the students from Lodge 151 who received 2019 GCU Scholarships. John Hogan attending Virginia Tech; Gordon Hulak attending Penn State University; Emma Lalley attending Notre Dame and Ashley Pajer attending Manhattan College. Keep up the good work!

Congratulations to Kate Elias who won the state swimming competition in Michigan. In the Michigan State swimming meets for ages 10 and under, Kate was the champion. She came in first in 50 yard backstroke, 100 yard backstroke and 100 yard fly. She finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 200 yard medley, 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 400 yard free style and 4<sup>th</sup> in the 200 yard freestyle. Great Going Kate!



Kate Elias.

Marge Pajer Russell | President

## Lodge 164

YOUNGSTOWN, OH

### Honoring the Sisters of St. Basil the Great

On Thursday, June 6, 2019, at St. Mary's Social Center, a dinner was held to honor and thank the local Sisters of St. Basil the Great who have served the Byzantine Churches in the Youngstown area for the past 20 years. Sisters Bernarda and Leocadia are going to be moving to the Convent at Mt. Saint Macrina in Uniontown, PA in June. Lodge 164 presented the Sisters with \$2,006.<sup>00</sup> worth of gift cards from the Lenten Soup & Sandwich Fundraiser held on the seven Wednesdays of Lent. The donation included Matching Funds from the GCU Home Office.



Sisters Bernarda & Leocadia (in front) with gift cards. Second row is Karen Muransky, Fraternal Director Jackie Leson, Barb Fleet (cooks) and Treasurer Sharon MacDonald. Behind is President Dr. Tom Sopkovich and David Muransky (cook and server).



Dr. Sopkovich & Diana Danko presenting Rescue Mission Director John Muckridge III their share of the Mother's Day Fundraiser.

### Father's Day Bingo Fundraiser

On Sunday, Father's Day, June 16, sixteen lodge members and 5 parishioners began selling bingo sheets and tear-off games at 5:30 PM for the evenings fundraiser. The 247 bingo players were given a free dauber, donated by St. Mary's Bingo, when the games started. For three bingo nights, including Father's Day, nine donated gift baskets were on display and tickets sold by Pat Sopkovich for a Chinese Auction Raffle held after intermission of the Father's Day Bingo. The lodge and church members donated about \$300.<sup>00</sup> worth of gifts and money for 8 baskets. The lodge's bingo supplier Nannicola, provided a \$150.<sup>00</sup> Cleveland Browns basket. The basket sales resulted in \$655.<sup>00</sup> in income.

The bingo sheet sales and kitchen sales resulted in \$6,274.<sup>00</sup> of income. Total prize payouts were \$3,895.<sup>00</sup>. The net profits for the fundraiser totaled \$3,034.<sup>00</sup>, which will be matched by the GCU as a church benefit for upkeep of the social hall and church.

Separate prizes of one "Pig" at \$1,000.<sup>00</sup> and one "Hog" at \$2,000.<sup>00</sup> were paid out to the happy bingo winners.

The daubers were. Bingo games started at 6:45 PM with a 15 minute intermission at 7:50 PM. At the end of intermission, the Gift Basket Raffle was held with the winning tickets being drawn by a bingo player. Baskets were claimed by the winners. The second half of the 20 bingo games ended at 9: 35 PM. All the bingo workers were happy for the successful fundraiser.



Officers Dr. Tom Sopkovich & Diana Danko present Skip Barone from Our Community Kitchen their \$1505.<sup>00</sup> donation from the Mother's Day Bingo Fundraiser.

### Donations Made

Kitchen Manager "Skip" Barone accepted Lodge 164's \$1,505.<sup>00</sup> donation from Dr. Sopkovich and Diana Danko from the Mother's Day Bingo Fundraiser. The donation was made on June 24. Thanks to the GCU for \$1,997.<sup>00</sup> in Matching Funds for the lodge's community charities.

A lodge presentation of \$1,500.<sup>00</sup> to the Rescue Mission of the Valley by Dr. Sopkovich & Diana Danko also was made on June 24. Director John Muckridge III accepted the check.

The third recipient of Lodge 164's Bingo Fundraiser to receive \$1,505.<sup>00</sup> was the Veterans Outreach Program of the Valley. Robert Julian and Teri Ely accepted for the Vets.

The three beneficiaries received a total of \$4,515.<sup>00</sup> which included the GCU Matching Funds. This was the lodge's most successful fundraiser ever.



Officers Diana Danko and Dr. Sopkovich donating \$1,505.<sup>00</sup> to Veterans Outreach Directors Robert Julian & Teri Ely.

CONTINUED

## Lodge 164 CONTINUED



Pat Sopkovich & Diana Danko at the meeting/picnic.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarterly Meeting & Lodge Picnic

The Lodge 164 third quarter meeting was held on Sunday, July 14, 2019 at St. Mary's Social Center. Sixteen members and a guest enjoyed a delicious picnic buffet, beverages and deserts. Following the business meeting, a drawing for edible door prizes completed the picnic.

Dr. Tom Sopkovich | President

## Lodge 268

MINGO JUNCTION, OH

### Luncheon Honors Veterans

After Divine Liturgy on Sunday, June 2, 2019, GCU Lodge 268 had a luncheon to honor local veterans. The veterans in attendance were: Jodi Floto, GCU member Bob Olexia, Father John Kapitan and GCU member Bill Kendrach. Each veteran received a gift of appreciation. It was a great afternoon of fellowship. Each family in attendance went home with a flower used to decorate the tables. Thanks to the GCU for the Fraternal Grant.

Carla Gasser | President



Jodi Floto, Bob Olexia, Father John Kapitan and Bill Kendrach.

## Lodge 271

ORLAND PARK, IL

### ByzanTEEN Yard Sale

This year's ByzanTEEN Yard Sale was held on Friday & Saturday, June 14-15. Donations from parishioners were collected for four weeks prior to the event. Items included lots of kid's games and toys, seasonal decorations, crafts & household items. The yard sale also serves many of the elderly in the parish by assisting them to downsize their households with little effort, while also helping the youth. The event was a great success with a steady flow of traffic on both days despite the light off and on showers on Saturday. The newest members of the parish, the Martinez Family, even stopped by on Saturday to check out the event.

The proceeds from the Yard Sale will be used to help offset the cost of travel expenses to next year's ByzanTEEN Youth Rally in the Eparchy of Phoenix. This retreat includes prayers, recreational activities and spiritual development which help Byzantine Catholic teenagers, all over the United States.

The small but very dedicated team of parents and teens sorted, organized and priced all of the items. Thanks to youth leader Catherine Baranko for her hard work and dedication to the teens at Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Church.

Vicki Blidy | Vice President



Youth members looking over some of the goodies at the yard sale.



## Lodge 302

BRECKSVILLE, OH

### Memorial Day

The annual Memorial Day celebration was held at St. Joseph Byzantine Church on Sunday, May 28, 2019 following the 10:30 AM Liturgy. Fr. Bruce Riebe and Lodge 302 President Judy Weitzel, officiated the ceremony outside the church along with representation of both retired military and those currently serving the country. Taps was played by Noah Brown from Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School and GCU member John Carrig, played the bagpipes. Diane Richey concluded the service 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.

## UPCOMING LODGE 302 EVENT

### Get Your Groove On! Retro 60's Party

Saturday, October 5

Doors Open 5:30 PM

Buffet Dinner 7 PM

Show Time 8 PM

Tickets \$35 per person (presale tickets only)

Featuring music from The Pop Tarts

Cash Bar-Side boards-Chinese Auction-50/50 & Prize for the best dressed!

New Orleans Party Centre at  
St. Joseph Church  
8111 Brecksville Road, Brecksville, OH

**A Benefit for the Up Side of Downs**, a non-profit organization which provides support, education and advocacy for people with Downs Syndrome, their families and communities.

Ticket info: Jean Karaffa 216-513-3854 or jmk0724@aol.com OR Diana Simpson 330-205-0476 or dilynnsi@yahoo.com.

**Deadline is Sunday, September 29.**



### Congratulations

Tyler Milam, grandson of Lodge 302 officer, Bonnie Ciresi and her husband Tom Ciresi, was among 445 students who graduated from Walsh University on April 28, 2019. Two nights before, Walsh held a ceremony where 125 graduates received their nursing pins. Tyler was also honored by the faculty as the most outstanding nursing student in the Class of 2019. Once he passes his certification test, he will then join the nursing staff at the Cleveland Clinic in the medical ICU unit. Congratulations is extended to Tyler and his family.

Diane Richey | Publicity Director



Tyler Milam.



Fr. Jim Batcha blessing the flag pole.

## Lodge 319

FLUSHING, MI

### Flag Pole Dedication

On June 14, 2019 a new flag pole was dedicated at St. Michael Byzantine Catholic Church in Flushing, MI. Fr. Jim Batcha and members of the Flushing Veterans of Foreign War dedicated the flag pole. Approximately 30 lodge members and parishioners attended. Refreshments were served after the dedication.

Pat Chartier | President

## Lodge 321

BRADENVILLE, PA

### Strawberry Shortcake Social

On Saturday & Sunday, June 15-16, 2019, following the Liturgies, GCU Lodge 321 honored all parents of St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church by hosting a Strawberry Shortcake Social. The GCU Home Office provided giveaways and the lodge gave every attendee a St. Nicholas of Myra medal. Seventy parishioners attended.

This was the fifth annual celebration where parishioners were asked to make a free will donation for a specific cause. In past years, local organizations received the generous support of the members of St. Mary Church and GCU donated Matching Funds. This year, because the church needs a new roof, guests were asked to donate money for the "New Roof Fund." Once again, parishioners showed their generosity and love of St. Mary Church by donating over \$3,800.<sup>00</sup>. With with the new GCU Matching Funds policy, St. Mary's New Roof Fund will be supplemented by another \$3,000.<sup>00</sup>.

Lodge 321 would like to thank everyone who donated for this cause and the GCU for providing the Matching Funds.

Laurene Kristof | Publicity Director



Lodge members and parishioners enjoying the social.



St. Stephen Church 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Flag Day ceremony.

## Lodge 336

EUCLID, OH

### St. Stephen 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

St. Stephen Byzantine Church celebrated the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the construction of the church on Sunday, June 9, 2019. In support of the parish, Lodge 336 sponsored a 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary fundraising activity. There were four prizes, two (2) prizes of \$125.<sup>00</sup> each, a second prize of \$250.<sup>00</sup> and a grand prize of \$500.<sup>00</sup>. The lodge had a profit of \$3,065.<sup>00</sup> and with GCU Matching Funds the church will receive a total of \$6,035.<sup>00</sup>.

In conjunction with the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, Lodge 336 also conducted its annual Flag Day ceremony. It was an extra special day with Bishop Milan Lach in attendance. The weather held out and the ceremony was held outdoors this year!

Patti Comai | President

## Lodge 351

INDIANA, PA

### Helping Hands Day

After a few changes in the date and time, Lodge 351 held a Helping Hands Day at St. Jude Byzantine Catholic Church in Ernest, PA on June 19, 2019. It was a perfect day – not too warm and no rain at all in the morning. Everyone worked diligently to try to complete the tasks that day, but unfortunately the rain, which was a common occurrence during the month of June, postponed some of the planting and clean-up to a later date.

Father Vasyl Kadar joined the group after Divine Liturgy. The volunteers Ray & Ellen Kulis, Joe Olmstead, Agnes Klyap, Mike Kleba, Wanda Kleba and Patty Yamrick weeded the front of the rectory, planted flowers and mulched around the plants.

Theresa Frederick has plans to complete planting of additional pachysandra on the hillside next to the rectory and a dogwood tree will be planted at a later date. Slowly, but surely, the annual Helping Hands Fraternal Grants



Joe Olmstead, Ray Kulis and Fr. Vasyl Kadar.

received by Lodge 351 from the GCU Home Office, have benefited not only St. Jude Church, but also the local community. Everyone who passes by on Route 110 is now able to enjoy the beautiful flowers and shrubbery. Between the raindrops and the sunny days, the Helping Hands Day event became a work in progress, but by the end of June most everything was completed.



Raising the Flag at the new renovated Veteran's Memorial.

### Rededication of Veteran's Memorial

On July 4, 2019 Lodge 351 along with St. Jude Byzantine Catholic Church in Ernest, PA, and community members hosted a rededication of the Ernest Veteran's Memorial. Luzier Landscaping completed the renovation. Father Vasyl Kadar began the program with a panchida for all of the deceased veterans. Mayor Sandra Waldenville welcomed those that gathered for the program. She thanked all those who contributed to the Veteran's Memorial improvements. A new US Flag donated by Senator Joseph Pittman's office was raised as Theresa Frederick, master of ceremonies, sang the Star-Spangled Banner. After the Pledge of Allegiance, there was a moment of silence for the fallen soldiers, and immediately following

was the playing of Taps. Theresa read a poem dedicated to the service men and woman, and then recognized veterans in the audience. After the program, everyone present was invited into the church rectory for a strawberry social. The social, which had a \$5 cost, lasted several hours with veterans and active military given dessert for free. All of the proceeds will be donated to Run Ranger Run of the Gallant Few. It was a beautiful day, and as Harry S. Truman stated: "Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude. America will never forget their sacrifices."

Patty Yamrick | Publicity Director



Members participating in the Flag Day celebration.

## Lodge 360

CAMPBELL, OH

### Flag Day Celebration

GCU Lodge 360 celebrated Flag Day with St. Michael Church on Sunday, June 16. Despite the rain, GCU member Terry Tirpack was able to raise new Vatican and American flags donated by the lodge. Parishioners and lodge members were treated to a beautiful luncheon afterward. God Bless America and St. Michael Parish.

Lisa Kinnick Romito | Secretary-Treasurer



Eugene Ostinowsky of Lodge 401 presenting donation checks to Jerry Nedrich a trustee of both Interfaith Food Bank & Nanty Glo Public Library.

## Lodge 401

NANTY GLO, PA

### Donations Made

GCU Lodge 401 received two monetary awards from the former District 4 treasury. These awards were presented to The Interfaith Food Bank and Nanty-Glo Public Library. Each award was in the amount of \$500.<sup>00</sup>.

### Donut Social

Lodge 401 sponsored a coffee and donut social in honor of Mother's Day and Father's Day.

### Chicken & Biscuit Dinner

Lodge 401 sponsored a Chicken & Biscuit Dinner on Sunday, April 28, 2019 at St. Nicholas Church Hall. One hundred and thirty dinners were served. The profits from this dinner were allocated towards the deductible for roof repairs on the church hall due to storm damage.

Gene Ostinowsky | Vice President



Paul Alexander working at the Chicken & Biscuit dinner.

## Greater Hazleton Regional Lodge

HAZLETON, PA

Hazy, Hot & Humid—the lazy, hazy days of summer are upon us, but why complain, at least we do not have to shovel it. Lo and behold before you know it the leaves will be turning, the next season is not far away, so enjoy!

### Helping Hands Day & Byzantine Family Day

On Saturday, June 1, volunteers helped at Holy Annunciation Monastery for Helping Hands Day. It was great to meet the families of Sisters Katherine and Katrina. We presented them with GCU shirts and they were thrilled. Then on Sunday, it was off to Knoebels Park for Byzantine Day. A bus was provided by GHRL for those who did not want to drive. For a change, Mother Nature did not rain on the day's activities.

## UPCOMING GHRL EVENTS

### Casino Bus Trip (TBA)

Sunday, September 22

### Pumpkin Pick & Hay Ride at Thomas Farms

Sunday, October 6

Rain Date Sunday, October 20

1 PM

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

Sunday, October 13

1 PM

SS. Peter & Paul, Beaver Meadows, PA

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

Saturday, October 26

9 AM

Contact Agnes Rohrbach at 570-454-4869

### Bus Trip (TBA)

Sunday, October 27

### Miracle of Christmas

Saturday, November 2

Sight and Sound Theater, Lancaster, PA

Contact Agnes Rohrbach at 570-454-4869



Carmelite Nuns at Mother Marija's elevation to Hegumena. Mother Marija is wearing the cross.

### Holy Annunciation Celebration

Monday, June 17 was a transition day for the Carmelite Nuns at Holy Annunciation Monastery. Mother Marija was elevated to Hegumena and they are now members of the Ruthenian Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic. There was a Divine Liturgy celebrated by His Grace Most Blessed Kurt Burnette and presider and homilist was His Grace, Metropolitan Archbishop William Skurla. It was attended by clergy from the area and a celebration was held afterwards on the monastery grounds. Guests also had the honor of celebrating Mother Marija's birthday.



National Director Dorothy Ann Foran, GHRL President Deacon Larry Foran, Anita Keselicka, Jason & Josh Billman, GHRL Secreatry Agnes Rohrbach. Back row: Adam & Dave Keselicka and Fr. Jerome Wolbert, OFM.

### Community Matching Funds Distribution

A fund raiser in the month of April was held for Josh Billman, his house was destroyed by fire. When he heard about Anita Keselicka's accident, he had volunteered to help her with her cause and said that he would give half of the proceeds from the fundraiser to her. A total of \$1,563.<sup>00</sup> was raised through the sale of a Monthly Lottery Calendar and the Home Office matched that amount.

Thanks to all who helped with this fund raiser and to GCU. Checks were presented to Josh and Anita with each receiving \$1,563.<sup>00</sup>.

The June Matching Funds fund raiser for St. John's BC Church was a success and the check will be presented at the 3rd quarterly meeting. Thanks to all who volunteer to sell the tickets. Another fundraiser is on the way in November.

CONTINUED



Agnes Rohrbach, Fr. Gregory Hosler and National Director Dorothy Ann Foran at Knoebels Park on June 2.

## Greater Hazleton Regional Lodge CONTINUED

### GHRL Notes

The 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual “Joseph Durkay Memorial Holupki Open” was held on Saturday, July 13 on a picture perfect day. A full report appears on page 44.

Just a reminder, the GCU Bowling league will have their re-organization meeting on Wednesday, August 28 at 6:30 PM at Bowl-Arena.

As always, remember that dates are subject to change. If you are unsure about a meeting or an event, please feel free to call 570-454-4869, or if you are computer savvy, check out the GCU website for updates or new postings.

Until, next time, take care and May God Bless!

Agnes Rohrbach | GHRL Activities Director

## Central Pittsburgh Regional Lodge

HAZLETON, PA

### Donations & Fundraiser

CPRL has been busy helping others. Matching Fund checks of \$3,000.<sup>00</sup> each were made to both St. Pius X & St. John the Baptist Churches.

On Saturday, June 29 the lodge pitched in to support Sam Langol, a young parishioner at St. Pius Church battling AFM, with a benefit bingo. With GCU Community Matching Funds the event raised over \$11,000.<sup>00</sup> that will be used to assist his family with his care and needs.



A few of the volunteers who made the Bingo event a success.



GCU Matching Funds check presentation to Msgr. Russell Duker by Norma Langol and Beth Gulyasy from pirohi sales.



Director Melanie Basl with son JD at Byzantine Day with Kenny the Kangaroo at Kennywood Park.

## UPCOMING CPRL EVENTS

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

**Sunday, September 8**

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

**Brunch at 12 NOON**

**Meeting to follow brunch**

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 5**

**More details & information to follow**

Duda's Farm Inc.  
57 Creek Road, Brownsville, PA 15417

Contact Kim Kolesar at 412-999-5714

### Annual Steeler Tailgate

**Date TBD—More details & information to follow**

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

Questions? Contact [gculodge255@gmail.com](mailto:gculodge255@gmail.com) or call 412-849-2945

## Southeast Pittsburgh Regional Lodge CLAIRTON & MUNHALL, PA

### Helping Hands Day in Munhall

The SEPRL and St. John's Cathedral in Munhall set aside two days this year for Helping Hands volunteers to work their magic.

The first event was held on Saturday, April 13 with Liturgy in the Cathedral followed by several parishioners and GCU members trimming hedges, weed whacking the grounds, cutting out dead ground cover, weeding flower beds, planting flowers and mowing the lawn.

The second day Saturday, May 25 was a day for spreading topsoil, planting additional flower beds & planters, mulching, watering and trimming the rest of the hedges & trees.

Thanks to all of the volunteers that helped on one or both days. The grounds look amazing again this year.



Helping Hands Day at St. John the Baptist Cathedral in Munhall.



Helping Hands Day at Ascension Church in Clairton.

## UPCOMING SEPRL EVENTS

### Ladies Spring Bling Event

**Sunday, August 25**

**1-4 PM**

**\$10 per person**

Ascension Church  
318 Park Avenue, Clairton, PA 15025

Ladies and girls are welcome to join us for tea, lunch, games and prizes. A presentation on the history of the locket will be presented by Yvonne Opalenik. Everyone will have an opportunity to design a personal locket and jewelry will be available for purchase.

Contact Trish at 412-233-7814 or  
trishala2@earthlink.net

### Next Meeting

**Sunday, September 29**

**12 NOON**

Ascension Church  
318 Park Avenue, Clairton, PA 15025

### Helping Hands Day in Clairton

Volunteers arrived early on Saturday, June 1 for Helping Hands Day at Ascension Church in Clairton.

The group split up with some working inside the church hall and the others working outside on the church grounds. Volunteers inside scrubbed tables & chairs from top to bottom, cleaned the baseboard heaters & large entryway and the conference room table & chairs were polished to a shine.

Outside, a decision was made to remove overgrown shrubs, hedges and a large pine tree that had become a danger to the surrounding buildings during storms. A dumpster was available and by the end of the day, volunteers had filled it to the top with trees, shrubs and branches. The result was an attractive area that enhances the landscape and decreases outdoor maintenance tasks. Plans to remove stumps at the end of the summer will complete the outside project. A luncheon was prepared for everyone who volunteered as they relaxed and socialized discussing ideas for future projects.

### Welcome Back

On Sunday, July 7 a luncheon to welcome back Father Ivan Mina to Ascension Byzantine Parish was held after Liturgy. Parishioners donated homemade food dishes for the buffet and joined in socializing and catching up with Father Ivan for a pleasant afternoon.

Patricia Bovee | Treasurer

Trish Roberts | President

## Lodge 625

CONEMAUGH, PA

### Helping Hands Day

On Saturday, May 25, 2019, six members of Lodge 625 conducted the annual Helping Hands Day at Holy Trinity Byzantine Catholic Cemetery. Members re-mulched the entrance circle and put US Flags around the circle and at the entrance by the cemetery sign. Following the work, they had lunch at the local pizza shop. Lodge 625 thanks the GCU Home Office for the Fraternal Grant.

### Socials

On Sunday, June 9, Lodge 625 hosted a social hour following Divine Liturgy with cake and coffee to celebrate the parish feast day.

On Sunday, June 16, the lodge hosted its annual Father's Day social hour following Divine Liturgy and the parish was treated to a variety of muffins and coffee.



Helping Hands Day.

### Family Bowling

On June 23, the lodge held its 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter meeting and that afternoon family and friends were invited to attend the Annual Bowling Party at

Richland Lanes. Attendees bowled 2 games of 9 pin no-tap and had a pizza party. Thanks again to the Home Office for the Fraternal Grant.

### Music Festival

July has been very busy with preparations for the lodge's annual attendance at the Music Festival in Johnstown, PA. Members of the lodge prepared pirohi, halushki, halupki and gobs to sell at the event for the lodge's Parish Matching Funds.



Lodge members making pirohi for the Music Festival.

### Lodge/Parish Picnic

Members of the lodge and their families are invited to attend the annual lodge/parish picnic on Sunday, August 18, following the 11 AM Divine Liturgy at Holy Trinity Byzantine Catholic Church in Conemaugh. Attendees are asked to bring a covered dish to share. The lodge will be providing the meat, drinks, games for the children and BINGO for the "older kids!"

Members of Lodge 625 who would like to be added to the email list are asked to send an email to [gculodge625@yahoo.com](mailto:gculodge625@yahoo.com). You can also like us on Facebook—GCU Lodge 625.

Georgia Lehman | Secretary-Treasurer

## UPCOMING LODGE 625 EVENTS

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

**Sunday, August 25**

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

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

### Children's Halloween Party

**Saturday, October 26**

**Time to be announced**

Holy Trinity Church  
217 Fourth Street, Conemaugh, PA

Contact Georgia Lehman at 814-535-5636  
or [gculodge625@yahoo.com](mailto:gculodge625@yahoo.com)

### Swiss Steak Dinner

**Sunday, November 17**

**11 AM-2 PM**

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

## Lodge 644

AKRON/BARBERTON, OH

For the past several months members of Lodge 644 have been busy at both St. Nicholas parish in Barberton and St. Emilian in Brunswick, OH.



Marsha Ambrose & Joanne Angeletti hiding Easter eggs.



Marsha Ambrose at Helping Hands Day.

### Helping Hands Project

On Saturday, May 25, members put their garden gloves on and helped St. Nicholas parish groundskeeper Dan Bailey with filling the various large pots around the church. Lodge members at St. Emilian parish have ordered mulch and will be spreading it on a later date. These projects are part of the lodge's annual Helping Hands project.

### Easter Egg Hunt

On Palm Sunday, April 14, children participated in an Easter Egg Hunt at St. Nicholas parish. Lodge 644 members hid the eggs and the lodge contributed towards the Easter treats. The lodge provided lunch for the children and their families.



Lodge members with Tom Blike, one of the chefs, at the card party.

## UPCOMING LODGE 644 EVENTS

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

Saturday, September 7

2 PM

**\$90 per golfer (includes 18 holes of golf, cart, lunch at the turn, dinner and beverages.)**

Bunker Hill Golf Club  
3060 Pearl Road, Medina, OH

Contact Mike Meador at 440-572-2178 or michael-meador@sbcglobal.net for more information

### Simply Slavic Buffet

Wednesday, September 18

4:30-7 PM

**\$15 All You Can Eat**

St. Nicholas Church  
1051 E. Robinson Ave., Barberton, OH 44203

### Quarterly Meeting

Sunday, October 27

11 AM

St. Nicholas Church  
1051 E. Robinson Ave., Barberton, OH 44203

### Card Parties

During the month of June, members of both parishes held games of chance projects as Matching Funds events. On Saturday, June 8 members in Brunswick, OH were dealing cards at St. Emilian Night of the Aces event—it was a great success! On Wednesday, June 12 the St. Nicholas contingent was serving delicious Italian cookies, pasta and salad for the lodge's Italian themed annual card party. The members put a lot of effort in securing door prizes and making beautiful baskets for the basket drawings.



Members preparing for the Soup Kitchen.

### Soup Kitchen

On Thursday, July 25, Lodge 644 hosted a soup kitchen at the Presbyterian church in downtown Barberton. Members donned their GCU shirts and served 108 dinners to the needy. The summer themed menu consisted of chicken fingers, homemade macaroni salad, deviled eggs, baked beans and mouth-watering watermelon for dessert.

Rick Schen | Publicity Director

## Lodge 860

DETROIT, MI

### Icons of Archangels Written During Iconography Workshop

Icons of St. Michael the Archangel or the Archangel Gabriel were written during an iconography workshop held the weekend of May 31 to June 2 at St. Nicholas Church in Clinton Township, MI.

Lodge members, parishioners and friends created beautiful icons of their choice of the two archangels. Marylyn Barone, an experienced iconographer who traveled from the Pittsburgh area, taught the class.

Starting with prototypes and a



Iconography workshop participants with their icons blessed by Fr. Joseph Repko.

*Photo by Jim Van Kula.*

pre-primed piece of wood, Barone led participants through the process, step by step, so that even those with no experience and/or minimum artistic skills were able to create a beautiful window into heaven.

The weekend workshop cost was

subsidized by the lodge, which also provided all the meals.

On the last day of the workshop, all the icons were blessed by pastor, Fr. Joseph Repko, Lodge 860 chaplain.



Attendees at the Lodge 860 sponsored Flag Day event gathered for the flag-raising ceremony.

*Photo by Nikolaj Nagrant.*

### Old Glory Honored on Its Day

Lodge 860 members, along with parishioners at St. Nicholas Church in Clinton Township, MI celebrated the U.S. Flag during a Flag Day event sponsored by the lodge on Sunday, June 9.

Following a luncheon in the church hall, provided by the lodge, the parish's Scouting youth led attendees to the flagpole on the parish grounds. The Scouts, along with parishioner, lodge member and veteran U.S. Marine Corps Gunnery Sergeant Duane Vancil, respectfully removed the old flags and ceremoniously raised a new U.S. Flag and a POW Flag, both purchased by the lodge. These ceremonies were accompanied by Boy Scout Bugler Fred Swanney playing the appropriate Lowering and Raising of the Colors on his trumpet.

**Val Marszalec** | Fraternal & Publicity Director



Lodge member & USMC Veteran Duane Vancil (in red) helps Scouts raise the new flags.

*Photo by Nikolaj Nagrant.*



Parish children celebrating Flag Day.

## Lodge 945

DUNMORE, PA

### Flag Day Ceremony

Immediately following the 9 AM Divine Liturgy, Lodge 945 held a Flag Day Celebration on Sunday, June 9, 2019. GCU National Director George Kofel conducted the event. Thirty-five lodge members and parishioners participated in the celebration. U.S. Service veterans Brandon Shihinski, Joseph Dunda, William Danilich and Michael Duricko led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mini flags along with GCU giveaways were presented to all participants.

George Kofel | Publicity Director



Adults celebrating Flag Day as well.

## UPCOMING LODGE 945 EVENTS

### Newspaper Drive

Months of September & October 2019

Benefits the "Mini Horse Corral" of the Byzantine Catholic Nuns Sugarloaf, PA

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

Sunday, September 22

Following the 9 AM Divine Liturgy

St. Michael Church  
511 East Drinker Street, Dunmore, PA 18512

### Cleanup at Dunmore Nature Trail

Saturday, October 12

Weather permitting

Contact George Kofel at 570-241-2256

# Byzantine Family Day at Kennywood Park 2019



Join us in 2020  
for the 100<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary!



## GCU Student Debt Program Continues in 2019

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. The Board has once again established a budget for this program in 2019. The program is open to both new applicants and to those that received the award in 2018.

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 12/31/2018 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—Members—Member Benefits—Student Debt](http://GCUusa.com—Members—Member Benefits—Student Debt).

All applications must be completed online. Once membership requirements have been verified, the applicant will 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.



# For Your Information

## Events

### Windows of Opportunity

Wednesday, September 18 & 25

Wednesday, October 2 at 7 PM

**NO charge but reservations are requested. Call Milan at 412-805-5828**

Holy Spirit Church Auditorium  
4815 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213

A 3-part series on the challenges and approaches to raising children in the Catholic Faith. Appropriate for all ages of parenting & grandparenting. The format will be a short talk with handouts followed by an interactive give and take. Topics will include: avoiding common parenting pitfalls in religious training and behavioral discipline which can undermine your influence as a Catholic parent. Speaker will be Linda M. Gourash, MD.

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

Sunday, September 22

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.

Contact info: 724-438-6027.

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

Saturday, October 26

9 AM

Contact Agnes Rohrbach at  
570-454-4869

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

Sunday, October 27

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 & sauerkraut, soup, potato pancakes, pagach, baked goods and much more. The Slavjane Folk Ensemble performs at 3 PM; a Rusyn folk music group will entertain at 12:30 & 4 PM; and a speaker/video presentation at 1 & 4 PM on Rusyn culture and customs. (*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, raffles, videos and much more. Handicapped accessible. Admission is free. For information call 724-438-6027 M-F 9 AM-3 PM, (leave message.)

### 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual St. Nicholas Charity Dinner

Sunday, December 8

Moleben at 4 PM

Dinner at 6 PM

St. John the Baptist Cathedral Center  
Munhall, PA

Benefits the Byzantine Catholic Seminary

## Available

### The Carpathian Cookery Cookbook

From St. John Byzantine Catholic Church in Uniontown, PA, is now in its 18<sup>th</sup> printing with over 18,000 copies sold. This cookbook is in the Library of Congress ethnic cooking collection. The 330-page cookbook has a new look and features a protective plastic cover. The book includes sections on Christmas and Easter customs and recipes, traditional Rusyn and Slavic foods, ethnic dishes and many other tried-and-true recipes of St. John's parishioners. There is a variety of paska bread and kolachi (filled roll) recipes, as well as meatless dishes and Lenten recipes, suitable for the Great Fast and the Pre-Christmas Fast. The cost of the cookbook is \$14.<sup>00</sup> plus \$4.<sup>00</sup> postage and handling (\$18.<sup>00</sup>). If ordering from Canada, please send a \$28.<sup>00</sup> U.S. Postal money order payable in U.S. dollars to reflect the difference in the exchange rate and postage cost. To order please send a check or money order to: Ethnic Craft Club, St. John Byzantine Catholic Church, 201 E. Main Street, Uniontown, PA 15401-3688, or call 724-438-6027 (M-F 9 AM - 3 PM – leave message), for additional information. You may also contact us at: [carpathiancookery@gmail.com](mailto:carpathiancookery@gmail.com).

# Rememberances

## John J. Katana

John J. Katana, 71, of Northern Cambria, PA, died Friday, July 19, 2019, at Miners Medical Center in Hastings, PA. He was born on August 27, 1947, in Spangler, PA the son of John & Mary (Whites) Katana.

A lifelong member of St. John Byzantine Catholic Church in Northern Cambria, John was a tireless worker for the parish and loved to share the Byzantine Catholic traditions.

John was retired from the Indiana Area School District. He worked for 37 years as an educator, coach and team leader. His passion for geography was contagious. His many recognitions included: a Distinguished Teaching Award, a Distinguished Geographer Award and an Exceptional Academic Service Award. He lectured at educational conferences, and planned teaching field trips across the United States and internationally. His love of geography led John to be a world traveler. He loved to share the world with his students. John was instrumental in the teacher exchange program with teachers from the Fujian Province. He taught summer graduate classes at St. Francis University and was a certified special instructor for physical conditioning

at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania Police Academy.

John was a member of various professional organizations, including PASR, PSEA, and Pennsylvania Geographic Society, where he held various offices.

John's varied interests landed him a role as the ring physician in the movie *Southpaw*. He was an ardent and conversant sports fan and enjoyed attending all sporting events.

As a lifelong member of the GCU, he served many years as District 4 president, Lodge 93 secretary, on the National Scholarship Committee, and was the floor committee chair for several of the most recent National Conventions. John could

always be counted on to step forward and help with GCU related activities.

John was the brother of Connie Strittmatter and husband Patrick J., of Indiana, PA and uncle to Patrick Strittmatter and wife Amanda (Overdorff), of Indiana. He is also survived by numerous aunts, cousins, extended family members and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents.

A Liturgy of Christian Burial took place at St. John Byzantine Catholic Church in Northern Cambria with the Rev. Vasyl Polyak and John's cousin, Deacon Dennis Prestash officiating. Interment was in St. John's Byzantine Catholic Cemetery.

Blessed repose and eternal memory.

## Stanley Swinconis

Northern Cambria, PA Lodge 93 member Stanley Swinconis recently passed away at the age of 100. Stanley was a World War II veteran. He served in the Army from 1941-1960. Stanley was a gunnery sergeant in the 4<sup>th</sup> Armored Division under General George Patton for 3 years. He marched from Normandy across Europe to then Czechoslovakia. Stanley received many military accommodations including 5 Bronze Stars and 1 Purple Heart.

Stanley was a very active lodge member. He bowled in the GCU Lodge 93 bowling league. Stanley was often seen

at National GCU and Byzantine Bowling Tournaments. He attended many lodge activities: pizza parties, Christmas Parties, lodge picnics and recognition luncheons, just to name a few.

Stanley was always ready to volunteer when needed. He also served as lodge president. After the war, Stanley was a supervisor for Barnes and Tucker Coal Company. He is survived by his wife Marie, daughter Maria and son John.

Blessed repose and eternal memory.

# Deceased Members

(Lodge-Member-City-State)

- 8344 Lillian J. Adams, Oakmont, PA  
8344 Bernice Allegre, Bunola, PA  
8344 Linda Alwine, Somerset, PA  
8344 Maynard D. Amond, Indiana, PA  
8344 Louise G. Amoroso, Rostraver Twp., PA  
8327 Margaret Ampe, Paynesville, MN  
271 Norma Andersen, German Valley, IL  
8344 Helen Atwell, Zieglerville, PA  
8309 Joseph M. Baich, Boca Raton, FL  
8344 Lola Baldini, Belle Vernon, PA  
GHRL Marge Barnasevitch, Weatherly, PA  
8344 Jean Barnhart, Newburg, PA  
CPRL Pearl Baysura, Freeport, PA  
8344 Grace E. Beck, Hiller, PA  
8344 Jacquelyn Beck, Jenkintown, PA  
697 Mary Jane Billcheck, Weirton, WV  
8344 Betty Mae Bishop, W. Mifflin, PA  
8344 Kenneth Bishop, Chalfont, PA  
8344 Naomi Bishop, Souderton, PA  
8344 Michael Blickley, Levittown, PA  
8327 Gary L. Bond, Fountain City, WI  
CPRL Eleanor Booth, Canonsburg, PA  
8358 Judith A. Boyd, Eagle River, WI  
8344 Maria T. Brecht, Warrington, PA  
8344 Anna M. Bulcavage, Macungie, PA  
53 Margaret Buleza, Fairfax, VA  
8344 Betty S. Bunish, Beaver, PA  
8344 Helen Burka, Butler, PA  
8304 Alberto Casifora, Laguna Woods, CA  
8304 Mary F. Castronovo, Oceanside, CA  
302 Virginia Chebra, Cleveland, OH  
8344 Elizabeth Chelak, Hummelstown, PA  
57 Antonina Cherenko, Washington, PA  
351 Tresa Renee Chiodo, Lackawanna, NY  
8344 Geno J. Coll, Masontown, PA  
316 Daniel Coval, Whitehall, PA  
8344 James Cramer, Pittsburgh, PA  
945 Edward Danielowski, Scranton, PA  
8344 Stephanie J. Davis, Pittsburgh, PA  
994 Mildred Dean, Monaca, PA  
8344 Phyllis J. Dellegratto, Berwick, PA  
360 Evelyn D. Democko, Struthers, OH  
151 Helen Demora, Brooklyn, NY  
235 Therese D. DePaolo, Vero Beach, FL  
860 Peter D. Digon, Casco, MI  
53 Joseph G. Dobash, Mountain Top, PA  
93 Nancy Domalik, Hastings, PA  
8344 Melanie Dornin, Jeannette, PA  
8358 Dolores A. Dresang, Neenah, WI  
CPRL Stella I. Druga, Pittsburgh, PA  
GHRL Helen Dzurainin, Hazleton, PA  
8344 Albert J. Eadie, Pleasant City, OH  
8344 Dolores Elli, Butler, PA  
8344 Janet L. Favinger, Palmetto, FL  
8344 John Fedorko, N. Huntingdon, PA  
8344 Barbara E. Fernando, Pottsville, PA  
8344 Barbara W. Fick, Fayetteville, PA  
302 Nancy Filler, Avon Lake, OH  
8309 Joan Foley, St. Augustine, FL  
8344 Thomas E. Foley, Plum, PA  
994 Clare Fusco, Beaver Falls, PA  
8344 Rae Ann Gabbert, Elwyn, PA  
109 Albert Gladis, Lyndora, PA  
8344 Mary Ellen Goga, New Kensington, PA  
8309 Ralph S. Gontarewicz, Palm Coast, FL  
17 Martha Graboski, Pittston, PA  
GHRL Basil Gramata, McAdoo, PA  
77 Michalene Grasso, Westerville, OH  
8344 Mary K. Gray, Ford City, PA  
8344 Loretta V. Grazier, Butler, PA  
994 Joseph M. Gregor, Industry, PA  
SEPRL Stephen Gribshaw, Charlotte, NC  
8344 Claire J. Grohal, Mt. Pleasant, PA  
8344 Dolores J. Gulish, Ambridge, PA  
999 Nyle C. Hammell, Chandler, AZ  
8344 Mary Ann Hanshaw, Greensburg, PA  
8344 Kathleen A. Harrington, Pittsburgh, PA  
8344 Ronald Heinlein, Oakdale, PA  
8357 H. Louise Herman, Weirton, WV  
8344 Mary J. Hetland, Belle Vernon, PA  
8344 Edward J. Holmes, Greensburg, PA  
109 Elizabeth Homa, Butler, PA  
66 Francis J. Horkavi, Barrington, IL  
665 Ann Hrycenko, Linden, NJ  
151 Julia Hulak, Brooklyn, NY  
8344 Carolyn Jacobson, Warren, PA  
93 John Janocko, Morann, PA  
8344 Margaret R. Johnson, Pittsburgh, PA  
8344 Elizabeth T. Juretic, Pittsburgh, PA  
8327 Curtis L. Kalmes, Rochester, MN  
CPRL Adrienne Ann Kapisak, Greensburg, PA  
8344 Joan Kephart, Harwick, PA  
8344 Sandra J. Kieswetter, Altoona, PA  
8344 Jacqueline Kimmel, Friedens, PA  
8341 Norma Kleiman, Lorain, OH  
321 John Klyap, Loyalhanna, PA  
321 George Knecht, Somerset, PA  
CPRL Robert John Koman, W. Mifflin, PA  
8344 Ronald D. Kopriva, Ambridge, PA  
8344 Helen Ann Kostelich, Pittsburgh, PA  
235 Eva Kozak, Bridgeport, CT  
8344 Richard H. Kramer, Douglassville, PA  
8344 Lawrence Krespan, Warren, PA  
8344 Catherine Kriner, New Ringgold, PA  
321 Mildred Krzanowski, Mt Pleasant, PA  
8327 Stanly S. Kuo, Golden Valley, MN  
235 Stella Kuzma, Newington, CT  
151 Vera F. Kuzmyak, Holly Hill, FL  
8344 Mary Kwitkowski, Apollo, PA  
SEPRL George Ladick, Phoenix, AZ  
8344 Deloris J. Lapensky, Washington, PA

8344 Josephine P. Lauricia, Canonsburg, PA

8304 Rita A. Lehmann, Tustin, CA

697 Allesandra Lesho, Weirton, WV

8304 Luella Levine, Centennial, CO

8344 William Little, Indiana, PA

8344 Helen B. Lucas, Erie, PA

GHRL James E. Luce, Laceyville, PA

8344 Mary A. Maier, Sarver, PA

8344 Georgiann Mansell, Monaca, PA

8344 Bernadette Matisko, New Kensington, PA

8344 James McCracken, Ligonier, PA

8344 Walter P. McEntee, Telford, PA

8344 Ima McGuire, New Kensington, PA

271 Eleanor E. Mega, Walworth, WI

8344 Steven G. Mekilo, Lehighon, PA

8344 Olga Mensinger, Ringtown, PA

8326 Francis J. Mesnak, Grand Rapids, MI

8344 Margaret J. Michalski, Glenshaw, PA

258 Diana Miese, Franklin, PA

8344 Helen A. Mordes, Schwenksville, PA

8344 Donna M. Moss, North Huntingdon, PA

SEPR L Josephine Moxin, Bethel Park, PA

625 Judith G. Murphy, Punta Gorda, FL

336 Joseph W. Nolan, Mantua, OH

8329 Charles M. Nusser, Farmington Hills, MI

66 Jean Olenik, Griffith, IN

8344 Alphonse H. Ozosky, Orwigsburg, PA

8313 Gwendolyn Palermini, Chicago, IL

8344 Michael Partika, Kingston, PA

302 Ronald Partilla, Sagamore Hills, OH

271 George C. Paulson, Wheaton, IL

8344 Gertrude Phillips Sterling, McKeesport, PA

8344 Robert F. Pierce, Harleysville, PA

93 Ann Pnakovich, Seneca Falls, NY

340 Barbara Ann Pontello, Springfield, PA

8344 Joyce Powers, Templeton, PA

8344 Robert L. Prinkey, Washington, PA

340 Theresa Radick, E. Brunswick, NJ

164 Theresa Mae Ragan, Youngstown, OH

8344 William F. Reep, Butler, PA

8344 Helen Reesman, Butler, PA

8344 Patsy A. Reinbold, Harleysville, PA

994 Larry Rekasie, Oakdale, PA

81 Charles Resetar, Monessen, PA

644 Dolores Richards, Barberton, OH

8304 Janet Ripley, Concord, CA

8344 Lois Ross, Ligonier, PA

8344 Joanne C. Rumford, Warrington, PA

8344 Catherine Ryan, Cranberry Twp., PA

8358 Kathleen A. Sampson, Kaukauna, WI

8344 Dimas Santiago, East Stroudsburg, PA

93 Verniece Sapp, Clymer, PA

NPRL Barbara R. Scheidhauer, Pittsburgh, PA

8344 Wilma C. Schleifenheimer, Temple, PA

53 Sandra Seamans, Clifford Twp., PA

8310 Amelia Sears, Auburn, GA

8344 John A. Seezox, Butler, PA

CPRL John Shea, Little River, SC

10 Theresa Shuster, Sewickley, PA

GHRL Andrew Slifko, Seltzer, PA

401 Helen Smetana, Portage, PA

211 Ester B. Solomon, Eynon, PA

GHRL Anna Soltis, Drums, PA

8327 Alpha C. Souder, Halma, MN

8344 Paul J. Spisak, Johnstown, PA

321 Margaret Stehney, Canonsburg, PA

NPRL Starre Steinmetz, Coraopolis, PA

15 Irene Supal, Trenton, NJ

8344 David Tanner, Rochester, PA

8360 Ruth D. Taylor, Mt. Pleasant, SC

66 Berna D. Thomas, Merrillville, IN

92 Josephine Throne, Hazleton, PA

268 Ronald Lee Tingler, Bloomingdale, OH

CPRL Charlotte Tomayko, Lower Burrell, PA

8344 Marsha Tressler, Moshannon, PA

GHRL Loretta Udovich, Hazleton, PA

8344 Elizabeth Ungvarsky, Mt. Pleasant, PA

8344 Helen L. Valentic, New Brighton, PA

CPRL George Varhola, Tarentum, PA

258 John Vasil, Hermitage, PA

8358 Shirley Walther, Winterhaven, FL

8358 Joan M. Welker, Wausau, WI

8344 Mary E. Weller, Cranberry Twp., PA

8344 Richard D. Wentz, Palmerton, PA

8359 Mary Whelan, Moravian Falls, NC

8327 Louise Workman, Mankato, MN

93 Laverne Woytek, Mercer, PA

999 Demetrius Yackanich, Lake Ariel, PA

625 Stephen Yewcic, Nine Mile Falls, WA

8344 Karen A. Zellmann, Kittanning, PA

15 Carolyn Zidiak, Manalapan, NJ

# 2019 Junior Bowling Scholarship Winners



Sarah Kumpon



Margaret Swanney

Congratulations to the 2019 GCU National Junior Bowling Scholarship winners!

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

The female winners (tie) in the Age 16-18 category is Sarah Kumpon and Margaret Swanney. Sarah is a member of GCU Lodge 47 in District 5 and Margaret is a member of GCU Lodge 860 in District 11.

The male winner in the Age 16-18 category is Ryan Alleman. Ryan is a member of Lodge 994 in District 15.



Ryan Alleman

## GHRL 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Joseph Durkay Memorial Holupki Open



Welcoming Committee: Deacon Larry Foran, Agnes Rohrbach, National Director Dorothy Ann Foran and Judy Kringer.



3 Generations of Golf: Thomas, Jason and Josh Billman.

The annual Joseph Durkay Holupki Open was held on Saturday, July 13 at White Birch Golf Course.

The 83 golfers participated in a Captain & Crew Scramble Format. This year was the first time we had a 3 generation family golfing with us: Thomas, Josh and Jason Billman.

Low Scratch Round: Joe Petrole's group. 1<sup>st</sup> Flight Low Net: 1<sup>st</sup> Place—Brian Smith's group, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place—Charlie

Seliga's group & 3<sup>rd</sup> Place—Ed Keil's group. 2<sup>nd</sup> Flight Low Net: 1<sup>st</sup> Place—Mike Handzelek's group, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place—Chip Marshall's group & 3<sup>rd</sup> Place—Joanne Shimanski's group. Skill awards were

presented for closest to the pin and long drive winners. Closest to the pin winners were: Ian Johnston, Bob Williamson, Joe Petrole, Dave Hall, Dave Flannery and Joe Hardish. Longest drive winners were: Joe Hardisky, Colli Hinkely, Shawn Boyle, Jan Garby, Joe Oravec and Christina Schultz.

The banquet was held in the grove hall and prize money and door prizes were awarded.

Thanks to the Home Office for the Fraternal Grant, towels and sunscreen. Thanks also to all the hole sponsors, the score keepers and the volunteers who are always ready to assist in any way they can.

Next year's tournament will be held on Saturday, July 11, 2020— mark your calendars.

Agnes Rohrbach | GHRL Athletic Director

# GCU, FCSU & SCS

## 2019 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

1. Mon Valley Boys-FCSU (H).....	2815
2. SCS Assembly 162, Clifton, NJ-SCS (H).....	2767
1. Club Lanes-GCU (A).....	2251

### Men's Doubles Event

1. V. Smith Jr/D. Smith-FCSU (H).....	1490
2. G. Pesi/V. Smith-FCSU (H).....	1449
1. Ryan Lebanik/John Adamcik-GCU (A).....	1296

### Men's Singles Event

1. Vernon E. Smith-FCSU (H).....	819
2. A.J. Novotney-SCS (H).....	789
1. Andrew Keebler-GCU (A).....	719

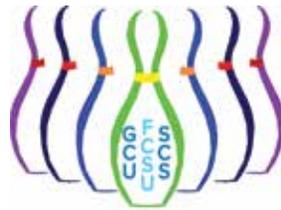
### Men's All Events

1. A.J. Novotney-SCS (H).....	2215
2. David Smith-FCSU (H).....	2204
1. Andrew Keebler-GCU (A).....	2039

(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.



### Women's Team Event

1. ???-FCSU (H).....	2386
2. 412-GCU (H).....	2373
1. 412-GCU (A).....	1995

### Women's Doubles Event

1. Pat Kutzfara/Barbara Wahal-GCU (H).....	1220
2. Nancy Cassisi/Colleen Keagy-SCS (H).....	1208
1. Pat Kutzfara/Barbara Wahal-GCU (A).....	1037

### Women's Singles Event

1. Kathleen Shirilla-GCU (H).....	770
2. Pat Kutzfara-GCU (H).....	754
1. Jean Karaffa-GCU (A).....	579

### Women's All Events

1. Pat Kutzfara-GCU (H).....	2002
2. Anne Mitro-FCSU (H).....	1921
1. Melanie Basl-GCU (A).....	1660

## 2019 National Junior Bowling Tournament

### —Official Results—

#### Girls Champions

Age	Games	Name	Lodge	Score
2-3	(1-Bumper)	Nova Rea Lehman	625	128
4-5	(2-Bumper)	Leena Napoliello	GHRL	166
6-7	(2-Bumper)	Samantha Persuitte	994	204
8-9	(3)	Alyssa Bartko	109	258
10-12	(3)	Sarah Butchko	442	343
13-15	(3)	Emma Bost	CPRL	411
16-18	(3)	Jessica McClellan	GHRL	415

#### Boys Champions

Age	Games	Name	Lodge	Score
2-3	(1-Bumper)	Ben Zimmerman	GHRL	82
4-5	(2-Bumper)	Grayson Popovich	10	176
6-7	(2-Bumper)	Conner McAlarney	GHRL	187
8-9	(3)	Nicholas Lazar	GHRL	245
10-12	(3)	Mike Popovich	10	436
13-15	(3)	Ethan Alleman	994	592
16-18	(3)	Ryan Alleman	994	567

#### Girls High Game

Age	Name	Lodge	Score
2-3	Nova Rea Lehman	625	128
4-5	Leena Napoliello	GHRL	93
6-7	Samantha Persuitte	994	107
8-9	Alyssa Bartko	109	94
10-12	Sarah Butchko	442	116
13-15	Gina Galada	GHRL	97
16-18	Jessica McClellan	GHRL	150

#### Boys High Game

Age	Name	Lodge	Score
2-3	Ben Zimmerman	GHRL	82
4-5	Caden Kasarda	GHRL	93
6-7	Dylan Lehman	625	108
8-9	Nicholas Lazar	GHRL	91
10-12	Mike Popovich	10	171
13-15	Ethan Alleman	994	268
16-18	Ryan Alleman	994	224

# GCU

## Brooke Shields

actress, model, mom  
and spokesperson for  
Life Insurance Awareness Month

# Protecting My Family Financially Means Everything to Me

I've had a lot of different jobs, from actress to author to clothing designer, but **there's one that's more important than all the others: being a mom.** It's the most difficult and rewarding job I've ever had. It's also a big responsibility.

I'm teaching my daughters to be strong and independent, so they can successfully navigate their own life journey. **And I'm protecting their future by having life insurance.**

I got life insurance before I was married, because I knew I wanted children someday. This isn't anything I was taught growing up. **It's a lesson I learned on my own and want to share with you.** Getting life insurance might feel scary or like it's something that other people do, but once you get it, it's done. And it's something most people can afford.

**Protecting my family financially means everything to me. That's why I have life insurance, and you should, too.**



Call your GCU representative or  
the GCU Home Office today 1-855-306-0607

[GCUusa.com](https://www.GCUusa.com)