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SEEKING AND FINDING THE FAMILY ROOTS
A SLOVENIAN IMMIGRANT STORY

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ON THE COVER...

"We were drawn together..."

Top photo: Four Krnz (later spelled Kernz) brothers, just after they came to America from their Slovenian homeland and settled in Illinois (photo circa 1910). Standing are Joseph, John, and Anton; seated is Frank with his wife, Alojzija (Louise) and baby son, Frank Jr. Another brother, Ignac stayed in Slovenia; Anton returned to Slovenia and died shortly after.

Bottom photo: Of Frank and Louise's eight children, two of them traveled to Novo Mesto, Slovenia in 1997 and met, for the first time, the family of Ignac... here we see the happy gathering of uncles, aunts, and cousins.

Read more about their genealogy search on page 16.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

THINGS ARE HAPPENING:

The following special events are being planned by our branches:

January 2004

- 4 Br. 39, Biwabik, MN, After Christmas Party
- 11 Br. 20, Joliet, IL, Benefit Dance, St. Joe's Park Hall,
Br. 43, Milwaukee, WI, After Christmas Party,
Klemmer's Restaurant

February

- 8 Br. 20, Joliet, IL, Benefit Dance, St. Joe's Park Hall

March

- 6 Br. 108, Dinner-Meeting, Slovenian Family
Polka Night - Blob's Park, Jessup, MD



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HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

National Officer:

Jan. 10 - Mary Turvey, Dir. Sch. Fund, Marquette, MI

Presidents:

Feb. 2 - Molly McIntyre, Br. 22, Bradley, IL

Secretaries:

Feb. 1 - Agatha Donges, Br. 40, Lorain, OH

Feb. 18 - Theresa Dagg, Br. 10, Cleveland, OH

Feb. 27 - Diane Varney, Br. 14, Euclid, OH

MANY HAPPY RETURNS OF THE DAY!

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**NATIONAL PRESIDENT
Kathleen Dorchak**



**“Committed to
Our Vision,
Mission,
and Purpose”**

As we begin a new year, we enter into a new era for the members of the Slovenian Women’s Union of America. This is a great opportunity for us to unite and become strong in our commitment to our heritage and culture. We can do this by reflecting on our Vision, Mission, and Purpose.

OUR VISION – to preserve the living spirit of the founders and past membership by promoting and nourishing the legacy left to us for future generations.

OUR MISSION – to reach individuals by uniting them through their common interest in Slovenian culture and traditions.

OUR PURPOSE – to provide resources, communication, and foster friendships in honor of our cultural heritage.

Our branches are our past, present, and future. We need to invent and create ways to help our branches become strong and vital. As members, your attendance and active involvement in your branch will help achieve this goal and at the same time promote our vision, mission, and purpose. Members are the most important assets to any organization and ours is no exception. Each of us should take the time

to reflect on how much we each bring to our beloved organization and how much we can offer.

This issue of ZARJA features Genealogy, Heritage and Scholarship. I would like to share with you a moment that I believe will touch each of your hearts as it touched mine. I’ll start with an important question? How many of you have visited Slovenia? If you did, do you remember the beautiful sights of its lush colors, wonderful sounds, fantastic smells, and delicious tastes? All of it totally unbelievable! But what about meeting your family for the first time? Isn’t that just a complete heartwarming event— One of my branch 47 members at the age of 84 visited Slovenia for the first time last fall. You should see the gleam in her eyes and the smile on her face as she talks about her experiences. Let’s salute Mary Skul and all of our members that have traveled to Slovenia to met their families, and learn more about our Slovenian culture and traditions. It’s a trip every Slovenian should make at least once in a lifetime. And for those who think you are too old – think of Mary. We are never too old to enjoy being Slovenian.

Your National Board will be meeting in Joliet at the end of February. I would like to discuss any issues or concerns you may have at that time. Remember, the National Board is working for you and we want to hear from you. I encourage you to write to me by February 1, 2004 so I can plan for these items to be on our agenda. I can be reached at any of the following contact points: 3088 Markle Drive, Silver Lake, OH 44224; home – (330) 686-1336; cell (330) 730-8951 or kdorchak@neo.rr.com.

Together we can make a difference as we remember our Vision, Mission, and Purpose!

Bravo, Bernadette Fitzsimmons, for organizing a new branch, No. 108, in Olney, MD. She really is realizing the power of our vision, mission, and purpose!

“Give what you have. It may be better than you think.”
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
Love, Peace, and Laughter,
Kathleen

Welcome to the BRAND NEW BRANCH in Olney, MD



**You can see
these members
only in Olney!**

Pictured from left to right in the front row – May Kokal, Patricia Walsh, Bernadette Kovacic Fitzsimmons, Ann Stratton and Florence Povodnik Engelhardt. Standing – Nika Kovacic, Eveline Kaluza Lawrence, John Klansek, Joan Strnisa Simmons, Margaret McFarland Stasha Furlan Seaton and Erika Kokal Roda.

Photo taken at their first meeting, November 16, 2003 – Photo by Erika Kokalj Roda

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THE FUTURE IS NOW –

BE A PART OF IT!

*National Secretary,
Bonnie Prohar Prokup:*



YES!!! We just reached our goal for one of the best membership campaigns in recent history of the Slovenian Women's Union of America! As of this date we have 300 new members.

Congratulations to everyone who worked hard on making this a success!

By the time you are reading this ZARJA you are also looking at the invoice for 2004. You may notice a few things look different, number one being the increase of dues. Effective January 2004 all adult members will receive an invoice for \$20.00. This is regardless of your age or how long you have been a member. The only prices that won't change are for our junior members, those 18 and under. We recognize that this is a huge increase for some of our members but as the survey pointed out the majority of your understand.

For those of you new to our organization let me review. We had several different structures of membership prices all depending on your age and how long you have been a member. The prices were any of the following for adult members; \$8.00, \$10.00, \$12.00 and \$15.00. Prior to the 2003 National Convention a survey was mailed to all adult members asking for their opinion. The majority in all age groups agreed that an increase was necessary. Then at the National Convention this past June it was voted officially to raise the dues to \$20.00 across the board. An increase was necessary for the future of our organization. As I pointed out in other articles the ZARJA alone costs us a little over \$15.00 to send to each member. I believe you can see why it is hard to charge \$8.00 a year for dues and then spend \$15.00 on the ZARJA and keep in mind this does not cover our other expenses. In addition each adult member was given a survey to fill out and voice their opinions on this subject. The majority in all age groups agreed that an increase was necessary.

Another item on the invoice is an additional change in our bylaws from the National Convention. For those members who have a burial insurance policy in effect they will need to pay their dues by the 6 month of the year in order for this policy to remain valid. Those members not paying by the 6 month will forfeit their burial insurance policy with no exceptions. The choice to rejoin as a new member at a later date is permitted.

Again for those of you new to SWUA let me review. The Burial Insurance was founded at the beginning of our existence however discontinued for new members in January 2000. Back then funerals cost a lot of money and this burial insurance policy meant a lot to our members. It is not the same as an insurance policy and sometimes members get confused. The dues our members pay each year do not go towards this policy. The money goes towards our operation. As I stated above the ZARJA alone per member is over \$15.00 per year. This burial policy is an added benefit to being a member. In order for the policy to be valid the member has to be in good standing and have their dues paid up by the 6th month of the year.

I hope I have cleared these two issues up with you. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further please e-mail wprokup@aol.com.

Help is needed across the board. If you would like to volunteer in any piece of our organization, please let me know. Our next project is to create a focus group that will work on supporting our branches. If you would like to get involved we would appreciate it.

Thank you for your time!

Bonnie Pohar Prokup
3119 Carrie Street, Peru, IL 61354
Wprokup@aol.com

300 NEW MEMBERS

THAT'S THE WAY
AH HA AH HA!
I LIKE IT AH HA AH HA!

This year's membership campaign is the best in decades. As of 12/06/03 we recruited 300 new members and many more are due in. AWESOME! We went above and beyond what I ever dreamed of. Great job everyone!

New members since the last ZARJA are:

Babich, Ludy E
Bossard, Mary Kay
Brooker, Angeline
Bubelis, Betty
Juvan, Lenore
McDonald, Carol
Newcomer, Mary
Ozbolt, Helen
Pasderetz, Tucker J.
Rosen, Debra
Rukavina, Joseph R
Salgado, Giselle
Schultz, Mary Frances
Smole, Fannie
Starich, Anton J.
Swiderski, Connie Gerenz
Taylor, Connie
Urbanski, Lenore
Ursitti, Nancy
Whistler, Kathryn A.
Bartol, Dolores A.
Klansek, John
Oven, Grace Rivera
Oven, Amalia
Roda, Ayla
Roda, Brielle
Roda, Celine
Walsh, Patricia
Stariha, Maria

Welcome new members!

Bonnie
Chairperson
2003 Membership Campaign



HERITAGE NEWS:

**THE FUTURE SHINES BRIGHT
FOR THE SWUA**

by Mary Lou Voelk, Interim Heritage Director
ottolou@cheqnet.net
and Lynn Zalokar, Online Newsletter Editor
lzalokar@yahoo.com

The Slovenian Women's Union of America (SWUA), like many Slovenian organizations, is facing the question, "Do we have a future?" Interest in joining and attendance at branch activities has been in decline for decades. It would seem that in a matter of time the SWUA would eventually die out.

The (1999–2003) SWUA Board began working vigorously to turn things around. Since then, two surveys have been completed, annual membership campaigns were put into place and work was done to ascertain "Who are we?" While this all sounds simple, it had never been done before!

Some of the results were exciting; others were surprising. We found that many members are not even Slovenian. And then, perhaps the husband was Slovenian or a friend convinced them to join! The core of who we are is in our name, "Slovenian Women." And today we have men of all ages who have become members!

The SWUA knows that communication is the key. Our print publication, "ZARJA–The Dawn" has some new features, and a new, positive spirit has emerged and been noticed. The On-Line newsletter, "The New Neighborhood," is dedicated to questions and answers pertaining to our Slovenian heritage. It has received rave reviews. Our website enables us to provide immediate information and to reach out and hear from those of Slovenian descent around the world.

But we are not "done!" The SWUA must continue to evolve; we must continue to create the capacity to respond to the future.

You are invited to "Take Another Look at the SWUA."

Visit our Website www.swua.org, subscribe to our On-line Newsletter or drop by the revitalized Heritage Museum Library in Joliet and take a look at the latest ZARJA–The Dawn Magazine.

In the book "Treasure Chest of Slovenia" we read that the book "is not meant to make the reader relax into inactivity, but to encourage him to continue all that preceding generations have accomplished." That's how we at the SWUA feel, too!

The SWUA headquarters is located at 431 N. Chicago Avenue, Joliet, e-mail: swuhome@msn.com.



Museum Notes!

The recent Open House, Christmas With a Touch of Slovenia, November 29 & 30, 2003 was a wonderful success. The Slovenian Heritage Museum had been given a "Christmas in Slovenia" touch, thanks to Nancy Henkel and Flossie Argubright, and those who entered were treated to a holiday warmth. This holiday decor will remain until the end of January, 2004, when a new theme will be introduced. Do drop by the museum for a visit, you will thoroughly enjoy the atmosphere. Special thanks to Nancy and Flossie for all the decorative items they donated and the time spent in decorating our museum. Special thanks go to Jonita Ruth, Theresa Burns and Veda Hodgman for hosting the Christmas With a Touch of Slovenia.

Slovenian Culture Day will be held at the Museum on Saturday afternoon, Feb. 7th at 1:30 p.m. Poetry readings and songs of the famous Slovenian Poet Laureate, France Preseren will be featured. Free admission.

Hi, I'm Josie, punčka!

I'm all dressed up in my Slovenian costume and would like to come to your house!

There will be a lucky person who wins the Raffle going on right now. Winning ticket will be drawn on Feb. 14th, 2004 at the SWUA Home Office. Send in \$1 with your name and address.

Hope to come to your house!

Josie



**DONATIONS TO THE
HERITAGE MUSEUM FUND**

\$100 Paula Illman in memory of her mother, †Mary Krogulski, Br. 89;

\$50 Branch 35, Aurora, MN

\$50 Branch 43, Milwaukee, WI

Current Exhibit at SWU Heritage Museum featuring a bedroom scene from early 1900's

Bed: Over 100 years old, on loan, Nancy Henkel, Branch #89

Bed linens: personal items of Marie Prisland family, Permanent Collection of SWU Heritage Museum

Quilt: Personal quilt of Elizabeth Supan, deceased member of Branch #89, on loan, Nancy Henkel, from paternal grandmother

Gold Crucifix: Personal item – Agnes Supan, #89, Daughter of Elizabeth Supan #89

Bedside chest and water pitcher: on loan, Nancy Henkel

Women's Blouse: SWU Heritage, Permanent Collection donated by Paula V. Behling, #43. Description: White cotton long-sleeved, button-down blouse; sleeves and collar trimmed in lace; pin tuck and lace bodice.



Wedding Dress: on loan, Nancy Henkel. Wedding of Eunice Kernz and Joseph Supan. April 26, 1941, St. Constantine Catholic Church, Oglesby, IL



Bedroom at the Museum (above); 50 year old wedding dress with Mrs. Supan (left)

Woman's Nightgown: SWU Heritage Museum, Permanent Collection donated by Paula V. Behling, member of Branch #43. Description: Floor length, white cotton, trimmed in eyelet; pin tucked bodice, and placket with 3 buttons; long sleeved, trimmed in eyelet.

1915 Treadle Sewing Machine, in working order New Homes (Sears). Donor: Eunice Supan #89. Wooden Rocking Horse: on loan, Bill Henkel, #89 made by Bill Henkel 1950's.

Marija Pomagaj picture: From SWU Heritage Museum, Permanent Collection

Man's Velvet Costume: From SWU Heritage Museum, Permanent Collection.

FAMILY HERITAGE PHOTO GALLERY

Three more Slovenian families are now being featured in our Photo Gallery at the SWU Heritage Museum in Joliet. These young adventurers came to a new land, became productive, raised their families, and joined organizations and churches while their roots remained in Slovenia. Each story is different yet somewhat similar. Come to the museum and enjoy these beautiful Slovenians.

One of the picture-stories is of the Bukovec and Konda families: Ms. Frances Konda was born in 1900 in Črnomelj, Slovenia. She immigrated to Hibbing, MN in 1921 where she met and married John Bukovec (1886–1930) on June

2, 1924. John and his brother had ventured to Hibbing from Slovenia in 1902 when John was sixteen. Several years after their marriage John, Frances and children RoseAnn (Prey) and Herman moved to Oglesby, IL, where John worked in the cement mill.

Unfortunately, John was killed in an auto accident in 1930. Frances later married Frank Novak and the family moved to nearby Mendota, IL.

Still wishing for more of your family photos. Join the club!

Nancy

Feast of Three Kings

The Feast of the Three Kings is part of the New Year holyday and marking their initials, G + M + B, on the door lintel of every home is an old Slovenian custom, taking place on January 6th.

Poet Valentin Vodnik expressed his own thoughts:

*Za nov let ne vém
prinêšlo kaj bó;
ga mislim preglêdat,
ob letu povêdat,
kak dobro je bló.*

*For the new year I cannot know
What it will bring.
I will review it
At year's end to tell
How good it was.*



MAKSIM GASPARI

SHROVETIDE...

A Time of Celebration and Joy

As I am thinking of Lent season I have to start with the Carnival which reaches its top on Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. The whole of Europe is celebrating and some cities like Venice and Köln are preparing for it the whole year around. There are numerous different customs and masks which makes this celebration so interesting and entertaining. Almost every village has its own customs and masks in Slovenia but they all have the same purpose which is to celebrate the end of winter and scare all its demons away. It is a happy celebration where everybody is dancing, drinking and eating good. I think even the sun above Slovenia is in the shape of doughnut in those days. It used to be very popular to get married in that time. In my region you have to have krofi, flancati, suho meso and ješprenj (barley). Masks would go from door to door and you have to be nice to them and give them krofi, suhe klobase and in modern days, money, or you will have bad luck. On the Tuesday evening before Ash Wednesday we would go to a dance in masks but at midnight all the masks come off, music stops and Lent starts. Ash Wednesday is a fast day. We would go to the church to be reminded that we are "ashes" and decide what kind of sacrifice we would do during Lent. There are the biggest celebrations, dances, weddings, and even comedies in the local theater at that time. A lot of people who smoke give up smoking for 40 days; my friends who love sweets would give up those, some families would give up watching TV and so on. There is no meat and only one real meal on Fridays only in Lent. It used to be that they did not eat meat

the whole Lent and did not use any animal fat in that time, but this too is different from village to village like everything else in Slovenia.

Lent, this is the time to clean up "sinful souls" and get ready for Easter. It is a quiet time of repentance and self examination which ends up with the rituals of the Holy Week.

The largest carnival area of Slovenia is the Ptuj Plain with its typical figure, the Kurent. Its basic costume is a fur coat turned inside out, girded by a chain and five cowbells – five are needed to give the right melody.

photo: STA



*Mirjam Yartz Gremes
Member, Br. 38,
Chisholm, MN*

by Lynn Zalokar

SIGN UP FOR THE NEWSLETTER!

If you are on the internet and have an e-mail address please sign up for the SWUA online newsletter "The New Neighborhood." The newsletter is our new Slovenian neighborhood and is delivered monthly to your "in box." This is a forum to post information, ask questions or help out with anything related to our Slovenian heritage and culture. It's becoming the way to link up with fellow members (over 500 subscribe). This is the place to announce a meeting, event or that a branch has reorganized!

Branches -- remain visible by contributing regularly to the newsletter. We have many new members since our two back-to-back membership campaigns. The way to retain new and old members is to let them know that you meet regularly and get them involved! Many of our members travel for business and leisure, they may choose to attend your meeting or event too!

Is there a restaurant, bakery, event you'd like others to know about? Are you seeking out any of these places? Are you new in town or in the workforce, and interested in meeting a fellow member for coffee or dinner (and know that you already have something in common)? Are you planning a trip to Slovenia and looking for tips? Check out past issues of the newsletter on the www.swua.org website. To subscribe, just send an e-mail to lzalokar@yahoo.com.

JULIAN H. SLEEPER HOUSE MUSEUM *News for the New Year*

Seth C. Hawkins, Director

The JHSH wishes to remind everyone that the Special Exhibition on Slovenia will be extended at least a year beyond its original closing date, until at least the end of 2004. The exhibition has been so well-attended that the JHSH wants to give even more people an opportunity to learn about and experience Slovenia.

* Sunday, February 8, noon-5:00 p.m. Prešeren Day. The JHSH will again celebrate Slovenia's national cultural holiday with Slovenian music, wine, and live bilingual performances of Dr. Prešeren's poems.

* Saturday, February 21, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Julian H. Sleeper's 150th Birthday Party. While this event does not have a specifically Slovene theme, it does give you a chance to have birthday cake and other refreshments while visiting both the Slovenian exhibition and the permanent collection, with new wallpaper in two exhibition rooms.

Otherwise, you are welcome any day or evening. Phone (651) 225-1505 for an appointment to experience time travel to 1884, and a visit to Slovenia without jet lag -- or paying transatlantic fares!

OUR MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Carol's Tribute to her Mom and Dad

My mother, Jean Paik, my daughter, Jennifer Mann and myself are members of Branch 50, Euclid, Ohio. Jean Paik has been a member for over 50 years. She is 90 years young. Jean was very active in Branch 50 when she lived in Euclid and was secretary for many years. She would also entertain at meetings and special occasions with her accordion. She is the LOVE in Slovenian.



Jean and Rudy Paik celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary on June 12, 2003. They were married in Cleveland, Ohio, June 12, 1937.

Jean and Rudy have been living in Omaha, Nebraska since 1981. They celebrated their anniversary at the home of Sherry and Doug Mann (Parents of Aaron). It occurred just two days before their granddaughter, Jennifer's marriage to Aaron. It was attended by their son, Donald, son, Dave and his wife, June and their children, Eric, Angie and Jaime. Their daughter, Carol Dickinson and husband, Dennis and their children, Jennifer and Matthew and Scott came from Boise, Idaho. Also in attendance was their niece, Marilyn Jaksic who flew in from Cleveland, Ohio. Jean and Rudy's son, Bob Paik lives in Los Angeles and could not be there.



Jennifer Dickinson and Aaron Mann were joined in Holy Matrimony at St. Cecilia's Cathedral in Omaha, Nebraska on June 14, 2003. Over 300 people were in attendance and some from as far away as Slovenia!

Sincere congratulations from all of Jean's sister-members in Cleveland!

Betty Ann Kolesari,
Nat'l Vice President:

OCTOBER IN ILLINOIS

The SWUA Board would like to thank everyone for making the October 4th Wine & Cheese Reception a big hit at the Heritage Museum in Joliet, IL. Slovenian wine, slivovitz, cheese and snacks were enjoyed by all. Live Slovenian music, performed by the Wolf Brothers, was ringing throughout the Museum as well as on the street. Numerous authentic Slovenian items were available, and purchased, filling many hearts and homes with true Slovenian treasures. The Board is looking forward to having more Open Houses at the Museum in the future. The October 4th Reception and Open House that followed on November 29th and 30th is just the tip of the iceberg of our attempts to continue such wonderful exposure to our Heritage located in Joliet. Our SWUA Museum is such a treasure to our organization and all the history it holds is priceless and irreplaceable. It will take work and any additional volunteer's times and efforts to assist with organization of the Museum and future events would be greatly appreciated. The reward for your time is gratuity and knowing that You are making a difference. The inner feeling is immense and everybody's efforts are necessary to continue our Vision and Mission for us and the younger generations to come. Being involved is one of the answers to helping the SWUA's continuing effort to grow and become stronger. Our Heritage is very important and we do need to keep our strength going with all of us getting involved. As we planned and prepared for the past events, the inner energy felt among the people involved was electrifying. Please watch our publications or contact me to find out some details of future plans to help our Museum. MaryLou Voelk is our Special Projects Leader at the Museum and doing a wonderful job of trying to correlate all that is needed to succeed. It is a grueling job and her efforts are greatly appreciated. You'll have so much more fun than you ever dreamed could happen while working on such a special project. Teamwork is what we need and we would love to have You on our Team. You'll have much more fun than you ever dreamed and the feeling of accomplishment will overwhelm you, too!

On October 5th, the IL-IN State Convention was up and running early in the morning. Each branch was represented and Genevieve Boul was re-elected as Regional President. After beautiful mass and Slovenian singing at St. Joseph's Church, Branch #20 (Joliet, IL) had a 75th Anniversary celebration to beat the band! Wonderful entertainment included "The Singing Slovenes" from Minnesota. The newly elected Minnesota Regional President, Lisa McDonnell, as well as National Board First Auditor, Beverly Menart, were in attendance with National Board Second Auditor, Denise Bartlett of Milwaukee, WI, and National Board Third Auditor, Marjorie Church of Macedonia, OH. It was great to have different regions joining to help celebrate what we are all so proud of, our Heritage. The Minnesota group including arranged a bus trip with Branch #20's assistance. Denise, Bob, Denise's husband, and I traveled
(Please turn to page 8.)

Ask Tončka!

Genealogy Search

Who Are You?

Many of us do not know our grandparents or great grandparents and are not familiar with our ancestral homes. In our mobile society people often feel they don't belong to anyone. As you begin to find information and learn of your forebears you are better able to understand who you are; your physical appearance, personality traits, habits, and talents and will gain a deep sense of belonging to those who came before you.

Historians write about famous families but no one but you will trace your own history. What worthier effort can we make than to seek out the story of our ancestor's past and record and preserve it for future generations? The benefits are first your own but the legacy you leave to your grandchildren will be priceless.

A chart like Frederick Baraga's family chart is a "road map." You can make your own on the blank chart opposite Frederick Baraga's, on the next page. Don't be concerned if you are only able to fill in several lines. Any information given will be your valuable recorded history. Your "road map" will show you what information you already have and what new information you may want to try to find. On line Number 1 - enter your name and below b.- birth date, p.b.- place of birth, m.- marriage date and place of marriage. On line Number 2 enter your father's name and below the same information including d.- death p.d.- place of death. Line Number 3 enter your mother's name and same information. Numbers 4 and 5 are the father and mother of your father (these are your paternal grandparents) Numbers 6 and 7 are your mother's parents (these are your maternal grandparents). Numbers 8 and Number 9 are the parents of your grandfather (these are your paternal grandparents). Numbers 10 and 11 are the parents of your paternal grandmother (these are your paternal great grandparents). Then drop down to Number 6 which is your mother's father (your maternal grandfather) and Number 7 which is your mother's mother (your maternal grandmother). Similarly Number 12 and Number 13 are the parents of your maternal grandfather (maternal great grandparents) and Number 14 and Number 15 are the parents of your maternal grandmother (your maternal great grandparents).

Just by filling in as much information as you now have, you will know what records you will want to look for. Names and places of existing records will give a clue. Remember the males are always the even number and the women on the chart are the odd numbers (a male must have

designed this chart). If you have been told some family tales, write these down also because with each generation more of the past is lost. The story of your family, a family whose experiences helped build the world we live in today must be written by you. With each passing year, family members die and you risk losing some part of your heritage forever.

SWUA Ancestor Chart

Please fill out this form, as limited as it may be, and send a copy to Mary Turvey, 52 Oakridge Drive, Marquette, Michigan 49855. These charts will be put into a Slovenian Women's Union Family Records binder, with indexed surnames. If possible include family stories which will even further teach our future generations of our rich history. This book will be shelved at the SWU Heritage Library in Joliet, Illinois for current researchers and those of the future. It will serve as a fine record of our SWUA membership's proud ancestry.

To get a Genealogical Workup sheet that will help you as an easy biographical guideline send your request with \$6, to:

**Mary Turvey, 52 Oakridge Dr.,
Marquette, MI 49855**

Name of Compiler <u>Mary H. Turvey</u>		Address <u>52 Oakridge Dr.</u>		City, State <u>Marquette, MI</u>		Date <u>21 Nov 2003</u>		Chart No. <u>16</u>																																																																																																																			
1 Friderik Ireneus Baraga b. 29 Jun 1797 p.b. Mala Vas, Slovenia m. l. 19 Jan 1868 p.d. Marquette, MI, USA				2 John Nepomuc Baaraga (Father of No. 1) b. 8 May 1757 p.b. Preserje, Slovenia m. (2nd) 18 Oct 1812 Trebnje d. 18 Oct 1812 p.d. Trebnje, Slovenia				3 Maria Catherine Jenčič (Mother of No. 1) b. 21 Mar 1759 p.b. 10 Oct 1800 p.d. Mala Vas, Slovenia				4 Sebastian Baaraga (Father of No. 2) b. 18 Jan 1721 p.b. Preserje, Slovenia m. d. 23 Jul 1781 p.d.				5 Anna Maria (Mother of No. 2) b. p.b. d. p.d.				6 Bernard Jenčič (Father of No. 3) b. 1723 p.b. m. 24 Aug 1749 d. St. Nicholas Church, Ljubljana p.d. 22 May 1795				7 Catherine Von Werth (Mother of No. 3) b. p.b. 1784 d. Dobrnje, Slovenia p.d.				8 Valentine Baaraga (Father of No. 4) b. 11 Feb. 1691 p.b. Cerknica, Slovenia m. d. p.d.				9 Dorothy (Mother of No. 4) b. p.b. d. 12 Oct. 1733 p.d.				10 (Father of No. 5) b. p.b. m. d. p.d.				11 (Mother of No. 5) b. p.b. d. p.d.				12 Antoine Jos. Jentschich (Father of No. 6) b. 23 Mar 1685 p.b. Ljuback, Slovenia m. Oct 1705 d. p.d.				13 Maria Anna Standler (Mother of No. 6) b. p.b. d. p.d.				14 Gabrielis Abrahamson Werth (Father of No. 7) b. p.b. m. d. p.d.				15 Maria Ann (Mother of No. 7) b. p.b. d. p.d.				16 Georgia Baaraga (Father of No. 8) b. 27 Feb 1659 m. Cerknica, Slovenia d. p.d.				17 (Mother of No. 8) b. m. d.				18 (Father of No. 9) b. m. d.				19 (Mother of No. 9) b. m. d.				20 (Father of No. 10) b. m. d.				21 (Mother of No. 10) b. m. d.				22 (Father of No. 11) b. m. d.				23 (Mother of No. 11) b. m. d.				24 Mathias Jentschisch (Father of No. 12) c. 1644 m. d.				25 Maria (Mother of No. 12) b. m. d.				26 John Jacob Standler (Father of No. 13) b. m. d.				27 (Mother of No. 13) b. m. d.				28 (Father of No. 14) b. m. d.				29 (Mother of No. 14) b. m. d.				30 (Father of No. 15) b. m. d.				31 (Mother of No. 15) b. m. d.			

OCTOBER IN ILLINOIS (Continued):

down from Milwaukee and were very honored and pleased to attend.

Branch #24 (LaSalle, IL), had quite a special day celebrating their 75th Anniversary on October 19th. It started with a beautiful mass at Resurrection Church and the festivities began with a shot slivovitz for all as you entered Paramount Hall, served by costumed members. The Gostilna, created by Bonnie Prokup and Debbie Pohar especially for this event, set the stage for a true Slovenian day. Authentic Slovenian dishes were served as Slovenian music performed by Vince Rigler serenaded us all. The Bartletts and Jack and I were, once, again, very honored and pleased to attend.

The unbelievable efforts of all who put together such social events are greatly appreciated by us and our ancestors, let alone the people in attendance. I look forward to assisting and attending many more very special events where our Slovenian Heritage is the base. By utilizing our ZARJA advertising and On-Line Newsletter you can get your word across. Let's hear from all of our branches, every member is so important. Thank you and I look forward to seeing you soon at your event, as my willing attempts from the heart will be there.

Betty Ann Kolesari,
National Vice President

Getting Ready for Baraga Days, 2004

The Annual Meeting and Pilgrimage of the Bishop Baraga Association has been scheduled for the weekend of Sept. 25-26, 2004. It will be held in the Assinins-Zeba and L'Anse-Baraga area in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Buses are already being planned from Illinois, Wisconsin and from the Cleveland area and members are encouraged to attend.

Name of Compiler _____

Address _____

City, State _____

Date _____

Ancestor Chart

Chart No. _____

b. Date of Birth
 p.b. Place of Birth
 m. Date of Marriage
 d. Date of Death
 p.d. Place of Death

4 _____
 (Father of No. 2)

b.
 p.b.
 m.
 d.
 p.d.

2 _____
 (Father of No. 1)

b.
 p.b.
 m.
 d.
 p.d.

5 _____
 (Mother of No. 2)

b.
 p.b.
 d.
 p.d.

1 _____

b.
 p.b.
 m.
 d.
 p.d.

6 _____
 (Father of No. 3)

b.
 p.b.
 m.
 d.
 p.d.

3 _____
 (Mother of No. 1)

b.
 p.b.
 d.
 p.d.

7 _____
 (Mother of No. 3)

b.
 p.b.
 d.
 p.d.

_____ (Spouse of No. 1)

b. d.
 p.b. p.d.

8 _____
 (Father of No. 4)

b.
 p.b.
 m.
 d.
 p.d.

9 _____
 (Mother of No. 4)

b.
 p.b.
 d.
 p.d.

10 _____
 (Father of No. 5)

b.
 p.b.
 m.
 d.
 p.d.

11 _____
 (Mother of No. 5)

b.
 p.b.
 d.
 p.d.

12 _____
 (Father of No. 6)

b.
 p.b.
 m.
 d.
 p.d.

13 _____
 (Mother of No. 6)

b.
 p.b.
 d.
 p.d.

14 _____
 (Father of No. 7)

b.
 p.b.
 m.
 d.
 p.d.

15 _____
 (Mother of No. 7)

b.
 p.b.
 d.
 p.d.

16 _____
 (Father of No. 8,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)

b.
 m.
 d.

17 _____
 (Mother of No. 8,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)

b.
 d.

18 _____
 (Father of No. 9,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)

b.
 m.
 d.

19 _____
 (Mother of No. 9,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)

b.
 d.

20 _____
 (Father of No. 10,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)

b.
 m.
 d.

21 _____
 (Mother of No. 10,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)

b.
 d.

22 _____
 (Father of No. 11,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)

b.
 m.
 d.

23 _____
 (Mother of No. 11,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)

b.
 d.

24 _____
 (Father of No. 12,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)

b.
 m.
 d.

25 _____
 (Mother of No. 12,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)

b.
 d.

26 _____
 (Father of No. 13,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)

b.
 m.
 d.

27 _____
 (Mother of No. 13,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)

b.
 d.

28 _____
 (Father of No. 14,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)

b.
 m.
 d.

29 _____
 (Mother of No. 14,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)

b.
 d.

30 _____
 (Father of No. 15,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)

b.
 m.
 d.

31 _____
 (Mother of No. 15,
 Cont. on chart No. _____)

b.
 d.

EVERY FAMILY HAS A STORY

"Genealogy" is more than just word for the Kernz family of Oglesby, Illinois. It began way before the first Immigrant Family Exhibit in 2002, prepared by our Nancy Henkel for the SWU Slovenian Heritage Museum in Joliet. That exhibit was a recording of several family relationships and among them was an introduction to this very family, of which Nancy is a member since her mother, Eunice is a daughter of the original Frank Krnz. And, this is their story.

Frank Krnz and his three brothers came to America in 1909. They left behind a brother, Ignac who stayed to take care of the homestead. Shortly after coming to Illinois Frank married another Slovenian newcomer, Alojzija Gergovich and by 1910, when the cover photo was taken, they had already begun their family of eight children... in America. Meanwhile, Ignac also married and was concurrently raising his family in Slovenia.

Many years later...

There was a long period of letter-writing and telephone calls, re-establishing contacts; some of the research followed the Genealogy suggestions in ZARJA. Then, these two families, that is, the children of Ignac and Frank, decided to meet and in 1997 Joey and his wife, Alice and sister, Eunice and their families traveled across the ocean, to Slovenia, for the first time, to meet their cousin, Tone and his family, especially cousins Pepca and Theresa in Novo Mesto. They found that the uncles, aunts and cousins all blended into perfect harmony. Some even resembled each other! What a thrill it was for all of them to see each other face to face, and learn what their respective lives were like during the many years they were apart.

None of this would have come about without some dedicated genealogical record-keeping. A fabulous idea, and very rewarding because by putting pieces together they now have found many coincidences they can share with the younger members of the family – such as just what their great, great grandparents were like and what is that place like, that Slovenian farm where they were born. The future means many more trips between the USA and Slovenia to blend the cultures of two countries even more.

If you want to do this, too...enjoy this kind of family reward, similar family connections can easily come about if you follow the Kernz' system. We offer some help for you in this ZARJA:

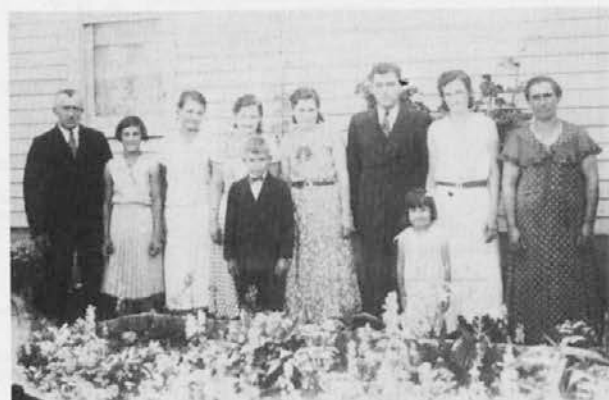
First, see Bishop Baraga's family chart on page 9. Use it as a case study that will help you understand how to make your own ancestral chart. Genealogy Director Mary Turvey filled out Baraga's Ancestral Chart for you AS A SAMPLE and she says that by doing your homework and following more of the ideas in her "Ask Tončka" column in every ZARJA, you will succeed, too!

An unforgettable remark I heard in a Ljubljana hotel recently was spoken by a man waiting to take a short trip to a nearby village. He was going to see his relatives, for the first time. He said, "I've been waiting for this day all my life!"

C. Leskovar



Frank & Lojzka on their wedding day in 1909



The family in America in 1932



The family gathering in Slovenian in 1997

How SWUA is involved...

Nancy Supan Henkel, our active Museum exhibit designer-decorator, holds the office of president of Br. 89, Oglesby, Illinois.

Her grandmother, Louise (Alojzija) Kernz was the first treasurer of the branch when it was organized in 1936 and for many years continued in this capacity. There are two daughters, 2 granddaughters, 2 great granddaughters, 1 great, great granddaughter and 3 nieces, all members today.

The Prisland Girls

Once upon a time in Dillingham Ave. in Sheboygan, WI there lived a woman named Marie Prisland. She was the wife of John, a mother to Gretchen, Hermine and Ted, and a grandmother to 11 grandchildren including me, Kathy. It was fun visiting her when I was a little girl. She would give me a big hug and call me "Tootsie." She wore a pretty apron and the kitchen always smelled like homemade soup. I loved her red velvet couch and peach brocade chairs. She had a curio filled with Slovenian treasures including a beautiful doll dressed in a Slovenian costume. Her desk in the corner of the dining room was her special place. I would sit on the floor and watch her concentrate at her typewriter. I knew that she was an important woman. She would say, "Kattie, learn to type, you'll need it some day." (I still look at my fingers when typing on my computer keyboard.



She taught me the pronunciation and melody to "Kje Je Moj Mili Dom."

lovely china with polished silver and etched stemmed glasses. Prism glass candle holders served as a centerpiece. Around the table great conversation prevailed.

In high school I began to listen more carefully to grandma's narrations about Slovenian families living in town who started businesses and learned how to speak English at her encouragement. She spoke of the SWU conventions that united immigrant Slovenian women all over the country. I made drawings for ZARJA while she typed articles. I'll always treasure the memory of traveling to her native country when I was 17. We landed at the airport in Ljubljana and there to greet us was a troop of smiling people dressed in Slovenian costumes playing accordions, guitars, horns, and percussion. They were welcoming us - her. I was very proud of my grandma. We visited the house where she grew up in Rečica, where her grandma had raised her. We met many of her old neighbors and friends who with tears of joy offered homemade sausage and wine. She was only 2 years younger than me when she traveled across the ocean to a new life.

Dinner was precisely at 5:30; there was soup, grandpa's homemade red wine, "salata" that he grew under glass in his large garden, potica, klobase, potatoes, green beans and apple pie for dessert. It was served on

She came to visit me in my apartment in Madison when I was attending the university as a music major in voice. She taught me the pronunciation and melody to "Kje Je Moj Mili Dom." I have sung it many times at SWU functions.

After grandpa died grandma decided to sell the house on Dillingham Ave. and move to the Sheboygan Retirement Home to a corner apartment overlooking Lake Michigan. Despite the tear I remember seeing on her cheek as we descended the front steps for the last time, she seemed to take the move in stride. Her desk and typewriter were set up once again, in the corner near the window facing the lake. There she continued to plan, consult, and dream. (Ed Note: Her desk, chair and typewriter may be seen at the Heritage Museum.)

She died shortly after speaking with a friend on the phone, sitting in her favorite comfy chair. She was 89 years old, I was 27. It rained during her funeral and at the gravesite hundreds of Slovenian people sang "Gor Čez Jezero" from beneath the black tent of umbrellas. I will always remember that moment.

Grandma Prisland always encouraged my singing and performing which I still do today. I play guitar and sing in a variety dance band called Groovy with my husband, Jim. She never knew of a voice over career that I started in 1985. I am the speaking voice on lots of industrial narrations and TV and radio commercials around the country. I'm with the William Morris Agency in New York and Voices Unlimited in Chicago. I have a new wonderful web site at www.KateWest.net.

The story of Marie Prisland continues to inspire the adventures of others. She loved people and was a harbinger preparing the groundwork for so many people to build a new life. She helped women to understand that they were not alone, but part of an encompassing circle of fellowship and strength. She was my grandma and I will always hold her memory dear to my heart.



**Katie Gorton,
Granddaughter of
Marie Prisland**

Grandma packed up everything and moved to the Sheboygan Retirement Home.



**Katie Gorton
Granddaughter of Marie Prisland**

SWUA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Deadline for Scholarship of 2004 – March 1, 2004

Contact your branch secretary or Scholarship Director for an application

Scholarships are available through the generous contributions and memorial gifts from members and friends. Awards are given with the hope that Slovenian culture will continue to be promoted through its recipients.

Eligibility: Applicant must be a high school senior intending further educational in the fall, as a full time student at an accredited college or university. Also, the applicant must have been a member of the Slovenian Women's Union of America for at least three years prior to graduation.

The Scholarship Committee will select the scholarship winners and the awards are based upon competitive level of scholastic achievement; school, civic, and religious activities; participation in S.W.U.A.; and financial need.

History of the Slovenian Women's Union of America Scholarship Program

(Continued from the last edition of ZARJA)

With formation of the Slovenian Women's Union Scholarship Foundation in 1997 came appointment of four officers as required for 501C(3) charity organizations. Officers from 1997 to current are as follows: Mary Turvey, Branch 1, President, Marge Church, Branch 42, Vice President, Mary Priland, Branch 1, Secretary, and Margaret Francel, Branch 30, Treasurer. The liaison officer is always the current SWUA National Vice President, and at this time is Betty Ann Kolesari, Branch 43. Meetings are held once a year via teleconference. Officer positions are self-perpetuating, which means if one officer resigns, the remaining members replace that officer's position.

A financial report is filed with the Internal Revenue yearly. The foundation holds a portfolio of which only the interest is dispersed, making the Foundation a self-perpetuating entity, able to award scholarships indefinitely. Donations to the SWU Scholarship Foundation are tax exempt. As a 501C(3) charity, donations not only provide tax relief to donors but also are a great investment in the future.

For additional information and or donations can be mailed to:

Mary Turvey, Director
52 Oakridge Drive
Marquette, MI 49855
mturvey@aol.com

Read the biographies of the officers of SWU Scholarship Foundation on page 13.

Introducing Krista Lundgren, a member of Branch 100, resident of Laguna Hills, California and recipient of the 2003-2004 Anna Rose Smolich Award

My Heritage and Culture

For as long as I can remember, my Slovenian heritage has strongly influenced my life. I have had the privilege to take part in cultural events such as youth Slovenian singing activities, in which we dressed in traditional Slovene costume and performed. Since I am not fluent in speaking Slovene, it was a wonderful opportunity to learn some of the language. To me, learning about my culture means wonderful opportunity to learn some of the language. To me, learning about my culture means wonderful times spent with my family, grandparents, and cousins; usually all of us are present at the events. Slovene foods and desserts, as well as music, have crossed over into our family holiday gatherings; I treasure the moments I have spent with loved ones, my grandfather playing his accordion and everyone eating homemade apple strudel! I have been fortunate to be exposed to my family heritage; it has inspired me to some day travel to Slovenia, perhaps with an organized youth trip, and see everything for myself.



Krista Lundgren

Dear Mary Turvey and SWU:

I would like to thank the Slovenian Women's Union of America for offering me the SWUA Anna Rose Smolich Scholarship. With the help of the money I plan to attend the University of California, San Diego and major in English Literature or Psychology. My future plans possibly include becoming a high school English teacher or a speech therapist for children. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Krista

SWUA Scholarship Foundation



Mary H. Turvey



Mary H. Prisland



Margaret Francel



M. Marjorie Church

Mary H. Turvey

Scholarship Foundation President

Mary H. Turvey, daughter of Robert and Margaret Prisland Fischer is a member of Branch 1, and a native of Kohler, Wisconsin. Mary has studied art and design at Northern Michigan University, had four years of her nesting surveys published in the "The Atlas of Breeding Birds of Michigan," formed the ad hoc Munising Memorial Hospital Scholarship Committee, has been doing genealogy research for the past twenty years and served as a past and present officer of the Marquette County Genealogy Society.

Mary authors the "Ask Tončka" column in ZARJA. With Aunt Hermine Prisland Dicke's encouragement, Mary applied for directorship of the Slovenian Women's Union Scholarship program and has served in that capacity since 1996. She was instrumental in obtaining the SWU Scholarship Program's 501c(3) tax exempt status in 1997.

Her most favorite time is spent with her husband, Dan, four children and five grandchildren.

Mary H. Prisland

Scholarship Foundation Secretary

Mary H. Prisland is a granddaughter and ardent fan of our Founder and mentor, Marie Prisland. Mary is an artist who has exhibited pastel and oil paintings in several galleries on the West coast with an emphasis in landscape and seascape. She is presently opening her own gallery called "Once in a Blue Moon" located in Madison, Wisconsin and is including other artists to join in the venture. Mary has a Ph.D. in Psychology from San Francisco and is currently working in Crisis Intervention Services in Madison. She can be reached at P.O. Box 70703, Madison, WI 53707, Phone (608) 244-9544.

Margaret Francel

Scholarship Foundation Treasurer

Margaret Francel was born and raised in Northern Minnesota. After high school she enrolled at the College of St. Teresa in Winona, MN. She has been at least a part-time college student ever since. Along the way she has acquired a number of degrees including two Ph.Ds. The first Ph.D. is from Emory University in mathematics. The second is from Georgia Tech in computer science. Margaret has been on the faculty at The Citadel in Charleston, SC for the last twenty years. She teaches and does research in both mathematics and software engineering. She was the first woman to be granted tenure in a technical field at the school. Before going to The Citadel, Margaret taught at the University of NC in Greensboro. She has served on a variety of scholarship and awards committees through the years.

Walking, playing bridge, and reading are Margaret's three favorite ways to relax. She is also active in her church, where she is a member of the Ladies of Charity and the monthly cleaning crew.

Margaret is proud of her four grandparents, all of whom immigrated to the United States from Slovenia in the late 1800's. She believes her strong work ethic comes to her from them through her parents. She has fond memories of having early Sunday dinners so her paternal Grandmother could get to her SWUA meeting on time. Margaret was pleased when she was able to become a member of the same SWU branch that her Grandmother had belonged to and was sad when it went inactive. She also remembers her Grandmother making wonderful soup noodles, potica, and other traditional Slovenian sweets.

Margaret has one sister, Mary Helen, who is also a member of SWUA.

please turn the page

M. Marjorie Church (nee Yemec)

Scholarship Foundation Vice President

After the years of education at St. Wenceslas, Maple Heights, OH, Marymount High School, Garfield Heights, OH and the University of Dayton, I left the Ohio area to see the rest of the U.S. and was employed by the United Airlines as a stewardess -- as we called them then. This was my chance to travel. I continued my education at the University of Colorado while being domiciled in Denver, Colorado, spent 20 years living in Denver City and also in the Rocky Mountains so became a lover of the great outdoors; skiing in the winter and riding in the wilderness areas on horseback during the summer. These were things never experienced before but enjoyed the adventure of it all.

In the meantime, I lost my father and decided to come back to Ohio to watch over Mom. I started a new job, continued my education at our local Notre Dame College, and tried to adjust to a different life style. Being born of Slovenian parents (Jacob Yemec and Mary, nee Brodnik) who were always involved in the Slovenian activities in our closely knit Slovenian neighborhood, I escorted Mom to her KSKJ meetings, SZZ meetings, Planina Singing Society, and the Maple Heights Slovenian National Home board meetings. To all those groups, I was the new kid on the block, the younger generation, the leaders of tomorrow! Needless to say, I was elected to a position or joined all of the above out of respect to my parents and their heritage. Mom has been gone since 1992 and both parents left me the legacy of their heritage and their love. Two older brothers, Jack and Ed enjoyed the spirit of their heritage and you'd see a smile on their faces when they heard a good Slovenian style polka!

Now I serve on the Board of the Slovenian Women's Union of America as Auditor (formerly Vice President), and was pleased when Mary Turvey, Scholarship Director of the SWUA Scholarship Fund and Foundation, asked me to serve as a corporate officer of the Foundation as Vice President. I've spent a lifetime interested in education, and know that learning is always so rewarding. A matter of funds to continue education was always a challenge for me. Hence, my great interest in giving assistance to our young members to complete their education has always been an extremely worthwhile project for me to pursue. The scholarships SWUA is able to give to help in some way is more important than we realize.

Currently, I am semi-retired (I've been called back to my former employment), enjoy singing (all Slovenians can either sing, whistle or play an instrument) with the Our Lady of Guadalupe Magnificat Choir, recently made a commitment to and am an Associate of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Third Order of St. Francis, and since 1983 am the long-standing secretary of Slovenian Women's Union Br. 42, Maple Hts., Ohio (go girls!) and living in Macedonia, Ohio.

OUR SCHOLARS U-P-D-A-T-E

ANN MATTSON NAMED NURSING SCHOLAR

Ann Turvey Mattson, a Bay College Nursing student from Iron Mountain, Michigan has been awarded a \$500 Michigan Nurses' Foundation Scholarship. She is one of three recipients in the State of Michigan. Ann, daughter of Mary and Dan Turvey, is a member of Branch 1 and has been assisting with the SWUA genealogy project. She is a graduate of the Michigan Advocacy program and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society. After completing her licensed practical nursing classes, she is scheduled to enter the registered nursing program at Bay College in August 2004. Ann was the recipient of a 2002 SWUA Continuing Education Award.



NOTE TO PAST SWUA SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Letters were sent to you recently requesting an update on your careers since you received our award. If you did not receive a letter, it was due to not having your correct mailing address. We very much want to hear from all of our past scholarship recipients. Please write! - 52 Oakridge Drive, Marquette, MI 49855.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATIONS October and November 2003

\$10.00 donations: Branch 47, Bedford Hts., OH (†Theresa Zupancic), Agnes D. Zabak (†Rose Lausche), Agnes D. Zabak (†Mary Zabak), Anna L. Hodnik (†Robert Dicke), Pauline A. Rugar (†Robert Dicke), Corinne Leskovar (†Marge Prebil)

\$20.00 donation: Susan Farrell (†Edward P. Kurnick)

\$25.00 donation: Corinne Leskovar (†Robert Dicke), Mary Jo Rom (†Ann Tercek)

50.00 donation: Jo Gornik - gift to Scholarship Fund, Julia A. Zgonc (her brother, †Fred J. Perovshek)

\$100.00 donation: Rose Arthmire (her mother, †Antonia Ozanich)

Our Members Write...

Rosemary Ribich:

Journey to Joliet October 4, 2003

It's still dark!! Can I really be going to Joliet? I heard about this wonderful place that has encapsulated our Slovenian heritage from my deceased mother-in-law and her mother-in-law before her. There is a place where this SWU really was born 75 years ago? Now, I will see it.

It's 3 a.m. and I must drive twelve (12) miles to pick up my dear friends to accompany me to Jean Korsman's home. We must be there by 5 a.m. if we expect to arrive at Frank Bucar's residence in Duluth to board the bus by 6:30 a.m.

Anita Vovk and Anne Orazem were waiting for me as I arrived at their residence at 4 a.m. I encountered two (2) deer en route, having to come to a complete stop on the highway, twice! A little scary when you are all alone on a deserted highway that early in the morning! The adrenalin was pumping, we are going to Joliet. We picked up Jean at 4:30 a.m. A little early, but we had to find Frank's house. Deer are jumping all over the highway. Maybe they too, wanted to go to Joliet?

We were delighted to get the invitation from Frank Bucar and the Singing Slovenes to accompany them on the bus trip. They were waiting for us to board the bus at Frank's "Gostilna" across from Frank and Sharon's residence. We had little difficulty finding his home, in spite of the good directions, flash lights and overhead lighting. A brief cell phone call to Frank directed us right to his front door.

The nine (9) hour trip to Joliet was wonderful. We enjoyed the music played by Frank Bucar and Pat Snidarich and the harmonious singing of the Slovenes. Of course, where there is Slovenian music, there is food and drink and good fellowship. Why is it necessary for a pit stop? Only four more hours and we will arrive.

The Museum was everything that I looked forward to seeing. I was given some precious artifacts from the Anzelc/Ribich family and I wanted to know if there was anything that I could share for the displays at the Museum. What a welcoming we had! The wine and cheese celebration and the music made us feel like we were "home."

No need to tell you about the weekend. You were there. What a fine "75th" celebration...from the church service to the banquet to the entertainment. God is good and our heritage is being preserved, thanks to the efforts of SWU. It was an extra treat to have our local pastor, Fr. Frank Perkovich, in attendance as a guest speaker.

Sadly, all good things must come to an end. We boarded the bus at 6 p.m. to head back "North." The music, singing, food, drink and fellowship continued until the early hours. Soon we encountered the "diamond necklace." (Beautiful lights of Duluth from the highway coming into Superior, WI). We were soon to be home. One stop in Superior to

drop off a passenger and on to Frank's, arriving by 3:15 a.m.

I think our bus driver, Cris Schreyer of Hermantown, owner of Americoach, had as much fun as we did. He graciously helped with luggage and made it convenient for us to change into comfortable clothing for the continuing return trip. Special thanks to Frank and Sharon Bucar for making all the arrangements.

Just two more hours and I'll be home. Conversation, reflecting the last forty-eight (48) hours of renewed friendships and celebration kept us awake on our return to the Iron Range. We arrived at Jean Korsman's at 4:40 a.m. The deer again were dancing on the highways, welcoming us back. I think they missed the music and wished they could have been with us. No time for coffee and potica at Jean's; this time we were too anxious to get home.

I dropped off my dear friends, Anne and Anita in Aurora and then back to my twelve (12) mile jaunt to my own home. I put in a CD. Guess which one? "Holiday in Slovenia" by Frank and Jimmy Horzen. I sang Slovenian Folk Melodies all the way home. I arrived at 5:30 a.m.

Joliet and SWU thanks for the great week-end. You made us feel like we were in Slovenia!

(Rosemary is a member of Br. 39, Biwabik, MN)

Joliet Resident Honored for Her Volunteer Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. (September 25, 2003) – Annette Koncar of Br. 20, Joliet, Ill., has been recognized for her outstanding volunteer efforts by National Fraternal Congress of America (NFCFA), the Association of America's Fraternal Benefit Societies. Koncar was recently named fourth runner-up for the NFCFA's 2003 "Fraternalist of the Year" award, an honor recognizing the nation's top volunteer among the 10 million members affiliated with NFCFA.

Koncar's volunteer spirit is evident in her parish, St. Joseph Catholic Church in Joliet. She has served as an Eucharistic Minister and lector in addition to organizing the annual commissioning service and reception for all parish members involved in religious education. She currently serves on the planning committee for the church's 100th anniversary in 2005. She is vice president of the St. Joseph School Board and is a founding member and secretary of the St. Joseph School Foundation.

Koncar's community involvement includes supporting the local food pantry, volunteering as water safety instructor for the Joliet Park District, and volunteering as a judge for the local, diocesan and Illinois State Science Fairs. She is a member of the Slovenian Women's Union and the Slovenian Catholic League.

"Annette Koncar is a shining example of fraternalism at its very best," said Frederick H. Grubbe, NFCFA President & CEO. "We are proud to honor Annette as someone who has selflessly given her time and talent to serve people both in her community and beyond."

Slovenian Children's Story Printed in CICIDO Magazine

Dear Parents, Grandparents, Junior Members, Friends and Families!

Make a New Year's Resolution to share the gift of the Slovenian language with a relative or friend. Provide a fun, informal way to learn Slovenian phrases and words; give a child the opportunity to appreciate, read and learn about what a real Slovenian magazine geared towards young people is like.

I'm pleased to announce the publication of my original Slovenian children's story "Bana je zaspana" (The Sleepy Bathtub) printed in CICIDO magazine, a popular children's magazine published by Mladinska Knjiga in Ljubljana, Slovenia. The 43 page magazine is filled with Slovenian stories and poems with bright illustrations, learning activities, a sticker page, a pull out game and a sample candy treat. Also included is a separate Slovenian magazine for parents with informative articles.

My own three children enjoyed the stories and activities very much, so I developed, with permission from the publisher, an English translation guide as a Slovenian language learning tool. The guide was designed to be used as an attachment to the magazine for selected children's stories, learning activities, poems, a comic strip and The Sleepy Bathtub story. In addition to the English translations, it also contains ideas and suggestions for games children can play to make learning the Slovenian language seem easy and fun.

For all those interested in purchasing "Cicido Magazine and English Translation Guide," the cost is \$10.50 (postage included) for each individual packet that contains Cicido children's magazine, a magazine for parents, and the English translation guide. For five or more packets ordered together, the cost per packet is only \$10.00 each.

If you have any questions please call (301) 391-6873 or e-mail: Fitzsimm@netkonnnect.net.

Please print the following information

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail address: _____

(confirmation by e-mail to be sent when order is shipped)

\$10.50 each for 1-4 packets ordered

\$10.00 each for 5 or more packets ordered

Check amount enclosed _____

Please allow two weeks for delivery

Thank you for your order!

Please mail order form and check to:

Bernadette Kovacic Fitzsimmons
22500 Sweetleaf Lane
Laytonsville, MD 20882

AN ARTIST AMONG US

SWUA's Vice President Betty Ann Kolesari grew up listening to and enjoying her father's album collection of Slovenian button box music. Her father, Andrew Delopst, son of Gertrude Delopst - Branch 43's first President, was an accordian player and tinkered with a button box. When Betty Ann's father died in 1990 she inherited his button box.

Starting in her twenties, Betty Ann followed a local group "Hank Magayne and the Badger Button Box Club."

Eventually, in 2000 at the age of 40, Betty Ann took about 15 private lessons with Joe Krevs, a member of the Badger Button Box Club band. She now laughingly boasts that the one and only tune she can play is "Tony's Polka." Betty Ann's husband, Jack, has acquired his own button box and both plan to start taking lessons next year from Jack's brother, Gary Kolesari, another Slovenian music enthusiast. Betty Ann wants to learn to play many Slovenian songs so she can join in the Kolesari jam fests at family gatherings. The rest of the SWUA's Board of Directors also have plans for her talents. Go, Betty Ann!



SLOVENIA RECOGNIZED IN CHICAGO



Chicagoland's Cook County Treasurer, Maria Pappas sponsored a tribute to the Slovenians with a gala reception at her county offices in downtown Chicago. On this photo are members of Br. 20, Joliet who were among the guests: Jonita Ruth, Bea Nemanich, entertainer Brigita Kupsa with her zither, Theresa Burns and Carol Engels. Read more in Br. 20 article.

Corinne Leskovar:

A nice place to visit

A recent opportunity to visit St. Vitus Village on Cleveland's east side was not to be missed. So, in late October, on a very nice, balmy day, my cousin, Margie Krizman and I went to St. Vitus Church, attended mass there and then, skipped across Lausche* Avenue to the front door of St. Vitus Village, a new \$4.5 million apartment complex for independent senior living where several of our SWUA members live. It is interesting that the complex located on two city blocks in the old Slovenian neighborhood between Norwood Avenue and East 60th Street, was funded mainly by grants, loans and "sweat equity" from parishioners.

We were met there by Stan Kuhar who is quite an expert on all the ins and outs of SVV, having been with the Finance committee of the parish since the inception of the building plans. Fr. Joseph Boznar, their pastor for the past 24 years, has carried through on his dream to bring new and added life to the parish surrounds, and here is proof that he has done it, not only by bringing in almost 50 new residents, but re-awakening that old Slovenian-style spirit among parishioners that always was a part of St. Vitus. I should know. I was a part of that from my birth (on St. Clair and 61st) until 1952 when I went to Chicago to live.

St. Vitus was and now is again, the center of bustling activity, with many pedestrians, noisy cars looking for parking places, and groups of gathering people. Even the residents of SVV are into it! Through they may be senior citi-

zens, they all are busy doing things, some of which are directly connected to the church. I learned that they are cooking or baking for functions at the school hall, taking care of their individual vegetable and flower gardens, going the block or two it takes to public transportation for shopping trips, visiting and having guests in their own beautiful apartments. They are care-free and live in the most modern atmosphere.

They all have brand-new appliances which they use to cook up all those Slovenian delicacies, (I think they share them among each other!) and state-of-the-art electronic resources that help them keep in close touch with family. They all feel safe and comfortable in the little world they have made there, but still know what is going on in the world and where Slovenian activities can be enjoyed. The evening I visited them we took in the concert of the Slovenian Male Chorus, Fantje na vasi in their magnificent church. How convenient – it's right across the street! I can imagine how nice it is at holiday time when St. Vitus is the center of many activities. It's not too far to the Slovenian National Home on St. Clair (many major concerts and plays are held there and during Lent it's the best place for Friday Fish Fries!), and the Slovenian newspaper office, "Ameriška Domovina" is even closer. When I asked them if they are interested in having sewing or knitting clubs they all agreed, "Oh no, we don't have time – we're always on the go!"

**Frank J. Lausche retains a presence in the Slovenian community by having this street, formerly called Glass Avenue, named for his long-standing public service.*

Something about our members

I did go to St. Vitus Village specifically to visit our members. And, I did. Five of them were waiting for me at the front lobby: Marija Cugelj, Frances Piletic, Ann Benedik, Frances Bergoch and Juliette Slapnik. Another member, Mary Urbancic, is wheelchair bound and couldn't make it. They invited me into their party room where they have an authentic large tile baker's oven called a "krušna peč". It was imported from Slovenia and really works; it makes delicious bread!

Most of our members have been living there a year or more. Ann told me she came when the doors opened exactly two years ago to the day! "I should have a party!" she announced. We agreed. She then said my visit was for her like having party! Of course, they love visitors and would welcome a meeting of their sister-members of Br. 25 or 50, anytime it could be arranged. I promised to try to do that! I really hope to go there again and enjoy a very special and welcoming atmosphere.

HISTORICAL CORNERSTONE

As in most Catholic religious edifices, there is a small chapel located in St. Vitus Village at the corner of Lausche Ave. and E. 60th Street. It is exactly where the Notre Dame Sisters had their residence in years past. There is daily mass for the residents in this charming setting. The west wall above the altar is enhanced by blue light emanating from a beautiful, round-shaped stained glass window of Our Blessed Mother. Side windows are also stained glass and shower lovely light into the small

room. These windows and the altar were in the Sisters' residence chapel for many, many years and now refurbished, provide a historical meaning for the location of the Village. Stan pointed to an inside corner wall where the cornerstone of the new building is juxtaposed back to back with the old cornerstone of the Sisters' house.

The thoughtful design and placement of these two cornerstones will forever remind parishioners of the past and secure the legacy it holds.

*St. Vitus Village
6114 Lausche Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44103
(216) 361-0300*



Stan Kuhar pointed out the interesting focus point of the corner tower of St. Vitus Village. Looking up from the back garden, it lines up directly with the twin steeples of St. Vitus Church, across the street. Photo GUSCHAN/ THE PLAIN DEALER

Activities of our Branches



Reports due first of month
preceding publication.

NO. 2, CHICAGO, IL

Founding Date: DECEMBER 19, 1926

Meeting: 3rd Sunday
St. Stephen lower hall

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE – Now that all the baking, shopping and wrapping is over – we can concentrate on trying to get new members for this year.

The year 2003 went so swiftly – all the months with something exciting; January – welcoming the new year; February's Valentine party; March – St. Joseph and St. Patrick Table; May we honored our men as Members of the Year (we could not do it without them); June – we were off to our National convention in Duluth, MN; July Zveza Piknik/Lemont; August – Picnic in Lemont; September – Bishop Baraga Weekend – Indianapolis; October – IL/IN Convention/Joliet – also the 75th Anniversaries for Joliet, Br. #20 and LaSalle Br. #24 November Penny Social; December Christmas Parties – Candles were lit for our service personnel in the war zone – hopeful it will be over soon and they will return safe.

On November 9, The Slovenian Cultural Center was honored with Mass and Dinner for their 8th Anniversary – over 400 guests were present, great button box music by Vince Rigler, Mark Cepon and Herman Simyrah, Br. 20's Lilijana Cepon and her crew prepared the dinner.

Virginia Geirtin and husband, Bob toured Eastern Europe this fall; they also were happy they were able to visit Slovenija. She was glad that she saw the part of Slovenija where her family had migrated from. They both said the country was beautiful and hoped they would be able to go back for a return visit.

Elsie Statkus may still be shaking. She was surprised with a birthday dinner at Ignac Restaurant. Helen Fitzgerald organized the affair. In attendance were her daughter Terry and husband from Green Bay her son Gary and other close friends. Connie Taylor



Summertime at Great America!

The Cerer Boys – ages 2 to 14, smiled for the camera on a sunny day last summer at the Great America park near Chicago. They live in Twin Lakes, Wisconsin. Their great grandmother is Elsie Ciszek of Br. 2, Chicago, and grandmother is Donna Cerer, both members of Br. 2.

So, here are Aiden 2, Luke 4, Cary 6, Alex 8, Matt 12 and Anthony 14. Congratulations to our members; it must be nice to have six boys in one family!

baked the birthday cake (chocolate/white).

Jo Anna Ferrari's family – sons Frank, Joe, daughter, Diane and grandchildren Nicole and Dawn Bogolin, grandsons: Vincent, Tony and Christopher Ferrari (Chris is a Marine, who came home on leave so he could be with his grandma) treated her for her 90th birthday to a trip to Palm Springs, California and a big birthday celebration with her family. We will be waiting when she gets back so she can tell us all about it.

Our condolences to Genevieve (Piber) Bogolin's family. She was the wife of late John Bogolin, brother, Vince Piber, children, Johnny, Leonard, Jayne Zefran, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Please remember her in your prayers that she will rest in peace.

Thanks to everyone who helped put our annual Penny Social together and also those who came to enjoy the afternoon. For those who have not ever attended, put the date on your calendar,

you will have a good time. Fran and Terry Morison do a lot of shopping, there is a much baking, lots of craft-making, all kinds of surprises, Bingo to win prizes. Jean Hrastar came with a great big green hat to help celebrate. Our continental ladies, Connie Taylor and Geneva Cerjack, also wore large decorated hats which Connie made. They were in charge of the bakery dept. We had many nice bakery items to buy and also to win. If you were hungry you could buy hot dogs and coffee was free. It was a nice afternoon and the results!!! It all goes to buy gifts for the children's party.

Please remember our stay-at-homes. Hope they are doing better, we really miss all of you at our meetings, hope when it gets warm outdoors you will be back with us:

Heard Jean Hrastar and Ray Nusko were both in the hospital, get well soon and hope to see you both at our next meeting.

On November 18, Cook County Treasurer, Maria Pappas invited the Slove-

nians from the Chicago area for a cultural and heritage reception. A bus was provided by the Slovene Cultural Center (it was a cold rainy day but we made it). There were over 200 in attendance – Corinne Leskovar welcomed us, Martin Hozjan was Master of Ceremonies – after Posting of Colors, we sang both the Slovenian National Anthem and American National Anthem, Invocation: Deacon Janez Vidmar; Consul Gen'l of Slovenija – Honorable Tony Gogala talked about Slovenia and what countries many of the Slovenes migrated to. We were entertained by Brigita Lupša in her narodna noša, she played the zither and was accompanied by a button box accordion. Afterwards, Maria Pappas greeted us and told us she grew up in W. Virginia and was familiar with Slovenians because there were many living there. Those who represented a lodge or organization had pictures taken with Maria. Some of the ladies brought delicious Slovene pastries and cakes were provided by Costco Bakery. After we returned to the center we had pizza for lunch. It was really a nice day – we all enjoyed being recognized.

"The practice of forgiveness is our most important contribution to the healing of the world."

Keep our fighting heroes in your prayers.

LOVE,

DAISY

NO. 3, PUEBLO, CO

Founding Date: DECEMBER 19, 1926

**Meeting: 1st Tuesday
St. Mary's Church Hall**

Greetings!

By the time you receive this issue the holidays will be over. Hope everyone enjoyed the holidays.

Our meeting in November was well-attended. Our current officers were unanimously elected for another year. Katherine Kochevar brought the mystery gift and it was won by Pauline Pauchick. After the meeting refreshments were served by Rose Zupancic and Frances Ondovchik and then Bingo was played.

Our Christmas party was held at the La Renaissance Restaurant. There was

AT THE OHIO-MICHIGAN STATE CONVENTION



Ohio members attended the event held by hostess Branch 10, Collinwood, Ohio at St. Mary's Church Hall. Sophie Mazzi catered. Top photo, the officers at the head table, Mary Maxin, Secretary of Br. 50, Euclid, Stephanie Segulin, President of Br. 10, Olga Dorchak, State President and Kathleen Dorchak-Hall, National President. Lower picture was taken of some very happy ladies at the banquet. Photos by Emilee Jenko, Br. 25.



a gift exchange and prizes. The meal was delicious.

There were two functions at St. Mary's that some of our members participated in – a Thanksgiving Pie Social and St. Nicholas Party. Gifts were also brought for needy children.

As always, let's remember in our prayers the home-bound, the sick, caretakers and those in nursing homes.

Happy new year to all.

PAULINE PAUCHICK

**Remember those you love
and hold most dear with a
gift to the Heritage
Museum. Send it to:**

**SWU Heritage Museum,
431 No. Chicago St.,
Joliet, IL 60432**

NO. 10, CLEVELAND, OH

Founding Date: MARCH 8, 1927

**Meeting: 4th Wed. 1 p.m.
SND Holmes Ave.**

Hope you had a nice summer. Many of our members are ailing – wishing all a basket of good health.

We had a nice turnout at our Christmas dinner at Kristy's. All the ladies voted to have the same officers. Also for our Mother of the Year – "All Mothers" of Br. #10. It will be at Fanny's Restaurant on May 19, 2004. Hope to see you.

We will have a meeting – February 19, 2004 at Slovenian Hall – Holmes Ave. 1 p.m.

Stay healthy and hope the New Year will bring peace. God Bless everyone.

STEPHANIE SEGULIN

Our meeting held in October was well attended. Two of our members, Leona Zigman and Estelle Kobow recovered from illnesses and came to the meeting. Welcome to them.

November meeting was another good one with a fine attendance. We had election of officers and all the former officers stayed on for another year. Nell Zietlow is our Sunshine Lady as Millie Macht declined due to health problems.

We had a delicious meal. Virginia prepared a Slovenian dish, "struklje" and cranberries. Desserts were plentiful. Dolores Kodrich made filled donuts and Ann Norelli gave us a special treat with her special Italian pizzelles. Virginia is a busy lady as she is the president of the "Arts Council of Milwaukee and the USPEH Chorus.

The greater Milwaukee Slovenian Community attended the USPEH Christmas concert on Dec. 6th

On April 2nd a bus will be leaving Milwaukee to attend the 100th Anniversary of SNPJ in Pittsburgh. The banquet will be on April 4th with the President of the Republic of Slovenia as the guest speaker. We will then leave Pittsburgh on Sunday morning and drive to Cleveland to attend the Button Box Jamboree (16 groups will perform). The bus will return April 5th.

The Slovenian Arts Council has announced that the Deseti Brat chorus of Ljubljana and the Ambassador from Slovenia will be attending the Slovene Fest on April 17, 2004. Make sure you mark your calendar for these important dates. For further information call Virginia Strukel at (414) 543-6566.

We celebrated the November birthdays of our members Ann Grambow, Julie Pesec, Antonia Vodnik, Lillian Hartmann, Ann Jelinek and Rose Luebke.

My sister-in-law, Constance Dobersek passed away on Sept. 27th. She was buried Oct. 1st. She was our member for 56 years! May she rest in peace.

Happy New Year to you all!

STAVIA DOBERSEK

RECIPES FROM THE FARM

Food Columnist, Jean Korsman

New Food Columnist In this issue!

Welcome to our new Food Columnist, Jean Korsman of Gilbert, MN. Jean is a past National President of Slovenian Women's Union and well-known throughout Minnesota for her many years of service in their state administration and Br. 39 in Biwabik.

Besides, Jean is a prize-winning cooking and baking expert and at the recent National Convention in Duluth, took another first prize, this time for her delicious Slovenian Potica!

SAUERKRAUT MEATBALLS

- 12 oz. roll bulk (hot) pork sausage
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup finely chopped onions
- 1-14 oz. can sauerkraut, rinsed, drained and finely chopped
- 2 tablespoons bread crumbs
- 1 3 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 2 tablespoons minced fresh parsley (or 2 teaspoons dried)
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon garlic salt
- $\frac{1}{8}$ teaspoon pepper

METHOD:

Fry meat and onions until no pink remains, breaking into small bits; drain. Stir in finely chopped kraut with 2 tablespoons bread crumbs. Combine cream cheese, parsley, dry mustard, garlic salt, pepper. Stir into kraut mixture. Cover and refrigerate; it will thicken overnight. Next day: shape into $\frac{3}{4}$ inch balls; roll in $\frac{1}{4}$ cup flour; beat 2 eggs with $\frac{1}{4}$ cup milk. Dip meatballs in egg mixture, then in $\frac{3}{4}$ cup crumbs. Heat 2 inches of oil to 375°. Fry meatballs and drain on paper towel. Serve with dip made of $\frac{1}{2}$ cup mayonnaise plus 2 tablespoons spicy brown mustard. Best served hot. Use as main dish or as hor d'oeuvres.

(I'm not that fond of sauerkraut, but these were good!)

CRANBERRY-APPLE COBBLER

- 5 cups sliced apples (or pears)
- $1\frac{1}{4}$ cups sugar
- 1 cup cranberries
- 3 tablespoons tapioca
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 cup water
- 2 tablespoons butter
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup flour
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- $\frac{1}{8}$ teaspoon salt
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup butter or margarine
- 3 tablespoons milk

METHOD:

Heat oven to 375°. Mix apples, $1\frac{1}{4}$ cups sugar, cranberries, tapioca, and water. Let stand 5 minutes. Cook on medium heat, stirring constantly until mixture comes to full boil. Pour in 2-quart baking dish. Dot with 2 tablespoons butter. Then mix flour, 2 tablespoons sugar, baking powder, and salt. Cut in $\frac{1}{4}$ cup butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Stir in milk until soft dough forms. Drop by tablespoonfuls onto hot apple mixture. Bake 30 minute or until topping is golden brown. Serve with whipped cream, if desired. Makes 8 servings. A little Val-entine treat!

BAKED POTATO SPEARS

- 3 large baking potatoes
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup Miracle Whip
- onion salt
- pepper

METHOD:

Cut potatoes lengthwise into wedges. Brush with miracle Whip, season with onion salt, pepper. Place on greased pan. Bake in pre-heated oven 375° 50 min. or until tender and golden brown. Serve with dip made of 1 cup Miracle Whip, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup grated parmesan cheese, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup milk, 1 tablespoon chopped chives. (For added flavor prepare a few hours ahead and chill.)

NO. 13, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Founding Date: OCTOBER 30, 1927

Meeting: 1st Thursdays

Slovenian Hall

Contact Person:

Beverly Jackson - (650) 631-1098

No news last month - sorry.

I can't believe another year has passed so quickly. It has been a difficult year for the U.S.A. With so many of our servicemen on foreign soil protecting us at home; no matter what you feel or think about this terrible situation, remember them in your prayers and God Bless America!

We had a joyous year in Br. #13 ... Luncheons, Pot Lucks, Mother's Day Brunch and just being together. Isn't that what Zveza is about? Common interest and caring about one another. We had our Christmas Pot Luck last night and everyone had a wonderful time. Food was delicious. Our meeting preceded the dinner and a motion was made to reelect our entire slate of officers. And again, thank you, ladies, for a job well done.

Officers are: Pres. Josephine Aiuto, Vice Pres. Louise Petrusich, Rec. Sec. Beverly Jackson, Sec. Mareen Spencer, Treas. Michele Twers, Auditors: Virginia Sustarich, Ann Sustarich, Doreen Sustarich and Reporter: Bev Jackson.

We received a lovely note from Betty Doherty and a generous donation. She can't get to the meetings but we are always in her thoughts. And we think of you and thank you, Betty.

A little late with this news but, Jonathon Thomas Creager was born in Richmond, VA on Jan. 31, 2003. Parents are Michael and Stephanie Creager

NO. 14, EUCLID, OH

Founding Date: OCTOBER 31, 1927

Meeting: 1st Tuesday, 6 p.m.

Slovenian Society Home

We've had a warm spell a few days before Thanksgiving Day but we await a cold blast which is just around the corner. Before you know it we'll be ringing in another new year...2004. It seems just a short time ago we were anxiously waiting for the new millennium 2000.



and great grandmother is Louise Petrusich, Vice President of Br. 13. Congratulations to all and a very Happy Birthday to Jonathon. See how cute he is on the photo?

I heard there was a marvelous birthday celebration at the Slovenian Hall for Evelyn Brandi. Belated wishes to you, Evelyn.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to our members on the sick list. Thanks to the members who support meetings and I hope to see some new faces in February. We will have a Valentine Luncheon. Call Jo Aiuto if you can come. I know you will feel very happy if you do.

You will receive your personal calendar with the entire year's meetings and functions listed. Keep it on your refrigerator so you know when to join us. Thank you, Michele, again, for this effort.

Remember: *If you have much, give your wealth; If you have little, Give your heart.*

BEVERLY JACKSON

I must share this with our readers. Remember when we were stocking up on food items "...just in case..." and when the year 2000 arrived all was as normal as ever? Well, someone told me a relative of theirs is **still** eating tuna fish left over from their stored food!

Back to business. Diane Varney, Sect./Treas., and her husband, Larry attended the successful Ohio-Michigan Convention to represent No. 14. We were fortunate that they were able to make it since they had been on a short

trip to Virginia prior to that. Unfortunately they had an accident and had to leave their car in Virginia to be repaired; but fortunately, nobody was injured, except that they had to wait almost a month to get their repaired car back.

The very popular S.W.U. cookbook is now available at the Mayfield Heights library, thanks to Diane and Vice Pres., Pat Habat.

Congratulations to member Peggy and Matt Fitzthum on the arrival of a beautiful baby girl which they named Jenna Rose after their recently deceased grandmother Jennie, our late President. Best wishes to the young family now residing in Clinton, Indiana!

Two 50-year members were honored at our Christmas Party in December: Helen Violet and Natalie Bowser, daughter of Josephine Kastigar our faithful Banner Lady. Congratulations, Helen and Natalie!

Sending love and hugs and kisses to all for Valentine's Day!

ALICE KUHAR

NO. 16, SO. CHICAGO, IL

Founding Date: FEBRUARY 13, 1928

Meeting: 2nd Saturday, 1 p.m.
monthly except Jan.-July-Aug.

St. George's Hall

Contact: Mary Therese Ehnat
Tel. (773) 646-5758

Branch #16 is in mourning for our reporter, Marge Prebil, passed away on Oct. 29, 2003. (See picture and article in this month's issue).

On Nov. 18th, 2003, a Slovenian Reception was hosted by Cook County Treasurer, Maria Pappas and members of TOPS (Treasurer's Outreach Program and Services) to celebrate Slovenian Culture and Heritage. There was a Reception, Awards Ceremony, Cultural Program and Refreshments. Vida Kumse accepted the Award for Br. #16. Also attending were Gladys Buck, Helen Battista, Dolores Franko, Fran and Rudy Novak. Rose Mary Petrich, Dotsy and Jim Rossi and Sylvia Spretnjak. Refreshments included Potica, Apple Strudel, Cakes, Cookies, all home-made, and two cakes, a chocolate and a white with the Slovenian "Triglav" Emblem on them.

Election of officers was held at the November meeting. Mary Therese

In Loving Memory

† Margaret Prebil

When I was asked to write the article about Marge's 85th birthday party recently little did I know the next article would be her obituary.

On Oct. 29, 2003, Marge Prebil, our beloved member and Reporter, passed away and was laid to rest on All Saints Day, Nov. 1, 2003. The members, along with the Christian Mothers, prayed the Rosary at the Chapel. Gladys Buck read the SWU Burial Ritual.



Mass of Christian Burial was offered by Fr. Juan at St. George Church. All the grandchildren participated in some way as pall bearers, readers, and giving offerings. Vida, Gladys and I were also asked to take up an offering. Her nephew and niece were the Eucharistic Ministers. Her daughter, Kathy gave a beautiful tribute to her mom. The choir out-did themselves: Helen Battista's Ave Maria and all of us singing "Češčena si Marija". The Christian Mothers formed an Honor Guard with their lighted candles at the Entrance and Recessional.

Our heartfelt sympathies and condolences to her daughters, Kathy Monahan, Sr. Lois Prebil O.S.F., Rosemary Kasarda and son, Tony Prebil and their families and Marge's many friends.

Marge was a very active member in SWU, attending all the meetings, social gatherings, leading the Rosary at Wakes and active as Honorary Pall Bearer at the funerals of our members.

She joined SWU at Br. #2 and transferred to Br. #16 in Jan., 1965 after moving to the East Side. In 1984 she was elected President and served through 1989, bringing a loaf of home-made bread to every meeting for the Sunshine Raffle. She was a delegate to the State Conventions in 1979 and 1984. Marge attended many State Conventions wearing her Slovenian Narodna Noša which the family had on display at the Chapel with other Slovenian Artifacts that she treasured.

The honor of "Mother of the Year" was bestowed on her in 1991. Marge was Br. #16 Reporter for the ZARJA for over 8 years, keeping us all informed of lodge members and events. Her style of writing was unique and friendly and the members looked forward to her articles as did members of other branches.

You had a beautiful send-off, Marge, I'm sure you were somewhere peeking down at us.

We will miss you, Marge, but you will always be with us in spirit!

*Sylvia Spretnjak and
Members of Br. #16*

Our Beloved Lustig Ladies are Mourned!

We at Bradley, Br. 22 have just had a very sad year! We lost our three beloved sister-members, the Lustigs, in a span of three months. They were our long-time members and officers.

On April 26th our members gathered at the Prairieview-Lutheran Nursing Home where we attended a memorial service for Antoinette Lustig Legris who had passed away on March 7th, 2003. Her sisters, Emma and Gabrielle, residents of the same home, also attended. Antoinette served as treasurer of our branch for 20 years. The following Monday, April 23rd, Emma Lustig died. She was buried from St. Joseph Church in Bradley. Emma was our faithful reporter for ZARJA, doing this service for us for about 20 years.

On May 22nd, Gabrielle Lustig passed away. She was also buried from St. Joseph's in Bradley. Gabrielle served as our secretary for about 17 years. Their mother was originally a member and the three girls joined during the years 1936 to 1942.

We will all miss these ladies. They were very giving, volunteering at Our lady of Victory Nursing Home and Provena St. Mary's Hospital when they were well and able. All three lived at Heritage House in Kankakee and moved to Prairieview (Danville) in the space of one year. How sad it was to lose them so quickly; Toni was ill but Emma died unexpectedly and Gabrielle was ill for only a short time and also died suddenly. And then, just a month later, on June 17th, their brother, Steven Lustig also passed away. It was a shock to all of us.

The Lustig family was large, with 9 children. The three sisters were born in Bradley. Two other sisters, Frances and Rose preceded our friends in death. The four brothers were Louis, John, Joe and Steve. Antoinette was married but had no children.

Our deepest sympathy to the surviving family of nieces and nephews and all the many friends and of course, our members who knew them well. God grant them eternal rest.

HELEN SEBASTIANI
Secretary

In Loving Memory

**Ann J. Tercek
1914-2003**



*"In our memories she is
always near -
Loved and remembered,
bring many a silent tear."*

You are in our hearts forever.

*Your loving daughters,
Nancy and Joan
and Families*

Ehnat, Pres., Mary Jane Strus, Vice Pres., Gladys Buck, Sec'y. Vida Kumse, Recording Secretary, Sylvia Spretnjak, Treasurer, and Fran Novak, Auditor. Mary Therese's phone number is at the top of this column if there is a need to contact someone at our Branch for any reason. If she isn't available, she has an answering machine and will return your call if you leave your name and number.

Our members have been traveling again. Gladys Buck and her niece, Barbara Ireland to the New England States for the Fall Colors. Marjorie Mitchell and Rosemary Meyer, her best friend from St. George Grammar School, spent 2 weeks in Greece on a Pilgrimage "Through the Footsteps of St. Paul." Twelve members of the Kral Clan were on the KSKJ Cruise to the Bahamas - Dolores Franko, Katherine Jurincic, Andrea and Ed Kral and other members of their families.

Congratulations to Marjorie Mitchell on the birth of Granddaughter, Grace Catherine, Aug. 17th in Springfield, IL.

It was good to hear that Olga Kowalkowski and Rose Mary Petrich are back home after knee surgery and rehabilitation, but we are losing Helen Pastirik to an Assisted Living Complex on the North Side.

Since I am moving out of the kitchen, it will be up to the Birthday ladies to take over on their birthday months. A schedule will be arranged for the months we have no meeting.

Our next meeting is Feb. 14, 2004 at 1:00 p.m., St. George Church Hall. Please try to attend. There were only 13 members in November.

My home Phone Number is (773) 375-2278; call if you have any news you would like to share with the members. I also have an answering machine and will return your calls.

Wishing you all a Happy and Blessed New Year and Happy Valentine's Day.
SYLVIA SPRETNJAK

**Membership
Campaign
keeps on going!**

Officers and Members of Branch No. 16 appeared in the St. George Centennial Book. These are the faithful members who attend all monthly meetings.



First Row: Mary Jane Strus, Vice President; Vida Kumse, Recording Secretary; Mary Therese Ehnat, President; Gladys Buck, Secretary. Second Row: Genevieve Marco, Tina Sertich, Lena Amicarelli, Helen Pastirik, Jan Oberman, Vickie Putzell. Third Row: Dotsie Rossi, Helen Battista, Marjorie Mitchell, Olga Kowalkowski, Rose Mary Petrich.

NO. 20, JOLIET, IL

Founding Date: JUNE 11, 1928

**Meeting: 3rd Tuesday
except June to September**

St. Joe's Park Hall

Contact: Sr. Marlene (815) 724-0731

We wish you a **Happy and Blessed New Year!**

Our meeting on Nov. 18, 2003 included a talk on "A Natural Approach to Osteoporosis" by Dr. Frederic Ratio who cleared up some of our questions. The 50/50 was won by Heidi Demark. The name drawn for the accumulating attendance award was John Lukancic, but he was not present.

The Bake Sale held on Nov. 1 & 2 was very successful. Thank you to the 'bakers' and buyers.

On Nov. 29 & 30 there was an 'Open House' at the SWU Heritage Museum in Joliet. If you didn't make it this time, plan on making a visit there soon.

Our Christmas dinner was really enjoyed by those who attended it at Al's Steakhouse.

We extend get well wishes and prayers to: Jennifer Flenard, Grace Doerk and Kathy Stonich.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Jonita Ruth won an award for 18 years of faithful, volunteer service to the March of Dimes.

Bruce Korosa celebrated his 40th Anniversary in the entertainment field on Oct. 12. Keep on playing polkas and waltzes, Bruce. Tune in on Sundays, 9 a.m.-10 a.m. - WJOL 1340.

Lisa Nicole Grisham and **Eric John Theobald** were married - Oct. 25. Lisa and her mother are members in Br. 20.

St. Joseph Church, Slovenian Heritage Museum, and SWU Br. 20 received awards at the Slovenian reception celebrating Slovenian culture and heritage hosted by Maria Pappas, Cook County Treasurer and welcomed by Corinne Leskovar on Nov. 18. Members of Br. 20 who attended were, Jonita Ruth, Theresa Burns, Bea Nemanich, and Caroly Engels.

Roman Possedi was given "The Lifetime Achievement" award for the National Cleveland style Polka Hall of Fame. He had his first Polka Band in 1946. In his early years he performed at 'Club Irene' and the famous 'Baby Doll Polka Club', both in Chicago. Roman retired 12 years ago, moved to Las Vegas

Come enjoy dancing to the music of Bob Doszak on Jan. 11, 2004 and Don Lipovac on Feb. 8, 2004. Both events will be held at St. Joseph Park Hall in Joliet. The proceeds will be given to St. Joseph Church Restoration and Repair Fund.

On Sunday, Jan. 18, 2004, our spiritual Adviser, Father Tom Paul will conduct the installation of officers.

We are seeking the '2004 Woman of the Year.' If you have someone in mind, come and share your suggestion.

After the meeting there will be a buffet dinner with entertainment by the professional musician, 12 year old Marty Mavec who will play on his Button Box.

On Tues. Feb. 10, we will have a silent 'White Elephant' auction after our meeting.

Have you taken any chances on the beautiful Slovenian doll? \$1.00 a chance. May be on Valentine's Day, 'your' name could be drawn!

"I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go."

— Abraham Lincoln

HAPPY VALENTINE DAY!

SISTER MARLENE AMBROSE, OSF
(815) 724-0731

DINNER AND DANCING Benefit for St. Joseph's Church, Joliet, IL

takes place on Sunday, January 11, 2004 at St. Joseph Park Hall, corner of Raynor and Theodore Sts. This event will be sponsored by SWUA Br. 20, for the benefit and restoration of the beautiful church, just across the street from our SWUA Home Office. Tickets are \$15 per person and reservations are needed by Jan. 5th. dancing to Bob Doszak's Orch.

A second benefit dance will be held on Feb. 8th, 2004 at 5 p.m. at St. Joe's Park Hall, also sponsored by our Br. 20. The dance is from 5 to 10 p.m. with music by the popular Don Lipovac Band of Kansas City.

Tickets: 431 No. Chicago Street,
(815) 727-1926.

NO. 23, ELY, MN

Founding Date: SEPTEMBER 19, 1928

**Meeting: 1st Monday
St. Anthony's Church Hall
Sept. thru May**

In October, our meeting took place at St. Anthony's Church Hall at 6:00 p.m. All the officers were present and we had 12 members in attendance. Our president, Gerry Petrich, just back from her trip to Slovenia, planned to give a report on her travels at the next meeting.

We received a nice card of thanks from our State President, Char Laurich for reaching our new membership quota and her thanks for keeping our Slovenian heritage growing!! Pat Lammi explained the latest contest going on for recruiting new members.

Door prize was won by Gloria Smuk, and 50/50 drawing winner was Angie Godec. Coffee an' was served by the officers. Bars were made by Mary Ann Pulis and Evelyn Prijatelj who could not be at the meeting but were on the lunch committee. Everyone had a wonderful time socializing after the meeting.

* * *

"Old Man Winter" has come to town – brrr – what a cold evening and snow was on the ground but quite a few of us brave members enjoyed our Nov. 3rd meeting at St. Anthony Church Hall.

Gerry Petrich opened the meeting with a prayer – all the officers were present. We set the date for our Christmas Party, Dec. 7th. It was at Vertin's Cafe with a social and dinner. The committee was comprised of Darlene Nemanich, chair, Mary Mavetz, Florence Markovich, Katherine Klabe, Judy Swenson, Mary Bird, Julie Zgonc, Faye Smuk, Gen Erchull, and Rosemarie Buchner. We knew this would surely be a nice time for all!

Pat Lammi read a letter from Mary Turvey, Scholarship director, encouraging applications for the Travel Scholarship to Slovenia; and a follow up on scholarship recipients from Branch #23, requesting current addresses for some of those she hasn't been able to reach.

Judy Swenson mentioned she ordered another case of "More Pots & Pans" to sell at the Ely-Winton History

Museum located at the Vermilion Community College. The museum is closed for the winter but open by appointment. People can call 365-3226 to arrange to pick up cookbooks. Judy, thanks for helping SWUA earn money by these sales.

One of our members' grandson and family has had a very unfortunate fire in their newly redecorated home. Our Branch unanimously voted to help them with a monetary donation.

Jane gave out forms for the "Museum Magic Month" and all were encouraged to send in their entry and reminded that there were forms in the Sept. ZARJA.

Gerry Petrich gave a short report on her trip to London, Austria and Slovenia. Yes, the Queen's hats, Diana's gown in England – the underground subways – down the Danube, but the best time was in Slovenia: Bishop Baraga's home, visits with her relatives and her grandpa's home, plus the good meals, a lot of veal, wine and slivovitz!! She also met the family of Martin Strel – the swimmer from Slovenia who swam the Mississippi – (article in the ZARJA last month) – Gerry also had some wonderful items on display from Slovenia – a beautiful tablecloth, some wooden toys, a musical instrument, and a book by Martin Strel.

She gave a beautiful pin from Slovenia as a prize and Pauline Ferderber was the lucky gal to win it!!!

We also had a lot of fun marking our parent's hometowns on the map of Slovenia; Judy Swenson and Rose Ferderber brought maps so we were busy finding cities, villages and different areas. What fun and stories to go with them!!

The lunch committee for the November meeting were Rose Ferderber, Dorothy Hutar and Val Osaben who served a variety of desserts; the tables were decorated in a fall theme which was so nice. Everything was GREAT!!!

Sally Davidson suggested we select lunch committees for the next few months:

No meeting in January;

February 2004: Angela Mobilia, Betty Zupec, Mary Grahek;

March, 2004: Rose Gornik, Helen Champa, Julie Puzel;

April 2004: Bebe Lobe, Joanne Skansgaard, Marcy Zupec.

A SPECIAL DAY

On October 19th, Branch #24 (LaSalle, IL) had quite a special day of celebrating their 75th Anniversary. After a beautiful mass at Resurrection Church, the festivities began with everyone served a shot of Slivovitz as you walked through the door at the hall. The "Gostilna" that greeted you set the stage and led you right back to Slovenia for the day. Authentic food was carefully prepared with Harold's overseeing and delighted the taste buds of all. Music topped off the atmosphere and kept the toes tapping. The efforts of all who assisted to accomplish such a splendid event are greatly appreciated.

I was truly honored to be able to attend such wonderfully energy inspired events this past October. Thank you all and to quote MaryLou Voelk, "Keep On Dancing!"

Betty Ann Kolesari



National Officers, BettyAnn and Denise were greeted by hostess, Delores Spelich.

Val Osaben won the door prize and Janet Grahek won the 50/50 drawing. There were 17 members present.

Gerry closed the meeting with a very nice reading on "kindness." Yes, be kind to one another – it's a nice thing to remember!!

JANE YADLOSKY

NO. 24, LA SALLE, IL

Founding Date: OCTOBER 17, 1928

Meeting: 3rd Thursday

Eureka Savings Building

Monthly except July and August



When it was time to get ready for their 75th Anniversary, members of Br. 24, LaSalle delved into strudel-making with vigor and competence. You can see that a sense of fun pervaded, also. Here are Helen Swietek, Betty Lushina Horst, Jackie Lushina Assalley, Toni Miklavcic Essl and Martha Lushina.

Dober Dan!

Thirty-four members attended our November meeting including new members – Shirley Eide, Florence Dondelinger, Connie Kotar, Betty Bubelis and Debbie Miller. It's wonderful to see this increase in membership and attendance.

We are still enjoying the memories of our 75th anniversary celebration. Bonnie Prokup and her committee did an outstanding job as did all the members who contributed in so many ways. Fr. Bernard Horzen was able to be with us in spite of being in a wheel chair and spoke with his usual words of wisdom. Two of our members, Mary Ann Pieczynski and Rose Mary McLaughlin received their 50 year pins and Josephine Foley was recognized for her 69 years as a member of the SWUA.

We were sad to hear that Linda Struna, our vice president, fell and broke her wrist. She will be in a cast

Please turn the page.



Among guests, Sharon Brody, Jean Ficek, Jo Grabowski, Adele Gensler and Angie Nico.

until the end of December, however, she planned to join us at our annual Christmas party held at the Red Door on December 3. The chairwomen for this event were Mary Mecum, Linda Struna and Robbie Donahue.

After Helen Swietek gave a most wonderful demonstration on the making of apple strudel at a previous meeting, there is no doubt many of us planned to have it on our holiday menus. Strudel, potica and other delicacies are a constant reminder of our Slovenian heritage and by continuing these traditions we will pass this heritage on to future generations.

It was decided by all to continue to hold monthly meetings through the winter months instead of adjourning January through March. We have a very convenient and accommodating place in which to hold our meetings and there are many who are willing to drive others to and from. I think with the increase in attendance and the enjoyment we all have being with one another is an important factor.

After another fruitful meeting we all enjoyed the delicious refreshments provided by the committee of – Jackie Assalley, Arlene Borys, Betty Hurst, Martha Lushina, and Toni Essl.

With all good wishes for a peaceful and healthy New Year.

Until next time.

LORETTA STORY

NO. 32, EUCLID, OH

Founding Date: AUGUST 25, 1929

Meeting: 3rd Wed., 6:30 p.m.

Euclid Public Library, Erie Room

Pam called the meeting to order and after our business was taken care of, we had elections. For 2004 we have the same officers and we shall meet at the same time and place. It was great to have some youth taking the reins again.

Our Christmas party was once again a joyous occasion. The table was set up for Kings and Queens – and after all, that's what we all are, Kings and Queens! Thanks to all our wonderful members who showed up and what great food we enjoyed!

In March, our next meeting date, we plan to discuss some important subjects for our branch.

Each day I read the news and we all need to pray for peace!

We are grateful to Veda!

Veda Ponikvar, another very well-known Minnesotan and expert in the kitchen, devoted the past five years as Food Columnist of "From our Heritage Kitchens." Her tried and tested recipes were sure-fire "hits" in any kitchen. We thank you, Veda, most sincerely and wish you happiness as you continue your long career as the First Lady of Chisholm!

Wishes to each and everyone for a happy New Year. Please remember to pay your dues on time and come to the March meeting, 6:30 p.m. Get well wishes to our ill members. Take time each day to be good to yourself!

DOROTHY LAMM

NO. 34, SOUDAN, MN

Founding Date: OCTOBER 12, 1929

Meeting: 3rd Wed., 1 p.m.

St. Martin's Church Hall

Jan. to May; Sept., Oct. & Nov.

Members gathered on a beautiful fall day Oct. 5th. A table was decorated in seasonal Halloween motif and we had delicious refreshments. The main topic was the election of new officers. Returned to their respected positions were: Adrienne Miklich, President; Lorraine Berg, Vice President; Ag Matson, Treasurer and Emma Betourne, Recording Secretary. Discussion was held on plans for Founder's Day on Nov. 19th with a mass scheduled for 8 a.m. by Fr. Pakiz and breakfast and meeting to follow. We offered to pick up members who do not drive to St. Martin's Church Hall.

Special thanks to Margaret Liliija for making and donating a potica for the National Convention in Duluth. Special thanks to Theresa Berg for taking the time to help with sending the list of names out and telling members about the state convention on Sept. 12th. She was able to tell those who could not attend a meeting how each one could help by bringing a door prize or providing some refreshments. These State meetings come only every three years to Soudan and this year it was at the Fortune Bay Casino.

Members gathered for the Founder's Day mass at St. Martin's Church and

breakfast afterward at the Tower Café. Fr. Pakiz joined us and gave an invocation. Prayers were also offered for the recovery of Fred Pahula, Mary Ann Hill, Ag Tekautz who is home-bound, and Kay Dean.

Hope you all had a beautiful "Zahvalni Dan" with your families. In our family we were so proud of my granddaughter's friend who saved a life by tossing an electrical cord to a neighbor and his dog who fell through the ice. Tiffany heard the cry and ran to her house, grabbed a cord and pulled both of them to safety. We all felt thankful for this act of courage!

We have great members and an active branch. All of us, my family and loved ones, are fine, too. I only wish there was peace in the world and happiness, health and good memories for families and friends.

God bless you all and Happy New Year!

ADRIENNE MIKLICH

NO. 35, AURORA, MN

Founding Date: OCTOBER 15, 1929

Meeting: 6 times per year

Community Center

Contact: Anita Vovk

E-mail: AMV@cpinternet.com

We met on Sunday, Oct. 12; president Anita Vovk opened the meeting with prayers. Anita gave a report on our trip to Joliet for the 75th anniversary celebration of Br. 20 and the IL-IN State Convention. Our congratulations and thanks to everyone who planned and worked to make this a wonderful celebration. The new exhibits at the Heritage Museum are beautiful and very interesting.

Our project at the meeting was gathering articles from past ZARJAs to go into our branch scrapbook. We would like to complete these by October 2004 in time for the 75th anniversary. Thank you to everyone who helped and we will be working on these items between meetings, too.

Hi to Veda Marinsek! We miss you! Enjoy your new home in Texas with your daughter and family.

Our prayers and get well wishes to Linda Orazem and all our members who are ill. If you are visiting at the nursing home, stay over and see our former SWU President, Florence Holland who is living there now.

Mark your calendars with the SWU

Br. 35 meeting dates for 2004. All meetings will be at the Community Center as follows:

Feb. 8 – 1:30 p.m. Dime Social;
April 4 – 1:30 p.m.; May 2 – noon,
Mother of the Year party; August 11 –
(Wed.) Noon; Sept. 11 – State Convention,
Tower-Soudan; Oct. 10 – 1:30 p.m.
and Dec. 5 – Advent – 3 p.m.
followed by dinner at 4 p.m.

Thank you to our hostesses, Mary Koski and Betty Turk for the delicious lunch.

Happy Valentine's Day.

ANNE M. ORAZEM

NO. 39, BIWABIK, MN

Founding Date: FEBRUARY 3, 1930

**Meeting: 1st Sunday monthly
St. John's Church**

**Contact: Jean Korsman,
4222 McKinley Rd., Gilbert, MN**

Our November meeting was well-attended and the lunch beautifully served by Helen Milos and her daughter, Betty Lou Enquist. Festive table decorations and delicious fruit salad and all the "extras". (Our favorite part of the meeting!!)

We did do business through, and all were reminded to buy at least one calendar for our SWU fund raiser. (I hope I'm so lucky as in the past... I've had two recipients of my sales win \$100 each, so I also received the \$10 as the seller. Can't beat that for luck.)

Our "new" officers for the next year are the "same ol' – same ol'". Thank goodness for our capable secretary-treasurer, Vida Lanari. She so cheerfully takes up the slack when I have a "senior moment." It sure makes it easier when she is so computer savvy!!

We also have plans to have a "program" selection each month and are hoping to share with our neighbor, Br. 35 in Aurora. We need to include our missing members with a newsletter, and of course continue to encourage new joiners.

We are looking forward to our "after Christmas" party on January 4th. It's always a great time for fun, games and socializing. We have hired the "Memory Lane Cafe" to cater our dinner. We extend good wishes to all for health and happiness in the New Year 2004.

JEAN KORSMAN

Reporter

NO. 40, LORAIN, OH

Founding Date: APRIL 21, 1930

**Meeting: 2nd Wed., 1 p.m.
SS Cyril & Methodius Hall**

Happy New Year!! The holidays are behind us. Let us look forward and pray for peace and love in the world.

Angie Voytko and I attended the Ohio-Mich convention held at beautiful St. Mary's in Cleveland, Ohio. It was an interesting experience. We heard what other branches are doing in respect to maintaining and increasing their membership.

In our Branch, which meets on the second Wednesday of each month, one of us brings a dessert which we enjoy before the meeting. Many of our ladies bring small gifts which we raffle off. Talk about generous! They then purchase tickets to try and win the prizes they just donated! This is our fundraiser. After the meeting we sometimes play Keno or we have discussions. Last month I read an essay entitled "Sweet Lorain," a nostalgic piece written by Michael Dirda, a former Lorain resident who is now book editor of The Washington Post. He told of how it was growing up in a small town. We were reminded of how wonderful it was then. And don't we all like to talk about that! Many of our members know Michael and know his family whom he visits regularly.

Our long-time member, Angeline Tomsic died on Nov. 11 at age 93. She was very active in our Slovenian community. She sang in our church choir for over 70 years and now her beautiful soprano voice is stilled forever. She is survived by her daughter, Shirley Toman, four grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her first husband, Frank J. Tomsic in 1970, second husband, Joseph A. Tomsic in 1986, and brother, William Eisenhardt, sister, Josephine Eisenhardt in infancy, and sisters, Mildred Mullen and Josephine Biddle. To Shirley and the family, we extend our deepest sympathy. Rest in peace, dear Angie.

There are people who do wonderful things we never hear of, who don't expect thanks or any special recognition. They are called volunteers. Our member, Olga Love was honored by The Black River Historical Society for her

volunteering. She has been generous with her time, helping when they moved into the building that houses their museum, cleaning and being a guide for groups touring the facility. Now, she is somewhat restricted by arthritis but she continues working at home mending some of the museum's clothing collection. She is generous in other ways too, always baking for fundraisers and she even purchased a refrigerator for the use of the volunteers at the museum. She is also a volunteer at the Palace Civic Center and Lorain Community Health Center. The last two sentences of her citation read as follows: "Olga is a generous volunteer and a special person. Thank you, Olga." We add our congratulations. We think you are pretty special, too!!!

Now a reminder. Our first meeting of the year is on Jan. 14th. Aggie Serazin, our Jan. birthday girl will entertain. Let's have a big turn-out!

Love,

STEPHANIE POLUTNIK

NO. 42, MAPLE HTS., OH

Founding Date: MAY 31, 1930

**Meeting: Feb., May, Aug. & Nov.
2nd Saturday – 11:00 a.m.**

**Contact Person: Lil Sadowski
(216) 398-4367**

Greetings of the new year everyone! What happened to 2003? It came and went like a thief in the night and, unfortunately, it makes us a year older. January and February are usually dreary and uneventful which has led me to ponder the following. My late mother's birthday was Jan. 13th and 21 years later became the wedding date of her marriage to my then 23 year old dad at St. Lawrence Church in 1909, just 6 years after the Wright Brothers' historic first flight at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. Both of my parents were born in the 1880's which was actually only 10 years after Custer's Last Stand at The Little Big Horn; the Indian wars that raged from 1865-1890 and even more amazing, just 21 years after the 1865 assassination of Abraham Lincoln, my historic idol. I always felt so honored to share his birthday and only recently discovered that Charles Darwin was also born on Feb. 12th and in the same year as Honest Abe in 1809. That was exactly 100 years before Ma

and Pa's wedding, so, conceivably, either one of these great men could have still been living if today's life expectancy had prevailed then. Isn't it amazing when you put important events in their proper perspective, how interesting it becomes?

Marie Zimmer became a grandmother for the 2nd time with the birth of Madelle who was born on her mom (Kim) and dad's (Chris) shared birthday, May 6th. She becomes the first Zimmer girl in 5 generations and along with brother, Frankie, age 3^{1/2}, will become our SWU juvenile members.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Helen Husky whose husband, Richard, passed away in October. He was also the father of our member, Debbie Zolyniak. May he rest in peace.

Best wishes to the January birthday celebrants: Nancy Kish, Kelly Gaines, Mary Perko, Kelly Lipnos, Margaret Gravier, David Lipnos, Karen Lockard and Mary Lou McHenry. The February honorees are Diane Balach, Edna Scotton and Allison Gruden.

Thanks to all our branch officers for a job well done in 2003. The slate was unanimously approved to remain in 2004.

As always, get well wishes to any ailing members and especially to my sister, Fran Tomsic, who recently spent some time in the hospital with pneumonia. Best regards to all our shut-ins and assisted living residents. To the rest of you, don't forget our next meeting on Saturday, Feb. 7th, 11:00 a.m. at the Maple Hts. Library. Till next time.

Zbogom!

LIL SADOWSKI

NO. 43, MILWAUKEE, WI

Founding Date: JUNE 4, 1930

Meeting: 4th Wed., noon

**Contact: Yvonne Johnstone Khaldy
YJK@AOL.COM - (414) 744-3837**

Our November meeting at our new location, St. Mary, Help of Christians, was very enjoyable. The members heartily approved of the spacious hall. Joan Yaklich advised us that Archbishop Timothy Dolan will be at the church on May 8th, 2004, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the church.

Elections were held and the officers for 2004 are: President, Josephine Janezic; Vice President, Yvonne Johnstone Khaldy; Secretary-Trea-

surer, Mary Martino, assisted by Denise Bartlett; Recording Secretary and Reporter, Anne Konczal, assisted by Yvonne Johnstone Khaldy; Auditor, Elizabeth Gallun; Sargeant-at-arms, Karen Goodman; Program Chairperson, Betty Ann Kolesari. Officers will be installed at our after Christmas party at Klemmer's on January 17, 2004. We also will honor 50 year members and initiate our new members at the party. All members are invited to attend. The party will start at noon - please bring a \$5.00 gift to exchange. Please contact Josephine Janezic at (414) 545-0691 for reservations and details.

Our new dues amount of \$20.00 for all members was discussed and any of our members who find the higher amount a hardship should please contact Jos. Janezic, Yvonne Khaldy, Mary Martino or Anne Konczal.

We were pleased to see a long time member, Sophie Bevsek, at our meeting. Her grandson, Frank Bevsek, who is a financial advisor, was a speaker at our meeting several months ago.

Josephine spoke to member Vicky Sporis, who turned 102 on December 18, 2003. Vicky stated that she reads the ZARJA from cover to cover and knows everything that goes on with the branch. Happy Birthday, Vicky!!

Denise Bartlett and BettyAnn Kolesari told us of national news regarding the calendar and cookbook. Denise will work with Josephine on Youth Activities for the junior members of our branch.

Barbara Martinka, Toni Needham and Rose Chepak worked the Slovenian Booth at the annual Milwaukee Folk Fair, November 22-23. The European Village at the Milwaukee Museum has a traditional Slovenian home decorated for Christmas. Mici Bregant announced that the USPEH chorus was to perform at Sacred Heart, 49th & Wells, on December 6th.

Our birthday people, Denise Bartlett, Angie Johnstone, Theresa Kotar and Helen Prijic, treated us to a delicious luncheon.

Prayers were said for Mary Martino's brother, who passed away after a long illness. We also said a prayer for Tillie Wieck, who is recovering from a fall. We left our food pantry donations with the church secretary, and ended our first meeting at St. Mary, Help of Christians.

Submitted for Annie Konczal,
YVONNE JOHNSTONE KHALDY

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NO. 47, GARFIELD HTS., OH

Founding Date: JUNE 17, 1931

**Meetings: 2nd Sunday of the Month
Maple Heights Public Library**

Contact: Elsie Spellacy

(440) 232-8733

As we start a new year, I hope everyone had a Blessed and safe Holiday. I also hope to see all of you at our next meeting in March.

Birthday wishes go out to all of our January and February members.

January members: Antonia Davies, Josephine Lea, Kay Yuratovac, Laura Bossard, Diane Fornaro, Mary Hrovat, Helen Yerman, Agnes Zabak, Tyler Mundson and Betty Zahler.

February Members: Margarita Franchini, Ludmilla Bolek, Anne Kemmerling, Jessie Pigat and Dorothy Squires.

Best Wishes to all in this new year.

KATHERINE WALLACE

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American Slovenian Catholic Union (KSKJ)

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NO. 54, WARREN, OH

Founding Date: AUGUST 22, 1932

Meeting: 3rd Wednesday

Feb. thru May, Sept., Nov., Dec.

Contact: Joanne Ponikvar

**4010 Greenmont Dr., S.E.,
Warren, MI 44484**

We had election of officers and our slate remains the same. We will meet on Feb. 18th at noon at Vic Zuga's home. I will be calling all of you and can pick up those who won't be driving.

By now you all have recuperated from the holidays and hopefully, the new year of 2004 will be peaceful and healthy for all of us.

We have some sad news at our branch. Longtime, faithful member, Anne Savor passed away in November at the age of 97. She was such a sweet lady and always came to our meetings until a few years ago. She was very witty and hardly had a gray hair. She leaves behind two daughters, two sons and several grandchildren and great grandchildren. Her daughter, Louise Vett, is a very active member and donates generously to our needs. Several members attended her wake and she was buried in Pennsylvania. She will be sorely missed and we extend our prayers and sympathy to her loved ones.

Good luck to the SWUA National Board for the plans they are preparing for the future. You all have our support!

Keep warm, ladies and will see you in February.

JOANNE PONIKVAR

NO. 85, DEPUE, IL

Founding Date: DECEMBER 19, 1937

Meeting: At Members' Homes

Christmas and the holidays have come and gone and we are in a brand new year! I hope it will be a good one for everyone. We have a couple of birthdays to remember. Muriel Jermenc has a birthday on January 27th and Mary Oberch on Feb. 24th. We wish them both very happy returns of their days.

My sister, Ann DeBord has been in St. Francis Hospital in Peoria. We hope she will be feeling better and home soon.

I have to comment on what a won-

derful 75th anniversary LaSalle Branch 24 had in October. They certainly did a great job. The Mass, Dinner, Music by Vince Rigler, were all very nice. I think they did an outstanding job on the souvenir booklet. It is so interesting. I know I will always treasure it. The dish towels with *Na zdravje* written on them were also a nice gift. I know this must have taken a lot of time for the ladies who did all the work, but it was well worthwhile. It was good to see all the ladies from LaSalle, Oglesby, Chicago and Joliet. I was sorry not to be able to attend the Oct. 5th event in Joliet but I wish them a very happy 75th anniversary. Heard it was very nice. I hope our winter will not be too severe. Stay warm, everyone, and God bless you.

MARY JERMENC

NO. 89, OGLESBY, IL

Founding Date: MAY 9, 1938

**Meeting: 2nd Mondays
except Jan., Feb., May, June
July and August
Dickinson House**

Hello to all from Branch 89 in Oglesby, IL.

It was decided since the weather was so nice, instead of our regular November meeting, we would take a road trip to visit our S.W.U. Museum in Joliet, IL. There were 7 of us able to attend, and let me say if any of you have the chance for a museum visit please try not to pass it up. Let me tell you about our day...

We started out about mid-morning, meeting at Delaney's, one of our favorite restaurants in Oglesby. Oglesby is approximately 1 hour drive from Joliet so after we all got situated in our vehicles, we did our usual chit-chatting for about 15 minutes. Then we popped the polka cassette in the player and listened to polkas all the way to Joliet. Needless to say, by the time we got there, we truly were in the "Slovenian" spirit. As we pulled up in front of the museum, it was a beautiful sight to see, as the silhouette of the Slovenian lady welcomed us.

When we entered the building, you could just feel the love and hard work that took place. We were graciously welcomed by our hostess, Jonita Ruth. We all scattered in different directions

just soaking everything up. Between the "family photo wall," the showcases, the ethnic displays, the gift corner, (I think Flossie Argubright got most of her Christmas shopping done) and the library of interesting books and photos, we were all so intrigued.

Jonita suggested we visit St. Joseph's Church, which is located directly across the street from the museum. What a beautiful sight to behold! As Jonita led us through the church and shared some of its history with us, it just felt like you wanted to sit in one of those pews and share some quiet time with our Lord.

As we left the church we thanked Tom Plankar for taking time out of his busy schedule to open the church just for us!

We returned to the museum to find Nancy Henkel and Angie Nico had the table all set to enjoy the lunch that we brought. Jonita had prepared the coffee and we just sat back and enjoyed the good food and good fellowship. After lunch, we watched a couple of brief videos about the museum and our Slovenian heritage. And it was then time for our goodbyes.

We thanked Jonita for being such a caring hostess and it was back on the road again. The trip home was a bit quieter with our minds trying to absorb everything we had seen about our Slovenian heritage. It was then we decided to pray the rosary together, thanking God for blessing us with such a special day.

Our Branch feels honored to have our president, Nancy Henkel and her mother, Eunice Supan a part of the museum restoration team. Nancy planned the "family photo wall" and the ethnic displays; and Eunice so generously donated her items to the museum.

Branch 89 thanks all the ladies for their determination, hard work, and most of all, their love for their Slovenian heritage so we can enjoy the fruits of their labor. We truly appreciate it.

Please keep Eunice Supan's grandson in your thoughts and prayers. He has joined the U.S. Marine Corps this past month.

Branch 89 planned to meet December 10, 2003 for our Christmas Party. Chairperson was Rose Ann Prey.

As we enter a new year, let us pray for peace and good will to all.

ALICE EBNER

NO. 99, LEMONT, IL
 Meetings: Feb. 29, May 31, Aug. 30,
 October 31
 Slovenian Cultural Center
 Contact: C. Leskovar (773) 275-1115

Hi members of our new Br. 99. I've been asked to post some news and info. We will be meeting four times regularly this year, on the fifth Sunday of every month that has five Sundays, of course! Time is after lunch at the Cultural Center. Everyone is welcome - bring your friends and relatives!

In February we plan to follow the custom of St. Gregory's Day, and say goodbye to winter by sailing little paper lanterns on the nice little Ave Maria lake nearby. The children are invited to come and bring their home-made lanterns for placement on the water. Maybe we can make some waves!

For Culture Day, please come to the Slovenian Museum in Joliet on Saturday, Feb. 7th to participate in a program of Preseren poetry and a demonstration of how to make LECT - the decorated cookies. On Sunday, in Lemont, another cultural program takes place after lunch. See you there.

Meanwhile, remember that when we meet Feb. 29th it will be Leap Year Day and also, the first Sunday of Lent. I guess that by that time the Shrove Tuesday celebration of Mardi Gras (in Slovenian it's PUST) will be over!

C. LESKOVAR

Thanks for your INVOICE DONATIONS!

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Micklich, Adrienne (34)	5			
Minnesota State Convention Donation for ZARJA	95			
Brooker, Angeline (20) *mem of Katherine F Hill nee Malnarick		35		
Branch 105 *mem of Helen Grasser	25			
Totals:	125	45	25	

WINE TASTING AT THE SLOVENIAN CONSULATE IN NEW YORK

Top: Members and guests of Br. 93, NYC seem to be enjoying a wonderful event on October 29th, when an evening of Slovenian wine tasting took place, hosted by the branch. Organizers of the event, Adrienne Bonser and Andrea Selak are seen lower photo with Emil Gaspari of TriWines (center).

Thanks to Sonja Krezevic-Kong for submitting the pictures.



NO. 93, NEW YORK, NY

Contact: Andrea Selak

Tel. (212) 925-6521

E-mail: andreaselak@hotmail.com

Vesele Praznike (Happy Holidays) from branch 93! Branch 93 has held several innovative events over the past few months. The hallmark event of the fall was a Slovenian wine tasting event that we held at the Slovenian Consulate's office suite in Midtown Manhattan. Wine importer Emil Gaspari provided a variety of red and white wine samples and also sold wine to attendees. Over 40 people attended. Thanks to Adrienne Bonser for helping to organize this event! To view Emil's wine selection, you can go to

www.tri-wines.com.

We held a branch holiday party, held on Saturday, December 13th at Djerdan #3, an Eastern European restaurant in Midtown Manhattan. SWUA merchandise and Bosnian handmade items were displayed and available for purchasing. There were also door prizes

and party favors.

Branch 93 member Cynthia Shaw is again directing the music for a holiday show, the annual New York Christmas Revels show, which was staged in December at Symphony Space. The show was set in the Italian Renaissance workshop of Leonardo Da Vinci. More information about the show is available at www.nycrevels.org. Congratulations, Cynthia!

In 2004, we plan to celebrate "Kulturnidan" (Day of Culture, the anniversary date of France Preseren's death) and Gregorijevo (the Slovenian version of Valentine's Day) on Feb. 8th. APRIL 3RD, we plan to meet for egg dyeing with plants and onion skins.

A quick note to Branch 93 members: as we do most of our communicating through e-mail, if your e-mail address changes, please let us know! If you are not on e-mail, please contact me for information on any upcoming events.

If you find yourself in the New York City area, please feel free to contact us!

ANDREA

NO. 108, OLNEY, MD

Founding Date: NOVEMBER 16, 2003

Meeting: 1st Sundays

**Contact: Bernadette Fitzsimmons
FITZSIMM@NETKONNECT.NET**

On November 16, 2003, the new SWU Branch 108 held their first meeting in Olney, MD. The Branch was formed by Bernadette Kovacic Fitzsimmons, Josephine Strnisa Simmons, and Erika Kokal Roda.

The first meeting was held at Mamma Lucia's restaurant in Olney, MD, and was attended by 12 individuals interested in membership. As individuals arrived and gathered together, a travel video of Ljubljana was shown to set the mood. Nika Kovacic generously supplied the group with copies of "Teamwork," also the Oče Naš ("Our Father" in Slovenian), and an article on Slovenian family names. The meeting was opened with the group reciting the "Our Father" prayer in Slovenian.

Opening remarks were made by Bernadette Kovacic Fitzsimmons, and followed with the video "Come Look Through My Eyes," which shared the history of the SWU and the living spirit of our Slovenian heritage and culture.

The main order of business was the election of officers. After group discussion, the following individuals were nominated to serve as officers:

President: Bernadette Kovacic, Fitzsimmons, Vice President: Patricia Walsh, Secretary: Josephine Strnisa Simmons, Treasurer: Anne Stratton, Photographer: Mary Kokal, Historian: Erika Kokal Roda, Auditors: Mary Kokal, Eveline Kaluza Lawrence, Nika Kovacic, Sergeant at Arms: Margaret McFarland.

After the election, Mr. John Klansek shared his knowledge and experience in genealogical research. He also shared copies of a number of references and tools that could be used to research family history. Mrs. Margaret McFarland and Patricia Walsh also briefly described their individual approaches to

finding their Slovenian roots. It was interesting to note the incredible persistence each of these individuals exhibited to obtain valuable information about their Slovenian heritage.

Ana Sonc Jevtic, a visitor from sister Branch 103 and linguist, graciously shared resources that could assist us in learning the Slovenian language.

The next branch meeting is scheduled on February 8 at Mamma Lucia's in Olney. A guest speaker will provide an introduction to the well-known Slovenian poet, France Preseren, with a selection of his poems to be recited in both English and Slovenian. We've also planned a Slovenian Family Polka Night, an outing with Slovenian accordion music (by Jay Intihar) and dancing at Blob's Park in Jessup, MD on March 6. Dinner meeting to begin at 6:30 p.m. followed by Slovenian polkas from 7:30-11:30 p.m. Members of our sister Branch 103, families and guests are cordially invited to join us.

JOAN SIMMONS
Secretary, Br. 108



**"Urbs et horto"
City in a Garden**

**In St. Paul, Minnesota
is this garden,
the most beautiful
creation of Yul Yost**



Yul has won city-wide prizes for his beautiful horticultural work. And, who is this Yul (his name in English would be Julian) Yost? He's a fine Slovenian who lives in Minnesota and a former professional athlete from our homeland. His roots are now placed very well in the northern state where he determines to prove that a garden can flourish no matter how short the growing season!

Yul is our member and met us at the Julian Sleeper historic house in St. Paul where we visited in connection with the recent SWUA Nat'l. Convention. Some of our ladies got a tour of this garden, and followed his advice on finding places to eat, too. Bravo, Yul! And, thanks for adding to the beauty of the land!

Yul's article in the last issue was on Martin Strel, the Slovenian swimmer and first man to swim the entire Mississippi River.

Editor





Membership Application

Yes! I want to join the S.W.U. I want to preserve and promote the legacy of our Slovenian-American heritage. As a member I will receive the publication, ZARJA—The Dawn; I can affiliate with branches and events across the country and best of all, I will come in contact with fellow Slovenes.

Please type or print legibly. Choose type of membership:

Junior (Birth to 18), Annual Dues \$5.00

Adult, Annual Dues \$20.00

Name and Middle Initial _____

Street Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone/Fax _____ E-Mail _____

Date of Birth _____ Do you speak Slovenian? _____

Please describe your Slovenian ancestry _____

How did you hear about us? S.W.U. member newspaper website other _____

Applicant's signature: _____ Date: _____

Branch Affiliation No. (if known) _____ Location: _____

Please make checks payable to the *Slovenian Women's Union of America* and mail to:

SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION OF AMERICA, 431 North Chicago Street, Joliet, IL 60432 – (815) 727-1926

e-mail: swuhome@msn.com — Internet webpage: www.swua.org

Please allow four to six weeks for membership processing.

In addition to my dues, I wish to contribute to the General Fund:

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I would like to volunteer for the S.W.U. My area of interest or expertise is: _____

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