

SLOVAK AMERICAN SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON, DC
Annual membership meeting
October 23, 2010
The Slovak Embassy

Report to the Membership

This year our society has continued our programs to help foster awareness of Slovak cultural and current affairs. Following are the highlights:

Membership

Our membership increased slightly this year. This year we have 113 memberships or 164 members. Three of our Board members, Will Laska, Jerry Rich and Tom Marton, put together a survey on activities in which you may have interest. Many of you took this survey and your suggestions have been helpful. You have not taken the survey yet, you still can do so by looking at our web site, www.dcslovaks.org and clicking on "Take the Survey."

Our financial status is still stable. Our treasurer has been on a seven week vacation around the world, so we do not have an end of September report. The August ending figures for both our checking account and CD account are \$12,318.83. We have \$1,080.00 in our City University account.

Programs and activities

We continued to host our Speaker's series, a summer picnic and the Svätý MICKULŠ party. We also continue to have a cooperative relationship with the Slovak Embassy, which graciously provides the venue for most of our events. Your board meets once in a while with the cultural attaché, Terézia Sajgalíková, and the ambassador, Peter Burian.

SASW Speakers Series

We completed our eighth year of our Speakers Series, which offers a variety of subjects and shows. Following are the programs we held this past year.

1. In mid-March, we held a "Cooking with Millie" session at the home of Millie Scheope-Evans in Fairfax, VA. She showed several of our members how to cook and prepare holubky—one of our favorite dishes.
2. On April 17, Jadranka Važanová from New York City spoke to us about Slovak traditional culture—Svadobné nôty—ceremonial wedding tunes.
3. On May 22, Ben Sorenson from North Carolina spoke to us on the topic, 'To je ale Muzika! What's so Slovak about Slovak Pop Music.' He played some of the music on his fujara and

Pišťalka. Several of us joined him and his wife's cousin from Slovakia at the Domku Café in DC in the evening for some Eastern European food.

4. We held our annual picnic on June 27 at the home of Millie Scheope-Evans. We all enjoyed the good food and company even with the extremely hot weather. We were joined by several members of the Slovak MeetUp group and Ambassador Burian and his wife.

5... On September 19 we held a joint meeting with the Carpatho-Rusyn Society, National Capital Chapter. Tom Sadaukis talked about how our ancestors came to American and how we could find their records.

5. Last November we enjoyed the presentation by Dr. Branislav Lichardus, on his time in the U.S. as ambassador from Slovakia and his time now as the Rector of VSM/City University in Bratislava and Trenčín.

6. Today, we will hear from Marcel Jesenský on questions between the border of Slovakia and Poland from 1918-1947.

Support/Other Activities

VSM/City University--We continue our ongoing support of the deserving students at City University in Bratislava and Trenčín. We provided four \$500.00 scholarships for four students for this past fall term. Millie Scheope-Evans donated two of these scholarships in memory of her late brother, Andrew J. Verkin. Because of Millie's current and past support, our Board decided to donate one scholarship in her honor for the next five years, beginning in 2011. We thank you for your past and continued support. The students greatly appreciate these scholarships. It helps them finish their education and move forward to help in the progress of Slovakia.

Slovak MeetUp Group—SASW continues to support this group for newer and younger Slovak émigrés.

Web site—our web site, www.dcslovaks.org is current. You can always access it to find current information about our activities.

2010 Board of Directors

Kathryn Tatko, President
Dr. Jerry Rich, Vice-president
Georgene Check Chastain, Secretary
Thomas Marton, Treasurer

Kenneth Bombara, At-large
Helen Fedor, At-large
William Laska, At-large
Anne Gornal McKeown, At-large
Mark Sabol, At-large

We will elect three new board members for a three year term at our meeting today. The Board will elect its officers for 2011 at the next Board meeting, November 17, 2010.