

OCJ Orthodox Christian JOURNAL[®]

SUMMER/FALL 2019 volume 94 number 2

Also Inside:

- 93rd National Convention
- *Gifts of Love* updates plus 2020 recipients
- Junior Olympics filled to capacity
- Golf in Cannonsburg, PA



The official publication of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America

**“ Pray, Study, Toil, Always be Temperate.
This, is our motto and proud are we!”**



C O N T E N T S

OCJ Orthodox Christian JOURNAL®

SUMMER/FALL 2019
VOLUME 94 NUMBER 2

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July 24-27, 2020 Sponsored by St. Mary's "O" Club

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OCJ Orthodox Christian JOURNAL®
is the official publication of the

Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America
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The mission of the
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educate the membership of the Fellowship of
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to showcase the talents of its membership
and, in so doing, to propagate the
Holy Orthodox Christian Faith.

**Mission Statement of the
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Orthodox Christian JOURNAL (ISSN 15247562), is published four times a year [Spring, Summer, Winter, Fall] by the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America, c/o 892 Scott Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18705.

District & Chapter News: All copy must be typed and sent to the Editorial Office.

Subscription Prices: Single Copy \$5; Yearly subscription \$30 in the United States and possessions, \$35 in Canada; other countries upon request. *Orthodox Christian JOURNAL* © copyrighted 2019 by the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America. Reproduction in whole or part prohibited except by permission. All rights reserved. Title and ® trademark registered US Patent Office.

PERIODICAL POSTAGE paid at Wilkes-Barre, PA and additional mailing office.

POSTMASTER: If undeliverable please send form 3579 to the *Orthodox Christian JOURNAL* at c/o 892 Scott Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18705.

Printed in the United States by
Sir Speedy Printing 4573 Campbells Run
Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15205

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTARY

Allison Steffaro

44th National FOCA President



Greetings! Autumn will be in full swing when you are reading this message. As I mentioned in my banquet address, for me it's a time for new beginnings and change. Last year at this time we discussed a needed change coming off of the All-American Council and National Convention in St. Louis. As a convention body at that time, we decided to focus our attention on youth and young adults. Many of our members participated in the OCA's Department of Youth and Young Adult survey; it was an opportunity to give their opinions and ideas on what they would like and need from the Church. Over 1,300 people answered this survey and the results will be used to formulate a movement within the Church in the very near future. In our own organization, I can say with enthusiasm that we too are moving in the right direction with our youth and young adults. In our break-out sessions in Columbus, we focused on what our youth and our organization want and needs. Your voices were heard, and we will comply. The FOCA will hold our first FOCA Youth festival in 2020 as well as a Young Adult gathering. It is up to you, our members to create the momentum for these events to be successful. How can you help? Publicize them in your parish, chapters, districts, deanery and diocese. Encourage your youth to participate, bring them, sponsor them, help to raise funds to get them to the events. The executive board will make sure communication between our members is increased and on a variety of platforms. The only ones that can make this work is us! Only we create our own destiny and it is up to us to succeed!

EDITOR'S NOTES

Marge Kovach

Interim Editor, *Orthodox Christian JOURNAL*

The Summer/Fall 2019 issue features the 93rd National Convention with the closing handclasp gracing our cover. Inside, several pages are dedicated to covering the convention events including a photo gallery, courtesy of Leon Sheehan. Extended convention coverage details the unique support of two worthy causes for the 2020 Gifts of Love campaign, spotlights the winners of \$5,500 in FOCA educational scholarships, and showcases the winning Celebration of Faith contest entries.

Publishing this issue, as the interim editor, would not have been possible without the contributions of several people. Allison Steffaro submitted her President's Commentary, convention banquet speech, and the list of "30 Ideas in 30 Seconds" generated during the breakout session. Melissa Tesar updated us on the 2019 Gifts of Love to Kenya as well as outlined the details of our 2020 campaign and reported on the Ohio District convention while Becky Tesar wrote about the Clambake fundraiser. The National Summer Sports Tournament (golf) article was written by Anthony Schultz with photos submitted by Dr. John Schultz. Most notably, I want to thank Michael Schultz for all his hard work, patience, and guidance in publishing the latest issue of your Journal.

F.O.C.A. HIGHLIGHTS AND NEWS-IN-BRIEF

2019 *Gifts of Love* Update

Thank you to all who donated to the 2019 FOCA Gifts of Love Campaign! Together, we raised over \$14,100 for St. Tabitha House Orphanage in Kenya. They are currently working on a new house and will use the donation to complete the construction and electrical work, along with purchasing furniture. A message from Fr. Agapios states "May God Bless you Melissa together with all your friends. I will remember you together with your friends in my prayers. May God bless you. The kids were staying in an unfinished house and for the last one month more than 30 children have been affected by Malaria and Pneumonia." As Fr. Agapios provides more updates, they will be posted on the FOCA website and in the OCJ.

Junior FOCA Member Earns Eagle Scout

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in Weirton, WV finally has a road sign and John Schultz, Jr of Scout Troop #334 officially became an Eagle Scout after passing his Board of Review on October 8, 2019. Johnny raised the money for his Eagle Scout Project by hosting several food sales. Fellow scouts and leaders helped Johnny install his finished project which was blessed the following Sunday after Liturgy.



2020 Articles Deadline for the OCJ:

Winter/Spring due January 30th

Send articles, photos, and information to:

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Please send photos in jpg format and don't embed them in the document; attach separately.



“Your 2017 *Gifts of Love* Donations Raised the Roof in Alaska”

By Dorothy Gray

After two years of planning and preparation, the 2017 Gifts of Love donation for the St. Nicholas Chapel in Kenai, Alaska, accomplished its mission. The new cedar shingle roof was completed this summer with both local church volunteers and professionals, directed by the National Park Service.

The St. Nicholas Chapel was constructed in 1906, and is the memorial burial place of the first resident Russian Orthodox priest, Igumen Nikolai, who baptized many Alaska Natives in the area to Orthodoxy and ordered smallpox vaccine from St. Petersburg in the 1840s. The chapel also marks the final resting place of Makary Ivanov, Igumen Nikolai’s song leader, who vaccinated the survivors after the first smallpox epidemic decimated the population. The Holy Assumption of the Virgin Mary Church, along with the chapel, the rectory, and the cemetery were designated a National Historic Landmark (NHL) in 1970.

Due to windy winter weather, the chapel roof had developed substantial leaks which soaked the exposed wall logs resulting in considerable deterioration. The 2017 FOCA Gifts of Love funding allowed the church to apply for a matching funds grant from the Alaska Association of Historical Preservation to replace the roof with new shingles as well as ice and water shield to protect it even more.



View looking up at the roof rafters and exposed sheathing after shakes have been removed and temporary plastic sheeting is being installed. (May 5, 2019, photo courtesy NPS)



Church volunteers removing various portions of the old roof. (May 5, 2019, photo courtesy NPS)



Corner detail showing yellow Cedar Breather product laid over Ice and Water Shield, providing an air barrier underneath the new cedar shingles. (May 20, 2019, photo courtesy NPS)

On May 5, several church members volunteered to climb the scaffolding to remove the old shingles and cover the exposed rafters with plastic in case of rain.

On May 12, two retired National Park Service historic preservationists, Al Williams and Doug Buttery arrived in Kenai to begin work on the chapel roof. Before replacing the cedar shingles, they installed both a cedar breather product as well as ice and water shield to protect the new roof from the harsh Alaskan winter climate.

St. Vladimir's Camp Summer Service Project

*Al Williams and Doug Buttery
completing upper portion of
shingle work.
(May 25, 2019, photo courtesy
Dorothy Gray)*



This summer's service project focused on the ideals of acceptance and inclusion. Using items such as clergy fabric, crosses, icons, sponges, pom-poms, candles, foil, and cotton balls, campers created over 100 Sensory Books designed to provide children, who have sensory issues, a way to connect with various parts of the Liturgy.



*The final touches of linseed
oil gild the new shingled roof.
(August 2019, photo courtesy
Dorothy Gray)*

After Al Williams and Doug Buttery finished the new roof, a coat of linseed oil and pine tar were added to the shingles by our resident priest Father Daniel Charles who climbed the scaffolding and put on the finishing touches.

Thanks to the 2017 FOCA Gifts of Love donation, the St. Nicholas Chapel Restoration Project has now completed the first of three phases. Phase two will include restoring the dome, cross, and replacing the broken fence. Phase three will include repairing/replacing deteriorated wall logs and establishing a sound foundation.

We are so very thankful to FOCA's generous donation to the historic preservation of the St. Nicholas Chapel, the final resting place of Father Nikolai and his song leader, Makary Ivanov.

We hope you will plan to visit Alaska next summer to not only see the progress on the chapel, but to help us celebrate both the 50th Anniversary of the Canonization of St. Herman and also the 125th Anniversary of the Holy Assumption of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church in Kenai.

Dorothy Gray is a lifelong member of the Orthodox Church and serves as the secretary/treasurer of the Holy Assumption Church in Kenai. She is also treasurer of ROSSIA, Russian Orthodox Sacred Sites in Alaska whose mission is to preserve Alaska's historic Russian Orthodox churches throughout the state.



93rd FOCA National Convention **PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS**



Sunday, September 1, 2019
Delivered by Allison Steffaro

Your Beatitude, Your Grace, Reverend Fathers, Matushkie, Members of the FOCA and friends,

September 1st has always felt to me more of a new year than January 1st; its when we start fresh, a new Church year, a new school year, a time when we start with a clean slate and are in charge of what we are going to write on it. In my classroom I have a very large sign that reads "You create your own destiny". This is a saying that I truly believe in and try to live by. In fact, my students know how much this means to me, they purchased a bracelet with those very words I wear to school every day.

In listening Bishop Paul's sermon today, he reminds us that our past is just that, the past, we must live in the present. With this a familiar quote comes to mind; "You can't start the next chapter of your life if you keep reading the last one." We need to use the love we have for our Lord as well as our love for each other to continue to do the work that we do so well in our parishes, dioceses and districts.

What are some of those things we do so well you may ask? Well since we are not used to bragging or really telling our story (as Archbishop Michael reminds us to do); I will let you in on a secret, there are many wonderful things we do for so many people. I cannot begin to explain what our garage and home look like the first week of December every year. Packages as well as generous gift cards arrive from parishes, chapters and individuals from across the country to fill the wish lists of seminarian families at Christmas. To give you an idea of how generous you are, in the past 19 years you have filled the wish lists of over 700 families and 3 times as many children. I cannot thank you enough for your dedication to this project.

I know you will continue to support this project for many years to come.

Through our Gifts of Love program, we have assisted the military, the homeless, Orthodox Christians in Alaska and throughout the world, given medical supplies to those in Russia.

We will keep giving until there is no more need in this world.

Our dedication to the youth has never wavered. Campers continue to fill St. Vladimir's camp each summer as they have for the past 50 years! Many of you may not know, but we have families of campers that are the 3rd generation to attend. Friendships become life long, and in some instances, marriages are formed, and their children are now campers themselves. We will continue to hold Junior Olympics until the corn stops growing in North East, Ohio!

As a teacher, I must tell my students what our objective is for the day. This gives them an indication of what I will be presenting and what is expected of them. So, for this year's lesson, our objectives will be to plan and implement a weekend of faith, fellowship, and service for Orthodox youth across the country as well as establish a gathering for young adults 18-30. We will continue our efforts to support our Church, seminaries and charitable giving. When we reconvene in Minneapolis, we can review our objectives to see if we have fulfilled them as stated.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Father Ted for his dedication and service to our organization. He has always been there for us as our Spiritual Father and a constant voice of reason. In all that he does, his love for the Church is steadfast. I know that he may be stepping down from the Executive Board but I am sure he will always be working for our organization. May God Grant you and Matushka Hope many years of good health and happiness.

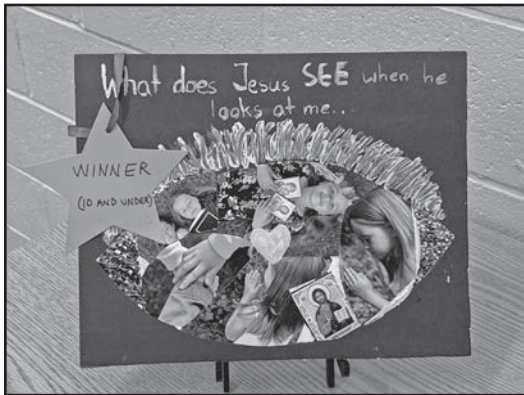
In closing, I want to leave you with this. Ask yourself "Why do you do the things you do?" I know that one only does what is important to them. We are here because of Love; Love for our Church and love for each other. We need to continue to do what we do and do it well. The past is behind; it is up to us to create our own destiny and I am sure it will be a great one!

Celebration of Faith

Contest Theme: “What Does Jesus See When He Looks at Me?”

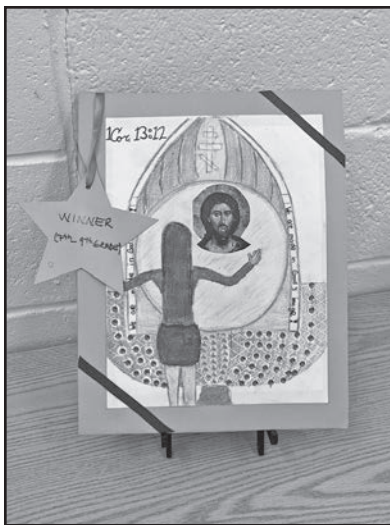


This year’s F.O.C.A. Celebration of Faith Contest had nine entries from contestants ranging in ages 5-15. All submissions were in the Visual Arts Category, with all the winners belonging to the South River “R” Club, Chapter #167.



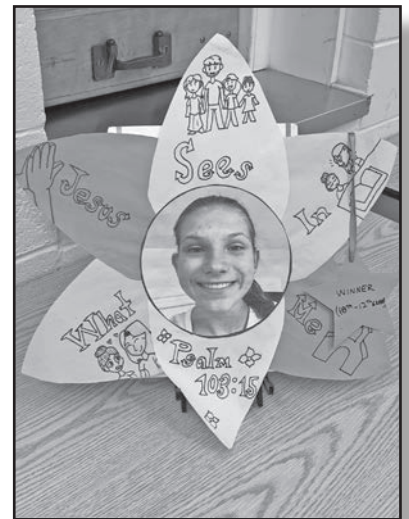
Sara Jaworuk - Winner from the Age 10 & under category
Sara said, “I put my pictures in an eye. The eye represents God’s eye who is looking at me and all the good things I do.”

Arianna Steffaro - winner from the 4th – 6th grade category
Arianna Steffaro said, “I looked through all the pictures I had taken, or people took of me. I found the ones where I was happy being at Church, with my family or friends.”



Gabriella Rubis – winner from the 7th – 9th grade category, submitted a mixed media creation entitled “*In a Mirror – Dimly,*” made in God’s image. “What inspired me was the theme and the idea of reverse image reflection. This is Orthodox growth = Theosis”

Ela Leoniuk – winner from the 10th – 12th grade category. Elizabeth said, “The first thing that came to me was a flower. Bishop Michael always tells us to be like flowers and grow in our parish life. “



The F.O.C.A. Judges would like to thank all who participated in this year’s contest, and encourage further participation in this annual event. We look forward to judging your entry next year!

FOCA Discovers Columbus over Labor Day Weekend and Celebrates the 93rd National Convention

Delegates, alternates, and friends of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America (FOCA) gathered for the 93rd National Convention at the Hyatt Regency Columbus in Columbus, Ohio over the 2019 Labor Day weekend. This was the first convention sponsored by the Ohio District as well as our first ever held in Columbus. This year's program book, organized by Phil Tesar of Chapter 4/6, was dedicated to the "unsung heroes of the FROC camp/St. Vladimir's Camp and Retreat Center."

The convention weekend began on Friday with the traditional golf outing. The *President's Open*, organized by Anthony Schultz of Chapter 254, was held at the Airport Golf Course on a beautiful morning drawing participants from Missouri, New Jersey, Florida, West Virginia, as well as Ohio. Prizes were handed out for Low Gross Score, Low Callaway Score, and Closest to the Pin on three holes. Betty Ann Perschka and her helpers from Chapter 17 opened registration on Friday afternoon, and the Board of Trustees held their preconvention meeting. Meanwhile, twelve explorers set out to discover the galleries of the National Veterans Memorial museum. Tammy Schultz of Chapter 254, organized the tour and said, "We enjoyed wandering through the interactive areas from the Legacy of Service to the Service and Citizenship Gallery. Many of us found the most memorable exhibit was the Remembrance Gallery with its floor-to-ceiling stained glass windows that were inspired by military campaign ribbons and the *infinity-flag*."

"*FOCA History for \$100*" offered conventioners the opportunity to mingle and get reacquainted while enjoying a friendly game of trivia on Friday evening. The answer is "Alice Woog, Debbie Zelinsky, and Carol Deerson." Of course, the question is "who were the three contestants at FOCA Jeopardy?" On the opening night of the convention, these three "volunteer" contestants were selected to participate in the first ever FOCA Jeopardy. Information was gathered from the annals of the Orthodox Christian Journal and several anniversary and historic convention booklets. After a few technical glitches (Alex Trebek never had it this rough), the game was off with lightning responses from the contestants. With great crowd participation and little contesting of the answers, the buzzers were clicking with hardly anything forgotten over the last 93 years! Thanks to Chapter 20/32, everyone had a great time and the game jogged quite a few memories of the "studio audience." Basil Kochan, Lori



Kochan, and Brittany Dubos produced a television worthy event.

Plenary Session I began on Saturday morning with the traditional procession and opening Prayer Service by Metropolitan Tikhon. Archbishop Theodore Boback, FOCA National Spiritual Advisor, and Deacon Peter Ilchuk, Convention Planning and Operating Director, celebrated a Molieben and Panakhida, listing those FOCA members who have departed this life since the last National Convention. Also participating in the convention was His Grace, Bishop Paul of Chicago and the Midwest. Basil Kochan, from the Akron "O" Club, directed the choir throughout the convention.



National President Allison Steffaro officially called sessions to order followed by the singing of the national anthem and then the F.O.C.A Anthem. Roll was taken by Secretary Danielle Ilchuk calling the members of the National Board of Trustees, Past Presidents, and Past National Spiritual Advisors. Becky Tesar welcomed everyone to Columbus and commented that her co-chair, "Anthony Schultz, is a man of few words – always responding with a simple yes to anything asked of him." President Steffaro appointed Past President Michael Herzak as parliamentarian and Walter Alesevich as credentials chair and then acknowledged the guests in attendance which included Fathers Daniel Ressetar and William Evansky, both Past National Spiritual Advisors, as well as, Father Nicholas Wyslutsky, the Ohio District Spiritual Advisor. She also extended sincere condolences, on behalf of the entire Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America, to Archdeacon Joseph Matusiak and his family on the recent passing of his father, Archpriest John Matusiak. This year's Annual Report was available on our website which reduced the number of hard copies printed. Father Boback offered some farewell comments as he is retiring as National Spiritual Advisor. President Allison Steffaro commented further on her report stating that she and Fr. Ted met with the Metropolitan on August 24 to discuss the status of an OCA national youth advisor. At this time, they are gathering data from over 1,000 surveys and will present preliminary findings to the Metropolitan Council in the fall. Vice President Todd Walker could not be with us due to a family obligation. National Treasurer Michael Bowan presented his report along with the 2019-20 budget, which was approved on Monday. The 2019 FOCA "Gifts of Love" campaign concluded with a total

of \$14,200 having been raised for St. Tabitha's Orphanage in Kenya. Immediate Past President Marge Kovach commented on her additional responsibilities as Communication Director urging everyone to be sure membership lists include accurate email addresses and indicate preference to receive a hard copy of the OCJ. Ohio District Governor Melissa Tesar reported on "a great three weeks of camp" at St. Vladimir's with Junior Olympics at capacity. She displayed a sample of the sensory rings campers created for young parishioners with sensory issues (detailed within this issue) as this summer's service project. She also offered an update on the status of pool replacement at the camp as well as an emotional tribute to our dear friend Mikey Snyder. Emphasizing just how much he will be missed, she memorialized him as the first one to buy a ticket, the first one to support an ad book, and the one to always show up with a friendly greeting and a smile on his face. When asked how we could honor his memory, her reply was simple – "Be like Mikey." President Steffaro continued with department reports noting that the Orthodox Christian Journal was published four times this year and she extended thanks and appreciation to Michael Schultz and Nicholas Ressetar for their hard work and dedication. She also noted that after 18 years, Nick has stepped down as Journal Editor and extended appreciation for all his work. Rebecca Kozak, Junior Department Director reported that nine youth entered the Celebration of Faith arts contest and their works of art were on display at the convention. Winning entries were announced and are included within this issue.

Attention shifted to Dimitrios Rentel who enthusiastically presented some of the initial findings from the Youth Survey the OCA is conducting. Dima spent this past summer visiting several Orthodox camps, speaking youth, and encouraging participation in the survey. One of the main themes he spoke on was how so many of the kids and survey respondents emphasized how much kids love going to camp. The number one motivation was that camp was a place that kids could feel loved, give love, and be with people they love. The bonding that goes with making friends was so important to campers. There was great appreciation for the counselors and staff at the camps he visited. There is a connection made during camp that makes the kids want to go back. The downside was that when it comes to kids in parish life, there is not this same sense of connectedness. Dima told the FOCA assembly that youth highly value service. They want to help. They want to serve. Next, the Interim Executive Director of FOCUS North America and FOCA Delegate from Weirton, WV, Kenneth Kidd offered an update to his presentation at last year's convention. He suggested a number of opportunities that our parishes can use to get involved and "see the image of Christ in our neighbors."

In his Hierarchical remarks to the assembly, His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon provided further details on the OCA Youth Survey, and next steps to enhancing youth work in the OCA which include peer review of the findings, and presentation to the Metropolitan Council and Holy Synod. His Beatitude stated that we will work together – someone from the FOCA will be part of the review process. He also encouraged support for the FOCA sponsored leadership conference noting that "raising leaders is at the heart of the FOCA." Highlighting several accomplishments, His Beatitude encouraged us to

continue our great work, and continue to collaborate with the OCA leadership and stewardship opportunities; the strength of this Fellowship.

Following a short break, *Plenary Sessions II* convened with two breakout sessions. Allison Steffaro facilitated Breakout Session 1 – "30 Ideas in 30 Minutes" focusing on youth and young adults while Presbytera Sharon Rubis presented "Orthodox Funeral Traditions – In Light of the Resurrection," the topic of Breakout Session 2. Great Vespers was celebrated on Saturday evening by Father Boback and Deacon Peter. Conventioneers dined at a restaurant of their choice and returned to the hotel for "*Cliffhanger in Columbus.*" Hosted by Cap City Chapter, the evening event featured a buffet of tasty desserts and a murder mystery. According to Kyra Shaluha, chair of the event, "It was a killer of a good time!" Entertained by the Dinner Detective's, the whodunit left participants laughing out loud while trying to piece together the clues. In the end, it was super sleuth Sami Exler (aka Captain Marvel) that cracked the code and figured out the play on names to solve the crime.

The Sunday morning *Hierarchical Divine Liturgy* was concelebrated by Metropolitan Tikhon, Bishop Paul, V. Rev. Theodore Boback, V. Rev. Daniel Ressetar, V. Rev. Nicholas Wyslutsky, Rev. Stephen Frase, Archdn. Joseph Matusiak, Dn. Peter Ilchuk, and several subdeacons and altar servers. In his homily, Bishop Paul focused on the Epistle reading as a wonderful model for how we interact with one another given "today's new normal." He encouraged us to pray for all humanity, to love and be loved, and to remember that salvation is a process-we are all on a journey to be more like Christ. And, as the FOCA begins this journey to figure out what's going to happen in the year ahead, His Grace encouraged us to "do all that you do with goodwill" and "do all that you do with affection for others." During Liturgy, Bishop Paul bestowed an award upon Archpriest Daniel Rentel as thanks for all his work in the Diocese of the Midwest. Following the Liturgy, Metropolitan Tikhon presented Archpriest Theodore Boback and Marge Kovach with primatial gramotas for their years of service as FOCA National Spiritual Advisor and FOCA National President respectively. Dn. Joseph Shaluha was awarded the Prophet Elias Award presented by the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America, for his dedication to the Boy Scouts of America.

Sunday afternoon was filled with a variety of informal activities. Many attendees accepted the personal invitation extended by Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral, using their coupon for free admission to indulge in the local Greek Festival's delicious foods and pastries while enjoying traditional Greek music and dance performances.

Sunday evening's "*Sail Away*" *Banquet and Ball*, complete with ship/explorer themed decorations, was organized by David Livosky and the Campbell Kids of Chapter 27. The St. Nicholas Balalaika Orchestra from Magadore, Ohio provided music during the cocktail hour and throughout dinner. Guests were welcomed by Past President Becky Tesar who introduced



2020 *Gifts of Love* to Help Two Very Worthy Causes

Brittany Dubos, the Toast Mistress. Metropolitan Tikhon delivered a Hierarchical message on death and old age. He remarked that Orthodox Christians don't dwell on death but face it with the hope of the resurrection and in the Church; there is no such thing as old age because the resurrection brings life to all ages. He explained that it is easy to get caught up in the passage of time, but one must move past that and focus on the never-ending life that the Church offers. In her banquet address, President Steffaro referenced Bishop Paul's sermon encouraging love and continued good works in parishes, dioceses and districts. She cited specific examples of the work FOCA members do to help others and support youth programs and vowed, "We will continue to hold Junior Olympics until the corn stops growing in North East, Ohio!" She then awarded four \$1,000 and three \$500 educational scholarships.

During the convention, youth enjoyed a trip to the Center of Science and Industry (COSI), organized by Elexis Schultz of Chapter 254 and Sami Exler of Chapter 5. Elexis said, "They had a blast walking through the multiple exhibits from Ocean to Gadgets. They watched a short movie about Apollo 11 and their journey to the moon. I was going to make a science pun, but I couldn't Zinc of a good one." Rebecca Kozak, Junior Department Director organized a group lunch on Sunday at the North Market followed by a "mystery" trip to a candle lab.

Business continued on Monday morning with *Plenary Sessions III*. The Ohio District convention committee and convention co-chairs Becky Tesar and Anthony Shultz were congratulated for a job well done. A motion was passed to split the 2020 "Gifts of Love" designation between St. Herman FOCUS House in Cleveland, OH and the Diocese of Alaska to assist with 50th Anniversary of the Canonization of St. Herman pilgrimage attendees. Further details appear in a separate article within this issue. Dr. Alice Woog promoted the 94th National Convention, "All Roads Lead to FOCA 94," sponsored by St. Mary's "O" Club, Chapter 94. Listing a host of things to do, Dr. Woog encouraged conventioners to come early or plan an extended trip. Future events were discussed such as the annual Basketball Tournament weekend becoming a youth fellowship weekend combining *fun, faith, fellowship, and service to others*. A young adult gathering will be planned for winter/spring 2020. The 95th FOCA Convention, to be hosted by the Executive Board, will be held in conjunction with the 20th All-American Council in Baltimore, MD in July 2021. The South River "R" Club is exploring something for 2022. Sami Exler announced the Photo Contest winners based on this year's *Family* theme. The chair was turned over to Becky Tesar, who reopened the nominations for office as temporary chair. Elected as officers for 2019-2020 were President Allison Steffaro, Vice President Basil Kochan, Recording Secretary Danielle Ilchuk, Treasurer Michael Bowan, and Marge Kovach continues as Immediate Past President. Proposed National Spiritual Advisor, Father Nicholas Wyslutsky led the Installation of Officers.

In closing, delegates and friends formed a large circle, recited the FOCA's motto - "Pray, Study, Toil, Be Temperate" — and sang the F.O.C.A. Anthem. A motion was made to adjourn the 93th National FOCA Convention and reconvene at the Doubletree Hotel in Minneapolis, MN, July 24-27, 2020.

At the 2019 National Convention, the Convention body voted to have two recipients for the 2020 Gifts of Love Campaign. Coincidentally, both are connected to St. Herman! Our first recipient is St. Herman House – FOCUS Cleveland. St. Herman's is an Orthodox Christian house of hospitality. They serve the homeless and poor of the Ohio City neighborhood of Cleveland and the surrounding area and have been in operation since September 1977. They are now solely owned and operated by FOCUS North America. They have an onsite Chapel and have prayers daily at 6:30 am and 4:00 pm, and other services when they have visiting priests.

St. Herman House's mission is to support homeless men on the path to well-being and independence in a safe and stable environment and meet the basic needs of the people in the community. They have an emergency shelter for 28 men and a transitional home that accommodates 12 men. In addition, they are the only facility in Northeast Ohio that serves three meals a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year to anyone in need. In 2018, they served 75,997 meals, which is an average of 208 people fed every day.

St. Herman House has a current need of approximately \$5,000 towards the replacement of a vertical platform lift in the front of the building. The lift is used by disabled persons and has been broken for 8 months. The lift can not be fixed and the cost to install a new one is \$19,000. They have applied for a grant for \$14,000 (and have been unofficially told that they are being awarded the money), which leaves them \$5,000 short. There is currently no way for wheelchair bound people, or those unable to walk up the stairs to enter.

The other recipient will be the Diocese of Alaska, specifically to help with the Pilgrimages to Spruce Island to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Glorification of St. Herman of Alaska. Several of the Dioceses of the OCA are planning trips to Alaska, and the Gifts of Love monies will be used to help defray some of the costs associated with the pilgrimages (transportation to Spruce Island, local Parish hospitality needs including food, snacks, etc.).

The first \$5,000 raised will be sent to St. Herman's House, with the remaining monies to be sent to the Diocese of Alaska. Since the St. Herman's House needs are immediate, we are asking the 2020 Gifts of Love monies are turned into Mickey Bowan, National Treasurer, as soon as possible. Also, the pilgrimages to Alaska are taking place in June and July, so we would like all the monies collected no later than March 15.

Melissa Tesar, Coordinator
Gifts of Love Program



93rd National Convention Photo Gallery



93rd National Convention Photo Gallery



93rd National Convention Photo Gallery



Congratulations to the 2019 FOCA National Scholarship Awardees!



\$5,500 in FOCA National Scholarships Awarded

Christina Stahoviak **KLIMKOSKY SCHOLARSHIP WITH FRED LEWIS HONORS (\$1,000)**



Christina is from Freedom, PA and a member of Holy Ghost Orthodox Church in Ambridge. She is currently attending the Community College of Beaver County where she plans to obtain her RN. Christina served as president of the Ambridge #5J O Club, secretary for two years, and participated in many parish activities such as preparing gifts for and caroling to shut-ins, decorating for Nativity, grave watch on Good Friday, singing in the parish choir, and preparing meals for the underprivileged in the community. She also serves

as a parish greeter, is in the Hours and Epistle chanting rotation, and also had 12 years of perfect attendance for Church School. At Quigley Catholic High School, Christina was a 4-year High Honor student, a 4-year letterman on the soccer team, earning a spot as captain and All-section player in her senior year. She also participated in the school musical production for 3 years, and served for 2 years on the prom committee and as an ambassador for incoming freshman. Her community service activities include those with the church, but also visiting elderly and through service hours through her high school.

Daria Reimund **FEKULA SCHOLARSHIP (\$1,000)**



Daria is from Akron, OH and is a member of St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in Mogadore. She is a freshman at Ashland University majoring in nursing. As a member of 20/32J O Club she served as secretary for 4 years, participated in fundraising activities, attended the Lenten Lock-in, helped decorate the church for Holy Days, and went Christmas caroling to shut-ins. At St. Nicholas she is a member of the St. Nicholas Russian Dancers (serving as an assistant teacher for 5 years), was a student of the parish church school, was

a collection/candle stand helper, participated in the Christmas Yolka and reading at the tomb on Good Friday. At Walsh Jesuit High School,

Daria ran cross country and track, started a running club, was a student ambassador, participated in campus ministry, and was a contributor to The Sketch. Daria has volunteered at Victory Gallop, Labre (feeding the homeless on the streets of Akron), and at Akron Children's Hospital and Cleveland Clinic Akron General Hospital.

Gabriella Wyslutzky **KLIMKOSKY SCHOLARSHIP (\$1,000)**



Gabriella, who lives in Mogadore, OH is a member of St. Nicholas Orthodox Church and the Akron 20/32J club there. She just started her freshman year at the University of Akron where she is majoring in nursing. Gabriella was a student of the parish church school, sang in the parish choir, and participated in Russian dance (for which she is an assistant teacher), church camp, and the Something Russian Festival. At Field High School, she was a member of the National Honors Society, participated in marching band, choir, and drama

club. She also took honors classes, participated in College Credit Plus, Teen Institute, and Pen Ohio. Her community activities include being a Nurse Training Student volunteer, ticket collector at the Ohio State Fair, NHS Volunteer programs, and singing to shut-ins.

Steffan Hutnyan **FEKULA SCHOLARSHIP (\$1,000)**



Steffan, who when not in school resides in Maple Heights, OH, is a member of St. Andrew's Orthodox Church and its St. Andrew "R" Club, #220. He is currently in his sophomore year at The Ohio State University, where he is majoring in finance. As a Junior member he was treasurer and vice president, and attended multiple national conventions and basketball tournaments, activities which have carried over to his Senior membership. Steffan was also a camper at St. Vladimir's Camp

Congratulations to the 2019 FOCA National Scholarship Awardees!



for the Junior Olympics week, and is now a counselor. At his parish he is an altar server and also sings in the church choir. He played 4 years of football at Nordonia High School and is now a member of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity. Steffan has participated in a community mulching program, volunteered at Akron Food Bank, Haven of Rest (a homeless shelter) and participates in other fraternity/sorority philanthropies.

Natalie Rohweder
FEKULA SCHOLARSHIP (\$500)



Natalie, who is from Uniontown, OH, is a member of St. Nicholas Church in Mogadore and its Senior "O" Club. She is in her senior year and is finishing up her Doctor of Pharmacy at Butler University. When she is home in her parish she continues to volunteer at St. Nicholas helping with things such as decorating for holidays. When she was in the Junior "O" club, she was co-president, volunteered at the Something Russian Festival, and various public dinners. She also became a counselor and lifeguard at St. Vladimir's Camp after having

been a camper. She is currently in her second year of being president of Butler University's very active OCF, is a member of the varsity women's swimming team, and is a brother of the pharmaceutical fraternity Phi Delta Chi. When at school she volunteers at Gleaner's Foodbank, and volunteers at the World Paralympic's Swimming Championship held in Indianapolis each year.

Alexis Steffaro
FEKULA SCHOLARSHIP (\$500)



Alexis is from South River, NJ and a member of SS. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church as well as its South River "R" Club, #167, there. She is currently a junior at Lafayette College where she is majoring in international affairs. While a Junior member, Alexis was very active, and that enthusiasm has carried over to her Senior membership. A "camp kid", she is now a counselor and choir director at St. Vladimir's camp, after having been a camper for many years.

She also participates in all Senior R Club activities such as the rib cook off, Octoberfest, and helping to assist with the St. Nicholas Seminarian Assistance project at Christmastime. At Lafayette she participates in club soccer, is a member of the Lafayette "Cadence" a capella group (and serves as its business director). She is also a Lafayette Live Well Ambassador, Pi Beta Phi Sorority member, and participates in the PARDner program. Alexis also volunteers at the Safe Harbor Homeless Shelter, the East Home Community Reading Center, and this past winter, in conjunction with her school's Alternative Spring Break club, went to Honduras for 10 days where she worked at a Christian women's school and helped teach young women how to speak and read English.

Nicholas Reimund
FEKULA SCHOLARSHIP (\$500)



Nicholas, who resides in Akron, OH, is a member of St. Nicholas Church in Mogadore and its Senior "O" Club. He is attending Ashland University in Ashland, OH where his major is international business. In his parish Nicholas was Junior chapter president (2 years) and secretary (2 years), senior altar server, RBO lodge member, Russian youth dancer (12+ years) and balalaika orchestra player (5+ years), festival volunteer, pierogi worker and social hall volunteer. With the Juniors he helped with bagel sales, lock-

ins, poinsettia and luminary sales, was a national FOCA basketball tournament player, and assisted with the Lenten meal setup, Superbowl sub sale and Christmas caroling. At Walsh Jesuit High School, Nicholas was on the track & cross-country team for 4 years (captain as senior); he is now on the university's team and also has been involved with the Kairos retreat, urban plunge retreat, journalist for "The Pioneer," Spanish club and serves on the Ashland student athlete advisory committee. And he has volunteered at Victory Gallup therapeutic riding center (5+ years) where he was volunteer-of-the year in 2016.



2019 Junior Olympics Full to Capacity Once Again

ST. VLADIMIR'S CAMP-50 YEARS AND STILL GOING STRONG!

Junior Olympics were held July 7-13 at St. Vladimir's Camp in Farmdale, Ohio under the leadership of Dn. Daniel and Mat. Catrina Kovalak. 68 campers from Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Michigan, and Illinois gathered for an action packed week filled with individual and team competitions. Daily worship services and group sessions were led by V. Rev. Joh Baker, of Christ the Savior Church in Chicago. His Grace Bishop Paul visited with the campers and Dima Rentel, a representative of the OCA Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministries Department, spent two weeks at St. Vladimir's as part of his summer tour of Orthodox camps to get a sense of the wants and needs of young people.



FOCA Summer Sports Tournament

This year's Summer Sports Tournament was hosted by the Canonsburg "O" Club. Canonsburg attracted participants from Ohio, New Jersey, Arizona, Florida, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. The event started on Friday with the golfers teeing off at Hickory Heights Golf Club in Bridgeville. After a sunny day of chasing the little white ball up and down the challenging terrain of Hickory Heights, the golfers headed to the Club Leaf & Bean (CLB) at the Meadowlands for an evening of fellowship, food, and conversation.

Saturday morning came around early as the shot-gun start format had golfers heading out for the round at 9:30am.

This day's event was held at Quicksilver Golf Club; former host of the Ben Hogan Tour and several Senior PGA events. The golfers enjoyed the rolling terrain of Quicksilver and the challenging layout. At the conclusion of the round, golfers and guests enjoyed a delicious banquet served up by the Quicksilver banquet facility. The awards presentation directly at the conclusion of the banquet allowed the group to have a few more laughs while contestants received prizes and thanks for everyone's participation. All golfers are looking forward to next year's tournament hosted by Weirton, WV!

2019 Summer Sports Tournament Results



ONE DAY EVENT

Actual

- 1. Tamara Petronka Catonsville MD 122

TWO DAY EVENT 54 and Under

Actual

- 1. David Stockman Canonsburg PA 159
- 2. Anthony Schultz Columbus OH 192
- 3. Bob Schenken Canonsburg PA 200

Callaway HDCP

- 1. David Schenken Canonsburg PA 150
- 2. Fr. Andrew Nelko Weirton WV 152
- 3. Gregory Oleynik Canonsburg PA 155

TWO DAY EVENT 55 and Over

Actual

- 1. Joe Lear Ambridge PA 191
- 2. John Lord Garden St. NJ 204
- 3. Fr. Andrew Nelko Campbell OH 205

Callaway HDCP

- 1. Mark Marton Sun City West AZ 151
- 2. John Nelko Elizabeth PA 152
- 2. Dcn. John Oleynik Canonsburg PA 152

Friday

- #5 Closest to Pin David Stockman
- #6 Closest to Pin David Schenken
- #12 Closest to Pin Kevin Rudolph
- #14 Closest to Pin Kevin Rudolph
- #9 Long Putt Fr. Andrew Nelko (Weirton)

Saturday

- #6 Closest to Pin Fr. Andrew Nelko (Campbell)
- #8 Closest to Pin Fr. Andrew Nelko (Campbell)
- #11 Closest to Pin David Stockman
- #14 Closest to Pin David Stockman
- #18 Long Putt David Schenken



FOCA Summer Sports Tournament Photos



Central PA District Sponsors Annual Orthodox Family Picnic

The annual Orthodox Family Picnic, sponsored by the Central PA District, for all FOCA members and Orthodox Christians in the area was held on July 14, 2019 at Knoebels amusement Park. The young and young-at-heart enjoyed the rides, the walk throughout the tree-lined park, and the picnic later that day. Greg Ressetar, Bill and Joan Dupkanic, and Andrea Hancher organized the event.



Submitted by Pat Lelo



Transitions: *Summer/Fall 2019*

ANNIVERSARY: Congratulations to Serge and Carol (Wasilko) Daniels on celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary August 30, 2019.



The couple was married in St. Nicholas Orthodox Church McKees Rocks, PA. Serge and Carol are longtime members of St. Mary's Orthodox Church in South Side, Pittsburgh, PA and the St. Mary's FOCA chapter #8. Serge served the Pittsburgh District as both Lt Governor and Governor for many years. God's blessings on this milestone and may God bless you both many years!

DEPARTED: His Eminence, the Most Reverend Nikon, Archbishop of Boston, New England, and the Albanian



Archdiocese, fell asleep in the Lord on Sunday, September 1, 2019.

Archbishop Nikon was born Nicholas Liolin in New York on October 9, 1945 to a pious Orthodox family. He pursued his elementary and secondary studies in New York City. Tonsured to the Order of Reader by Metropolitan Theophan (Noli), he studied at St. Vladimir's Orthodox

Theological Seminary, Crestwood, NY; Iona and Concordia College, New Rochelle, NY; and the New School for Social Research and Political Science, New York City, NY.

Reader Nicholas graduated from St. Vladimir's Seminary in 1966. In 1967, he married the former Sarah Arthur, his childhood sweetheart. He was ordained to the Holy Diaconate by the late Bishop Stephen [Lasko] on July 5, 1969, and to the Holy Priesthood the following day. Father Nicholas and his wife Sarah, served St. Nicholas Church, Southbridge, MA, and St. Thomas Church, Farmington Hills, MI for more than thirty years.

Following the repose of his wife Sarah, on July 25, 2000, Father Nicholas spent an extended period of time at St. Tikhon's Seminary and Monastery, South Canaan, PA, extending his studies, where he was tonsured to monastic orders prior to his episcopal election and consecration as Bishop of Baltimore on Friday and Saturday, May 24 and 25, 2002 at St. Tikhon Monastery.

Bishop Nikon was nominated as Bishop of Boston at the Albanian Archdiocesan Assembly on October 10, 2003, and the Holy Synod elected him Bishop of Boston on October 22, 2003. He served as administrator of the Diocese of

New England and was elected ruling bishop during the fall session of the Holy Synod in October 2005. He was installed with a new title as Bishop of Boston, New England and the Albanian Archdiocese by His Beatitude Herman at Holy Trinity Cathedral in Boston on December 16 and 17 2005. His Eminence served as locum tenens of the Diocese of the South from February 2011 until March 2015 and on May 9, 2012, Archbishop Nikon was elevated to the rank of Archbishop. He also served as the OCA representative on the Committee for Military Chaplaincy of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America.

His Eminence was interred in Michigan where he was laid to rest next to his wife Sarah.

May Archbishop Nikon's memory be eternal!

Editor's note: His Eminence was supportive of the FOCA and was the Godfather of Past National FOCA President Michael Steffaro.

SOURCE: Adapted from oca.org (with photo)

DEPARTED: Archpriest John Matusiak, 69, Director of Communications for the Orthodox Church in America, and Pastor Emeritus of Saint



Joseph Church, Wheaton, IL, fell asleep in the Lord on the evening of Thursday, August 15, 2019, the Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God, after a short battle with cancer

Born on January 6, 1950, in Erie, PA, Father John was raised in the Orthodox Faith at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, being active in the life

of the church from his youth as an altar server and singing in the choir.

After studying fine arts at the Cleveland School of Design, Father John enrolled at St. Tikhon's Seminary, South Canaan, PA in 1969. He later transferred to St. Vladimir's Seminary, Yonkers, NY where he enrolled in their pre-theological program and graduated from Iona College, New Rochelle, with a Bachelor Degree in Communications, and from Saint Vladimir's with a Master of Divinity. During his seminary days Father John conducted choir at the seminary chapel and at Holy Trinity, Yonkers, as well as being a member and director of the seminary Octet.

After graduating in 1975 from St. Vladimir's Seminary, the first parish assignment for Father John and his wife, Barbara (nee Zelina) was at St. Herman of Alaska Church, Shillington, PA. In 1977, Father John and his family moved to Saint Mary's Cathedral, Minneapolis, MN then in 1984 moved to Chicago and while continuing his work for the OCA, establishing St. Luke Church, Palos Hills. In 1989 Father John was called to establish yet another mission parish in the western suburbs of Chicago which became St. Joseph Church, Wheaton, IL.

Transitions: Summer/Fall 2019

Father John contributed to the establishment of the Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF), a pan-Orthodox ministry program for college students. Father John's work with youth and young adults also reached around the world through SYNDESMOS – the World Fellowship of Orthodox Youth – where he served as a Vice President.

Father John served as Managing Editor of "The Orthodox Church" (TOC) newspaper for the last twenty-eight years, coordinating with Protopresbyter Leonid Kishkovsky, Editor of the TOC, in the creation of thousands of articles about life in the Orthodox Church in America, highlighting the labors and efforts of His Beatitude, our hierarchs, clergy, faithful, and youth, providing a look at what Orthodoxy in America is today.

Since 1998, Father John served as the OCA's Director of Communications, engaging local and national media on current events and teachings of the church, and writing hundreds of news releases. With the advent of the internet in the 1990s, Father John was instrumental in the development of a web presence for the Orthodox Church in America.

Father John was interred in Wheaton, IL and is survived by his wife of 45 years, Barbara, his son, the Archdeacon

Joseph and Nina, his daughter, Juliana and Michael, and 5 grandchildren (Alexander, Noah, Daniel, Silas and Zofia.) May Father John's memory be eternal!

SOURCE: Adapted from oca.org (with photo)

Editor's Note: We are grateful to Fr. John for all his work in helping the FOCA communicate events and initiatives throughout the OCA.

ORDINATION: On August 25, 2019, Dn. John Joseph Kotalik (STOTS 2015) was ordained to the Holy Priesthood by the hands of His Eminence Archbishop Melchizedek of Pittsburgh and Western Pennsylvania. Fr. John is assigned to St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church in Canonsburg, PA. We wish him and Matushka Janine many years!



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Colonial District

FOCA CALENDAR 2019-2020

- October 5, 2019:** Ohio District Convention at St. Andrew's Church, Maple Heights, OH
- October 12, 2019 :** Colonial District Convention at St. Mark Church in Bethesda, MD
- October 19, 2019:** Central Pennsylvania District Convention at St. John's in Alpha, NJ
- October 20, 2019:** Pittsburgh District Convention at Holy Ghost Church in Ambridge, PA
- November 1, 2019:** New Jersey District Convention at Ss. Peter and Paul in South River, NJ followed by Cabaret Night at Ria Mar
- January 19, 2020 :** 83rd Novogodny Ball sponsored by St. Stephen's
- July 12-17, 2020:** National FOCA Junior Olympics, St. Vladimir's Camp, Farmdale, OH – www.stvladimirscamp.com
- July 24-27, 2020:** 94th National FOCA Convention



For updates and detailed info, visit www.orthodoxfellowship.org

LOOKING FOR IDEAS FOR YOUR CHAPTER, DISTRICT OR PARISH?

Activities that have great attendance, interest, involvement?

Here are just a sample of the ideas that our members shared at the breakout session at this year's convention:

Chapter Events:

Parish Paschal or Christmas Cards
Pierogi making workshop
BBQ
Bowling
Meeting with ANY kind of food
Lock in for Youth (with service project)
possibly before a major feast day

District:

Maslenitsa
Novogody Ball (attend or hold your own)
Bowling Event
Ice Skating
Food Packaging event
(meals ready to eat for the needy)
Beefsteak Dinner
Day Trips- discover churches and places
with children and adults that they
wouldn't visit (local gems)

Parish:

Campfire and movie night
Egg hunt and luncheon Pascha
Dinners/luncheons Spaghetti, Pierogi
Chili Cook-off
Community Helpers Dinners (outreach
dinner)
Holiday Dinner for the community
(outreach)
St. Nicholas events
Jr sponsored event- they cook and clean
up
Blessing of graves with picnic
Wine and Cheese after Vespers
Back to Sunday School lunch
Talent Show (youth and adults)
Fair/Craft/Bake sale
Broadcast your services via the web
Festivals



New to parish welcome bag
(Candle, info about the church,
faith and important contacts)
Father's/Mother's Day picnic
Children's sing liturgy
Sunday of Orthodoxy Procession
Ethnic Fair
Lecture with dinner for parish
Flea markets
Blessing in a backpack- homeless
School supplies for needy children
Farmers against hunger
(pick leftover crops for local
foodbanks)

Newly Elected National Executive Board of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America



(left to right) Immediate Past President - Marge Kovach (New Jersey), Treasurer – Michael Bowan (Illinois), National Spiritual Advisor – V.Rev. Nicholas Wyslutsky (Ohio), President – Allison Steffaro (New Jersey), Recording Secretary – Danielle Ilchuk (Pennsylvania), and Vice President – Basil Kochan (Ohio)

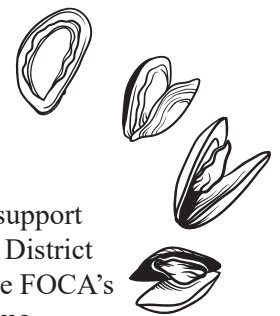
THE OHIO DISTRICT CONVENTION



The Ohio District Convention was held on Saturday, October 5, 2019 at St. Andrew's Eastern Orthodox Church in Maple Hts. It was wonderful to have representation from seven of our eight chapters! We discussed the 2019 FOCA National Convention and are grateful for those chapters and members who stepped up and, although it was lower turnout than in previous years, helped make it a successful convention. We also congratulated Basil Kochan for being elected as the National Vice President, and Fr. Nicholas Wyslutzky on being appointed as the National Spiritual Advisor. Our 300 Club Raffle was held on September 15 and we were able to raise \$1,000 for the Ohio District Scholarship Fund, and \$2,000 for St. Vladimir's Camp. We congratulated the 2019 National FOCA Scholarship recipients, of which five are members of the Ohio District or Ohio Jr. District.- Gabriella Wyslutzky, Daria Reimund, Steffan Hutnyan, Nicholas Reimund, and Natalie Rohweder. The main focus of our District Convention is St. Vladimir's Camp. We have signed a contract with a pool company and will (fingers crossed) break ground on the new pool by excavating the old pool! We hope to have the pool installed this fall and ready to use next summer. We are always accepting Camp donations and have created a St. Vladimir's Camp wish list on Amazon.com.

Simply go to http://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1CRMJ6S6ZFGOE?ref_=wl_share and you'll find a variety of items that the Camp needs, from the kitchen to the cabins! If you purchase any of the items, they will be shipped to our holding facility (which is Donna Tesar's garage!). If you wish to make a monetary donation, please contact Melissa Tesar. Congratulations to the newly re-elected Governor Melissa Tesar and the newly re-elected Treasurer Mike Herzak II (who refers to himself as THE Mickey Bowan of THE Ohio District!), along with Jr. Nominating Committee member Lori Kochan.

Annual Clam Bake Raises Money for St. Vladimir's Camp



On September 28, the Cleveland Chapter 4/6 sponsored the 3rd Annual Clam Bake Fundraiser in support of St. Vladimir's Camp and Retreat Center. St. Vladimir's Camp is owned and operated by the Ohio District of the FOCA and has hosted campers for week long summer camp experiences for over 50 years. The FOCA's National Junior Olympics has also called St. Vladimir's Camp home for many seasons during that time.

Having outgrown the popular St. Michael's "Shanty" after the first year, the clam bake was held in the Woodside Event Center Gymnasium at Archangel Michael Orthodox Church in Broadview Heights, Ohio. Guests had their choice of ordering a traditional Cleveland Clam Bake—which dates back to the early 1940's—of a half chicken, ear of corn, sweet potato, and a dozen clams, or an upgraded "Steak Bake", swapping out a strip steak for the ½ chicken. Cheesy potato soup was served as an appetizer instead of the traditional clam chowder, allowing our non-clam eaters to partake. Chicken and steak dinners without the clams were also available. Chicken nugget and French fry dinners for the children and a pastry selection for dessert completed the menu for this family friendly event.

Generous donations from friends of the Camp allowed us to raffle off 19 prize baskets. A special donation from of an Apple Watch 4 from long-distance supporters, the Steffaro family, was raffled off in a separate raffle. Six 50/50 side board raffles rounded out the fundraising for the event.

Clam Bake co-chairs Becky Tesar and Melissa Tesar report an estimated profit just topping \$2,000 will be turned over to the Camp. They also send along their thanks to all who attended or supported the event with generous donations. An announcement for the date of the 4th annual event will be made next summer.



RECYCLE!

**Use This Issue To
Encourage New
Membership**

POSTMASTER - If Undeliverable

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94TH NATIONAL CONVENTION Minneapolis, Minnesota July 24-27, 2020



HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:

DoubleTree Hotel by Hilton

7800 Normandale Blvd. Minneapolis

Room Rate: \$119.00 + tax

Free Parking • Free shuttle to and from MSP Airport

Free shuttle to and from Mall of America • Microwave and refrigerators in all rooms

THINGS TO DO IN MSP!

Minnesota Zoo

Minnesota Arboretum

Mall of America

Midtown Global Market

Activities on local lakes - *Bde Makaska, Lake Harriet, Lake of the Isles*
- walking paths, bike paths, kayak, canoe rental -

Mystic Lake Casino

DOWNTOWN MINNEAPOLIS

Nicollet Mall -- *shops/restaurants*

Mill City Area

St. Anthony Main

North Loop Restaurants, Brewery Tours

Guthrie Theater

Orchestra Hall -- *on Nicollet Mall*

Target Field -- *home of the MN Twins*

US Bank Stadium -- *home of MN Vikings*

Walker Art Institute

Basilica of St. Mary

Explore NE Minneapolis

DOWNTOWN ST. PAUL

Capitol City Tour

Minnesota Science Museum

Minnesota History Museum

Minnesota Children's Museum

Ordway Theater

CHS Stadium

- home of St. Paul Saints -

Allianz Stadium

- home of MN United FC -

St. Paul's Cathedral on the Hill

Historic Grand Avenue