

Scenes From the Great Slovak Festival

The Great Slovak Festival was held, once again, on the Sunday of Labor Day weekend at St. Anthony of Padua, 6750 State Road, Parma, OH, from 12:00 noon and ran until 8:00PM. This year, the 40th Slovak Festival was held on September 4, 2011. Outstanding Slovak food, bakery, and beverages were available throughout the day. Music for dancing and listening pleasure was provided in the upstairs hall by the Johnny Pastirik Band and the Frank Moravick Band. Downstairs a new Slovak Band, FAKT, made their debut at the festival.

The Slovak Festival also featured performances by the Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble (PAS) with songs, music, and dances of Slovakia under the direction of Angela Lipchick, with musical direction by John Lipchick. The day also featured performances by the Lúčinka Children's Slovak Folk Ensemble of Cleveland under the direction of Christine Hearn with choreography by Nadia Oros.

The First Catholic Slovak Union was among the tables and booths in the downstairs hall, manned by National Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt and National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr. National President Andrew M. Rajec was in attendance as well. FCSU Member Helene Cincebeaux was present with key pieces and information from her renowned Baine/Cincebeaux Collection of Slovak Folk Art and Folk Dress. The festival drew large crowds, with approximately 800 people in attendance.



Photo courtesy of Dr. Michael Kopanic (L - R) FCSU National President Andrew M. Rajec, National Vice President Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.; National Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt; Dr. Michael Kopanic, Jr., Jednota contributor and History Professor from the University of Maryland University College; Milenka Feighner, PAS performer and Dr. Kopanic's daughter.



Photo courtesy of Jim Stracensky, Picture Yourself/Stargazer Photography & Video (L - R) Lucinka Children's Folk Ensemble help Slovak Radio Club Members Joseph Oros (holding American flag), Henry Horvath (behind him) and Frank Anderko (holding Slovak flag start the Slovak Festival entertainment program.



Photo courtesy of Jim Stracensky, Picture Yourself/Stargazer Photography & Video (L - R) Band leader John Pastirik, Nadia Oros, Luckina Choreographer, Branch 24 Auditor Tom Ivanec, and Branch 450 Vice President George Čarný lead the crowd in singing the Slovak National Anthem.



Photo courtesy of Dr. Michael Kopanic (L - R) Dr. Michael Kopanic, Milan Kobulsky, Slovak Radio Program Director; Henry Horvath, Slovak Radio Club President; Dr. L. Fedorko.



Photo courtesy of Dr. Michael Kopanic The Great Slovak Festival featured the debut of FAKT, a new Slovak band in the Cleveland area



Photo courtesy of Dr. Michael Kopanic The Pittsburgh Area Slovaks (PAS) entertained the crowds with dances, songs and music of Slovakia.



Photo courtesy of Dr. Michael Kopanic Dzedo Michael Kopanic, Sr. dances with granddaughter a PAS performer Milenka Feighner.