

WPA branches celebrate the holidays

WILLIAM PENN



LIFE

January 2020

*Boldog Új Évet
Kívánunk*



HAPPY NEW YEAR

2020

The life and legacy of Hungarian artist László Moholy-Nagy

Tree of Knowledge



Helping our young members meet the challenges of modern educational economics requires great effort by all our members and friends. Towards this end, the WPFA Scholarship Foundation has created the **Tree of Knowledge**. The Tree is mounted in the second floor foyer of the WPA Home Office. Those making donations through this program will be recognized with individual “leaves” on the tree, which can be used to honor and remember loved ones. Donations are being accepted at three levels: Gold (\$1,000), Silver (\$500) and

Bronze (\$250). Those wishing to purchase a leaf may use the form below. Please help our tree “grow” and allow us to continue to assist young members reach their educational and professional dreams.

Our Newest Leaf

We thank the following for being the latest to donate to our Tree of Knowledge:

In Memory of Mary Reis
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Sister and Friend
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(Bronze Level)

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Line 1: _____

Line 2: _____

Line 3: _____

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Cover: Photo © Can Stock Photo, Inc./weedeign • This Page: a self-portrait of László Moholy-Nagy (1926)

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Chair of the Board Kathy Novak (far left) joins other volunteers in decorating the Hungarian Room for the recent Christmas season.

WPA directors & members help make Hungarian Room festive for the holiday season

by Joyce E. Nicholson

On Saturday, Nov. 9, my husband and I took a short drive to the University of Pittsburgh campus to help decorate the Hungarian Nationality Room in the Cathedral of Learning in preparation for the annual holiday open house. It was chilly outside, but the festive decorating happening in every nationality room that day warmed the heart. It was a convergence of traditions and heritage to celebrate Christmas, as everyone decorated their room according to their culture and customs. Many hands made light work, and the Hungarian Room was quickly decorated by a group of wonderful volunteers, including Chair of the Board Kathy Novak, Jonathan Naser and Kati Csoman.

Member Spotlight

Alexander Józsa Bodnar

PITTSBURGH --For more than 30 years, Józsa Corner has been serving visitors to the Hazelwood neighborhood of Pittsburgh traditional Hungarian food along with a large helping of Magyar music, dance and culture.



Its founder and owner, Alexander Józsa Bodnar, a member of WPA Branch 296 Springdale, Pa., was honored last year by Pittsburgh City Council when it issued a proclamation declaring July 1, 2019 as "Józsa Corner Day" in the city.

"Alex Bodnar and Józsa Corner," the proclamation reads, "are synonymous as he is a spellbinding raconteur whose presence is a vital part of the meal. When Alex is not cooking, he is sitting with guests to tell them of his personal history including a dramatic escape from the Hungarian Revolution as a 14-year-old boy, joining the Resistance and escaping to England, finding his parents and coming to the United States."

The proclamation also recognizes Alex as an "integral part of the history and growth of Hazelwood" noting in particular his involvement with the Great Hazelwood Development, Inc., the Hazelwood Initiative and the 15th Ward Chamber of Commerce."

Alex, whose Józsa Corner was featured in an episode of the late Anthony Bourdain's "Parts Unknown," said he feels "very blessed that the Lord has always given me the strength and opportunity to serve." □

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

Improvements to cause temporary disruption of services

In order to serve our members more efficiently, William Penn Association is converting to new, state-of-the-art accounting and policy administration systems. The conversion process will take about two weeks to complete. The conversion began on December 20, 2019, and is scheduled to be completed on or about January 6, 2020. During this time, our employees will be unable to process any claims, issue any payments or access information concerning your life insurance or annuity certificates. All claims and inquiries received during the conversion period will be handled as soon as possible once the new systems are operational. We sincerely appreciate your patience and cooperation during this process.

DEC 15	16	17	18	19	DEC 20 Systems closed	
22	23	24	25	26		
29	30	31	JAN 1	2	3	4
5	JAN 6 Systems reopen		8	9	10	11



Being at peace with the inevitable

"I AM READY TO GO," she said with a smile. "I have lived a long, fulfilling life, and I am ready to go when God wants to take me."

I didn't quite know what to say, and my face said so.

"I don't want you to be sad when I die," she added. "I want you to be happy for me because I want to go."

"I will be sad," I managed to say, "and I will miss you, but I am also glad that we are having this conversation."

We weren't in a hospital, a nursing home or a hospice situation. In fact, we were having lunch in the middle of the day, just like every other day. My beautiful friend, well into her 90s, sharply dressed and not a hair out of place, was having a conversation with me that I wasn't ready to have.

She is witty and sweet, and I have known her for nearly 17 years. I trust her though, so I agreed to be at peace when she departs.

I couldn't fall asleep later that night thinking about her. I completely understand and respect her reasoning. Her mind and body are both sound. She has no trouble getting around and she embodies positivity. She is just ready to go.

Later that night, I tossed and turned and wondered if I would be the same way if I were her. I am not afraid of dying. I am not warm to suffering, but I am okay with dying, but later, much later.

I began to ask others who are living well enough but



Photo © Can Stock Photo/aletia

nudging 100 years old, and they shared her sentiment. These are people I see every day; I interact with them, laugh with them and hug them. But I didn't know that they felt, and somewhat wished for, a slumber that took them home.

I take more from them now. I look into their eyes longer, and I try to memorize their faces. I hug them more. I know they are in a wonderful place, waiting to launch with nothing but a smile and a reassuring nod.

Cathy Graham is director of the Graceful Aging Wellness Center at Bethlen Communities in Ligonier, Pa.



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A quick review of 2019

WELCOME 2020, AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Normally, I prefer to write my "year in review" column for the last edition of the year, but the recent changes in life insurance rates and issue ages needed to be discussed in our December issue. Since these changes are now in effect, I'd like to take some time now to reflect on the year 2019 and review some of the happenings at William Penn Association during the year.



- **In January**, we welcomed 2019 and *Moneywise* focused on planning for a comfortable retirement and the benefits of annuity ownership. In a nutshell, the article highlighted the fact that annuity owners live a much more comfortable retirement

than those who don't own annuities. In one survey, seven out of 10 annuity-owner respondents said they felt they had saved enough to provide for a comfortable retirement, even past the age of 90. If you are considering retirement this year or in the near future, consider going back and reviewing the January 2019 edition.

Also that month, Cathy Graham encouraged us to "get out and stay fit" during the winter in her *Aging Well* column and Tibor Check wrote about making his New Year's resolutions "Hungarian-style" in *Tibor's Take*.

WPA also announced the requirements for the 2019-20 scholarship and included the application to be completed and returned to the Home Office. If you are a new or renewing scholarship candidate, be sure to follow this year's rules and get your application postmarked no later than May 29, 2020. You don't want to miss out on one of our most valuable fraternal benefits!



- **In February**, the Association celebrated its 133rd year of providing fraternal benefits to our members. We also celebrated the 50th anniversary of the William Penn Fraternal Association Scholarship Foundation. Since its inception in 1969, The Scholarship foundation has awarded nearly \$3 million to thousands of qualifying student-members and continues to provide scholarship grants year after year.

In celebration of Valentine's Day, *Moneywise* looked at "Insuring your Love," that is, insuring those you love at various life stages. Next month, we'll have another article about insuring those you love.



- **In March**, we talked about the ins-and-outs of IRAs and discussed the various types of IRAs and their benefits to help provide a more comfortable retirement. With the income tax filing season just

around the corner, now is a good time to review the requirements and consider funding an IRA this year.

Tibor Check highlighted the history of the Hungarian runic alphabet, Cathy Graham discussed the benefits of dog ownership and Judit Ganchuk had a wonderful article

titled "Building of a Revolution" about the history of the 1848 Hungarian Revolution.



- In addition to celebrating Easter in **April**, *Moneywise* compared the different types of insurance--whole life and term--and discussed the benefits of both. Tibor Check had another excellent article fol-

lowing up on last year's "Hungarians in Baseball" feature with "Take me out to the ballgame, Part 2" about Al "The Mad Hungarian" Hrabovsky. It's a great story. April also included WPA's 2018 financial records, indicating that your Association had another great year and continues its rich history of growth and stability.



- **In May**, we celebrated Mother's day and Tibor's column on "remembering our Hungarian Mothers" was another great read. Cathy Graham talked about getting outside and taking in the beauty of nature, and we discussed the benefits of having a ROTH IRA in *Moneywise*.

May was also the time that our branches began Join Hands Day and featured the activities held by our local branches to help those in need in their local communities. Special thanks to all branch officers and members who Joined Hands Against Hunger last year.



- **In June**, we celebrated Father's Day and Flag Day and announced a new location for the WPA Picnic. The move turned out to be a good one.

In *Moneywise*, we discussed the benefits of insuring your children and grandchildren, and reviewed some different options for insurance, as well as how to qualify for our scholarship program. Go back and review the article if you have any questions about juvenile insurance or how to qualify for our scholarships.

June was also the beginning of a great summer of fraternal festivals, beginning with our trip to New Brunswick, N.J., for the 44th annual Hungarian festival. That event just seems to get bigger and bigger each year, and we always look forward to attending.

Unfortunately, that month we also mourned the death of friend and co-worker Judy Chakey. In addition to her duties of handling address changes and reinstatements, Judy was the friendly voice you heard when you called the Home Office. She is sorely missed here at the Home Office, but her memory lives on in the hearts of her family and loved ones.



- **In July**, we celebrated Independence Day and honored Hungarians who have served in the U.S. military. Cathy Graham asked "What makes a worthy life?" in her *Aging Well* column, while Tibor Check wondered "Are Hungarians from Mars?" *Moneywise* discussed some common errors

to avoid when selecting and updating your beneficiaries. While we're on the subject...have you reviewed and updated your beneficiaries yet?



• **In August**, the time for the WPA Picnic finally arrived. After months of planning and preparation, the picnic was held at a new venue: the Pittsburgh Shrine Center in Cheswick Pa. The day was perfect, and the venue couldn't have been better. Special thanks to the National Officers, Board of Directors and Home Office employees who helped to make this year's picnic a huge success. With the change in venue, I anticipate that attendance will continue to grow as more and more members hear about it.

August also was the time for another great festival, and we made our much-anticipated trek to Toledo for the Birmingham Ethnic Festival. There was great food, music and festivities throughout the day, and we were happy to support this great event again this year.

Moneywise reviewed the financial planning process. If you are considering making any changes to your financial goals this year, take some time to review that edition and the process you should follow.

That month, we also mourned the loss of another long-time associate and friend of William Penn Association, John L. Lovasz. John, who passed away at the age of 90, worked for the Association (then named the Rakoczi Aid Association) from 1947 through the merger with the Verhovay Fraternal Insurance Association (which formed today's William Penn Association) in 1955, at which point he moved to Pittsburgh and worked for the Association until 1986. May John rest in peace.



of members and their families who have been touched by the miracle of life insurance. The one that really caught my attention was the story of Laszlo Megyeri. What a great testimonial to the need for life insurance.



math of the 1956 Revolution.

Moneywise featured a Q&A session with Jeff Johnstone of Senior Healthcare Specialists of Pittsburgh, who helped us to "Make sense of Medicare." If you will be turning 65 in the coming year (like yours truly), consider giving Jeff a call to review your options.

October was also time for the Association's 39th General Convention. It's always a pleasure to meet and welcome delegates from branches all around the country. The existing Board was reelected which, in turn, elected Katherine E. Novak as its Chair of the Board and Andrew

W. McNelis and Anne Marie Schmidt as Vice Chairs. The Board also reelected National President George S. Charles, Jr. and National Vice President-Treasurer Diane Torma. It also elected two longtime Home Office employees as National Officers: Cassandra (Cassie) Holmes as National Vice President-Secretary and Steven F. Charles as National Vice President-Internal Operations. Congratulations to all!

The Convention also took time to honor outgoing Chair of the Board Andrew W. McNelis. Director James W. Robertson of Harrisburg presented Andy with a gold eagle plaque honoring Mr. McNelis which will be mounted next to the Tree of Knowledge at the WPA Home Office. I don't think there was a dry eye in the house during the presentation.



• **In November**, in addition to celebrating Thanksgiving (my favorite holiday of the year), we also celebrated our 2019-20 scholarship recipients and essay award winners and gave an update on some of our past recipients. As mentioned above, we give away thousands of dollars each year to qualified college student members. Congratulations to all award recipients...and remember to get your application in again this year!

Cathy Graham encouraged us all to get our flu shots in her *Aging Well* column, and Tibor Check wrote about "this and that." (Did you know that Hollywood star Ben Affleck's middle name is Geza?) My *Moneywise* column discussed a few end-of-the-year tax strategies to consider. While it may be too late to consider them for the year 2019, there are a few strategies that can help you with your year-round planning.



• **In the December issue**, we reviewed the rate changes. As discussed, these changes were brought about due to implementation of the new 2017 CSO mortality tables to which all companies are required to adapt as of January 1, 2020.

Well, that's 2019 in review. Since every issue of *William Penn Life* is full of articles and news from our branches, given the time and space constraints, I couldn't highlight them all. If you ever want to review a past issue, did you know they are available on our website? I like to scroll through them periodically to see what was going on "back in the day." Maybe you would like to do that as well.

As always, don't hesitate to call on your William Penn Association agent or the Home Office

if we can be of assistance, or should you have questions or need any service. We're here to help!

Until next time, have a safe, happy and peaceful New Year! □





Small books tell a larger story

THIRTY YEARS AGO, the people of Hungary raged against a Communist system of governance that had long since become dysfunctional. Propped up largely by the strength of the then-teetering Soviet Union, the People's Republic of Hungary became one of the first of the socialist governments to fall in the revolutions of 1989.

Decades on, our society's collective memories of that dramatic moment have faded with the passage of time. With a McDonald's on seemingly every corner and 4G cell service available in remote Hungarian villages, it becomes hard to imagine an era of state-run department stores, illegal *pálinka* stills and the secret police.

But, in some corners of Hungary, the inquisitive can find the cast-off remnants of Communism. The 80-year Soviet experiment with total government control of society and the economy left behind its own fair share of artifacts. For the student of history or for those who feel the twinge of "Ostalgia" in their heartstrings, there's a wealth of Communist "treasures" if you know where to look.

Along Pest's famous Váci Út, across from the Mercure Hotel, is an off-street courtyard that houses about a dozen small businesses. Back in 2014, my parents and I ventured back into that courtyard in search of a unique souvenir for my brother. A small marquee on the main street advertised a shop dedicated to Hungary's greatest soccer player, Ferenc Puskás. There we found a variety of cheaply-made hats, gloves and scarves of not only Puskás, but other items relating to Hungary's once-mighty national soccer team.

The owner of the shop keenly discerned that my father was not in search of the typical tourist *tchotchke*, but rather that he was a collector interested only in the exceedingly rare. With a crooked finger, he beckoned us back into an alleyway and into a small shop wedged

behind a hostel. We crowded into a small shop (about 10-by-20 feet in size) filled to the brim with a wide assortment of Hungarian "antiques" made before 1975. Overwhelmed by the amount of history crammed into such a tiny place, we managed to discover a silver coin or two before having to leave for a dinner reservation at the Mátyás Pince.

Back in September and early October, my parents and brother András toured Hungary, and, of course, they stopped by to see Bálint Ács and his Valifolkart Shop featuring oddities in Magyar history (www.valifolkart.hu). It was about 5:00 p.m. Budapest time (11:00 a.m. in DC), so my brother decided to use his cell phone to have a video conference call with me.

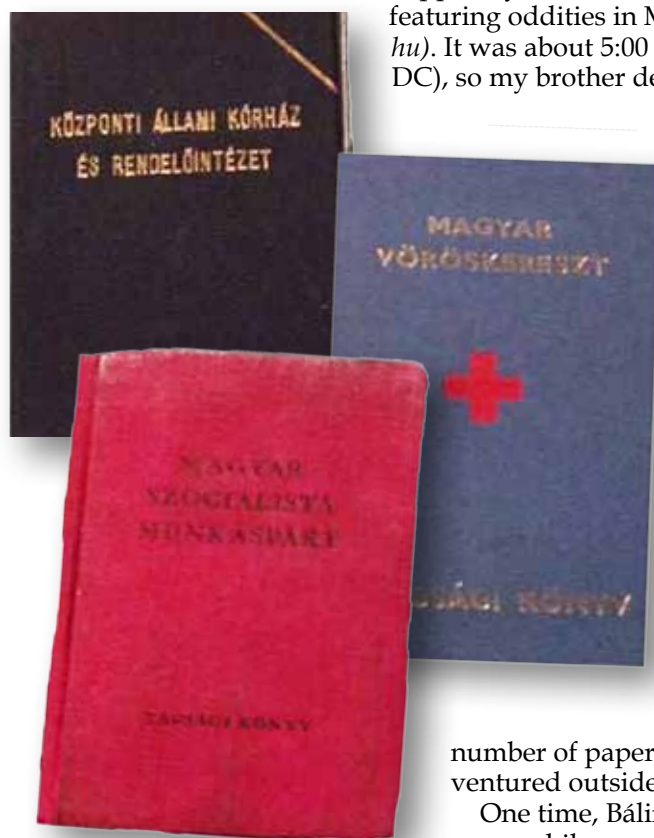
Connected through the phone, we went through cases of pins and badges covering a range of subjects and topics.

Meanwhile, my dad struck up an extended conversation with the shop owner, discussing how life was under Communist rule. Typically, such reminiscing focuses on the faulty cars, the terrible food or the drafty concrete block apartments. Instead, Bálint explained the onerous identification requirements of living and working in Socialist Hungary. Bálint relayed that he had to carry along several different types of ID when he traveled about Budapest on business; the

number of papers and documents increased if one ventured outside the city and into the countryside.

One time, Bálint said, he forgot one important paper while on a day trip outside Budapest, which resulted in him being detained for 36 hours as he was being investigated by the police. After those many hours, he was permitted to leave in the wee hours of the morning; the only way to get back to his flat was to walk more than six kilometers (close to four miles). During that return home, he was stopped three more times by various police and security officials.

As my brother perused the shop, Bálint retrieved from a remote shelf a tattered cardboard box. "These may interest you," he said. "I just acquired them." Inside the box were dozens of little leather- and vinyl-bound books: identification materials required by the state. For the most part, they were little red workbooks which kept track of each laborer's weekly production quotas. Be-





sides rows upon rows of stamps and stickers, the books contained photos and other identifying information as well as the credos and by-laws of the Communist party.

Being that the books were very inexpensive, my dad and brother selected about 20 or so based on age, aesthetic appeal, name recognition and interesting life facts about the person who once carried them. My brother selected as an early Christmas gift for me a matching group of books covering the entire work record of a husband and wife. Other books purchased dated as far back as the late 1920s. One booklet had a photo of an army officer decked out in his "full peacock" dress uniform.

Several days later, my parents and András visited our cousins in Csót. One evening while sipping *pálinka*, they descended into the cellar of my cousin Arpi's home. The oakwood spiral staircase led to two small rooms that contained containers of *pálinka* dating back to 2011. On the walls and shelves were dozens of awards and ribbons our cousins had earned in various *pálinka* making contests and horseriding competitions throughout Veszprém county.

My brother decided to show a few of the booklets he had acquired a few days earlier in Budapest. Our cousin Arpi chuckled with bemusement that we would have had such interest in the remnants of the failed Communist state. He opened a small box and presented to my dad and brother several of the same type of ID books,

only these belonged to our relatives who had long since passed away. These decades-old books may have seemed worthless--or worse--to a Hungarian who lived and feared under the yoke of Communism, but to us, they were a treasured link to our familial past.

Arpi generously parted with these books, and they now have pride of place in my parents' growing collection of Hungarian memorabilia. The passing decades may have made these old books and identification cards irrelevant to many, but for family historians like me, such vivid chronicles of the past are a treasure trove. Life under Communist domination was intrusive, vexing and dogmatic, but the regime's insistence on control left behind a rich record of the past for those who know where to look.

It makes me wonder: in these days, when so much of our lives takes place on our phones, what information might persist in the long decades from now?

Happy New Year! BÚÉK!

Cseh Tibor, Jr.

Tibor Check, Jr., is a member of Branch 28 and an attorney working in Washington, D.C.

Point to Ponder....

As a Christmas gift, my parents presented to me an old-style lantern case containing a small Christmas tree that belonged to my Great-Grandmother Emerencia Cseh in 1913. A few months prior to her passing in 1971, she gave my father that tree as a remembrance, saying she wished she could have returned to Hungary. Old age and finances prevented that from happening, but she prayed that someday my father could travel to Csót to see her ancestral village. I, too, have ventured away from my hometown, so my parents thought the antique tree would befit a fellow traveler.

The same year that my father received the tree, my Great Aunt Jenny went on a WPA-sponsored tour to Hungary and afterwards spent several weeks in Csót. Seven years later, my cousins from Detroit and Wisconsin visited. For each of the last 10 years, various members of my family have gone to Hungary to be reunited with the folks at the family farm.

Do you have a similar story of reconnection and/or the passing on of cherished heirlooms? I would love to hear it. - Tibor

LÁSZLÓ MOHOLY-NAGY

His life and legacy

by **KATHY MEGYERI**

I NEVER WASH with my curved Dove soap bar or squeeze honey from my plastic container in the shape of a bear without thinking of the Hungarian artist, designer, painter, photographer, writer, sculptor, and educator László Moholy-Nagy. He was the first to integrate technology, industry and scientific equipment, like the telescope and microscope, into his art.

Born László Weisz in Bácsborsód, Hungary, in 1895, he attended gymnasium in Szeged. In 1918, he formally converted to the Hungarian Reformed Church. His mother's second cousin was the famous conductor Georg Solti.

After his father abandoned the family, he was supported by his uncle, Gusztav Nagy, and thus took on the Magyar surname of his mentor. He later added the Moholy name, which comes from the town of Mohol, now part of Serbia, where he spent part of his boyhood.

He initially studied law before serving in the Hungarian Army during World War I. He was discharged in 1918 after being wounded on the Russian front and then went to Berlin in 1920 where he took a teaching position at the famous art school, Bauhaus, in 1923.

From 1927 to 1929, he designed stage sets for the theatre, designed exhibitions and books, created ad campaigns, wrote articles, made films, and, in 1936, created special effects for movies by Alexander Korda.

He left Europe in 1937 and settled in Chicago where he was named the director of the New Bauhaus School, located in a Chicago mansion originally designed for the department store magnate Marshall Field. It lasted only a year, but he resurrected it as the Chicago School of De-



Z VII (László Moholy-Nagy, 1926)



Light-Space Modulator (László Moholy-Nagy, 1930)

sign, which is now the Institute of Design, part of the Illinois Institute of Technology which emphasizes experiential learning and was the first to offer a Ph.D. in design. He was also the art advisor for the mail-order house of Spiegel in Chicago.

He became an American citizen in 1946 but died of leukemia that same year. The New York Times called him “relentlessly experimental” because of his books and articles advocating high modernism.

Moholy-Nagy University of Art and Design in Budapest is named in his honor. The software company Laszlo Systems (developers of the open source programming language OpenLaszlo) was also named in his honor. A documentary movie, “The New Bauhaus,” was just released which features archival footage and interviews with his descendants to illuminate the life of this Hungarian who did the most to spread the message of Germany’s radical school of modernism to America. The film seeks to highlight Moholy-Nagy’s contributions as a Hungarian immigrant because he kept alive the idea of unifying different disciplines.

But for me, the useful Dove soap bar and the plastic honey bear, both designed by disciples of his, are his finest legacy. □



Moholy-Nagy’s use of materials like transparent plastic influenced many artists and designers, leading to the creation of iconic commercial items, like the Dove soap bar and the honey bear bottle.





JUST 4 KIDZ

Stuck inside because of the winter weather? Sure, playing outside in the winter can be a lot of fun. But, sometimes, it's just too cold or too icy or too snowy to be safe outside. Then, other times, we just want to be inside where it's snuggly and warm. On those days, we like to gather the family and do a little cooking together. Among our favorite things to cook--and EAT!--are **pizza quesadillas**. Pizza quesadillas are a kid-friendly recipe with three basic ingredients: mozzarella cheese, marinara sauce and tortillas. You can add toppings like pepperoni or cooked chicken fingers to make this a more substantial winter meal.

Safety is very important, so be sure to have a grown up to help you.

The ingredients listed below are what you need to make one quesadilla. If you want to make two, then double the ingredients. If you're making six to feed your whole family, then multiply each ingredient by six.

What you need:

- 1 soft white flour tortilla
- 2 tablespoons marinara or pizza sauce
- ¼ cup shredded mozzarella cheese
- Your favorite pizza toppings (pepperoni, mushrooms, etc.)

What you do:

- Spread marinara on half of a tortilla.
- Sprinkle with mozzarella cheese.
- Add extra toppings of your choice.
- Sprinkle another layer of mozzarella on top of your toppings and fold the tortilla over.
- Cook the quesadilla on a griddle or large skillet for about 2 to 3 minutes per side, or until browned. (For a softer quesadilla, you could place it instead in the microwave for up to one minute.)
- Place cooked quesadilla on a cutting board and allow to cool for a few minutes, then slice into triangles and serve. If you really like sauce, you can dip it in some marinara sauce!

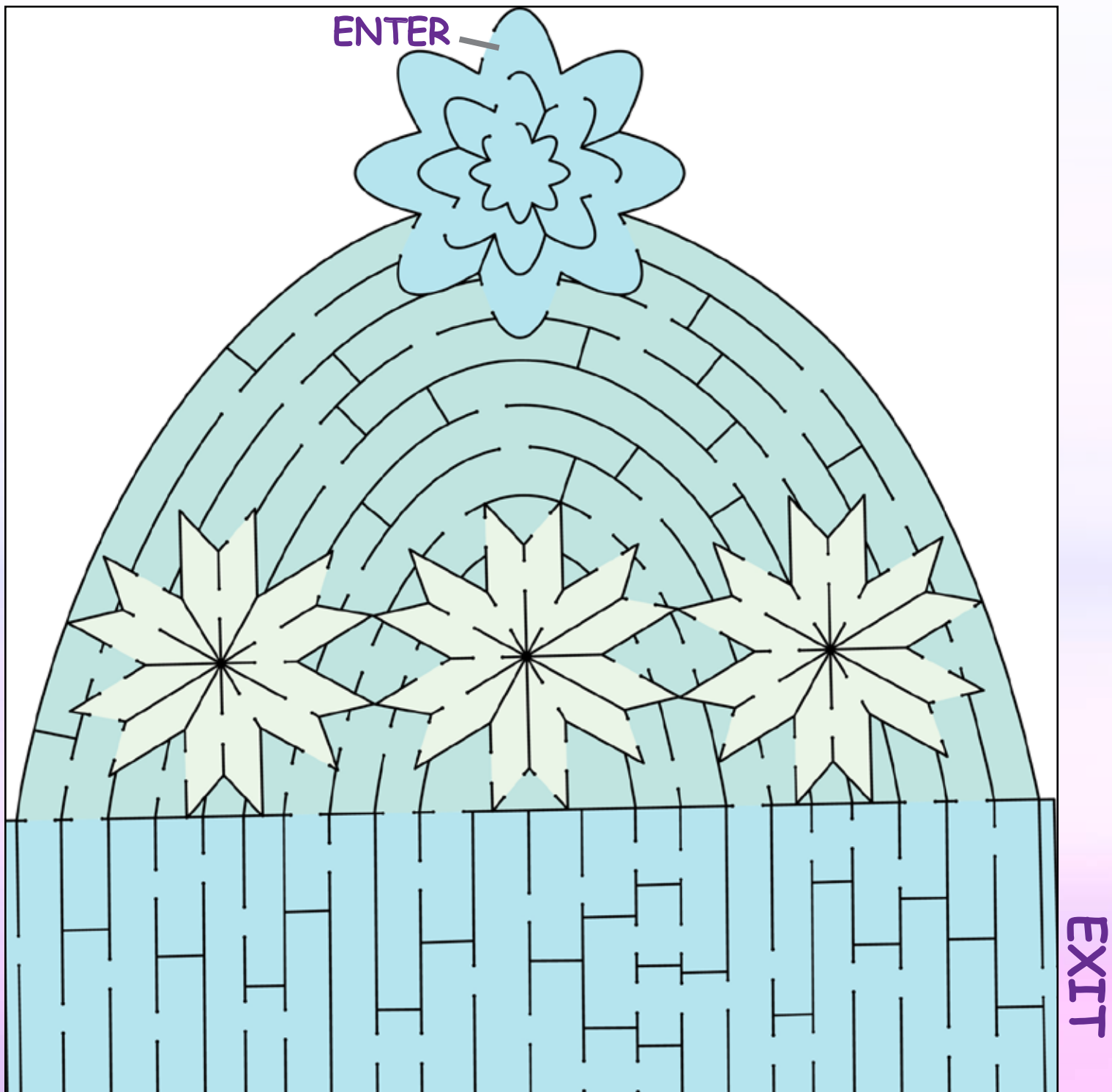


Post photos of your family enjoying this tasty meal and tag @WPAlife to share with friends and family!

Recipe Courtesy of : <https://www.theseasonedmom.com/cooking-kids-series-pizzadillas/>

Mad-cap maze

We'll tip our hat to you if you can find your way from the top of this cap to the bottom.



Kidz Illustrations © Can Stock Photo Inc./lenm • Pizza quesadilla photo courtesy of theseasonedmom.com • Cap maze © Can Stock Photo Inc./nahhan

Eligibility Rules for Year 2020 Scholarship Grants

The Board of Directors has established the following rules governing eligibility for scholarship recipients:

- a) The student applying for a scholarship grant must be an individual life benefit member of William Penn Association in good standing for four (4) years as of January 1, 2020.
- b) For both new and renewal applicants, the student applicant must be the child or grandchild of a life benefit member of William Penn Association in good standing. For the 2020 school year, the parent/grandparent must be a life benefit member for at least four (4) years as of January 1, 2020.
- c) Scholarship grants are awarded to full-time undergraduate students only if they have been accepted by or are currently attending an accredited college, university or school of nursing.
- d) Grants are awarded annually for a maximum of four years.
- e) All new and renewal applicants must complete and submit the WPFA Scholarship Foundation, Inc., Application for Scholarship Grant, which can be found in this issue of *William Penn Life*. An application also may be obtained by writing to: President, William Penn Fraternal Association Scholarship Foundation, Inc., 709 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15233, or may be downloaded from the Association's website at www.wpalife.org.

f) **NEW Applicants** must submit the following:

1. An Essay of 100 words or fewer answering the question: **"If you were an inventor, what would you invent?"** If the essay exceeds 100 words or is on the incorrect topic, the application will not be accepted.

The Scholarship Application and Essay must be mailed and postmarked by Friday, May 29, 2020. We recommend the student applicant submit these materials via Certified Mail to ascertain proof of mailing date.

2. A transcript of the student applicant's latest scholastic record.

3. Proof of enrollment for the Fall 2020 school term.

Items 2 and 3 must be mailed and postmarked by **Monday, August 31, 2020.**

g) **RENEWAL Applicants** must submit the following:

1. An Essay of 100 words or fewer answering the question: **"How do you define 'success'?"** If the essay exceeds 100 words or is on the incorrect topic, the application will not be accepted.

The Scholarship Application and Essay must be mailed and postmarked by Friday, May 29, 2020. We recommend the student applicant submit these materials via Certified Mail to ascertain proof of mailing date.

2. A copy of the student applicant's latest scholastic record. All renewal applicants **must maintain a cumulative Grade Point Average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale to qualify.**

3. Proof of enrollment for the Fall 2020 school term.

Items 2 and 3 must be mailed and postmarked by **Monday, August 31, 2020.**

h) All applications and essays must be submitted and signed by the student applicant requesting the grant and mailed to the attention of the President. Eligibility rules for renewal grants will be in accordance with the eligibility rules in effect for the initial grant. Materials submitted by anyone other than the student applicant will not be considered. **E-mailed and faxed submissions will NOT be accepted.** Any applications and essays postmarked after **Friday, May 29, 2020** will not be considered.

i) Scholarship grants will be awarded by the Executive Committee of the William Penn Fraternal Association Scholarship Foundation, Inc., once each year. **Grants will be paid directly to the student applicant provided the student applicant is a life benefit member in good standing on the date the check is issued and all of the eligibility requirements stated herein have been met.**

j) If for any reason the recipient does not attend college after receiving the grant, it must be returned to the William Penn Fraternal Association Scholarship Foundation, Inc.

k) In compliance with current privacy laws, all information regarding scholarship status will be divulged only to the student applicant and to the parents and/or legal guardians of the applicant.

Students with questions about these eligibility rules may call Mary Ann Kelly-Lovasz at the Home Office at 1-800-848-7366, Ext. 128, or e-mail us at scholarship@wpalife.org.

William Penn Fraternal Association Scholarship Foundation, Inc.

709 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15233-1821

Phone: 412-231-2979 • Toll-free: 1-800-848-7366 • Fax: 412-231-8535 • Email: scholarship@wpalife.org



Application for Scholarship Grant Academic Year 2020-2021



1. Check One: ☐ New Applicant ☐ Renewal Applicant

STUDENT APPLICANT INFORMATION

2. NAME: _____ **3. DATE OF BIRTH:** ____/____/____
Last First Middle Initial

4. ADDRESS: _____
No. Street

City State Zip Code

5. STUDENT APPLICANT'S PHONE: () _____

6. E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

7. SCHOOLS ATTENDED (LIST IN REVERSE CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER, STARTING WITH MOST RECENT SCHOOL):

Name of College/High School	Location	Dates Attended (Month/Year) <i>Ex: 08/2016 - 06/2020</i>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

8. ACCREDITED COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY WHERE ACCEPTED:

School Name: _____ **Year Will Be Attending in School:** ☐ Freshman ☐ Junior ☐ Sophomore ☐ Senior

Street Address or P. O. Box: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

9. MAJOR COURSE OF STUDY (e.g., ENGINEERING, PRE-MEDICAL, BUSINESS, ETC.):

Completed application & essay must be mailed and postmarked by May 29, 2020

10. WILLIAM PENN ASSOCIATION LIFE INSURANCE CERTIFICATE INFORMATION VERIFICATION:
INFORMATION ON BOTH THE STUDENT APPLICANT AND EITHER A PARENT OR GRANDPARENT IS REQUIRED.

STUDENT APPLICANT Name: _____

Life Insurance Certificate Number: _____

Branch Number: _____

☐ **PARENT OR** ☐ **GRANDPARENT** Name: _____

Life Insurance Certificate Number: _____

Branch Number: _____

PLEASE NOTE

ALL APPLICANTS must submit an essay not exceeding 100 words, along with this completed application form, to be considered for a grant. The application and essay must be mailed and postmarked by May 29, 2020.

NEW APPLICANTS must also submit: (1) a transcript of the student's latest scholastic record; and (2) proof of enrollment for the Fall 2020 school term.

RENEWAL APPLICANTS must also submit: (1) a copy of the student's latest scholastic record showing that the student has maintained a cumulative Grade Point Average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale; and (2) proof of enrollment for the Fall 2020 school term.

Failure to submit these items by the date specified in the Eligibility Rules will result in the forfeiture of your grant.

I hereby certify that I have read the eligibility rules prior to completing this application. I further certify that this application contains no misstatements or omissions of material fact and that the statements herein are to the best of my knowledge complete and correct. I also hereby authorize and approve the Scholarship Foundation or its representatives to share or discuss this application with my parents and/or legal guardians.

Signature of Student Applicant

Date

Completed application & essay must be mailed and postmarked by May 29, 2020

Branch 1 Bridgeport, CT

by Jim Ballas

Our branch Christmas party was held Dec. 8 at the Puritan Hall in Bridgeport. Winter arrived with our first snow of the season during the first week of December, but the day of our party was sunny and cold. Everyone attending had a great time.

The hall was decorated in the holiday spirit, and Christmas music played, creating a festive atmosphere. Those in attendance enjoyed drinks of all kinds, an assortment of cheese and crackers and some delicious Hungarian salami and *kolbász*.

After a nice period of member fellowship, Branch President Bill Bero and I offered welcoming remarks. Everyone then enjoyed a catered lunch of salad, chicken, pasta, meat balls, vegetables and an assortment of desserts. The food was great and more than we all could eat. We then joined in singing Christmas carols using the songbooks provided by the Home Office.

Santa Claus made a surprise appearance. He carried his bag of goodies and greeted everyone on the way to his special chair next to our Christmas tree. The children came up one by one to greet him and receive their gift. The grownups also enjoyed Santa's visit. All were treated with a goody bag of WPA items and that great calendar for them to take home.

In conjunction with this event, our branch held a food collection drive. We received a huge amount of non-perishable food items from our members.

We also participated in the WPA Holiday Basket program. We used some of the donated items to make up three baskets of food and used the additional monies from the Home Office (\$50 each for three baskets) to add grocery store gift cards. This would enable the three local families that were given baskets to purchase some fresh fruits, vegetables and meats. The additional food items were donated to a local shelter and food bank for those in need.

We are happy to fulfill part of our fraternal mission and spread the holiday spirit within our community.



Next Deadline

All articles & photographs for the February issue of *William Penn Life* are due in our office by January 8. If you have any questions, please contact John E. Lovasz toll-free at 1-800-848-7366, ext. 135.

Thanks to the branch members who helped me with the planning and setup of the party, especially President Bero, Branch Secretary Sandy Stasko and Ann Ballas. They did a great job!

In all, it was a superb day. Everyone enjoyed the food, the company and sharing the holiday spirit. It was wonderful for our branch members to gather and celebrate together. Everyone looks forward to our next gathering.

Branch 14 Cleveland, OH

by Richard E. Sarosi

Boldog Új Évet Kívánok. Happy New Year 2020. We hope that all of our members and friends had a wonderful celebration and that 2020 is filled with good health, happiness, prosperity and love.

On Nov. 30, the Hungarian Association and the Árpád Academy held the 59th Magyar Bál (Hungarian Ball). It was a wonderful evening and WPA Branch 14 was recognized for its support. Branch President Caroline H. Lanzara, Branch Coordinator Violet E. Sarosi and Branch Secretary-Treasurer Richard E. Sarosi attended. The Hungarian program included the awarding of the Árpád Gold Medal, the Árpád Association Honorary Certificate and the Dr. Emory Ladányi Foundation Art Competition winners. It was an evening of Hungarian heritage, innovation and scholars.

Branch 14's "Breakfast with Santa" was held Dec. 7 in the Bethlen Hall of The First Hungarian Reformed Church. Details of the breakfast will be in next month's branch report.

WPA Holiday Baskets were also to be handled later in the month of December.

Branch 14 meetings are held in the Bethlen Hall of The First Hungarian Reformed Church, 14530 Alexander Road, Walton Hills. Branch 14 adult members and adult guests are welcome to attend. Upcoming meetings will be held on Wednesday, March 4, and Wednesday, April 1. Both meetings start at 7:00 p.m.

The calendar of Hungarian activities in the Cleveland area for 2020 is being prepared. Always check your *William Penn Life* for the latest information on WPA events and programs as well as events and happenings in the American Hungarian community.

Please support and make donations to the churches, clubs and organizations in your local communities that still continue our Hungarian customs, activities, traditions, music and food. It is equally important to attend these functions with open wallets. If these events no longer take place, it is because you failed to support them. Once we lose these events, which our ancestors brought to America and taught us about our rich Hungarian Heritage, we cannot get them back.

The William Penn Fraternal Association Scholarship Foundation also needs your support. If you or your child was a recipient of the WPA scholarship, please continue to make donations to the Scholarship Foundation. Pay it forward! It is a gift that makes a difference and keeps giving.

We want to remember those WPA members who have passed away or may have recently lost a loved one. We extend our deepest sympathy

to the family of Branch 14 member Gladys Uveges, who passed away on Nov. 25, 2019. Gladys attended and supported many WPA and Branch 14 activities. May she and all our recently departed members rest in peace.

Get well wishes are being sent to all Branch 14 and WPA members, as well as our friends, who might be dealing with health issues. We send get well wishes to Alan Varga, John Toth and Sonny Tollas Jr. Please keep all of our WPA members in your prayers and thoughts.

Happy birthday and happy anniversary wishes are being sent out to all of our branch members, Home Office staff and WPA members who are celebrating a January/February birthday and/or anniversary. Happy birthday to my dad, Ernie, who celebrates his birthday in January. May our members be blessed with many more celebrations.

As always, please remember to keep in touch with someone you haven't seen or talked with in a long time. Don't let the opportunity pass you by. Pick up the phone and/or plan a visit. Also, remember those who are in the hospital, rehabilitation facilities and extended care facilities; they like to have visitors.

Branch 14 members having news to share about themselves or family members can reach me at RichSaro@att.net or at 440-248-9012.

Branch 18 Lincoln Park, MI

by Barbara A. House

Wow! I can't believe we're beginning 2020. Do you remember all the talk about the year 2000?

We were very happy to see 2019 end. I know 2020 will be much better. We hope all your holidays were wonderful.

I had major back surgery on Oct. 31. After five days in the hospital, I was transferred to rehab/therapy for 22 days. I am home now but moving very slowly. I need to do a lot of thanking, so bear with me.

Thank you to Erzsi Krajcz and her wonderful family for all the visits and great food.

Thank you, Krisztina; I love you a lot.



Young members attending the annual family Christmas party hosted by Branch 18 participate in one of the party's many fun activities.

Thank you to The Rhapsody restaurant for tons of food and calls.

Thank you, Carol Truesdell, Ursula and Tamás Markovits, Linda Enyedy and Judy Schonek for all the presents, food and visits.

Thank you, Joey and Wanda Gall, for the gorgeous, huge roses.

Thank you to all for the many phone calls and tons of cards.

Most of all, thank you, Tommy, for running back and forth a zillion times.

If I forgot someone, please forgive me. I appreciate everyone's thoughtfulness and kindness.

Since 1993, I have not missed one WPA Branch 18 Christmas party. I missed our party this past November, but all reports say it was wonderful. Thank you to the branch officers and members for going above and beyond. This party was bigger than the previous year's. Thank you all for such a great job.

Remember our deceased members and their families in your prayers, especially Michael Shoemaker and Theresa Strahota. May they rest in peace.

Happy birthday to all those celebrating their special day this month.

We send out get well wishes to all those members and friends not feeling well.

If all went according to plan, I will be in Florida as you read this, but I will be back home on Jan. 25.

You can always reach me at 313-418-5572.

I plan on attending the White Rose Ball in February. I hope you

are, too.

Our branch is in recess for the winter. Our meetings will resume in April.

Have a safe and happy winter!

Branch 27 Toledo, OH

by Paula Bodnar

Sure hope everyone had a happy, fun-filled holiday season with all your family and friends.

Here we are, starting a new year. Just want to remind everyone to make sure your beneficiaries are all up-to-date along with any address changes.

Our next branch meeting will be held Saturday, Jan. 11, at 1:00 p.m. at American Table.

Branch 28 Youngstown, OH

by Kathy Novak

Happy 2020! Wishing everyone a wonderful, healthy and prosperous new year.

Thanks so much to the Home Office for its support of Branch 28's annual family Christmas party on Dec. 7. Our party was held after the deadline for this issue, so all the details will be in the next issue along with the names of the holiday/scholarship raffle winners.

Our branch made donations to several local charitable organizations during the holiday season. We thank WPA for promoting its



Santa and Mrs. Claus enjoyed meeting the young members of Branch 28 during the branch's annual family Christmas party.

Holiday Basket program and assisting the branches with the donations made.

This past Thanksgiving, vesper services were held at Rockview Christian Community Church with the local Hungarian churches gathering together. There was a very nice group in attendance, including many Branch 28 members.

We look forward to the various activities being planned for 2020 where WPA members can gather and share the spirit of fraternalism within our Association.

Just a reminder: the application rules and form for this year's WPA scholarship grants for all those planning to attend college this fall can be found in this issue and on WPA's website at www.wpalife.org.

Best wishes to all those celebrating a birthday or an anniversary this month.

Healing thoughts and prayers are extended to all those experiencing health issues, especially Branch 28 President Frank Schauer, Branch 28 Vice President Sonny Tollas, John Toth, Ernie Sarosi, Dora McKinsey, Barbara House, Marie McBride, Jeff Toth, Shelley Toth, Theresa Ference, Sue Breznai, Irene Devlin, Margaret Maty and Jim Robertson.

Deepest sympathy to all those who have recently lost a loved one.

Please keep me informed of any news you may wish to share.

For your life insurance and annuity needs, please call me at 330-746-7704 or Alan at 330-482-9994.

On a personal note, I would like

to thank the delegates of WPA's recent General Convention for reelecting me to WPA's Board of Directors. I am also very honored and grateful to have been chosen by my fellow Board members to serve as the Chair of the Board. As the saying goes, "it takes a village." This is so true for the WPA. It takes a combined effort of many people to move our great Association into the future. It's with the support of the membership and guidance of the Board of Directors and the National Officers that we will keep WPA a strong, vital and growing Association.

I thank everyone for their words of encouragement and support as I look forward to serving and promoting WPA.

Branch 34 Pittsburgh, PA

by Marguerite McNelis

Well, 2019 has come and gone. We at Branch 34 hope everyone had a blessed Christmas and wish everyone a happy, healthy new year. Please take a moment to pray for our service men and women, especially those in harm's way.

Our annual family Christmas party, held jointly with Branch 352, took place on Nov. 24 at the Sports Haven Bowl. We had good weather and a great turn out again. Thanks go out to everyone who attended. Everyone, including the adults, enjoyed bowling, the raffle, pizza, hot dogs and cookies. The expression on the children's faces when Santa

stopped by and knew their names was priceless. Thank you, Santa! Hope it didn't take you too long to make it back to the North Pole.

Thank you, Branch 352, for all the help every year. We couldn't do it without you! We would definitely like to thank the Board of Directors and Home Office staff for helping to make the holiday season always enjoyable for our young members. We received quite a few compliments from the children and adults who attended.

We received a very nice letter from Mr. Kreisel letting us know that this was the first time he and his family attended our party and how impressed they were. We at Branches 34 and 352 really appreciate you and your family coming, and we hope to see you next year!

A special "Happy Birthday" to long time branch member Mary Szabo. Mary turned 100 years young! May you have many more.

We would also like to extend happy birthday wishes to all branch members celebrating their birthdays. *Boldog születésnapot.* May you all have a great year.

If you have any news you would like to share, please contact Marguerite McNelis at 412-421-6031.

Branch 44 Akron, OH

by Marilyn Darago

Our branch's family holiday party Dec. 7 entertained 51 Branch 44 party goers. Juvenile members eagerly awaited Santa's arrival and told the Jolly Old Elf all their Christmas wishes. Elves Elek and Ilona added a festive touch to the gift giving. All the young members received an age-appropriate gift and a \$5 McDonald's gift card which came from the Home Office. Thanks, WPA!

No one went away hungry from the breakfast buffet, and all sang heartily as Elf Elek led the group in song.

Young members did a lot at the party: ferrying canned goods to the cars for sorting into food baskets, giving out goodie bags and distributing raffle prizes to the winners. Amier Jooma helped Elek the Elf call out the numbers of the raffle tickets.



Members of Branch 51 gathered Dec. 1 for the branch's annual family Christmas party.

Way to go, guys!

Adult members all received a six-inch poinsettia plant as they departed.

Thanks to those who assembled the goodie bags (Cheryl and Gil Stadler), to the raffle table collectors and gift wrappers (Jean and George Naswadi), to the "bankers" (Alex Darago and Carmen Buck) and to the food basket collector and maker (Kim Confer).

Among our guests were sales agents Alan Szabo and Mark Sowick, either of whom would be happy to discuss your life insurance and annuity needs.

Our members voted to have our next party at the Golden Corral Buffet in 2020. We hope to see you all again then, if not sooner!

Branch 51 Passaic, NJ

by Christine Baldyga

Branch 51 held its annual family Christmas party on Dec. 1. That day, our area was hit with its first winter storm of the season, yet branch members were still eager to brave the snow and get together.

Everyone enjoyed the food and fellowship and had a very nice afternoon. We want to thank the WPA Home Office and Board of Directors for their financial support and for gift items that they sent to help make a very delightful Christmas party.

We are pleased to report that our branch distributed four Holiday Baskets to families who are less

fortunate. The baskets helped to brighten their Thanksgiving. We are grateful that WPA continues to support the Holiday Basket program.

Our branch will host a memorial Mass for deceased members at St. Stephen's Roman Catholic Magyar Church in Passaic, N.J., on Sunday,

March 15, at 9:00 a.m. We will also hold our annual food collection on the same day, with all donations being provided to the Interfaith food pantry.

Wishing good health and happiness to everyone in 2020.

Branch 89 Homestead, PA

by Lisa S. Toth-Maskariniec

Branch 89 hopes everyone is faring well during these cold months of winter. Cheer up; it won't be long before the sun is out and we're complaining about how hot it is.

Get well wishes continue to go out to Branch Vice President Mark S. Maskariniec after his bout with Graves Disease. We look forward to the time when your vision will be back to 100%.

Special get well wishes go to members and friends Jim Findlay, Irene Gyongyosy, Colleen Wroblewski, Rudy and Janet Phillips and Dianne and Bob Schneider. Get better. We need to see all of you up and around.

We still have authentic *kolbász* and hot sausage for sale, and yes, we will ship. Call Mark or me at 412-872-5022 (leave a message if we're not there) or leave a message on the church's voice mail at 412-461-1184. We do get your messages. If you don't want to leave a phone message, email me at tothmaskariniec@gmail.com. We have set up a Fed Ex account to handle shipping.

As this was being written, we were eagerly anticipating our branch's annual Christmas party on

Dec. 14. We sure hope Santa made it. He, Mike the Balloon Guy and Cosmic Bowling were all arranged for the children's enjoyment and entertainment. In addition, Brunswick Playmor Bowl was to give each person in attendance \$15 in game play for their various games for those not wanting to participate in Cosmic Bowling. See next month's branch report for pictures of our party. Each year we get more and more people, and this year was to be no different.

Our Branch President, John Toth, was planning to be in attendance. Don't worry, John, the time will come when you are motoring around upright and wheelchair-free.

Plans are under way for another Chef's Tasting at the Rock Run Inn at Butler's Golf Course. This one will transport us to Mardi Gras in New Orleans. Price will be \$30 per person and will include wine and a complete meal. We are debating whether to have the chef's tasting on a Friday or Saturday evening or after church on Sunday. Any opinions? If any of you have been to any of the previous chef tastings at Butler's, you know you won't be disappointed. Chef Al would like to have this one before Mark's eye surgery. Call me for further details.

Birthday greetings go out to branch member Justin Toth on his upcoming birthday on Jan. 3. May you have many more happy, healthy and wonderful birthdays.

Let's not forget, we still gather for Hungarian Night at Dorothy 6 Blast Furnace Café in Homestead the last Friday of the month. Come enjoy a wonderful meal and bask in a relaxing atmosphere with music provided by George Batyi and his orchestra.

Branch 89 sends wishes to everyone for a very safe, happy and healthy new year. May the new year bring everyone great health and prosperity. Let's stop and think a minute of those members, relatives and friends who are no longer with us. They may be gone, but their spirit will always carry on.

Take care and do something nice for someone. Remember, it takes less energy to smile and have a positive attitude than be negative...and you will feel better doing so.

Branch 129 Columbus, OH

by Debbie Lewis

Welcome 2020! We wish everyone a Happy New Year. May you all be blessed with good health and happiness throughout 2020. As this year begins, remember to reach out to people you have not been in contact with; maybe you can call them, or better yet, pay them a visit.

We hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas shared with family and friends.

We welcome our newest members: Larry Anderson, Dwain Berry and Jackaleen Washburn.

We will be having our first branch meeting of the new year in March. We will send out the date, location and time next month.

The Hungarian Cultural Association will host a Soup & Learn Program on the Treaty of Trianon on Sunday, Jan. 12, starting at 11:30 a.m., at St. Ladislav Church, located at 277 Reeb Ave., Columbus.

We congratulate all those celebrating birthdays, anniversaries and additions to their families.

Get well wishes go out to all who have been ill or hospitalized, especially Branch Secretary Margaret Leonardo. We hope all have a speedy recovery.

We also extend our sincere sympathy to all who have recently lost a loved one, especially to the family of branch member Edward J. Kennedy. Please keep all in your prayers.

For all your life insurance and annuity needs, or if you have any news you would like to share, please contact Debbie Lewis at 614-875-9968 or email DAL9968@aol.com.

Branch 132 South Bend, IN

by John E. Burus

As we look forward to a new year in 2020, it is my sincere hope that all had a memorable 2019 with family and friends.

Winter is here, and I cannot wait for the warmer weather.

The Christmas party had a good turnout and fun was had by all as we shared a meal and passed out



Members of Branch 132 enjoyed the branch's annual family Christmas party in December.

small gifts for the children. It is so nice to see members getting together for the holidays.

Branch 132 donated three Holiday Baskets this year. The Holiday Basket program is an excellent program as so many are in need these days. It is such a joy to see these donations go to folks who don't always know where their next meal is coming from. We are very proud to be a part of the program and encourage all branches to participate.

The next Branch 132 meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 3, at the Martin's Supermarket Deli Erskine Plaza (first floor) on Ireland Road, South Bend, at 5:00 p.m. Martin's has redecorated quite a bit so we may have to adjust a bit, but we will make it work. We will begin planning the 2020 summer picnic.

Branch 189 Alliance, OH

by Rhonda Mobley

Happy New Year and greetings from Branch 189 in Alliance, Ohio. We hope you and yours had a magical and memorable holiday season! Now, it's time to start a new year and new decade on a fresh note. It's a wonderful time to reflect back on this last decade as well. I personally

think the last 10 years were some of the hardest in my life but also some of the most precious. Here's wishing you all a blessed 2020!!

On Nov. 27, we held our annual Thanksgiving feast. It has become our annual tradition to host a free holiday dinner to all our members the day before Thanksgiving. We enjoyed turkey, ham, stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, noodles, green bean casserole, sweet potatoes, corn, cranberry sauce, rolls, etc. Wow! And the desserts...you cannot even imagine. The entire meal was absolutely delicious.

Special thanks to our DJ and all who helped shop, cook and clean up. Extra special thanks to Judy Catlett, Tara Vargovic and Stef Haberland who made and donated all our yummy desserts. You did an amazing job ladies, from traditional pumpkin pie to cheese cake and cookie trays too beautiful to eat.

With over 75 people in attendance, we had something for everyone to enjoy. If you couldn't make it this year, remember us for next year. We promise good food and fun.

As I write this column, neither of our Christmas or New Year's Eve parties have taken place. I promise to catch you up on all of the excitement next month.

Mark your calendar for Friday,



One of the delicious homemade cookie trays served at Branch 189's annual pre-Thanksgiving dinner for members.

Jan. 17, for our steak and fish fry. It's always a good time and great food, plus a wonderful way to get out of the house this winter.

Finally, I would like to remember two of our members we lost in 2019, Shelly Melaney and Mark Smith. Both hugely missed and both gone too soon. Thank you both for all the memories. Our thoughts and prayers continue for your families.

Until next month, peace to all!

Branch 226 McKeesport, PA

by Judit Ganchuk

We hope everyone had a good holiday season. Cheers to the New Year!

We wish happy birthday and happy anniversary to all who celebrate this month.

Congrats to member and past WPA scholarship recipient Nicholas Ferraro, who now has a Ph.D. in biochemistry from Duquesne University. Way to go!

Greetings and welcome to new members Arabella and Caiden!

Get well wishes to Branch Vice President Janet Sparico, Branch Auditor June Coyne and my mother, Judit Borsay, who was in the hospital last month. We're happy to hear Chris Myers is doing better. To all those under the weather, there's only one you--take care of yourself.

We offer condolences to the families and friends of Frances E. Moore and Michelle Roka who have passed away. Please keep them and all of our members who have lost a loved one in your prayers.



Young members of Branch 226 welcome Santa to the branch's annual family Christmas party.

Our branch's Christmas party was a hit, thanks to the branch officers' hard work and goodies from the Home Office. We thank Jahinie the Magician and his magical critters. This year, all the kids got a balloon, too. The food was delicious, and the kids enjoyed the paint-your-own Christmas tree ornaments. The biggest and best surprise was saved for last: a visit from Santa. Santa met each and every child, gave out goody bags and took pictures with many of the families--what a holiday treat!

Have you moved in the past year? Have your beneficiaries moved? Do you need more coverage? Are members of your family covered with us? Share WPA with family and friends in the new year. Make sure they have coverage!

We wish you and your family's New Year be filled with joy and good health!

Branch 249 Dayton, OH

by Mark Schmidt

When I send these articles to John at the Home Office for *William Penn Life*, I title them with the branch name, month and year. And there it was, staring me in the face: January 2020. What the heck? Where did the year go? Are you kidding me? 2020? As ridiculous as it seems, we have blown through another year. But,



Branch 226 member and past WPA scholarship recipient Nicholas Ferraro poses with his parents after receiving his Ph.D. in biochemistry from Duquesne University.

what a great month December was to cap off 2019.

In Dayton, the Magyar Club held its annual Christmas dinner, and although Anne Marie and I couldn't be there because of a trip to Pittsburgh, we heard all had a great time and ate way too much delicious food. Same for Anne Marie and me in Pittsburgh.

Then, we scurried home for the Branch 249 Christmas party. Our branch party was held at the American-Czech Club on Dec. 8 at noon. The kids sang Jingle Bells to summon Santa and Mrs. Claus, and the song worked its magic as the pair magically appeared from the North Pole. We then invited the fes-



Santa Claus greets young members at the annual Branch 296 family Christmas party.



Branch 249 donated three Holiday Baskets to Queen of Martyrs Church in Dayton for distribution to families affected by last year's tornadoes. Pictured are Branch President Mark Schmidt, Vice Chair of the WPA Board Anne Marie Schmidt (right) and Charlotte Minnelli, who's in charge of the Giving Tree program at the church.

tive couple to lunch with us, and we all enjoyed fried chicken, Hungarian kolbász, mac-n-cheese, ramen noodle salad and Christmas cookies. Santa got even jollier, and Mrs. Claus was grateful she didn't have to cook, so she read the story "Twas the Night before Christmas."

The kids were enchanted as she read the story, and when it was finished, they lined up to tell the Jolly Ol' Elf their wishes for Christmas. Some rattled off a list as long as their arm, while others were in such

awe of the old gent that they could barely be heard. Presents from Branch 249, the WPA Home Office and Santa were passed out, and a wonderful time was had by all.

Even with the warmth and good will at the Christmas party, we couldn't help but remember those in the Dayton area still hurting from the 15 tornadoes of Memorial Day. Hundreds of families are still not back in their homes and are still repairing the damage from the storms. So, Branch 249 decided to donate three baskets of Christmas meals to Queen of Martyrs Church so they could be given to families affected by the storm. The church was smack in the middle of a 15-mile long F4 tornado; but even after losing the roof on their

hall, many windows, part of their school, a bell tower and power for a week, the church managed to stay open and minister to the devastated neighborhood.

A big thank you goes to the Home Office for giving funds to the branches so our baskets could help families even more. Fraternal and Christmas spirit at its best.

Happy birthday to the January birthday bunch and Happy Anniversary to those who started the year off with a bang.

We extend our sympathy to those who have lost a loved one. It's never easy to grieve someone who has passed, but it's especially tough this time of year. We have you in our thoughts and prayers.

Our next Branch 249 meeting is Jan. 18 at noon at the new downtown Dayton Public Library, 215 E. Third St. We will be going over 2020 activities and the audit of 2019 finances.

Please contact me at 937-938-0198 or amschmidt@msn.com with any news for this article.

And in this new year, may your right hand always be stretched out in friendship, never in want.

Branch 296 Springdale, PA

by Mary A. Kelly-Lovasz

And the second decade of the 21st Century begins. Welcome to 2020, everyone. We open our minds and hearts to new friendships, opportunities and whatever lies ahead.

First of all, in 2019, Branch 296 member Alexander Jozsa Bodnar was honored by the Pittsburgh City Council and the Heinz Foundation with a proclamation honoring his Jozsa Corner restaurant in the Hazelwood section of Pittsburgh. Alex, this honor is well-deserved. You are an extraordinary graphic artist, an outstanding artist in the Hungarian culinary arts, a community leader and icon. You have honored the Magyar spirit that you brought to the United States in 1956. Congratulations, Alex!

Our family Christmas party was a rousing success. While we enjoyed one another's company, we also noticed several new faces, and we want you to keep coming back.

Our party was held a bit earlier than normal, but we certainly had no shortage of Christmas cheer. We were surrounded by enthusiastic children and their families who awaited the arrival of our guest of honor, Santa Claus, and they were not disappointed.

The Springdale VFW Hall was once again a terrific venue as we welcomed 100 guests. Mrs. Claus was her lively and playful self, providing magical entertainment and

coaxing both children and adults to join in her antics, with her bubbly sense of humor. After Mrs. Claus led the children and several parents on a boisterous musical march around the hall, her wonderful hubby, Santa, burst into the room. Santa greeted every single guest with a handshake or a warm hug.

The afternoon flew by with lively conversation, a delicious catered lunch, precious time with Santa, and distribution of treat bags provided by the WPA Home Office. Every child patiently waited for their turn to speak with Santa, and they were extremely polite and smiling when they received their treat bags. After our meal, branch member Diana Borland brought out Christmas ornament crafts that many of the children happily created. This activity added a new dimension to our party. That was a great idea, Diana!

I also need to acknowledge the thoughtfulness of all of the contributions to our annual food drive. Donations were given to the Lower Valley Food Ministries, servicing the areas of Cheswick, Harmar, Harwick and Springdale. Thank you, one and all for your outpouring of kindness with your food and non-perishable items donations.

Much time and effort was spent to make this possible, and we thank the WPA Home Office, Diane and John Torma, Marge Kosheba and Toni Kosheba, Noreen Fritz, John Lovasz, Leanne Lovasz, Helen Slaninka, Mary Ann Slaninka, Diana Borland, Maxine Pusateri, Diane Baranowski, Angela Misera, Georgene Pastura and Kim Bonifield. What a fabulous crew!

Are you a new or newer member? Branch 296 welcomes you. Fraternalism is defined as a spirit of mutual support. WPA thrives on member participation. We're always looking for fresh ideas and encourage you to attend our meetings and join us for events. Our meetings never run too long, and we always end it with dessert or a tuna melt or sometimes a baked potato. After a winter break, our meetings will resume in March.

Contact me at 724-274-5318 or by email at makelly367@verizon.net if you have any news or personal milestones to share.

Noreen Fritz, FIC, LUTCF is our



Local vets joined Branch 336 at the Verhovay Home Association for a Veterans Day tribute.

Energizer Bunny of an agent. She is ready to sprint into 2020 addressing your life insurance and annuity needs and can be reached at noreen.fritz@comcast.net or 412-821-1837.

Wishing each of you success, good health and happiness throughout 2020.

Branch 336 Harrisburg, PA

by Nicole Starnier

2020 is here! But, before the new year arrived, we celebrated the end of 2019 in style with lots of events for our members and their families.

November was a blast with lots of great activities, including a tribute to our veterans.

Then, in December, we geared up for the holidays.

On Dec. 8, Santa Claus came to surprise the children at our annual Christmas party. We had crafts, games, food and gifts for each child who attended.

A few days later, we were to gather at the club to sing Christmas songs. Ryan (the club's multi talented bartender) was scheduled to play the keyboard as we all sang along to our favorite Christmas songs. The kitchen was open with a food special available.

On Dec. 15, we gathered for our annual adult Christmas Party with Cornwallace on stage.

And, we had big plans for New Year's Eve with the Citations on stage at the club.

Get well wishes to all who have been or are under the weather. We hope you have a speedy recovery.

We extend our deepest sympathy to all who have recently lost a loved one.

Come join us at the club. There is something happening most days of the week. Every Monday we enjoy the wing special from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. On Wednesdays we hold a Texas Hold'em tournament starting at 7:30 p.m. with no buy-in and prizes for first and second place winners. On Thursdays we have a dart tournament that starts at 7:00 p.m. On Fridays everyone is throwing bags during our cornhole tournament. We do a blind draw for partners and just have a great time together. Games start at 7:30 p.m. Then, it's time to yell "bingo" every Sunday starting at 2:00 p.m. with dinner specials.

If you have anything you'd like to share or would like to receive our weekly email updates, please contact Nicole Starnier at verhovayhomeassn@gmail.com.

Branch 349 Weirton, WV

by Joyce Nicholson

Happy New Year to you and yours! As we celebrate the start of 2020, I wish everyone success, a healthy long life and a fresh new start in this new year. Remember, it's not the destination, it's the journey. So have a blessed year full of peace, laughter, prosperity, and fun. You can always



Santa and children from Branch 349 have some fun during the branch's annual family Christmas party.



One of Santa's first stops on his tour of WPA Christmas parties was to visit young members of Branches 34 and 352 during a party hosted jointly by both branches.

find laughter and fun at any WPA event. Make this year the year you join in your branch activities, projects or meetings.

Our branch Christmas party was held at Zalenski's Family Eatery & Pub in Wintersville. It was a new location with a separate banquet room where we could "party on." Santa arrived hungry to the party in good time to enjoy his breakfast before people arrived. Everyone grabbed a bite to eat and enjoyed their morning feast of fun before heading out to Christmas shop for the day. Children received a treat bag and prizes from William Penn Association.

If you like the symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony has two concerts this season featuring Hungarian composers: *Boléro!* Jan. 17 to 19 with works by Bartók and Liszt, then on March 27 and 29 the symphony will perform *Petrushka!* with works by Kodály and Bartók.

Wishes for a great day go to all celebrating birthdays or anniversaries in January.

Welcome to all the new branch 349 members.

Continued get well wishes go to Dora McKinsey, Jim Robertson, Ernie Sarosi and John S. Toth.

Condolences to the family of Julia Ann Saus who recently passed.

And to all WPA members, their families and everyone in the William Penn Association Home Office, our

sincere wish for a happy and healthy new year!

This month's interesting fact: Will Smith, who recently visited Hungary to promote his new film, *Gemini Man*, promoted the famous Széchenyi Baths in Budapest on ABC's *Good Morning America* on Oct. 4. The film was partially shot in Budapest and features several major sights of the Hungarian capital, including Heroes' Square, Széchenyi Bath and Buda Castle. The film is about an over-the-hill hitman who faces off against a younger clone of himself. Smith plays both roles, a tiring feat. So, he needed the healing waters of the thermal spa to assist in his rejuvenation!

You can call on Alan Szabo for all your insurance needs at 330-482-9994.

For information about our branch activities, please call Joyce Nicholson at 740-264-6238. If you have any news to share, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Branch 352 Coraopolis, PA

by Dora S. McKinsey

Happy New Year to all! May the new year hold much hope, happiness and good health for us all. I hope all of you had a very Merry Christmas spent with family and friends.

The thrill of the holiday season is now behind us. For us in Pittsburgh, the cold weather is here, and we must get through the winter as best we can. We hold onto the hope that spring will arrive sooner rather than later.

Our branch Christmas party was held on Nov. 24 in conjunction with Branch 34. Once again, good food and fellowship was enjoyed by all who attended. Hope you make this a part of your annual holiday tradition. Santa made his annual appearance and was once again the hit of the party. The look of pure joy on the faces of the children was priceless.

Thank you to the WPA Home Office for supplying the gift items for the children and for their generous financial support. It is through the support of WPA that we can offer this wonderful fraternal event for our members.

We requested that attendees bring nonperishable food items to be distributed to a food bank. Many thanks to all those who brought food donations to the party. Such a small gesture can mean so much to so many.

Please remember to report any community volunteer work you perform so that we can share it here in *William Penn Life*.

Happy birthday to all those celebrating a birthday this month. May

Branch News

you be blessed with many more and may all of them be healthy.

Remember those feeling under the weather. Maybe you can help make their day a little bit better by offering to take them to a doctor's appointment or make a trip to the grocery store for them.

Remember in your prayers all of the servicemen and women serving away from home. Pray that they return home soon unharmed.

If you have any news to share or have any questions about life insurance or annuities, please contact me at 412-932-3170 or by e-mail at dmckinsey@hotmail.com. WPA offers some of the most competitive insurance plans and premiums in the industry. We have special plans for people of all ages, young and old.

NEXT DEADLINE: JAN. 8

Branch 800 Altoona, PA

by Joan Ballash

Happy, blessed and prosperous 2020! If you made New Year's resolutions, we hope they are sustainable.

A very big thank you to the Home Office for providing many items for the Christmas party (calendars, songbooks, etc.) as well as a classy invitation. There will be more about this event in next month's issue.

Happy birthday and many more to Branch Auditor John Conti. At 92 years young, you are a model for everyone.

Parents and grandparents, please pay special attention to the WPFA Scholarship Foundation application and related materials in this issue to determine if your child or grandchild is eligible to apply for a

2020/21 grant.

For those who might be weary of the cold weather and being indoors, why not become a volunteer? Hospitals, schools and food pantries are often looking for assistance. Our branch officers are members of groups such as the Lions Club, Kiwanis, Knights of Columbus, Catholic Daughters, church ministries and veterans facilities. Volunteering will enrich your life and the lives of others.

Get well wishes are extended to all who are in ill health. We hope you are receiving excellent care and feeling better very soon.

Our condolences to the families and friends of William J. Boslet and Sarah B. Payne. You are in our prayers.

If you have questions about the WPA scholarships, life insurance or annuities, call Bob Jones at 814-942-2661.

In Memoriam

We ask you to pray for all our recently departed members listed here:

NOVEMBER 2019

- 0001 BRIDGEPORT, CT
Faith Vertefeuille
- 0013 TRENTON, NJ
Patricia M. Black
Eileen P. Smith
- 0014 CLEVELAND, OH
Stephen E. Prescott
Joseph Toth
- 0015 CHICAGO, IL
Robert H. Freebeck

- Ella Lippia
- 0016 PERTH AMBOY, NJ
Michalina Yanevich
- 0018 LINCOLN PARK, MI
Michael C. Shoemaker
Theresa Strahota
- 0024 CHICAGO, IL
Shirley M. Yahl
- 0028 YOUNGSTOWN, OH
Kelly L. Kuhn
- 0051 PASSAIC, NJ
Agnes Bess
Dolores Brown Johnson

- 0088 RURAL VALLEY, PA
Charlotte Gwizdak
Lillian E. Moore
- 0226 McKEESPORT, PA
Frances E. Moore
- 0296 SPRINGDALE, PA
Harry R. Stadelmyer
Brian W. Underwood
- 0349 WEIRTON, WV
Craig Glasure
Thomas P. Lesnick
Amelio Saggio
- 0352 CORAOPOLIS, PA
William R. Werling

- Danae M. Woods
- 0525 LOS ANGELES, CA
Steve Kassay
- 0705 MAYVILLE, WI
Eileen M. Maikowski
- 0720 DEDHAM, MA
Rita A. Kustra
Angelo P. Masotta
Jackoline L. Scovil
- 0800 ALTOONA, PA
William Kormos
- 8340 BALTIMORE, MD
Althea E. Battle

WPFA Scholarship Foundation Donations

Donations Through Premium Payments NOVEMBER 2019

- Branch - Donor - Amount**
- 1 - Oswald Walker - \$2.80
- 8 - Heather L. Groshans - \$8.60
- 8 - Jason A. Behory - \$10.00
- 13 - John P. Cook Jr. - \$10.00
- 18 - Nancy L. Willim - \$10.00
- 19 - Ethel Dudas - \$4.20
- 28 - Edward J. Crump Jr. - \$5.00
- 28 - Frank Schauer - \$5.00
- 34 - John R. O'Toole - \$20.00

- 89 - Nicholas P. Skillpa - \$25.00
- 89 - Tracy B. Findlay - \$3.06
- 129 - Loretta J. Anderson - \$1.25
- 159 - William Scherfel IV - \$1.71
- 226 - Timothy R. Holtzman - \$1.40
- 226 - Rev. Dr. Daniel J. Borsay - \$25.00
- 296 - Jay A. Blizman - \$5.00
- TOTAL for Month = \$138.02**

Additional Donations NOVEMBER 2019

- Donor - Amount**
- James & Marlene Farley - \$50.00
- Otto Kovacsics - \$25.00

- Luke L. Murphy - \$25.00
- WPA Cookbook Sales - \$330.00
- TOTAL for Month = \$430.00**

Donations In Memoriam NOVEMBER 2019

- Donor - Amount
(In Memory of)**
- Diana McDonald - \$300.00
(John & Margaret Balint)
- Richard E. Sarosi - \$25.00
(Doug Truesdell)
- TOTAL for Month = \$325.00**

Donations Received From 39th General Convention Received as of November 30, 2019

- Donor - Amount
(In Memory of, if applicable)**
- Bob & Maria Bisceglia - \$100.00
(Our Mothers, Ann Bisceglia & Val Sterling)
- David S. Kozak - \$100.00
- Ralph Manning - \$250.00
(My Beloved Sister, Mary Reis)
- TOTAL for Month = \$450.00**



A Hungarian wine that truly sparkles

Happy New Year and welcome to 2020! I hope you had a wonderful Christmas holiday and an exciting New Year's celebration.

Millions of people around the globe ring in the new year with music, parties and, since it is a celebration, sparkling wine. While planning my own New Year's festivities, I was interested to see what kind of Hungarian sparkling wines were available.

(Quick lesson in wine terminology: all champagne is sparkling wine, but not all sparkling wine is champagne. To be called "champagne," it must be produced in the Champagne region of France and be made with specific varieties of grapes.)

After a quick Google search, I found a critically acclaimed Hungarian sparkling wine produced by Kreinbacher Vineyard. This month, I am excited to share with you information about the Kreinbacher Vineyard, and the prestigious award that they have won!

Kreinbacher Vineyards is nestled in Somló, Hungary. The entire estate covers almost 40 hectares, and has gorgeous views of rolling hills covered in vine terraces. At the 2019 Decanter World Wine Awards, the Kreinbacher Brut Classic took home a gold award. Master sommeliers and wine tasters from over 30 countries sampled and judged the Kreinbacher Brut. They enjoyed the fruity notes and citrus aroma of this chardonnay/furmint blend, and awarded the drink 96 points, meaning that the Brut Classic achieved an "excellent" rating.

The January 2020 word search is comprised of 12 clues. In case you are wondering where you can obtain this award winning beverage, I found several online wine stores that ship and sell in the United States. Happy New year, Boldog új évet 2020!

Puzzle Contest #171 WINNERS

The winners of our Puzzle Contest #171 were drawn Nov. 6, 2019, at the Home Office. Congratulations to:

Francis M. Cser, Br. 27 Toledo, OH
Lawrence G. Kereky, Br. 14 Cleveland, OH
Linda K. Rice, Br. 51 Passaic, NJ
Carmela M. Tempero, Br. 8036 Scottdale, PA

Each won \$50 for their correct entry.

WPA PUZZLE CONTEST #174 OFFICIAL ENTRY

E	B	C	F	R	N	O	A	L	V	D	J	K	Y	O
A	N	R	H	M	E	M	L	O	H	Q	L	R	P	X
N	F	I	U	A	O	T	L	M	F	U	V	E	J	E
I	H	G	W	T	R	H	N	U	O	E	C	I	T	O
M	J	X	K	G	C	D	L	A	N	S	Z	N	H	U
D	E	V	A	G	N	L	O	G	C	V	L	B	C	J
T	I	R	A	E	B	I	A	N	Z	E	Z	A	B	J
R	I	G	P	O	L	P	L	S	N	U	D	C	G	S
Q	W	M	D	Z	M	B	O	K	S	A	H	H	Q	H
W	O	I	O	A	S	T	E	B	R	I	Y	E	X	H
G	E	V	H	W	A	E	O	V	K	A	C	R	V	V
D	D	C	O	P	C	V	V	Y	H	Z	P	Q	N	P
X	K	X	G	O	L	D	A	W	A	R	D	S	S	Z
F	U	R	M	I	N	T	D	R	A	Y	E	N	I	V
N	E	C	M	D	J	R	N	V	W	O	A	B	G	O

"Hungarian Sparkling Wine" Word List

Brut Classic	Full-bodied	Somló
Champagne	Furmint	Sparkling Wine
Chardonnay	Gold Award	Veszprém
Decanter	Kreinbacher	Vineyard

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

WPA Certificate No.: _____

RULES

1. ALL WPA members are eligible to enter.
2. Complete the word search puzzle correctly.
3. Mail your completed puzzle, along with your name, address, phone number, email address, and WPA Certificate Number, to:

WPA PUZZLE #174
 709 Brighton Road
 Pittsburgh, PA 15233

4. Entries must be received at the Home Office by Jan. 31, 2020.
5. Four winners will be drawn from all correct entries on or about Feb. 3, 2020, at the Home Office. Each winner will receive \$50.

Inside this issue:

PRSRT STD
US Postage
PAID
PERMIT #12
INDIANA, PA

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The life and legacy of Hungarian artist
László Moholy-Nagy...**PAGE 8.**

Our branches celebrate the holidays
in fraternal style...**PAGE 15.**



Referral Fees

\$10 to \$20

WPA Recommender Program

Earn cash rewards when you refer new members to WPA. We will pay adult members age 16 and older **\$20** for each first-time applicant they recommend who is issued any WPA permanent or term life insurance plan. You can also earn rewards for recommending new life insurance plans to current members. WPA will pay you **\$12** for each current member you recommend who is issued a new permanent life insurance plan. You can also earn **\$10** for each current member you recommend who is issued a WPA term life plan. To claim your Recommender reward, send us the names and addresses of everyone you know who would enjoy the many fraternal benefits that come with membership in WPA.
**Family of sales agents living at the same address as the agent do not qualify for a Recommender Reward.*

Please Print

WPA RECOMMENDER

Your Name: _____

Branch No.: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

WPA Representative/Agent: _____

Name of Prospective Applicant: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Mail to: Recommender, William Penn Association, 709 Brighton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15233