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**SLOVAK-AMERICAN SOCIETY
OF WASHINGTON, D.C.**

NEWSLETTER

June 2008

In this mailing:

- Announcement of Film Event, “Iné svety” on June 14
- 2008 SASW Membership Directory
- Update on SASW ---Dr. Jerry Rich joins Board

**Opportunity for SASW Bus Trip to New Jersey Slovak Festival
in September**

Your Input is Needed!!

Your SASW Board is considering offering the membership a day trip to the annual Slovak festival in Holmdel, NJ. This festival offers good Slovak food, arts and crafts, games for children in the afternoon, and a Slovak outdoor mass at 11 a.m. **The festival is on Sunday, September 28.** We are trying to get an idea of how many might be interested, as we would have to rent a 47-passenger bus, which may cost each person \$35.00-\$40.00. The bus would leave somewhere in suburban DC (where you could park your car) around 6 a.m., make a brief stop in Baltimore, and leave Holmdel for the return trip around 4:30 p.m. **If you would be interested in this trip, please email <dc_Slovaks@yahoo.com> or telephone Kathryn Tatko at 703-751-1456.** Please give us your name, the number of people who would accompany you, and contact information: email, phone, and address. If we can get a sufficient number of people to participate, we can move forward with the event.

President's Column

With this mailing, we are hoping to catch everyone before the busy summer vacation season gets going full steam (without *too* much humidity, we hope!). First, let me urge you to attend the next event on June 14th—the Slovak movie “Iné svety”. Our friends from the Carpatho-Rusyn Society, National Capital Chapter, suggested this movie as a joint event and we agreed. The Slovak Embassy agreed to show the movie on a Saturday evening---so we hope for a nice turnout from SASW and a chance to interact with some new folks. Also, we are trying to come up with some new activities and hope that you will be interested in a possible bus trip to the New Jersey Slovak festival. If we can pull it off, this could open up some opportunities for other such events where our members can interact with a larger group of Slovak Americans and enjoy a wider variety of activities. After the June 14th event, we will take a break for the summer, for the most part, but are planning several things for the fall. For example, on September 20th we plan to offer a talk by Prof. Martin Votruba of the University of Pittsburgh. We also have a couple of possibilities for events in the October/November time frame, which we are trying to firm up.

As for organizational matters, I am pleased to announce that the generosity of our members will allow us to offer three scholarships to VSM/City University in Slovakia for the upcoming academic year. We extend special thanks to Millie Schoepe-Evans, who donated two scholarships in memory of her recently deceased daughter, Andrea Sallberg. We thank all of those who made contributions, large and small, to continue SASW's support of this important program. Also, as the annual membership directory is included in this mailing, I want to thank all of you for your continuing support of SASW. Regarding Board of Directors matters, I am pleased to announce that **Dr. Jerry Rich** has agreed to join the Board as an at-large member (see his short bio below). Jerry is well known to many of you who regularly attend SASW events, and we look forward to working with him.

Let me also thank those who attended the talk on April 12 by author Margarete Hurn. The event was well attended and people snapped up the available copies of her book, *The Foreigners' Guide to Living in Slovakia*. Finally, let me note that what we offer in the way of activities depends on the interests and participation of the membership. If you have ideas or special skills, such as, event organizing, newsletter preparation, graphic or computer skills, we ask that you consider contributing a small amount of time to keeping the Society vibrant. Please contact a Board member if you would like to help. Have a great summer!

Ken Bombara

SASW News and notes

Jerry Rich joins SASW Board—Dr. Jerry Rich has joined the SASW Board of Directors. Jerry is a dentist practicing in Fairfax, VA. He is a native of Uniontown, PA, and is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Pennsylvania-School of Dental Medicine. Prior to establishing his own practice, he served in the US Army Dental Corps from 1975 to 1983. Jerry and his wife Shirley have been married 35 years and have a son and a daughter. As for his ancestry, three great-grandparents and one grandmother came to the US from western Slovakia; Jerry has Slovak relatives in Senica, Trnava, and Bratislava.

40th Anniversary of Prague Spring—This year, 2008, represents the 40th anniversary of the Soviet-led invasion of Czechoslovakia. The National Czech and Slovak Museum & Library in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is presenting the exhibit *Remember 1968: Twelve Months that Changed the World*. This is the only exhibit on the 40th anniversary in the US. The exhibit runs until January 25, 2009. For more information you can check the Museum's website at <www.NCSML.org> or call 319-363-2209.

Annual Journal—Slovakia—The Slovak League of America publishes the journal *Slovakia* each year. It is a compilation of scholarly work on Slovak history, literature, and culture. A single issue costs \$10.00. Inquiries regarding subscriptions should be sent to: Slovak League of America, 205 Madison Street, Passaic, NJ 07055.

Slovakia cleared to join euro-zone—On May 7, the European Commission's latest convergence report said that no other country but Slovakia meets the criteria for euro adoption. This gives a green light to Slovakia's bid to join the euro-zone on January 1, 2009.

SLOVAK-AMERICAN SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL/APPLICATION/DONATION FORM

New membership or renewal runs thru the end of 2008

_____ Individual membership (\$15/year) _____ Family membership (\$20/year)

Optional Tax-deductible donation: City U. fund _____; SASW general fund _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Mail your check made out to the Slovak American Society of Washington, and this form to: Helen Fedor, 11914 Winstead Lane, Reston, VA 20194-1518

NAME(s) _____

ADDRESS _____

_____ ZIP+4 _____

TELEPHONE Home: () _____ - _____ Work: () _____ - _____

E-MAIL _____

_____ Yes! Please contact me to help out with Society events

_____ Please do NOT include my phone number in the Membership Directory (03/08)

The **Slovak-American Society of Washington** is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Contributions and membership dues are tax-deductible.

2008 Board of Directors:

Ken Bombara, President;
Anne McKeown, Vice-President;
Tom Marton, Treasurer;
Linda Jo Trout, Secretary.
Helen Fedor,
Kathryn Tatko

Correspondence should be addressed to:

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Phone 703-851-6035
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Directions to the Embassy of Slovakia

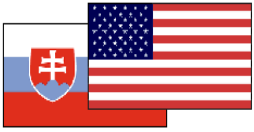
3523 International Court NW, Washington DC

From the Beltway north of DC: Take Wisconsin Ave. south to Van Ness St. NW. Turn left onto Van Ness and proceed east, crossing the intersections of Van Ness with 38th St., 37th St. and Reno Road. Just east of Reno Road, turn left (north) onto International Court. If you reach Connecticut Ave., you have gone too far on Van Ness. The Slovak Embassy is on the east side of the cul-de-sac at the north end of International Court, directly across from the Austrian Embassy.

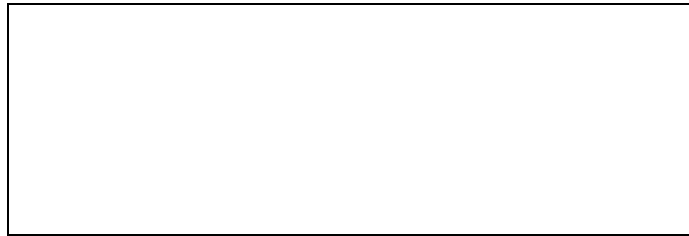
From downtown DC: Take Connecticut Ave. north to Van Ness St, NW. Turn left onto Van Ness, proceed west about 500 yards, and turn right onto International Court (see above, if you reach Reno Road you have gone too far).

Parking: Garage parking is available at the Van Ness Center on Connecticut Ave. Limited on-street parking is available on Van Ness and on 36th St.. Some street parking may be available on International Court.

Metro: The Van Ness-UDC Metro stop on the Red Line is just north of the intersection of Van Ness and Connecticut.



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