

August, 2011

News & Highlights

To Preserve, Study, Celebrate, Share and Teach the Slovak Heritage

Slovak Day at Kennywood

Summer means Slovak Day at Kennywood even if July 21st this year brought frying-eggs-on-the-sidewalk heat. And everyone who planned and participated in the 88th annual Slovak American Day did a superb job despite the high temperature.



The children of PAS (Pittsburgh Area Slovak Folk Ensemble) presented the results of

weeks of study focused on Spiš Castle which provided a look at life in medieval castles and society. They learned about the squires, knights and ladies, kings and queens, princes and princesses, banners with royal crests, gardens, food and the kitchen it was cooked in, honey, medovniki, bread trenchers on which food was served and



crafts such as pottery, weaving, and blacksmithing as well as the guilds craftsman formed. Their exhibit cleverly presented what they'd learned



through models, reports, puppets, and other crafts.

The children of PAS and the Pittsburgh Slovaks danced beautifully as did the senior members of these two groups. Traditional Slovak foods were avail-



able in the food pavilion, children enjoyed special activities, and there were exhibits and information booths staffed by Slovak fraternal. Liturgy was served by a number of brave and very warm priests, and the evening ended with music from a Gypsy band. SHALH's thanks and congratulations to Slovak Day General Chairman, Dolores Sakal, Rev. Joseph Grosko, and all the many, many people who worked on this beautiful event.



Slovak Day was established in 1923 to preserve the Slovak heritage of Western PA, and Kennywood became synonymous with this annual event because of its easy access via streetcar from communities in the region. It gave Slovak families a chance to speak their own language, socialize with friends, dance, and enjoy the rich heritage they brought to the area. Today the event supports non-profit Slovak organizations in the region. ☺



August Meeting

Once again, through the generosity of the Slovak Education Club in Windber, SHALH members have been invited to share the SEC's summer picnic. It will be held Sunday, August 28th, at SS. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church grounds, 141 Hoffman Farm Rd., Windber from 12 to 8 PM. The charge is \$6 for members and their guests, and our members are asked to bring a dessert. The SHALH business meeting will be held in the church hall at 2PM. ☺

**SHALH General
Membership Meeting
Sunday, August 28, 2011
Picnic Noon, Mtg 2:00 PM
SS. Peter & Paul Church
Windber, PA**