

SLOVAK AMERICAN SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON, DC
Annual membership meeting
October 29, 2011
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 this year. This year we have 128 memberships and 183 members. This compares to last year when we had 113 memberships and 164 members.

Financial

Our financial status is stable. Our total assets at the end of September were \$13,100.59. We have two accounts: a business checking account with Bank of America (\$7265.63) and a CD account with Lafayette Federal Credit Union (\$5,834.95). At the end of September our VSM/City University account has \$1,607.36.

Programs

We completed our ninth year of our Speakers Series. Following are programs we held this past year.

1. On March 12th Lucy King, from Western Pennsylvania, spoke to us about the "Tales from Slovak Castles". She co-authored this book with Sylvia Lorinc. The book is based on Dr. Ludovit Janota's, "Slovenské Hrady" (1935). Lucy King joined us for lunch at Bertucci Restaurant near GW University in DC.
2. On March 22nd at the Arlington Central Library, John Palka spoke to us about his book, "My Slovakia, My Family" and showed us quite a few slides from his book. He tells the story of both the Slovak nation and his extended family, which includes his maternal grandfather, Milan Hodža, the Czechoslovak prime minister from 1935-1938.
3. On: April 30th, at the Embassy, our own, Dr. George Meško, spoke about his book, (not translated into English), "Communism's Twisted Paths into Christian Slovakia".

4. On October 21st, the choir from the Blessed Paul Gojdich Seminary (Greek Catholic) from Prešov, Slovakia sang for us at the Embassy. They sing in church slavonic and were nearing the end of the month long tour in the Eastern and Mid-Western U. S. We co-sponsored their performance along the The Slovak Embassy. Their performance was excellent.

5. Today, Dr. M. Mark Stolarik , from The University of Ottawa will look at the Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968 forty years later. New material became available after the fall of communism and in 2008 several scholars examined this material. Dr. Stolarik's book is based on these new interpretations.

6. On November 21st, Marta Botiková will speak to us, here at The Embassy, about Slovak family traditions.

Other Activities

We held our annual picnic on October 2nd at the home of Millie Schoepe-Evans in Fairfax, VA. Although the weather did not cooperate (rain came off and on), those who attended enjoyed the good Slovak food, beer, desserts and socialization.

Our 2010 Svätý Mikuláš party was a success—good Slovak food, good company, dancing to Pajtáši and 33 children to see Svätý Mikuláš!

VSM/City University—We continued our ongoing support of deserving students at City University in Bratislava and Trenčín. We provided four \$500,00 scholarships for four students for this past fall term. Millie Schoepe-Evans donated two of these scholarships in memory of her late husband, Jim Evans. SASW donated two more scholarships, one in honor of Millie-Schoepe Evans.. The student recipients appreciate these scholarships. Many times it means they can continue their education. We thank you for your past and continued support. In this regard, please consider buying a \$50.00 raffle ticket as a contribution to VSM/City University

Slovak MeetUp Group—SASW continues to support his group for newer and younger Slovak émigrés. Some of the MeetUp members participate in our regular activities.

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

2011 Board of Directors

Kathryn Tatko, President
Dr. Jerry Rich, Vice-President
George C. Chastain, Secretary
Thomas Marton, Treasurer

Kenneth Bombara, At-large
Helen Fedor, At-large
Tonya Harmon, At-large
John Husovsky, At-large
Anne Gornal McKeown, 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 2012 at the next Board meeting, November 9, 2011.