

ZARJA THE DAWN

URADNO GLASILO
SLOVENSKE ŽENSKE ZVEZE

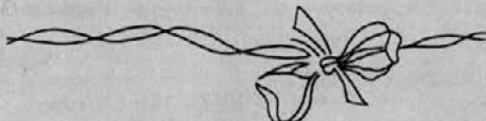


OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION

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VOLUME 53



At presstime, the release of the American Hostages in Iran is imminent, We thank God.



Sweetheart Cooks!

Our salute to two of the finest cooks in the world! They are Pauline Rupar and Mary Turk of Br. 1, Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

Not only do they prepare the best culinary treats, they are most gracious hostesses. They are seen on the photo at Pauline's home, presiding over the dining table.



Publ. House
Ljubljana

ACTIVITIES OF OUR BRANCHES

NO. 1, SHEBOYGAN, WI

The president, Ruth Sheck opened the December annual meeting with a welcome to the large attendance, followed by a prayer. In observance of the Zveza's 54th anniversary, a prayer was also recited for the deceased Founder, for the living and deceased members.

The recording secretary, Anne Modiz read the minutes followed by the secretary's reports which were approved.

The date was set for the Bake-Sale which is February 21st and 22nd, to be held in the Church Hall. Our chairman selected is Dorothy Behnke. We hope you ladies will cooperate and make this event a huge success!

Another chairman, Anne Modiz, who is in charge of the Midwest Bowling Tournament, is to be held April 4th and 5th here in Sheboygan, is hoping there will be a good number of teams bowling.

For our annual card party to be held in September, Carol Persuitti was appointed chairman assisted by Rogene Grabner.

Discussions were held for the approaching State Convention to be held, September 27th in our city.

For Officer-of-the-Year, our president, Ruth Sheck, was nominated. A motion was made and carried, all officers of Branch No. 1 remain for ensuing year 1981. We were pleased to have Father M. Sablica install the officers and we thank him for being so kind.

At the conclusion of the meeting a Christmas party was held. The tables and decorations were beautiful. The food was laden with a colorful assortment of salads, sweets, jello molds, strudels, poticas, rolls and etc. It was all very festive! Door prizes were passed out. There was a sing-a-long, accompanied by Janet Maurin and her son Paul. A big thank you to all who helped make the Christmas party a success and those who brought food and money donations.

We extend our best wishes to the ill and the convalescent in hope they have better health.

Hope to see you at the February 17th meeting at 7:30 P.M. in the Church Hall.

Happy Valentine Day to all!

MARGARET FISCHER
Reporter

NO. 2, CHICAGO, IL

Our children's Christmas Party was a success. They enjoyed the entertainment given by the clown and the gifts that Santa Claus gave them. Our kitchen committee served them goodies which the parents also enjoyed. The affair was chaired by president Maggie Hujbar and secretary, Jean Zubek. Mr. & Mrs. Morison donated a bicycle and the door prizes plus a donation of \$15. We thank you, Mr. & Mrs. Morison. Elsie Cizek was the lucky winner of the bicycle. Bo Zubek was the sponsor of the coloring contest which made a hit with the boys and girls, winners receiving prizes.

On the committee were the following ladies: Lil Putzell, Ann Mladic, Stella Gorka, Corinne Leskovar, Mary Podder, Ann Vucko, Mary Muller, Bo Zubek and Ann Scieszka.

Decorating the hall was the work of Ray Nusko along with two of his sons under the supervision of Corinne Leskovar. Helpers were Jean and Bo Zubek, Maggie Hujbar and Lud Leskovar, Jr.

On the sick list we have the following members: hospitalized were Christine Pirman, Julia Pavlin and John Hozzian, husband of our member, Anne. Recuperating at home is Josephine Mesec.

Our sympathy to Ann Bunetta and Mamie Fabian whose mother passed away in December; remember her in your prayers.

Congratulations to our young member, Debbie Zefran - she will be getting married on March 7th.

February 14th is Valentine Day so let's send a little note to a sick friend or a shut-in friend. Remembering her will be the best medicine she can receive. Hoping to have a nice turnout at the Feb. 12th meeting. Take care of yourselves and God keep you safe.

ANN SCIESZKA

NO. 6, BARBERTON, OH

Belated holiday wishes to all. PLEASE COME TO THE NEXT MEETING. Please pay up your dues plus back dues. Check your books and see how much you owe YOUR

lodge. Secretary would appreciate it if you would pay all dues to date including the increase of \$3 for 1980. There will be future meetings according to your wishes.

Your reporter, MITZI

NO. 12, MILWAUKEE, WI

The last meeting of the year proved to be a good one. We had a very laabsent due to the "flu" bug and we wish them well again and hope they will soon be back to enjoy the meetings and may the New Year be a better one us all!

Frances Plesko was back with us after successful surgery last month. She led us in the Slovenian prayers to start our meeting. Reports were all read and approved after which we went ahead with our 1981 elections. One unanimous vote was cast for all present officers to remain and it saved our limited time as we were all anxious to be ready for the hot meal. The year proved to be a good one. We had a very laabsent due to the "flu" bug and we wish them well again and hope they will soon be back to enjoy the meetings and may the New Year be a better one us all!

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Time and place for our meetings were set at the Lily Hall on the third Thursday of the month. Louise Vodnik was chosen as the 1981 Mother of the Year and a good choice it was.

Further business and discussions were tabled for January.

The hall and tables were set and decorated by Jo Wilhelm and her kind husband, Frank. They also made the table decorations were we were allowed to keep. Tillie Russ knitted Christmas booties with a candy cane in it for each of us. Gifts were exchanged and we sat down to a very plentiful dinner with wine and all the Christmas goodies donated by our usual good bakers. No one went away hungry! Most of us ended up taking some of the "goodies" home.

I was too busy collecting dues to note all who donated to our feast but you will all be credited at our next

meeting. Happy Birthday was sung to the birthday girls as well.

There were some cookies, stollen and potica left, so I went to gather it for the Nursing Home members whom we always visit for the holidays. They always appreciate home made baked goods along with the fruit we buy.

"Bud" Meier went to Sheboygan again and brought poticas and wine which he donated to our festivity in his wife's name. Anne passed away in 1978 and Bud has remembered us ever since as this is what she always did for us! We're grateful for such loyalty!

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the families of two of our older members, Rose Potocnik and Mary Rajster who passed away this month. God rest their souls! Remember them in your prayers!

Hope you all have a better year if that's possible and join us at the meetings as often as you can!

We need new members to replace all the elderly we are losing, so let's do our best to find some new members.

God love you all and take care!

MARY DEZMAN

NO. 14, EUCLID, OH

Greetings and Happy New Year wishes to all of our members! We certainly hope that all our ladies enjoyed their Christmas Holiday!

Our branch cancelled its January meeting due to the busy time for all our members and the bad weather.

On December 29 our members went to pray for deceased member, Mrs. Frances Opara who passed away December 27. Our deepest sympathies are extended to her husband, Louis and the Opara family. May she rest in peace.

Mary Strazisar and the Sunshine Committee have reported the good news that Frances Merela has become a grandmother once again by her daughter, Marianna, who had a baby girl. Congratulations to all!

Get well and speedy recovery wishes to all of our ill members.

The Mass for the Living and the Dead will take place on Ash Wednesday, March 4th at the 8:30 mass in the morning at St. Christine's Church on East 222nd Street.

Once again we'd like to wish all of you a very Happy, Healthy, Prosperous and Fulfilling New Year!

ALICE KUHAR

NO. 16, SOUTH CHICAGO, IL

The children's Christmas party was held on St. Nicholas Day, Saturday, Dec. 6th. Beverly Matushek and Mary Christine

Whalen planned the party, buying and wrapping the gifts and serving a lunch to the sixteen children with mommies and some dads, grandmas and grandpas present. Each child received a handmade Santa boot filled with candy and after a short program of movie cartoons Santa arrived with a gift for them. This year Santa was Joe Whalen who appeared to have as much fun as the children.

The adult party was held on our regular meeting night in December with over one hundred members and friends in attendance. Anna Lustig had charge of arrangements and with the help of Anita Quilici, Vi Somin and Pat Lustig prepared small fluffy white and red wreaths for each guest to wear. The table favor was an ornament in a star motif made by Sylvia Spretnjak.

Father Bonaventure was our master of ceremonies at the dinner in the lovely setting of the Villa Cosenza. He had a fine selection of jokes which soon created a jovial atmosphere. Juvenile members Sean and Timmie Monahan sang two beautiful songs for us. Also, Happy Birthday was sung for Ann Mossacchio, Ann Bublich, Agnes Krilich, Catherine Anderson, Anna Novak, Sylvia Spretnjak and Stephanie Hermanek who was ninety seven years old on December 8th. Many happy returns!

The evening ended with a sing-along. With Mary Rago at the organ and led by Father Bonnie everyone sang Christmas carols in Slovenian and English.

Best wishes for better health in the new year are sent to our sick members. They are Mary Borota, Anna Buck, Jean Franko, Frances Grotkowski, Frances Haffner, Lena Kafka, Mary Primozić, Katie Triller, Frances Wine and Zora Yurkus.

We had no meeting in January but will meet again on February 12th.

MARGARET SPRETNJAK,
Reporter

NO. 20, JOLIET, IL

On Saturday January 3, 1981 we bid farewell to our member Frances Gaspich. Frances was secretary of the Branch for 21 years, from 1946 to 1967, served on the National Board as auditor from 1961 to 1967 and was secretary of the Joliet Bowling League for many years. We who worked side by side with Frances have fond memories of her dedication and love for the Slovenian Women's Union. To her bereaved family we extend our sympathies especially to sister-in-law, Mary Gaspich and niece Marlene Gaspich.

Sympathies to Millie Ellena on the

death of her Mother-in-law.

Get well wishes to Jo Sumic and Mary Gerl.

Congratulations to Marge and Chuck Franze on the recent marriage of their son Charles.

Final reminder — all members who pay their 1981 dues by March 1st are eligible for a **year free dues**.

On a 3 month trial basis, our monthly meetings will be held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 P.M. It is hoped that more members will attend our evening meetings as Sunday afternoons are usually spent doing family projects. Our **first evening meeting** will be **Tuesday, March 17**.

Irene Planinsek Ordorizzi, member of the Washington Branch attended our Christmas meeting along with her mother, President Emma Planinsek and sister, Bertha Hofer. At this time she gave a brief report on the development of the Heritage Program.

My husband, Joe and I had a surprise visit from Irene and her husband, Ken during their stay in Joliet. (It's so nice to have visitors when you can't get out — the evenings are so long.) We wish Irene a belated Happy Birthday on the Feast of Three Kings, Jan. 6th.

Our annual donations were forwarded to the Recording of the Blind Center, American Cancer Society and St. Joseph's Church.

After 22 years of faithful service as Sergeant-of-arms Theresa Muhich no longer wished to hold office. At this time we again thank you Theresa for all the years you gave to the Branch. Your devoted spirit will not be forgotten. Theresa promised that she will come to our meetings often and help whenever possible.

Helen Zadel Pluth missed winning the cash door prize of \$16.00 at the December meeting.

1981 officers were installed by our Spiritual Advisor, Rev. David Stalzer. They are President, Emma Planinsek; V. Pres., Mildred Pucel; Secretary, Agnes Lovati; Rec. Sec., Josephine Erjavec; Treasurer, Mary Marolt; Auditors, Emma Nosse, Theresa Marentic and Dorothy Koncar; Sgt-at-arms, Mary Ivanich.

This was the first year that I could not attend Midnight Mass at St. Joseph's because of my health and the weather. My family attended and told us how beautiful it was; our Slovenian choir as usual did an excellent job, along with organist Tony Rozman.

Don't forget, if you are stuck for an idea, we have the "Women's Glory" cookbook, "Footsteps through time", and "From Slovenia to America" books, plus Slovenian

records and 8—tracks. These articles are sold in the Home Office. Don't forget your loved ones on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14th!

With best wishes.

JOSEPHINE ERJAVEC

NO. 21, WEST PARK, OH

Congratulations to Caroline Miklaucic, grandmother for the 3rd time; grandson Christopher was born on Christmas Day. Proud parents are Mr & Mrs David Miklaucic. It's their first child after waiting 7 years. Heartiest wishes to this wonderful family. Congratulations are also in order to Frances Cimperman who became a great grandmother again for the 4th time, with a new granddaughter, Rene Delores Mikas.

To all our sick members we wish the best. Mrs. Therea Lach is home from the hospital now. We hope she is feeling better. Spiritual Christmas Gift cards were sent to ailing members: Frances Kavc, Josephine Blazic and Margaret Borek.

We are grateful to Ann Pischel and Mary Estanek for their generous donation to our treasury. We thank you.

Our sincere congratulations and best wishes to Ann Jesenko, member of No. 21, who will be honored at the annual Award Banquet of the Federation of the National Slovene Homes on Sunday, March 21 as the honoree of West Side Homes (Denison Ave.). We wish her health and happiness.

Our February meeting date will be on the 11th, same place, same time, 2:00 p.m.

STELLA DANCULL

NO. 22, BRADLEY, IL

December 7th we had our annual Christmas party and meeting which was joyous way to start our holiday season.

We all want to thank our gracious hostess, Jose Zaletel, for offering her spacious home for our celebration — it was an ideal atmosphere. Also, a special thanks to Helen Sebastiani and Mayme Drassler, our co-hostesses, for their warm hospitality. We all left with a feeling of fulfillment — full of food and pleasure.

The spirit of Christmas giving was shown by Ann Richards and Jose Zaletel who donated two lovely gifts that enriched our treasury.

Our branch was blessed with a new member, Dorrine Aulhouse. This gave us all encouragement that we will continue to grow in members and new ideas.

As for business, it was brief but a



REV. ATHANASIUS LOVRENČIČ, O.F.M.:

Light a candle

During the Christmas season we heard in our liturgy that the heavenly Father sent His son to redeem the human race. Christ came not only as our Redeemer, but as "The light of the world", as St. John calls Him. The world was in darkness; He came to disperse the darkness that covered the people. At the beginning of the month of February we have a feast day: Candlemas Day. A candle brings light; when our electrical lights are out at night, we light a candle to give us light, that we may see where we go, that we do not stumble.

What is light for the physical world Christ is for the spiritual world. Without Him we are in darkness; and here is the reason for the joy we all felt during the Christmas season: Christ brought us light; we do not have to walk in darkness. A Christian should enjoy this light and do all so that this light penetrates him. Christ goes even further when He tells us that not only do we possess this light for ourselves, "You are the light of the world". He challenges us; that means that thru us other people around us would not walk in darkness.

Unfortunately, many millions choose darkness, not light. We ourselves complain how many things are wrong, and by this we are forgetting that it is in our power to bring light wherever we are. There is a movement called: "The Christopher". Their motto is: "It is better to light one candle than to curse the darkness".

A burning candle gives light, gives warmth; but for a candle to be of use, it consumes itself. To be a light for our fellow man, is not easy; sacrifices will be necessary. But this is a small price to pay that others may see, and thru us come to the Eternal Light Itself: Christ. — When you come to church you notice that there on the altar is a burning candle; ask yourself: Am I a burning candle for my house, for my neighborhood?



lot was accomplished.

Donations were given to St. Joseph's Church and the United Parents.

Greeting cards were signed and sent to our-of-town members and ailing friends.

Congratulations: To Millie Starasinich, a very dedicated member of long standing who was chosen as "the Woman of Year". To Ann and Francis Richards who recently renewed their vows on their 35th year of wedded bliss. A surprise party, arranged by their daughter, Barbara Clutter, was enjoyed in the intimacy of family and friends. They are a fine example of family love and togetherness.

Our next meeting will be on February 15th with Ann Richards as hostess. Hoping we continue to have 100% attendance.

We wish all Zveza members a New Year that is generous and kind in every way.

Also, that Zveza organization continues to grow in strength and spirit.

On February 14th we will be celebrating and expressing our love for one another in many ways: the glory of life is to love, not to be loved, to give, not to get; to serve, not to be served.

Love to you all!

MARGE PLANTON
Reporter

NO. 24, LASALLE, IL

The holidays are over and here we are well into another year. It seems time flies faster every year.

Eighteen of our members enjoyed a Christmas party and gift exchange on Sunday, December 14th at the Paramount Club in La Salle. We missed Ann Serri and Fannie Piletic who had to cancel at the last minute because of illness. Hope you both are feeling better and will be with us at our next meeting. Once again member Christine Witek proved that she is the Slovenian Julia Child of La Salle. The food was superb.

The winter thus far has not been too unpleasant. Although it has been

1981 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

The Slovenian Women's Union is now accepting applications for the 1981 scholarship competition. Four scholarships of \$500 each will be awarded again this year. To be eligible, the 1981 graduating high school senior must be a member of the Slovenian Women's Union for at least 3 years and is contemplating college or University full time enrollment this fall. Only one scholarship can ever be granted to members of any one family and only one scholarship can be granted any year to a particular branch.

Please write to Hermine Dicke, 3717 Council Crest, Madison, Wis., 53711, for further information and application.

Sincerely,
Hermine, Dicke, chairman
Scholarship Committee

quite cold we can get about quite easily because of the lack of snow. I hope this will continue for our meeting nights. The new officers and mother of the year will be announced in our next issue as our meeting and election are too late for this article. We anticipate adding a few new members and further plans will be made for our fund-raising project.

Our next meeting will be on February 19th at 7:30 p.m. in the La Salle Catholic School Library. Plan to join us.

ANNE M. WANGLER
Reporter

NO. 25, CLEVELAND, OH

Christmas and New Year holidays are behind us. I hope all members of S.W.U. enjoyed them and will be blessed with good health in 1981. We had a nice Christmas party. Members brought so many goodies; next year please omit the calories.

The Good Lord must love our members very much as he called 17 of them to their eternal rest in 1980. We attended all but two of the funerals as we were not notified of them. Members, please notify your next of kin that you are a member of Zveza. May our dear sisters rest in peace and kindest sympathies to their loved ones.

We also have good news...as of 1981 we will have 17 members who have reached the auspicious age of 90 years! Imagine that! Most of them are spry and peppy. In 1980 we sent 13 of them cards and a little gift. I hope all received the cards as some are living with relatives or in nursing homes but paying their dues on the old addresses.

Our oldest member is Mary Bradich who will be 99 in September. Dorothy Strnisa is 92, Mary Otonicar is 91 and Mary Taufar is 93. Mary Telban and Mary Turk are each 91 and Rose Udovich is 92. Mary Vidmar is 91 and Veronika Urbancic is 94 as is Theresa Zdovec. Anna Primozic is 91 and Frances Majer is 94. Mary Makovec is 92 and Victoria Berglas, Antoinette Kalish,

Agnes Krebel and Frances Kotnik are each 90. God give them good health for many more years.

Br. 25 also has 89 members over the age of 80. Good Slovenian stock, eh?

The meeting date has been changed to the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 1:30 p.m. at the Social Room of St. Vitus Aud. Hope to see you at the meetings in the new year.

We are fortunate to have a new secretary as our former sec., Roseanne Piorkowski had to give it up. She works and has a family. Thank you, Roseanne for the time you gave us. Our new secretary is Mrs. Cirila Kermavner. She also works but has Wednesdays off. She asks that you send your dues by mail with a self-addressed stamped envelope. Dues can also be paid at the meeting and the 25th of each month in the meeting room. These are convenient times and places for you to pay your dues, and we hope you will do so. You may call her evenings if you wish. Cirila's address is 6610 Bliss Ave. Cleveland, OH 44103, tel. 881-4698.

Come to the meetings. You will enjoy it. We also have B games. Meet your member-sisters!

JENNIE FEMC

NO. 32, EUCLID, OH

It is now February and all the holidays are past. I hope yours were as happy as mine. Our Christmas meeting had many in attendance, even our very young, Debby Drobnick who is age three and juniors members including Ceal Znidar's granddaughter and my own daughter. We had a wonderful time.

Many friends and members are on their way to Florida for the winter. Jean Drenser is visiting her daughter in Miami. Mary and Frank Drobnick are in Naples. Happy, sunny and warm winter to all of you.

Our congratulations to Lori and James Stanicki on their wedding Dec. 5th at St. Christine's. She is the former Lori Podboy.

We are happy to report that Mary Vodcar is now home; she returned from Neff Road Nursing Home just before the holidays. Good luck and good health to you, Mary and all our members who have been ill.

As I close, Happy Valentine Day to all of you and am looking forward to seeing you at our February meeting.

PHYLLIS

NO. 35, AURORA, MN

Thirty-four adult and three junior members met on Nov. 30th for a combined business meeting and Christmas party.

We were happy to have Katherine Hanka's daughter, Margaret Laurich of Sarasota, Florida as our guest. Margaret is a former member of Br. 35.

Before our meeting today, Phyllis Turk and Ann Gradishar took our young Festival Dancers (and singers) to the Nursing Home and Irongate Apartments to entertain our Senior Citizens. Jim Karish accompanied them on his button box accordion. Tears of happiness were on many faces as they watched the children perform and sing Slovenian songs. Special thanks to Phyllis, Ann, Jim and the children and their parents, for bringing happiness to so many people today! God bless you all!

Anna L. Hodnik will send Christmas greetings to all our over 80 members. She will also inform them that their dues have been paid by our SWU Br. 35 for 1981!

Mary Kocyan is our Mother of the Year for 1981. Mary is in our hospital now and we are all wishing her a speedy recovery. Members, please stop in and see her or send her a card and note.

Our next meeting will be held Feb. 15th at 2 p.m. Everyone is reminded to bring something of \$1 value for our Penny Social to be held at this meeting.

Another reminder ladies, if you haven't paid your dues yet, please send them to Anna L. Hodnik, 706 Summit Ave., Aurora, MN 55705.

Meeting was closed with prayers said in Slovenian.

Christmas carols were sung in Slovenian and English to open our Christmas party. A special thanks to our lovely hostesses for a delicious ham supper including Potatoes Supreme (Oct. ZARJA, "Pots and Pans" had this recipe).

Our Junior members, Michelle and Nicole Klander and Allyson Ferris helped with our gift exchange. Tripoly and other card games were played to complete our party which was enjoyed by everyone.

ANNE M. ORAZEM



Mary Muller:

NATIONAL
PRESIDENT'S
MESSAGE

I want to thank the many branches who sent greetings; it warms my heart to read some of the messages of confidence and good wishes. It is important to know the members are interested and anxious about what is happening in our organization.

Also, received a letter from Doris Brandeen, of Branch 79 in Enumclaw, Washington, regarding the request for news items from our members.. She sent a report about Mt. St. Helen's eruption and the effect on people living in that area. Doris lives in Yakima, therefore, her experience was first-hand. Her mother, Mary Cooks, has been with the SWU for 40 years, as was her grandmother, Mary Prasnika, now deceased.

Our minds should now be on our upcoming Conference to be held in Lemont on July 18-19. I hope you are making plans to attend. It could be a tremendous show of our need for the Spiritual uplift such a meeting would bring to everyone. Our guests will hear the words of Bishop Ambrozic and Father Athanasius, as well as other priests attending, giving each of us an opportunity to feel a closeness to God. All this will be in the beautiful setting of the Grotto of our Lady. A restful and fulfilling weekend. We will keep you informed in ZARJA.

The campaign "SUCCESS WITH UNITY" is still in progress. Won't you try to enroll a friend or relative?

The reporters are making their articles more interesting and informative. This is why we all enjoy our ZARJA, it keeps us close. When reading "The Immigrant", I can recognize some of the places from my mother's stories about her homeland and feel involved. Irene Odorizzi does a splendid input and should be highly commended.

Congratulations to birthday and anniversary celebrants, may they enjoy many more years with health and happiness.

We have many ailing members and friends and wish them a better health and early recovery.

Our prayers for deceased members and their families are constant, asking God's mercy on their souls.

May God Walk With you.

Mary Muller

ANNUAL PAYMENT OF DUES

Branch secretaries are priceless. Their duties are many and their main responsibility is the collection of dues.

To make things a little easier for your secretary, I recommend that the members adopt the practice of paying their dues once a year. This practice is already being carried out by many organizations, including the Knights of Columbus, the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and others of which you are perhaps a member and acquainted with their policies.

This is not an original idea as many branches have been doing this for many years. Therefore, today, please forward your yearly Zveza dues. Your secretary will be most thankful.

In closing, the "Success With Unity" campaign could be a search for unity for new members. Please join in the "search" and sign up your friend, neighbor or relative.

Happy Valentine's Day!

OLGA ANCEL, Secretary

Our member writes

A MEMORABLE CHAPTER IN PACIFIC NORTHWEST HISTORY

Doris Brandeen
212 South 14th Avenue
Yakima, Washington 98902

May 18, 1980...Mount St. Helens' Volcanic Eruption

It was a beautiful Sunday morning, May 18, when my husband and I traveled to St. Joseph's parish for breakfast at their hall. We had attended church the night before as we were expecting dinner guests from Seattle for Sunday dinner. He always takes me to breakfast on such occasions. It was 8:30 a.m.

As we left the house (we live on the west side of Yakima) for downtown we noticed the sky darkening to the west and thought we'd be in for a good storm that morning. After we left the hall it was quite dark out, but, to the east of us the sky was still clear and sunny. We decided to go home quickly to put away the lawn furniture and I wanted to cut some roses for the dinner table before they were ruined by the rain. As I was cutting the roses the sky above became blacker and then I noticed the drops falling on my arm were not raindrops but tiny cinders! My husband standing nearby said to our neighbors: "looks like the mountain finally blew."...he is so calm about these things. I went directly inside and called the radio station, and the announcer confirmed the

fact, Mount St. Helens erupted at 8:39 a.m. PDT.

The slim line of light east of Yakima on the horizon disappeared and we were plunged into total darkness as the ash continued to fall like fine rain. There was a warmth in the atmosphere as we occasionally peered out our doors and windows. Our beautiful gardens and lawns were inundated by the soft grey ash leaving a ghostly appearance to all outdoors.

Our anticipated dinner guests had left Seattle about 8:30 a.m. without their radios on as they had so much to discuss with their sister-in-law who had just arrived from Sacramento. About 50 miles east of Seattle near Snoqualmie Pass they saw the dark clouds approaching but just thought it was another storm. By the time they reached Ellensburg they could hardly move their windshield wipers for the ash had started to fall and visibility was also poor. The Washington State Patrol told them where they could seek refuge temporarily. This information we received later Sunday night as our phone lines were overloaded and we could no longer place calls.

By 11:30 a.m. it was completely dark out. The news of the situation came to us via the radio stations only as the television programs were re-broadcasts and one baseball game program mentioned the mountain had blown. All communication systems were "jammed".

It was a long day. We managed to busy ourselves but the dinner was a loss to say the least. Thunder and

Zarja ---- Informative, educational, religious, and something for everyone! Where else could we hear of what our women are doing across the nation? Where else could we practice our Slovenian language by reading it in easy reading material? Now that many of our parents and older relatives are gone, we don't even have much occasion to speak Slovenian. Reading about our **Immigrants** refreshes our memory of many stories our parents told us.

The spiritual report is one we all enjoy, as we know religion, instead of the very modern versions we hear today. It is difficult to practice new ideas, but, as time passes on we may learn to accept them.

Of course, one of the favorite pages of ZARJA is **Pots and Pans**, as we all love good things to eat, and learn to make them as the recipes are tested before they are published. We are also learning to make some of the favorite pastries and dishes our Moms made.

The children's page is a highlight as it is educational, informative, and entertaining, and all the youngsters really enjoy it.

All the extra feature stories, and the State Convention reports are informative in letting us know what is going on around us. The articles of our branch reporters are especially good to read, because we get first-hand information on what our ladies are doing. Month by month different things are happening and reported. Especially heart-warming is knowing our branches are helping our aged in many different ways.

The reason for this resume of ZARJA is to encourage all the women to read it thoroughly and get complete enjoyment out of it. This could be one of our Resolutions this year, plus attending our regular monthly meetings more often to enjoy the company of our members.

ALBINA UEHLEIN
Women's Activities Director

When I was a young lady years ago and read all about the grand Debutante Balls, I used to wonder why a Slovenian organization didn't plan exotic affairs for our young people, too. Other groups had them every year. Society included them as a "must" for every young girl. Why not us? Our young ladies were just as deserving of the honor to be presented along with her father, to remember a very special time in her life, the year when she was ready for adulthood.

So, here we are in 1981, planning our sixth S.W.U. Cotillion Ball in Cleveland, Ohio, a dream come true. It will be held on April 4th. Maybe there are members who would enjoy an event like this, but we can't reach them. So, we are extending an invitation to all our young girls who would be interested. Write to me for an application form which I would ask to have returned by March 1st. Call me for all information, Frances Sietz, 261-2856 or call Carol Globokar, 486-2012. This is a once-in-a-lifetime event!

Carol is the Chairman of the Ball and her address is 19200 Abbey Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44119.

FRANCES SIETZ



lighting continued all afternoon, without rain. By midnight we had received two calls, one directly from the first car of guests who said they had made it to a motel. The second call was from the church phone relay operator who said the other guests were at the church for the evening and would return to Seattle the next day. Neither set of guests knew where the other set was until they returned to Seattle. The next morning the State patrol released highway controls so Seattle-bound travelers could leave Ellensburg.

Our son who was visiting college friends near Spokane ended up staying there nearly a week before roads could be cleared enough for east-west travel. At that, he had to return via Wenatchee which was a hundred miles out of the way. Moses Lake to Ellensburg was still closed by Thursday, a major interstate route.

The first few days were really miserable as the finer dust was easily airborne and so travel was limited to 20 miles per hour. Everyone had to wear masks whenever they were outside. A light rain fell one day which was some relief. Auto air filters took the heaviest toll.

The ash cleanup was a major project for Yakima County and many cities throughout the state provided mobile equipment to help clean up. It was a job well done considering the magnitude of the task. By the following week work was underway for the city and by the end of June ash was rarely seen except on the unmaintained roads and unoccupied fields. Dusty winds were a hindrance, of course. For a time it was very depressing to clean your own area only to have a dust storm come along and undo all the cleaned areas. Everyone was

expected to sweep their roofs and have them hosed off by a certain date so the mobile units could haul away the accumulated piles of ash.

By mid-summer Yakima was green again and the developed orchards had limited damage. Many row-crop farms had to be re-planted. Our regular visitor from Alaska said she had never seen the lawns look so green throughout Yakima.

There are many conclusions about the ash that have not been fully recorded as yet, such as fertilizer properties, manufacturing qualities, etc. The commercial side has been already exploited. The community effort was excellent and communications for civil defense have been greatly improved.

We regret the loss of life but there will always be those who will not heed warnings.

The multitude of photographs available is due to the fact that it was an excellent morning for air travel and naturally all the photographers that were air borne at the time reaped a great harvest.

On the lighter side: our pastor who was visiting in Goldendale at the time Mount St. Helens erupted relates this story: He was talking to a Fundamentalist Church preacher who was commenting on the "signs" for the second coming of Christ, and that the ashfall or mountain eruption was probably a supporting "sign". Our pastor replied, "Jesus would never come in a mess like this."

Today you'd never believe we had an ashfall to look around Yakima...green and fertile as ever.

NO. 38, CHISHOLM, MN

Greetings from Branch 38! Seems funny to be writing again as our meetings have been held only every other month, but with the National Convention being held in Chisholm in 1982, we decided to have monthly meetings so we could get started with committees and reports as we get ready for this big event.

We've been having such luck in attracting new members to our branch and initiated nine new members at this meeting! Our new sisters are:

Jennie Zevnik, Mary Elo, Bertha Pluth, Lucy Hakala, Rose Stonemark, Jessie LaPage, Ann Wallach, Kate Medved and Florence Tramontin.

We extend a sincere welcome to these gals.

After a short meeting and the initiation, President Samsa closed the meeting with a prayer for the health of Sisters Johanna Perkovich (St. Mary's Hospital, Duluth, MN) and Frances Ruper who is in the Central Mesabi Medical Center, Hibbing, MN. May God grant them both good health and bring them both back to our next meeting.

We had our Christmas Party following the meeting. Santa came and passed gifts around after our potluck supper. Our club has so many good cooks and the food was superb. We're also fortunate to have 2 members in our branch whose husbands are accordionists — Joe Techar and Albert Samsa — who played for our community singing. We had a truly delightful evening. Thank you fellows. We had a cheer for Sister Frances Zalec who retired after 3 years as Financial Secretary. She did an excellent job and we thank her for her hard work. We know she'll still come to meetings and we'll see you there — Fran.

May God bless you all and grant you a happy, healthy 1981.

Love to all —

FRANCES KELLY

NO. 39, BIWABIK, MN

In October our branch had an indoor picnic at the Biwabik Park Pavilion. During the summer months members were too busy with company, vacations, etc., to have the annual picnic in August so decided to have an "indoor picnic" with the usual good food and live entertainment. A good time was had by all, especially those who played cards in to the late afternoon.

In December we had our annual Christmas Party with 32 members in attendance. After the dinner gifts

were exchanged and traveling "B" was played, — A brief meeting was held and the following officers were elected for the year 1981: Pres. — Frances Anzelc, Vice—Pres. — Mary Gerzina, Treasurer — Margaret Setnicker, Rec. Sec. — Florence Milos, Sunshine Committee — Mary Gerzina, Funeral Committee — Mary Gerzina, Angeline Karish and Ann Gerzina. Marjorie Dewhurst won the attendance prize for attending the most meetings for the year 1980.

Three new social members joined our branch: Lois Moeller, Jennie Sherek and Stella Strukel. Welcome ladies and I am sure you will enjoy being a member of our branch as we are one big happy family!

At this time I would like to thank the ladies of Branch No. 39 for their cooperation, hand work for our "50th" anniversary and Mother of the Year Celebration, the indoor picnic, Christmas Party, helping at funerals and visiting the ill members. It is all deeply appreciated.

Sister Margaret Mauer was called home in November. Our members recited the rosary at the mortuary, attended the funeral and served the lunch after the funeral. Thank you ladies for your efforts, messages of sympathy as they are deeply appreciated by the Milos and Forayer families.

A Happy New Year to All and May the Lord Bless You and Your Loved Ones. May 1981 be a year of good health and happiness.

FLORENCE J. MILOS

Rec. Sec'y

NO. 40, LORAIN, OH

Happy Valentine's Day! And, soon it will be time for Lent. But, a lot of things have happened.

Our December meeting was our annual Christmas Tureen supper and what a success!

The hall looked so festive with the holiday decorations and the ladies, 27 in all, looked so grand and happy. There's something so special about Christmas and it was reflected in everyone's face.

The covered dishes were many and such a selection! The baked goods could not possibly be topped! Thank you, ladies, one and all, for your generous contributions - it is impossible to name all of you! The meat course was furnished by the lodge.

We also had many door prizes, traveling "B" prizes and for special interest, a blanket was donated by Louise Seskar and won by Annette Septaric. We give additional thanks.

Our centerpiece candle again was lit for our dear departed sisters; may they rest in peace.

1980 our losses were not as great as in 1979, in number, I mean, not personal loss. Dora Skoda and Mary Zallar passed away in 1980. Sincerest sympathies to the families.

On the sick list are Angela Smith, Theresa Rajher and Rose Kragley. Hurry up and get well, we'd love to see you in the new year.

Thank you, Genevieve Wenzel for adding to my collection of poems and have happy holidays in Colorado with your family.

Getting back to our Christmas party, we sang carols in English and Slovenian, had a gift exchange and just plain had a good time. I know a pleasant evening was spent by all.

I think this is a good way to start the new year:

Make the best of everything;

Think the best of everybody;

Hope the best for yourself.

MARY PLOSZAJ

NO. 41, CLEVELAND, OH

As our President, Amalia Oswald does at all our meetings, she led us in prayer for the living and dead members of Branch 41. After reading of correspondence and the financial report given by Secretary Valeria Fortuna, our President reviewed the highlights of our Slovenian Women's Union for the year. All officers were commended for doing a good job. It was noted that our National Office was progressing well, too.

Mrs. Anna Skok was applauded for being our champion ticket-seller. She also donated one of her special poticas which added a bit to our treasury. Many thanks, Mrs. Skok! Pre-election discussion followed. Our policy of donations remains the same as in this past year. Our President and Secretary are to attend all funerals and either may read the eulogy. A motion that all officers remain the same as in 1980 was accepted by the members with all accepting except Secy. Valeria Fortuna. We were all sorry to lose Mrs. Fortuna who has been an extremely efficient secretary but as she refused to accept the office, Mrs. Justine Prhne very kindly accepted. She is an experienced officer and we are very happy she was willing to take on this office even though she has been with our Branch for a short time. We can all help to make the job easier by sending our dues on time. Her address is: 20710 Edgecliff Dr., Euclid, Ohio, 44123.

Our fund-raising project for this year turned out very successfully thanks to the loyalty of our members. Winners of nice prizes were: Mrs. K. Akos, Albert Comenschek, Paula Adamic, Justine Girod, Julia

Tauvzel and Ann Snyder. Many door prizes were donated by our ladies so that almost everyone went home with a present.

The very productive afternoon ended with a beautiful array of refreshments, the singing of a few appropriate songs for the forthcoming holidays and many fond good wishes to health and happiness for all.

Be sure to attend our next meeting on the 18th of February at 1 o'clock. With all good wishes to our National Officers and all members of the Slovenian Women's Union,

CECELIA M. WOLF
and JUSTINE GIROD

NO. 42, MAPLE HGTS., OH

Our children's Christmas Party was great. Santa was there and lots of happy faces. Thank ygoodies and Donna and Gretchen for your help. Greatly appreciated.

Our Christmas party was also a big success. Gee, we had a nice crowd of men, too. It was good to see Jennie Intihar and Angela Perko there. You both looked great. I'm sure it was enjoyed by all.

To our sick members, we all think of you and wish you well. Ann Ranik, we hear, is doing really well and Frances Stavec is also having good days.

A big, big Happy Birthday and all our best wishes to Josephine Stavec who will be celebrating her 95th on Feb. 28. She is a good, long-time member of 48 years standing and was elected Woman of the Year for Maple Hgts. Slovenian National Home in 1980. Other birthday ladies celebrating are Nicoleta Lerchbacher, Ann Ranik, Carol Kasilic and Joanne Kosak.

Congratulations to our officers who are keeping their posts: Millie Lipnos, Pres., Cilka Hocesvar, Secretary, Mary Lou Prhne, Sec'y, Donna Stubljer, Recording Sec'y, Yours truly, Reporter. We have a new Vice-Pres., Ann Baron. Congratulations all.

We want to congratulate Corinne Leskovar, our Editor, for being selected Woman of the Year in Chicago. (Thanks so much. C.)

Meeting is Feb. 10, our Valentine Party and selection of Mother-Woman of the Year. Please attend. We're back to business again after the holiday activities. Remember to save for our sale in May.

MARY LOU PRHNE

NO. 43, MILWAUKEE, WI

The December meeting and Christmas dinner turned out to be a great success. We had election of



Josephine Stavec
Happy 95th Birthday
on Feb. 28th!

officers and finalized the important issues of the year. Christine Strucil was picked as the Lady of the Year and truly deserves this honor. She has worked hard after every meeting, preparing cake and coffee and afterward, cleaning up.

The special assessment of 508 per year from each member remains the same but the death assessment of 258 went up to 258 for the year for each deceased member. The officers remain the same with the exception of Josephine Verbick. Fran Widemsek was elected in her place as Auditor. The most important and please don't forget it, is the new meeting date. It was changed as of Jan. 1st, 1981. Instead of the 2nd Thursday of each month, it will now be the second Monday of each month except July and August, no meetings. We had to make this change due to the members' requests. Several of them are occupied with other commitments on the second Thursday. John's Hall, 35th and Lincoln is still our meeting place at 7 p.m. We still maintain that the birthday people bring a cake to the meeting in the month of their birthday. We also have a membership prize project each month, but the member picked must be present to collect.

We had catering brought in for our Christmas Party and everyone was very well satisfied. The next dinner will be our Mother's Day dinner in May and we will be honoring our Lady of the Year, Chris.

The Galluns had a full house over the holiday season. It was a family reunion with all their four daughters, Rosalyn, Margie, Cynthia and Betty and one son, Ronny and all their families. Margie and Betty and their

husbands and Margie's daughter drove from Florida. The other three live in Milwaukee. Really a great family. The Marinkoviches are vacationing in beautiful Hawaii, this being their annual holiday vacation for years and both come back looking great and relaxed.

To all our sick and shut-in members, may you be blessed with a speedy recovery. Last and most important, next meeting date is February 9th, 1981. Happy Valentine's Day.

ROSE KRAEMER, Sec.

Correction: In last month's report I asked for laurel berries. In Slovenian they are called "Lorberjevo zrnje".

NO. 47, GARFIELD HGTS., OH

Happy and healthy New Year to all our members of Slovenian Women's Union. Our yearly meeting and Christmas party was held Sunday, Dec. 14th at 1 o'clock at Maple Hgts. Hall on Stanley Ave. Our members came out in full number.

Election of officers took place. Officers are as follows: President, Jennie Gerk, Vice-President, Mary Mundson, Secretary and Treasurer, Mary Taucher, Recording Secretary, Jennie Praznik, Auditors, Ann Harsh, Elsie Laurence. Meetings are held the second Sunday at 1 o'clock, March, May, September and December. This year being the year we celebrate our 50th Anniversary, we will probably have some special meetings in connection with our celebration Sept. 20th.

After the meeting, we had our Christmas party which was pot luck, our main dish was roast beef and a variety of side dishes, plus delicious desserts donated by the members. We also had an enjoyable time selecting winner for a bottle of cheer, two baskets of groceries and a number of other prizes, all donated by our members which helped the treasury some.

Kim Marie Nickels and Andy Harsh were united in marriage at St. Michael's church, Independence, Ohio on Nov. 22nd at 1 o'clock mass. Reception was held at the Maple Hgts. Hall. We wish them many happy years together.

Joseph and Antonia Rolih celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on Nov. 8th. They are the parents of daughter, Toni Topolnicki and son, Joseph and have 4 grandchildren. Congratulations.

Max and Rose Miklause had surgery at Brentwood Hospital, brother and sister-in-law of Mary Blatnik. Elsie Gazdecki's brother and mother-in-law passed away.

After a lingering illness, Jennie Pugelj expired Nov. 12th at Marymount Hospital. Mother of Florence Neubecker, Lillian Smith, Jo Lea and a son, Frank. Jennie was secretary of Br. 47 for 25 years, wrote many articles for the DAWN and was dedicated to her Slovenian Women's Union members. She will be greatly missed by her family and her many friends. May she rest in peace.

To all our sick members, a speedy recovery.

To all our ladies who have birthdays in Dec. Jan. and Feb. Happy Birthday. To our President, Jennie Gerk, 80 years young on Dec. 30, special wishes.

Charter member, Teresa Kocevar was elected as Mother of the Year. Happy Valentine's Day to all.

MARY TAUCHER

NO. 50, CLEVELAND, OH

With the Year 1980 ending, December was the nicest and busiest month of the year. With families, friends and relatives celebrating, visiting and getting together, it also seemed to be the shortest.

First, we had our Junior Christmas Party at the Slovene Home for the Aged. Frances Sietz did a good job, as always, and Dorothy Winter, too, as Santa Claus. The residents enjoyed watching the children having a good time.

On Sunday Dec. 14th, our Branch had a Dinner and Party at the Slovenian Home on Holmes Ave. 152 members and 12 guests attended, with visitors from as far away as Maple Hts. and Florida.

With the delicious Slovenian Dinner and all the hilarious games, the gals were good sports to take part in not knowing beforehand what they had to do.

Then came Santa Claus, none other again than Dorothy W. Gifts and goodies were passed out by Santa's helpers. Guess who was in charge of the Christmas Dinner and Party? No one but our capable and wonderful President Ann Tercek. Let's give her a big hand! Thanks, Ann.

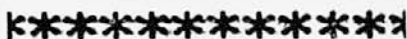
Our Juniors, Lee Ann Gorgan and Sherry Bencin sang **White Christmas** and **Silver Bells**. We hope you will keep up the good work and keep coming. Four of our worthy members were honored with gifts and corsages.

Our new Mother-of-the Year is Ruth Kolenc. Congratulations, Ruth.

Oldest member at the party was Josephine Levstik, 80 years young. Most children (9), Marie Mihalic.

In Memoriam V BLAG SPOMIN

- 1 — Mary Gasser
- 2 — Clara Kosmach
Albina Rakovec
Frances Sardocho
- 3 — Anna Yershin
- 12 — Mary Tesovnik
- 13 — Mary Papich
Frances Sankovich
- 14 — Margaret Baron
- 15 — Rose Blatnik
Jennie Travnik
- 17 — Mary Podlesnik
- 20 — Frances Gaspich
- 23 — Mayme Stoll
- 24 — Theresa Knafelic
Angela Mochnik
- 25 — Mary Rodgers
Mary Snyder
- 31 — Frances Lopp
- 33 — Angela Blatnik
- 38 — Frances Pierce
- 41 — Anna Fabian — Charter and first secretary
- 47 — Jennie Pugelj — Charter and first secretary
- 67 — Anne Mediate
- 77 — Anna Becki — Charter and first secretary
- 84 — Mary Zaubi
- 86 — Helen Kolar
- 89 — Ann Pirch
- 100 — Frances Kapel



Most grandchildren (24), Mary Habat. Youngest mother, Donna Bischof.

Our honored guest and member, Jean Krizman, who is the fund-raising chairman for the Slovene Home for the Aged, was presented with our annual donation of \$100. At this time Frances Sietz also presented Jean with a check for \$500 from the last SWU combined branches Cotillion Debutante Ball.

One of our members, Emily Unik, who lived in N. Carolina, has moved back and is now living in Lakewood. Welcome back, Emily.

It's a fact of life; whenever someone in the family gets written up in the local paper, there's sure to be a 50-cents-off coupon on the other side of the page.

Your Reporter,

VERA MATEYKA

NO. 54, WARREN, OH

Our branch had their annual Christmas luncheon at Enzo's Restaurant. Hostesses were Mary Zuga and Anne Savor who did a splendid job. We had 21 in attendance and it was so nice to have

my mom, Rose Racher and my mom-in-law, Mary Ponikvar there. They both had been in the hospital last year and very ill. This year, they seem to be getting along nicely.

Our dear member, Betty Vadas also came in her walker. It made us all so thankful for our good health. Following the luncheon, we had a short business meeting and election of officers. The results are the same. Josephine Kassan is President, Mayme Sporich, Vice-President and yours truly, secretary, recording secretary, treasurer and ZARJA reporter.

Our next meeting will be March 17th at Mayme Sporich's home on Eastland S.E. at 7:30 p.m. April 21st it will be at Mary Zuga's. Try to attend these meetings. It's nice to get together and share your Slovenian love among one another.

Following our meeting, we had a gift exchange and prizes. Members all brought canned foods and this was won by guest, Anne Simpkins. A lovely green pillow, crocheted and donated by Mary Ponikvar went to another guest, Mrs. Takach.

Rose Racher was picked as Mother of the Year and needless to say, she's a wonderful woman, still spunky and plugging away at the age of 80 years even tho she is recovering from several ailments. She is truly a unique person, mother and friend and also, the founder of our Branch. We will be happy to honor her at our May affair. She is certainly the most deserving of the title!

Wedding bells rang out for Georgette Vadas who was married to Kenneth Titus in October. We all wish you the best and many years of happiness together. "GiGi" has been so good to her mom, Betty, after her several strokes and is so patient and loving to her.

Speedy recovery to our ailing friends and may the new year of 1981 bring us peace, happiness and good health.

JOANNE PONIKVAR

NO. 57, NILES, OH

It was a jolly affair when we met at "Rudy's" for our Christmas Party. The ladies were gay as children, the food was delicious, and the tables were bright with the lights of the candles. Even the weather was nice so a good many were able to attend. After the gifts and the door prizes were distributed the balance of the evening was spent just singing and visiting with each other.

We had two out of town members in attendance, Frances Racher from Cuyahoga Falls and Frances Mollis from Cheyenne, Wyoming. It's so

nice to have them come "Home" for the holidays.

Get well wishes to those that are under the weather or ailing. We miss you at the meetings and the parties.

The following had December birthdays: Mary Klobucar, Phyllis Muccio, Jennie Novak, Adelia Sabott, and Mary Young. And in January, they were Nettie Hoffman, Eva Leskovec, Mary Shirkman, Mary Strah, and Virginia Zevkovich. Happy Birthday ladies and many more, and best wishes to all.

May the New Year bring Peace, Happiness, and Good Health to all.

Here is a good reason to slow down in the coming year

"Too Little Time"

by James Metcalfe

I have so many genial friends and yet it seems that we

Too seldom find the time to share each others company.

We do not get together for those visits of the heart,

Because our work or weariness is keeping us apart.

Or else there is an illness or some travel out of town,

Or problems that envelope us and sort of get us down.

And so the days and weeks go by without a social call

And even months will disappear with no "hello" at all.

And that is why each time I see a fond and familiar face

I wish this world were not so fast and such a busy place.

ANN PEASE, Reporter

NO. 59, BURGETTSTOWN, PA

Dear readers! As I write this, there is snow on the ground. Our Christmas party had 30 members attending. The committee, Frances Korosec, Catherine and Jenny Ferbezar, had the tables decorated in a holiday theme. Each member was given a crocheted wreath pin made by Mary Ferbezar. Christmas cards were signed and sent to Caroline Papesch, Olga Buritz, Fannie Sage, Hanna Lawrence and Marge Bongorni. Happy December birthday was sung to Mary Serrini and Hilda Gavazzi. After a delicious buffet style dinner, we all played penny "B". A lot of nice prizes were given away with some being handmade. Mary Dvorsak won the special brought in by Louise Paskutius. Door prizes were won by M. Dvorsak, F. Montequin and M. Lounder. Each member was treated to a Santa lollipop and popcorn balls made by President, Frances and her

hubby, Frank, at the end of the party.

A bit of side news. Mary Dvorsak visited her son, Jim and family in Arizona. She was accompanied by her grandson, David. Over the holidays, Evelyn and Alex Stetar motored to Kentucky to visit their son and family. This was their grandson's first Christmas. I'm sure it was a happy time for them.

Here it is, the start of another New Year, 1981. Wishing everyone a whole lot of happiness all through the year. And, may health and prosperity be yours in all Seasons.

Looking ahead, we soon will have more holidays coming, Happy Valentine's Day, Happy St. Patrick's and St. Joseph's Days and Happy Easter! It also means that Spring is around the corner. May you and yours have a wonderful New Year.

ROSEMARY ORENCHUK

NO. 73, WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, OH

Our "Christmas Party and Pot Luck Dinner" held December 1st at the home of our President Kay Yuratovac was a very successful event with a large turn out of members. We all want to thank Kay not only for sharing her home with us for this night, but also for all the work and extra effort she did to make this party such a very nice one. Our regular Santa Claus, Emil Mandich, had to work that night, so his and member Leona Mandich's son, Christopher, was our Junior Santa Claus with his little brother Billy, as well as Leslie and Melanie Dusek acting as his helpers. Christopher was so darling and played his role so very well! He carried a bag of candy canes, approached each member and first asked if that person had been a good girl, and when the answer was "yes", he asked to feel one's nose to see if that person was telling the truth, and if he thought our noses felt right we got our candy cane! All four of these children are Junior Members.

We want to thank our Secretary Louise Epley for submitting the story and also sharing it with us. I refer to the December 1980 issue of ZARJA and the article "The Immigrant". We should never lose sight of the fact so much of what we enjoy now was brought about by the hardships that our ancestors had to endure in trying to better themselves and their children after them.

We would like to express our sympathy to Sally Kunka due to the recent death of her beloved sister, Henrietta.

Louis and Agnes (our Treasurer) Walters recently vacationed in Florida, and we all hope you feeling very much better, Agnes. Mary Chesnik left shortly after our Christmas Party to spend the holidays with her daughter and family who reside in Georgia.

I'd like to thank Cilka Hocevar and Donna Stubljer for not only bringing a large batch of cancelled stamps to my home from Branch No. 42 in Maple Heights, Ohio, but also the nice visit we had, and shall look forward to having them visit me again soon. I also want to thank Mrs. Anne McGee of Detroit, Michigan, Branch No. 105 for the large box of stamps she set me, as well as her lovely letter and Christmas card. I personally telephoned Miss Julia Nagy to thank her for the stamps she sent me after I was able to find out that she is an Aunt to our Vice President Ann Fike's son-in-law. Many thanks to everyone who are making this worth while drive so successful.

Branch No. 73 hopes that everyone had a Merry Christmas and will have a very Happy New Year as well as a healthy one.

MILDRED D. ROBERTS
Reporting Secretary

NO. 95, SO. CHICAGO, IL

At our Christmas Party it was the way it was served that made the difference; it started the moment you walked in the door. A warm greeting came from Margaret Doherty; (where the party was held) she welcomed everybody. Next, everyone was seated at uniquely decorated Christmas tables. I was unable to attend the party, due to my illness, but I felt like I was there, because I know that there is only one person like Margaret who could serve mounds of food to be enjoyed by everyone.

Bouquets of thanks to Hannah Piekarski, Chairlady, and Helen Golich, Co-Chairlady, for all the headaches and for bending backwards to make this Christmas Party a success. I certainly am grateful to Mildred Poropat, Dolores Hennelly, Evelyn Driscoll and Sylvia Vukodinovich for their helping hands, my apologies if I left anyone out.

I was deeply touched by the card sent to me, signed with personal messages by all of you, I shall never forget this warm and touching expression of your friendship.

Get well wishes are extended to Manda Nosich who suffered a heart attack, to Kate Musa who's husband has been ailing, also to Mary

Zelenika's husband who is suffering from a kidney ailment. To all of our members who are ailing, our prayers and get well wishes.

Condolences to Helen Golich on the loss of her beloved sister-in-law.

Happy Birthday wishes to our February celebrants: Anna Velcich, Mary Brozynski, Helen Zec, Julie Hansen, Louise Dolan, Anne Hlacer, Benedicto Marino, Rose Mary Cacich, Carrie Plebanski, Sylvia Vukodinovich (Vice Pres.) and Lorraine Zagar.

In conclusion, may I extend to you and your families my very best wishes for a very happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year! That goes for me, too.

MILDRED JAMES

Hermine Prinsland Dicke
3717 Council Crest
Madison, Wisconsin 53711

POOTS & PANS and PASTIME

During the Minnesota State Convention several women asked me to include a recipe for Homemade Noodles in ZARJA. I am pleased to oblige with Mary Turk's noodle recipe. It is detailed for the beginner. Mary is from Sheboygan, Wis., and has made noodles for over 65 years. We are privileged to have her noodle and beef soup recipes.

HOMEMADE NOODLES

2 cups sifted Robinhood flour
3 large eggs, unbeaten
Place sifted flour into a bowl (measure after sifting). Add eggs. Mix with a wooden spoon or fork at first, then with fingers until a ball can be formed and all flour has been absorbed. It will be fairly stiff to begin with. On lightly floured surface knead dough for 10 minutes (with this kneading the dough becomes smooth and elastic). Place dough on flat surface and cover with a bowl to rest for at least one hour (can stand up to 5 hours). On lightly floured surface roll dough paper thin with a rolling pin to a circle of 28 inches in diameter, turning over frequently and flouring sparingly, if necessary. Lift to a dry cloth and allow to partially dry from 20 minutes to an hour depending on humidity (if too dry dough may become brittle and break apart when cut, and if not dry enough noodles

will stick together when cut). Fold circle in half; again in half and once more in half. Cut into 9 inch lengths for easy handling. Cut crosswise with a sharp knife into desired widths: 1/2 inch for buttered noodles, 1/4 inch for casserole dishes; and 1/8 inch for soup. If using a noodle machine cut the dough into 4 inch widths and any length. To dry: Spread noodles on dry cloth and toss to turn about every half hour for 2 hours. Then toss occasionally for 2 days to insure complete dryness. Store in sealed plastic bags. Will keep indefinitely on shelf.

To cook: Drop 1/2 cup noodles in 1 quart rapid boiling soup (or as desired) and boil 5 minutes until tender.

Note: Since texture of flours vary, experiment. If dough is too firm with your brand of flour, next time try 1 3/4 cups sifted flour. Good luck!

BEEF SOUP

1 or 2 fairly good size soup bones with some meat on them or about 1 1/2 pound chuck roast with a large soup bone.

1 slice beef liver (for flavor)
3 medium carrots, peeled and cut up

few springs of parsley
2 large cabbage leaves
1 medium onion, leaving peelings on for color

1 large tomato, halved, or 1 cup canned tomatoes
3 pieces celery, about 4 inches long
2 teaspoons salt or to taste
3 quarts cold water

Rinse the bones and meat in cold water and place in large kettle. Add cold water and bring to boil. With a perforated spoon remove scum that forms. Add remaining ingredients. Bring to boil, reduce heat and simmer covered for about 2 hours. Remove meat, carrots and bones. Strain the soup to another kettle. To the boiling soup add the noodles (as desired) and boil for 5 minutes until tender. If desired, slice cooked carrots and add to soup

The Broccoli Casserole Supreme and Cinnamon Torte recipes are from friends.

BROCCOLI CASSEROLE SUPREME

2 packages (10 ounces each) frozen broccoli spears
1 package (10 ounces) chopped frozen broccoli
1 carton (8 ounces) sour cream

1 envelope Lipton dry onion soup mix

1 package (8 ounces) shredded cheddar cheese

1 1/2 cups corn flakes, crushed

Heat oven to 325°. Mix broccoli and cook until almost tender in boiling salted water. Arrange in buttered 9 x 13-inch pyrex dish and spread with sour cream mixed with dry onion soup. Sprinkle with shredded cheese. Crush cornflakes and spread over all. Bake 30 minutes at 325° or until bubbly. Serves 10 to 12.

CINNAMON TORTE

A delightful dessert for Valentine's Day. This rates cheers for the cook!

1st layer (cake)

3 egg yolks from large eggs
1/2 cup butter, room temperature
1/2 cup sugar
1 cup flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon vanilla
6 tablespoons milk

Heat oven to 350°. Beat egg yolks until very light. Cream butter and sugar thoroughly. Sift flour, baking powder and salt. Add egg yolks to butter and sugar. Fold in half of flour mixture. Add vanilla and milk. Mix in remaining flour. Pour into greased and floured spring form pan. Bake in 350° over for 20 to 25 minutes until toothpick comes out clean when inserted. Cool.

2nd layer (lemon filling)

3/4 cup sugar
3 tablespoons cornstarch
1 cup water
2 egg yolks, slightly beaten
1 tablespoon butter
1 lemon (juice and grated rind)
In saucepan blend sugar and cornstarch with part of water until smooth. Add remaining water and egg yolks. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until mixture comes to a boil. Cook for 2 minutes. Remove from heat. Add butter, lemon juice and grated rind. Blend well. When thoroughly cooled spread over cooled cake.

3rd layer (meringue)

5 egg whites (room temperature)
1 cup sugar
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1/2 cup chopped nuts
Beat egg whites until stiff. Mix sugar and cinnamon. Gradually (2 tablespoons at a time) beat into egg whites and continue beating with each addition. Spread over cooled lemon filling. Sprinkle with nuts. Bake at 325° for 25 to 30 minutes until meringue is light brown.

Happy Valentine's Day,
With much love,
Hermine

IRENE ODORIZZI!
2362 Paddock Lane
Reston, Va. 22091

THE IMMIGRANT

ANGELA

FROM JARŠE

(Continued)

Working in the mine was difficult and dangerous. I recall how frightened I was when Frank came home from the mine one day with his hands badly cut from the sharp rocks. It was especially heartbreaking when he received his pay and discovered how small it was for his hard labor of 12 hours a day, six days a week. Finally, I said, "Frank, in October, we will move to New York so I can go to work. May be I can teach you how to make hats and you can also work in the factory." He didn't like my idea, but since we were supporting my mother who was still in New York, Frank said, "Bring her here to live with us in Pennsylvania." Mama came and Frank liked her very much, especially since she was such a good cook and could bake so well — my husband always enjoyed good cooking. In the winter of 1918, we all decided to move to New York. Frank wasn't very happy with the change, but Mother took good care of him, and this compensated a little.

Finally, I found a shop, owned by a Slovenian man, where I paid him for the use of the machines and straw; everything worked out well. Then I looked for a more difficult job that would pay more money, but could only find employment in an inexpensive children's hat shop. I had to promise that we wouldn't leave till the season was over, and that we would come back next season. Frank and I started with small salaries but it was still good for my husband to learn the new trade. After the season was over, I found a job in a restaurant, and Frank began to look for a job which was better paying. In October, we went back to the hat shop and worked until May 15th. That winter, the hat workers' union called a big strike. There was no work, and we picketed in lines three times a day. We didn't make any more money that winter, and then came the news that, after three years of marriage, I was pregnant. Since neither of us was working, the house we had purchased had to be sold nine months later.

Then a friend, Frank Mihelich from Miners Mills, Pennsylvania, came to see my husband. His son was foreman on a construction site and offered Frank a job with room and board. Frank quickly accepted and moved in with the Mihelich's. All the men were good carpenters: Frank, Stanley, and John; Rudy was the farmer of the family.

In July of that year, I joined my husband at Frank Mihelich's and the following month our first son, Frank Jr., was born. After waiting three years, you can't imagine how happy we were. I was fortunate to have my mother with me here in America; many immigrant women had to manage alone or with only the help of friends, or some distant relatives.

Frank worked constantly during the fall of 1920, earning more by overtime work. Mother and I worked on our large vegetable garden, and with the baby, we were

busy, but I still missed Frank. In 1921, our oldest daughter, Marian, was born. By the last six months of the year, and with three children, we began to feel the results of the strike called by the coal mine union.

Frank was not working and neither was he feeling well, so I advised him to make an appointment for a medical examination. The doctor diagnosed his problem quickly, "Frank, you have a hernia. You've probably had it since birth, but it's time now to go in for an operation."

Frank had the operation and recovered quickly. We discussed moving back to New York and he immediately agreed since he now knew the city much better. We looked for an apartment, but were unable to find a place that would rent to a family of six, so we had to buy a house in Brooklyn. My oldest son was ready for school, but the kindergarten class was full in September of 1926, so he began classes at St. Mathias School.

Frank and I were back home again, went to work together, and even sat next to one another in the hat shop for the next 36 years. Then his hands started to shake and the thread on the machine would break a lot causing him to rethread and waste a lot of time.

It was evident that he needed to change jobs, so Frank began at the Rheingold Brewery in Brooklyn, but I continued making hats for another 14 years, finally receiving a pension from the Millinery Union when I retired.

But now, let me regress to December 29, 1929, when my last daughter, Betty, was born. I had worked up until the 10th of December and felt fortunate in doing so because the depression had started, and there was very little work. How fortunate I felt during those next few weeks preparing for the holidays and the coming of our next child, knowing that there was a job waiting for me in a fine shop after the baby arrived. The days flew by and our beautiful, pink, blonde baby girl stole our hearts. The older three children were also blonde and light complexioned, and beautiful too.

Three weeks later, Mary Rogel came again to take care of our four children, and with the help of my mother, I returned to work.

My job for the next eight weeks was on the 12th floor, and there were no elevators. Many days I worked overtime from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., with an hour off for lunch. It was usually two hours beyond the 6:00 p.m. quitting time. The salaries were geared to how many pieces you could finish in a day, and were paid accordingly. I remember how difficult it was walking up that long flight of steps, and then back down again in the evening. My legs would shake, but I managed that ordeal along with the 10—block walk to the subway, and finally rode to our home in Brooklyn. After those hectic eight weeks, I remained home for a while because I had made enough money to pay for the taxes and interest on the house.

Even during those lengthy working days, I still looked forward to being a member of the Slovenian Women's Union. There were picnics and other activities that took the edge off of the hard work. I was elected recording secretary, and then president of our Branch No. 84 for over 28 years. As an elected delegate, I attended five conventions in Detroit, Cleveland, Chicago, Indiana, and Washington. These were such good memories because I enjoyed fraternal work and meeting other Slovenian ladies from throughout the U.S.

Then on April 2, 1962, at the age of 70, my husband died after a long lingering illness in the hospital and nursing home. I continued to work in the shop to pay the big medical bills for five years since there was no medicare program at that time. All types of treatment was attempted, but nothing was successful, so I did what I could to make his last days as easy and comfortable as possible.

Irene P. Odorizzi 1981



The Voje family picture shows Angela and her husband, Frank, in the center surrounded by children, sons and daughters-in-law, and the 16 grandchildren, on their 46th wedding anniversary and Frank's 70th birthday combined celebration. One grandchild was not present as he was away in school at the time the picture was taken.

Life had to go on, even after Frank's death, and I managed to keep busy visiting my family in Berkley Heights. Thank heavens, that I knew how to drive, and could travel the 40 miles in my trusty 10-year old Rambler. I also visited the cemetery every week, and then my heart started to act up, and I had to cut down on my activities. Caring for the house was too much, so I sold it and moved into an apartment. Now there was time to travel, and in 1963, with two other members from our Branch, I joined the Zveza group that went to Rome, Paris, London, and Slovenia. Even though there were some difficulties in traveling and much waiting in hot stations and airports, we conquered the thirst and fatigue by enjoying ourselves, especially in beautiful Slovenia.

One week prior to my return to the U.S., after a three-month vacation, I developed pneumonia. The doctor

prescribed a strong medicine for six days, but even though I was taking medication, the long flight made the trip very miserable for me. A telegram alerting my daughter of the change of flight never reached her, so when I arrived in New York there was no one waiting for me. I took a taxi home, and for the next two weeks was confined to bed.

Heart attacks have been my cross to bear for the past few years. By 1976, I had suffered three attacks, each one confining me to the hospital for a month. The doctor stated that I should not live alone, so I visit my children, dividing my time by staying with Frank and Audry in Florida during the winter months, and then with Marian and Jack during part of the spring and summer, following with a brief stay with Betty and her husband Frank. In May, I will be 82 years old, and only God knows if I will reach my next birthday.

The End

Yes, only God knew that Angela would not reach her 82nd birthday.

Angela Voje submitted her story to me three months prior to her death. Rather than change the story, it has been printed it as she would have wanted it.

A NEW YEAR OF PLANNING

Best wishes, happiness, and Good Health with many Blessings for the New Year. But what happened to 1980? There must be some elves pushing the clock faster as time goes by so swiftly.

This year 1980 seemed like one long vacation meeting so many lovely people associated directly or indirectly with our Slovenian Heritage.

Once again I appeal to you for any suggestions, ideas, or even complaints you may wish to bring up for discussion at the next Ill.—Ind. State Convention do please write to me ahead of time. I will file them and save them for Oct. 4, in Chicago, hosted by Branch 2.

We also suggest that a consideration for selecting, electing can come later, of a state delegate. The delegate can therefore plan ahead and be well prepared for the convention and not cram during the last few weeks.

Wishing you a successful year.

ANGELA NICO
Ill.—Ind. Reg. President



IN MEMORIAM

FRANCES GASPICH
JOLIET, ILLINOIS

NATIONAL AUDITOR
SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S
UNION OF AMERICA
1952 — 1967



CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

July 18—19, 1981

Lemont, Illinois



Outdoor Rosary Garden with Our Lady of Fatima and shepherd children at St. Mary's Retreat House, Lemont, Illinois

Plans for the Slovenian Women's Union "Christian Women's Conference" are well under way.

One of the primary points to remember is that everyone is cordially welcome to attend, members and non-members! There's no reason for anyone to demurr, thinking it is only for those active in the organization. We welcome all women and girls and their families, too.

We are now arranging for the overnight accommodations at the Retreat House of the Slovenian Franciscan Fathers right on the grounds of the Shrine in Lemont, Ill. From 100 to 150 can be accommodated at 2 and 4 person per room. Five meals will be provided, lunch and supper on Saturday and breakfast, dinner and supper on Sunday. The cost for the room and 5 meals will be nominal.

We are asking our Regional Presidents to be available as coordinators in their states, so that we can make travel to the Conference run smoothly.

In Illinois, we have begun a schedule of meetings at each branch to discuss the help needed for committees. The next meeting will take place at Br. 16, South Chicago, namely, St. George's church hall, Feb. 12th at 7:30 p.m. Branch 16 and 95 members are urged to attend. On March 2nd, we will meet in Joliet at the Home Office at 7:30 p.m. and are inviting Br. 20 members any from the towns of Bradley, Oglesby and LaSalle to attend.

Our main celebrant and homilist, Most Rev. Alojs Ambrozich, Bishop of Toronto, Canada has consented to be with us as much as possible and we are hopeful that will include the Conference scheduled for Sunday afternoon. Saturday's conference will be conducted by our Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Athanasius Lovrenčič.

Contact our National President, Mary Muller, Chairman, for further details and make plans now to be there!

EDITOR



PRVA

Vemo, da bo vsaka udeleženka Prve konference Krščanskih žena Slovenske Ženske Zveze deležna notranjega zadovoljstva. Konferenca se bo vršila v dnevih od 18. in 19. julija, to poletje v prostorih Baragovega doma za duhovne vaje na Lemontskem hribčku v Illinois.

KONFERENCA

Spoštovani gost, ugledni torontski škof, Dr. Alojzij Ambrožič bo glavni govornik in bo vodil razpravo o načelih, ki naj nas vodijo da bomo vodile zglede krščansko življenje. Razmišljanja se bodo vršila v soboto in nedeljo. Naš duhovni svetovalec, g. Atanazij Lovrenčič, OFM bo vodil konferenco v soboto popoldne in v nedeljo bo slovesna sv. maša pri votlini ob navzočnosti visokega gosta, škofa Ambrožiča, ki bo tudi vodil nedeljsko konferenco.

KRŠČANSKIH

ŽENA SŽŽ

V soboto zvečer bo tudi procesija s svečkami in molitvami v slovenskem jeziku. Prenočišča se bodo dobila za malo odškodnino, toda bližnje članice in prijatelji se moremo udeležiti brez rezervacije. Tudi kosila oz. prigrizek bo na razpolago. V kratkem bomo prejeli tikce za hrano.

Načelnica Konference krščanskih žena, je naša gl. preds. Mary Muller, 1848 W. 23rd Str., Chicago 60608, tel.: (312) 376—0187.

Mrs. Muller poziva vse državne predsednice, da združijo skupne napore glede potovanja iz raznih krajev. Npravite si sedaj načrte za udeležbo!



ANA GABER:

Št. 2, Chicago IL.

NAŠA SLOVENSKA DEDIŠČINA

ZA LEPŠE ŽIVLJENJE MED MOŽEM IN ŽENO

Škotski pisatelj in Zdravnik Arhibald Jožef Cronin je v svoji knjigi "Adventures in Two Worlds" napisal iz svojega doživetja zgodbo:

Živo se spominjam mladega moža, katerega žena je bila tik pred porodom prvega otroka. Sedel je pred mano v ordinacijski sobi in ves nervozen odprl svojo denarnico. Pri tem sta mu padla dva listka iz nje in zajadrala preko pisalne mize prav do mene. Bila sta dva listka iz zastavljalnice. Ves v zadregi mi je razložil, da tudi njemu brezposelnost ni prizanesla in da samo še priložnostno dela. Zato je zastavil svojo uro, da lahko plača račun. Dejal sem mu, da naj račun plača šele potem, ko se mu bo bolje godilo. Radovedno sem vprašal: "Kaj pa drugi listek?" Zdaj je bil še bolj v zadregi. Povedal je, da praznuje žena prihodnji dan svoj god in da je zastavil svoja odlikovanja iz vojske, da ji je kupil vsaj majhno darilo — srebrno zaponko.

Na taki skrbi in samoodpovedi zgrajeno družinsko življenje je trdno in srečno. Sebični in zahtevni možje in žene, ki ne poznajo odpovedi, ne najdejo pota do te sreče. Zakonsko življenje ni nikakor samo zabavno potovanje. Katera stvar je najbolj važna za srečno zakonsko življenje? Najhujši napad na to srečo, je vsekakor zakonska nezvestoba. Telesno nezvestobo največkrat zagreše možje, a notranjo, duhovno nezvestobo pa žene. Na zunaj zvesta žena je skoro vsak dan moža vpričo otrok osmešila. Če je mož kaj rekel, že se je spogledala s sinom ali hčerko in njen pogled je izražal zasmehovanje in tudi zaničevanje. Ne samo s pogledi tudi z besedami je kritizirala moževo mnenje, njegovo obleko, njegovo postavo, njegovo obnašanje. Še hujše je javno opravljanje.

Potrpežljivost je mast, da gladko tečejo kolesa družinskega življenja. Posebno, ko zakonca prideta v leta, veliko pomaga medsebojno razumevanje; da ostaneta drug do drugega prijazna. Ko začne mož izgubljati lase in že bolj s težavo diha, potem dobra žena teh znamenj ostarelosti sploh zapazila ne bo — vsaj pokazala tega ne bo. In ko postaja žena zajetnejša v život, potem ji bo mož večkrat zatrdil, da mu je sedaj videti še lepša in ljubkejša kot prej, ko je bila suha kot prekla.

Rahločutnost in dobra volja veliko pomagata, da ostane zakon trden. Kjer so družine trdne, tam bo tudi človeška družba zdrava in močna.



Matevž Hace

Sodobna povest s hribov
Mohorjev koledar: 1966, Celje.

II

Gospodar Jaka je tuhtal dalje. Kaj vse je pretrpel ded Jurij. Devetdeset let je bil star, ko je umrl. Nekoč mu je poginilo deset govedi. Ni vedel za kakšno boleznijo. Živinozdravnik iz mesta je rekel, da menda zato, ker je živina jedla "voličke" namesto sena. Pa ded ni obupal in prodal kmetije ter se preselil v dolino, kakor so to svetovali starši dedove žene. Ne, ne bom šel v dolino, kjer se tožarite za vsako ped zemlje. Ne, v gorah imam vse skupaj — hišo, hlev, skedenj, sušilnico, kaščo, kolarnico, njive, travnike, pašnike in gozd. Kamor stopim, sem na svojem. V dolini pa še sesti ne moreš, že te vidi sosed. Ker so ga sorodniki prosili, naj se le preseli v dolino, je ded udaril z nogo ob tla in zakričal: "Bežite no, vi sploh ne veste, kako se lepo živi v gorah. V dolini ste sitni drug na drugega. Prepirate se za prazen nič. Še za stranke se prepirate, namesto, da bi jim pokazali figo. Ne, ne, Gornikov Jurij ni tako neumen da bi šel v dolino. Ne, mi bomo ostali v gorah". Dedu Juriju so se sorodniki tako zamerili, da jih ni potem nikoli več obiskal. Svoji ženi-babici je dejal: "Ti kar obiskuj svoje, kakor hočeš, mene pa ne bodo več videli. Prekleteo, ali tvoji mislijo, da sem ciganske sorte, človek, ki prodaja grunt svojih dedov in se seli kakor cigan? Ne, ne! Naš rod je v gorah od tistih časov, ko so Turki kradli in požigali po dolinah. V gore jih pa ni bilo tistih pesjanov."

Ded Jurij je vedno govoril o slabih časih, hudih vojskah, v katerih je preživel osem let. Večkrat je rekel, da mora gorski kmet zaupati le v sebe. Delati mora, da ima v kašči vsega kar potrebuje, pa še poln hlev živine. Pa naj potem pozimi zamete snega do pasu, če hoče. Pozimi delajo koše, popravljajo orodje, ali pa vosijo po snegu hlode iz gozda v dolino.

Ded je umrl in oče je umrl. Mati je umrla in tudi babica je umrla, babica, ki je hrepenela po dolini in se ni mogla vživeti v gorah. Ali ljubila je deda, njegovo naravo, pa čeprav je šla ob nedeljah na hribček nad hišo, gledala v dolino in hrepenela po njej. Ded je ljubil babico, kupil ji je obleke, da je bila vedno lepo oblečena. Ljudje so rekli: dobro ji je pri Gornikovih. Morda je Jože po babici podedoval željo živeti v dolini in goram obračati hrbet. Babica je živela osemnosemdeset let. Rodila je deset otrok — šest sinov in štiri hčere.

Gornikov Jaka se spomni zadnje vojne in vsega tistega, kar se je zgodilo. V njegovo hišo so prihajali partizani. Jedli so, počivali, spali in se pogovarjali. Nekoč je Jaka prehranil štiri dni tristo ljudi. Dvajset govedi je dal Gornik Jaka za partizane, trideset ovac in pet debelih prašičev. Koliko pa še ajdove moke, krompirja in ržene moke! Vsi so govorili: Gornikov Jaka, vas ne bomo pozabili. To se bo gledalo pri davkih in dokladah. Gornikov Jaka je nakremžil obraz; Da, tako so govorili, ko so bili v stiski. Vse so pozabili. Pri davkih se to vidi in pri tisti gozdni taksi,



Na Srednjem vrhu pozimi

Foto: Franc Močnik

ki je nikdar ni plačeval. Seveda, davki morajo biti, to Jaka dobro ve in nikoli ni verjel tistim mladim zgovornim ljudem, ki so govorili, da mu dvajset let ne bo treba plačevati davkov. Smejal se je vsem tistim terencem in mladim komisarjem, ki še brk niso imeli. Jaka je želel, da bi naredili cesto v hrib. "Veste, dragi terenci, nič mi ne obljubljajte, da se ne boste ugriznili v jezik. Kaj mi boste dali? Nič. Rad bi vedel le to, kako bi vi živeli, če ne bi bilo Gornikove družine, ki ima poln hlev živine in polne kašče žita, da lahko jeste naš kruh. Koliko je takih hiš, ki vas hranijo in vam dajejo streho v mrazu? Davki pa bodo, pa naj bo na oblasti kdorkoli. Bogve, koliko potov bo treba narediti, preden bomo dobili potrebno cesto."

"Človek božji, če vam jaz rečem, ki sem rajonski sekretar, da vam ne bo treba deset let plačevati ne davka, ne doklad, potem to drži. Na rajonu imamo popisano, da ste dali deset govedi, trideset ovac, da o žitu, krompirju, mleku, moštu in prenočišču ne govorimo. Vse, stric Jaka, boste dobili v petih letih po vojni — cesto, elektriko in šolo." In rajonski sekretar je vneto tolkel po svoji torbi. Gornikov Jaka se je smejal in mu dejal, da se mu zdi vse to neverjetno. "Hm, da bi dobil vsaj dobro cešto po nekako petih letih", mu je vrtalo v mislih — Pa trikrat po pet let je že minulo po vojni, a ceste še ni bilo. Ni ceste, daleč je šola, še dlje je zdravnik in živinozdravnik. Sinova Jože in Zvonko sta pa ušla v tovarno.

Gornikov Jaka je hodil od drevesa do drevesa. Gledal je v debele jelke in bukve. V vrhovih je šumelo kakor odmev lepih dni, ko je z očetom sadil jelke in smreke. Ded je znal tako lepo pripovedovati o divjadi v gozdu in slabih ljudeh, ki brez srca iz-

sekavajo gozd, ne vedoč, da s tem izpodsekavajo srečo celih rodov in družin. Ded je znal pripovedovati, kako so zabarantali gozdove nekateri gorjanci. Siromaki so bili njihovi otroci in vnuki petdeset let. Po končanem delu so se vsedli pod debelo trivršno smreko, ki je imela osem kubikov lesa. Izpod nje je bil lep razgled po gozdu. Ded je povedal, da mu je njegov stari oče dejal: Jurij, te smreke ne sekaj; Večkrat sem počival pod njo in gledal gozd in poslušal šumenje dreves, pa mi je odleglo, da sem pozabil na sitno ženo, velike davke. Še ti rečem, ne posekaj nikoli te smreke. Tudi ti boš sedel kdaj pod njo, pa ti bo odleglo, boš videl. No, ded je poslušal svojega deda. Ko mu je poginilo deset govedi, je šel pod to smreko in tam jokal, da ga nihče ni videl in slišal. Samo smreka je divje šumela, kakor bi tudi ona žalovala za lepo živino. Od tistega časa so bili dedu prijetni sprehodi po gozdu, v katerem so se sprehajali srnjaki in jeleni. Sam je ustrelil srnjaka in jelena, ki sta mu v repišču delala škodo. Klet je lovski zakupnik, kričal je, da menda ni nihče drugi ustrelil jelena in srnjaka kakor Gornikov Jurij. Ded je kadil pipo in mirno zrl v lovskega zakupnika.

"Če mi ne molčiš, te bom pretepel. Ali si me videl?"

"Ne, nisem te videl, Jurij. Samo mislim si tako."

"Ha, ha, mislil." Zakupnik je odšel. "Bom že dobil kujona, ki je streljah." Nikoli ni nihče dobil deda Jurija, čeprav je ustrelil dosti jelenov in srnjakov, zajcev ter divjih prašičev. "Bog oče je ustvaril divjačino za vse ljudi, zmolimo kratko molitvico in jejmo", je rekel družini, ki je bila vesela, da je na mizi tako pogostoma meso.

Oče ni bil divji lovec, pač pa strasten polhar. Kadar je žir obrodil na bukvah, je vedel, da bo dosti polhov. Pripravil je pasti in pustil za deset dni vse delo na polju, šel v gozd in vsako popoldne lovil. Doma se je pa mati jezila, češ da je prismojen. Pa je bilo dobro polšje meso in po tri polhovke-kučme je imel vsak moški, strici in oče.

Oče je umrl v tisti veliki krizi, ki jo je povzročil general Živkovič. Da bi ga strela! Gornikov Jaka je mislil dalje. Tudi sam je lovil polhe. Z očetom je pekel krompir in hodil s hlevsko svetilko od drevesa do drevesa. Oče je od veselja kar poskočil, ko je prijel gladko bukovo prekljo, kjer je bila pritnjena past. "Jojmene, kakšen rep visi iz škatlje, stari je", je vzkliknil oče. Ni se zmotil. Vselej je uganil. Potežkal je polha in ga dal potežkati tudi njemu. Ko sta se vračala k ognju, kjer se je pekel krompir, sta položila polhe na skalo drug poleg drugega. "He, Jakec, če bi vedeli mestni ljudje, kako je lepo loviti polhe, bi naložili še večje davke." Obstala sta pod rogovilasto bukvi. Polhi so se sprehajali po dolgih vejah, cvilili in metali okleščke. Oče se je ustavil, dal prst na usta in šepnil: "Jaka, poslušajva. Ali ni lepo poslušati? Mati se jezi, ker loviva polhe. Da, jezi se: kar naprej polhe. Pa tudi ona jih rada je, kuhane ali pečene."

Veselje je bilo pri hiši, kadar je oče prinesel iz gozda kuno zlatico ali belico. Lep denar si dobil za kožo. Takrat se ga je oče vedno nalezal in materi kupil blago za novo obleko. On, Jaka, ni tako strasten polhar kakor je bil oče. No, če je polšja

HODI V LUČI

Ko nas zjutraj ura zbudi, velikokrat pogledamo skozi okno, in če je zunaj temno, oblačno, celo dež, kar nehote bi radi še potegnili naše spanje za par ur; a na drugi strani, če sončni žarki skušajo prodreti skozi zavese naše spalnice, kar nehote poskočiš: nov dan je zasijal, zunaj je vse prepojeno s sončnimi žarki, zunaj je luč, je svetloba. Isto se dogaja tudi v naši notranjosti; so dnevi ko se zdi, da je vse temno, da se je Bog skril in nas pustil same; in so dnevi ko je vse jasno, ko se nam zdi, da je Bog tako blizu in njegova pričujočnost nas dviga do neba.

Nujno je, da so v človeškem življenju dnevi, ko nas Bog preizkuša in zopet dnevi ko nas Vsemogočni kliče k veselju. Mi sami moramo delati na tem, da ne hodimo v temi. Bog te je že poklical k luči, ko si prejel, prejela, sveti krst; a to je bil le začetek. Bog ve, da bomo morali skozi mnoge temne dneve, zato nam hoče biti On sam luč. A prvo kar mi moramo narediti je, da odpremo svoje srce in Ga sprejmemo v svoje lastno življenje. Naj bo dan še tako sončen, če smo zaprti v temno sobo, sončni žarki ne morejo do nas; nujno je da gremo ven, da odpremo svoje oči in se navžijemo sončne milosti da iahko učinkovito deluje v tebi, da te lahko preoblikuje po božjem načrtu, da te lahko notranje razsvetli, da hodiš v svetlobi tudi če zunaj ne sije sonce.

Če smo mi tako prepojeni z božjo lučjo, je nujno, da bomo blagodejno vplivali na sočloveka. Ljudje danes zavračajo luč, ki jo je Bog poslal; Kristusa;

raje hodijo po temi in tako postaja njih življenje brez pomembno, brez veselja. Ti si lahko takim ljudem ne samo v pomoč, ampak tudi kažipot. Bog te je postavil prav v ta čas, da boš s svojim zgledom luč svetu.

Na Svečnico blagoslavljam sveče; goreča sveča nam daje luč, je podoba življenja in milosti. Ni čudno da je Cerkev dala tvojim botrom v roke gorečo svečo ob tvojem krstu, znamenje milosti. In ko bomo umirali, nam bodo zopet dali gorečo svečo v znamenje večne luči, ki bi naj svetila naši duši.

Goreča sveča je dobra pridiga; Ali sem tudi jaz goreča sveča dobrega zgleda za svojo okoliščino?



letina, gre na lov v soboto večer ali pa v nedeljo. Čez teden ne utegne.

Jaka je ves zaljubljen v gozd in živino. Sivorjavo živino ima že štirideset let. Lepa je in zdrava. Njegovi junci imajo čez dve leti po tisoč kil, krave pa po osemnajst litrov mleka v mladovni dobi. Takega uspeha pri živini nista zmogla ne oče in ne ded Jurij. Ded ni bil rejec, pač pa je gledal na gozd in na dobro obdelane njive, da so rodile. Ne boš živel brez obilnega pridelka. Ded Jurij je včasih pridelal toliko žita, da so ga imeli za dve leti. Za sadni vrt so bili vneti vsi. Še praded je zasadil in razširil vrt.

Jaka živo podoživlja očeta in deda, s kakšno mirno zbranostjo sta pripovedovala, kako sta sadila jabolane in hruške. Prekopala sta ves vrt. Stodvajset voz kamenja sta speljala z vrta. Iz gozda sta vozila črno rodovitno prst. Ded Jurij ni imel knjige o sadjarstvu, tako kot je on nima, Jaka. Koliko so imeli tepk, koliko so jih nasušili, namočili za žganje. Še pozimi so jih jedli. Kadar je bila dobra sadna letina, je bilo pri hiši praznično. Nanosili so drv k sušilnici, oprali sode, pobelili klet. Štirinajst dni ali tudi več je gorelo v sušilnici. Nasušili so tepk, krljjev in češpelj. Iztisnili so mošta, da so ga bili vsi sodi polni. Družina je delala od zore do mraka. Samo ob nedeljah in večjih praznikih so počivali ali se obiskovali hribovci in dolinci. Dolinsko sorodstvo ni moglo prehvaliti dobrega mošta in dobrega rženega kruha. "Vas ima ljubi Bog najrajši", so

govorili babičini sorodniki, ki so bili ješčiči. Niso v dolini ponekod toliko pridelali, kakor mi v hribih. Pa tisti partizani in terenci, ki so Jaka prvokrat obiskali, kako so gledali v kleti polne sode mošta in velike barilje žganja. Zvrhane skrinje pšenice, ajde, rži, ječmena, poln hlev lepih govedi in v čebelnjaku trideset panjev modernih žnidaršičev (panjev). To so jedli, gledali, spraševali.

Pa ga je vprašal neki mlad zgovoren brigadni komisar, ki si je vse te reči pisal v notes: "Hm, ljubi Gornik, vas je narava obdarila z dobrotami, da jih še nam dajete kot dober Slovenec. Koliko hlapcev in dekel pa imate, da vam vse to pridelajo in opravijo živino v hlevu."

"Ha, ha, kje so tisti hlapci in deklet, ki delajo na Gornikovi zemlji, v hlevu in gozdu, ha, ha! Ljubi mladi komisar, ki ste gotovo iz mesta doma, kjer ima vsak boljši gostilničar hlapca in deklo, natakario in še pestrno povrhu, ker bi radi vedeli, vam bom povedal. Poglejte: jaz sem eden, žena je druga in trije sinovi; stara mati, ki ji je osemdeset in oba moja strica, ki sta ostala pri hiši in sta oba stara po petinsedemdeset let in eno leto čez. To so vsi hlapci in deklet zemlje, na kateri stoji Gornikovina že štiristo let."

"Veste, Gornik, mislil sem, da imate hlapce in deklet, ki vam delajo, vi pa samo ukazujete. Tako delajo vsi večji kmetje v naših krajih, pa imajo manj kakor pa vi."

(bo še)

ŠT. 3, PUEBLO, COLORADO

Na naši letni seji je bilo povoljno število članic navzočih. Mladine pa ne omenim. Pri volitvah je bil ves odbor zopet izvoljen: Preds. Frances Skul, podpreds. Berta Mintan, taj in blag. Frances Simonich, 1113 Mahren, zapisnikarica Josie Rimes. Duhovni vodja g. župnik Fr. Blane Bebble. Moja malenkost kot vaša pročevalka v ZARJO.

Plače in ostala pravila podružnice, so ostala neizpremenjena. Seje se vršijo vsaki prvi četrtek v mesecu ob 1 uri popoldne v cerkveni dvorani.

Po seji se je vršila družabnost v krasno okrašeni dvorani ob polno obloženih mizah Božičnih dobrot. Posebno je bila pridna čla. Helen Galich. (Thank you Helen, za darila domačega peciva, katerega smo bile deležne vse odbornice podr.)

Živimo v bogati in svobodni deželi, kjer nam gre dobro, toda še vedno se spomnimo na rodni dom. Lepi spomini ne bodo zamrli v naših srcih.

V nov. so članice spremile k večnemu počitku umrlo sestro Anne Jeršin s častnim pogrebim obredom. V dec. je umrl naš prijatelj Albert Mutz. Moje osebno sožalje tudi žalujočim za pokojno gl. odbornico Anne Podgoršek iz Duluth, Minn. Bile smo dolgoletne sodelavke pri Zvezi. Bodi je ohranjen častni spomin!

Prijateljica Mary Tomsic, Strabane, Pa., mi je potožila njeno bolno stanje. Oči so ji opešale, ima zlomljeno kost v kolku, kar jo ovira pri hoji. Mary, hvala za sožalje izrečene ob izgubi mojega sina, Williama. Enako iskrena zahvala gl. preds. Mary Muller, gl. pod-preds. Anne Kompare urednici Corinne Leskovar za izraze tolažbe, ki še vedno prihajajo. Bodrijo nas vaše molitve in upamo, da nam Bog da moč, da prenesemo to bridko smrtno izgubo.

Na Božični dan sem prejela telefonsko voščilo od

moje dobre znanke od leta 1949, Marie Schlaman iz Leadville, Colo. Po dolgih letih sva imele zelo zanimiv razgovor. Potožila mi je, da pogreša svojega moža, ki je umrl pred 11 leti. Vsi razumemo srčne bolečine, kadar nam smrt ugrabi drago nam osebo. Marie S. je še vedno članica Zveze, čeprav njena podružnica je neaktivna. Tam v Leadville imamo zvesto članico, Mary Klune, katero muči bolezen. Marie hvala ti! Hvala tudi Mary K. — obema za vajino prijateljstvo in izraze sožalja. Rojeni smo, samo, da živimo za gotov čas. Vsi pa iščemo v življenju prijateljstva, ker leto naglo poteče, naglo poide tudi naše življenje.

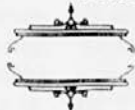
Poročam, da se strinjam s predlogom naše gl. preds. Mary Muller, ki je v skladu s pravili, da se vršijo drž. konvencije vsako leto in da se voli državne predsednice. Priporočam, da se naša drž. konvencija letos vrši pri podr. Crested Butte, Colo., ali pa v Gunnison, Colo. To je naš edini način, da se zberemo iz vse države in se pogovorimo o nadaljnjem delu. To bo pomagalo napredku Zveze.

Naj na tem mestu izrečem svojo iskreno zahvalo za praznična voščila in kartice sožalja. Vsem bolnim želim ljubega zdravja, posebno Katherine Krasovec iz Wabash Ave. in Frances Babich iz Pine str., ki je v okrevališču (rest home).

Za mnoge ljudi je bilo lansko leto poslednje in mi vsi smo zopet za eno leto bližje smrti. Lahko bo novo leto poslednje za nas. Zaslužnim naj dobra dela ostanejo. To naj bo moje novoletno voščilo!

Vsem prijateljem in znancem želim obilo božjega blagoslova v letu 1981, posebno uspešno leto naši Zvezi in polno mero uspehov vsem članicam.

Vaša,
ANNA PACHAK



ŠT. 14, EUCLID, OHIO

Leto 1980 je za nami. Za nami so tudi volitve društvenega odbora, če bi bile, ali ne, ker vedno ostane isti odbor. Seje bodo vsak prvi torek ob 7:30 zvečer v Slovenskem domu.

Pri Sv. Kristini bo sv. maša za članice na Pepelnico, dne 4. marca ob 8:30. Članice so prošene, da se udeležijo.

Precej naših članic je bolanih: Beverly Pečjak, Mary Mahne, Rozi Maurich in v domu ostarelih je Mary Kusar. Karolina Gabrenja je v novembru praznovala 101 rojstni dan in je še kar čvrsta za njena leta. Lojzka Kratovil pa se je vrnila domov k hčerki — vsem pošiljamo srčne želje, da bi jim Bog naklonil boljše zdravje.

Izrekamo sožalje Rozi Maurich in hčerkam ob izgubi moža in očeta, ki je umrl v novembru. Naj v miru počiva!

Iz Floride nas je obiskala Kristina Kebe in iz Ljubljane je prišla na obisk Pepca Požar k sestri Mary Stražišar na Arrowhead Ave. Potem sta šle skupaj v Argentino obiskati brata in so sedaj že doma. Vera Bajec in mož sta pri hčerki v Californiji. Želim jima obilo zabave v gorkih krajih.

Mesto da bi menjale božična darila, smo pa zložile skupaj v denarju in darovale v dober namen: Mary Mavec šoli in bolnišnici sv. Družine.

Prav lepa hvala tistim, ki so kuhale in stregle ter darovale štrudelnje in druge dobrote za Božičnico. Hvala vsem!

Lepe pozdrave vsem članicam po Ameriki!

Poročevalka MARY

ŠT. 20, JOLIET, ILLINOIS

Leto hitro mineva. Ob začetku novega leta delamo načrte kaj bomo storili, da bo več uspeha. Žal je to večkrat brez uspeha, ker pozabimo dobre načrte.

Pri podr. št. 20 smo imele volitve odbora in mnogo smo razpravljale, kaj bi bilo dobro ukreniti za uspešno delovanje

VESELE ROJSTNE DNEVE MRS. OTONICAR & MRS. STRNIŠA!

ŠT. 25, CLEVELAND, OHIO

Božični in novoletni prazniki so za nami. Upam, da so vse članice Zveze uživale praznike in da bo božji blagoslov z vami vse leto 1981. Imele smo zelo lepo božičnico. Članice so prinesle mnogo okusnih dobrot. Za prihodnje leto bi bilo želeli, da bi opustile kalorije.

Dobri Bog ima gotovo zelo rad naše članice, saj jih je kar 17 poklical k sebi za večni počitek v letu 1980. Pospremile smo vse na zadnji poti, razen dveh, ker nismo bile obveščene. Članice opozarjamo, da povejo svojim ožjim sorodnikom, da so včlanjene v Zvezi. — Naj naše drage sestre počivajo v miru božjem. Žalujočim ostalim naše iskreno sožalje!

Imamo tudi dobre novice, kajti v letu 1981 bomo imele med seboj kar 17 članic, ki so nad 90 let mlade. 13-tim smo v letu 1980 poslale božične kartice z malim darilom. Upam, da so vse prejele. Naša inajstarejša čla. Mary Bradich bo v septembru 99 let mlada. Dorothy Strniša 92 let, Mary Otoničar 91, Veronika Urbancic 94, Theresa Zdovc 94, Anna Primožic 91, Frances Najer 94, Mary Makovec 92, Frances Kotnik 90. Naj vsem Bog nakloni še mnoga leta v zdravju in sreči!

JOSEPHINE ERJAVEC

Naša podr. št. 25 ima tudi 89 članic, ki so presegle 80 let. To so čvrste slovenske korenine!

Dan seje je bil spremenjen in se bodo odslej vršile vsako drugo sredo v mesecu ob 1:30 pop. v družabni sobi (Social room) pri sv. Vidu. Zelo smo vesele, da smo dobile novo tajnico, ker naša dosedanja Roseanne Piorkowski, je morala opustiti zaradi dela in družine. Pristrčno zahvalimo Roseanne za vso njeno delo in požrtvovalnost.

Naša nova tajnica sicer tudi dela, toda ima sredo prosto. Prosimo, da pošljete vašo članarino po pošti z markirano povratno kuverto, ali pa plačate na seji in 25—tega v vsakem mesecu v sejni sobi. Ni potrebno hoditi na dom tajnice, ker mama od tajnica je v bolniškim stolu in ne more priti do glavnih vrat. Pokličite tajnico ob večerih.

MRS. CIRILA KERMAVNER,
6610 Bliss Ave., Cleveland, Ohio

Telefon: 881—4798

Vse lepo vabljeni, da pridete na seje. Vesele boste, saj imamo priljubljene igre in srečale boste svoje sestre. Pozdrav vsem!

JENNIE FEMC

LJUBEZENSKA IZPOVED

Moja žena ve vse bolje kot jaz. V avtu mi stalno pripoveduje, kak naj vozim in v kuhinji, kako naj pomivam posodo."

Žena v zakonski posvetovalnici. "Moj mož teka za vsakim krilom. Kako ga naj tega odvadim?"

"Pošljite ga na Škotsko!"

"Zakaj si pa tako dobre volje, Tone?"

"Danes sem končno dobil modrega papagaja za ženo."

"To je pa res dobra zamenjava!"

"Kako vam uspe zjutraj zbuditi moža?"

"Pod blazino položim kos mesa in spustim bernardinca v sobo."

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THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT STILL WITH US

DEAR MRS. HODNIK:

The Branch 2 Christmas Party was held on December 6th, 1980 at St. Stephen's church hall. When my family and I walked in the hall and I saw the nativity scene all decorated in lights, I felt like I was a shepherd hearing that the Lord had been born. The party was one of the best that I've attended in my fourteen years.

The afternoon began with a Santa Claus coloring contest that went over very big with the younger members, followed by a beautiful arrangement of Christmas carol singing. After this was a doll collection presentation by Beth, Cindy and their grandma, Mrs. Vucko. Beth and her grandma explained how they purchased their dolls. Some of them were of President's wives, movie stars and fairyland dolls which were beautiful.

All of a sudden, from the back of the room, came a clown whose name was "Luke". Luke had green hair and was very tall. He went around the hall and made animals out of balloons for every child.

As the sound of tiny hoof beats stopped and the chimney soot cleared, our eyes were all turned to the visiton of our main guest, who appeared bringing loads of goodies for all of the children, Santa Claus.

There was also a special prize, a bicycle which was won by a lady.

We would like to thank all the ladies of Br. 2 for making it such a nice party and to my father and his helpers for the beautiful hall decorations. It was a wonderful Christmas Party.

KATHY NUSKO
Age 14

A MESSAGE FROM FRAN...

This month we celebrate Valentine Day. People have been exchanging Valentine cards for many years.

The beginnings of this holiday go back to ancient Rome where there were people named Valentine whose feast days were observed Feb. 14th.

One of these was jailed and then executed for refusing to give up Christianity; according to legend he left a note for his jailer's tiny daughter who had been his friend, and signed it "from your Valentine". Some states have towns named Loveland and each year at this time the post offices there are

With over 400 members in our branch, it was our hope that the activities planned for the year-end meetings and holidays would be well-attended. And, they were. We are happy to report that they were all successful.

In November, over 100 members attended the Penny Social at which time games and refreshments were duly enjoyed. With the proceeds of this event, the committee planned another great party, this time for the children for Christmas. A hard working committee — thinking of the enjoyment of our juvenile members and their families — did their utmost to insure a memorable party. From the beautifully decorated hall to the entertaining acts and fabulous prizes, the members were treated to a full afternoon of enjoyment. We know that it brought the right holiday spirit to each and every family taking part.

As a commemoration of the 54th anniversary of Br. 2 and the Slovenian Women's Union, a special evening mass was held on our December meeting night that was attended by most of the members who then joined us for the adult Christmas Party at the Lower Hall. Thanks are expressed to Fr. Vendelin, our Pastor and the Slovenian church choir, especially Mmes. Nandy Puc and Frieda Arko for adding to the beauty of the religious ceremony.

There's much that can be said about the party afterward. It was great! Our menfolk joined us and at each table there was a little bustle of activity as we got into the mood of the evening with wonderful

very busy. Valentine's Day is a big event every year and you probably have been making your own special Valentine Cards for your parents, classmates and that special boy or girl friend.

Have a happy Valentine Day!

Frances Sietz



President Maggie Hujbar greeting all the kiddies at the gala holiday party where games and gifts were in abundance.

refreshments, plentiful food and entertaining games in which all who wished to, took part. Just the sight of so many happy, laughing faces is enough for our committee to remember with satisfaction for their efforts.

There is one member I would like to thank especially for her many hours of work in preparation for the party and that is Ann Bunetta who made all the nut cup favors for the table. She and the Reich girls spent hours making table decorations in the weeks before the party.

So, to all the prize donors, committee members and families, heartiest thanks on a superb job!

As many of you know, we have a new president of Br. 2, namely Miss Magda Smirayh, a young and energetic person who has already shown that she is interested in fraternalism and sisterhood. As she took the gavel presented at the installation meeting in January, she expressed her hopes for "Success With Unity" in the new year for Br. 2 and appealed to everyone to help so that this year will indeed be a great one — with many activities and much progress. First of all, she asked that we get some new members especially among the young matrons of the community. Another new officer is my sister, Gloria Nusko who will be the Recording Secretary. We know she will enjoy being on the committee.

So, with this new hope for the coming year, we have a lot to plan and work toward. Let's hope that many of you who haven't been attending meetings will come in February, on the 12th, to meet Magda and to be a part of the new Br. 2 spirit!

C. LESKOVAR



"FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART"



Photos: Dorothyann Winter

"Thank You"
received by Br. 50

Dear Frances Sietz, S.W.U. Youth Director for Br. 50, Boys and Girls of S.W.U. Br. 50 and all members in attendance at the Junior Christmas Party:

Thank you sincerely for the beautiful evening you gave our residents by having your Christmas Party at the Slovene Home for the Aged on Dec. 12th. The residents of

JUNIORS ENTERTAIN SENIORS AT CLEVELAND HOME FOR AGED

the Home were delighted to watch the games the children played, their singing, the lovely Christmas skit and overall merriment by all who were present.

It was wonderful of each and everyone of your group who came and shared in making this an enchanting evening.

Please come again and bring your Christmas party to the Slovene

Home for the Aged next year.

The joy and happiness brought into the hearts of our residents will long be remembered.

"God bless you all."

signed: Eleanor Rudman
Activity Coordinator

P.S. Santa Claus and Mrs. Elf were outstanding!

(This letter was signed by all the residents, personally.)

Hi Boys and Girls,

During the month of February, we in the United States remember the birthdays of two of our Presidents, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.

Besides the fact that both of these two men were our President, they both have something else in common. These men are remembered for their honesty. George is said to have confessed to chopping down his father's cherry tree and Abraham is supposed to have walked a mile or so to give a lady her change of one penny. (Of course, a penny was worth a lot more in his day than it is now, but I guess it's the principle of the matter.)

Thinking back on my childhood, I guess that old saying, "Honesty is the best policy," has some truth to it. I remember one time I was sneaky, it didn't work out too well. See, being honest isn't only with words, it's with actions, too.

It was a pleasant Saturday morning. My mom was drinking coffee and reading the morning newspaper at the kitchen table. This was her usual Saturday morning routine.

I wanted some papers stapled



together. If I was honest, and asked my mother to staple them for me nothing would have happened, but no not me. I was a big girl. I didn't need mommy's help.

Casually, I walked in the kitchen, took the stapler out of the junk drawer and went in the bathroom. There I was going to staple my papers and then I would walk back into the kitchen and put the stapler back. Seemed simple enough, except my little sister had followed me into the bathroom.

"Staple some papers for me, too," she said in a blackmailing tone.

"O.K.," I agreed. (What choice did I have?)

Before I could staple her papers for her I dropped the stapler on the floor and it came apart in three sections. It wasn't broken. All I had to do was snap the piece back together. I snap the first part in place, then I preceeded to snap the second part in place. However, I failed to notice where I had placed my thumb. My was on the exact spot the staples are ejected, so when I pressed down ---
AAAAAAAHHHHHHHHH!

Two little fountains of blood shot from my thumb on to the mirror and pink bathroom tile. I could feel my pulse increase as I started to cry. (To tell the truth, I think I was more scared than in pain) I ran out of the bathroom screaming, "I'm sorry, mommy. I'm sorry."

Yes, honesty is the best policy. I would have saved a lot time and energy if I wouldn't have been so sneaky, and would have come right out and asked to use the stapler.

'Til next month

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