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Zarja — The Dawn

URADNO GLASILO
SLOVENSKE ŽENSKE ZVEZE



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SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION

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*A Special Mother,
St. Ann and
her daughter, Mary*



ZARJA - THE DAWN

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ON THE COVER...

St. Ann, the mother of Mary and grandmother of Jesus. Her Feastday is July 26th. Best wishes to all our members named Ann, Anne, Anica, Ančka, Ančica and those who have Ann as a second name!

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Jul 17 ZVEZA DAY IN LEMONT, Br. 2, Chicago, IL
Nov 13 ANNUAL POULTRY CARD PARTY, Br. 43, Milwaukee, WI
Nov 16 CHRISTMAS PARTY, Br. 10, Cleveland, OH

HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN JULY & AUGUST



National Officers:

- July 8 - Olga Ancel, National Secretary, Joliet, IL
July 13 - Bernadette Kovacic, Director of Youth Activities, Silver Spring, MD
July 21 - Janet Maurin, Regional President, Wisconsin
Aug 8 - Romaine Jablonski, Regional President, Illinois-Indiana
Aug 26 - Beverly Jackson, Nat'l Vice Pres., San Francisco, CA

Presidents:

- July 5 - Ann Cooke, Br. 32, Euclid, OH
July 6 - Maria Selak, Br. 55, Girard, OH
July 21 - Ann Tercek, Br. 50, Cleveland, OH
Aug. 4 - Betty Matjasic, Br. 101, Bedford Hgts., OH
Aug. 7 - Rose Ivancic, Br. 5, Barberton, OH
Aug. 22 - Mollie McIntyre, Br. 22, Bradley, IL
Aug. 30 - Sabina Bartol, Br. 103, Washington, DC

Secretaries:

- July 4 - Dolores Konechnik, Br. 5, Indianapolis, IN
July 18 - Mary Djubinski, Br. 102, Willard, WI
July 19 - Mary Percic, Br. 67, Bessemer, PA
July 23 - Alouise Epley, Br. 73, Warrensville Hts., OH
Aug. 1 - Patricia Figurowski, Br. 20, Joliet, IL
Aug. 2 - Mary Satkovich, Br. 97, Cairnbrook, PA
Aug. 2 - Dorothy Szumski, Br. 101, Bedford Hts., OH
Aug. 7 - Moreen Spencer, Br. 13, San Fran., CA
Aug. 13 - Virginia Bendich, Br. 59, Burgettstown, PA
Aug. 16 - Frances Ulle, Br. 68, Fairport Hbr., OH
Aug. 19 - Dorothy Bruce, Br. 71, Strabane, PA
Aug. 20 - Charlotte Perdan, Br. 32, Euclid, OH
Aug. 30 - Evelyn Pipoly, Br. 50, Cleveland, OH



STATE CONVENTION - MINNESOTA STATE DAY Sunday, September 11, 1994

Greetings to all my Minnesota Sisters! Hope to see you all at our Minnesota State Convention to be hosted by our branch in Hibbing.

The schedule is as follows for the day:

- 9:00 a.m. Registration and coffee hour at St. Leo's social hall.
10:00 a.m. Regional Convention for Minnesota
12:00 noon Holy Mass at St. Leo's Church, 218 E. 39th St.
1:00 p.m. Banquet followed by program and entertainment

Hope you will all enjoy yourselves this day and meet your once-a-year friends!

To all travelers, have a safe trip to Hibbing!

Anne B. Satovich, Chairman

THE



1994 Regional CONVENTIONS

- SEPTEMBER 11 MINNESOTA
Br. 52, Hibbing, MN
SEPTEMBER 25 WISCONSIN
Br. 102, Willard, WI
OCTOBER 2 ILLINOIS-INDIANA
Br. 89, Oglesby, IL
OCTOBER 16 OHIO-MICHIGAN
Br. 105, Detroit, MI



NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we plant, we sow!

"Summertime--and the living is easy" so the saying goes! We're enjoying warmer weather which is most welcome after two unseasonably cool summers. It's a wonderful time for relaxation now that most of the garden and yard work and a multitude of other chores are completed. At night we can hear the laugh-like cry of the loons and the eerie howling of the wolves. Without fail, a big black bear makes her annual visit to our backyard. They don't seem to bother anyone, but if there is a garbage can around they can make a huge mess. While taking my daily walk, a magnificent eagle (wing span had to be 3 feet) was retrieving a fish, became startled as I approached, then dropped it into the lake. As it soared off into the clear, blue sky, I wondered who was more startled, the eagle or me.

Congratulations to our four SWU Scholarship recipients for 1994 who will be awarded \$1,000 each. The winners are, Kimberley Bischof, Branch 50, Euclid, Ohio; Katrina Nemeth, Branch 73, Parma, Ohio; Thomas Rzatkowski, Branch 33, Duluth, Minnesota; and Amy Tezak, Branch 20, Joliet, Illinois. May your dreams and goals be realized through hard work, prayers and perseverance.

Let us work together to continue and improve the SWU Scholarship Program for many years to come. If every branch would make it a practice to send an annual donation toward

the Scholarship Fund it would be greatly appreciated. It would provide the SWU students planning on going to college a much brighter future. We all know how costly an institution of higher learning becomes especially in recent years.

Our prayers and get well wishes to all of our ailing relatives and friends -- there are many! National officers who have been ill for months are Carita Girman, Romaine Jablonski, Janet Maurin, Marion Marolt and recently, Sylvia Vukodinovich. May the loving Lord Jesus bring health in body and spirit to all so that they may continue to serve.

Remember, "**San Francisco Welcomes Us**" -- Convention 1995! Make plans for an exciting and unforgettable vacation with family and delegates.

Enjoy the blessings of the good things in life and cherish your leisure time during this glorious season of summer!

Victoria "Tory" Bobence

Am scheduled for surgery on Monday, June 20th. Will have a fusion of the left thumb joint which will entail 4 to 5 months of wearing a cast or splint. This will restrict my activity especially for the three months when my hand will be in a cast.

SLOGAN FOR OUR NEW CAMPAIGN!

SAN FRANCISCO WELCOMES US!

This Membership Campaign will conclude the four year Pre-Convention drive for new members on March 31, 1995. Prizes will be awarded at the 22nd National Convention in San Francisco, California in May, 1995!

FOUR SWU SCHOLARSHIP

AWARDS IN 1994-95

The Slovenian Women's Union Scholarship Committee proudly announces the four students selected to be awarded the 1994-95 Scholarships. These scholarships are due to the generosity of all the many faithful contributors to the SWU Scholarship Fund. We now introduce to you (in alphabetical order) the bright, hopeful students through whom you are helping to keep alive the dream of the Slovenian immigrant for a better education and a better life!

Kimberly Anne Bischof

736 E. 263 Street
Euclid, OH 44132
SWU Branch No. 50



Katrina Michelle Nemeth

2707 Lincoln Avenue
Parma, OH 44134
SWU Branch No. 73



Thomas Rzatkowski

613 101 Avenue W.
Duluth, MN 55808
SWU Branch No. 33



Amy Elizabeth Tezak

1122 Ingalls Avenue
Joliet, IL 60435
SWU Branch No. 20



*left, Kimberly
top, Katrina
right, Thomas
right, Amy*

Kimberly Anne Bischof is the daughter of Donna and Ralph Bischof of Euclid, Ohio. Kimberly, a member of Branch No. 50 since birth, plans to major in both education and psychology at either John Carroll University or Bowling Green College. At Euclid High School Kimberly was secretary of the National Honor Society, co-sponsor of students Against Violating the Earth (SAVE), secretary of the E.U.C.Y.O. School magazine, and a peer tutor. Kimberly has earned distinguished honors all four years of high school and citizenship awards in her freshman and sophomore years. Kimberly was also selected to attend the Governor's Summer Institute at Cleveland State University. At her church preschool PSR program, Kimberly was a teacher's aide for three years and the teacher of the five year-old class for the past two years. In her spare time, Kimberly babysits, helps the elderly, has a house cleaning job, and assists her great-aunt, Carole Traven, with projects for Branch No. 50. In being selected to receive an SWU Scholarship, Kimberly continues a family tradition since her mother was a recipient of an SWU Scholarship in 1966. Kimberly dedicates this award to the memory of "a very special lady" - her late grandmother, Frances Sietz, who is well remembered for her dedicated work for the SWU.

Katrina Michelle Nemeth is the daughter of Patricia Dianne and John Eric Nemeth of Parma, Ohio. Katrina, a member of Branch No. 73 since birth, plans to major in Electrical Engineering at the University of New Mexico. At Parma Senior High School Katrina was a member of the National Honor Society, the Senior Advisory Board, the Drama Club, and the Concert Choir. In addition to teaching swimming and gymnastics, Katrina volunteers at the Independence Community Theater and is involved in gymnastics, tap, jazz, and ballet. At her church, Katrina is a member of the Chancel Choir and vice-president of the Youth Group where she directed plays and organized events such as feeding the homeless, helping at Marycrest Hospital, and Christmas caroling at nursing homes. Katrina has been a junior counselor at Camp Asbury and has attended Reachout at Lakeside for four years where she participated in mission projects such as cleaning up litter, painting houses, clearing trails, and working at the V.A. Hospital. As a member of Branch No. 50, Katrina has sung at Christmas parties and has attended other SWU special events.

Thomas Rzatkowski is the son of Josephine and Michal Rzatkowski of Duluth, Minnesota. Thomas, a member of Branch No. 33 for 9 years, is planning to attend Duluth Technical College to major in drafting and to eventually become an architect. At Denfeld High School Thomas was a member of the Orchestra and the ninth grade basketball team, played intramural sports, and received an honor "D" letter. At his church, Thomas has been very active serving as an altar boy for 9 years, working at church dinners, and helping at church picnics. As a member of Branch No. 33, Thomas has attended all junior member activities, operates the dishwasher at the SWU fundraising spaghetti dinners, St. Elizabeth dinners, and the state conventions, and serves Mass for the Minnesota Regional Convention.

Amy Elizabeth Tezak is the daughter of Suzanne and John Tezak of Joliet, Illinois. Amy, a member of Branch 20 for 16 years, is planning to double major in Art and English and minor in Communications at Gustavus Adolphus College. At Joliet Catholic Academy Amy was a member of the Junior Varsity Tennis Team, Drama Club, National Thespian Society, National Honor Society, Tapestry Choir, Video/Media Club, Liturgy Committee, and Science Club in which she served as vice-president and president. Amy also served on the editing staff of the school literary/art magazine, worked as both a writer and business manager for the school newspaper, was a junior retreat leader, participated in the Scholastic Bowl, assisted with Open House and Step-Up-Day, and went on a missionary trip to Harlan,

Kentucky. Honors that Amy has been awarded include Outstanding Performance in Religion II, Outstanding Performance in Commercial Design, Illinois State Scholar and Student of the Month. Amy has also been involved in ballet, tumbling, softball, drama and art classes, diving, bowling, and her youth group. Amy has attended a Summer Honors Program in Spanish at Indiana State University, a World Affairs Seminar at University of Wisconsin, and a Congressional Youth Leadership Council at Washington, D.C., and traveled on a dance performance tour through Denmark, Poland, and the former Soviet Union. Amy has also worked part-time at the Schenk, Duffy Law Firm, T.J. Maxx, and Gloria Jean's Coffee Bean. Amy has also found time for various volunteer work such as baking for the homeless shelter, Christmas caroling to parish shut-ins, and participating in Walk for Mankind. In her church, Amy has served as lector and Eucharistic Minister. As a member of Branch 20, Amy has represented the SWU in parades dressed in Slovenian costumes and has participated in Grape Harvest dances.

We wish all the 1994 graduates much joy and success in college and beyond.

Sincerely,

The SWU Scholarship Committee

Olga Ancel
Victoria Bobence
Marjorie Church

Kathleen Emerson
Irene Odorizzi
Mary Lou Videgar

Carita Girman, Director



**"Here She Comes,
Miss America."**

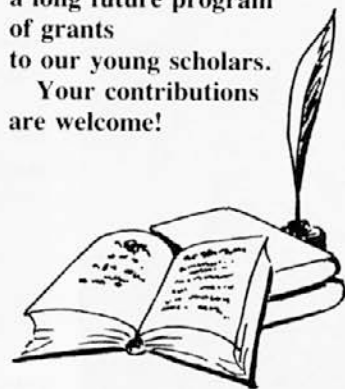
No, not yet but maybe in the future. Eleven year old Kelsey Beth Singletary won 3rd place in the "Little Future Miss Iowa Pageant", in Ames, Iowa on May 22. She came in 2nd place for talent. Judging was based on personality, academic achievement, service to school/community, talent skills, hobbies, poise and general awareness. Kelsey is the daughter of Janice and George Singletary, and the granddaughter to Fred and Jonita Ruth and John and Rose Singletary.



**SCHOLARSHIP
FUND
DONATIONS
NEEDED!**

Remember, a loved one,
make a memorial tribute,
or organize a fund-raising
event for the benefit
of our SWU Scholarship
Fund! The Fund is always
in need of financial input
so that we may assure
a long future program
of grants
to our young scholars.

Your contributions
are welcome!





Irene M. Odorizzi,
Heritage Director

HISTORY OF S.W.U. BRANCHES

Looking Back

to the Future

BR. #22, BRADLEY, ILLINOIS

August 1, 1928, marks the date that Marie Priland and her co-officers were guests in the home of Mrs. Rose Smole in Bradley, Illinois. The purpose of the meeting was to establish a new branch of Slovenska Ženska Zveza. Thus, Branch 22 came into being.

The first officers were:

President, Rose Smole; Vice President, Frances Lustig; Treasurer, Mary Stefanich; Secretary, Anna Yakofcich; Auditors, Anna Starasinich, Barbara Krall and Lottie Krizan.

Other charter members were: Margaret Pechauer and daughter Mollie (McIntyre), Anna Ponikvar, Anna Jamnik, Rose (Smole) Barothy, daughter of the president, and Mary Stefanich, sister-in-law to the treasurer.

These women were very hard workers. Almost all of them had large families and to provide for them, very large gardens. Many, too, opened their homes to boarders, single men who came to this country to make their home in a new land. Let us not forget, there were no home-making conveniences the first quarter of this century! Even though they were saddled with family responsibilities, these women still had time to help an ailing friend or one in need.

Their social life was Zveza and visiting other Slovenians in the village. They were dedicated to their heritage, family and church. They looked forward to the monthly meeting of the branch held at the home of a member; after the organizational business, they could relax with the game of bunco and enjoy someone-else's baking.

Why a branch in Bradley? The village attracted many Slovenian immigrants because of one thing – they were able to find work! From 1892 to 1910 three large industries were established here: the Joseph Turk Furniture Co, David Brad-



Top left: **Barbara Krall**, charter member and first trustee; she died in 1931 at the age of 47. *Lower left:* **Margaret Hasset and mother, Margaret Pechauer**. *Top right:* **Charter member, Anna Jamnick**.





It's so nice to look at old pictures, over and over again. This shows the first convention of the Slovenian Women's Union held November 7-8, 1927 in Chicago and among the officers here is *Rose Smole*, the organizer of Br. 22 in Bradley. She is seen standing, top row, second from right. Founder *Marie Prisland* is seated, center, with the white flower.

ley Plow Works (hence, the village name change from "North Kankakee"), and Kroehler Furniture, all employing hundreds of men and women. With Joseph Turk, a Slovenian, came cousin Matt Stefanich, husband of Mary Zugel Stefanich, the branch's first treasurer. John Lustig came to America at age 17 in 1896, eventually coming to Bradley. After he found work, he sent for Frances Vesel in Sodražica. They were married in November, 1900 in Immaculate Conception Church, Kankakee, because St. Joseph Parish did not yet exist. Frances Lustig became the branch's first vice-president. There was no such thing as job-hopping; men stayed at their jobs and that meant many, many years of productive service. To name one, John Lustig hammered steel into plow shares for 44 years before an open fire; in summer, the temperature reached 129 degrees! Other members can speak of their fathers' long years at the plants of their choice.

Gradually, membership in Branch #22 increased with induction of daughters, granddaughters and in-laws. After the deaths of charter members, Barbara Krall in 1931 and Frances Lustig in 1938, the list of members remained constant until 1954, when our foundress, Rose Smole passed away. Rose Lustig Lee died in 1958. In the 1960's we lost charter members Margaret Pechauer, Anna Ponikvar, Anna Starasinich, Mary Stefanich, first treasurer, and Anna Yakofeich. The decade of the '70s was devastating, with the deaths of seven members: Margaret Pechauer Hassett and daughter Corinne, Charlotte Krizan Skube, Marie Smole VandenHout, Agnes Zajc, Barbara Shiltz and Janet Ponikvar. No dates on hand for deaths of charter member Lottie Krizan and daughter Christine Hartman but many years have

gone by since their passing. So far, the 90s have not been kind to us, either. We miss Anna Pechauer LaMontagne (July 1992), Rose Smole Barothy (July '93) and Mollie Starasinich (Jan. 94). Our dear deceased remain in happy memory. May they rest in peace forever!

Several years after the death of her mother, Mary Stefanich, sister of Matt Stefanich, became Sister Mechtilda of St. Francis of Christ the King Convent at Mt. Assisi, Lemont. She is now deceased.

The ladies of Branch 22 used to attend the yearly State Conventions held elsewhere en masse when driver and bus were available. Thank God, Francis Richards, dear husband of our Ann (she's dear to us, too!), was always willing. That made attendance easy for the whole group. Changes in circumstances, however, alter the picture.



Christine Krizan Hartman



Corinne Hassett, granddaughter of charter member Margaret Pechauer

With persuasion, Branch 22 did host its first Regional State in 1977. Fr. James McDermott was pastor of St. Joseph's then and when we congregated at mass, he floored the congregation speaking the greeting "dober dan". The entire homily was a boast of the Slovenians' contributions to the parish. Father liked languages and never missed a chance to say something in our native tongue. We taught him a few phrases, too! We felt at home with him.

In 1984 the Regional was again held in Bradley. Fr. James Murray, pastor at the time, extended warm greetings but it was in 1991 at the third Regional here that Fr. Joseph Butters, of Polish descent, was impressed with the native costumes worn by several in the delegation. Struggling Slovenia was in the news in those days and Father did his homework to explain to non-Slovenians in the congregation the geography and history of Slovenia. At the end of Mass he asked the congregation to remain in place while the ladies filed out! People were intrigued by the colors, the "avbas", and styles of dress. It made one feel proud that though small in number we had made an indelible mark on the world and in our own parish!

Most of the members currently part of Branch 22 are daughters and granddaughters of charter members: sisters Gabrielle Lustig, Toni Legris and Emma Lustig; Helen Yakofcich Sebastiani; Elizabeth Starasinich Kinder and daughter Anne; Mollie Pechauer McIntyre; Anne Smole Zorbas of Melrose Mass; Ann Krall Richards; and Mary Anne Barothy, daughter of Rose.

Mary Rittmanic and Margaret Planton, Spreitzer girls of Ely, Minnesota, found their way to Bradley 60/70 years ago. Now Barbara Rittmanic, Mary's daughter, retired from nursing duties at Pres-St. Luke's in Chicago and has joined our ranks. Emma Znidarsich of LaCrosse, WI, Mayme Drasler, part-time Arizonian, and Jo Zaletel complete our roster of 16. For how long? Six members are 80 and older, with Mary Rittmanic topping all at age 87. With three living out of State, it means a maximum bimonthly meeting attendance of 11-12 members. We still enjoy the talk, the game, and the food! Once a year, in May, after a Mass for our deceased, we gather for breakfast at a local restaurant. The president decides on an extra feature at this gathering, be it a drawing for a prize or a corsage for an honored member.

Most of us also attend the Slovenian picnic in August. Individually, we volunteer, help ailing family members or just aim to keep body and soul together. A very unselfish member is Barbara Rittmanic. She not only volunteers at the church but drives long distances so that others can get the needed medical attention. We salute you, Barbara! God loves you!

No report would be complete without a special note on our foundress, Rose Smole. Born Rose Reholc, she came to Waukegan, Ill. from Mokronog, Slovenia, at a very early age. She married Michael Smole in February, 1909; they moved to Bradley, where several Slovenian families had preceded them.



Regional Convention, 1977 participants from Br. 22: Standing, middle left, Rose Barothy, Anna Jamnick, Mollie McIntyre, Helen Sebastiani; seated center is Margaret Planton, past pres. of Br. 22.

For many years Mrs. Smole was a gracious hostess to visiting Franciscan priests from Lemont, Ill., who came to hear confessions in Slovenian. Her dedication and keen interest in Zveza were outstanding until her death on February 22, 1954.

Rose was the mother of three daughters: the late Rose Barothy of Indianapolis; the late Marie VandenHout of Bourbonnais, Ill. and Anne Zorbas of Melrose, MA. Their memories are dearly beloved by all of us in Bradley.



Mary Rittmanic



Elizabeth Kinder



Mollie Starasinich



Mary Ann Barothy:

Remembering A Special Member

My mother was very proud of her Slovenian heritage. She spoke Slovenian very well, but didn't have much occasion to do so. During her trip to Europe, including several days in Ljubljana, she was the sole translator for that time as few in 1966 spoke English.

Mom was also very interested in the apparitions taking place in Medjugorje and had always hoped to be able to make the trip there. It was because of her guidance that we started the Medjugorje Network here in 1987. Mom saw Wayne Weible on the Sally Jessy Raphael's show in February, 1967. She was so inspired by him and what the people on the show said, that we contacted him to come to Indianapolis and the rest is history.

Mom was also proud to be a member of Branch 22 that her Mother started. We also kept our membership with the Bradley, Branch 22 group even while living here in Indianapolis. She attended the Illinois-Indiana convention in Bradley a few years ago and was happy to be a part of it. She enjoyed and kept up with many of her friends in Branch 22 – they are special people.

My mother was a very special lady – she loved people and was active with many volunteer organizations over the years. I am most grateful that I had her for 49 years. She was a very brave lady, too, and faced her illness with great faith and good spirits. I learned a lot from her, especially during her final years. She looked forward to going to Lemont for the outdoor Masses and the wonderful dinners. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Smole, are listed on the plaque inside the church as founding sponsors and donors to the church. They are the only people listed from Bradley, Kankakee or Bourbonnais.

Rose Barothy died in July 1993. Her mother, Rose Smole, the founder of Br. 22 died in 1954.



Rose Smole Barothy



Left: Anna LaMontagne, Anne Kinder and Gabrielle Lustig; center: President of Br. 22 Mollie McIntyre; right: Francis and Ann (Krall) Richards. Francis has been Br. 22's faithful driver and willing helper on all occasions.



Our thanks to Helen Sebastiani and Emma Lustig for their valued contributions to this history. Our best wishes to Branch 22 members who inspire us with their spirit of sisterhood.
IMO

Mothers / Women of the Year, 1994!



Antonia (Mae) Kerzicnik

Br. 10 Cleveland (Collinwood), Ohio

Mrs. Kerzicnik is a Collinwood resident for over 50 years and at this time of her life, as a senior citizen, enjoys the activities at St. Jerome's parish and the church's senior club. She has 3 lovely granddaughters, Kristin, Lisa and Laurie! Her son, Ernest works for General Electric in marketing and they live in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mae is a widow since March 1st, 1993 when her husband of 51 years passed away. Ernest was a truck driver for 32 years. On the occasion of their anniversary, Pres. George Bush sent them special message of congratulations.

Her parents, Josephine and Anton Pogacar came from Slovenia, mom from near Trst (Trieste) and dad from Gorenjska.

Mae is an avid gardener and enjoys needlepoint and gardening. She also is a loyal member and likes to attend meetings.

Heartiest wishes to our Mother of the Year!

Frances Marie Dixon

Br. 71, Strabane, PA

How nice it is to tell about our Mother of the Year from Br. 71, Strabane, PA. She is Frances Marie Dixon, nee Gruden, a member of 25 years.

Frances was born in Meadowlands on Sept. 2, 1925, the only child of John and Jennie Gruden, both of Slovenian descent. Frances' schooling was right in Meadowlands, first grade school and then Chartiers Houston high school. She worked in a glass factory for 5 years and paper factory for 8 years before devoting all her time to housewifely duties. Married to Anthony Dixon on Sept. 10, 1949, they have resided in their home there for 43 years. They have a son, Jerry of Eighty-four, PA who is married to Cindy Levine. Their daughter is Christie Lynn, age 7-1/2 mos. Jerry was a Marine in the service and now works for the Davy McKee Corp. as an engineer.

Daughter, Sharon Ann Dixon married Jack Soodik and resides in Mt. Lebanon; she is a mother of two sons, David, age 5-1/2 and Adam, 3-1/2.

Our beautiful Mother of the Year loves Slovenian music and dancing the polka and waltzes. She also has a lovely garden where she works diligently. We know the family is very proud of their wife and mother! God bless her and we love her, too!



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION OF AMERICA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Home Office, Joliet, Illinois, March 20-22, 1994

MEMBERS PRESENT MARCH 20, 1994: Victoria Bobence, President; Beverly Jackson, Vice-President; Olga Ancel, Secretary; Sylvia Vukodinovich, Treasurer; Cirila Kermavner, II Auditor; Josephine Lustik, III Auditor; Frances Morison, Women's Activities Director, Irene Odorizzi, Heritage Director, and Corinne Leskovar, Editor. *NOT PRESENT: I Auditor, Marion Marolt, due to illness; Bernadette Kovacic, Youth Activities Director.*

OPENING PRAYER: The meeting began at 9:30 a.m. with the opening prayer by president, Victoria Bobence. Remembered at this time were four National Officers who are ill, namely, Marion Marolt, Janet Maurin, Regional President of Wisconsin, Romaine Jablonski, Regional President of Ill.-Ind. and Carita Girman, Scholarship Director. Fondest wishes were extended to them all.

MINUTES: 1993 Annual Meeting Minutes were dispensed from reading on motion by C. Kermavner, seconded and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Past Treasurer Mary Marolt sent greetings from her home in Bradenton, FL; Hermine Dicke sent greetings from Madison, WI and asks for continued cooperation by members sending in recipes for Pots and Pans column in ZARJA; thank you from family of Marion Marolt for remembering her during illness.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS followed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Greetings, National Officers of the S.W.U. Board of Directors! Once again it gives me great pleasure to welcome you; may our 3-day assembly be productive and enjoyable. Since we have matters of great importance on the agenda, our conscientious and unbiased discussions are vital, thereby resulting in decisions made in the best interest of the Slovenian Women's Union of America.

Regrettably, illness prevented Marion Marolt, 1st National Auditor, Carita Girman, Scholarship Director, and Hermine Dicke, POTS & PANS Editor (husband, Bob recuperating from a stroke), to be with us. We pray for God's healing and compassion; you will be missed!

This past year we continued to encourage membership within our branches. From the reports received from Regional Presidents, the outlook was viewed with uncertainty and concern. This lackadaisical demeanor among many of our branch members is disheartening. Almost all organizations appear to have difficulty recruiting younger members; we're not alone. With interest in genealogy increasing virtually everywhere, there are educational topics which should interest our younger generation. The untapped resources are limitless but we must take a bold approach.

In the recent issue of ZARJA, we requested branches to invite their Regional President to their meetings or celebrations yearly. Several Regional Presidents stated that they have not received any invitations thus far. What has hap-

pened to our Slovenian-American hospitality? Perhaps this year we can improve our relationships among our branches with love and respect.

Too often we take for granted our wonderful, gifted members on the Board. Each and everyone of you are valued for your talents and dedication; for this, I thank you!

Due to austerity, travel has been curtailed for our National Officers who represented S.W.U. at Regional Conventions and/or functions. This is one of the missing links which binds us together on the local, state and national levels. Dues format among branches is another area which requires change. Change is never easy but we need to listen with respect and tolerance to each other.

The 22nd National Convention of the S.W.U. of America is only a year away, the dates set for May 19, 20, & 21, 1995. It is imperative that our branch presidents discuss all information written in the ZARJA magazine from now on until Convention 1995. This convention will require resourceful and energetic delegates who are committed to upholding the cultural heritage and Christian ethics which our parents and grandparents possessed. If we are to remain an effective and solvent organization, we must seriously contemplate the future as we will soon be celebrating our 70th Anniversary.

Just as a rainbow in the sky reminds us of God's promise of hope, may we go forward with hope to meet our challenges set before us. There are no yesterdays; there are no tomorrows; we only have today.

Victoria "Tory" Bobence

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

I come together again with Best Wishes and Greetings from the West Coast.

It has been a very difficult year in California with major earthquakes, fires, floods, and closures of Churches. A time for a real test of our faith. I have always believed that God never gives us more than we can carry. With the Archbishop of San Francisco attempting to close our beloved Church of the Nativity after 90 years, it has been a true test for me, emotionally, physically, and spiritually. One of the most difficult times of my life.

On September 25, 1993, I had the honor of hosting a wonderful reception for Foreign Minister Lojze Peterle and Ambassador Petric of Slovenia. It was truly a remarkable day for all our people and now we are deemed to be non-viable, a difficult statement to accept.

On a more positive side, I had the excitement and challenge of working with Maria "The Heritage Doll" and bringing her to life. She was the beautiful life-size doll donated by Corinne Leskovar at our last Board Meeting. During this past year, I made Maria, her Immigrant dress and embroidered apron in which she arrived, her American

party dress like all other little girls have, and her beautiful Native Costume so that she can always celebrate her heritage in her new country.

She brought optimism, joy, and creativity into my life for many months and now I bring them to you.

I am optimistic that we can only improve on the work we have done this past year; there is joy just in this working group of women being together and renewing friendships, and we all possess the creativity to implement the goals we set at this 1994 Board Meeting.

I thank you for allowing me to be a part of it and with God's Blessing may we have a very successful and fruitful year.

Beverly Jackson

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Dober Dan! Once again I will state that a wise decision was made at the last convention to impose a Special Assessment on all adult members. This Assessment helped us to realize a gain for the year 1992 and kept our loss for the year 1993 only \$359. The special Assessment income for 1993 was \$6,576 and it not adversely affect any change in membership.

Our interest income for 1993 decreased \$4,900 from the year 1992 and will continue to show a decline in 1994. Overall expenditures were about the same as in 1992. However, ZARJA costs decreased by \$1,000.

Membership -- The unfavorable trend continues. We had 138 new members in 1993, but deaths and terminations resulted in an overall decrease of 104 members from 1992. Only seven branches reflect an increase in membership. They are: No. 14 Euclid, OH, No. 20, Joliet, IL, No. 24 LaSalle, IL, No. 39, Biwabik, MN, No. 47, Garfield Heights, OH, No. 73, Warrensville Heights, OH and No. 79, Enumclaw, WA. Sixteen branches remained at the same level as in 1992 and all others decreased.

With every cookbook or heritage order an application is inserted. If the beneficiary is not a member, an application is enclosed with a death claim check in the hopes the secretary can persuade that someone, a daughter, son, grandchild or other relative to take the deceased's place in our precious organization. Our love and concern for Zveza is important.

About two years ago our national president Victoria Bobence said "apathy must be replaced with enthusiastic commitment." Branch 2 of Chicago, IL has the largest Junior membership with 155, while branch 20 of Joliet, IL has the largest adult membership with 606 including 50 socials.

There are 65 members born in 1900 and before. Those who are 100 years and over number eight. They are:

Mary Tisel (12)	103
Mary Evanich (40)	103
Theresa Hauptmann (7)	102
Mary Zakrajsek (14)	102
Marie Omejc (30)	102
Anna Gorishek (12)	100
Mary Sever (24)	100
Cecilia Krasovec (88)	100

The ZARJA continues to be a most important and popular part of Zveza. Members and subscribers alike express

their enjoyment with our magazine. A special thank you to Editor Corinne Leskovar for maintaining the excellent quality of the ZARJA.

Heritage Display -- Since the KSKJ will be celebrating its 100th anniversary this year and Joliet will host the national convention in said city, I plan to have a special display at the time. The delegates and their guests will have an opportunity to visit our Heritage Museum. By August it is hoped that the Joliet "downtown improvement extension" will be completed.

Our deepest thanks are extended to Jonita Ruth who made countless phone calls and voluntarily attended Joliet Council meetings urging the Council to improve said extension in this area, a one-time Slovenian nucleus in Joliet.

For many years branch 20 of Joliet alone had a bowling league. Its end in 1993 after 57 years was a sad event. The league served as a mainstay in our branch, a source of much enjoyment.

To our devoted officers and members, campaign workers, generous Scholarship, Heritage and ZARJA contributors, your hard work and generosity is truly appreciated. God bless our future!

Olga Ancel

I have taken the following from the 1979 Nat'l Convention Minutes for us to remember during today's discussions:

Actuary, Mr. Arthur Konovsky has advised that an immediate raise in assessment would be needed to offset the continuing cost increases and in order to come within the bounds of the allowable expense %.

It was further remarked that an increase of .25/mo in all classes has been passed, increase adopted to go in effect as of July 1, 1979.

Back in 1979 after we increased assessment only 25c/mo., we lost 1000 members. Now you expect to double the increase?

Membership totals as of December 31, 1978

	1978*	1979	1980	1993
Adult	7112	7022	6782	5067
Junior	1900	1737	1165	675
Social	320	339	344	497
Total	9332	9098	8291	6239

**Prior to Assessment increase of 1979*

NOTE: 18 months after the increase in assessment we lost over 1,000 members. And since December 1978 we have lost 3100 members and in 1978 we had 1900 Juniors. Now it's down to 675. Where are we going from here?

Secretary Ancel noted that the special assessment voted at the 1991 National Convention to receive one dollar per member per year for ZARJA has netted a grand total of \$6,576.00 for the year of 1993.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Madam President and Board Members:

It seems like a very long time since I was able to meet with the Board. Illness and other personal problems have

FINANCIAL REPORT

January 1 to December 31, 1993

FINANČNO POROČILO

1. januarja do 31. decembra 1993

Income—Dohodki:

Assessments	\$56,170.45	
Special Assessment	6,576.00	
		62,746.45
Interest from investments	50,393.36	
Interest from checking	132.35	
Rental	3,850.00	
Gain on investment sales	4,027.24	
		121,149.40

Expenses—Stroški:

Death Claims (145)	18,100.00	
Salaries	21,970.00	
Administrative, travel of officers	7,571.04	
ZARJA – THE DAWN		
Printing	38,890.00	
Less: Donations	642.80	
		38,247.20
Postage	6,348.91	
		44,596.11
FICA—Social Security	1,680.67	
Unemployment tax	285.60	
Real estate tax	1,777.92	
Department of Insurance	125.00	
Electricity, gas and water	2,550.02	
Advertising, printing, stationery	2,597.62	
Postage and telephone	1,742.60	
Depreciation – rent	3,900.00	
Insurance and officers bonding	1,526.00	
Maintenance/painting	3,444.43	
Investment and bank service fees	7,365.47	
Computer service—State annual reports	350.00	
Secretary, campaign, junior and 50-yr awards	1,410.48	
Memoriams and get-wells	181.50	
Donations—Bishop Baraga Association	100.00	
Miscellaneous	234.00	
		121,508.46

(Loss) for year (359.06)

Balance December 31, 1992 819,691.23

Balance December 31, 1993 \$819,332.17

Checking account 431.44

Investments in bonds and CDs 759,862.96

Furniture and fixtures 1,002.58

Real estate 56,669.69

Song books and Slovenia to America 1,365.50

Total Assets \$819,332.17

Olga Ancel, Nat'l Sec'y.

curtailed many activities in my life.

As I might remind you again, with our working capital, we are just about covering our expenses. Our Special Assessment fund has helped us, as well as the generous donations to ZARJA by our membership. As the weakened economy reflects a decrease in our income, we are assured by our investment officers that they are constantly continuing their vigilance on our investments. We have had to transfer \$16,000.00 from our trust fund which had accumulated during the good earning years to cover current expenses, and hope that we will not have to do this again.

We will need funds for our coming convention in 1995, and we must try to raise some funds to cover at least part of our delegates expenses. Hopefully we can devise a plan to solve this situation.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Vukodinovich

III NATIONAL AUDITORS REPORT

Greetings to the President and members of the National Board:

As our 1994 meetings are about to begin, we will once again have the opportunity to put forth our most diligent efforts in making these three days truly significant. Our goals must be such that Slovenian Women's Union will be looked upon as a national organization with a strong sense of purpose, and a dedication to promoting knowledge and interest in our Slovenian Heritage.

Our Branch 20 activities continue to be popular. The Grape Harvest Festival Dance is very well-attended as is our Woman of the Year Banquet. Everyone looks forward to these events. We were fortunate in having ZARJA editor, Corinne Leskovar, as the honorary mayor last September. On October 3rd, and in conjunction with our 65th anniversary, we hosted a very successful Illinois-Indiana Regional Convention; a tribute to the chairpersons, Millie Pucel and Judy Derlinga. Our goal of enrolling 65 new members was attained, bringing the present membership to 709. Branch 20 grants two scholarships annually to member graduates who continue on to a Catholic High School. We, also, donate to several charity organizations throughout the year. Recently, our membership voted on and passed that officers now elected, will remain on the board for a term of three years. One setback was the cancellation of our bowling league which was a part of Br. 20 for so many years. Hopefully, they will get together again sometime in the near future.

The Anniversary Celebration Calendar is truly a work of art. It is a treasure of lovely pictures, informative and meaningful articles that convey our devotion to the Slovenian culture.

In closing, I wish to express my deepest regard for everyone present, with the hope that our meetings will result in a renewed dedication to Slovenian Women's Union, and to the challenges that lie ahead.

My sincerest get well wishes to Carita Girman and Marion Marolt.

Respectfully submitted,

Josephine Lustik

All reports were accepted for file.

Meeting at First Midwest Bank of Illinois, 11:30 a.m.: The Board of Directors and Officers met with Ron Erjavec, and Ted Flint, Trust Officers of First Midwest for a thorough review of the financial investment statement for the year 1993. In line with the request by S.W.U. for growth and safety in the investments, the Bank presented a favorable review of investments of the past year and predictions for the year 1994. The Board was satisfied with the financial statement and hopes that interest earnings will remain stable according to current outlook.

ADJOURNMENT FOR LUNCH, noon to 1 p.m.

RECONVENE AT 1:30 p.m.
REPORTS OF OFFICERS continued.

SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Dear SWU Board Members:

Although I can not attend the annual board meeting due to my medical problems, my thoughts and prayers are with you. I hope you have much success in determining how the energies, resources and money of the Slovenian Women's Union can best be invested to make the SWU a vital and useful organization.

1993 was a great year for the SWU Scholarship Program. Donations in 1993 were up over \$3,000 from the previous year. In addition, total disbursements were about \$700 less than in 1992.

Four \$1,000 scholarships are being offered in 1994. To date, no applications for the 1994 SWU Scholarships have been received but based on last year's experience, I expect many last minute entries.

As you know, I have offered my resignation to Tory. Until my replacement is found, I will try to fulfill my duties as SWU Scholarship Director.

Thank you for your continued support of the Slovenian Women's Union Scholarship Program. You really have helped make many dreams come true.

Sincerely,

Carita Girman

The president announced that the resignation of Mrs. Girman was received on March 6, 1994 and regrettably accepted. All Scholarship Fund Reports are up to date. Happy Birthday wishes were extended to Mrs. Girman on her forthcoming day this Monday along with loving wishes for a return to good health.

The president will publically announce the vacancy in the Scholarship Director's position with hopes that a new Chairman can be installed at the earliest time.

The secretary shared an amusing story with the Board: an envelope was received at the Home Office addressed to S.W.U. Inside a scholarship applicant addressed the letter more specifically to: South West University!

REPORTS OF THE HERITAGE DIRECTOR AND EDITOR WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT ISSUE.

COOKBOOK REPORT:

The financial report on the sales of the S.W.U. Cookbook, Pots & Pans was given and discussed. Sales have fallen in the recent year although the cookbook is still a favorite of many. New sales techniques were discussed including advertising outside of the membership circle.

ADJOURNMENT 5:30 p.m.

Meeting called to order, March 22, 1994, 9:30 a.m. President Bobence opened the meeting with prayer.

MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN:

Secretary Ancel reported that in the last phase of the Membership Campaign there were 138 new members enrolled whereas there were 104 members lost through termination or death in the same period. A total of 483 new members were enrolled in all three phases of the Post Convention Membership Campaign so far, as follows:

POST CONVENTION CAMPAIGN TOTALS

Phase I: Success with Unity Campaign (1991-92)	199
Phase II: Slovenians, We're United (1992-93)	146
Phase III: Slovenian Wisdom Unsurpassed (1993-94)	138

CAMPAIGN WINNERS

Leading in the present campaign, which has only 10 days to go at this writing, are Irene Odorizzi, our Heritage Director, Jonita Ruth, Home Office clerk and Pat Figuirowski, Br. 20 Secretary. Congratulations! Announcement of top winner will be made in the next ZARJA!

NEW MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

The Post Convention Campaign that began in 1991 will conclude with Phase IV membership campaign beginning April 1, 1994 until March 31, 1995. The slogan for this campaign was accepted on a motion by Mrs. Ancel, seconded and carried. it will be known as:

SAN FRANCISCO WELCOMES US! MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

in honor of the 1995 National Convention City!

Prizes for the campaign will be the same as previous campaigns, cash for every new member according to Classes. Top prize for the winner will be a piece of beautiful jewelry indicative of San Francisco.

BRINGING THE S.W.U. TO OTHERS

The promotion of the S.W.U. and its features will be a part of the membership campaign strategy. For this reason a new brochure will be prepared by Mrs. Odorizzi and Mrs. Leskovar in which the Slovenian Women's Union will be explained and its many programs outlined. A general mailing to each member will be made with the request that she (he) participate in the membership campaign. The brochure will be inserted in ZARJA and included in all mail orders for the cookbooks, etc. emanating from the Home Office. On the request of the Board at the last meeting, Mrs. Odorizzi has already prepared a sample brochure and presented it at this meeting for further discussion and planning.

Reports given in this session were accepted for file and general discussion followed. The Board agreed that another yearly "calendar" as a fund raiser for ZARJA should be done and authorized the Editor to look into it.

ADJOURNMENT 5:30 p.m.

Meeting called to order, March 21, 1994, 9:30 a.m. President Bobence opened the meeting with prayer.

REPORTS OF REGIONAL OFFICERS:

Regional Presidents' reports were received from Ohio-Michigan, Minnesota and Western States. (These reports will be published next month.)

Ohio-Michigan

Discussion was held on the report especially on the recommendation of Mrs. Majercik for one time yearly dues payments. Motion by Mrs. Jackson, seconded, and carried to study this for the Convention.

Regional President's Reports from Illinois-Indiana and Wisconsin were excused because of illness of Mrs. Jablonski and Mrs. Maurin, respectively. No other regional reports received. Discussion was held on inactivity problems at some branches and difficulties in getting new member enrollments, which is the regional presidents' main concern.

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Review of membership statistics shows the following: From a total membership of 6,500, those members over the age of 75 years at this time number 1,855, that is, approximately 30%. Over 85 years of age members number 496, or 13%. Death claims paid out in the last 12 months are 128 compared to 146 in 1992 and 160 in 1991.

NEW RITUAL OF S.W.U.

The Ritual with the procedures explained for initiation of new members and installation of new officers, also, how funeral rites are presented and meetings conducted will be updated. Copies of the new Ritual will be printed and sent to each branch. This is a helpful tool for officers at Branch, State and National levels. The Funeral Ritual is to be also printed in the November issue of ZARJA. The Board is asking all branches who conduct services for their departed in a special way to share this with the membership by writing about it in future issues of ZARJA.

NATIONAL CONVENTION IN 1995

Convention location is San Francisco, California. Arrangements are being made by the host branch, No. 13, and Convention Chairman is SWU Vice-President, Beverly Jackson. The Board was happy to hear that preliminaries have been made with the following information now ready for publication:

The headquarters for meetings and lodging will be the Canterbury Hotel, 750 Sutter St., in downtown San Francisco. Registration of delegates and visitors will be on Thursday evening, May 18, 1995. Meetings will be from May 19, until May 21, 1995, mainly morning and early afternoon sessions to free up afternoons and evenings for sightseeing this beautiful American city.

22ND NATIONAL CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Thursday, May 18, 7 p.m.	Registration at Hotel
Friday, May 19, 8 a.m.	Opening ceremony, followed by Keynote Speaker
May 19, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.	Session I
Break from 10:30-:45	Free afternoon and evening
Saturday, May 20, 8 a.m.	Convention Photo
8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.	Session II
Break from 10:30-:45	Free afternoon and evening
Sunday, May 21, 8:30 a.m.	Session III
Break at 10:00 a.m.	
10:30 a.m.	Newly elected Board of Directors meets
2 p.m.	Holy Mass followed by Banquet and Adjournment of the Convention

Each of the three Convention Sessions will last approximately 3 to 4 hours.

ADJOURNMENT 5:30 p.m.

Meeting called to order, March 23, 1994: President Bobence opened the meeting with prayer.

AUDITS OF LEDGERS

First order of business was the auditing of the Secretary's and Treasurer's ledgers, the financial reports of the Heritage Fund, Scholarship Fund, Cookbook Fund, Publisher's Fund. The Auditors made the following report.

REPORT OF THE AUDITING COMMITTEE

The Auditing Committee has reviewed the records of the National Secretary, Treasurer, the ZARJA Fund, Scholarship Fund, Heritage Fund and the investment accounts at the First Midwest Bank in Joliet, Illinois and found that all the records of transactions are in good order.

Thank you to all the officers for their cooperation.

(signed) *Cirila Kermavner, Josephine Lustig,
Fran Morison (in absence of 1st Auditor,
Marion Marolt)*

CONVENTION DELEGATES

Delegates who will be elected to represent their branches at the 22nd National SWU Convention will register and present their credentials, entitling them to seating at the Convention, on Thursday, May 18, 1995. Information on the Credentials will be forthcoming from the Home Office.

Delegate Elections

Every branch of the adult department is entitled to one delegate per 1 to 200 members who are in good standing on June 30th of the year previous to the Convention, that is, June 30, 1994. Branches with 201 to 400 members in good standing may elect two delegates; three delegates for membership total over 401. (This information is found in the SWU By-Laws and was reprinted in the May, 1994 ZARJA.) Social Class, Associate Class and Junior Class members are not eligible to be elected as delegates.

HERITAGE MUSEUM

Ann Dragovan, a volunteer worker at the Slovenian Women's Union Heritage Museum is a visitor to the meeting. She has several suggestions to present and the Board is grateful for her attention to these matters. She joined a small group of volunteers attending the Illinois Historical Corridor Seminar where they learned about the requirements for museums in the State of Illinois. Heritage Director requested also that the museum committee cooperate in the preparation of an audio cassette for visitors to use as they walk among the displays in the Museum. A "Video Guide" is another idea that must be considered in the near future. The Board also requested that the Heritage Museum Committee set certain hours per week when the Museum is opened to visitors.

HERITAGE MUSEUM FUND-RAISER

A raffle will be held for five months, from October until next March, 1995, for the benefit of the SWU Heritage Museum at the Home Office. The prize will be a beautiful one, handcrafted by Vice-President, Beverly Jackson: A SLOVENIAN DOLL COUPLE! Beverly was extended thanks for her volunteering to do this special prize. She also made the Slovenian Doll given last year for the Heritage Raffle that netted over \$1,000 as proceeds. The tickets for this SLOVENIAN DOLL COUPLE will be \$1 each and a coupon will be prepared for the back page of ZARJA of the five months. All members are urged to contribute and take a chance.

YEARLY DUES COLLECTION

In order to bring the dues payments of members into a more regulated and efficient system the Board will institute a yearly collection requirement for every member. This means that members will be asked to pay their dues at one time per year, preferably in the first three months of the year. Points in favor of this are that the secretaries of branches will have their work load lightened, especially at branches where finding new secretaries is very difficult, and secondly the financial payments will be better regulated both at the branch level and at the Home Office. There is no reason any more for secretaries to have to wait for small monthly payments that are often forgotten, neglected or

delayed. A poll will be taken among the members as to the feasibility of this system that would begin in 1996, moved by Mrs. Jackson, seconded and carried. It will be printed in ZARJA in the two months of July and September and responses will be requested by October 1st.

Delegate Compensation

The SWU will pay each delegate a subsidy of \$225 total towards her convention expenses. The branches are asked to reimburse their delegates or to make a substantial donation to her for the additional expenses she will incur for her travel and lodging.

(Decision by the Board of Directors was made at the March, 1993 annual meeting and reaffirmed at the March, 1994 annual meeting. More details can be found in the May, 1994 ZARJA on page 25.)

HAND-CRAFT SALES AT CONVENTION

A part of the convention will be a fund-raiser for the Scholarship and Heritage Funds. Every officer, delegate or guest is asked to bring an item of hand-made craft for sale, such as knitted or crocheted or sewn items, also crewel and embroidery, jewelry, ceramics or wooden wares. Each item should be priced by the donor. "Bring something you would like to buy yourself!" is the slogan.

TRAVEL TO CONVENTION

Group travel is best for delegates and guests. The cities of Chicago, Minneapolis and Cleveland would be logical gateway cities to San Francisco. The Board is instructing the Regional Presidents to coordinate travel in their states, namely: Evelyn Majercik for Cleveland area, Romaine Jablonski and Janet Maurin for Chicago-Milwaukee-Sheboygan areas, Jean Korsman for Minnesota, Fran Kucic for Pittsburgh area and Rosemary Mlakar for Western States.

ANNUAL BOARD MEETING IN 1995

The dates of March 20,21,22, 1995 are set for the next annual meeting of the Board of Directors at the Home Office in Joliet, Illinois. Until that time, every Board member and National Officer is asked to study the SWU By-Laws and be ready to make recommendations to the President by mail before the next meeting in March. Branch Officers and all members are also welcome to make their recommendations.

ADJOURNMENT, 2:30 p.m. The president concluded the meeting with prayer and wishes for a safe return home.

Gratitude was expressed to Secretary Olga Ancel and her husband, Ed, for the hospitality shown them at the Ancel home during the days of the meeting.

Victoria Bobence,
President

Corinne Leskovar,
Recording Secretary

WE WANT YOUR OPINION AND COMMENTS!

An important matter has been discussed at the Board of Directors' Annual Meeting which we wish to share with you, our membership. It is a matter of yearly dues payments as a requirement along with all the membership regulations already in force. Any change in assessment payment schedule will reflect on the Suspension-Re-instatement-Cancellation of members. Please read carefully the present By-Laws and Proposed Changes in By-laws on this subject which we have reprinted on this page. The full by-laws are printed in booklet form and available from your branch officers.

Yearly payment of dues is a reasonable proposal that will increase efficiency in office procedures and create a better system for collecting dues from members. A specific time for collecting would be the first two months of the year.

Yearly payment will also eliminate the problems some secretaries find very difficult, that is, waiting for payments on a month by month basis.

Since we do not have a direct mailing system for collecting dues as yet, and since secretaries do not send bills out to members for dues payments, we have many members who forget to pay on time and are never reminded. These members are most often cancelled eventually because they do not have a clear payment date to observe.

A one-time-per-year payment regulation will be a good way to instill the habit for yearly payments in the minds of our members and give them some security in knowing their obligation is taken care of for the year.

The Board of Directors wishes to hear from you, our members, with your agreement or disagreement and comments. Please consider this request as a very important way you can participate in the operation of our organization and a way you can take part in the decisions of the forthcoming convention. You also may discuss this subject with your sister-members at branch meetings to get a clearer indication of how others also feel.

Use the bottom portion of this sheet for your response and mail it back to the Home Office by October 1, 1994.

PRESENT BY-LAWS NOW IN EFFECT

Article IX

9.02 An assessment will be paid on or prior to the first day of the month covered by the payment.

Article III

3.12 Members who fail to pay their monthly assessments shall be subject to suspension by their branches. When a member is suspended, the branch will give notice to the home office of the association. The suspended member shall forfeit all benefits for any insurance claims submitted more than thirty days after the home office's receipt of the suspension notice. A member who has been suspended for three months or less may be re-instated upon payment of all delinquent assessments. Any member who has failed to pay her assessments for more than four months shall be automatically expelled from the association. She, as an individual, cannot be reinstated in the association but must join as a new member.

BY-LAW CHANGES MAY BE PROPOSED:

Article IX

9.02 An assessment will be paid one time per year in the months of January and February.

Article III

3.12 Members who fail to pay their assessment by the third month of every year will be cancelled and shall forfeit all benefits for any insurance claims submitted in the remaining portion of the year. Any member who has failed to pay her assessment by the third month of the year may be re-instated any time during that year upon payment of the full assessment. A member who does not pay her full assessment nor is re-instated that year, may join as a new member at a later date if she meets age requirements.

OPINION POLL FOR YEARLY PAYMENT OF DUES SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION

_____ I think it is a good idea and would like to make my yearly dues payment once a year, January or February (circle one)

_____ No, I do not wish to make my yearly dues payment once a year.

MY COMMENT:

Name: _____ Branch No. _____

Please mail to the S.W.U. Home Office, 431 N. Chicago St., Joliet, IL 60432 by October 1, 1994.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION

THE FIRST LADY

It has been two years since I first decided to write a column about our First Lady of ZVEZA, Marie Prisland. The organization would be celebrating its 65th anniversary in 1994, and I thought it appropriate that the membership be made aware of the personal characteristics of the founder of the Slovenian Women's Union, especially since many members had not met her or even knew anything about the founder of our organization.

Since Mrs. Prisland had encountered thousands of women during her lifetime, I advertised in the ZARJA and sent a number of letters to National and Branch officers in the SWU requesting that they send their recollections of her for inclusion in the column.

The reply to my letters was surprising. Very few people responded with information. Many of the replies stated, "I didn't know her." I realize how important it is to complete this project as quickly as possible, so I'm sending an S.O.S. to readers of this column. Can you recall meeting or speaking

LADIES IN PERFECT HARMONY...

I was born in the United States, but returned to Slovenia at an early age with my parents. Unable to find work there, my father returned to the United States to work in the iron ore mines in Minnesota. In Slovenia, I attended a private Catholic all-girls high school. Upon graduation I enrolled in college in Maribor. The Depression hit America, the mines in Minnesota closed, and my father was unemployed. I was forced to withdraw from school. Being a citizen of the United States, I applied for a passport to return.

Our founder, Marie Prisland was truly a wonderful lady. Her vision for the future helped sustain the Slovenian Women's Union during the early years of the organization.

I can recount several meetings with Mrs. Prisland after I returned to the United States. I was staying with a distant relative in Milwaukee, who told me about the Slovenian Women's Union and encouraged me to join. At that time dues were twenty-five cents a month.

Branch 12 in Milwaukee was host to either the National or State Convention in 1958. Marie Prisland and Albina Novak served as Masters of Ceremonies. The ceremony was to honor the person who signed up the most new members. Southside Turner's Hall was packed, everyone could feel the excitement in the room. Mrs. Prisland was gracious, and anxious that everything be in perfect order. It was my first time experiencing so many Slovenian ladies in perfect harmony with each other.

My father subscribed to the Slovenian newspaper *Prosveta*, and on a whim I sent several articles for publication. Mrs. Prisland read them, and while in Milwaukee visiting friends in 1936, she also visited me and asked if I would write for the ZARJA every month. She wanted to

to Mrs. Prisland? Do you know of someone who did? If so, please contact me.

Now on a positive note, Mary Skull Beck of Cleveland, Ohio, responded with reminiscences which she will share with ZARJA readers. The letter which accompanied her experiences mentions the following:

"While visiting Irene Jagodnik, she showed me your letter requesting information regarding our founder, Marie Prisland. I knew that Irene never met Mrs. Prisland, personally, since she was not a member of the SWU until I encouraged her to join in the 1970s. I told Irene Jagodnik that I would write about my memories since I had known Mrs. Prisland."

Marie Beck decided to answer my letter and we are most happy that she took the initiative to do so. Hope you enjoy meeting our First Lady through Marie's experiences, as follows.



Ohio members who attended the National Convention in Washington, D.C. in 1969 may remember this photo taken at the banquet. Their delegation posed with two past Presidents, Mary Bostian and Toni Turek (left) and U.S. Senator Frank J. Lausche. The little lady in the dark dress, (front row) is our writer, Marie Beck.

keep the Slovenian culture and language alive, and made an effort to encourage other people of Slovenian descent to do the same.

Several years later Branch 12 hosted another State Convention, and I was again able to talk with her. She was a charismatic speaker, and was always able to recruit new members.

She saw there was also a need to preserve traditional Slovenian recipes, with so many Slovenian women immigrating to the United States. She traveled to New York to collaborate with Ivanka Zakrajsek to compile and issue a cook book sometime between 1940 and 1945. I still have my copy of the first edition of **Slovensko-Ameriška Kuharica**.

In 1940 I moved to Cleveland, joining Branch 25. I soon met Francis Sietz and transferred to Branch 50. It was still a very poor branch in 1960. To make money to sustain the activities of the organization we held a bazaar at St. Vitus Church Hall. Mrs. Prislund made a surprise visit from Wisconsin. All the members enjoyed her visit and I again had an opportunity to speak with her, this time to ask whether my daughter had a chance to obtain a scholarship from the SWU. She responded with "We shall see, if she is deserving of it". She was awarded one of the scholarships in 1961!

The next and last time we were together was the 1968 National Convention in Washington, DC. It was the most memorable Convention! Everything was well organized, from the young girl who sang the songs, to the excursion down the Potomac River.

I was Secretary for Branch 50 for 10 years. During that time, she would write, encouraging us to recruit new members, always emphasizing the need to speak Slovenian, write in Slovenian, and I practiced during the 35 years I was reporter for the Ohio Combined Branches.

I marvel at how a 14 year old girl, leaving a small town in Štajersko could, years later, succeed in organizing and keeping the Union of S.Ž.Z. growing in all the states in the United States!

I did get another letter from her before she passed away asking me to write about artist, Maxim Gaspari, who was the graduation examiner in our school. She evidently had a chance to meet and talk with him while she was in Ljubljana.

Our appreciation for writing about your recollections, Marie and thanks to Irene Jagodnik for showing you my request.

I'll be awaiting for readers to answer my S.O.S. for more interesting facts, however small, about our First Lady.

1994 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT

Received in February, March, April and May

BRANCH	AMOUNT
2, Chicago, IL	\$ 308.00
6, Barberton, OH	28.00
7, Forest City, PA	18.00
10, Cleveland, OH	176.00
12, Milwaukee, WI	79.00
17, West Allis, WI	107.00
26, Pittsburgh, PA	73.00
27, North Braddock, PA	9.00
30, Home Office	94.00
40, Lorain, OH	40.00
42, Maple Heights, OH	90.00
43, Milwaukee, WI	45.00
46, St. Louis, MO	7.00
63, Denver, CO	13.00
74, Ambridge, PA	10.00
83, Crosby, MN	4.00
88, Johnstown, PA	4.00
90, Bridgeville, PA	4.00
91, Oakmont, PA	43.00
92, Crested Butte, CO	7.00
93, Brooklyn, NY	20.00
95, South Chicago, IL	113.00
100, Fontana, CA	60.00
101, Bedford Heights, OH	25.00
102, Willard, WI	5.00
Total	1,382.00

NOTE: Errors in March Report:

- 1, Sheboygan, WI -- \$117.00 not \$17.00 (typographical)
- 54, Warren, OH -- \$24.00 not \$34.00 (typographical)
- Br. 26, Pittsburgh, PA -- total for 1993 -- \$81.00.

How to Make Yourself Feel Better!...

My Mother-in-law often said, "God gave us all kinds of medicine here on earth, but it is up to us to find it." The first known plant to evolve in this earth was the HORSETAIL, also known as EQUISETUM, or "PRESLICA." This fern-like plant grows near water and has been used for centuries, brewed as a tea for urinary problems, especially as a diuretic. Some say the plant is known to draw gold from the earth and also aids arthritis.

Horsetail is known as shave grass, scouring rush, bottle brush etc. My daughter used the stems to shave her clarinet reeds. The stems are especially good for scouring if you're out camping. It is better to purchase this herb than risk gathering it in polluted waters. My parents and I have used it for tea with good results. Very little is needed, if you plan to experiment at your own risk.

Keep healthy!

Angela Kuhar Nico
115 Portland Ave.,
Oglesby, IL 61348

God hath not promised
Skies always blue,
Flower-strewn pathways
All our lives through;
God hath not promised
Sun without rain,
Joy without sorrow,
Peace without pain.

But God hath promised
Strength for the day,
Rest for the labor,
Light for the way.
Grace for the trials,
Help from above,
Unfailing sympathy
Undying love...

HERMINE PRISLAND DICKE
3717 COUNCIL CREST
MADISON, WI 53711

Pots and Pans



"A delicious combination of CORN CASSEROLE and CRANBERRY RELISH AU PORTO are great accompaniments to poultry." So says Tona Soukup, a social member of Br. 35, Aurora, MN. and I agree - hope you do, too!



From Matilda Ausich (Tillie):

The sandwiches I served at the last meeting of my Branch, #103, (Washington, DC) were enjoyed so much by everyone, I decided to send it for your POTS AND PANS recipies in the ZARJA.

My heartfelt thanks to Irene Odorizzi for giving me her mother's recipe which was used many years ago at Branch #20 meetings every January after the Installation of Officers. Two ladies would join Mrs. Planinsek, the president at her home on Saturday afternoon when they prepared the ham sandwiches for the meeting the following afternoon. Over 100 ladies would attend that special meeting which included installation of officers, entertainment by junior members, and a delicious lunch of these sandwiches, plus poticas, cakes, and coffee. So, in a way, Branch #103 has continued the tradition which originated over fifty years ago in Joliet, IL, at Branch #20!



NEWLY REVISED COOKBOOK,
POTS & PANS
IS NOW ON SALE!

CORN CASSEROLE

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------------------------|-----|----------------------------------|
| 1 | cup raw rice, (Riceland) | 3 | eggs, slightly beaten |
| 2 | cups water | 1 | teaspoon salt |
| 1 | tablespoon oil | 1/4 | teaspoon black pepper |
| 1 | can (16-1/2 ounces) cream corn | 1 | cup buttered bread crumbs |
| 1/2 | cup chopped green pepper | 4 | strips bacon, fried and crumbled |

Cook rice in 2 cups water with 1 tablespoon oil. Bring to boil, then reduce heat and simmer covered until water is absorbed, about 20 minutes. Mix rice with remaining ingredients except bread crumbs and bacon. Turn into buttered casserole. Top with crumbs and bake uncovered at 350° for 35 minutes or until set. Sprinkle bacon on top and serve. 8 servings.

CRANBERRY RELISH AU PORTO

- | | | | |
|-------|-------------------------------|---|--|
| 6 | ounces cherry Jello | 1 | jar (14 ounces) cranberry-orange relish OR 10-ounce frozen package, thawed |
| 2 1/2 | cups boiling water | | can (15 ounces) mandarin oranges, drained, reserving juice |
| 1/2 | cup Port Wine | | |
| 1/2 | cup chopped walnuts or pecans | | |

Thoroughly dissolve six ounces cherry Jello in 2 1/2 cups boiling water. Stir in wine and mandarin orange juice. Chill until slightly thickened but not set. Add remaining ingredients and stir well to blend. Pour into mold that has been rinsed out of cold water. Refrigerate until set. Makes 8 - 10 servings.

HAM SALAD SANDWICHES

- | | | | |
|--------|-------------------------|-----|--|
| 1/2 | pound Ham (ground fine) | 1/2 | cup Mayonnaise |
| 1 or 2 | hard boiled eggs | 2 | chopped sweet pickles (or use pickle relish) |

Mix all the above ingredients thoroughly. Spread generously on white bread. This recipe has been scaled down in size to serve approximately twelve persons.



ACTIVITIES

NO. 2, CHICAGO, IL

On May 19, we had the Crowning of the Blessed Mother at St. Stephen's Church. Father Blase celebrated the mass, Father Vendelin provided the beautiful music and Paul Nusko was altar boy. Crowning the Blessed Mother were Melissa and Raelynn Nusko daughters of our deceased member, Gloria Nusko, our former secretary and herself Mother of the Year some years ago. They did an excellent job honoring the Blessed Mother, their own mother, all our member-mothers and representing our juvenile members, as well. Their father, Ray, as always, had the hall decorated very pretty in blue and white and also had a special altar of the Blessed Virgin. We were served a nice supper prepared by Ray, Terry, Mary R. and Jean H., and lots of sweets from the members. Everyone was given a white petunia, wrapped in blue paper that we could plant to remember our evening. Our president Fran read a beautiful poem, she also told Melissa and Raelynn we were all very proud of them. They were presented a floral bouquet spray made by Joe Worth, and a Precious Moments Guardian Angel. Thanks to everyone for making this a very memorable evening.

Remember, the **Picnic - July 17, St. Mary's Seminary, Lemont. Mass is at 10:00 a.m. Marija Pomagaj Chapel.** Lots of good food afterwards with music, dancing, games and open spaces. What a refreshing afternoon you will have, plus seeing all your old friends.

Thanks to all the members who participated at the St. Stephen's Block Party, the "Country Store" and "Egg Games" for the children. We hope this will really help St. Stephen's with their debt.

Our condolence to JoAnne Ferrari who lost her niece; Mary Jagar, on the loss of her sister and sister-in-law and to Frank Pristave on the loss of his brother. Please remember them in your prayers.

Also, we have so many sick mem-

bers, please remember them with a card and in your prayers that they will be able to bear their pain: Anna Mladic, Agnes Kovacic, Frances Kremesec, Frances Maxwell, Anna Sarn, Mary Slabe, Rose Kleiderman.

Just as we concluded this report we learned of the passing of our dear member of many years, Mary (Mayme) Banich. She was one of our staunch members, a gracious lady. Our sympathy to her family. Many members attended her wake and funeral in Westchester.

The Ladies of St. Stephen's Parish are very lucky. On Mother's Day the Fathers (Holy Name Society) celebrate a Mass just for us, then served a nice breakfast. Mrs. Frances Fritz was honored as the "Mother of the Year". We were all very happy because she is special lady, always cooking at any affair.

Our Senior Women honored Mrs. Sophie Srabarnek as "Woman of the Year", and the Our Lady's Guild honored Jean Zubek! Best wishes, all!

Have a safe summer vacation and we will resume our meetings on Sept. 8. Baraga Mass/Lemont is Sept. 24 - 5:30 p.m.

For those members who will be going to Slovenija in Sept. "Srečno pot".

Remember, *"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."*

Love,

DAISY

NO. 3, PUEBLO, CO

We concluded our season with a beautiful May party. Our generous ladies brought such a nice array of covered dishes and contributed toward the meat. We can't thank enough, our hostesses Eileen Kaplan and Margaret Cullen and those who helped them make a successful party. Eileen and Margaret are very creative and are an asset to our lodge.

A short meeting was held after the meal with Mary Tekavec, President, opening it with prayers. Minutes were read and reports given and approved. The minutes of the last meeting were

taken by Margaret Cullen due to the absence of Angela Meglen and we do thank her.

A tribute was given to Jennie Mishmash, our Mother of the Year, and she was presented a gift from the lodge.

The mystery gift was donated by Ann Prelesnik and won by Gertrude Jordan.

After the meeting adjourned, Eileen and Margaret had some games that we played and prizes were given to the winners.

The Holy Name Society honored the ladies of our Parish with a beautiful breakfast on Mother's Day prepared by the men. There were ten ladies honored with corsages who are over ninety, altho only one present -- Helen Sukle. Also, there were numerous prizes given out.

Slovenian Women's Glee Club also concluded the season with a beautiful May party in the church hall. The party was catered and dessert was served by the committee and others who helped. The ladies did a beautiful job of decorating and are to be congratulated.

Another beautiful event at St. Mary's Church was held in honor of our patroness, Mary, Help of Christians (Marija Pomagaj), Sunday, May 21 at the 5:00 p.m. Mass. A large crowd was in attendance and enjoyed the Polka Mass with Rich Eurich and Diane Eickelman leading the Preseren Glee Club in appropriate Slovenian songs. After the Mass, a reception was held in the Parish hall. St. Joseph's Lodge #7 contributed toward this and the generous ladies of the Parish contributed a wide array of Ethnic pastries. The Visitation Ministry ladies were hostesses and helped with the reception. Our thanks go out to all.

Get well wishes are extended to those who are ill. Remember the homebound and those in nursing homes in your prayers.

In closing, when our meetings are resumed in September, let's all make a concerted effort to continue with good attendance and we ask all who are members and weren't able to attend previously to make an effort to attend our meetings and get involved.

Have a good summer!

PAULINE PAUCHICK

NO. 5, INDIANAPOLIS, IN

THANKS FOR COMING!!

Our meeting on May 12, 1994, was very delightful with lots of delicious food. Anyone not able to attend missed a very enjoyable luncheon.

Branch 5 has decided to have a raffle again this year. We have already had four (4) donations: an afghan, a doll in traditional Slovenian dress, a hand-made ceramic bowl and a gift certificate to Kroger. The raffle tickets will be sent out in September and the raffle will take place at our Holiday/Christmas meeting.

Our sympathy goes to the family and friends of Frances Mitchell. Frances, who passed away in May, was a long time member of Branch 5 and will be dearly missed.

We have also have a new member in May, Rosemary Carl. Rosemary is the sister of Phyllis Cesnik and the daughter of Mary Huske. Welcome to Branch 5, Rosemary.

October 9, 1994, is the tentative date for mass followed by coffee and donuts at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Keep your eyes on this column in the coming months for more information.

Phyllis Fon has cookbooks for sale, please call her at 852-9805 for a new Slovenian Women's Cookbook, "Pots & Pans."

Let us make this the last call for dues in 1994. Get your dues paid, if you have not already done so, by calling Mary Frances Mohr at 852-8305. Thanks for your help.

I hope this column finds you all healthy and happy. Take care of yourselves and enjoy the month.

Love from Texas,

BARBARA MOHR

NO. 6, BARBERTON, OH

This spring we learned a lesson from the daffodil - a flower that braves the cold early spring winds to come up and brighten our days.

My last communication with a very faithful social member, Antonija Frances Brunski was just before her death on April 6th at Barberton Citizen Hospital. She was born on June 13, 1909 in Slovenia and had been an active so-

cial member for as long as I can remember. She will be sadly missed. Surviving is her husband, Albene M. Brunski. Our sincere condolences go out to him.

Looking for a Verna Petrich! If anyone know where she is, please contact me.

Vacations are upon us. Continue letters to me. Will answer all.

LINDA LAMBRIGHT

P.O. Box 221

Steubenville, OH 43952

Tel. 1-614-283-2355

NO. 10, CLEVELAND, OH

On Wed. May 25th Antonia (Mae) Kerzisnik was honored as Woman of the Year. Dinner was served at the Slovenian Home on Waterloo, due to a change in plans at 1 p.m. 36 members and guests attended. Antonia would like to thank all who attended for her gifts and cards she received. It was a happy occasion. Our next meeting will be on Sept. 28th at 1 p.m. Please try to attend. Final plans will be made for our Christmas Party this fall, on Nov. 16th. Get well wishes to all our sick members.

Condolences to the family of Ivana "Jennie" Avcin and the family of Zora Marie Johanna Merhulik. Our convention will be in October - keep it in mind and try to attend.

Have a safe vacation, happy, healthy holidays. Secretary-Treasurer says dues for 1994 are being collected. Send to Theresa Dagg, 1910 Rosemont Rd., East Cleveland, OH 44112, phone 681-5379.

ANN STEFANCIC

NO. 12, MILWAUKEE, WI

After a delicious lunch of spaghetti and meat balls we had our meeting. A bus has been chartered to go to Willard for the State Convention Oct. 2nd. (Change in date) We wish our State President, Janet Maurin, a speedy recovery. Past President, Joan Yaklich will help Janet in the preliminary work and will host the Convention if Janet will be unable. Janet, we need your bubbly personality! Get well quick!

Ann Paulin has been missed. She's having a problem and hope it's not crypto again. Get well! Nice to see our

charter member, Mary Bucovnik, too.

We thank Cathy Zalesnik and Christine Kuks for donating place mats for our luncheons.

The Mission Picnic at Triglav Park has been changed to July 10th from July 24th. The Archbishop will make a visit to St. John the Evangelist church on July 24th and it is felt that a conflict of interest will occur if the fund-raiser is the same day.

We welcome Angie Jerman and she was impressed with our meeting. With summer here we should all feel better.

Erin Grambow graduated this June from Whitefish Bay High School. She is the granddaughter of Ann Grambow and niece of Julie Pesec and Mary Debelak and a favorite of our lodge. When time permitted she attended our meetings and helped. We got a kick out of her enthusiasm with older people. At school she is finishing a successful athletic and academic career. Erin is a highly accomplished tennis player; she won 2 Wisconsin state championships, one as a freshman and the second as a junior. As a student she has been on a consistent honor roll. She has been a Spanish student and spent some time in Europe with a group and is now living in Barcelona, Spain with families. She plans on attending Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio and pursue the study of international business and of course, play tennis! Our lodge is behind her 100% because we know she will succeed. My hope would be for her to apply for a scholarship as our lodge never has had this honor!

We lost another member who almost reached 100 years! Mary Trader passed away at the age of 99 years! To her family we extend our sympathy.

Alma Hoelzer is back in the hospital so we prayed for her at the meeting and for others who have health problems.

Our Mother of the Year, Agnes Morrow, was honored at our meeting with a luncheon. Her friend, Evelyn Laurich made a beautiful and delicious cake which we all enjoyed. Agnes is a faithful member at our meetings and we wish her the best.

June was our picnic month at St. Peter's Church - we hoped for a good turnout and will report on it later.

Don't forget the State Convention on Oct. 2nd at Willard. They are a small community but have a big heart and we love to visit them.

MARY KIEL

who passed away. We think often of our dear members who have passed on and we miss the members who can no longer make the meetings. One of these dear ladies is Mae Batko. Nephew, Marcel Kapulica said she is doing very well and she celebrated her 94th birthday in February. Daughter, Joanne Maniscalco said her Mom, Ann Vercelli, is doing well and thanks everyone for the cards sent to her. They really cheer her up. Take the time and remember a dear friend. Send a card and it will make both of you feel good.

We have 3 new junior members;

Christopher Anderson, born 10/15/93 is 4th generation member. His mom is member Robin Mittura, grandmother is Gail Thomas and great grandmother is June Patrick.

Jason Hornsby is our new member. Karen Pera is his grandmother and great grandmother is June Patrick. Way to go, June!!! Almost all of the Patrick daughters and grandchildren are members of #13. June has 2 daughters, Karen Pera and Gail Thomas, 1 granddaughter, Robin Mittura and 3 grandchildren, Christopher Anderson, Alesa Hornsby and little brother Jason Hornsby in Br. #13.

Jessica Lehane is our newest and youngest junior member. She is the precious daughter of Mary and Jeremiah Lehane and idolized granddaughter of Katica and Franci Pecavar. Jessica has proud uncles, Frank and Joe Pecavar and two great Aunties Stanka Pecavar and Ivanka Lukezic.

Shirley and Al Madronich celebrated their 50th Anniversary with 100 guests at Los Robles Lodge in Santa Rosa. Their children include Don Madronich, Linda Phaby, Mary Goodman, and Kathy Trombetta. They have seven grandchildren. The former Shirley Mercer met Al while working at Marin Shipyard in Sausalito. Al retired from the city of San Francisco Public Works Department and Shirley worked many years at Sonoma Joe's Restaurant. Congratulations and Best Wishes to this wonderful couple and family and many more Anniversary celebrations. Shirley's daughters are all members of Br. 13 as well as sister-in-law, Bernadine Madronich.

Wishing everyone a glorious summer, safe vacations, and looking forward to seeing you all back at our meetings in September.

BEVERLY JACKSON

We have three new Junior Members!



Christopher Anderson



Jason Hornsby and his sister, Aleca



Jessica Marie Lehane

NO. 14, EUCLID, OH

This spring weather has been teasing us with a brief days of sunshine followed by more cold and frosty days, but now finally, at the end of May, we have reached the courage to put in our gardens, and holding our breaths in anticipation of continued warm weather.

The big event of May was Mother of the Year celebration at which we honored Fay Aleks Bohinc. The hall was decorated in soft pastels, bouquets of flowers, and at each place unique favors of a girl covering a whisk broom, hand crafted by Mary Sintic. Many thanks to Mary Sintic and Marty Koren for the lovely hall decorations. Thanks also to Mary Strazisar for her homemade noodles which were sold with proceeds going to benefit our lodge.

Seated at the head table along with honoree Fay Bohinc were her cousin Stanley Bohinc and wife Josephine and Fay's dear friend, Angie Kapel. After a presentation of a gift certificate from members, Fay thanked everyone for this memorable day.

We were delighted to greet prospective members Ann Kozlevcar, Josephine Speck, Josephine Matic and Elizabeth Strauss. Looking forward to having all of you join us in our future events and meetings.

Once again, Sophie Mazzi prepared a home-style dinner "fit for a king" consisting of everything from soup to chicken, pork chops with all the trimmings, ending up with delectable strudel.

It was a pleasure to see Ileene Col-

lins, who returned from Florida, and doing so well after knee surgery. We send greetings to member Angela Arko residing at the Slovene Home for Aged.

Marty Koren and husband Ed spent four weeks in March touring Florida, including Spring Hill, and Alabama area and did loads of golfing, eating sea food and just relaxing before returning to snowy Cleveland. Stana Grill is looking forward to spending a week in Las Vegas, best of luck to you Stana! And I'm off for a short trip to Slovenia this week where we'll attend Lojze Slak's 30th anniversary concert in Ljubljana's Cankarjev Dom.

Don't forget to bring your dues up-to-date! Send your checks to Diane Varney, 1155 Easton Dr., Akron, Ohio 44310.

With wishes for a spectacular 4th of July celebration!

ALICE KUCHAR

NO. 17, WEST ALLIS, WI

Wed. May 25th was the exciting day for Mother of the Year, Theresa Fedran. She was honored at a 1 o'clock luncheon at Kegel's Inn. She was radiantly happy as she greeted her family and guests - about 23 people. Her two daughters-in-law, Bonnie and Susie and one granddaughter, Dawn, who came with her mother, Dawn from Elkhorn, a drive of 40 miles or so to attend this affair. Also present was a dear and long-time friend, Stavia Dobersek. After a brief introduction, president, Marion Marolt presented a "This is Your Life, Theresa" in her own style which is delightful. Following

was the time for gifts; she received a wallet and beautiful floral centerpiece, compliments from our branch. She also received many congratulatory cards and gifts from many friends.

Theresa was married to Tony Krefel who passed away 20 years ago. They had three sons, William, James and Kenneth – they all live in different parts of the state. She has 8 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. Later she married Tony Fedran and has a step-daughter, Sandra living in California and a step-son, Tony, Jr. in Texas. She's very proud of all her family and rightfully so.

Many thanks to all who attended the party for Theresa and made this fine tribute to a wonderful mother and grandmother. It was a memorable day for her, one she will long remember.

Please note the date of the next regular meeting is the 3rd Sunday in September at Marion's house. If you are in arrears with your dues please pay our secretary, Robin Marolt at your earliest convenience. If anyone knows of a member who is ill, please notify our secretary. Get well wishes are extended to all our sick and shut-in members and a wish for better health soon.

Happy birthday greetings to those with birthdays this summer. Have a happy and safe one!

FRANCES PIWONI

NO. 20, JOLIET, IL

Hi all! There is a lot that has happened in the form of news since my last article. I hope I can fit it all in.

On Tuesday, May 17 we honored Jonita Ruth as our 1994 "Woman of the Year." Jonita is a very outgoing person who always gets the job done. Anyone who knows Jonita will agree that she wears her heritage on her chest like a badge. If you don't know who, what and where Slovenia is, just ask Jonita, and as an extra bonus she'll throw in an application for a SWU membership. Congratulations, Jonita, we are very lucky to have you working for us and you are very worthy of your recent award!

Also on May 17, Br. 20 gave out 3 scholarships. One went to Mark Cepon who will be attending Providence Catholic H.S. in the fall; a second one to Leslie Ferguson who is already attend-

Congratulations to the KSKJ on its 100th Anniversary!

The Slovenian Women's Union Heritage Museum will have a special exhibit of KSKJ memorabilia in recognition of the KSKJ pioneers.

The KSKJ Convention will be held in Joliet the first week of August and all delegates and guests are invited to visit our Museum directly across the street from St. Joseph's Slovenian church on Chicago Street.

For your benefit the Museum will be open on Saturday, August 6 -- 1 to 3 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 7 -- 8 to 10 a.m. (just prior to the Convention Mass) and Monday August 8 and Tuesday August 9 -- 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

If you wish to make arrangements for some other time, please call (815) 727-1926.

ing Joliet Catholic Academy., The 3rd went to Mrs. Rose Valek who is continuing her education at St. Francis College.

Member Lillian Brule received the "Slovenian Artist Award of Merit" given by the Slovenian Arts Council. Her work is on display at the UWM Fine Arts Museum in Vogel Hall, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Two other members who were honored in our community with the title "Woman of the Year" are Joanne Legerski from St. Ann CCW and Anna Marie McIntosh from St. Joseph's Church. Congratulations ladies!

With Women of the Year, Scholarship and Art Awards, it looks like Br. 20 is just full of talented people. And why not?

Congratulations Lori Churnovic Esposito and Gary Bond on your recent marriage. Lori is the daughter of Audrey and Rich Churnovic.

Anniversary celebrations are in the air. Celebrating 40 years of marriage are Carol (Scholp) and Donald Hulbert. 25 years are Lillian (Kaluzza) and Frank Cepon. Also with 25 years are Dorothy (Jevitz) and Reno Sartori.

The members of Br. 20 send their sympathy to the family of Helen Skrinar who went to her eternal rest on April 15th. She was a 49-year member. Also to Charlene Kambic on the loss of her son Gary who passed on April 9th. And to Linda Evans on the loss of her mother Mary Lou Russ. To Suzanne, William, Michalene and Leslie Ferguson on the loss of their father and grandfather Walter Ferguson. To Bernice Ogulin who lost her brother Joseph. To the family of Emma Nosse who died on April 22. May God be especially close to you all during your time of grief.

The week end of April 16 and 17 was a busy one for Br. 20. We had an Ethnic Expo Fair and a Bakery Sale. Those who volunteered their time to help raise money for our branch were: Agnes Dobczyk, Jo Lustik, Jonita Ruth, Pat Figurovski, Helen Plut, Anna Marie McIntosh, Olga Ancel, Ann Dragovan, Margaret Dusa, Rose Hrubos, Char Kobe, Dolores Krzysciak, Lorraine Lange, Joanne Legerski, Marge Louch, Helen Minnick, Millie Pucel, Marie Scheidt and Dorothy Surman.

Our branch has 21 senior shut-ins. During the Easter holiday they received Easter Lillies from some very nice members. They were very pleased to get these plants but mostly I think they were glad for the visits that came with them. Visiting these senior members were: Jo Tezak, Ceil Wolf, Helen Minnick, Ann Dragovan, Marie Scheidt, Lorraine Lange, Helen Plut and Millie Pucel.

We send a bouquet of get-well wishes to Evelyn Lustik, Theresa Pavonica and Marge Keca.

Winners of prizes at our last meeting were: Delores Klepec, Lydia Marquardt, Fred Ruth, Leslie Ferguson, Ann Kostelc, Ann Kobe, Marlene Ancel, Mary Kay Demick and Marge Louch.

We were entertained by the "Too Loud Polka Boogie Band". The band is a group of eight Joliet Firemen. They do put on a good show!

Don't forget ZVEZA day July 17th in Lemont, hosted by Br. 2, Chicago.

Till next time, take care and may God bless.

JOYCE VICICH

Our Dear Stella!

Stella Dancull passed on to her heaven one day in late January. She died in a warm home where her son Richard and daughter-in-law Pat cared for her long before the day Stella refused to come downstairs to join them comfortably on the first floor.

At least sixty years ago, Stella Maidich Dancull became interested in the activities West Park Slovene Home where there was entertainment and friends. She was a sibling of 7 with her Croatian parents experiencing the hardships of a large family. Soon she met and married Michael (Mickey) Danculovich. The marriage produced Kenneth and Richard.

She became a member of West Park Slovene Women's Union Branch 21 and soon found herself in office as Secretary Treasurer for 35 years. She was greatly admired as pleasant, caring person, remembering members in their plight, illness, celebrations or death. She was chosen as a delegate to the conventions. Eventually she held office for the Cleveland Branches for some ten years.

West Park Slovene Home Board respected her cooking skills and loyal dedication to the Home and the Ladies Auxiliary. For a long time she also represented the Home at Federation meetings. When Mickey was President,



they both volunteered many fruitful hours for the success of the organization. Stella made connections in many organizations as a Progressive Slovene Woman #2, SNPJ #257 and Catholic Daughters Court Cabrini.

For years, Stella grieved for the loss of son, Kenneth. He left a wife and two beautiful daughters. It was a wrenching heartache for a mother.

Stella, what a gift you left for us! We wanted to nominate you president. Your loyalty and genuine spirit made you memorable. Now God nominated and elected you to sit next to Him, the honor you so deserve.

H.K.

NO. 22, BRADLEY, IL

May is a beautiful month, in every way!

At the St. Joe's CCW Mother/Daughter Banquet our members, Mary Rittmanic and Gabrielle Lustig "filled the bill" in two categories: Mary, for the most great grandchildren (18) and Gabrielle, the parishioner living in the parish the longest (82 years). They earned their corsages!

On May 17 Br. 22 remembered our mothers with a Mass and the Rosary afterward, followed by a leisurely breakfast at Family Restaurant. A corsage again was pinned on Mary, not only for her many years but for her dearest self. Congratulations and best wishes, Mary, on your 87th birthday this May 23. She was blessed this happy day with the presence of her daughter Katie, who flew in from Houston.

And Mayme Drassler made her annual Spring migration from Arizona to Bradley, this year in time to celebrate her birthday here. Congratulations and welcome back, Mayme! Your arrival was a wee bit late for the farewell din-

ner in honor of Sr. Marcelline, the last Sister principal at St. Joe's. For 70 years the Dominicans of Springfield have graced our school. Even though we'll have two sisters on the staff, one a librarian and tutor, the other, a religious education director, it won't be like the good ole days!

A very much belated greeting to my sister Toni Legris, who had a birthday in April... the best of everything!

Mollie McIntyre and Elizabeth Kinder entertained our group in April, and lovingly too. Thank you, ladies; we enjoyed it!

One can find a message in the most unlikely place - a crossword puzzle. Just completed the one in the Chicago Trib that said: *"Good advice may be noble and grand, better still is a helping hand."*

Have a happy, fruitful summer!!

EMMA LUSTIG

NO. 23, ELY, MN

Here we are, all very pleasantly satisfied with the Easter Tradition of "Žegen" (Blessing of foods), Father Hoffman even blessed the jelly beans

for children with their baskets, but the traditional foods came first. It is so nice to see this Slovenian custom being kept up (and seeing the "Little Ones" with their Easter bonnets). Makes me think of my young, young days when my father insisted we all have a new pair of shoes for Easter and I had to wear my best dress. He'd always take us to the shoe store during Holy Week; yes, one pair for the summer and one pair when school started. "Bless his soul!"

My, one can get carried away with memories! Our meeting on this April evening was very productive. First of all, we were all reminded to check our policies and review the beneficiary. Is it still the same or do any names have to be changed? If any members have any questions, please call Rosemarie Buchner.

A discussion about the Calling Committee names and questioning the names of Dawn Club and S.W.U. #23 members resulted in a review of membership so everyone will be contacted by phone for special events. A report will be given at the Dawn Club meeting.

Our secretary will check on the S.W.U. #23 banners, both new and

old, to see if we could use the banner at a member's funeral, hanging it in the vestibule of the church, and also a place for storage.

It was decided that each Lunch Committee for meeting nights will bring the coffee (2 cups) for making coffee, instead of taking the can back and forth. This will be tried for a while to see if this works for the satisfaction of members.

A "get well" card was sent to Mary Gotchnik who had knee surgery and is getting along fine. We miss you, Mary! Get well soon so we can see you at our meetings soon!

There were 31 members present and Rosie Pucel won the door prize.

In May we held our "Mother of the Year" Banquet: the committee had everything under control.

Coffee and donuts were served by the Lunch Committee; they tasted so good after all those Easter treats.

We all stayed to socialize after. Many of us were very lucky at the "B's" --- quite challenging and very entertaining!

JANE YADLOSKY,
Reporter

NO. 23, DAWN CLUB, ELY, MN

Tonight, the weather is beautiful -- yes, spring is in the air after such a cold winter -- our life has been renewed. Guess we all feel that way after "Easter".

Angela Mobilia started the evening with a very philosophical reading which made every one feel so good.

Rosemarie Buchner and Angela Mobilia reviewed the membership lists and names have been checked, re-grouped and reassigned so extra names will not be added to present lists. It is so nice to have the Dawn Club and S.W.U. #23 working together. Thanks to all the members. Sally Davidson will take the new Calling List. Thanks, Sally, and we wish you a speedy recovery from your upcoming eye surgery!!!

On this beautiful evening there were 40 members present and Rose Novak won the door prize.

The Lunch Committee for May was selected: Mary Grahek, Molly Marolt, Helen Theno, Mary Petritz and Julie Zgonc.

After a lunch of a variety of jello

salads, assorted crackers and mints (thanks, Dodie, Mary S., Florence, Rosie, and Mary J.), we had a great time socializing -- you know, "Two for a quarter and two free ---". What a night! And home in time to watch "Northern Exposure". I like that!

JANE Y.
Reporter

NO. 24, LA SALLE, IL

Our April meeting meeting saw twelve members in attendance. It was agreed that yearly dues should be paid at the November meeting or by arrangement with the Financial Secretary, Betty Stack at another time but not at the Christmas party. A motion was made and passed to eliminate the special assessment for Masses for deceased members, but to take care of them through the treasury. Donations were made to the Lighted Way Developmental Center and to La Salle Catholic School for the use of the Library for our meetings. A suggestion was made to have our postponed Potluck Dinner at our October meeting. We will check

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the new fall school calendar to see if we can use the gym at that time.

Betty Stack served as chairman of our May Dinner and Doris Hallett assisted her. They arranged a lovely dinner party at noon on May 19th at the Paramount Club. Each of the 24 members in attendance received a plant to take home and put in their flower garden. I've heard many nice remarks about how the plants are doing so well and blooming and what good favors they made. We were pleased to see Mary Gornik and Antonia Hoefflerle -- it was so thoughtful of Jo Foley to bring them to our dinner. Thank you Betty and Doris for arranging such a nice party and to Harold Witek for the sumptuous buffet and delicious dessert.

There was a very nice attendance at the Litany on May 22, followed by a concert by the Slovenska Pesem at Resurrection Church. We appreciate the efforts of Fr. Bernard Horzen to have this service for us each year and the KSKJ Lodge for bringing Fr. Vendelin and the excellent group of singers from Chicago to La Salle.

Our member and Parish Secretary Theresa Wellner had surgery on May 16th at IVC Hospital in Peru and has been recuperating at home. She should be back in the office and playing organ in church by the time you read this.

Josephine Omahen passed away on April 17 at Care Inn Convalescent Center where she had resided for fourteen years. Her funeral Mass was in Resurrection Church. She was our member for 61 years. Our sincere sympathy to her son and daughter-in-law, James and Lucille, and two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Thank you to the members who read the SWU burial service at the funeral home. Our closing prayer at the April meeting was the recitation of the burial service in Josephine's memory. We offer our sympathy also to Dorothy Parola and Anne Dresen, sisters, and Evelyn Kastigar, sister-in-law, whose brother, Joseph Kastigar passed away in Palo Alto, CA on March 29th. He is also survived by his wife, a son, 2 daughters and 5 grandsons, as well as three brothers and another sister. We pray that God will grant Eternal Rest to your loved ones.

Congratulations to Barb Krogulski and husband, Ken, on the birth of a granddaughter, Katelyn Elizabeth, to son Mark and his wife, Colleen



In Loving Memory

- 1 - Pauline Sebanz (86)
43-yr member
- 10 - Ivana Avcin (92)
57-yr member
Zora Merhulik (71)
16-yr member
- 12 - Anna Gorishek (101)
63-yr member
- 13 - Jane Stephan (82)
25-yr member
- 20 - Emma Nosse (82)
59-yr member
Kathryn Pavnica (80)
48-yr member
Helen Skrinar (80)
49-yr member
- 24 - Josephine Omahen (94)
61-yr member
- 30 - Mary Pauline (92)
62-yr member
- 33 - Antoinette McNamara (78)
55-yr member
- 34 - Molly Wilson (72)
31-yr member
- 39 - Angela Brula (86)
57-yr member
- 50 - Eleanor Femec (71)
11-yr member
- 68 - Adeline Kutie (71)
47-yr member
- 90 - Mary Usnick (98)
56-yr member
- 91 - Antonia Kaus (96)
43-yr member
- 95 - Regina Buchanan (87)
26-yr member

Krogulski on April 11th in Tulsa, OK and congratulations also to Jane Sherman on the birth of a new great granddaughter as Colleen is her granddaughter.

Belated birthday greetings to our June birthday celebrants: Paula Illman, Betty Stack, Rose McLaughlin and Junior member, Abby Schweickert. I hope you all had a Happy Day. Our July birthday girls are Julie Ann Weber, Anna Lushina, Anne Dresen, Debbie Dobryndia, Mildred Welch, Bonnie Prokup, Alvina Ann Strukel, Barbara Krogulski, Audrey Prokuski, Anne Kastigar and Junior member, Amy Schweickert. Best wishes to all of you. Congratulations to Amy Schweickert who was confirmed on May 29th at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Aurora.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, September 15th at 7:30 p.m. in the La Salle Catholic School Library. We will elect a delegate to represent us at the IL-IN State Convention to be held in Oglesby on Sunday, October 2nd. We hope many of our members will plan to be there too. We have received information regarding the National SWU Convention which will take place next May, 1995, in San Francisco, CA, from our National President, Victoria Bobence. We plan to discuss this convention and its issues at future meetings. The next meetings will be important and we need your good ideas and participation in the discussions which follow. We're looking forward to another good SWU year as we strengthen our Union and see it grow. Please plan to attend our September meeting -- we need you!

ANNE M. WANGLER,
Reporter

NO. 25, CLEVELAND, OH

Summer is here! As they say, summer never bothers to come or go -- it is just suddenly here or gone!

Imagination runs footloose in the summertime. Summertime is funtime, too. A season for vacations, baseball, 4th of July, picnics, lazy time... Porches, yes porches, are in again. Just look at those big new houses! Porches are wrapped around the whole house! Are they telling us something? Yes, they remind us that, like in the old days, we should have more family time. The

sun is slowly dipping into Lake Erie at sunset. Dusk is spreading all over, like a beautiful silver veil. This is what we in Cleveland see every evening (On clear days, of course!)

Wishing that the sunshine lights the pathways from the sky above, bringing beautiful peace and wondrous bliss to our birthday people, Leslie Telich, Megan Chrzanowski, Danica and Frank Chemas... and to everyone who is celebrating.

Next time, more about our June 26th meeting.

May the soft breezes be your companion in the lazy, hazy summer days!

CIRILA KERMAVNER

NO. 26, PITTSBURGH, PA

April 19th and May 16th Meetings

The April meeting was attended by 26 members and in May, there were 27.

Our president, Agnes Widina opened meeting with prayer for our deceased and sick members. The Recording Secretary read the Minutes and Financial Secretary, Mary Slaney read our money report.

We had three active members in the hospital this spring. Anne Bobel, a retired branch officer for quite a number of years, is now recuperating at home. Mrs. Vi Cherico, who was in Shadyside Hospital and Jennie Zivkovic who had fallen at home are on the road to a healthful recovery. Get well wishes and prayers to all of them.

At our May meeting we honored all the Mothers of Br. 26. A beautiful group of women active and inactive, attended. We love them all.

A letter was read from the Home Office by our President concerning the next National Convention in California in 1995. We have already discussed the delegate and God willing, she will attend.

We also talked about new and younger members joining our organization. Each member should try and encourage one new member in this campaign. Our next meeting was scheduled for June 20th and a reminder that we do not meet in July and August. We also planned to celebrate a June birthday, namely, Josephine Rolik (Vice-President). She also celebrated her 50th Wedding Anniversary in April. Blessings and good health to Josephine and Emil Rolik.

Have a safe, carefree and happy summer... picnics and vacations with families.

Sincerely,

JANE LYNCH

NO. 30, HOME OFFICE

Summer is here at last! Am sure everyone has their gardens planted and vacation plans made! Isn't it wonderful to be outdoors?

Those of you living in the Chicago, Illinois area have a very special lady sharing her talents with you. Diane Klima and her mom, Rose Mary Klima both belong to Branch 30. Diane is a poet and writer and has her own column of poetry appearing every two weeks in The Community News of Chicago, whose circulation reaches much of the north side and downtown Chicago. Be sure to watch for it. This past January, her poem, "The Embrace" was chosen to appear in a new volume published by the National Library of Poetry. In March, she was informed that she won third place in a poetry contest sponsored by The Winter Park Manifest newspaper in Colorado and her poem would be appearing in this well-known publication. Diane is also an accomplished soprano, performing songs of Jeanette McDonald in an hour program with the renowned Vladimir Leyetchkiss as her accompanist. She also does songs and arias of the Slavic countries dressed in national costumes. On May 15th, she sang solos from works by Gounod and Mozart at Immaculate Conception in Chicago. We're very proud of you, Diane!

Congratulations to Alan Bostjancic of Virginia Beach, Virginia! He is in the process of forming a new Branch of the Slovenian Women's Union! We wish him all the best and look forward to his reports in ZARJA. Alan recently saw a local television program about a Bosnian refugee family of six from Sarajevo who relocated to his area. He immediately contacted the TV studio for information about how he could help this displaced family and was put in touch with them. The father had been sent to a concentration camp where he was severely beaten and the mother with her four daughters were driven from their home and forced to live in the streets, or at times with friends. Alan, who is a policeman, provided

bunk beds and is teaching the father to drive a car. He has spent much time with the family assisting wherever he can and has contacted local businesses to assist the family and is arranging for one organization to provide the entire family with eyeglasses. When Alan mentioned that his grandparents came from the area, "Harije pri Ilirski Bistrici", the father revealed that his family lived only about one hour from that city. Thanks, Alan, for sharing your charitable experience. There is definitely "love" in every Slovenian and you are reflecting that love.

I know that summer is a busy time, dear members, but please take a few minutes to drop me a line about your activities and holiday adventures. And, don't forget - let me know of any upcoming birthdays and anniversaries. Those are special days we want to remember in ZARJA.

Have a safe and happy July! Nasvidenje!

MARY PAVLIC

22nd NATIONAL CONVENTION

May 19, 20, 21, 1995

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA



32, EUCLID, OH

Our Mother's Day dinner honoring Ceal McLean was very nice. It was well-attended by family, friends and branch members. Ceal received a Proclamation from the State Representative, Ron Suster that was presented to her by our Pres., Ann Cooke. Ceal also received many gifts. It was a great day for her as she thanked everyone for coming, for the gifts and good wishes she received. Ceal appreciated being honored in this way. She also asked for a minute of silent prayer for her mother, Ceal Znidar, who is recuperating at Willoughby Manor after a serious operation. We were provided with music by three button box players, Pete Latkovic, husband of our late member, Eleanor, also Joe Zgonc and another player (sorry I didn't get his name). Thanks to them for the music as everyone really enjoyed the entertainment.

Frank and I were very much sur-

prised when Pres. Ann Cooke presented us with a Proclamation from State Rep. Ron Suster for our 50th Anniversary. Thanks, Ron, for being so thoughtful. We were very honored to have our regional Ohio-Mich. President, Evelyn Majercik at the dinner. She told us that a special mass will be offered on July 26th at St. Ann's Church especially in honor of ladies named Ann. Members and guests were invited to attend. Evelyn also reminded us of our conference in Michigan on Oct. 16th hosted by Br. 105, Detroit. A bus will be chartered for all of us. Try to attend. Evelyn also brought along a guest, and we thank her. Sorry I didn't get her guest's name. Vice-Pres. Faye Starman brought a guest, too, Ann Mray from Newbury, Ohio. Br. 32 thanks all of you for attending our Mother's Day dinner for Ceal, that we all enjoyed.

People on the sick list: Mary Stark, Ceal Znidar, Esther Garbincus, Mary Golobic and husband, Frank, Vida Cinco's husband, Joe. We wish all who are ill a speedy recovery to good health so they can get back out and enjoy the beautiful summer days.

We want to extend our belated sympathy to member, Mary Stark. Mary's daughter, Mary Lou Kitchen, who lived in Calif., passed away after a long illness last December. Deaths in the month of May were Joseph Hocevar, brother of member, Louise Fabec, and Polly Pike's son-in-law, Al Allen. He died suddenly in Florida. We send our deepest sympathy to the bereaved families.

Members on the go: Pres. Ann Cooke traveled to Florida to break in her new car as she visited her daughter and family. They just moved into a new home there. Frank and Frances Ogoreuc visited son, Frank and family in Bangor, PA. Grandson, Scott made his Confirmation in May which was also his sister, Allison's 18th birthday. It was nice to be at two celebrations at once! Son, Frank had just returned from a business trip to Japan - he works for M & M Mars. It was a great experience for him to see the country and enjoy the culture and food. Very expensive, too.

Charlotte and Rudy Perdan with daughter, Pam and granddaughter, Alex traveled to Rochester, NY to visit another daughter, Beth and to attend

Jo Lustik

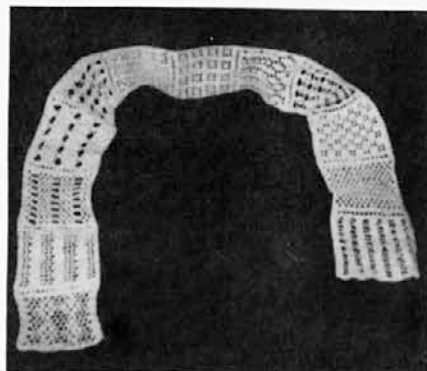
JO'S ANTIQUE CORNER

Crocheting is another of the versatile talents associated with the Slovenian people. Many are very proficient at it, making their handiwork a fine addition to our Museum.

The article shown here is a Crochet Sampler with the 12 different stitches used in crocheting. It was made by Mary Hochevar when she was a very young girl in Slovenia. She brought it with her to America almost 60 years ago, and donated it to us in 1983.

Mary was a member of Br. 20 in Joliet, and passed away in 1987.

We wish to convey our thanks and appreciation to the many donors who have recognized the importance of preserving our heritage in this way.



the Lilac Festival there. Granddaughter Alex got sick with a high fever and infection so had to be hospitalized at Rochester for three days.

Dorothy and Bob Lamm traveled to Branson, Missouri with a group to see some of the country and western entertainers. Trip was very enjoyable.

Have a safe and happy 4th of July. Happy birthdays and Anniversaries to all celebrating in July and August. Hope to see all of you at the Sept. meeting. Have a wonderful summer vacation!

FRANCES OGOREUC



33, DULUTH, MN

Mass for deceased members was held in May after which there were 74 members of Mother of the Year, Dorothy Jacobson's family in attendance for this special night. Lucy Olaf was organist for mass. Dewey Collyard entertained. The spaghetti dinner and bake sale brought in \$924.00.

Congratulations to Thomas Rzakowski on receiving a S.W.U. scholarship.

Prayers of sympathy on death of Nina Panyon, 50 year member; Bess Kenyon, death of a sister.

Members who have been on sick list: Dorothy Jacobson, Carol Jacobson and

Ann Menart. Eva Cacich at Nopeming. Greetings from Armenia (Giacomini) Emmanuel.

Have a "Happy Summer".

LOIS PELANDER,
Reporter



34, SOUDAN, MN

We closed out our regular meetings for the season with a lovely Mother of the Year dinner at the Tower Cafe when we honored Marge Skala. It was on Wednesday May 18. There was a very good turnout, with Fr. Pakiz, our National President, Victoria Bobence, and Casie Skala, Marge's granddaughter, as our guests. Our guests of honor and other guests were introduced and gifts were given to Marge from Adeline Mustonen, Branch President, and Tory Bobence, National President. Tory also said a few words to all of us. Table decorations at the cafe and church were pink and red carnations, Marge was presented a wrist corsage of lovely pink and white carnations from her children. I also gave her a corsage, but granddaughter, Casie proudly wore it... Casie sat next to me at the dinner and I enjoyed visiting with her, all the ladies

SWU Crest indicates the
65th Anniversary of this
branch in 1994.

Congratulations!



In Loving Memory

introduced themselves to her. Would you believe that after the dinner, she asked Tory and I how she could enroll in the Slovenian Women's Union -- so we have a new member! We then adjourned to the parish hall where we played bingo and had coffee and portions of a special Mother of the Year cake.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 21, with hostesses being Margaret Mesojedec and Agnes Mattson, the door prize will be brought by Angela Tekautz. Agnes Tekautz furnished the door prize for the May meeting.

With the death of our Secretary-Treasurer, Molly Wilson, I called upon Tory to take over our books again until we can elect a new officer in the fall. I thank Tory for helping us out so willingly, even when she is facing hand surgery again and being so busy with her national office work. Thank you, Tory, along with all our branch.

Member Eileen Poderzay had surgery at St. Mary's in Duluth and is doing very well, she was well enough to join us for our dinner. We're so happy for you, Eileen. We remembered our members Ann Stefanich and Helen Chiabotti with cards.

I hope all of you will have a good summer; we have had some nice weather lately, so maybe this year it will be a little bit warmer and we won't have as much rain. Enjoy our lovely area, it seems this year things are especially green. Plan to attend MN Day in September, it's just a short drive to Hibbing. Good luck to the Hibbing Branch on your day.

ADELINE MUSTONEN,
Reporter

The shock of the sudden and unexpected death of our Secretary-Treasurer, Molly Wilson, rippled through our communities of Tower-Soudan on Friday, April 22. So many of us had just seen her at Mass on Thursday evening, a Memorial Mass that was held for Fr. Kryspin, our former priest. She joined us for coffee an' after the Mass, then went back to the Soudan Store, where she worked, only to die a few hours later, after she went home from her shift. All of us miss her so very much.

Amelia "Molly" Ann Wilson was born in Ely on March 29, 1922, her parents were Matt and Theresa (Koprivitz) Zeleznikar. She married Leo Wilson of Soudan on April 24 1948. She joined Branch 34 in 1963 and was a most willing worker, always one of the first to donate or offer her services, making poticas for our conventions, etc. We honored her as our Mother of the Year in 1979. She was the last one that our former reporter, Barbara Yapel, wrote up in the ZARJA. Molly came to our meetings when she wasn't working and became our Secretary-Treasurer in November, 1992.

We are to donate our time, talent and treasure, and this is just what Molly did ---! She gave of her time, always willing to help out -- she gave of her talents (among these were homemade wine, handwork, baking, etc.)-- she gave of her treasure, never saying no, to give when she was asked. She was always willing to sell chances for any fundraiser.

Molly was active in our communities and church, served as chairman of St. Monica's Circle of our parish, a member of the Altar Society, the VFW Auxiliary, Northwoods Senior Citizens, KSKJ Lodge 4, the Tower-Soudan Bowling League. She served on the board of directors at the Parkside Home in Soudan. She is survived by daughters, Marcia and Patty, and son Jeff. Her three sisters, members of the Ely, SWU, are Rose Novak, Kris Garni, and Jane Yadlosky. Her brother is Louis "Midge" Zeleznikar of Plymouth, WI. She also had six grandchildren.

At her funeral, our SWU banner was proudly displayed and I presented a eulogy in behalf of our branch, and used the ritual book to close the eulogy.

For Molly, we can truly say, "Well done, good and faithful servant of the Lord."

Adeline Mustonen,
Reporter



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A LETTER FOR EVERYONE TO READ!

*This letter from a prospective member
expresses the feelings of many of us!*

I grew up in Cleveland in the St. Vitus area and am a second or third generation Slovene-American. Am not sure, as I am trying to research my family tree. My parents don't know how to speak the Slovenian language but we grew up with the general traditions of our grandparents, such as, Sveti Miklauž Day on Dec. 6th, eating želodec and klobase, and a strong devotion to our religion. I always felt drawn back to my roots, so my daughter and I moved back to the old neighborhood, across from St. Vitus Church, and she will be entering the 7th grade next year; and she is a third generation attending St. Vitus School!

In Sept. 1992, we had the marvelous opportunity of visiting Slovenija with my parents on a tour with Tony Petkovsek. This has changed by life, filling that empty spot. I never could figure out what was missing. A day has not gone by yet, that I haven't thought of the beautiful green valleys dotted with "kozolecs", the crisp mountain air, the busy marketplaces filled with people getting the best bargains, I could go on and on...!

My daughter is now finishing her 1st year at Slovenska Šola at St. Vitus and I am continuing a Slovene language course for adults at St. Mary's in Collinwood. It's not only the language we are learning but also traditions associated with our religion and culture. For instance, "butarica-making" for Palm Sunday (Cvetna nedelja)! I have learned folksongs like "Jaz pa Ti" along with some religious songs. Now we understand!

My parents had a band all the time I was growing up, and I heard many songs all the time, especially because

they accompanied Ed Kenik in his singing appearances and concerts like with Glasbena Matica; but now, we finally understand where these songs are coming from!

My parents even had my brother and I join a heritage group directed by Marie Pivik when we were small, but I never knew what we were singing! All the influence as a child came back with this one trip to Slovenia in 1992!

My point is, I've been reading the ZARJA via my gracious neighbor for at least a year now. I love it so much that I find I'm copying too many things to keep for myself. So, I would like to become a member myself! Maybe you can send me some information on how to become a member. In the meantime, please find my check enclosed for a subscription to ZARJA.

It is so wonderful to see the traditions staying alive through your organization and reported in your magazine.

It's also nice to see a promotion for religion, especially in these sad times. If only everyone could experience the faith of the people at Brezje who practice their religion with such joy after being torn so long under communism. To see such faith humbles one.

*Bog živi ves Slovenski svet,
Brate vse, kar nas je,
Sinov Slovenske matere.
Preseren*

Najlepša hvala,

Pamela Slogar

New Embassy of Slovenia in Washington, DC



The Embassy of Slovenia celebrated its official opening with a reception on Tuesday, May 10, 1994. Dr. Ernest Petrič, the Ambassador of Slovenia and Mrs. Petrič greeted guests from all over the United States and Slovenia. Lojze Peterle, Slovenia's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs was the honored guest for this monumental occasion. On Tuesday evening, May 10, the Slovenian flag was raised and hung outside the Embassy for the first time.

The Embassy of Slovenia is located at Dupont Circle, one of the most ethnically and culturally diverse neighborhoods in Washington, DC. Less than two blocks from the Dupont Circle South metro stop, at 1525 New Hampshire Avenue, NW, the Embassy is situated in a newly renovated townhouse with spacious rooms. The inside is tastefully decorated with lace curtains, modern Slovenian art and furniture. Information such as maps and

cultural and political information about Slovenia is available. Call (202) 667-5363 before visiting; you may be in luck and meet Dr. Petrič in person.

A visit to the Embassy of Slovenia would be a perfect opportunity to share your heritage with young members of your SWU Branch or family, and pay tribute to the Slovenians who have made this all possible. It is an honor to have this Embassy in the United States in our Nation's Capital. This would be a fun side trip on a visit to the Washington, DC metropolitan area.

Tourists and natives alike enjoy the wonderful outdoor cafes and ethnic restaurants. The variety of ornate, turn of the century townhouses add a unique European flair to this part of the city. It is truly a treat to walk around the Dupont Circle area, but now that the Embassy of Slovenia is situated there, it is more special than ever before.

If your branch is interested in organizing a trip for junior members and/or young adults to visit the Embassy of Slovenia, I would be happy to join the group.

*Bernadette J. Kovačič
Director of Youth Activities
(301) 989-4643*

Slovenian Peasant Art ...Splasher Cloths

As a young girl, I recall my mother's splasher cloth hanging in the kitchen and I was thrilled to see that the Slovenian American National Art Guild had captured this truly immigrant art work in a book entitled, *Splasher Cloths, Traditional Slovenian Stitchery*.

The splasher cloth, a beautifully embroidered piece of white linen, with a lovely floral design and Slovenian, "words of wisdom," was utilitarian as well as artistic. They were used to protect the walls from "splashes" around the cooking stove, washing area, and work table as well as protect the walls from chair marks.

This book is now available through the Slovenian Heritage Museum at a nominal fee of \$5.00 which includes the cost of postage. Branches are encouraged to advertise these books at their next meeting and to purchase one as a donation to the local library. They also make a lovely gift for someone interested in "fancy work" (embroidery) or for the individual interested in obtaining information on Slovenia and a traditional form of peasant art work.

CONTEMPORARY SPLASHERS



The sun does not shine as bright as the light in a mother's eye.

Donation Acception for Heritage Fund

Mary Taucher, Secretary of Branch 47 recently sent a note along with a check:

"Enclosed you will find a \$25.00 donation for the Heritage Fund from all of us S.W.U. members of Branch 47.

"We have survived our cold winter weather and are waiting for better days ahead."

Thank you Mary and all the members of Branch 47 for your annual donation to the Heritage Fund. Yours is a model for other branches. We appreciate the generosity each year.

GENEALOGY

Genealogical Listing to be paid by Subscribers

To include your listing in the Genealogy section, please give your name, address and name(s) you are researching. Limit your description to 50 words. Make check or money order for \$5.00 payable to ZARJA, 4851 So. Drexel Blvd., Chicago, IL 60615.

KLEMKE, DON, 1320 W. Hot Springs Pl., Broken Arrow, OK 74011 **Researching:** (Klemke) Victor or (Klemenck) Vic of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and born between 1880-1892 in Croatia/Slovenia. Vic's mother's maiden name was (Schroeder), (Scroter), (Schober), Mary or Marie. Arrived in New York approximately 1906. Stayed with a sister in Chicago named Anna, Antonija or Marie. In 1913 he (Victor) signed a Declaration of Intent to become a citizen while in Decatur, Indiana. Also, found on the 1920 census in Decatur.

MARY P. BODLING, 405 S. Edgewood St., Arlington, VA 22204. **Researching:** Plantan (Planton) family tree in the U.S. and Austria (Slovenia).

If you have any information that can assist these individuals in tracing their family roots, please contact them.

MUSEUM NOTES...

Mr. Jim Szepaniak, President of the Joliet Public Library Board, arranged for Mr. Johnson, Head Librarian of the Joliet Public Library to speak to the Slovenian Heritage Museum volunteers about the Slovenian Museum's library. The volunteers were most pleased with Mr. Johnson and he will be willing to meet with them again when needed.

In return for Mr. Johnson's services, Olga and Ed Ancel agreed to help identify the Slovenian books in the Joliet Public Library. A neat exchange of talent! Thanks to the Ancels.

We hope that each branch has donated American-Slovenian books to their Public Library. These books can be purchased from the Slovenian Heritage Museum by the branches and donated to their libraries as a heritage project. Young people are constantly looking for information about their ethnic nationality and immigrants. Let's make sure that they can locate something about the SLOVENIANS.



Nineteen ladies met on Sun., April 10th at H.R. church hall to complete plans for our Mother of the Year party. Gabriella Goritchan was chosen committee chairman; thanks to all the ladies who offered to help her and Joyce Zelesnikar prepare the Brunch.

Our thanks and congratulations to all our youth and adults who prepared the beautiful Living Stations of the Cross on Good Friday!

Happy to hear you are feeling better Delta, take care! Betty Orazem, we are so glad to hear you are busy with ceramics, "bookkeeping" and reading!

Derek Korpela was happy to have his Grandmother, Pauline K. attend his First Holy Communion on April 24th in Littleton, Colo. Congratulations and God bless you, Derek!

We have a Luncheon meeting on Aug. 10th at the H.L. Country Club. Plans will be made to attend the Minnesota Day in Hibbing in September.

After the meeting 13 Ladies from Biwabik (Br. 39) joined us to hear our exchange student, Orsat Vidovic, from Zagreb, Croatia speak to us.

He is skier and wanted to go to an area where there was snow. Coming from a large city to a very small community like Palo, MN was an adjustment! (His choice was New York.) He did become a skier on our ski team and has adjusted very well. He heard so much about America from friends and the movies (not the best source, he said) he wanted to see our America himself. He wanted to learn our language, way of life, and see our country. He found our families are much closer and our schools more strict. Our students may chose their subjects; theirs can't and must take math, sciences and languages (which are very important!) They have no school sports and are only required to go through the 8th grade. All college is free, if you are qualified. His dream is to become a lawyer and attend col-

Anita Vovk:

The Easter Centerpiece at Br. 35's Meeting represented the old Slovenian custom

Anita Vovk, our specialist in Slovenian Heritage information at Br. 35 offers this description of the centerpiece she designed for their Easter meeting.

Butara: is a bouquet of spring greens, usually juniper, pine, ivy, willow branches, that are trimmed and formed into a spray, decorated with ribbons (red, white and blue) and sometimes enhanced with oranges and apples. They are made in various sizes, sometimes up to 4 ft. tall. Slovenians carry the butara into church in the Palm Sunday procession, along with palms, all of which have been blessed. (See March, 1994 ZARJA cover picture.)

Returning home with their butaricas, Slovenians use them both as decorations and as a symbol to keep their homes safe from danger through the year. Sprigs are sometimes torn off and given to farm animals to eat. With the newly blessed Holy Water on Holy Saturday, the butara is sometimes used to sprinkle the blessed water throughout the home and property. It is also used by some Slovenians as part of the Ash Wednesday ceremony the following year.

Raglja: is a wooden "rattle" that is twirled in the air to produce a loud sound and used instead of bells at Mass from Holy Thursday until Easter Sunday when bell ringing is again allowed in church.

Thanks to Brent Kalar who bring the "raglja" home from Slovenia.

lege in Minnesota (which he has been checking into). Oh yes, he has visited New York City and our Twin Cities.

Orsat was a very interesting speaker and answered all the questions asked of him. He speaks and understands the English language very well.

Everyone enjoyed visiting during the coffee an'. Thanks to Dorothy J., Forence H., Pauline K., Betty T., Helen Z., Anna H., "Tona" S., Anne O., Anita V., and Alice W. (for the nuts and mints and 1/2 & 1/2). The surplus goodies were sold, and this was the beginning of our fund for the Nat'l Convention (26 dollars!)

Anita brought an Easter centerpiece for the table, and she was asked about the meaning of some of the things; I am enclosing her explanation so we can all learn about this Easter "tradition". Thanks, Anita!

Due to a previous commitment I missed Ann's Mother of the Year party. My thanks to Dorothy Jamnick for writing up the following report.

* * * *

On Sunday, May 1st we honored Ann Royer as our Mother of the year 1994. She has been a member for 53 years.

Mass was held at the Holy Rosary Church at 9 a.m. Then a program and brunch followed at the Aurora Community Center. Fifty people attended the affair. Ann's husband, Frank, her son, Frank and grandson, Scott from Camarello, California and her daughter, Patty and her granddaughter, Jennifer Hoffman from St. Cloud, MN and seventeen other relatives attended to help celebrate her day.

Anna Hodnik took charge of the program. She told the group how S.W.U. was started. Then members of the family and friends made remarks. Jennifer Hoffman came up to the members to thank us for the party honoring her grandmother. Her grandson, Scott also made the same comment.

The brunch was prepared by members Joyce Zelesnikar, Gabriella

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ROSANNE RUTH
REALTOR

Member of Branch 20, S.W.U.

Goritchan, Betty Carlson, Linda Cazin, Dorothy Jamnick, Ann Zuponic, Anna Hodnik, Pauline Korpela, Vida Marinsek, Janice Grebence and Florence Holland. All enjoyed the delicious meal and then socialized; a great time was had by all.

* * *

Ann, I am sorry I missed your party. After talking to you I know this was a very special day for you and your family and friends!

Wishing you all a happy summer!
ANNE M. ORAZEM

NO. 38, CHISHOLM, MN

Br. 38 of Chisholm, MN had their annual "Hat Parade", on May 4th, and it was a great success, as usual!

We received an informational letter from Br. 56 of Hibbing with details pertaining to the MN State Convention, Sept. 11th. At our Aug. 3rd meeting we will make our arrangements to attend.

President Laurich read a letter from the National President and her committee regarding the 1995 Convention in San Francisco. We are allowed one delegate.

Charlotte Laurich reviewed the Mother's Day Brunch of May 1st. 40 were in attendance, and our only living charter member, Mayme Pahula, honored us by her presence! Other special people were: Father Ronald Gagne, pastor of St. Joseph's; Tory Bobence, National President of SWU; and Sister Cecilia Schmidt of St. Joseph's. This was a wonderful day!

Br. 38 members are wishing Fran Biral a speedy recovery from her recent surgery.

The lunch committee for our Aug. 3rd meeting will be: Rose Sterle, Marie Sterle, and Rose Stonemark.

The following won potted spring plants at the Brunch: Julie Soroko, Rose Dropp, Ann Arko, Fran Techar, and Rosemary Tanko.

Door prizes at our May meeting were won by Anna Polichnik, Angie Nelsen, Charlotte Laurich, and the travelling prize was Angie Nelsen's.

No prizes for the Hats as they were all so unique and lovely that each one was a winner!

Br. 38 of Chisholm, MN, had a lovely Mother's Honor Day on May

1st. It turned out to be a Mother of the Year celebration because 64-year member Mayme Pahula, our only living charter member, age 95, was able to attend!



Mary Pahula

*Charter Member of Br. 38,
Chisholm, MN a beloved past officer!*

Mrs. Pahula was our secretary for many, many years and is our only living charter member. At the recent Mother of the Year party, she was especially honored. Our guest was beloved National President, Tory Bobence of Clear Lake.

* * *

Mayme Pahula was born in 1898 in Chisholm to John and Theresa Loushin. There were 8 children in the family. Three are living - Mary (Mayme), Pauline Hakala, and Albert Loushin, all residing in Chisholm. Our honored mother, Mayme, was married to John Pahula who passed away in 1974. They had a family of 3 sons and a daughter. One son, Robert Louis, died in 1989. Helen Glavan and her two brothers, John and Ed Pahula, settled in California. Mrs. Pahala has several grandchildren and great grandchildren. Mayme still resides in the family home in Chisholm.

Mayme Pahula became a charter member of Br. 38 on January 12, 1930, and was an active member for many years. We were greatly honored to have her as a guest on May 1st, 1994, and hope she will be at next year's get-together! She requested that we thank all who attended Mass with her and then visited with her at the Brunch.

Celebrant of the Mass on May 1st was Father Ronald Gagne, our pastor at St. Joseph's Church. President Charlotte Laurich, National SWU President Tory Bobence, and Pam Zalec, Junior

member of Br. 38 brought up the gifts. 38 members attended the Mass which was offered for all deceased members of our branch. Many parishioners were present and the choir was, as usual, so beautiful hear.

After a lovely brunch, Pres. Laurich opened the program by introducing Tory Bobence. Our National president gave an inspiring talk reminding us to keep our heritage alive, and to try to encourage young people to become interested in this organization. We shall be receiving literature in re: the Convention in 1995, and literature on revitalizing the Union.

Ann Nusich then reviewed a history of Br. 38 from 1930 until the present. It did not seem possible that Chisholm



Tory Bobence

*Her lovely
smile added to the
occasion of Br.
38's party.*

was involved in so many activities, and that 64 years have passed since the very first meeting! It took a group of Slovenian women to plant the seeds, and now we must continue to nourish them lest they die so that the Union does not fade away.

To remember our mothers, poems were read by Florence Tramontin, and some Slovenian melodies were played on tape. Martina Biral read a beautiful poem "Smell the Roses". And we sang some nostalgic songs in our community sing. All in all, it was a great day!

Thanks Father Gagne and Sister Cecilia for coming.

To close, this is a message from Mayme Pahula:

"I want to thank everyone for the special day which gave me such happiness"...

Our answer is: "Mayme, your presence made this day special for Branch 38!"

And to have our National president, Tory Bobence with us made everything perfect. Thanks, Tory, from Branch 38!

ANN NUSICH,
Reporter

NO. 40, LORAIN, OH

Meeting commenced with prayer. Agatha took over for our Pres. Agnes Tomazine who was absent due to illness. Thanks to Mary Gradisek, Jean Balogh and Genevieve Wenzel for the delicious dessert served to 18 members. Sophie Pogacher was the winner of the door prize.

The date of our May dinner honoring all our mothers was set on May 24th at 1 p.m. Angie Grayson and Agnes Drstvensek offered to make all the arrangements.

We welcomed home our Agnes Drstvensek who spent the winter in Florida. We decided not to have a regular meeting in May because of our dinner.

We lost another member recently. Mary Kurjan passed away after a year-long illness and Angie Voytko's husband passed away suddenly. We offer their families our sincere sympathy.

Molly Glavan is a great grandma for the second time and Haley Jordan was born on April 28th to Dawn Marie and David Sklarek. She now has 2 great granddaughters. Congratulations!

Hope to see you all at our July 13th meeting.

* * *

"May Dinner honoring all our mothers". 28 attended. Dinner was held at the German Villa on Tuesday May 24th and the food was delicious. We wish to thank Agnes Drstvensek and Angie Grayson for planning the celebration.

Agnes paid tribute to the immigrant mother and Olga Love read a poem by Helen Steiner Rice in memory of our deceased mothers. Angie Grayson paid tribute to our generation mothers and

Irene Kokinda sang the beautiful "Ave Maria" in tribute to the Mother of us all, the Blessed Mother. We drank a toast to all the mothers present. We were each presented a red carnation and Agnes Drstvensek informed us that this is Slovenia's national flower. It is a symbol of the Slovenian home and according to Christian tradition, carnations are a symbol of divine love. Another legend relates that they sprang from the tears shed by the Blessed Mother Mary on her way to Calvary.

Once again we wish to thank our Agnes and Angie, our planners, also Olga and Irene Kokinda and all the mothers who came and helped make this a memorable celebration.

Let's not forget to offer a prayer for our sick members who were unable to be there, namely, Mary Ferlic, Angie Zgonc, Ann Rozanc, Molly Glavan and Ann Bobrowski. God bless you all.

MARY MATOS

NO. 42, MAPLE HEIGHTS, OH

Our Mother's Day Mass was well attended and the songs sung in Slovenian helped in keeping traditions alive. Many members went to a local restaurant for coffee and dessert after the Mass.

On March 18th, Clara and Frank Hrovat became grandparents of a grandson, Kyle Anthony Turkovich. Kyle is the son of their daughter Becky and son-in-law Michael Turkovich.

Dorothy Budimlic became a grandmother on June 3rd when her grandson Brett David was born. He is the son of Debbie and David Kohlmayer and they reside in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The Slovenian community of Maple Heights suffered a great loss on May 15th when Joe "Red" Klir passed away.

Red Klir lived in Maple Heights his entire life and was very much involved with all the Slovenian functions. He traveled extensively to Slovenia, Australia, etc. and always took pictures and videos. After the trip they would meet at the SNH and relive their trip with his pictures and videos. While he was Bohemian, he felt that he was a Slovenian and really loved our people, so much so, that he was named "Slovenian Man of the Year" at the SNH. He will be missed.

Our prayers to Jane Szymkowski, Marge Lipnos and Donna Stubljer that they may be well soon.

Susan Shega, granddaughter of Vida and Frank Shega received her Nursing Degree from Ursuline College this past May. Congratulations, Susan!

Happy Birthday to members born in July: Josie Gruden, Ann Perko, Marge Patena, Jeanne Legan, Millie Tacsar, Ellen Bodziony, Mary Catherine Gruden, Mae Danicic and Anne Keglovic.

Happy Birthday to members born in August: Betty Ann Harr, Emily Gruden, Suzanne Haris, Mary Mauer, Mary Zito, Mary Louise Prhne, Frances Hocesvar, Jane Szymkowski, Mary Fink, Eleanor M. Charvat, Gabrielle Gruden, Anna Draganic and Marge Zupancic. Please call or visit our Shut-ins. They love hearing from you.

DOROTHY MEHOSKY

NO. 43, MILWAUKEE, WI

Can't believe that half of the year, 1994 is behind us! Also, the Mother of the Year celebration is a memory. We had a nice time honoring our lovely lady, Rose Vodnik. About 40 of us gathered at the Luncheon and Rose was delighted. It was nice to see Olga

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS GRATITUDE.....

Enclosed find our donation of \$25 to help defray the expense of printing ZARJA. Our members are getting older, less active, with some in nursing homes or confined in their homes, so reading what is going on in our branch and all the other branches is their only connection with the outside world. All the hard work and expense to print the ZARJA is well received by our members. Thank you for keeping this connection open. Sincerely yours,

Jean Miller
Br. 50, Euclid, OH

Another year has come by and enclosed is \$20 for my subscription to ZARJA - The Dawn. As always, I enjoy reading it from cover to cover. Many of my friends or relatives have received the new cookbook and it is enjoyed by all.

Mary H. Palcic,
Ridgewood, NY

Sending an extra \$5 for the Scholarship Fund. So proud of the ZARJA Anniversary Calendar, picturing us in the parade at the Home Office.

Pat Hagemer
Br. 30, New Smyrna Beach, FL

Seehafter and Celia Puskarich attending and also Josephine Strukel and her husband who came in from Florida; they are spending the summer in Wisconsin. Josie is the sister-in-law of our Rec. Sec'y, Mary Musich and they reside in Spring Hill, FL.

Our May meeting was full of decision-making. First, our secretary read the letter of our Nat'l President regarding the Convention in San Francisco in May, 1995. We all have Zveza at heart and hope that this organization will exist forever! We owe it to the former officers and members who kept it strong till we could take over! Will do everything in our power to continue their work! (Bravo, Matilda! C.L.)

Delegate was chose for the State Convention in Willard on Oct. 2nd, 1994. Yours truly is delegate and Mary Martino is alternate. Also, we dis-

KEEP THE CONNECTION!

A SINCERE THANK YOU to "Keep Our Connection" contributors listed according to our seven regions from January through May, 1994:

California-Oregon-Washington	\$ 11.20
Lillian Eggen (30), Benicia, CA	\$10.00
Mary Piunti (30), Port Hueneme, CA	1.20
Colorado-Kansas-Missouri	\$5.00
Branch 3, Pueblo, CO	5.00
Illinois-Indiana	----
Minnesota	26.20
Frances Bogatich (30), West St. Paul, MN	1.20
Branch No. 39, Biwabik, MN	25.00
Ohio-Michigan	52.40
Branch No. 47, Garfield Hts., OH	25.00
Branch No. 50, Cleveland, OH	25.00
Josephine Lozar (30), Wickliffe, OH	1.20
Antonia Prelesnik (30), Grand Haven, MI	1.20
Pennsylvania-New York-Washington, D.C.	25.00
Branch No. 103, Washington, DC	20.00
Memoriam of mother Anna Sterle (71) from daughter Hedy	5.00
Wisconsin	1.20
Lillian Oman (30), Milwaukee, WI	1.20
Total for five months	\$ 121.00
Previous Total	4,606.70
Total to date (43 months)	\$4,727.70

cussed the possibility of having a fashion show in September. Profit would pay the expenses of the delegate to the National Convention next May in San Francisco. This is a good idea and more about it will be in the next issue.

Br. 43 will have the Annual Poultry Card Party on November 13th. Tickets will be available at the meeting and we are asking for everyone's cooperation and help.

In 1995, Br. 43 will celebrate the 65th Anniversary, combined with the State Convention. Although it seems far away, arrangements have to be made early, so the date was set for Sept. 17th, 1995. More about this at a later date.

Our Auditor, Mary Bushnik suffered a stroke. She was hospitalized for a couple of weeks and now resides at Sacred Heart Rehab Hospital on So.

27th St. Also, Jean Luzar, who was in St. Francis Hospital for the same, is now getting therapy at the Village at Manor Park on So. 84th St. Another member, Lucille Genzel is also hospitalized. She is very frail and 88 years old. Please remember our dear members with a card and include them in your prayers that the Lord will watch over them.

Irene Kunover's husband, Ivo had surgery on his hip. With Irene's tender-loving-care, he is back on his feet and feeling fine. So, Irene left for Poland to visit her family and friends. Come back safely, Irene!

Helen Rudzinski is not feeling well these days, also her husband is in ill health. Best wishes and speedy recovery to both of you and to all others sick and shut-in. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Mary Martino was visiting her great grandson and family in No. Carolina.

We are happy to welcome a new member, Olga Longley, into our branch. She is a special lady and good friend of all of us.

Happy birthday to all members in July and August – although you will be one year older, you are one year better! We wish you all the best. To those couples celebrating their wedding anniversaries this summer, hope you will all enjoy many more happy and healthy years together.

No meetings in July and August. First fall meeting is Sept. 28th, and it's the beginning of our busy schedule. Have a nice vacation and stay healthy.

Prisrčne pozdrave vsem!

MATILDA SIMCIC

NO. 47, GARFIELD HTS., OH

This time we honored all mothers at a dinner for Mother's Day on May 7th at Quinn's Restaurant in Solon. Thirty were present. Mass for living and deceased members was scheduled for June 25th at St. Laurence Church.

The State Convention October 16th will be in Detroit and two buses may be needed for all of us! We plan to have a nice, large crowd from Cleveland. Depends on you, now, to decide to go with us! time is going fast – so please call me at 663-6957.

The National Convention will be here before you know it, too. It will be in San Francisco May 19, 20, 21, 1995. Each branch is asked to select a qualified delegate to represent them.

Congratulations are in order to Mary Culkar who became a gramma one more time to a bouncing baby boy, son of Frank and Barbara Culkar. To Ben Godec, husband of Jo Godec of Carson City, Nevada who recently bowled a perfect 300 game, our congratulations. Also, to Ann Kemmerling, Junior member, and granddaughter of yours truly who received her sacrament of Confirmation in April. It was at St. Rita's Church with H.E. Bishop Pilla officiating. Anne also is graduating from the 8th grade with high honors to Junior High.

Happy birthday to the ladies celebrating this summer. In May-June they were Mary Skul, Kitty Wallace, Ed

Drobnik, Elsie Lavrencic, Rose Kocevar, Antonia Berne.

To all our ailing members who are convalescing in nursing homes or at home, our thoughts and prayers are with you all, especially to Mary Culkar who is on the mend from knee surgery.

Travelers on the go include Mary and Casey Mundson who flew to Carson City, Nevada to join Jo and Ben Godec family and their many lovely friends to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. Mary Mundson was in Josie's bridal party which made it more special. Could not tell enough about the warm hospitality received while there. As the old saying goes, they killed two birds with one stone as the Mundson were able to visit Mary's brother, Frank Praznik and family who recently relocated to California.

Don't forget to get that new member signed up! Have more Pots & Pans cookbooks, too. Send a card or better yet, stop in to say hello to our sister shut-in members. Ladies who are behind in dues payments, please take care of them.

Have a nice and safe summer. No meetings till fall, Sept. 11th, same place and time.

Respectfully submitted,

MARY TAUCHER

NO. 50, CLEVELAND, OH

Dober Dan! Greetings sisters! Some of this news will be "old hat" because last month should have contained most of it. June 15th was our last meeting until September 21st. In between the above mentioned meetings at the Euclid Public Library meeting room, we will have a St. Anne's Luncheon on July 27th at the Dubrovnik Restaurant at Lake Shore Blvd. and Route 91. Have fun, Annes. Also, our picnic this year will be held on the same day as our October meeting. More about this later.

We had the surprise promised to you for the April meeting. We wish to thank Tanny Babic for presenting it to us. It was all about eggs, hard boiled ones at that. What a fine symbolism connected with the preservation of the Easter Egg, the first of which so far was discovered in Spain even though the most exceptionally decorated ones are attributed to an old Ukrainian art which also has been adopted by most of the other

Slavic nationalities -- and then some. We were told that the egg (pisanka) means "Life," so we can assume we now know the answer to, "What comes first, the chicken or the egg?" -- or do we? Tanny's slides were spectacular. It was an exceptional program which was enjoyed by everyone in attendance. We appreciated the return of so many members to this meeting who haven't been with us recently. Please make it a monthly habit.

In addition, Frances (Tanny) Babic also presented an excellent slide program on "Slovenia" at the Euclid Public Library in May which was welcomed by many of the local Slovenian residents including some of the members of Branch 50.

Now to some unpleasantness, we are sorry to still report some of our members have not had it so nice. Mary Alice Primuth and Ann Tomsick were hospitalized with knee surgery and are still recovering along with Jean Miller who came down with pneumonia shortly after our April meeting. She was present at our May meeting regardless. Emily Unik and Jane Novak both had eye surgery in May. Our best wishes to them both for a speedy recovery. Mary Kovellan also has had eyesight problems. Please hang in there Mary, and also to Jean Tomsic who has been having hip therapy due to fall. Mary Budas also made the list. Come on gals, get well, we miss you. That goes for anyone else we missed who might not be feeling up to par. We want to see you at all our meetings!

Our President, Anne Tercek, entered the hall of our May meeting with a bound hand due to a correction on her right thumb. She never realized how much and for what many reasons she needs that thumb. Thumbs up, Anne!

And now, more direct sadness, our long time member Josephine Petrovic's husband John passed away. We send her and her family our sincere condolences.

We honored our 50 year member Frances Hribar at our May meeting. That is quite an achievement. Again Frances, congratulations! Also, our Mother of the Year, Stella Koporc was feted last month. It was certain everyone had a marvelous time, especially Stella.

Mary Wolf has been visiting friends in France. From there she will move on to Slovenia. Mary should have some

CLEVELAND TRIPLETS CELEBRATE

On Sunday, May 15th, the Plain Dealer reported an interesting story about the 75th birthday of the first triplets of record in Cleveland. Living up to their name, they are the Prijatel triplets, Frank, Frances and Edward. Frances, who now bears the last name of Scigliano, is a member of our S.W.U.



nice stories to tell us about that trip.

Ah, ha! Rose and Clarence Roesch are celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on June 17th. This union produced three children and ten grandchildren. See what a little loving can do? Congratulations to you all from all of us.

If there are any birthdays or more anniversaries to celebrate, none have been mentioned. If there are any -- have a good one.

We wish to compliment Celia Dolgan for the huge Button Box Bash. She really knows how to put one on!

The Slovenian Home for the Aged officers conducted the annual membership meeting on May 20th at the Waterloo Slovenian Home covering many matters of the nursing home facilities interest and recent improvements. The most important is that it is running in the BLACK and investments are being made with the established worthwhile residue. Plans in the future are to build a new state of the art type accommodations in one of the eastern counties nearby. The present Neff Road institute will always remain as its stalwart base. Anna Jersan is now a resident at the Slovene Home for the Aged.

Last but not least, we want to honor the Collinwood Slovenian Home on Holmes Avenue for its 75th Anniversary. This is quite an achievement, and it's only the beginning.

By the way, if you have any newsworthy tidings, personal or otherwise, you are welcome to send me a preferred note to: 25966 Highland Road, Richmond Hts., OH 44143-2704.

I will do my best to have it mentioned in ZARJA. Our President Ann Tercek keeps on top of everything and feeds me much of our personal info for which

I am grateful, but you may send me what you will also, then Ann and I can review it all before we send it, as correctly as possible, for publication.

Our best wishes to Fran Nemanich who had eye surgery and to Agnes Bradek - surgery.

Rose Mary Marn has made a trip to Slovenia and Charlie and Ann Tercek left June 21st. Hope they have great trips to beautiful Slovenia!

Just found out that Ernestine Jevc and her family are sorrowing with the loss of her son-in-law Robert Gorgon. He was just 52 when he recently passed away. He is also survived by his wife, Betty Lee and daughter Lee Ann, all three belonging to our branch. Condolences to them.

We have such a nice story to tell! Seventy-five years ago triplets were born in our Slovenian community here in Cleveland. They were the Prijatel triplets, Frank, Frances and Edward. Their parents, Joseph and Mary, brother, Joseph and sister Mary lived simply and thought it was not so strange to have triplets in the family. People were used to hard work and accepted their destinies very nonchalantly. Older sister, Mary Lebleng says everyone did want to see the triplets when they were little and they were a little spoiled; but, during times when no one had much anyway, the family did the best they could.

Now, 75 years later, Frank and Edward Prijatel and Frances Scigliano were the honored guests at a big party, still the center of focus. Friends and newspaper reporters dropped by all day as they celebrated and the "old days" were recalled with many stories. Frances, our SWU member for the past 18 years, was happy to tell stories, one of them about the Halloween she and

friends had fun dressing up in her brothers' clothes and passing themselves off as the triplets collecting treats!

Our best to them for a very happy 75th birthday and many more!

Na svidenje!

I leave you with a profound statement from the great Native American, Chief Seattle, "Man did not weave the web of life, he is merely a strand in it. Whatever he does to the web, he does to himself." That applies to women, also.

VI MORAVCHEK

NO. 52, KITZVILLE, MN

Monthly meeting opened with a prayer by President, Rose Trombly and minutes of the previous meeting approved as read. Invitation was received from Br. 56 in Hibbing to attend the Minnesota Zveza Day in September. In the last Dawn, it was stated that our branch was hosting the day - sorry for this mistake! Could be confusing!

Meeting closed with a prayer and hostesses were Florence Techar, Frances Rapovich and Shirley Spinelli. Door prize winner was Julia Mancuso. At cards the winners were Rose Trombly, Carmella Bonazza and Josephine Yeshe.

* * *

Br. 52's belated Christmas Party was on May 11th. Very sociable evening was enjoyed, even though there was no snow or lighted Christmas trees! Cards were played and winners, Alice Baratto and Dorothy Ban. To all the members, have a nice summer with family and friends and at reunions. We will meet in September.

MILLIE BARBATO

FIVE GENERATIONS



President of our Br. 52 in Kitzville, MN is Rose Trombly. She is the great, great grandmother of little 6 month old, Dillon Wollin who was born on Dec. 25, 1993 and is seen here in the arms of his great grandfather, Philip Pascuzzi. Standing are the baby's mother, Kimberly Wollin, Mrs. Trombly and grandmother Brenda Wollin. What a nice family! Congratulations!

Nat'l Secretary:

Our local secretary says: "Paying dues annually is a blessing!" It relieves a member's needless worry about being paid-up for the year. It also assists the branch secretary in endless correspondence with each delinquent member as well as saving postal costs.

It is important our organization updates dues collection. Our Joliet secretary, as well as a few other branch secretaries, say they wouldn't have it any other way; and she deals with over 600 members!

It is hoped the membership will be considerate and cooperate in supporting the annual dues payments proposal.

NO. 54, WARREN, OH

Happy Summertime! Safe traveling to those who are lucky enough to be touring the USA and Europe!

We had a wonderful visit at Easter-time in Alabama seeing our son, Tom and family and then on to South Carolina to see our daughter, Pat. We went sight-seeing, shopping, etc. and it was just great! My husband and I felt rejuvenated after the trip. The same week we returned home we went to Toronto to visit Harry's first cousin, Jožica, of Slovenia, who was visiting relatives there at Rezka Stojan's home. We had such a good time – especially conversing in Slovenian! I don't have much chance to speak it any more in Warren, nor does Harry. But, we all understood each other! We feasted on potica, strudels, klobase, ham, etc. She was delightful! She lives in Maribor with her husband and we hope to visit them in Slovenia before the end of 1994!

Our members seem to all be doing well and all are busy with their families. Elsie Shine will be traveling to the west for her "50th" Class Reunion. She looks too good and young to be celebrating her 50th!

Traveling to Slovenia in September will be Virginia Shine and husband, Albin, who is a Supreme Officer of AMLA.

Happy birthday to my Godchild, Anka Kregar, of Br. 55 – an officer there in Girard. They're having a surprise party for her this week. I know she's not too happy to be counting another birthday! Silly girl!

Other girls having a birthdays are Ann Savor, Anna Brdek and Valentina Gladd.

God's blessings to all. Our next meeting is either Sept. 14th or 21st! Will keep you posted. The usual place.

Our Mother-Daughter Luncheon was a lovely affair. We had a delicious meal and a good turnout of 24 members and guests! Thanks to Jo Kassin, Millie Pollack and yours truly who served on the committee. We were so happy to welcome Helen Kohli and Angela Kaferle to our group. Angela lives about 40 miles away and has been unable to come to our functions often. There were tears of joy in her eyes as she was hugging all her old friends. Thanks especially to Julie Grabelsek of Geneva, Ohio who was their chauffeur. It sure made our afternoon fun. Delores Di Pietro entertained us with her button box music and all sang and danced to our wonderful Slovenian tunes.

Our sympathy and prayers to Trudy Thompson on the loss of her sister, Irene Rizzi. Irene was a wonderful person and attended morning mass daily at our parish. She will certainly be missed by all those who loved and knew her.

On a happier note, Trudy Thompson has a new grandson, Alex Marcarello and we know she's a loving grandma!

Happy 55th Wedding Anniversary to Frank and Vic Zuga.

Happy summertime to all and safe traveling. Going to Slovenia in July are Mayme Sporich's daughter-in-law, Kay, Anne Savor's daughter, Louise Vett and my husband, Harry and I. We're all going on Tony Klepec's Tour. Can't wait to see where our parents were born and all the familiar places we've heard so much about.

JOANNE PONIKVAR

NO. 55, GIRARD, OH

Our April meeting was held on April 13, 1994 at the Girard Library. Nine members were in attendance – it was really great to see everyone! There was lots of news to share because we had not seen each other since the December Christmas party. Sophie Kren is still recuperating from her surgery. Joan Twaddle and her family visited her in-laws in Indiana. Mary Kristin told us that her brother is in a nursing home. She visited him on Easter Sunday. I understand that he keeps the residents of the nursing home happy by playing the piano. Rose Juvancic is so very proud of her grandchildren. She said that she could write a book about each one of them. Tillie Cigolle made over

20 afghans for her friends. She surprised me with one of them – it's beautiful! She must have known that I'm always cold!!

Nancy Dombrosky was busy making 3 bedspreads for her friends. We certainly have many talented ladies in our branch! Nancy was also pleased to announce that her granddaughter, Julie Ginocchi, will be graduating from St. Rose with a 4.0 GPA.

My nephew, Mark Selak, is an altar server at St. Rose Church. I know his parents and grandparents are very proud of him. My little niece Monica keeps the entire Selak family happy with her beautiful smiles and witty humor. Her personality must come with the territory since she is the youngest in the family – or maybe, she takes after her Aunt Dori!

We had 21 members in attendance at our Mother/Daughter banquet at Little Peppino's in Girard. Our president, Maria Selak, conducted a short business meeting, at which time she reminded everyone about the June bake sale. She also had door prizes for everyone. Thanks, Maria, you're always thinking about everyone's happiness. Anka Kregar and Joan Twaddle crowned the Blessed Mother at the conclusion of the banquet.

We found out that Anna Zagger is recuperating from a car accident. Danny Gordon, Rosemary Gordon's grandson is a very talented writer and composer. He composed the class song for the 1994 Girard High School graduating class. He will also be recording it. My niece Andrea was elected president of the Ursuline High School Student Assistance program. She is also treasurer of the Spanish Club, Student Council,... By the way, Andrea, who sent you the balloon arrangement for your 16th birthday???

My niece, Monica, performed superbly in her dance recital in June. She may be the future Ginger Rogers! Dolores DePietro's granddaughter made her 1st Holy Communion in Columbus. May God Bless her always!

Our June birthdays were: Seth Gordon, Anna Zagger, Marian Cigolle, and my wonderful mother, Milka Kregar.

July birthdays: Stephanie Gordon, Our President, Maria Selak, Anna Kalan and Nancy Dombrosky.

September birthdays: Nettie Juvancic.

Please try to attend our meeting on

September 14, 1994 at the Girard Library at 7:00 p.m.

Laughter is the best medicine – Smeh je zdravje!

"Kako si lepa danes."

"Škoda, da jaz ne morem reči o tebi kaj takega."

"Lahko! Zlaži se, kot sem se jaz."

And on that note, Nasvidenje!

DORI KREGAR

NO. 56, HIBBING, MN

Meeting opened with prayers. The meeting is held at the First Ave. Apt. every month. Minutes were read and approved.

Mother's Day dinner was held at Woodland's Family Restaurant prior to the meeting. Mary Massich made a motion to pay all bills and it was seconded by Dorothy Oberstar and passed.

National Convention in May, 1995 and problems facing Slovenian Women's Union in the future. Discussion of the Convention took place. Flowers for our Blessed Mother were approved, to be given by members.

We thank the family of Veronica Schwartz for money in her memory.

Elizabeth Spolar read a letter she wrote to the National Secretary which we hope will be printed in the ZARJA.

Mary Sickich made a motion and seconded by Mary Massich that our members pay \$7.00 for the banquet, coffee hour and 50c fee for State President. Jackpot was won by Julie Znider. Happy birthday was sung to May birthdays.

No further discussions in the meeting. Closed with prayer. No meeting until August in preparation for the convention. Lunch committee for August is Katherine Marino, Elizabeth Spolar and Julie Znider. Rose Vukich won bunco, Sylvia Latich, 500, and Agnes Barkis, Cannasta.

Sincerely submitted by,

EDITH JONES

NO. 57, NILES, OH

Hope all had a happy Mother's Day. Our day was very well-attended with 22 members and guests. Our president led the prayer before a lovely lunch was served.

We honored our Mother of the Year, Mimi Shirkman, with lovely gifts. We

also had a gift exchange so every member received a gift, too, making it a happier Mother's Day for all members!

We spent the afternoon with socializing and playing games. We had lovely favors made by Elizabeth Havaich, Helen Misel and Frances Stanec.

Birthdays celebrated in May were, Jane Logar, Marge Mollica and Frances Yerman. Hostesses for the June 14th meeting were selected: Mary Visnosky and Frances Stanec.

Get well wishes to Ann Gunther who is on the sick list. Hope to see you back at our meetings soon, Ann. To all members, take care and stay healthy.

FRANCES STANEC



Robert Gene Franko, 3 months old, great grandson of Judy Tintera (No. 73) became our newest and youngest member of Br. 73.

NO. 73, WARRENSVILLE, OH

Summer has finally arrived here in Ohio -- even though its' official date is still a few weeks away. Yard work, children playing outside, husbands working on small home repairs and the smell of freshly cut grass sure makes happy campers out of all of us. Enjoy the new green leaves and the shade they provide, harvest the joy of it all. Seasons do change.

During May, I was privileged to join members of Branches 42 and 32 in their Mother's Day celebrations. It's always nice to see the members and share time with them. On May 25th, Branch 73 traveled to Karlin Hall for our own celebration, honoring Angela Gliha our Mother of the Year. We enjoyed a dinner of pork/chicken, sauerkraut, dum-



Family and friends honored Staci Sleigh Layman as our Mother of the year.

plings and later the Maple Heights Buttonbox Group entertained. It was a delightful evening. Joe Kocab has been good to us and bringing our group to his facility was a small token of appreciation.

Earlier (in April) we had our anniversary mass at St. Jude's. Father Tom gave recognition to the Slovenian Women and thanked us for coming back year after year. We enjoyed the K of C Pancake Breakfast after mass. The anniversary mass and the dinner at Karlin Hall were both well-attended.

Best wishes this month go out to Jack Yane, husband of our former/deceased president, who has taken up residence in Indiana, nearer his daughter. We are sure he will enjoy himself, knowing that a fishing lake is just outside his back door. And congratulations to T.J. Majercik who will make his First communion this month. We hope the sun will shine upon you for your special day, and the "Son" will stay with you each day thereafter. Wishes for happy travel to Lisa Majercik who, after ridding herself of the shingles, takes off for a week in England with her father.

Welcome to three new junior members, great grandchildren of Virginia Nemeth and Judy Tintera. Virginia enrolled Matthew and Jenifer and Judy enrolled Robert Gene Franko. Katrina Nemeth has transferred into our adult membership.

Congratulations to Dolores Mueller who became a new grandma with the birth of Brandon in April, and to Josephine Nowak who added a new great granddaughter to the family tree. Best wishes to everyone.

On July 26th we will attend mass at Our Lady of Levocha Shrine in Bedford, Ohio. We will have lunch at Vincentian Hall and finish off the afternoon with Benediction. If you are interested in attending, please contact Alouise, Kay or myself. It is St. Anne's Day, so if it is your feastday, make it very special.

The Slovene community lost a great supporter with the passing of Joe "Red" Klir. Those of us who knew him had great respect for all his efforts and promotions on our behalf. He loved every aspect of our heritage. Pray for his peaceful repose.

Personal Note: My husband (Steve) is in a nursing home, we take it one day at a time and accept the bad ones, and welcome the good ones. If you can spare a minute and a prayer, thank you.

Happy July Fourth, with the world in such turmoil we can truly say, "God Bless America."

Respectfully submitted:

EVELYN A. MAJERICK

NO. 79, ENUMCLAW, WA

Amongst the liquid sunshine that keeps our Northwest so ever green, we celebrated our Mother of the Year. Kathy Vogel and her husband, Kurt, were gracious hosts to this event during which we honored Staci Sleigh, Laymen, our very deserving life-long member, whose own daughter represents the fourth generation of members in our branch; charter member is grandmother Anna Faulk, mother Dorothy Sleigh and Staci and her own daughter.



Staci singing and playing her guitar added a beautiful moment to the party.

At the party, Staci was 'interviewed' by her mom, Dorothy Sleigh, who touched on some of the experiences in Staci's life. Staci then sang two songs for us, accompanying herself on the guitar. She is a very accomplished musician and we all enjoyed her music. Staci is such an asset to our lodge!

Barbara Dime will host the October meeting at which we will be electing our delegate to the '95 convention; officers for the new year will be on the agenda and, of course, our annual Christmas party will be planned.

ALL members please circle October 9th and carpools will be encouraged. Further information will be in your flyer.

Let's all have a good summer, best wishes to all from this 'green haven'.

MARY BRATOVICH

CARIBBEAN

THANKSGIVING CRUISE

Nov. 19-26, 1994

Dear SWU Branch Members,

For some time now, members have been asking for travel activities in which they could meet other SWU members from all over the U.S. as they enjoy the adventures of new and exciting places. It sounded like a great idea and we hope the members will participate in this exciting vacation.

The May issue of ZARJA advertised the first of our "travel club plans," which will be a cruise to the Caribbean during the Thanksgiving Holidays. This will be a wonderful time to get away from the cold weather and enjoy the mild climate of the Caribbean along with sightseeing, wonderful gourmet dining, exciting entertainment, and fun-filled days aboard the Love Boat.

Roundtrip Air fare from a gateway city, transfers to and from the pier, port charges, cruise w/ twin stateroom on the Regal Princess, all shipboard gourmet dining, entertainment and activities are included in one group-rate price. Feel like a Princess living in luxury for seven glorious days.

Your branch secretary has information about the cruise that can be shared with interested members, along with a reservation form to be completed and returned with a deposit check for \$250.00 per person. For greater savings: a third or fourth person in the room is \$790 per person plus port charges.

Since this cruise must be organized by July 30th, please give it your prompt attention and send in your reservation immediately. Should you have any questions about the cruise or accommodations please write or call:

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Fraternally yours,

Irene M. Odorizzi,
SWU Heritage Director

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NO. 85, DEPUE, IL

It's hard to believe that one half the year is already gone. The time just goes by too fast.

Jeanine and Will Crockett became the parents of a little boy, Ryan Edward, on April 6th making Muriel Jermenc a proud grandmother and Ann DeBord and I, the proud great aunts. They also have a little girl, who is 4 years old.

Melissa Benkse graduated with honors from Ill. Valley Community Jr. College and will be attended Ill. State U. at Normal. Her brother, Jeff graduated with honors from DePue High School. They are the grandchildren of our Vice-President, Mary Benkse. Theresa Kimble, granddaughter of our President, Gen Grilc,

graduated from 8th grade as valedictorian in DePue and will be attending St. Bede's in the fall. Her brother, Joshua also goes to St. Bede's. Our congratulations and best wishes to these fine young people.

Fr. Bernard Horzen had the Slovenian Litany service in LaSalle on May 22nd. The Slovenska Pesem chorus from Lemont, assisted by Father, sang the litany and later gave a concert. Then there was a very nice pot luck supper. Jo Foley did a beautiful job taking care of it. Father Bernard was excited about leaving for Poland with a group of 22 in June. We know he will bring home lots of memories to share with us.

We are all enjoying Angie Nico's column in ZARJA and hope she continues. Hope everyone stays well. God bless.

MARY JERMENC

NO. 89, OGLESBY, IL

Our April 11th meeting was well-attended. On the agenda was the formulation of ideas and plans which were itemized for the Ill.-Ind. Regional Convention which our branch 89 will host on Oct. 2, 1994. Angie Nico and Mary Stubler celebrated their birthdays in March. Helen Komater had an April 3rd birthday – actually it was on Easter Sunday. It'll bet the Easter Bunny brought her a lot of special goodies!

Our May birthday girls were Josie Argubright and Catherine Golick. Hope everyone had a nice day.

A "thank you" card was signed and sent to Betty Stack for the three pairs of embroidered pillow cases we will use for a raffle. Betty, how thoughtful of you!

All Mothers of our branch were honored at the party on May 11th at Garzanelli's Supper club. On the committee were Helen Komater, Mitzi Banich, Jo Schmidt and Rose Ann Prey. We'll report on it later.

A delicious angel food apricot cake was served by Emma Foly and Jo Morrison who were our April hostesses. A vase of pussy-willows served as the centerpiece. Rose Ann Prey and Josie Argubright won the door prizes.

Sincerely,

EUNICE KOMATER

NO. 95, SO. CHICAGO, IL

We had a late start on our May meeting night since we first attended the May Crowning at Sacred Heart Church.

Then President, Millie James expressed her personal sympathy to our bereaved members since she was unable to attend the April meeting.

Sisters Sylvia Vukodinovich and Helen Alb were taking turns in the hospital. Hopefully, they are both on the mend and our prayers are with them.

Our 92 year young member, Ann Plesha is beginning to feel her years now. She is also in and out of the hospital.

Mary A. Perkovich had cataract surgery and can now view the world with a better outlook. Millie Cuzzella is still recuperating from her back surgery. She went to Colorado for her grandson's communion. And, Helen

Santy went to California to "visit the kids"!

Hostesses, Eleanor Bandera, Ann Cikulin, Evelyn Driscoll and Helen Ciechowski were assisted by Bernice Morisson and Marge Nixsic with a delicious spread. Split the Pot winners were Eleanor Bandera, and Bernice Morisson. Mary Toporis won the plant donated by Evelyn Driscoll.

MARY MARAS

NO. 102, WILLARD, WI

Greetings from Br. 102. It seems ages since my last report but much has happened since then. Our big move to become "small town folks" is over but **much** work is still to be done before we will be completely settled. Thank the Lord for such beautiful weather during this tremendous job. All the shrubs were in full bloom and it was even harder to leave our private "park". We could use a good soaking rain soon to help the gardens grow.

Now to the most important business at hand, the annual S.W.U. Wisconsin State Convention which our branch will host on Oct. 2, 1994. The schedule is as follows:

Coffee and rolls: 9 to 9:30 a.m.

State Convention: 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.

Mass: 11:30 a.m.

Dinner: 1:00 p.m. A short program to follow.

Menu for the dinner is chicken and Slovenian sausage, vegetables, strudel and coffee. Cost is \$7.00 per person. There will be items for raffle and refreshments across the street from our church at the Athletic Shelter. All members are cordially invited.

Our former State President, Joan Yaklich has graciously consented to preside at the meeting due to the illness of our Janet Maurin. We are so very sorry to hear of Janet's health condition and sincerely hope she is recovering well and will soon be "fit as a fiddle" again so she can be with us once more.

Graduations are over now, our very best wishes to all the students who will continue with their studies in their respective colleges and in new careers.

Our community activities for July are the annual Polka Fest on July 16-17 followed by the Slovenska Družba picnic on July 31st. It's good to see so many former Willard residents coming back to spend a weekend with family

and friends. The last Sunday in August brings us the big Annual Church Dinner and Bazaar, another nice weekend event for camaraderie and good food!

On a sadder note, we lost another long-time member of our Willard community, namely Tony Gosar, Sr. at the age of 81. He was the brother of our member, Sophie Trunkel. He loved outdoor activities, hunting and fishing, which he did only a few days before his death. Our sincerest condolences to all his family.

It's good to see Ann Boh out and around again. To all our shut-in members in nursing homes, our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Hope to see you in October... on the 3rd!

MARY STAUT

NO. 103, WASHINGTON, D.C.

Easter Sunday, on April 3, was indeed a beautiful day here in the Nation's Capital and Metropolitan Area. The Sunshiny day was very welcome after the severe winter that was experienced across the entire country. The cherry blossoms couldn't have been more beautiful, and were made to order for the many visitors who were here for Easter vacation.

On Sunday, April 10, we convened for our first meeting of the spring season. We had a very good attendance despite the rain that persisted all day long. President Sabina Bartol led us in prayer followed by special intentions. There was much discussion on upcoming events. The ladies are to be commended for their enthusiasm and cooperation in getting things done. President Sabina is always ready to thank everyone for their support.

It's always a pleasure to report happy and exciting bits of information. The big news is that our beloved member, Bernadette Kovacic, has announced her engagement to Timothy Fitzimmons. Needless to say, we wish them every happiness.

We hope all mothers and fathers have had happy and wonderful days!

Best spring wishes to all.

* * *

Our annual Mothers' Day/Woman of the Year celebration was enjoyed on Sunday, May 1, 1994. The format for

A BEAUTIFUL DAY AT THE PARK

this event was an outdoor picnic, held at scenic Lake Needwood in Rock Creek Regional Park, Rockville, Maryland. The weather seemed a bit threatening having rained during the night, and with rain clouds hovering over us that morning; however, we took our chances. Upon reaching the park, the sun came out and it turned out to be a perfect day. We had a good attendance and, as always, were delighted to have Ambassador Dr. Petric and other diplomatic members and family of the Slovenian Embassy join us to celebrate this lovely day in the park.

As always, the ladies of Branch 103 prepared a bountiful and delicious buffet, with special treats of potica and apple strudle -- how typically Slovenian! We all missed having our President, Sabina Bartol, present. She is recovering from a medical problem and a short stay in the hospital. We hope you all will join us in prayers for her speedy recovery.

After the delicious lunch, the children were having such a good time with their various games. Some of us hiked through the park, where many others were also enjoying picnics. It was delightful to walk along the wooded paths and hills, and to see the boats on the lake, but most of all, we enjoyed the perfect weather.

We then gathered for an outdoor Mass officiated by Father Raymond Wadas. This was preceded by Vice President Nika Kovacic making a presentation of carnations to the honored Woman of the Year, Marie Čačić-Robinson. Thanks to Nika for the beautiful words in the presentation to Marie.

Prior to finally leaving the park, several ladies couldn't resist singing many of the familiar and traditional Slovenian songs. How reminiscent of activities we must all remember of our childhood when our parents and friends sang the same songs.

As an additional bit of happy news, John and Maria Stewart have announced the arrival of Gregory John Stewart, born on February 24, 1994. Maria is the daughter of our member, Maria and Harry Paulin. Our warm congratulations to the new parents, and certainly to the proud grandparents.

After a summer break, our next meeting will be scheduled for September. Our best wishes to all for a happy and safe summer.

MATILDA AUSICH



Rock Creek Park in Rockville, Maryland was the site and May 1st the date of Br. 103's annual picnic. Here we see some of the members: Nika Kovacic, Loretta Kennedy, Ivanka Antolin, Marie Robinson, Antonia Cigale, Anna Skopec, Tillie Ausich, Angela Daly, Molly Thomas and Mara Chokel.



Father Raymond Wadas celebrating Mass; Ivanka Antolin, lector.



Slovenian Ambassador Dr. Ernest Petric (center) joined us for the day in the clear sunshine with: Mara Chokel, Ivanka Antolin, Nika Kovacic, Tillie Ausich, Angela Daly and Molly Thomas.



Enjoying a walk along the wooded paths and hills were: Marie Robinson, Irene Borstnik (Slov. Embassy), Tillie Ausich, Mara Chokel, Ivanka Antolin and Angela Daly.

Sv. Ana Vzor Materinstva

Nekoč je Gospod rekel Abrahamu: "Pojdi iz svoje dežele in od svoje rodovine in iz hiše svojega očeta v deželo, ki ti jo pokažem!" Podoben klic ste slišali v svoji notranjosti vi ali vaši očetje ali vaše matere pred mnogimi leti in ste šli v daljno deželo mnogih možnosti. S seboj ste ponesli sveto vero in večina vas je to dragoceno svetinjo tudi ohranila in celo krepila. Podobno kot Ana in Joahim ste se trudili in skrbeli večkrat v potu svojega obraza za vsakdanji kruh, obenem pa niste pozabili služiti svojemu Bogu kot sta to delala Marijina starša Ana in Joahim.

Že več kot 49 let romate leto za letom k Prekmurskemu križu. V pobožnosti križevega pot se spominjate Gospodovega trpljenja in v ta križev pot, ki ni nokomur prihranjen. Višek vaše vsakoletnega romanja pa je daritev svete maše – KALVARIJSKA DARITEV. To je ista daritev, ki jo Jezus daroval na Kalvariji s to razliko, da se ta daritev daruje na nekrvav način.

Ustavimo se še posebej pri čudovitem liku sv. Ane. Poglejmo nekatere razloge, zakaj naj častimo sv. Ano in zakaj ona to v polni meri zasluži. Zakaj je sv. Ana tako pomembna za nas Slovence, ki se zbiramo pri Mariji Pomagaj v Lemontu? Kaj je privlačnega na njej tudi za današnjo dobo? Kaj se lahko naučimo od sv. Ane?

Sv. Ana je bila iz Davidovega rodu. Kot deklica je bila zelo pobožna, skromna, ponižna in polna še drugih lepih čednosti. Poročila se je z Joahimom, ki je bil prav tako iz Davidovega rodu in je bil duhovnik jeruzalemskega templja. Zelo sta bila žalostna in sta se čutila hudo prizadeta, ker dolgo časa nista dobila otroka. Starši, ki niso imeli otrok, niso imeli upanja, da bi morda oni postali starši Odrešenika. Zato je bil za izraelsko mater otrok poseben božji blagoslov. Kakšna razlika med tistimi materami in mnogimi

materami moderne dobe, ki jim otrok ne pomeni takorekôč nič. Še več: mnoge matere gredo tako daleč, da otroku, ki ga nosijo pod srcem, vzamejo življenje. Predrznejo se vmešavati v neodtujljive pravice Boga. Samo Bog ima pravico do našega življenja!

Bog je uslišak prošnjo Joahima in Ane. Dal jima je zelo zalo deklco, kateri sta dala ime Marija, kar pomeni toliko kot lepa, mogočna in razsvetljena gospa. Veliko veselje sta imela s svojo hčerko in sta se Bogu zahvaljevala zanjo. Ko je bila stara 4 leta, sta jo peljala v jeruzalemski tempelj, kjer je ostala do svoje ga 15. ali 16. leta. Tako sta se namreč nekoč zaobljubila. Sveta Ana je torej postala mati tiste žene, katero je Bog že v raju napovedal, žene, ki je bila brez madeža izvirnega greha in je bila od vekomaj določena za mater božjega Sina. Sveta Ana zasluži in to po vsej pravici, da jo častimo, ker jo je Bog sam počastil, da jo je izbral za mater božje Matere Marije. Sveta Ana je tudi na Slovenskem zelo priljubljena svetnica. Nad 70 cerkva na Slovenskem je posvečenih tej svetnici, nekatere so znane božje poti. V Gomilicah v turniški župniji se na anino nedeljo zbere pri tamkajnji kapeli, posvečeni sveti Ani, velika množica vernikov od blizu in od daleč. Matere in nerođovitne žene so se že od nekdaj zatekale k njej. Ponekod se ji priporočajo za dobro poroko in srečen zakon. Za svojo zavetnico jo imajo matere in vdove. Marsikje se ji priporočajo za srečen porod. Ponekod na Slovenskem je sveta Ana tudi priprošnjica za srečno zadnjo uro.

Bog deli izredne in velike milosti zaslužnim božjim služabnikom in služabnicam. Sveta Ana je bila zvesta božja služabnica. Živela je v svetosti in pravičnosti, zvesto je spolnjevala Gospodovo postavo ter se povzpela do visoke stopnje svetosti. Bog je vse to vedel že poprej, zato jo je tudi izbral za mater prebl. Device Marije.

Če je bila Marija goreča svetilka božje ljubezni, je bila to tudi njena mati sv. Ana. Če je bila Marija dragocena skrinja ponižnosti in drugih čednosti, je bila prav tako sv. Ana. Ana sicer ni dobila toliko odlikovanj in milosti od Boga, kakor jih je dobila Marija, toda čisto gotovo je, da jo je Bog odlikoval z mnogimi milostmi ter ji tako pomagal do izredne svetosti.

Nič čudnega, da je sveta Ana vzornica in zaščitnica krščanskih mater.

Ana Gaber, Chicago, IL

PATER AŠIČ SVETUJE

SLABO SPANJE

Hitro pomirjenje

Vse neprijetnosti lahko odpravite z baldrijanovimi koreninami (valerian roots). Uživate zmlete v prah 3x na dan za noževno konico ali kot čaj. Kot čaj, pustite stati 15 minute, precedite in pijte zjutraj in zvečer po eno skodelico.

Pa Bogu se priporočite!

CIRILA

V PRIČANKOVANJU

**NAŠEGA NOVEGA SREČANJA,
KONVENCIJE V SAN FRANCISCO,
PRIDOBITE VSAJ
ENO NOVO ČLANICO
K NAŠI ZVEZI!**

**S TEM BOSTE NAJVEČ PRIPOMOGLI
K NADALJNI RASTI
IN ŠIRENJU
NAŠE ORGANIZATIJE!**

Brezje

na Gorenjskem



V prelepemu delu Slovenije, ravno pred prehodom v alpski svet zavijemo z glavne ceste proti vasi Črnivec. Od tod pa do cerkve sv. Vida na Brezjah nas loči le še nekaj sto metrov. Brezje so naša najmlajša vseslovenska božja pot. Kaj privlači na tisoče ljudi, da gredo vsako leto na to pot? Lepota okolja, cerkve ali izročilo o čudežnih ozdravitvah? Tu bo vsak prišel na svoj račun. Ljubitelj narave bo užival v čudovitemu razgledu po okolici – oko mu bo seglo prav tja do Triglava, ljubitelj umetnosti bo iskal zadoščenje v Layerjevi sliki Marije Pomagaj ali pa v Groharjevih oltarnih slikah, vernku pa bo pot poplačana samo njemu razumljivemu notranjemu miru in upanju.

Marija Pomagaj sicer že od začetka prejšnjega stoletja kraljuje ne Brezjah, kot čudežna podoba pa je zaslovela šele leta 1863. Podoba je delo kranjskega slikarja Leopolda Layerja. Nastala je leta 1814 v kranjski ječi, kamor so ga tedanji gospodarji Francozi vtaknili radi ponarejenja bankovcev. Podobo je naslikal po zaobljubi za srečno vrnitev iz ječe. Res je podobo prinesel tedanjemu mošenjskemu župniku, da bi jo obesil v kapelici Marije Pomagaj v tedanji podružnici sv. Viča na Brezjah. Podoba je visela skoro pol stoletja tam, na da bi se zgodilo karkoli pomembnega.

Točne letnice nastanka prvotne cerkvice na Brezjah ni znano, vendar se to ni zgodilo kasneje kot v 15. stoletju. Ta mala in skromna zgradba je doživela prve pomembne spremembe v 18. stoletju, ko so ji 1. 1772 prizidali kapelo sv. Antona Puščavnika, zaščitnika živine. Ko omenjamo obnovitvena dela in dograditve sv. Vida v 18. stoletje seveda ne moremo mimo imena tedanjega župnika v vasi Mošnje, dr. Urbana Ažbeta. V Innsbuku kjer je studiral teologijo se je prvič srečal s sliko nemškega umetnika Luke Cranacha, "Marija Pomagaj". Ta mu je tako prirasla k srcu, da jo je dal po vrnitvi v rodni kraj prizidati cerkvi na Brezjah 1. 1800 Marijino kapelo, kamor je postavil posnetek Cranachove slike. Ni minilo dolgo ko so ljudje začeli zahajati na Brezje po pomoč in prositi za mir. To je bilo namrec v času, ko je Napolen zasedel naše kraje in ob velikem pomanjkanju in težkih dajatvah so se ljude zatekali radi na Brezje, kar je sčasoma preraslo v pravo romanje.



BARAGA



Začetki Katoliške Cerkve v Ameriki

FRANC JAKLIČ

VII. BARAGA V L'ANSU

ZAČASNO V L'ANSU. POTEK ZA STALNO
(Pomladi in jeseni 1843)

Baraga je 24. maja 1848 iz L'Ansa pisal škofu obširno pismo, v katerem mu tudi to krivico obširno utemeljuje in ga prosi, naj jo vladi obrazloži. Katoliški misijoni so mnogo močnejši kakor protestantovski, zato imajo katoliške indijanske šole tudi mnogo več šolarjev. O tem se vlada lahko vsak dan prepriča. Res, da se katoliške šole s protestantovskimi ne morejo kosati glede šolskih poslopij in učil, tudi ne glede učiteljev in denarnih sredstev. V njih se pa indijanska mladina ne poučuje samo v veri, ampak tudi v drugih učnih predmetih. So splošno vzgojne, zato imajo pravico do vladne podpore.

Tudi v tem je Baraga zmagal. Naslednje leto je Stuart predlagal vladi, da naj daje podporo vsem veroizpovedim, ki imajo misijonske šole med Očipvejci. Baptisti bi naj dobivali vsako leto 100 dolarjev, metodisti 750, katoličani pa 250 dolarjev, a le pod pogojem, da bodo res imeli primerno šolo. Za zdaj še nimajo, zato še ne morejo dobivati podpore zanjo.

Za ozkosrčnim in zagrizenim pastirjem Brownom je kmalu prišel Pitzell, ljubezniv mož, s katerim se je Baraga osebno dobro razumel. Ko je n. pr. Pitzell zvedel, da so katoličani naročili večji zvon za cerkev, je starega, manjšega, kupil od njih. – Tudi Stuart je

odšel. Njegov naslednik Richmond (Ričmond) je Baragi dajal vsako leto 300 dolarjev za šolo. Malo je bilo, a bilo je vsaj nekaj.

Zaradi tega rovarjenja metodistov je Baraga zelo trpel. V pismu na Dunaj je zapisal 4. oktobra 1844: "Samo želja, pomagati tem ubogim Indijancem do večnega zveličanja, me drži tukaj." Večkrat ga je tolažila in hrabrila samo misel na posmrtno plačilo.

DUŠNI PASTIR RUDARJEV

Kewenawski polotok s svojim zaledjem, ki je na njegovi obali do takrat ob lovu in ribarstvu živelo nekaj tisoč Indijancev, je naenkrat zaslovel po svojem bakru. Trume rudarjev so prišle. Baraga je bil takoj pri njih. Poslej že ni bil več samo indijanski misijonar, ampak je dobil novo, važno, čedalje širšo in težjo nalogo: da sprejema v svojo dušno oskrbo katoliške priseljence; da jim hodi maševat, pridigat in delit sv. zakramente; da jim pomaga postaviti cerkve in jim kot generalni vikar polagoma preskrbi stalne dušne pastirje.

Iz pragozda so zraven ležišč rude kar pred njegovimi očmi rastle nove naselbine. Napravili so načrt za javne zgradbe in ulice, posekali gozd in tako hitro gradili, da so ne enem koncu že stale lepe stavbe, na drugi strani so pa še šumeli stoletni orjaki.

Na vsake tri ali štiri mesece je Baraga odpotoval v to rudniško ozemlje, ostal tam več tednov, obiskal nastajajoča in rastoča rudarska mesteca, maševal, pridigal, spovedoval in mladino učil v raznih jezikih,

krščeval, poročal, prevideval bolnike, blagoslavljal grobove. Pa tudi drugam je šel, kjer so ga potrebovali in kjer je mogel storiti kaj dobrega. Preko črne obleke je imel na prsih pozlačen križec, misijonarjev znak. Neštetokrat je, s palico v roki, stopal s spremljevalcem pol Indijancem ali pa sam preko hribov in skalnatih grebenov, bredel potoke in hudournike, večkrat do vratu v vodi, da je potem teklo od njega in je drgetal od mraza. Udiral se je po močvirjih in si v ovinkih iskal poti; obletavali in nadlegovali so ga celi roji komarjev. Po več dni skupaj je potoval skozi gozd, se ogibal trnju in si z rokami razmikal veje. Pozimi so ga krpje neštetokrat težile in do krvi žulile. Na golih planjavah ali na mrzlih jezerih se je uro za uro boril z viharjem, v katerem so se snežinke drobile v iglice in ga zbadale v obraz, ali ga je pa tolkla sodra; v otekle, rdeče oči so mu navirale solze in mu sproti ledenele. V gostem metežu ali v trdi noči, ko ni videl pred seboj, so mu bila edini kompas ušesa, lica in roke: ker je vedel, kakšen veter se zaganja, je tudi vedel, katero uho in katero lice mu mora biti od mraza bolj vneto in pekoče in katera roka bolj premrla, ako gre v pravi smeri. Včasih po ves dan, po dva dni ni nič zaužil, da so se mu od lakote in trudnosti mešale misli; noge so se mu v preutrujenosti same gibale, naprej in naprej, kakor stroj. – On in spremljevalec sta morala, ali je pa moral on sam, oprtav nositi vse mašne in oltarne potrebščine, večkrat tudi indijanske molitvenike, rožne vence, križčke, svetinjice in podobice, da jih je delil med ljudstvo, potem zdravila za siromašne ljudi in hrano za na pot. Baraga se je tudi na potovanjih zadovoljil s čajem, prepečencem in koščkom sira; spremljevalec si je pa pri ognju pripravil kosilo ali večerjo. Neštetokrat je prenočeval na snegu ali na zmrznjeni ali premočeni zemlji, odet le za silo. Šel je pa že čez 50. leto. Maševati je moral po zasebnih hišah, stanoval je pa, kakor je pač nanoslo. Zdravnik dr. Ely, ki je bil sam rudarjev sin, piše, da so Barago vsi veselo pozdravljali, kadar je ves utrujen in spoten prišel k rudniku. Novica o njegovem prihodu se je hitro razširila. Kakor hitro se je zvečer delo končalo, so se katoliški rudarji zbrali v določeni hiši. Baraga jih je nagovoril zdaj v angleščini, zdaj v francoščini ali nemščini, navadno pa v vseh treh jezikih zaporedoma. Pripravil jih je za spoved in potem spovedoval tudi pozno v noč. Drugo jutro so bili že ob štirih spet vsi zbrani. Pridigal jim je in maševal in jih med mašo obhajal. Ob šestih je bilo že vse končano, rudarji so odšli na delo.

S tem so se meje njegovega misijona spet zelo razširile. Na prostoru, ki ga je on takrat iz L'Ansa oskrboval, so dandanes tri škofije. Samo mož s tako jaklenim zdravjem in s tako izrednimi dušnimi lastnostmi je mogel biti kos takemu nadčloveškemu delu.

Vse te napore in žrtve je Baraga jemal nase iz popolne ljubezni do Boga. Bogu je hotel dati kar največ duš.

Protestantovska misijonarja Brockway (Brókuej) in Charrier (Šarijé), ki ju je vlada plačevala, da bi v L'Ansu učila Indijance obrti, sta pa pri bakrenih rudnikih iskala lastno korist in si pridno polnila žepe.

29. januarja 1845 je iz L'Ansa poročal škofu Lefèvru o dušnopastirskem obisku, ki ga je napravil katoliškimi vojakom v utrdbi v Fort Wilkins prav na severu polotoka Keweenaw. Tudi to utrdbo je vlada zgradila, da bi bele priseljence ščitila pred Indijanci, če bi bili nasilni. Škofu piše: "Vrnil sem se z misijonskega obiska, ki sem ga napravil v Fort Wilkinsu. Hodil sem štiri dni, precej hitro; ta pot se pa da napraviti celó v treh dneh. Potovanje mi je prineslo dosti duhovnega veselja. Mnogo katoličanov je tam: Ircev, Nemcev, Kanadčanov. Ostal sem dva tedna pri njih. Maševal sem vsak dan in pridigal v angleškem jeziku vsak večer, razen enega. Imel sem štiri krste, mnogo spovedi in 15 obhajil. Prosili so me, naj spet pridem; obljubil sem jim, da jih bom spet obiskal meseca junija, ko sem se namenil, da grem v La Póinte. Dvakrat na leto hočem obiskati tudi Fort Wilkins."

Iz Fort Wilkinsa je obiskal tudi rudarsko naselje Copper Harbor (Cóper Harber), ki je prav zraven.

V juniju istega leta je spet prišel v Fort Wilkins, kakor je bil obljubil. Potoval je najbrž v krhkem čolnu ob nevarni skalnati obali. V Copper Harborju je pa rudarjev, ki jih je bil obiskal v januarju, le še malo dobil; preselili so se v nove rudnike v notranjosti polotoka. Potem se je vrnil v L'Anse.

Med šestimi Hofbauerjevimi učenci, ki so postali škofje, je bil tudi Gregorij Ziegler (Cigler), škof v Lincu (1827–1852). Leta 1844 se je Baraga, ki mu je zlasti za indijansko redúkcijo zelo manjkalo denarja, obrnil nanj za pomoč. Prošnja ni bila zaman. Na linškem škofijstvu hranijo Baragovo latinsko pismo, ki ga je 13. julija 1845 pisal iz L'Ansa škofu Zieglerju. V njem se škofu in njegovim vernikom zahvaljuje za poslani prispevek. Pismo se začneja kakor kakšen apostolski list: "Milost Vam in mir od zgoraj od Očeta luči in od Jezusa Kristusa, našega predobrega Odrešenika, in od Svetega Duha, delica sedmerih nebeških darov." Tudi v tem pismu izreka Baraga misel: Res da me novi misijon v L'Ansu mnogo stane; pa kaj je vse bogastvo tega sveta v primeri z neskončno vrednostjo ene same neumrjoče duše? Pravi, da Bog obilno blagoslavlja njegovo delo; še prej ko v dveh letih je spreobrnil vso vas, razen petih oseb, ki so pa tudi že priglāsene za krst. Pod svoje ime je zapisal: "zadnji od Vaših služabnikov".

V 2. polovici julija je Baraga potoval – najbrž preko rudarskega ozemlja – v La Póinte, da bi bil pri Indijancih, ki bodo prišli po vsakoletno plačo. Tam ga je dobil Julij Ducatel iz Baltimora, katoličan, ki je kot geolog in kemik potoval po južni obali Gorenjega jezera in je svoje vtise objavil v novembru istega leta 1845 v nekem baltimorskem listu. Spotoma se je oglašil v L'Ansu, a Barage že ni dobil več doma. Videl je, da Indijanci Barago zelo spoštujejo in cenijo. Svoj napredek so pripisovali njegovemu delu in njegovim nasvetom. Iz L'Ansa se je peljal naprej proti La Póintu. Omenja tole zanimivost: "Neko nedeljo sem med vožnjo zapazil mladega Indijanca prav čedne zunanosti, ki je znal čitati; pobožno klečeč na prednjem delu ladje je prebiral mašne molitve. Popoldne so se mu pridružili vsi mornarji ladje in v

očipvejščini prepevali pesmi po nekaterih naših francoskih napevih; ti napevi so mi bili dovolj znani, zato sem pel z njimi, kar jih je vidno zadovoljilo. Vprašal sem tistega mladega Indijanca, ali jih ni g. Baraga tega naučil. Bil je videti vesel, ko je slišal to ime, in mi je pritrtil."

Potem poroča dalje: "Ko sem prišel v La Pónte, sem šel k Baragi in se mu predstavil. Našel sem ponižnega duhovnika, starega menda nekaj nad 40 let (imel jih je 48), nekoliko zgaranega od nadlog in velikega pomanjkanja, ki ga tare pod tem ostrim podnebjem, toda veselega in zgovornega. Drage volje mi je dal vsa pojasnila, za katera sem ga prosil." Dne 15. avgusta, na praznik Marijinega vnebovzetja, je bil Ducatel pri službi božji. Ko je vstopil, ga je cerkev presenetila s svojo preprosto lepoto. "G. Baraga je prav spodbudno maševal. Ljudstvo, večinoma pol Indijanci, so mu odgovarjali z veliko pobožnostjo. Pridigal je g. Baraga francosko in razložil katoliški nauk o vnebovzetju, v kolikor se razlikuje od vnebohoda. Bila je dobra pridiga, ki me je prevzela s svojo ganljivo preproščino."

Ducatel je opazoval indijanske množice, ki so prišle po plačo, – može, žene in otroke. Pravi, da so "surova roba", ki jo mora misijonar šele obtesavati. "Na prvi pogled bi se stvar zdela brezupna, toda z vztrajnostjo se je vendarle nekaj doseglo, največ od katoliških misijonarjev."

Med Indijanci, ki so čakali plačo, so izbruhnile bolezni: gripa, driska in škrlatinka. Vse taborišče je bilo kakor velika bolnišnica; skoraj ga ni bilo vlgvama, v katerem bi ne bilo nekaj bolnikov. "G. Baraga je bil neprestano pri bolnikih, še bolj kakor službujoči zdravnik v kakšni naši bolnišnici. Ni jim pa samo stregel in pomagal z zdravili, kakor sem jim jaz. Zdravil je tudi njihove dušne bolezni in imel pri tem uspehe, ki so bili proti vsakemu pričakovanju. Videl sem ga klečati ob vznožju rakve in vsa indijanska družina je molila z njim. Ni ga motilo, če jih je nekaj topo zijalo in mešalo dim svojih pip z dimom kadilnice, ali če so fantalini igrali na karte in klicali svoj enolični žal-ah-ah-ah, ali če so stari grešniki vzklikali pri ponvi pasjega mesa. Dobri duhovnik je opravljal naprej svojo dolžnost, ponižno in pobožno, da ga je moral vzljubiti vsak omikan gledalec."

"Upam, da molite za častitega g. Barago: da bi njegovi misijonski naporji imeli še večji uspeh, da bi ostal zdrav in da bi njegovo dragoceno življenje še dolgo trajalo."

Ko se je Baraga začasno mudil v La Póntu, je spet napisal 13. avgusta latinsko prošnjo na Gregorija Zieglerja, škofa v Lincu. Piše mu: "Pozdrav v Gospodu. Prečastiti gospod škof! Spet prihajam k Vam v Gospodovem imenu, da mi pomagate, pa ne samo meni, ampak tudi mnogim našim bratom, ki sedijo v temi in smrtni senci. Ustanoviti nameravam spet nov misijon k večji slavi božji in k zveličanju bratov, za katere je Kristus umrl. Že sem nekatere stvari pripravil in z božjo pomočjo hočem polagoma pripraviti vse potrebno, da prihodnjo pomlad postavim majhno cerkvico in stanovanje za misijonarja. Kraj tega novega misijona, ki se bo imenoval Misijon presvete Trojice,

se imenuje Fond du Lac. Pa jaz sem siromašen in nimam bogastva. Zato Vas prosim, dobri škof, da mi pomagate in s tem doprinesete k božji časti in k zveličanju duš. Naj Vam dobri Jezus vse, kar storite za njegove in svoje brate, tako povrne, kakor da bi zanj storili."

Tudi ta Baragova prošnja je našla odziv. V Poročilih Leopoldinine ustanove za leto 1846 beremo, da je linška škofija poslala za Baragov misijon 300 goldinarjev.

Proučevanje Baragovega življenja nam nazorno pokaže, koliko sta tedanja Avstrija in Bavarska storili za katoliško vero in krščansko omiko v Severni Ameriki.

LA POINTE PRIVZAME O. ŠKOLA (Oktober leta 1845)

Baraga je tudi iz L'Ansa upravljal obe misijonski podružnici Fond du Lac in Grand Portage, ki še vedno nista imeli pravih cerkva. Novi škof v Milwaukeeuju, Janez Martin Henni, po rodu Nemeč, ga je posil, naj upravlja tudi La Póinte, dokler ne pride o. Škola. Zato vidimo v juliju in avgustu leta 1844 Barago v La Póintu.

Dne 14. avgusta je prišel škof Henni birmat. 122 jih je birmal, tudi neko zelo bolno deklè, ki je čez nekaj dni umrlo. V pismu iz La Póinta na Dunaj z dne 24. avgusta je Baraga zelo pohvalil njegove spodbudne pridige, ki jih je on tolmačil na očipvejsko. Omenil je veliko revščino milwaukeeske škofije, ki so njeni verniki po večini siromašni Indijanci. Ko je škof Henni videl la póintske cerkev, je dejal, da je lepša kakor njegova stolnica. Drugo leto bo šel v Evropo prositi pomoči in Baraga ga Leopoldinini ustanovi že zdaj toplo priporoča.

To Baragovo la póintske cerkev so nasprotniki vere leta 1901 požgali do tal.

Baragovo osemletno delo v La Póintu je nadaljeval o. Oton Škola. Rodil se je leta 1805 v Novem mestu. Podpisoval se je Skolla, v krstni knjigi je pa vpisan kot Škola (Schkola). Vstopil je k frančiškonom in po mašniškem posvečenju deloval na raznih krajih Slovenije, nazadnje kot učitelj v Názarjih v Savinjski dolini. Sobrat o. Ivo Levec ga je navdušil za ameriške misijone. S privoljenjem provinciala o. Felicijana Ranta se je priglasi Baragi kot generalnemu vikarju za Gorenji Michigan. Baraga ga je sprejel 5. junija 1840. Pa šele jjeseni 1841 se je Škola na stroške Leopoldinine ustanove odpeljal iz Trsta. Vozil se je mimo Gibraltarja in bil skoro tri mesece na morju; trpel je lakoto in žejo in prestal več ko 20 hudih viharjev. V detroitski škofiji je najprej pastiroval Nemcem, dve leti pa Indijancem v Mackinacu. Imel je krasno pisavo in je bil izvrsten risar. Narisal je svoje misijonske postaje in slike poslal ljubljanskim frančiškonom; žal pa, da so se izgubile. Misel na domače, zlasti na mater, ga je zmerom spremljala; domotožje ga je zelo mučilo. Bil je plemenita, mehka dolenjska narava. Ljubil je petje in glasbo; rad je razpotegnil harmoniko in ob njej pel Marijine pesmi.

Nadaljevanje sledi.

"FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART"

"In the Good Ole Summertime!"

Summertime. One of the first images to pop into my mind at the sound of the word is my mother building a fire in the grill. Summertime and cook-outs go together for me like toast and jelly. Any excuse you could think of was a reason for a cook-out. In fact, when I was small, when my mom said we were eating out, it meant outside – on the picnic table in the backyard.

The best part of our cook-outs were dessert. While the coals were still warm, we'd roast marshmallows. All the participants of the roast would scramble to find something to hold a marshmallow: over-sized bar-be-que forks, small branches, broken kite sticks, anything would work, it didn't matter.

Sometimes, (o.k., a lot of the times) the marshmallows would catch on fire. Those are the ones we'd give my mom to eat. Not only did she eat them (which fascinated us kids all to pieces) but she actually preferred them that way! In fact, the blacker the better. Near the end of the roast a contest would evolve; who could burn the marshmallow the most and still keep it in one piece to serve mom.



I remember one time we gave our dog, Spot, a marshmallow. He got the sticky goo of the marshmallow on his mouth, which he tried to clean off, only to spread it to his nose and forefeet. The more he tried to free himself from the sticky web of goo the more entangled he became. After a good laugh was had by everyone present, we took pity on the poor frustrated animal and gave

him a bath. (It was the only way mom would allow him back in "her" house.)

There's a song with a chorus that goes, "I'm turning into my mother." Such is the case with me.

Days have turned into nights and nights into days. Now, I'm the one with

DAVY'S COLUMN

a little girl who wants to roast marshmallows before the gas grill is turned off. Now, I'm the mom who gets the honor of eating all the globs of ash and cinders that were once white, spongy and sweet marshmallows.

I wonder, will she look back on her

childhood days as fondly as I look on mine? I hope so, because then the truly good ole' summertime is right now.

'Til Next Time,

Davy



KATJA GREGORC

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SLOVENIJA

LEARNING SLOVENIAN

Hi! After we have done a brief survey of the grammar of Slovenian language, we are going to have a look at some real situations you might find yourselves in while in Slovenia. When landing at Ljubljana airport at Brnik you probably won't have problems in being understood, because almost everybody will be able to speak or understand at least some English. Also at many other places, like hotels, restaurants, bus or railway stations, you are most likely to find someone who will help you with the language problems. But difficulties might arise when going to the doctor or to the dentist, to the hairdresser or to the barber, to the post office or to a small gostilna, where only the owner and his family are employed. So, I will try to think of some words and expressions that might come in handy to help you make your stay in our country easier and more pleasant.

Na pošti (At the Post Office)

1. Dve znamki za razglednice za tujino, prosim. (I would like two stamps for postcards for abroad.)

2. Tu sta dve pismi za Ameriko, eno navadno in tole letalsko, prosim. (Here are two letters for America, one by regular mail and this one by air mail, please.)

3. Rad (Rada*) bi še dva žetona za telefon. (I would also like two telephone coins.)

*A man would say "Rad bi..." and the female form is "Rada bi..." (I would like...)

4. Katere klicne številke moram zavrteti za Trbovlje? (What number do I have to dial to get through to Trbovlje, what is the characteristic number for Trbovlje?)

5. Koliko je vse to skupaj? (How much is this altogether?)

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