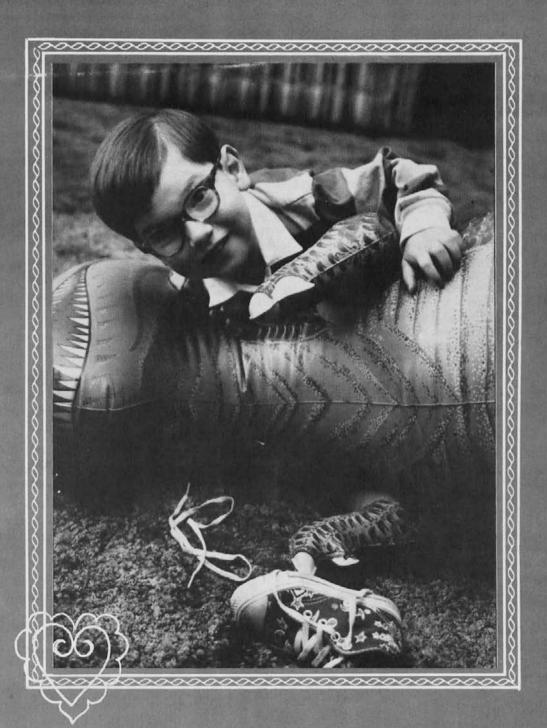


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Editor, CORINNE LESKOVAR Editorial Office: 4851 S. Drexel Blvd., Chicago, IL 60615 Telephone: (312) 548-8878

HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN FEBRUARY

National Officer:

Feb. 17 -Svlvia Vukodinovich, National Treasurer, Crete, IL

Presidents:

- Feb. 5 -Ruth Sheck, Br. 1, Sheboygan, WI
- Josephine Artac, Br. 102, Willard, WI Feb. 8 -
- Sandy Schatschneider, Br. 43, Milw., WI Feb. 20 -
- Feb. 22 -Anne Marie Wangler, Br. 24, LaSalle, IL

Secretaries:

- Rose Kraemer, Br. 43, Milwaukee, WI Feb. 5 -
- Feb. 7 -Mary Mejac, Br. 103, Washington, D.C.
- Feb. 13 -Anna Kerkovich, Br. 93, Brooklyn, NY
- Feb. 28 -Mary Vollendorf, Br. 34, Soudan, MN

MANY HAPPY RETURNS OF THE DAY!

NOTE: January Birthday dates were published in December, 1990 issue.

Little five year old Nicholas Martinetto of Aurora, Minnesota is a special fellow. As we contemplate the month of February and its accent on love and understanding, it comes to mind that Nicholas' battle to live and his parents dedication to keep his little heart beating, is an inspiration to us all. Yes, he tugs at our hearts, too.

See page 20 for more on Nicholas, our little member of Br. 35 as are his mom and sister. And thanks to Anne Orazem, reporter of Br. 35 for her caring so that we can share this story with you.

DATES TO REMEMBER

VALENTINE PARTY, Br. 13, San Francisco, CA Feb. 7 -

- Feb. 9-10 VALENTINE BAKE SALE, Br. 1, Sheboygan, WI
- Feb. 10 -DIME SOCIAL, Br. 35, Aurora, MN, Sr. Citizen Center, 2 p.m.
- Mar. 7 -POT LUCK LUNCHEON, Br. 13, San Francisco, CA Noon

CARD PARTY, Br. 12, Milwaukee, WI, John's Apr. 21 -Hall, 35th & Lincoln

BARAGA DAYS IN WASHINGTON, D.C. LABOR DAY WEEKEND, 1991

and an an an an

Attend the complete Baraga Days activities and 20th Anniversary of the Slovenian Chapel at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

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1515 E. 260th, Euclid, Ohio 44132 731-8865



National President's Message

54788

TAKE AN ACTIVE PART!

Since the election of our S.W.U. branch officers took place in October, November or December, and the 21st National Convention of the S.W.U. of America is scheduled for May 1991, perhaps it would be appropriate to discuss the "Duties of Members", the first in a series of pre-convention articles.

DUTIES OF MEMBERS

A great deal has been written about the duties of the various officers of an organization and the function and duties of committees, but the duties of the members are all too frequently taken for granted.

A group of individuals banded together with a common purpose constitutes an organization. Those individuals, even though they do not hold office or serve on committees, have some very definite responsibilities to the organization, as well as the privileges which they enjoy from the membership.

Does the responsibility of a member end when dues have been promptly paid? The answer is a definite "NO." It is the duty of every member to attend the meetings of the organization regularly and to be thoroughly informed of the purpose of the orgnization and the policy by which that purpose is accomplished.

It is necessary not only to be completely familiar with the by-laws and the standing rules of the organization, but to have a working knowledge of parliamentary procedure. The by-laws and the standing rules should be the rules which fit only the particular organization. In addition the rules of the adopted parliamentary authority govern all other proceedings not covered by the by-laws or standing rules. An understanding of both these special rules and the general rules of parliamentary procedure is as necessary to every member in the organization as a precision built engine for an airplane.

Why is it necessary to have such knowledge? A good presiding officer is greatly handicapped with a poorly informed membership. It must also be remembered that a president has only the authority given that office in the by-laws. General parliamentary rules give the president only the duty of presiding.

The policy of the organization is the responsibility of the membership. It not only is decided by the majority of those attending meetings, but is carried out at the direction of that majority.

To summarize: a good member is one who pays dues promptly; attends meetings regularly; is informed about the purpose of the organization and the means whereby that purpose is accomplished; participates in discussion expressing a considered opinion in an impersonal manner; accepts the will of the majority; and cooperates fully even though of the opinion of the minority. The good member knows that in order to be a good member it is necessary to have a good knowledge of the conduct of the affairs of an organization and of the conduct of the meetings. Therefore, one of the prime duties of every member, having informed herself accordingly, is to take an active part in the meetings.

The Lenten season arrives early this year-Ash Wednesday comes on February 13th. May the Holy Spirit help us to accept the pain and suffering that come to us each day. Only through your Son, Jesus can he give us his reconciling power to heal the wounds and brokenness in our lives. May God Love You!

Victoria "Tory" Bobence



actources

NO. 1, SHEBOYGAN, WI

Our Christmas Party and meeting was held on Dec. 18 at Rupp's in Sheboygan, WI. Father Dick Fleischman and his father, Mr. Norbert Fleischman were our guests. Christmas Carols were sung by all the members present with Pauline Rupar as our director. A good time was had by all. Good to see so many ladies present.

The officers for the year of 1991 were elected – President: Ruth Sheck – Vice President: Janet Maurin – Secretary: Dorothy Brezonik – Recording Secretary: Aggie Gruenke – Treasurer, Aggie Gruenke.

Mother of the Year was discussed among the members – All members were in favor of honoring "All the members of Branch 1. We will have a Mass, May 19 at 8:30 a.m. – followed by Brunch in the church hall.

We will have our Annual Valentine Bake Sale on Feb. 9–10. We hope all the ladies will cooperate as usual.

Our Sympathy to Father Wayne Ruchgy and the members of the Ann Ruchgy family.

A speedy recovery to Julie Zore, Janet Maurin and Julia Trador, and our prayers are with all the members in Nursing Homes and shut-ins.

Congratulations to Julie Kinney and Mary Renee Vertacic on their new positions – lots of good luck and love. We have a few "Pots and Pans" cook books for sale. See you all at the Bake Sale – Meeting to follow 8:30 mass, Feb. 10, 1991.

> DOROTHY BREZONIK, Secretary

NO. 2, CHICAGO, IL

A New Year – A new beginning — Let's hope and pray that this year of 1991 will bring Peace to the whole World and bring our young men and women back home safely from all the foreign countries.

So many activities around St. Stephen's the last couple of months of the year! Our Penny Social — "Mystery Night" — was well-attended and a success, due to the fact that our Branch # 2 officers co-chaired this

Ray Nusko had the hall decorated really pretty. We all played games, many won prizes, everyone had fun, stopped to have a snack the kitchen committee prepared. The money is used for our children's Christmas party and for the "Cheer Basket" of the poor. Thank you all for attending.

event and worked hard. Of course,

December 1: "A Looney Tune Christmas" — Ray Nusko had the hall decorated in all the holiday tradition, the characters were everywhere. The children came with their parents and guests. We had over 150 attending. It was so nice to hear the excitement of the children's voices as they participated in the activities. They always each paint an ornament and then hang it on the Christmas tree, refreshments were served, and then Santa came. Chairperson was Sharon Naudziunas.

December 2: "Christmas Around the World" at the Museum of Science & Industry, Irene Kalina reserved buses to take children and adults for a beautiful Slovenian program that was written and organized by Father Chris and Corinne Leskovar, and performed by children and adults of St. Stephen's. Try to see this next year, could be a beautiful family outing for the holidays.

December 13: S.W.U. Christmas Party/ "An Old Fashion Christmas" Father Blase celebrated the Mass for our deceased members and our Anniversary, music by Father Vendelin. It was beautiful and touching. Next will be hard to tell, there was just so much. We all went to the hall, and what a surprise, the hall was decorated so very beautifully, it looked like a fine restaurant. The tables were set with a Christmas tree placemat and candle napkin (Terry, Joe and Percy). Joe Worth made live Christmas tree center pieces, all decorated. The ladies were being entertained by our men members (Terry and Percy Morrison, Joe Worth, Lou Pasdertz, Jerry Marmozewicz, Rich Rakovec, Joe Bates, Ray and Matt Nusko, Tony Martone). Terry Morrison and Santa's helpers handled the cooking. Food was great - even ice-cream. It was nice just to sit and let someone else serve you. We appreciate it; thanks guys! Our 50 year members were honored and Mrs. Frances Zibert lit the candle of life. We sang songs. Father Vendelin gave the blessing of the food. Jo Lukas and Helen Fitzgerald made and gave each person an ornament, which was very pretty. Santa and his Elf arrived and gave everyone who was "good" some candy. A check was given to Father Vendelin for St. Mary's and to Father Blase for St. Stephen's. Also, a check went to Father Blase for the Cheer Basket for the poor. It was good to see Irene Carter who has been sick. We had a nice time but we did miss all the members who are shut-ins or sick and could not make the party; it is never the same when our members can not all be together. The beautiful afghan made by Mrs. Frances Jasbec went to Helen Storcz. Rich Rakovec brought a giant Gingerbread cookie which was cut up and given to each as they went home. To our surprise as you were about to leave, there stood Santa and his Elf helper with a kettle asking for money for the cheer basket. It was indeed a wonderful, old fashioned party. Thanks to Jean Hrastar for handling tickets.

December 19: The Senior Women of St. Stephen's had a Christmas dinner, everyone had fun playing the "straw" game and trying to win prizes. We were entertained by Frankie Gradisek.

Congratulations to Grandma and Grandpa Jean and Syl Hrastar on the birth of little Ashley Nicole Shochter (Nov. 28 - 7#-11-1/2 oz.) born to their daughter, Laura and husband John.

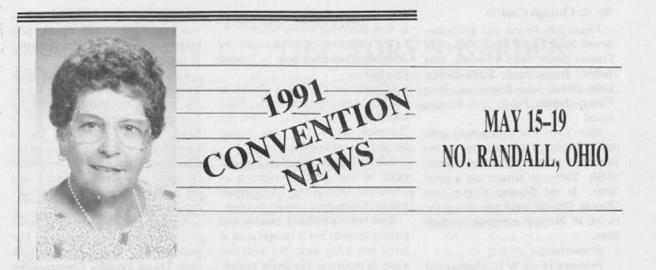
Our condolences to the Joe Strupeck family on the loss of Marge Strupeck – and to her daughter, Jean Hubatch and grandchildren. Marge and Joe were very active for many years at St. Stephen's, taking care of the roller rink.

Did any of you see the great article in the Lifestyle section of the New World Catholic newspaper on strudel making at St. Stephen's? Many of our members were listed.

Thanks to the Zefran family for the beautiful Catholic calendars that were given to everyone.

Flowers were taken to each shut-in member over the holdiays by the Br. #2 officers. Also, cards were sent to the service personnel in Arabia.

(Continued on page 4)



Dear Sister Members of S.W.U.:

1991 is here. I did not put convention matters aside during the holidays. It seemed like every day there was something else that had to be done. I don't know what I gave the most time to--preparing for Christmas, or preparing for the Convention. There is still a lot of work ahead, but we are well on our way to a successful, enjoyable, productive National Convention.

We need your cooperation in every aspect of the convention. Responding to literature that is sent to you as delegates, getting your reservations made and keeping us informed as to just what you would like to participate in during the convention time. All of these items will add up to the kind of Convention we have striven to present to you.

If you are a member of S.W.U., a member who attends periodic meetings, perhaps a member who is confined to home because of age, illness, handicaps, or the young members who are held "hostage" by small children in the evenings, on meeting nights--we are giving you a chance to offer a little bit to the success of the convention. One of the fund-raising items is our afghan. (Several afghans have been donated.) If your branch has not contacted you to buy a ticket, do me a favor? Send me \$1.00 with a self-addressed stamped envelope (or just the postage stamp), I will return the ticket to you. It is an opportunity to put some of yourself into the convention. Address your letters to:

Evelyn A. Majercik 31 Eldred Avenue Bedford, Ohio 44146

It is our fondest wish that EVERY S.W.U. MEMBER will purchase at least one ticket. This is one way of reaching you. Thanks for anything you do on this request.

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you in May, 1991, and thank you once more for all the cooperation you have shown thus far!

CONVENTION HOTEL NEWS

The 1991 National Convention for the Slovenian Women's Union of America will be headquartered at the Days Hotel in North Randall, Ohio

The hotel is easily accessible from I-480, I-271 and the Ohio Turnpike. The hotel is located on the northeast corner of the Randall Park Mall, at the corner of Northfield (Route 8) and Emery Roads. It is sixteen miles from downtown Cleveland and twenty-two miles from Hopkins Airport. For turnpike travelers, use Exit 12 (Streetsboro), pick up Route 8--hotel is approximately 15 miles from that location.

Reservations should be made directly with the hotel.

Cost is \$67.00 per night, double occupancy

Please make sure you mention the S.W.U. Convention. The hotel is a contemporary 192 room, ten story hotel. It has an Olympic size swimming pool, restaurant and cocktail lounge. And, for the spouses that will accompany their ladies for the convention, Thistletown Racetrack, Home of the Ohio Derby, is located directly across the street.

We are sure that you will have an enjoyable stay in our area, and we look forward to seeing you in May.



4600 Northfield Road North Randall, Ohio 44128 (216) 663–4100 (1 mile North of I-480 and 1-1/2 miles West of I-271)

JAN.-FEB., 1991 /3

Br. 2, Chicago Cont'd:

Please pray for our sick and homebound: Mary Kozial, Mary Pecharich, Frances Zibert, Mary Vrhovnik, John Jasbec, Fuzzy Foral, Stella Gorka, Luba Troha, John Zeleznikar, Irene Carter, Jennie Puhek and Frances Kozel.

New Years Eve Celebration again at St. Stephen's was prepared by the members of the Slovenian Športni Klub. Everyone always has a good time. At the Slovene Center, our Roman Possedi band was doing the work of keeping everyone on their toes.

Remember:

February 14 – S.W.U. Meeting and Valentine Day

"The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer somebody else up." Mark Twain.

Love to all ..

DAISY

(Hope Daisy is feeling better after her bout with pneumonia! Good health in the New Year! Editor)

NO. 3, PUEBLO, CO

Greetings to all! Since there is no issue of ZARJA in January, it will be February when you read this. I do hope you had a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and that one of your New Year's resolutions is to attend our meetings and do a little socializing with us.

We had nineteen members present at our November meeting. Anne Spelich opened the meeting with prayers and, after reports were given and approved, we reflected on the loss of two of our members, Louise Piserchio and Anna Gradisar, and then prayers were said for them. We extend our condolences to their families.

Our Christmas party was discussed and it was decided that we have it catered and have a gift exchange.

The mystery prize donated by Mary Drobnick was won by Josephine Giarratano.

Refreshments were served by hostesses, Anna Klun, Mary Yanks and Pauline Pauchick.

After the meeting, "B ' was played.

Our Christmas party was held December 5. The catered dinner was enjoyed by twenty-tree members. There was a gift exchange.

A short meeting was held with reports given and approved. Retha Minton was chosen "Mother of the Year" for 1991. Congratulations, Retha. She is very deserving of this honor.

The mystery prize donated by Josephine Poder was won by Pauline Pauchick.

Officers for 1991 were elected as follows: Anne Spelich, Pres., Mary Drobnick, Vice-Pres., Frances Simonich, Sec'y.-Tres. and Angela Meglen, Recording Sec'y.

Angela Meglen was chosen as delegate to the 1991 Convention in Cleveland, Ohio in May. An alternate will be chosen at our January meeting.

Rose Jersin's husband, Stanley, had surgery recently but is recuperating at home and doing well. We wish him a speedy recovery. The Jersin's celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary in October. What a beautiful celebration it was and how proud they must be of their family!

Josephine Lipich's husband had bypass surgery and is getting along fine. We wish him well too.

Erna Drobnitch has been having knee problems but is able to be up and about . We wish her well and that she will be able to come to our meetings again.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all who are ill, homebound or in nursing homes.

Our meetings will continue to be held at St. Mary's Hall the first Wednesday of every month at one o'clock. Dues can be paid at that time and we would appreciate members who are in arrears with their dues bringing them up to date.

PAULINE PAUCHICK

NO. 12, MILWAUKEE, WI

Our November meeting was on a beautiful day with many members present. We celebrated birthdays of Julie Pesec, Ann Jelinek, and Mary Starich. What a delicious lunch the girls provided! Of course, our faithfuls provided the sweets without calories.

I have to mention Mary Starich. Even with her bad eyes, she is always helping, making coffee ahead and setting the tables and always cleaning up.

We have so many wonderful members, always giving a helping hand.

Thank you everyone who brought food; it was a "Thanksgiving" feast.

We received sad news that our Mother of the Year, Agnes Gornick, passed away from a heart attack, the day before our meeting. We prayed for the repose of her soul and we will be attending the funeral mass at St. John the Evangelist Church. Agnes was a quiet person and loved to play bingo with us. Our heartfelt sympathy to her loving family.

Georgette Cannistra finished basic training for the Air Force in Texas. She now is enrolled in School for Therapy and hopes she will get to Saudi Arabia. Grandma Evelyn Laurich was waiting to see her on her Christmas leave. I remember Georgette as a small girl and I send my congratulations to her in her successful venture.

Another grandma who is as proud as a peacock is Ann Grambow. Her grandaughter, Erin Grambow took state Tennis Doubles Championship for her school. Erin is our junior member and attended some meetings, but now in high school, she is busy.

As our lodge never had a candidate for Scholarship, we hope Erin will continue to excel in school, and, of course, we send our congratulations.

I thought I'd write about our junior members and show how successful they are.

STATE TENNIS DOUBLES CHAMPION!

Erin Grambow, a freshman at Whitefish Bay High School, and her partner, Susan Hoffman, a senior, captured the Wisconsin State High School Tennis Title at the University of Wisconsin on October 20. Statewide, 148 high schools entered two teams in the competition. Of these, only 49 advanced to Madison. Expected to finish no better than eighth, Grambow and Hoffman surprised the field by winning all five of their matches with relative ease. Erin, in particular, displayed maturity and tenacity under pressure as they defeated the number one ranked and previously undefeated Nicolet team 6-3, 6-7 (7-4), 6-3 in the semi-finals. Then, in a grueling three-set match, Erin and Susan maintained their cool and defeated Greendale 6-3, 1-6, 7-6 (7-5) for the top title in Wisconsin girls' tennis.

Erin's record for her first year in high school varsity tennis was 11–6 in singles and 12–2 in doubles.

Way to go!

I want to wish everyone a Healthy and Happy New Year.

Please attend our 1991 meetings as we have much to discuss. Hope we get some information on the convention, so we can make plans.

Our Christmas dinner was well attended at the Meyers Country Restaurant. The weather also cooperated. We each received an envelope from our Bingo Fund. Agnes Morrow, our special candy lady, gave each a Christmas box with her specialties inside. What talent and such a gracious lady! Thank you, Stavia, for the candy treats at each place. Yours truly made felt mice and a candy cane was inserted to form the tail. Hope you liked them.

After our good meal we played "B" games. We also exchanged gifts and some were beautiful.

Stavia Dobersek is our delegate and Mary Kiel, alternate to the Cleveland Convention.

In Mary Staut's article (Br. 102), she was wondering if we have a bus to Cleveland. I have a hold for a bus to Cleveland in May and I hope we will have more information so we can finalize plans. I hope other people will join us to help fill the bus. We'll try and make it a fun trip.

Happy New Year and good health to all!

MARY KIEL

NO. 13, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Happy New Year and best wishes to all S.W.U. Branches from Br. 13. We finished our year with a lovely Christmas Luncheon and a gift exchange. We held elections of officers and it was voted to retain our same slate of officers. These people graciouslly accepted again: President, Josephine Aiuto; V. President, Louise Petrusich; Financial Sec., Maureen Spencer; Recording Sec., Beverly Jackson; Treasurer, Michele Twers; Auditors: Ann Sustarich, Virginia Sustarich, Doreen Sustarich and Reporter, Beverly Jackson.

Our Mother of the Year to be honored in 1991 will be Louise Petrusich. Louise is a fairly new member but has proved to be a real asset to our Branch. She is Vice President and helps in any way she can. We are all pleased to honor her this year.

We also voted a delegate for the Convention.

Remember, February meeting is a Valentine Party. Come and share your heart.

> BEVERLY JACKSON, Reporter

2 MORE MONTHS!

TILL TORY'S GARDEN

As of January 1, 1991 there were 103 enrollees. This included 17 Class A (5 Junior transferees), 40 Class B (13 Junior transferees) and 46 Juniors. Thus far 25 branches and 57 workers were involved in Tilling Tory's Garden.

Top workers are:		Top branches are:	
Jonita Ruth (20)	16	No. 20, Joliet, IL	20
Marie Bradach (35)	5	No. 35, Aurora, MN	11
Pauline Korpela (35)	5	No. 30, Home Office	9
Gladys Buck (16)	4	No. 2, Chicago, IL	7
Frances Verant (38)	4	No. 14, Euclid, OH	7
		No. 38, Chisholm, MN	6
		No. 16, South Chicago, IL	5
		No. 33. Duluth, MN	5

With our deceased claim checks an application is inserted in case the beneficiary is not a member. It is hoped that the daughter, son or other relative would take the deceased member's place on our roster. Alas, unbelievable and sad is the fact that completed applications are not returned. Zveza's future growth as well as the growth of Tory's Garden lies in your hands.

Campaign closes March 31. May we hope for your participation?

Olga Ancel, Nat'l Sec'y

NO. 14, EUCLID, OH

As I write this article a few days before Christmas Day, we are awaiting the bitter cold and snow of the Elberta Clipper to arrive in Cleveland from the west, where the cruel winter has been bombarding cities which have never seen snow before! We have been assured by the weatherman that we will see a white Christmas.

Election of officers took place at our November meeting. Our officers have done such an outstanding job through the past year that the entire Board was re-elected for the year 1991. Congratulations on a job well done. Martha Koren, President; Vera Bajec, Vice-Pres.; Diane Varney, Sec./Treas.; Addie Humphreys, Rec. Sec. Auditors are Marilyn Fitzthum, and Antoinette Zabukovic. Sentinel is Jennie Fitzthum: Standard Bearer is Josephine Kastigar. Sunshine Committee are Rose Rodgers and Ileene Collins. Reporter Alice Kuhar. Spiritual Advisor is the Rev. Louis Sterk of St. Christine Church.

Rose Rodgers was unanimously voted Mother of the Year. Rose has been a staunch supporter and volunteer of No. 14 for many years. Congratulations to you, Rose Rodgers, for a well-deserved honor. Rose will be honored at our May 7 Dinner, so mark your calendars for another delightful evening. Mass for Living and Deceased members will be held Ash Wednesday, Feb. 13 at St. Christine's Church at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

Welcome to new member, Erin Bergant!

Marty and Ed Koren spent a relaxing vacation in Myrtle Beach then traveled on to Orlando, Florida to take in some golfing and visiting of relatives.

Sympathy to Justine Prhne on the death of her mother-in-law Frances (Mrs. John) Prhne who was a resident for the past few years at a nursing home and passed away at the age of 99. Mrs. Prhne is survived by two sons.

One of our exciting events of the year is our Christmas Dinner-Party. This year we honored sixteen 50-year members: Margie Bates, Irene Hosta, Emma Polzer, Marty Retar, Elsie Catherine Sedmak, Marie Son, Josephine Marie Zorko, Pauline Anzelc, Anne Erjavec, Mary Louise Globokar, Marie Theresa Kebe, Frances Kristof, Margaret A. McCracken, Mary Lee Okleson, Caroline Stanonik and Eleanore Stupar. Only four of these ladies were able to attend. Marie Kebe, Marge Bates, Mitzi Globokar and Frances Kristof who were accompanied by their families for a lovely evening.

An outstanding job of preparation and decorating was done by Ruth Korelec, Jackie Ulle, Pat Stanec and Mary Sintic. They also donated all the decorations. We commend these ladies for all their time and effort to make this such a special evening. Once again Mary Strazisar (Arrowhead) made her delicious homemade noodles and donated the proceeds to our lodge.

We walked into a winter wonderland as we entered the hall with fresh flower arrangements and all the Christmas decor. For the first time we dined by candlight lending an air of glamor! Invited guest George Knaus delighted us all by donating a bottle of champagne for each table. Many of our ladies invited their husbands and friends so that we had a large festive crowd.

An outstanding dinner of breaded pork chops and roast chicken with all the trimmings was prepared by Sophie Mazi and her helpers. To top off the evening, Santa stopped by to pass out candy canes.

We close today's article with another reminder to everyone to pay their 1991 dues. Those who are deliquent are urged to take care of these as quickly as possible. Also please advise Diane of any address changes and bring your beneficiaries up to date.

Wishing you a Valentine's Day filled with love!

ALICE KUHAR

NO. 16, CHICAGO, IL

Our meeting came to order November 1990 with prayers by Marge Prebil. We are glad that Marge has recuperated somewhat from her severe pneumonia attack.

A candle was lit and prayers said for Marge Spretnjak and all deceased members.

Palmera Rapaich, Manda Bublich, Ann Ksiazek and Mary Priestol were thanked for serving rolls and coffee in the church hall before Mass on the day of our Convention. Also, thanks to all who worked for our Convention.

A thank you was received from the Baraga foundation for the \$100.00 donation.

Fr. Chris of Annunciata Parish thanked all for attending their festival and their Ethnic Mass in Slovenian Heritage costumes. Edna Winters was responsible for encouraging the members to attend. Thanks, Edna.

We did very well on our moneymaker and again thanks were offered. Martine Saidon and Maryann Sambo won door prizes at our meeting.

Our Christmas party was beautiful with a Hawaiian motif. Two young ladies told the story of Christmas in Hawaii with history, music, costumes and dance.

Our Vice-Prtesident Maryann Starcevich has retired to Florida. Before she left she made place settings of Palm trees and candies and left behind a gift of the 12-days of Christmas for each guest. We shall miss her. She is such an artistic, talented lady. Good luck, Maryann, wherever you may be.

Cards were signed by all in attendance and sent to Polly Klobuchar, Mary Stambulic, Zora Yurkas, Alvina Sreboth, Mary Peloza, Tine Martin and Rose Salakar. We miss you ladies but we think of you always.

Congratulations to Mary Therese Ehnat who became a Grandma again to a little boy, Christopher Michael Joseph, the day of our party, December 13th.

Please attend our meeting the second Thursday of February. We have much work to do.

Elmer Druga passed away December 28th after an extended illness. He had been married to the late Pauline Spretnjak. He leaves his son, Paul, several brothers and sisters, a brother-in-law Steve and sister-in-law Sylvia Spretnjak.

Our deepest sympathies to his beloved family.

Remember our meeting and please come. We have much work to do.

May God help us in our endeavors FRAN B. ZUPANCIC

NO. 17, WEST ALLIS, WI

Greetings and a Happy New Year! It's a cloudy, gloomy day as I start to write this article, but I am thankful that mother nature was kind this Christmas season, as she held off the bad weather until the holiday rush was over. Hope the winter season will not be a harsh one and soon will give way to the gentle breezes of spring.

Our December meeting was well attended and most enjoyable with our Santa, Jackie Nimmer and her helpers distributing the gifts among the members. A delicious lunch with plenty of goodies followed the close of the meeting.

Many thanks to our ladies for their donations of bakery and goodies, which made our Christmas social very festive. We officers must be doing something right, as by popular demand, all officers were re-elected for another term. The slate for 1991 is as follows:

Marion Marolt – President, Lill Hartman – Vice President, Joan Yaklich – Sec.-Treasurer, Fran Piwoni – Recording Sec., and Scribe in English.

Auditors are Katie Matzelle, Loni Limoni and Lorraine Johnson. Josephine Imperl is Scribe in Slovenian and Mary Cimmermancic is Sergeant-at-Arms.

Our elected delegate for the national convention is Fran Piwoni and the alternate is Katie Matzelle.

We have chosen Lill Hartman as our Mother of the Year, 1991. Lill Hartman is a very cheerful, happy-golucky gal with a pleasant personality who helps us with her expertise and "know-how" at many of our functions as she was associated with a catering service for many years. Yes, she's a very active person, always on the go, doing some thing or other!

Congratulations and best wishes to Mitzie and Fred Marolt on their 50th wedding anniversary.

Get well wishes are extended to all our members who are not feeling too well these days especially to Nellie Ermen who recently had undergone back surgery

Just a reminder -

If your dues are in arrears please contact our Sec. Joan Yaklich, 281– 8983 and bring payments up to date. If you're sending your book and payment – please enclose return postage or better yet – come to the meetings.

Happy Valentine's Day to all members and friends with a suggestion – give our lovely "Pots & Pans" cook book or our poetry book," Flowers from my Gardens" to that some one special; they do make lovely gifts for what ever the occasion.

FRAN PIWONI



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS GRATITUDE.....

Enclosed is a check for \$5 to be used for the ZARJA printing Fund. And, I'd like to encourage all of the readers who enjoy this publication to send in whatever you can. Every little bit helps and also, I know some of the lodges are preparing to send a contribution to help. We would not wish to lose this means of communication, not only with the other lodges, but with the friends that we have made through our organization. I know that my contribution is very small, but I hope other readers will follow with whatever they can afford. Thank you. Anita Vovk.

We sisters enjoy the ZARJA magazine very much! God bless the wonderful work you are doing. *Sr. M. Cecilia Adamic*.

Just want you to know how much I like the ZARJA. Wishing you all a happy and healthy New Year. *Amelia F. Ceballos*.

Continue to enjoy the ZARJA, my only connection to my heritage. May they never discontinue it; it's worth the price of the dues. My best regards to all my mom's old friends and fellow members. Happy holidays to all. *Joan Gergisch Daniel*.

MEMBERS – FRIENDS!

ZARJA NEEDS YOU! An appeal was made in the December issue of our beloved publication, that free-will donations to the printing fund for ZARJA are being requested. A number of you have responded and \$502.00 collected so far. An envelope was inserted in the December ZARJA for your convenience. Needless to say, the expectation was greater than the reality of this appeal.

People have said ...

"Announce the end of the publication and see what the response will be!"

"Raise the dues and have it over with!"

"Go to an all-subscription form of publication – take SWU off the hook!"

"Hire an ad agency and sell the space!"

"Change the format – have a cheaper newsletter." And, on and on...

We are on the threshold of the National Convention in May. In these few months, it would be good to hear from you, to have you, our membership, address this issue and give us your input. We shall be happy to report the results of the correspondence we receive.

As Editor, all I can say is: reading your messages, and receiving the donations of those of you loyal and dedicated members, officers, reporters, readers, is very heart-warming. Knowing how well ZARJA is appreciated and respected makes me confident that a solution will be reached that will benefit SWU and support our cause.

Corinne Leskovar

A SINCERE THANK YOU TO OUR "KEEP OUR CONNECTION!" CONTRIBUTORS

Contributors listed according to our seven reg	rions	Molly Wilson (34), Soudan, MN	5.00
Total	\$502.00	Ohio-Michigan	
California-Oregon-Washington Eleanor Lucido (13), San Francisco, CA Jean Kurelich (100), Fontana, CA Otillia Kurnich (13), Napa, CA	\$20.00 10.00 5.00	Milo Uehlein (40), Sheffield Lake, OH Memory of living and deceased of No. 47 Evelyn Majercik (73), Bedford, OH Mary Brule, Euclid, OH Catherine Krall (28), Calumet, MI	\$50.00 25.00 25.00 10.00 10.00
Colorado-Kansas-Missouri		Karen Lockard (42), Hudson, OH	10.00
Antonette Kashinz, Scottsdale, AZ	\$10.00	Albina Marolt (50), Wickliffe, OH	10.00
Illinois-Indiana Edward and Olga Ancel (20, Joliet, IL) Helen Behrmann (2), Hoffman Estates, IL Lucille and Bill Dragovan (20), Joliet, IL Frances Silko (2), Chicago, IL Helen Sisko (2), LaGrange, IL Edna Winters (16), South Chicago, IL Bernice Metesh (20), Joliet, IL Eva Mesin (95), South Chicago, IL	\$50.00 \$25.00 15.00 10.00 10.00 10.00 5.00 5.00	Mary and Rose Marolt (10), Euclid, OH Mary Matos (40), Lorain, OH Mary Ploszaj (40), Lorain, OH Anne Tomsic (40), Lorain, OH Josephine Debevec (50), Cleveland, OH Mary Kociancic (47), Garfield Hts., OH Mary Drobnick (32), Euclid, OH Pennsylvania-New York-Washington, DC Marie Potepan (30), Canadaigna, NY	10.00 10.00 10.00 10.00 5.00 2.00 \$25.00
		Mary Peternel (96-91), Pittsburgh, PA	15.00
Minnesota	\$40.00	Mary Kovacic (91), Pittsburgh, PA	10.00
Friend of a Duluth, MN (33) member Dorothy Jamnick (35), Aurora, MN)	10.00	Sophie Simonich (70–74), Aliquippa, PA	10.00
Ann Mismash (35), Aurora, MN	5.00	Wisconsin	
Anita Vovk (35), Aurora, MN	5.00	Zarja friend Donnell D. Wolf, Willard, WI	\$ 5.00

JAN.-FEB., 1991 /7

NO. 20, JOLIET, IL

Wishing all members and their families a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. Let our goal for 1991 be, recruit 64 new members, one for each year of our local branch.

Our Christmas party was a success. We had it at the Town and Country West in Shorewood, and had a very nice turn out. The exchange of gifts was fun. The lovely prizes were from "Christmas Around the World," the co-chairpersons were Jo Tezak and Ardis Gregorash and they did a grand job. The ornaments at each place setting made a lovely scene. The entertainment by the "Sounds of Peace" directed by Dick Tezak, provided music during the dinner, and afterwards; we also had sing-a-long of Christmas Carols.

The election of officers for Br. 20, for 1991 are: President, Joyce Vicich, Vice President, Jo Tezak, Treasurer, Jo Lustig, Financial Secretary, Ardis Gregorash, Recording Secretary, Ann Dragovan, Auditors: Ann Mulvey, Helen Plut, Lorraine Lange, and Sargeant-at-Arms, Marie Malnarek.

The selection of delegates for the National Convention, are: Joyce Vicich, Ardis Gregorash and Josephine Lustig. Alternates are Ann Dragovan, Mildred Pucel and Helen Plut. The excitement of the upcoming convention is building, attendance is encouraged for all members.

Births! Congratulations to the proud parents.

Kathy and Blake Mellecher on the birth of their son, and to grandmother, Julie Kaluza, Branch member, on her new grandson.

Cathy and John Thorson on the birth of their daughter, and to grandmother, Marilyn Goss, Branch member on her new granddaughter.

Kathleen and Robert Hotuyec on the birth of their son, and to grandmother Lena Hotuyec, our Branch member.

Cyndi and James Karges, on the birth of their daughter.

Get well wishes to Johanna Gorc on her recent surgery.

Congratulations Joseph and Margaret (Petric) Glanek on their 40th Wedding Anniversary. We wish you love, happiness and many more anniversaries.

We are proud of Jana Anderson, daughter of James and Maria Anderson. She is a 7th grade student at St. Joseph School and plays the role of Bielke in "Fiddler on the Roof" at the Rialto Theatre. Congratulations!

Condolences to the Higgins family on the loss of Helen Frances Higgins.

Condolences to the Anthony Rozman Sr. family on the loss of their son Anthony Jr. May they Rest in Peace.

Can you believe we are into February already? February is the month of the "Heart". We will all be celebrating Valentine's Day in our own way, an expression of love to those who are near and dear to us. Also the American Heart Association has special programs pertaining to the Heart throughout the month of February.

February 13, is Ash Wednesday; during Lent we all try to sacrifice something for the Easter Season. This year you may wish to address, "The Seven Deadly Sins", which are: pride, envy, anger, sloth (laziness), avarice (greed), gluttony, and lust; we can't always rattle them off in sequence but we experience them every day of our lives. Traditionally, we have called them the "seven deadly sins" and have traced their origins back to a very fruitful tree in the garden of Eden. Though they have been around for centuries, they remain ripe as ever and are just as enticing, just as delicious, and just as dangerous! Not a day goes by when we are not tempted to "take a bite of the apple".

The seven deadly sins are not simply insidious traps set by a devilish serpent. Each one of them has a "flip side" which represents a Gospel value that is good, healthy, and positive.

The apples are hazardous to our spiritual health when we push them to a dangerous limit or in a misguided direction. But the message of Jesus challenges us to "polish the apple", and cultivate important Kingdomvalues such as an awareness of being created in the image and likeliness of God, the desire to settle disputes with honesty and charity, reasonable care of the body and soul, and holy relationships with others. In doing that, our world once again becomes a land of hopes and dreams - a "promised land," a "paradise". Which helps you to feel great at Easter.

> "Till Tory's Garden" Membership Campaign Now til next March

Congratulations to Ray and Annette Koncar on the birth of their son, John, Dec. 12, 1990. His grandmother and great grandmother are members of Br. 20.

Prayerful Sympathy to:

Margaret Glanek, and family on the loss of her husband, Joseph T. Glanek, Sr.

Mary Barbic and family on the loss of her husband, Louis E. Barbic.

May they rest in Peace.

Wishing a Speedy recoverty to: Jo Vella, Mary Rozich, Marion Maroltz, and Johanna Gorc.

Dates to Remember:

February 19, 7 pm. Meeting at St. Joseph Park. "Woman of the Year" will be announced.

ANN M. DRAGOVAN



NO. 23, ELY, MN

The evening of Dec. 10, started with a beautiful social hour, music by our talented Katherine Merhar. Her Christmas selection, plus the hospitality of the committee and beautiful decorations really put you in a festive mood.

Father Mark Coen lead us in grace, then a wonderful dinner of chicken or stuffed pork chop was served – I had the pork chop – it was "outstanding" (finger-licking good, too)!

After dinner, President Ann Saari read a nice Christmas card from Hannah Robertson, who couldn't be here for health reasons – we miss you too, Hannah! A reminder about the 1991 State Convention in Ely – second Sunday of September – was well-accepted by the members. A banner is being done by "Chicky" Prijatel – she asked if anyone has some gold braided rope or some gold fringe as she has had a problem trying to get some. What a wonderful project to undertake – "Hats off to you," chicky"!

Many door prizes were won after dinner by checking the bottoms of coffee cups for Christmas stickers – what a pleasant surprise!

Christmas Carols were sung (music by Katherine and lead by Rosie Pucel) while the committee prepared for games to be played after clean up.

There were 80 members present and everyone had a wonderful time. Thanks to the committee who did a wonderful job and shared their beautiful decorations to enhance "the Christmas spirit": Katherine Klobe, Chris Cadari, Emma Pucel, Julie Zgonc, Fannie Stukel, Mary Scufsa, "Dolly" Grahek, Dorothy Popesh, Fran Zavodnik and Olga Artisensi.

Merry Christmas to all – and thanks to the Dawn Club for changing meeting dates.

JANE YADLOSKY, Reporter

DAWN CLUB NEWS

Nov. 12: Lunch Committee were Mary Smuk, Rosemarie Buckner, Margaret Tomlyanovich, Mary Loisel, Ann Camaish and Emma Pucel.

Angela Mobilia started with a reading, "Forgiving" – Dorothy Papesh read the Minutes and Sally Davidson gave the Treasurer's Report; and auditors, Mary Petritz and Angie Godec gave their report – all were accepted as read.

There were no new nominations for 1991 officers so the same officers accepted to continue their responsibilities.

Molly Richards was on the sick list.

There were 35 members present – Kris Garni won the door prize – coffee and desserts were served.

January lunch committee were: Chris Cadari, Rose Pucel, Gert Mosnik, Mary Skubitz and Julie Zgonc.

J.Y., Reporter

NO. 26, PITTSBURGH, PA

Our meeting in the month of November was very well attended by 32 women. Meeting opened with prayer by our President Agnes Widina. Mrs. Widina always says a special prayer for our shut-ins and deceased.

The first business of the evening was the election of officers. All the incumbents were re-elected: Agnes Widina, President; Josephine Rolik, V. Pres.; Helen Gratkowski, Treasurer; Mary Slaney, Financial Secretary; Jane Lynch, Recording Secretary; Auditors: Amelia Zunic and Magdalena Burns. All accepted graciously. The coming convention in May at Cleveland, Ohio was also discussed. Our financial Secretary sent all the patrons for a book that is to be made. A thank you note was received from Evelyn Majercik stating she had received the patrons and monies.

Next came our plans for the best time of the year, our Christmas Party which was held on the 17th of Dec. at the Veterans Home where we have all our meetings. We made neat plans for our party, and were all looking forward to the dressing up, the expectations of gift giving, and also all the goodies which would be served.

The past year we have also had much sadness in our Branch. We lost a few long-time and many faithful members. Some were officers for many years.

They were: Josephine Kobe, Mary Bahor – Secy., Mary Brindza, Barbara Starescenic, Anna Trontel – Secy, Mary Belamarich and Mary Cvetas. Sympathy goes out to all their families as we will miss their smiling faces and good advice. A few were also 60-year-old members.

Meeting for November closed with prayer. Games were played and door prizes were won. Our delicious cakes were eaten too. Special thanks to our ladies who bake all the time. Sharon Ujcic, Agnes Widina and Mary Slaney and also all our other active members who bring delicious cakes to all our meetings.

Wishing all of you a happy and healthy new year!

Sincerely,

JANE LYNCH.

Recording Secretary

NO. 32, EUCLID, OH

Our Nov. meeting was cancelled as it fell on the eve of Thanksgiving Day. Hope that everyone had a healthy and happy holiday. The most important thing is we are in good health to be thankful.

Congratulations go out to our members and their families whose husband's won in the November election. Janet Voinovich's husband, George was elected governor of Ohio. Pat Suster's husband, Ronald was reelected State Representative. We wish them and their families good luck, health and happiness.

Frank Jeran passed away in Nov. He was the husband of our deceased member, Eleanor, who passed away in Aug. Our deepest sympathy to the Jeran family.

Members on the sick list: Josephine Comenshek, had eye surgery, Ann Adams, surgery on her right hand, Agnes Ward Hamilton, had surgery. Josephine Koss, had a heart attack. All the above members are at home recuperating. We wish them well and hope they soon will be among us at our meeting. Speedy recovery to all our sick members.

We urge all members to be thinking about our National Convention which will be held in May.

Make plans to attend the meetings and social affairs. Sale of prize tickets will help to pay some of the cost of the convention Evelyn Majercik, is doing a wonderful job and she will need a lot of help with the work. We wish her a very successful convention.

Our Nov.-Dec. meeting was held at the V.F.W. on 200th St. on Dec. 6. A big thank you to Josephine Gornik for making arrangements to have the meeting and Christmas party. Josephine is a member the V.F.W.

* *

Pres. Dorothy Lamm, called the meeting to order. Hermine Strainer lead the group in prayer.

Our 50 year members received a plaque from our State Representative Ron Suster for their outstanding work and service. They were Eleanor Latkovic, Ann Cooke, Helen Kovacevic, Marie Stark, Margaret Le Crone, Agnes Cook, Florence Stopar, Julia Zarkovich, Kathy Majcen, Viola Mocnik and Marilyn Lekan.

Election of officers for 1991: Pres., Dorothy Lamm, V. Pres., Ceal Znidar, Fin. Secy., Charlotte Perdan, Treasurer, Ann Cooke, Rec. Secy. and Reporter, Frances Ogoreuc, Sgt.at-Arms, Helen Kovacevic, Historian, Mary Drobnick, Auditors: Josephine Gornik and Veronica Dalton.

Our meetings will be held at Slovene Society Home at Recher Ave. on the third Wednesday of the month at 7 o'clock. There was no meeting in Jan. Please try to attend the Feb. meeting as we will be celebrating Valentine's Day.

Our sick members are: Esther Garbincus, back surgery, Julie Drobnick had surgery and Faye Starman, eye surgery. We wish all our sick members a speedy recovery to good health.

To all our members who have birthdays in Dec. and Jan. we wish them good health and happiness always. Dec. birthdays that were present at our meeting: Rose Brancely, Guests Bob Lamm, Frank Golobic and Frank Ogoreuc. Member Caroline Kaliope celebrated her 90th birthday. Pres. Dorothy Lamm's birthday is March 28.

Charlotte Perdan and Frances Ogoreuc, made prayer rocks. Frank Ogoreuc, made toaster tongs. These gifts were given as favors. Everyone seemed to enjoy these little gifts. Charlotte's mind is always busy thinking up ideas.

Traveling to Florida for a two month stay is Polly Pike to be with daughter and her family.

Our Christmas dinner menu was breaded chicken, potatoe salad and baked beans. Dessert was a large marble cake decorated for the holiday. Thanks to Josephine Gornik and Dorothy Lamm for arranging the party.

Thanks to Charles Krivec and Hank Kersman for providing us with the fine button box music which all of us enjoy very much. Thanks for a job well done.

Hope that everyone had a beautiful Christmas with peace, happiness and good health always.

Please try to attend meeting in Feb. Please check to see if your dues are paid up to date.

Happy Valentine's Day to all. FRANCES OGOREUC

NO. 33, DULUTH, MN

November meeting had report of very successful bake sale. The members not baking were asked for \$3.00 contribution toward expenses of sending a delegate to the convention next May.

Doris Skull won the \$10.00 attendance prize.

Congratulations to Mary Chepelnik; a new granddaughter.

Prayers for members and families

on sick list including Dorothy Jacobson and Fran Blatnik.

Our sympathy and prayers to Frances Danko on death of brother.

Congratulations to Dolores and Elmer Dincau on golden anniversary.

Prayers for armed forces in Saudi Arabia and their families left behind including my son.

Please add \$1.00 to dues for funeral and catch up if behind to keep fund active.

Dec. 5: Officers' election held, with all officers same. Fran Kosanovich will be a new auditor.

Beverly Menart was voted as delegate and Josie Rzatkowski, alternate, for the National Convention in May.

Tina Zupancich voted Mother of the Year.

Rose Borland is in charge of Christmas remembrance gift to members over 80 and home bound members.

Dorothy Rychlak won \$5.00 attendance prize.

Emma Himbaugh lucky winner of Pillow/Quilt and Martha Parenteau, doll.

Program by Val Salo and Rose Tangeman enjoyed by all.

Penny social brought \$75.00 in to treasury.

Congratulations to Sophie (Somin) and Frank Malchow on 50th Wedding Anniversary. See photo on page 17.

Congratulations to Jackie Rukavina, marriage of son. Also to Winnie Ellena on new grandchild.

> LOIS M. PELANDER Reporter

NO. 34, SOUDAN, MN

Branch #34, Soudan, met on Wednesday, November 28 for Mass at 8 a.m. in celebration of Founder's Day with Fr. Anselm officiating. I served as the lector during Mass and the branch members who attended (19 of them) repeated the names of our founders, after I mentioned Marie Prisland, national founder and Frances Loushin, founder of Branch #34. The deceased charter members are: Angela Pavlich, Mary Erchul Sr., Mary Pahula, Mary Klun, Helen Mesojedec, Mary Spolar, Barbara Planton, Frances Zupanich, Mary Zalar, Mary Planton, Mary Erchul, Mary Vaida, Anna Tekautz, and Theresa Stefanich. Also included were members from the recent past. To close the Mass, members sang Angelsko Češčenje. We had our "Slovenian" breakfast consisting of juice, three kinds of cheese and cold cuts and delicious carmel rolls which had been made by Ann "Inky" Stefanich. Hostesses for the breakfast Eileen Poderzay, Sophie were Zupanich, Jean Zupanich and Mary Frances Jamnick ... thank you, ladies, for a lovely breakfast. Fr. Anselm was our guest and we also were joined by Fred Pahula, whose mother was such an active member for so many years. Door prize went to Helen Adkisson. Our next meeting, on January 16, had Angeline Morin and Lucille Svatos as hostesses, the door prize brought by Agnes Tekautz.

During our meeting, we held an election of officers and the following were unanimously elected: Adeline Mustonen, President: Angeline Morin, Vice President; Secretary-Treasurer, Mary Vollendorf; Recording Secretary, Eileen Poderzay; and Auditors, Mary Gornick and Angela Tekautz. Eileen is our secretary and we welcome her, I'm sure she'll do an excellent job.

I was elected to be delegate to the national convention in May 1991. There was no alternate chosen, due to lack of interest. Information about the bus being chartered to Clavelend was given, with more to be sent to us after the first of the year. We voted to place an ad in the convention booklet. I still have tickets for afghans which will be given at the convention.

Mary Gornick, our charter member, became a great-grandma again when



granddaughter, Dawn Marie Dahl and husband, Brad, became parents of their first child, Nathan John, born on November 13, congratulations to all of you!

Our members voted to remember Fr. Anselm for Christmas and also his anniversary of ordination, which was December 27; everyone signed the cards for him.

On November 25, members Emma Betourne, Adeline Mustonen, Helen Adkisson, Molly Wilson, Mary Frances Jamnick, Rose Planton and Angela Jamnick attended the Centennial Mass at St. Anthony's in Ely and were treated to a beautiful Mass, with many priests, our bishop attending. The music was something to hear! Singing was done in English, Latin and Slovenian, sometimes accompanied by trumpets - it was beautiful. A delicious buffet was served, it was good to see our former priests from St. Martin's there - Fathers Faith. Golobich, and LaPatka.

Hope you are having a good year so far in 1991!

ADELINE MUSTONEN, Reporter

NO. 35, AURORA, MN

Our combined meeting and Christmas party was held at our Holy Rosary Parish Hall on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 2nd. Fifty adult members, including our oldest member, Mrs. Eli Smolich, 95 years "young", and twelve junior members were present.

President Florence Holland opened our meeting with prayers for our deceased members.

A report was given on the Bus trip to the Nat'l S.W.U. convention in Cleveland. More definite plans will be given at our February meeting.

The Bake Sale at our Holiday Heritage Festival on Dec. 8th was a success! Thank you, ladies for all your delicious bakery and noodles! We sold out in two hours. (Thanks to Mary Anzelc who donated noodles, even tho she isn't a member of our Branch.) Winners of Prizes: Gabriella Goritchan – Potica coffee cake and Becky Klandar – walnut torte.

Congratulations to the following: Treas. Dorothy Jamnik who was chosen as our delegate and Pres. Florence Holland, alternate, to our S.W.U. Nat'l Convention to be held in Cleveland in May.

Frances Payton, our Mother of the Year for 1991, is from Tacoma, Washington. She has been a faithful member and always pay her dues on time. (This special honor is given to our oldest member).

The re-elected officers for 1991 – President, Florence Holland; Vice President, Anna Rose Smolich; Treasurer, Dorothy Jamnik; Sgt.-at-Arms, Betty Turk; Reporter, yours truly. New Officers: Secretary, Alice Wilson; and Youth and Sunshine Chairman, Phyllis Turk. Thank you, ladies, and a special "thank you" to our outgoing officers, Secretary Ann Mismash and Youth Chairman, Barbara Kalar.

Get well wishes to Mary Hudy.

Thank you to all our scholarship winners who took the time to write their reports and, for continuing your S.W.U. membership! We are proud of you!

Next meeting will be our Dime Social; proceeds from this pays for our over 80 membership dues. It will be at the Sr. Citizens Center on Feb. 10th at 2 p.m. Hostesses will be, Rose Antilla, Vida Marinsek and Tona Soukup.

President Holland closed our meeting with prayers for all our members who are ill.

Our Christmas party started with serving of wine and apple cider.

Our Spiritual Advisor, Fr. John Sustersic and Fr. Joseph Vovk were special guests. Fr. John led us in saying Grace before dinner. Thank you to our ladies who prepared and served the delicious meal! (The recipes will be available at our February meeting, ladies.)

Once again we were entertained by our Jr. members, Rebecca Klandar, Katie and Nicholas Martinetto, Courtney Kalar, Janelle and Lindsey Antilla, Jennie and Maria Menart, Alysa Hodnik and Jenna Korpela. They sang Christmas carols and danced for us, also sang Happy Birthday to Tona Soukup who celebrated her 80th birthday that day. Listening and watching these beautiful children (ages 3-9) perform brought laughter and tears to all of us. Thanks to all of you and to Rose Antilla and Erika Hodnick who planned the program. (They also entertained the children during our meeting). Dinner menu for the children was cheese pizza, which they enjoyed!

Tona Soukup brought a box of chocolates to share on her special day. Thanks and may you enjoy many more birthdays, Tona! Mrs. Eli Smolich won the lovely door prize, a door hanger with Merry Christmas written in Slovenian on it.

Our sympathy to Pauline Korpela who lost her Mother. May she rest in peace.

Thank you ladies for your generous monetary gifts (total \$131.00) to our White Community Hospital Activities Dept. Giving is what Christmas is all about! This will bring much happiness to the patients when they play Bingo and do their crafts.

Happy Valentine's Day! ANNF M ORAZEM

NO. 39, BIWABIK, MN

By the time this report goes to print, the holiday season will be far behind. As we reflect on those joyful days, our wish here in northern Minnesota is that all of you celebrated a blessed yuletide season.

On Saturday, November 10, 1990, members of Branch 39 gathered for a mass for deceased members at St. John's church. This is always a special day for all of us as we remember our beloved departed sisters.

With the coming of December came the planning for our annual strudel/ potica sale at Biwabik's Weihnachtsfest celebration. Can you imagine the wonderful aromas drifting through all the Slovenian kitchens in our small town as these wonderfully-ethnic baked masterpieces were prepared? Proceeds from this sale used for donations to our local Christmas Lighting Festival and Fourth of July celebrations. We also sent a turkey to the Merritt House, a half-way house for adults located in our town, for their Thanksgiving dinner. A large donation is given to St. John's Church in Biwabik and funds are set aside for SWU grants for post-secondary education for children of members. In addition to contributing locally, we are proud to extend the fruits of our labors to the national SWU scholarship fund.

Our annual Christmas party was held on Sunday, December 9 at St. John's social hall with Fr. Method and Deacon Riley as our special guests. Things got off to a rocky start when the caterer cancelled a week before the party! Then, someone entered the church kitchen and made off with the wine, candy and a jello salad left there for our anticipated dinner. Deacon Herb came to the rescue with his donation of wine to replace the stolen **Please turn to page 13**

ANNA HODNIK/ANITA VOVK:

Learn Slovenian

The longest and coldest months of winter have passed on and we are into a new year. As I am writing this, we have not engaged ourselves into a war with Iraq and I am praying and hoping that **peace on earth** has prevailed.

The 1991 National Convention plans seem to be well on their way. Now is the time to bring your suggestions for changes or improvements you would like to see implemented at the convention by discussing them at your branch meeting. The secretary can then forward them in time for the National Board meeting in March. This advance preparation will help make our convention more orderly and productive. We all need to become more involved in this process.

About this time of the year, we feel housebound and the days of the week seem to drag, so Anita wants to take us on a visit thru the days of the week with this little poem, "Obisk".

OBISK

"Dobro jutro, stric PONEDELJEK, boter TOREK je že vstal?" "Prav zares, soseda SREDA, dobro se je nasmrčal, pa je prišel ponj ČETRTEK, k ujcu PETKU sta odšla, na križišču sredi pota se pridruži še SOBOTA, ta pripelje še mesarja in zakoljejo komarja, naredijo krvavice, klobasice, pečenice, saj bo jutri dan veselja – v vas prispe gospa NEDELJA." *Albert Širok*

GOOD MORNING, UNCLE MONDAY, DID GODFATHER TUESDAY GET UP ALREADY? "THAT'S FOR SURE, NEIGHBOR WEDNESDAY, HE SNORED WELL, AND HE CAME TO GET HER THURSDAY, THE TWO LEFT WITH UNCLE FRIDAY. AT THE CROSSING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD HE WAS JOINED BY SATURDAY, THIS HE STILL BRINGS TO THE BUTCHER

AND THEY SLAUGHTER MOSQUITOS, THEY ARE MAKING BLOOD SAUSAGE, LITTLE SAUSAGES, FRIED SAUSAGES, FOR TOMORROW WILL BE A HAPPY DAY, LADY SUNDAY IS ARRIVING IN THE VILLAGE.



Torek....Tuesday Je ... He is (3rd person sing. (Biti ... To be) Ze...Already Je Vstal...(He) got up (Vstati...To get up; to rise (Ne) verb conj. Prav zares...Really; for sure Sosed...Neighbor Sreda...Wednesday Dobro...Good Je nasmrčal...(He) snored (to the fullest). Nasmrčati... To snore (I) verb Pa...And Je Prišel...(He) came ... (Priti... To come; irreg. verb; (E) verb conj. Poni...For her, to get her Četrtek....Thursday K...with Ujcu...Uncle...(Ujec old form is the brother of the mother; Stric...is the brother of the Father; Ujina...Sister of the Mother; Teta ... Sister of the Father.) Petku...Friday...(Petek) Sta odšla...They two left (departed). (Sta...Dual form...They two) Oditi...To leave, to depart...(E) verb...Jaz odidem) Na...At the Križišču...Crossing Sredi...In the middle, in the center Pota...The road Se pridruži...(He) is joining...(Pridružiti se...'I'o join). (I) verb Se...Again Sobota...Saturday Ta...This Pripelje...(He) is bringing, is carrying Mesarja...Butcher In...And Zakoljejo...They are slaughtering, they are killing ... (Zaklati ... To kill, to slaughter, (Je) verb Komarja...Mosquitos Naredijo ... (They) are making ... Narediti ... To make ... (I) verh Krvavice...Blood sausage Klobasice...Little sausages Pečenice...Fried sausages Saj...But Bo...(it) will be ... (3rd person sing; fuutre tense of "Biti" ... to be)

Dobro jutro...Good Morning

Ponedeljek...Monday

Boter...Godfather

Stric...uncle

Dan...A day

Veselje...(of) happiness

V...in

Vas...The village

Prispe...(She) is arriving; ... (prispeti...to arrive...(E)
verb)
Gospa...Lady; Mrs.; Madam

Nedelja...Sunday

BR. 39 Cont'd:

spirits. Our "spirits" were not broken by these set-backs, however, and members spent a very enjoyable day eating, socializing and playing games. A delicious turkey dinner with all the trimmings was prepared by Pres. Jean Korsman, her daughter Kathy Riordan, Vail Purkat, Jean Purkat, Berna Andreachi, Millie Mestnick and Fran Anzelc.

Beautiful table decorations were provided by Eine Karish, Fran Anzelc, Millie Mestnick and Ann Boczkur. Member Mary Berknes played her accordian and a trumpet/ trombone duet of Christmas music was performed by Branch 39 junior member David LaZella and Tom Strukel. Also invited to help us celebrate were the members of Branch 31 of Gilbert. Those in attendance were Phyllis Kukar, Rose Koroshec, Eileen Lopp and Pauline Lopp. A great job was done by the clean-up committee of Berna Andreachi, Ann Gerzina and Ann Boczkur.

At a short business meeting it was decided to take out a quarter-page ad in the national convention booklet. Also discussed were the topics of sending Pres. Korsman to the convention and setting up committees for the various functions for the upcoming vear. Officers re-elected were Pres. Jean Korsman, Rec. Sec. Berna Andreachi and Treas. Jane Purkat. Annie Purkat, oldest member of Branch 39, and mother of our illustrious president, made a very generous donation of \$100 to the lodge. It is such a pleasure to have her attend our meetings and socials.

On December 14, 1990, during the blessed Advent season, our beloved member Josephine Udovich was called to her eternal rest. She was a good friend and her cheerful smile will be missed by all who knew her. May she rest in peace.

May the joy of love celebrated on St. Valentine's Day be with you all.

> MARY STRUKEL, Reporter

NO. 40, LORAIN, OH

Our Nov. meeting commenced with prayer after which a light lunch was served by Agnes Tomazine, Annette Septaric and yours truly.

Even though we had so few attending, 13 in all, we made some changes with regard to the time for Christmas dinner. Door prize was given to Ann Rozans.

We elected Agatha Donges to represent us at the convention.

Since we didn't have a meeting in Dec., we planned to elect officers and our Mother of the Year at our Jan. 9th meeting.

We lost another member, Mary Hocevar, who passed away Dec. 14th after a long illness. We offer our deepest sympathy and we will offer a Mass in her memory.

Rose Kneztic, Angie Tomazine, and Agnes Drstvensek, with their husbands, are sunning themselves in Florida.

Our Genevieve Wenzel is spending a month with her son in Colorado, and Rose Jancar just came back from California.

Ann and Frank Rozanc will be celebrating their 51st Wedding Anniversary on Feb. 5th. They also became grandparents for the second time. Little Mathew was born recently. Congratulations!

Mark Pogacher, was awarded the most valuable offensive player award by the Central Soccer Conference. He is the grandson of our Sophie.

We wish to congratulate Fr. Krajnak on his 40th year of ordination to the priesthood.

We sent Get Well cards to Mary Hocevar and Johanna Tomazic.

Our Christmas celebration at the German Villa on Dec. 12th was a joyful event.

The decorations were beautiful and you couldn't help but get the holiday spirit. 28 persons came and enjoyed every minute of it, and the food was delicious. We wish to thank Agatha for the centerpieces she donated and to Francie Tomazine for the cone ornaments which she made.

We also had a gift exchange and again this year had a group picture taken. Winners of prizes were: Molly Glavan, Sue Tomazic, Annette Septaric, Sophie Pogacher, Agnes Serazin, Agnes Tomazine, Mary Janosic, and Mary Ferlic.

1991 is just around the corner and we hope that more of our members will try to come to our meetings now that we have them at 12:30 pm in the Sts. Cyril & Methodious school hall on the second Wednesday of the month and try to keep your dues paid up to date.

Next meeting is on Feb. 13th. Have a Happy Valentine's Day! Love,

MARY MATOS

NO. 42, MAPLE HTS., OH

Greetings ladies! The holidays are by now just a memory. Let's all reflect on this past year and be grateful for our many blessings. Let me wish you all the best of God's blessings for protection and guidance in the New Year. Let's all put our efforts into making 1991 a special one — namely for a successful convention and improvement in our lives, and for whole hearted support for intense interest making our Branch 42 one to be proud of. Come up with ideas for projects and suggestions for fun filled meetings.

Our December meeting was a short one. Top priority was election of officers. Unanimously re-elected officers are: Mildred Lipnos, President; Mitzie Champa, Vice President; Marjorie Church, Financial secretary and Treasurer; Olga Ponikvar, Recording Secretary and Reporter. Thank you, officers — keep up the good work! Our Christmas social with delicious goodies made by the members was enjoved after the meeting.

Lil Sadowski left for California on December 20th to spend the holidays with her daughter Lynn, son-in-law Gene, and granddaughter Katy, age 5. Lil will return Jan. 7th. Lil's son Gary was joined in marriage to Cindy on January 19th. Congratulations to you both. We extend our very best wishes for happiness and long life of togetherness.

Congratulations to Mary Filips. She became a great grandmother for the third time. A son, Mitchell, was born to her grandson Drew Romito and his wife Karen on October 2nd. Congratulations to the family. We miss you at our meetings, Mary!

We'd like to extend our best wishes to Mary Lou Prhne who resides in Florida. Mary Lou, we wish you good health – you were always our "pepper-upper" – no one like you! We miss you; and, we also miss Betty Gower who is living in No. Carolina now with her daughter, hoping the warmer weather will make her feel better.

The bus trip to the Carousel Dinner Theater featuring "Oliver" was enjoyed by all 43 members and their families. Out of town guests who joined our happy crowd were Edna Scotton's aunt and 2 friends and guests of Marge and Ann Zupancic visiting from St. Louis. A raffle was held on the return bus trip home and won by Mary Kay Gruden. A knitted afghan donated and made by Ann Zupancic was the prize that delighted Mary Kay.

Condolences to families of our sister member Frances Prhne, age 99 who passed to her heavenly reward. She was a 53 year member.

Mass was celebrated by Bishop Pevec at Boremeo Seminary chapel on Slovene Heritage Day in December. Glasbena Matica sang during the mass and yours truly offered a Christmas tree donated by Robert Kastelic.

Thanks to Vida Shega for Mass intentions for living and deceased members; to Eleanor McArdle for card and donation. God bless you for your thoughtfulness, ladies.

Happy birthday wishes to our January birthday members, Leigh Ann Buehner, Elizabeth Shega, Patricia Wenkus, Karen Lockard, Beth Harr, Kelly Ann Gaines and Cammile Lao, and to our February birthday members, Diane Balach, Edna Scotton, Lil Sadowski, Joanne Kosak, and Nicki Lerchbacker.

A reminder to settle up with your dues, ladies! Our next meeting is February 12th (2nd Tuesday of each month). Please attend – we need your smiling faces! Let us pray for Saddam Hussein and Géorge Bush. May God enlighten their minds and fill their hearts with the power of His creative love. Guide their actions so that all civilians and soldiers in the Gulf are protected from war. Inspire their decisions to peacefully resolve the crisis.

After Holiday thought:

Nothing tastes as good as thin feels! Želim vsem blagoslovljeno in

zdravo, srečno novo leto 1991. Your reporter,

OLGA PONIKVAR

NO. 43, MILWAUKEE, WI

The Holidays are gone, but the cold weather has rolled into our midst, and I mean cold. We were very lucky to have nice weather in November and December. In November, we had our Card party with a large group of players, and a December, our Christmas luncheon with a large group. Both events depended on the weather and people could attend. There was no meeting in November, but in December we combined the meeting and luncheon.

We had our election of officers, and

they are the same as 1990 and then the Woman of the Year was chosen. We gave two items, a Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus and a bottle of liquor. Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus went to Helen Prijic and the bottle of liquor to Sylvia Kotze. Congratulations to both of you.

To our sick, shut-ins and those in Nursing Homes a special get-well wish. Caroline Jackowski had surgery, she is now at home, recovering. Get well wishes Caroline. Mary Musich and her sister, Anne Zakrajsek spent a couple of weeks in Florida with their sister Antonette Glavan who is seriously ill. Mary Martino is in California for the holidays with her daughter and her family. Mary's granddaughter, Janine who is in the service, as is her husband, were married this summer. We extend our congratulations and best wishes to Janine and her husband, mom and dad, and Mary Martino.

The book "Pepca's Struggle" is available from the author who is our member, Josephine Janezic, or from yours truly. It is excellent reading material, once you start reading, you won't quit until you finish.

Last, and most important: I would personally like to thank the officers and members who helped me in any way during this year.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, February 27th at 1 p.m. at John's Hall — 35th & Lincoln Ave.

A Blessed, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year to everyone.

R. K.

NO. 50, EUCLID, OH

With the hustle and bustle at home of Christmas parties and dinners and trying to get things in order to fly to Boulder, Colorado where as it turned out we hit -23° below zero, a record breaking temperature (last July, on a visit there we suffered a 105° degree temp., also a record)! But the temperatures did not deter us from having a traditional holiday of making potica. strudel, flancate etc. with my granddaughters who were home for the holidays from their respective colleges. We heard our daughter-in-law, Betty play the organ at all the holiday Masses, which made us happy. Do hope everyone of you have nice memories to cherish for the rest of the year and report to me so that I can have something to write about. You know, I will be your reporter for another year and the whole board was re-elected too.

"Vse po starem". With the upcoming convention and 60th anniversary may be that is why everyone accepted their positions again. Many ideas, issues and events are being planned for our meetings and socials so please try to attend the meetings as the board is really a dedicated group and deserve your presence and you will enjoy the comraderie to boot. Our Ann Tercek was chosen as the "Mother of the Year" and we will, with the ladies' help, provide the repasts while honoring a dedicated lady.

Going to families out of town or coming here to enjoy the holidays with families were Ella and Frank Skoda to New Jersey to a daughter; Valerie Katai to Deming, New Mexico and to help celebrate Al and Alberta Fabian's 50th anniversary in the company of Dorothy and Mike Brozina. To top off the trip they visited Brozina's daughter in Tucson, Arizona, enjoying it all. Harold Paulin from No. 103. Washington, D.C., visited his aunt, Ann Orlikowski, here and for recreation attended dinners at the Croatian Home where polka dancing suited him just fine. Ann also traveled to Chatworth, California where she enjoyed sharing the tradition of making bread and strudel, etc. for everyone to enjoy and I'm sure they did. Ann is a good haker.

Millie Zimmerman traveled to Atlanta, Georgia for Christmas to visit sons, James and Richard and three grandsons. Albina and Frank Kocisko enjoyed holding their 10th grandchild when Cindy Kotula had her third baby, Daniel. Congratulations.

Fran Kikel traveled to Arlington, Texas to be with son Kenneth and family and visited many sections of Texas ending with a pleasant trip to San Antone.

Granddaughters, Mary Pat De Chant and Peggy, with husband Steve Thornberg, were visiting with Fran Hrovat and Mary Pat attended our November meeting. She thought we were a nice group of ladies; although it being the day before a holiday, our quorum was only 48, the lowest ever. Come again, Mary Pat.

Vi Moravchek went "down-under" to Australia and New Zealand and enjoyed the openness and friendly attitude of the people, but was not impressed with the "out back" country which had too many flies. But, Melbourne she said was a beautiful city to visit. Irene and Tony Jagodnik will also travel to Australia and they have all the particulars from Vi to help make a beautiful trip and cherished memory.

Caribbean trip on the U.S. Rotterdam with Milan Raconovic is on the agenda for Ann and Dorothy Ann Winter after their holiday view of Christmas lights at Oglebay Park, West Virginia.

Albina Mrsnik and daughter, Rosemary Toth, who incidentally was nominated "Woman of the Year" from all the Slovene Halls in Cleveland for 1991, were in Medjugorje. Both said it was an inspiring experience and a physical sensation of well being that remains with you. Albina says you go to Medjugorje with a purpose - to pray and to thank the Holy Marija of Medjugorje for your blessings. Albina had one: a four month stay in the hospital after an accident which fractured her leg in 4 places-plus other injuries and now she walks again. Her visit was a prayer for "Thanks".

A testimonial, I witnessed – at the Polka Hall of Fame's Award Concert: a nervous Al Batistelli came to Albina as she was giving me a medal and asked to borrow one just for awhile and Albina pinned one on him. After the concert he returned it and said, "As you pinned that medal on me I felt a glow over me and I wasn't nervous anymore." I heard him play the William Tell overture on a button box accordion so well he had a standing ovation. His belief merited the applause.

Our Christmas dinner was attended by almost 180 ladies. A festive atmosphere prevailed and we had a nice program. Cilka Dolgan sang her own duet with her daughter's help operating a tape recorder (no piano) and members sang carols along with Cilka. Then the Holmes Hall Buttonaires played good, jolly music which also added to the enjoyment of members and guests. Cilka Dolgan was elected and inducted to the Polka Hall of Fame, a well deserved honor. She has conducted and taught the children ages 4 to 15 from Circle II for twenty-five years. I heard Cilka sing at Severance Concert Hall when she was just a little girl, in Hansel and Gretel. We, Slovenes are so proud of her!

Saw another member, Jean Krizman, at our dinner. She is a hard working, dedicated person who is working for the Red Cross and previously did well for the Slovene Home for the Aged with innovative ideas to help build up the Home's finances, like the big Christmas tree etc. Jessie Rich had her grandchildren and family, 14 in all, filling one whole table and practically all won prizes which surely added to a good time.

Theresa Komat brought her daughter, Carol Hendershot and grandson James Michael (age 2), to the dinner which they enjoyed. She loves the ZARJA but regrets not making the meetings.

Jean Tomsic won the first prize of a \$10 tree. It was good to see so many people we haven't seen in a while. Next year's locaton is a toss up. Help Ann make the "WHERE" reservation. Ideas? For Christmas dinner?

Get well wishes to our sick or convalescing people: Mary Maxim's brother-in-law (stroke), Rose McHugh (stroke), Ann Ryavec (fell and hurt her back), Bea's husband, Martin Tomc (on the mend), Vera Sebenik (Sciatica), Olga Samsa and Mary Miller.

Members that deserve our sympathy are Stella Baum whose father Geo Panchure, age 97, passed away; Marie Michelic's husband also died and Jean Brodnik died from an auto accident. So sorry. Sympathy to Mr. Harry Brule and family as wife, Mary passed away. She was buried the day after Christmas.

Graduating from Kent College is Matthew Kovelan graduating with honors, summa cum lauda, majoring in computer science and business administration. He is the grandson of Mary Kovelan. Congratulations.

Sister Donna Kristoff, daughter of Ann Kristoff, OSU College of Fine Applied Arts will study for another masters degree at Rochester Institute of Technology at Rochester, New York. Good Luck!

Steven Hrovat graduated from U. of Arizona in Education and Paul Hrovat in the Navy and destined for the conflict in Saudi Arabia. Both are grandsons of Fran Hrovat. Wish all of you young people success in your chosen fields.

Our branch No. 50 gave \$25.00 to the flood disaster in Slovenia. You should give if you didn't. Need is great! We also donated to the Red Cross; Holy Cancer Home; SHA; Mary Mavec School; American Home Publishing, Euclid Library; ZARJA Printing; SWU Scholarship Fund (annual) and Slovene Heritage Home.

If you bought our cook book (Pots & Pans) and need more help, George Knaus' sister Florence Petrick, has tapes on Slovene and European cooking from soup to donuts, says George.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS GRATITUDE.....

Enclosed find check for \$10 to help keep the ZARJA in our homes each month. I am a former reporter, 18 years, and can hardly wait for ZARJA each month. Keep up the good work. Sincerely, *Mary L. Ploszaj*.

A few months ago I sent \$20 for ZARJA. Here is another \$10. I wish you the best in 1991. Sincerely, *Jean Kurelich*.

I get great enjoyment from reading ZARJA. Thanks for the memories. Every little bit helps. *Helen Behrman*.

Enclosed you will find a \$25 donation from SWU Br. 47 of Garfield Hts., for ZARJA, in memory of all our living and deceased members. Happy, healthy new year to you all. Love, *Mary Taucher*.

Pay your dues to Evelyn Pipoly and start the year right. Happy Valentine Day to all and remember: a hug is a perfect gift – one size fits all and nobody minds if you give it back.)

When you help someone up a hill, you're that much nearer the top yourself. Time flies — but remember you are the navigator. These "thoughts" were given to me by Valerie Katai. Z Bogom.

> VERA SEBENIK, Reporter

NO. 52, KITZVILLE, MN

October 2 meeting was held at our community building with 12 members present. Minutes approved as read. Sunshine chairman, Ann Roberts mailed get well cards to Celia Politano and Julia Mancuso who were hospitalized. Nice to see you at the meeting. To all members who have been ill and we aren't notified, please get well.

Reports on the Regional meeting in Tower by President Rose Trombly. Margaret Kochevar won the 2nd Prize. Other members also won prizes. Discussion was on the annual Christmas Party. President Rose Trombly will present a report at a later meeting.

Members were reminder of election

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR FIVE \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIPS

TO ALL GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS:

If you have been a member of the Slovenian Women's Union for at least three years prior to high school graduation you are eligible for a 1991 scholarship. Please be aware that only one scholarship can be awarded to a branch each year and that only one scholarship is ever granted to a particular family.

This is the **second notice** so immediate application is urged by sending to me the application form below. A brochure detailing all the information will then be mailed to you. The requested information is to be completed and mailed by Mar. 31, 1991.

Good luck and happiness to each of you during this last semester in high school. Sincerely,

Hermine Dicke, Chairman Scholarship Committee 3717 Council Crest Madison, WI 53711

Request for Scholarship Application

I am considering applying for one of the S.W.U. scholarships which will be awarded to members who will be 1990 high school graduates. Please send me the official application form which must be completed by March 31, 1991.

□ I am a high school senior planning to attend an accredited college or university.

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of officers at the November meeting. Treasurer Jennie Crea hoped many will pay their 1991 dues in November and December, since we don't meet January and February. Meeting closed with a prayer, cards were played. Door prizes Ann Roberts – other prize winners were Julia Mancuso, Theresa Montcalm, Rose Trombly and Jennie Crea. Traveling prizes, Alice Baratto and Josephine Yeshe. Hostesses were Margaret Kochevar, Terry Oberstar, Shirley Oberstar and Gail Carlson.

Nov. 7th meeting was held at the Community Building with 12 members present. President Rose Trombley opened the meeting with a prayer. Minutes approved as read. We were informed as to a chartered bus for the Minnesota delegation to go to the National Convention in Ohio, 1991. Those interested were to contact the travel agency.

Rose Trombly was elected a delegate from Branch 52.

There are prize tickets from the National Committee for members to buy.

Branch 52 voted to have an ad in the convention booklet. The Christ-

mas Party was to be held Dec. 5 at the Elk's Club, Calling Committee to contact members.

Election of officers was held – a unanimous vote was made for the following: President, Rose Trombly; Vice President. Gen Zidarich; Treasurer, Jennie Crea; Secretary, Dorothy Russo; Reporter, Mildred Barbato; Auditors: Ann Roberts, Ann Mansfield, Margaret Kochevar; Sunshine Chm. Ann Roberts, Calling Committee, Theresa Montcalm, Rose Trombly and Alice Baratto.

Via the press our member, Ann Nadeau and her husband celebrated their 50th anniversary. Congratulations from all the members of Branch 52 and may you have many more years of togetherness, along with good health.

Meeting closed with a prayer.

From Branch 52 to members of all the "Zveza" members. Hope you all had a nice holiday with your families, relatives and friends.

To those who spend winters in the warm climates, "Enjoy."

Door prize winner, Terry Oberstar - other prize winners: Mildred Barbato, Julia Mancuso, Jennie Crea, Gen Zidarich, Ann Roberts and Terry Oberstar.

Terry Oberstar and family are moving out west. We will miss you. Hostesses were Mary Pechar, Frances Rapovich, Florence Pechar and Shirley Spinelli.

MILDRED BARBATO

NO. 54, WARREN, OH

Our branch had a lovely Christmas luncheon with 30 women in attendance. The room was very festive a decorated tree and poinsettias on the tables graced the atmosphere. These were later given away as prizes. Our president was in charge of reservations and favors, etc. and did a wonderful job, as always. Entertainment was Jennie Klupek on her accordian and it was very nice. We had a short business meeting. Elections of officers also was held and the same slate shall continue - 28 years for me that's a long time when you're having fun!

Mother of the Year was chosen and while I was out of the room, the mem-

GOLDEN YEARS FOR DULUTH COUPLES



Frank and Sophie Malchow

Frank and Sophie (Somin) Malchow celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on Aug. 3, at Cronstrom Supper Club, Superior, WI, hosted by family members.

Sophie's Mother, Frances Somin, was one of the original members of Slovenian Women's Union, Br. 33, Duluth, MN. Congratulations!

COHON COHON COHON

George and Virginia (Sever) Mikrut were married October 12, 1940 in St. Elizabeth's Church, New Duluth. they moved into a home purchased from hs grandmother, where they still live in West Duluth, and are members of Good Shepherd Church.

They have four children and two grandchildren: George, Jr. and wife, Ellane, Mendota Heights, MN.; Marguerite and son, Mark, Bloomington, MN.; Janet in U.S. on leave from London, England; and Patricia and daughter, Yvonne, Egan, MN.

A series of surprises began on Oct. 13. George and Virginia went to Saturday evening Mass and found the entire immediate family in "Virginia's" pew.

The family returned home where a stretch limousine picked up the couple for a champagne ride around Duluth



Mr. & Mrs. George Mikrut

in all the gorgeous colors of autumn leaves. After a decoy stop they ended up at the Jolly Fisher Restaurant. The hostess showed the pair to the party room where they were met with accordion music provided by Frank Bucar and friend. All of their children, grandchildren, sisters, brothers, nieces and nephews (except those unfortunately unable to attend) greeted the couple.

Virginia's complete wedding outfit was on display along with pictures. Video of home movies and reunions played on a TV monitor nonstop.

Congratulations, prayers, speeches, dancing all were part of this very special chapter in the Mikrut family. A brunch was served at the Moose Club the following morning. Later, celebrating continued in the family home.

Video captured all the surprises and joy of one of the happiest days in the Mikrut family in 50 years for all to enjoy.

Virginia is a member of Branch 33, Duluth, and was a Mother of the Year.

(The delightful narrative of this special event was provided by Janet Mikrut who is now at home, on leave from her job in London, England.)

> Lois M. Pelander, Reporter

bers voted for me. It's my second time around! But, I still love the honor that goes with it. Thank you, ladies.

It was nice to see our member, Helen Gorsick who hasn't attended for a long time. She has been in ill health. And, Helen Kohli, who lives 40 miles away also traveled to us, hoping that the huge snow fall would be cleared out and dry for her driving. It was. She brought delicious homemade wine from their vineyards.

A good time was had by all and we had such tasty cookies from the members, which we sampled and gave to members. Get well wishes to Stephanie Spelich and Angela Kaferle of Madison, Ohio.

Our next meeting will be on March 20, 1991 at noon at the Elks. Get well to all and have a good, healthy and Happy New Year!

Our president, Jo Kasson recently celebrated her 70th birthday and was surprised by her children with a lovely party at the Hippodrome in downtown Warren. Jo was overwhelmed and we all had tears of joy for her. The hall was decorated with balloons and very festive. A polka band played all the favorite Slovenian songs and they served a delicious buffet dinner followed by a huge birthday cake for dessert. Jo is such a wonderful, energetic and happy person and this party was a great indication of how much she is thought of in her circle of close friends and relatives and she should be so proud of her family, sons, Joseph, James and daughter, Barbara. They are so loving and thoughtful to their mom.

Once again, best wishes, Jo and many happy returns!

JOANNE PONIKVAR, Reporter

JAN.-FEB., 1991 /17

ILLINOIS-INDIANA STATE REGIONAL CONVENTION

The Illinois-Indiana State Regional Convention was held on Sunday, October 7, 1990 with Branch 16 as hostess. Preceeding the 11:00 a.m. Mass at St. George Church coffee and rolls were served for the many members who attended. Mass was celebrated by Fr. Casimir, Carmelite, from Munster, Ind. St. George Choir sang the mass and our members joined in singing many beautiful ethnic songs. Branch 16 member, Dolores O'Brien, wearing her naroda noša, was the lector for the mass.

Following the mass members proceeded by car, to Crow Bar Restaurant. John Krcmaric delighted us with his keyboard renditions of many popular and Slovenian songs. Members commented on the unique place cards, and the abundance of excellent food. Branch 16 outdid themselves again with the variety of ethnic and other delicious desserts. Prize tickets were sold prior to the dinner, and later many lovely prizes were distributed to the lucky winners.

The Convention was opened at 2:00 p.m. by Branch 16 Vice-President, Maryann Starcevich, in the absence of a very ill President, Marge Prebil. A warm welcome was given to all and pleasure in seeing so many in attendance. Honor guests were introduced. Regional President, Sharon Naudziunas was introduced. She welcomed the National Officers present and thanked Branch 16 for the wonderful day they planned. An opening praver was offered for the success and fruitfulness of the proceedings. President Sharon read a letter from National President, Victoria Bobence in greeting. She asked members to remember the dates of May 17-19, 1991 for the National Convention in Cleveland, Ohio and to elect for the National Convention in Cleveland, Ohio and to elect qualified delegates. Membership was stressed as of #1 importance. To defray delegate's expenses the increase sale of Pots and Pans was suggested. It also makes for nice gift giving. Ideas for meeting increased expenses for ZARJA need to be addressed. Perhaps a contribution to the Publisher's Fund. ZARJA is a way of keeping in touch with members far and near, and is an excellent magazine.

President Sharon also stressed sale of cook books and financial boost to ZARJA.

National Secretary, Olga Ancel, reiterated the same message from Tory's letter. Membership, and members helping to defray costs of ZARJA are of utmost importance. In a prior phone call Olga shared with Tory, a suggestion was made by our National President to contribute \$1.00 per year, per each member, to offset mandatory increase in dues.

Sylvia Vukodinovich, National Treasurer, was happy to see so many of her friends present, and again stressed the above mentioned. She stressed the fact if the Branches do not have input into increasing the Fund they will have to pay for their own delegates to attend the Convention.

Frances Morison, Director of Women's & Youth Activities is interested in bringing the members together in a Spiritual Renewal, and was sorry the Retreat at Lemont was cancelled. She said the source of our culture has its roots in our Faith. That the renewal of our organization must come from within our hearts.

Mildred Pucel, Branch 20 and Heritage Museum Director, informed us that Robert Holmes was appointed new curator of the museum. She spoke of the museum which is opened on Tuesdays. She welcomed any memorabilia, but asked members to identify and put dates on the back of pictures.

Eight Branches were in attendance and a brief summary of report of each: Branch 2 (Chicago), Maryann Oblak was delegate, with 494 members. This is an exceptionally active Branch both spiritually and socially with many lovely and fun-filled activities planned each month for its members. A theme is set for each of their monthly meetings with favors and place settings to match. Their Pastor's Cheer Basket allows him to share with those in their community who are less fortunate.

Branch 16 (Chicago), Mary Priesol delegate, with 157 members. The Christmas Party, Card & Bunco Party in April, Mother-of-the-Year, and a special Mass to Our Lady of Brezje in May, also the Ethnic Mass in National Costume at Annunciata Church in August were all highlights for this Branch.

Branch 20 (Joliet), Ardis Gregorash delegate, with 621 members. Sponsored a garage sale to raise money for their Branch's Scholarship Fund. Their lovely Grape Festival Dance (10th year) also was for scholarship purposes, and to help pay dues of members over 80. They are very proud of their Branch bowling league now in its 45th year. In Dec. there will be another fun raiser, "Christmas Around the World."

Branch 22 (Bradley), Elizabeth Kinder delegate, with 18 members. Fourteen of their members live in Bradley and attendance at meetings is almost always 100%. At each meeting a member brings a prize item which in turn defrays convention expenses and helps build up their treasury. They donate to many charitable organizations and volunteer at the local hospital and nursing home. They pay the dues of all members 80 and over.

Branch 24 (La Salle), Agnes Ostrowski delegate, with 78 members. Main project, in its fourth year, is their "Bakeless Bake Sale." They have masses said for deceased members, as do all the Branches. This year they joined the Baraga Association; attended the celebration in Chicago in September, and pray for his canonization.

Branch 85 (De Pue), Mary Jermenc delegate, with 20 members. No report except that they send cards to their sick, and would not like to see their dues increased.

Branch 89 (Oglesby), Angela Nico delegate, with 31 members. Sent a 50 year old dues and treasurer's book to Heritage Museum. Angie Nico won the 1990 membership dues paid by Branch 20. The prize was given to her at the Grape Festival Dance. Their May Banquet was especially festive this year. Rev. Roger Corpus, son of member Honorine Corpus was appointed the Abbot of St. Bede's Academy, Peru. The members all felt honored to break bread with him. This Branch also sent a greeting card, with pride, to Fr. Bernard A. Horzen who was nominated by Reader's Digest as a 1990 American Heroes in Education Awardee.

Branch 95 (Chicago), Mildred James delegate, with 132 members. Their best source for making money is their Prize Book. Emphasis is placed on their Woman or Mother of the Year Party when they have a very large gathering, and members go all out in contributions and goodies. They Continued on page 21.

COMBINED CLEVELAND BRANCHES Greetings from your Ohio-Mich. Regional Pres.

Here we are starting a new year. Time goes by just too quickly. Wishing all of our S.W.U. members a Very Healthy, and peaceful 1991.

Our combined meetings take place four times a year at the Euclid Public Library on E. 222nd St. There are usually 8 to 10 branches represented. The officers are: Ann Tercek Pres. Br. 50; Anne Ryavec V. Pres. Br. 50; Kay Yuratovac Secy. Br. 73 and Josephine Comenshek Rec. Secy. Br. 32. The auditors are from Br. 14 – Vera Bajec and Marty Koren. Our next meeting will be held in March.

It was a full year again with the Combined branch meetings and activities. I've tried to visit most of the branches throughout the year. It is a joy to come to these meetings to see how each one is conducted.

The presidents and officers do a good job each in their own way. My "Thanks" go to all of you for inviting me to your Mother of The Year Celebrations! It is always a pleasure to be there.

The branches with some **new Officers**, please be kind and helpful to them as they need the cooperation of all the members, this is what makes a branch interesting and successful.

Most of the ZARJA reporters are sending in their monthly articles. This is very important, this is what makes our ZARJA Dawn Magazine so interesting, so keep them coming.

Being the age that we are in, most of the branches are losing quite a few members each year, so Please Dear Members do try to enroll some new ones to at least replace the ones we lose through death.

Our Zveza is now 65 yrs. old. It was organized mainly for two purposes: Communication and Preservation of our Slovenian Culture and Heritage. The concern for each other is also vital and evident when reading the ZARJA. The compassion and concern being unity and friendship, this is the way it should be, so let's keep it up.

The Ohio-Mich. Regional Convention took place Sept. 28, 1990 with a Mass, Luncheon and Meeting at St. Mary's Church on Holmes Ave. The Branches that hosted this day were Chairlady Kay Yuratovac of Br. 73 along with Branches 42 and 47. My "Sincerest Thank You" for the cooperation and effort you put in for a beautiful day. There were 10 branches represented. Our guest, was our gracious President Tory Bobenc from Ely, Minn. Also present was our Chairlady Evelyn Majercik for the National Convention coming up on May 16th thru 19th, 1991 here in Cleveland, Ohio. The last convention held in Cleve., OH was 20 years ago. So please ladies - do read all about it in the ZARJA. Also promote it at the meetings, let's be of some help to Evelyn. Keep these dates open for this great event. We are the only "Slovenian Catholic Women's Organization" so be proud of our Zveza. All of us have to cooperate with Evelyn and the Convention committee to make this a beautiful and most successful convention.

Until we meet again, Happy Valentine's Day to all, With Love and Prayer!

Ann J. Tercek

SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION:

Enclosed is a check for \$100 for the SWU Scholarship Fund.

In a recent issue of ZARJA I read with interest the accomplishments and experiences of recipients of the SWU Scholarships.

I was pleased what I read of the reports and experiences of the young women and men; they will, because of their intelligence and advanced schooling at the colleges and universities, carry on in the Slovenian tradition. These young people demonstrate their capabilities and "smarts."

I attended Aurora High School and pursued graduate studies at the U. of Minn. and Wash. State U. and got a job at the Univ. of Nebraska-Lincoln. My eldest daughter, Anne earned her Ph.D. at U–N–L and she and her husband went to Corvallis, OR to take positions at Oregon State University Biotechnology two years ago. Anne convinced me to move to Corvallis last September. I am pleased with the move. The climate is milder than in Lincoln, snow is a rarity, but rain is frequent.

The SWU selection committee should be commended on selecting such capable and intelligent women and men for the scholarships.

Sincerely,

Max L. Schuster

MSGR. LOUIS B. BAZNIK ST. VITUS HALL OF FAME HONOREE



Rt. Rev. Msgr. Louis B. Baznik

The Alumni of St. Vitus School in Cleveland, Ohio selected their former pastor and good friend, Msgr. Louis B. Baznik as the 1990 Hall of Fame Honoree. He was named to this honor at the annual celebration of Alumni on October 28, 1991, at a gala banquet held at St. Vitus. Msgr. Baznik is now in retirement after a long career of service to various Slovenian parishes and as a U.S. Army Chaplain.

Our heartiest congratulations and very best wishes!

New Surgery Corrects Rare Heart Defect

When Nicholas Martinetto was born in September 1985, he seemed to be the healthy baby that his parents, Paul and Nancy, and his sister, Katie, were eagerly expecting. But after a few days, Nicholas was not looking so healthy. He was not feeding well. He seemed listless. Doctors soon discovered that Nicholas was born with a tiny left ventricle – what should be the most powerful chamber of the heart, because it is responsible for the majority of the heart's pumping work.

This condition, called hypoplastic left heart syndrome, is the fourth most common congenial heart problem in newborns. It accounts for nearly 25 percent of cardiac deaths during the first week of life and 15 percent of cardiac deaths during the first month of life. The disease is almost always fatal.

But surgeons, cardiologists and Minneapolis Children's Medical Center staff could offer another option: a rare, two-stage operation that might prolong the boy's life.

Nicholas was less than one month old when he underwent the first phase, a difficult nine-hour surgery followed by 28 days in intensive care. While the first round of surgery gave Nicholas better odds for surviving, he was not yet done fighting for his life. In August, 1986, and then again in January, 1989, he underwent surgery. His January surgery, the second stage of rebuilding his heart, marked the first time surgeons at Minneapolis Children's had performed that procedure. Current national statistics show about a 50 percent survival rate from each of the two operations, compared to virtually no chance of survival if the surgeries are not performed.

Minneapolis Children's is the only facility performing this surgery in the region. And Nicholas is one of 400 children brought to the hospital last year needing heart surgery and care. Minneapolis Children's Medical Center provides cardiac care to more Minnesota children than any other hospital in the state.



The Martinetto Family, Paul, Nancy, Katie (8) and Nicholas (5)

Nicholas is home. And his health still makes for some hard days and extra concerns for the Martinettos. "Of course, you'd like your child to be healthy," notes his mother, Nancy. "But Nicholas is his own person. I can't imagine him other than he is. He's a really super kid, and without the operations, we wouldn't have him at all."

From a longer story by Leonard Lang – Association of Minneapolis Children's Medical Center. More about Nick on our Junior Page.



One of Nick's pasttimes

Nick and sister, Katie up at his grandparent's cabin

Enjoying himself in his bike carrier

ILLINOIS-INDIANA CONVENTION (Continued from page 18)

felt that their entire membership deserved this honor for shouldering the burdens of the Branch.

In the discussion period of the Convention the business of declining membership, appealing for needed funds to defray delegates Convention expenses and rising cost of printing the ZARJA, were often repeated. Encouraging younger members to take office, and length of time an officer can serve were all brought before the floor. A suggestion for branches to combine to charter a bus to attend the National Convention was repeatedly recommended.

A time limit on delegate reports was cited as they are read in the ZARJA. One Branch wanted to know why men (paid up members) couldn't hold office.

Fran Morison, Branch 2 President, on their behalf, presented a \$500 check to the Scholarship Fund, and a \$500 to the Heritage Fund.

The Hostess for the 1991 Illinois-Indiana State Regional Convention will be Bradley, IL, on October 6, 1991.

Members holding hands throughout the restaurant offered a closing prayer of three Hail Marys. These were said for the success of the 1991 Convention, all our sick, and all our deceased members.

Maryann Oblak made a motion for adjournment. It was seconded by Angela Nico. Meeting was then adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dolores M. O'Brien

NO. 55, GIRARD, OH

At our December 10th Christmas party we had only 21 members present, but we had a very nice time. Those of you that didn't come missed a nice party.

We had our election of officers: Maria Selak — president, Dorie Kregar — vice president, secretary-treasurer — Anka Kregar; recording secretary — Matilda Cigolle, 1st auditor, Dori Kregar, 2nd auditor, Sophie Kren, 3rd auditor, Dolores DePietro; reporter is Rosemary Gordon.

I was just told that last summer Tillie Cigolle and her daughter, Sister Jean went to Rome for two weeks. While they were in Rome they visited some friends, who took them to see the Pope, they had a very enjoyable time.

Sophie Kren went to Colorado twice this year, once at Easter Time and once in September for her twin granddaughters' birthday. The girls were 16 on Sept. 9 and on her way home she stopped off at her son's home in Cleveland for a week's vacation.

Mary Kristin's daughter Joan and her son, Jack were in from California to spend the holidays with her. Andrea Selak went to a Festival of Trees at St. Elizabeth Hospital on Dec. 9 and while she was there she won a Christmas tree called (Under the Sea).

From Oct. 22 until Nov. 7 the Kregar family had two cousins come from Slovenia for a visit. They couldn't get over how we celebrate Halloween in this country with all the decorations and so forth. They stayed up until 2 A.M. many a night just talking and having a good time. One day they even went to St. Rose school and had a nice talk with the seventh and eighth grade students. The teacher said for them to come back anytime.

Our February 6th meeting will be at the Jib-Jab Restaurant in Girard at 7 p.m.; the next meeting will be March 13. Anka Kregar has bought a home of her own, if you want to send in

HOW NICE IT WAS TO BE WITH YOU!

The National's Capital holds far more that the seat of our American government – it is where very fine people of Slovenian ancestry live...among them the lovely members of Br. 103. In October they celebrated their 25th Anniversary, with a gala dinner-dance. A large crowd gathered to enjoy this occasion and each other's company. I was happy to be among them!

With my gratitude for all the warm hospitality shown me by the officers and members, by my hostess, Nika Kovacic and her daughter, Bernadette, I assure you that this trip, though very brief, will remain with me as a perfect example of sisterhood at its best.

I hope you can continue for another 25 years to show this love among yourselves so that we shall always be a part of the Washington scene.

*

To all, my sincere congratulations!

CORINNE LESKOVAR

An added joy of the Washington weekend visit was meeting a committee of our members and others who are planning the 1991 BISHOP BARAGA DAYS there. It will be held in conjunction with the 20th Anniversary of the Slovenian Chapel at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Since our SWU had so much to do with the Chapel's construction and through the years, our Br. 103 has participated in all of the activities associated with the Chapel, it is appropriate that we all join in the dual celebration this Labor Day. Please keep in mind that the SWU will be attending BARAGA DAYS and the CHAPEL AN-NIVERSARY – our members coming there from all over the country. There will be more information on this trip and the Schedule of Activities as the months continue. Make your plans early to attend!

your dues for 1991, you can send them to:

Anka Kregar, 1057 Susan Lane Girard, Ohio 44420 Her phone is 539-1032.

Members having birthdays in January are Anna Catone, Delores De-Pietro and Mary Kristen our junior members are Jessica and Dan Gordon. In February are Tillie Gigolle, Sophie Kren and me, Rosemary Gordon and our junior member Jason Catterlin. Happy Birthay to all.

Love,

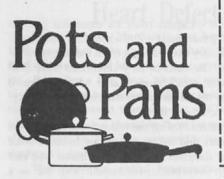
ROSEMARY

A FRIEND

Take time to love. And time to care, Take time to feel For others' fare Just let them know That even when Their world goes wrong, You'll be a friend.

Thomas Gallagher.

HERMINE PRISLAND DICKE 3717 COUNCIL CREST MADISON, WI 53711



SPANISH PORK, a favorite of Betty Mrak, former president of Branch 33, Duluth MN, was given to me by Elizabeth Smolnikar who said: "I cook this in my slow cooker when I do my crafts. Needs no watching." "The KROFE that were served on Minnesota Day received so many compliments from the ladies," writes Adeline Mustonen of Br. 34, Soudan, "that I thought you should have the recipe from Ann Stefanich. She and her daughter-in-law, Rosemary Zavodnick Stefanich made the krofe.' (225 attended) The tasty BLACK BOTTOM CUPCAKES recipe as sent by Lil Hartmann of Br. #17, Milwaukee, WI. and for Valentine's Day - why not CHOCOLATE KISSES!

Love and kisses!

Hermine

SPANISH PORK

1/,

1

- 6 medium pork steaks Salt and pepper
 - Flour

2

6

- cups canned tomatoes medium potatoes, cubed
- small onion, diced Green pepper and parsley, optional can peas, 16 ounces.

Sprinkle meat with salt and pepper; dredge with flour and brown in large frying pan. Drain excess fat before adding tomatoes, potatoes, onion, green, pepper and parsley. Simmer 1 hour. Add peas and simmer until peas are hot. Add water if tomatoes cook down.

		KROFE		
3	packages dry yeast dissolved in ^{1/} 2 cup	3/4 1/4	cup butter (1 ^{1/2} sticks) cup oil	
1	warm water can (12 ounces) Carnation	10	cups (no more) Robinhood or Gold Medal flour	
2 ¹ / ₂ 1	evaporated milk cups regular milk cup sugar	3 5	teaspoons salt eggs, well beaten	

Dissolve yeast in warm water. Heat canned milk, milk, sugar, butter and oil until butter melts. Cool to lukewarm. Add part of flour and beat 10 minutes with wooden spoon. Add remaining flour and rest of ingredients and beat another 10 minutes. Do not knead. Let rise partially in unreased bowl, sprinkling top of dough with flour. Cover. Having risen partially, beat again and let the dough rise partially again, about 25 minutes. Beat. Sprinkle with flour, cover and let dough rise to double in bulk. Spoon enough dough out of bowl on floured cloth to make 6 to 8 krofe. Roll out lightly. Cut into krofe. Keep cutting until all dough is used up, covering with cloth each time. Start frying about 1/2 hour or sooner after cutting; they rise fast. Fry in Wesson oil at 375°, both sides, until golden brown turning once. Drain on brown paper or toweling. Makes about 60 krofe.

CHE	ESE MIXTURE:		
1	carton (8 ounces)	1/3	cup sugar
	cream cheese, softened	1/8	teaspoon salt
1	egg	6	ounces chocolate chips (mini chips preferred)
	Blend cheese, egg, sugar, salt; s	tir in chips	. Set aside.
CUP	CAKE BATTER:	tir in chips	
CUP	CAKE BATTER: cupsflour	tir in chips 1 1/3	cup water
CUP	CAKE BATTER:	1	
CUP 1 ^{1/2} 1 1/4	CAKE BATTER: cups flour cup sugar	1	cup water cup oil
CUP 1 ^{1/} 2	CAKE BATTER: cups flour cup sugar cup cocoa	1	cup water cup oil egg

Preheat oven to 350°. Sift dry ingredients together. Add remaining ingredients. Beat until well mixed. Fill cupcake holders 1/2 full with batter. Top with 1 teaspoon cream cheese mixture. Sprinkle with sugar; and nuts, if desired. Bake at 350° for 30 to 35 minutes until toothpick inserted in cupcake comes out clean (do not insert through cheese mixture). Makes 18 cup cakes.

NO. 56, HIBBING, MN

The regular meeting of Br. 56 was held on Nov. 13, 1990, with 18 members present.

V.P. Veronica Marter opened the meeting with prayers, after which roll was called. All officers and chairmen were present except the following: auditor Dorothy Oberstar, Sgt.-at-Arms Mary Sikich, and Publicity Chrmn, Edith James.

Veronica Marter reported on our Christmas party.

Nov. birthdays were recognized and birthday song was sung to Valeria Carlson, she being the only birthday member present.

According to Liz Spolar, in 1991 we will have two 50-year members: Dorothy Plese and Margaret Mac-Donald. More on this in '91.

We are reminded that our 1991 Mother of the Year must be decided

CH	OCC	MATE.	KISSES
UI	occ	LAIL	VIDDED

13/4	cups sifted flower	1/2	cup granulated sugar
1	teaspoon baking soda	1/2	cup brown sugar, packed
1/2	teaspoon salt	1	egg, unbeaten
1/2	cup butter	1	teaspoon vanilla
1/2	cup peanut butter	1	bag (7 ounces) Hershey's chocolate candy kisses

Preheat oven to 375°. Mix flour, soda, salt. Set aside. Cream butter and peanut butter; add sugars gradually and cream until fluffy. Add egg and vanilla. MiA well. Add dry ingredients and mix. With rounded teaspoon of batter shape into balls; roll in granulated sugar. Bake on ungreased cookie sheet at 375° for 8–10 minutes until lightly browned. Remove from oven; firmly press candy kiss on each cooky – so cooky cracks around edge. Cool thoroughly before storing. About 53 cookies.

on at our March meeting so we should start considering a candidate.

A discussion was held on the matter of sending Christmas cards to our members. In that connection, a motion was made by Liz Spolar and seconded by Pep Erickson that our Sunshine Chairman, Rose Vukich send a Christmas card to all members who are not able to attend our meetings because of illness or infirmity.

Jackpot winner was Mary Magajna.

Meeting was adjourned with lunch served by Fran Tobey, Agnes Barkis, Mary Enge and Ann Selvo.

Prizes in games were as follows: Ann Voiovich, Ann Satovich and Ann Selvo.

On Dec. 10, 1990, our Christmas party and December meeting were held at the VFW Clubhouse.

Grace was led by V.P. Veronica Marter, after which all 30 members and 3 guests present enjoyed a delicious chicken dinner.

After dinner V.P. Marter conducted our meeting. Rec. Secy. Milena Koehler read the minutes, which were approved. December birthdays were read and celebrated with songs. Fin. Secy. Liz Spolar read a lovely greeting to all members from Fritzie Furlong and her mother.

Under old business we had a month in which to select our delegate to the Nat'l Convention in Cleveland. We are happy to report Mary Massich is our delegate and Valerie Carlson, alternate, on a motion from Ann Voiovich and a second from Ann Pintar.

Under new business, we are happy to announce our selection for 1991 Mother of the Year: Liz Spolar, our hard working, dedicated Fin. Secy. of Br. 56. Congratulations, Elizabeth!

Our next order of business was election of officers as follows: Pres. - Valeria Carlson, V.P. – Veronica Marter, Fin. Secy. – Elizabeth Spolar, Rec. Secy. – Edith Jones, Treas. – Valeria Carlson, Sunshine Chairman – Rose Vukich; and,

Sgt.-at-Arms – Ann Voiovich, Auditors – Fran Tobey and Dorothy Oberstar, Publicity – Edith Jones, Prayer Leaders – Rose Maras and Edith Jones, Calling Committee – Veronica Marter, House Mothers – Amelia Domen and Ann Voiovich, Program Director – Ann Voiovich.

Jackpot winner was Ann Pintar.

Games were played with winners, Jennie Sater, Ann Pintar, Valeria Carlson, Fran Tobey and Anne Schubert.

Feb. lunch committee will be Anne Satovich, Mary Drobnick and Amelia Domen.

My tenure as your Rec. Sec'y. and your reporter will be over, and I'm hoping you all enjoyed my efforts. My successor is a very intelligent and well-liked member, who, I am certain, will do a super job. I hope you all cooperate in any help she needs, as I will.

Good luck, Edith, and all our new officers for 1991.

MILENA KOEHLER

NO. 57, NILES, OH

Our November meeting was well attended by 14 members. Our lunch committee, Mary Opalka and Julia Yakop served a lovely lunch. We are very fortunate to have members in their eighties serving us such a lovely lunch as they are at our meetings almost every month.

We finalized our plans for our Christmas Party on Dec. 11th.

We also held elections of officers

for next year; and as usual the same members are holding their jobs for another year with the exception of our Secretary who had to give up her position because of ill health, I will report the names of all of our officers next month. Birthdays for Nov.: Julia Yakop, Josephine Fabian and Frances Stanec.

We will also vote on our "Mother of the Year" at our next meeting. We later played a few games and a special prize was won by Julie Sherlock; so you see ladies we do enjoy a lovely afternoon so try to be with us. We do miss our sick members; but, pray that they are on the road to recovery and hope to see them at our future meeting.

* * *

Our Christmas party was a great success. It was a lovely luncheon held at the "Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Home" and Retirement Center with a beautiful turnout of members. We dispensed our meeting for the month and held our gift exchange. We received lovely table favors given to us by our member, Elizabeth Havaich and made by her husband, Charles. We want to thank them both as they were lovely and blend in with our Christmas season.

We also voted for our Mother of the Year, who will be Esther Logar; although she wasn't able to attend, she is well deserving of the nomination. Our lunch committee for January were Ann Gunther and Mary Young.

Pray that you all had a Happy and Blessed Christmas. Stay well and we are looking forward to seeing you at our February meeting.

FRANCES STANEC

NO. 67, BESSEMER, PA

Meeting was called to order and the Lord's Prayer spoken followed by a moment of silence in memoriam for all our loved ones who have passed away.

Sixteen ladies were present and I thank you - you did not disappoint me!

Dorothy Helrack brought mother Victoria Puz to the meeting; also our new member, Rose Mary Young brought her mother, Rose. Welcome again!

It would be so nice to see others do the same. There are many mothers who would enjoy coming, I think. If not your mother, bring a guest to our meeting to visit with us.

Angela Pusnik is home - drop her

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS GRATITUDE.....

Please accept my donation of \$10 toward the Appeal 1991. Wishing everyone concerned a blessed, holy, healthy holiday. God Bless All. *Catherine Kroll*.

Good Luck with your magazine which I enjoy very much. Enclosed find \$2. Mary Drobnick.

To help defray expenses on the ZARJA. 1 do enjoy reading all the articles. *Ana R. Mismash.*

Enclosed is my donation towards the publishing expenses of the ZARJA. I am a member of Br. 40 – enjoy the ZARJA, especially the recipes. Sincerely, *Anne A. Tomsic*.

Hook forward to receiving my ZARJA every month and my husband is as anxious to read it, also. Keep up the good work. We want to help defray some of the cost and are enclosing our donation. We wish you happy holidays. Love, Mary Matos.

My sister and I would like to make a donation to the DAWN. We are members of Br. 10 and enjoy reading the DAWN. My sister is *Rose Marolt* and I am *Mary Marolt*.

a card, Rt. 7, New Castle, PA 11602.

Ljubi Ulah was in the hospital and we hope she is doing well. Clara Simonsic is also in the hospital with pneumonia. We wish her a speedy recovery. Mary Silhanek had her knee operated on. Louise Serjak is in the hospital, so you can drop her a card, too: Jameson Memorial, New Castle, PA 11602.

Our Christmas party turned out great – lots of good desserts, etc. It was nice to see daughters and friends of our members who have passed away through the years.

Violet Mehocich sent a door prize and Rose Pusnick got it! Dorothy Charniga gave us two centerpieces for prizes. Tables were decorated really nice. We also picked out our Mother of the Year, Rose Mary Young. Congratulations!

I wish everyone a Happy New Year and to all, good health and a good year!

> MARY PERCIC, Secretary

NO. 73, WARRENSVILLE, OH

HAPPY ST. VALENTINE'S DAY!

Now that you have Christmas all packed away — or are you still sweeping up pine needles and finding stray pieces of tinsel? — it's time to think ahead to the bright New Year. Remember when we thought 1991 was too far ahead to think about? Guess what? It's here!

Lots of news to catch you up on, so let's get started. We had a great Christmas party. Had 56 in attendance, and it was nice to see so many of the husbands joining in on our fun. The "Pete's" filled the evening with polkas, waltzes and Christmas Carols. The kids enjoyed each other and were especially happy when dear ole' Santa arrived. Food? You name it, we had it. Just a very, very nice evening. We are so happy to have the space that Mandich's offer us for our gathering. Thank you - and thanks to everyone else who helped make our party such a success.

Earlier in the fall, while working at a Festival in Greenfield Village, Michigan, far away from her usual stomping grounds, Helen Dodyk was surprised to meet up with Linda Yoger Shumay (daughter of member, Ann). Linda responded to the meeting with, "Just wait til Mom hears about this".

Frances Travnik and her sister, Elsie Liskar, traveled to West Point where they spent a week visiting Elsie's grandson, Anthony Santora. He will graduate in June, '91. Hope Grandma will furnish us with a photo to publish.

We extended our sympathy to Florence Duale on the passing of her sisterin-law, Catherine Domsic. The Duale family was well known to everyone in our small neighborhood and many were saddened by Catherine's death. Our prayers are with all of you.

Get well wishes to Jane Stelmes who is confined to a Nursing Home following a stroke. And to all our members who are in similar situations. We think of you always, pray for you often. And to Angela Gliha who has had pneumonia — hope you are feeling better.

Congratulations to Jean Francisco on the birth of her new son, James Lee. No doubt he is a happy, healthy, bouncing boy. We will be anxious to see him. And with new births, there is always a proud grandma someplace. Mary Chesnik has become a great grandma, Joanne French a new grandma, and Angie Vlk is preparing to be grandma in June (are you enjoying the afghan, Angie). Syl Kocjan is also a new grandma, and she is also recovering from two fractured ribs sustained in a fall after visiting with the Epley's. Hope you are mending well, Syl — and enjoying the new grandchild.

Our All Nations Mass at St. Jude's Church was as beautiful as ever. Bishop Pevec again gave the mass the ethnic touch it needed. We are always so welcome at St. Jude's. S. W.U. No. 73 is a part of the parish family and proud of our membership.

As you read this article, we are probably settled in Florida. It's always difficult to leave Ohio behind — but the days go by quickly, and all too soon it will be time to pack for our return trip. In the meantime, try to stay warm. Wish I could send each of you some warm Florida sun, unfortunately, science has not yet come up with a way to "can" that item. Looking forward to seeing many of you in May, 1991.

> Respectfully submitted, EVELYN A. MAJERCIK

NO. 79, ENUMCLAW, WA

We hope that all members are enjoying a happy holiday season. Our branch had a very successful Christmas party on December 2nd, this being the first year it was held in conjunction with SNPJ Lodge No. 738. As usual, fun, super food, Santa for kids of all ages and the kind of music we all love by the Puget Sound Button Box players. A big thanks to all the ladies who helped in making this another good party.

At our last meeting the members decided to continue with the same slate of officers for the coming year. Annette Johnson hosted members at her lovely new home in Enumclaw nice turnout, great refreshments by Annette and daughters.

On a sad note, a long-time member, Ethel Mariotti, passed away. Ethel had been in poor health for a long time. We are delighted to announce Dorothy Sleigh will be our official delegate to the convention in Cleveland. She and her family have been very active in our branch activities as well as in various community projects. It will be great fun to meet with the people we met at the last convention and make new friends. The meeting on January 6th will be at the home of Helen Chacata, 1828 Gossard St., Enumclaw. Lots of business planned, please circle your calendars and come. MARY BRATOVICH,

President

NO. 81, KEEWATIN, MN

Our meeting was held on October 28, 1990 in Father Frederick Hall with our president, Josie Kapla presiding. Prayers were said for our deceased members.

The president presented information in regard to the Convention which will be held in May in Cleveland from May 15 to May 19, 1991.

Plans were discussed in regard to going by a chartered bus on May 13 and returning on May 21.

Our membership can send one delegate. Our president, Josie Kapla will be our delegate. The membership is requested to bring crafts to Cleveland for the Scholarship sale.

Plans were discussed for our Christmas party.

The Forresters were to be contacted to see if they would like to have a joint party.

The members were busy making strudels which were sold at St. Mary's Bazaar on Oct. 21.

The meeting closed with prayers.

Hostesses were Sophie and Anne Michelich.

Respectfully submitted,

ANNE MICHELICH, Acting Reporter

NO. 85, DE PUE, IL

We had a beautiful Fall until now, Winter with a little snow and ice. We'll have to hibernate and hopefully it won't be too bad.

We have had some members on the sick list. Mary Oberch fell and sprained her ankle. Connie Berkse had an infection in her foot. Fran Machek has not been feeling quite up to par. We miss you gals at our meetings and hope you will all be feeling better soon.

After a long hospital stay I am happy to report that my brother is at home and we thank God for answering our prayers and for the good care his wife has given him.

We extend our sympathy to Mary Oberch and her family on the loss of Mary's sister, Nora.

Our December meeting was to be

a dinner meeting at the Ranch House with the election of officers and a delegate to the National Convention; our January meeting was at the home of our president, Gen. Grilc.

We had our last meeting of the year with a dinner meeting at the Ranch House on December 7. Election of officers was held and the same officers were elected by unanimous vote. (We did not have a choice!) I was elected to represent our branch as delegate at the National Convention. Cards were sent to our sick members.

The holidays are over now and it is time to get to our other business.

My sister's daughter and family have moved to Gettysburg, PA. We are going to miss them as her two boys were so much fun and we really enjoyed them and they were all close to us. We will be looking forward to their coming home during vacations.

Again best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year to all of our branch members as well as all the other branches. God bless.

MARY JERMENC

NO. 92, GUNNISON, CO

In November Rita Bertelli conducted our meeting at Betty Stefanic's home. Bunny Spritzer was working late so we went ahead and planned the Christmas dinner which was to be held at the home of Kathy Adamich on December 9.

A gift was planned for Rose Carricato since she had to move to be closer to her son, Joe, and his family. We each donated towards the gift.

We tabled election of officers until a later date. Bunny wished to give up her office as president.

Christmas cards were sent to members who could not be with us.

Kathy Adamich won the mystery box donated by Sally Duck. The other four members won the door prizes donated by Frances Somrak.

Our next meeting was a dinner on December 9 at the home of Kathy Adamich. Kathy, Rita and Betty Stefanic worked all the details for the dinner. John Stefanic and Bebe Adamich joined the other 16 guests and members for dinner. Since they worked that day, we were happy to have them even for a little while.

Conversation preceded the afternoon of fun. The men watched the Bronco – Kansas City game on TV.

The ladies played games and it was

fun, but a "roll-off" was needed to get the winners decided! Beth Weaver and Bunny Spritzer received prizes for their efforts.

Christmas gifts were exchanged and the party ended as we all had "to get" home.

Other news items I should relate are: the marriage of Kim Liss, daughter of Pauline Stajduhar of Longmont and, the death of Mary Volk in Denver. She was the sister of Rudy and Matt Malensek. She also was a signer of our charter, even though she quit after she moved to Denver.

Best wishes are extended to all of our members.

Audrey and Frieda, we haven't heard from you in some time.

Best wishes to Frances and Gaspar Guerrieri who are spending the winter in warmer places.

Thank you, Kathy, for your hospitality, the corsages, and your concern for all of us.

A happy New Year to all.

FRANCES SOMRAK, Reporter

NO. 95, SOUTH CHICAGO, IL

Sadness cloaked Branch 95's holiday spirit with the death of our dear member, Delphine Stemple. Her enthusiastic helping hand will be missed! She was a true participant in everything she did. Rest in peace, Delphine!

Our Christmas party preceded the sad event and was truly enjoyed by all, including Delphine, who won a beautiful jewelry case.

Other prize winners were Charlotte Fryza, Manda Tivador, Mom Catherine Musa, Betty Markusic, Marge Krmpotic, Ann Granich, Lois Chereos, Lottie Brkljacic, Mary Mihalik, Fran Benkovic and Anne Josue.

President Millie James thanked her officers for their assistance. Also included was party chair-lady, Mary Brozynski, Mary A. Perkovich, Helen Santy, Manda Dosen, Anne Josue, Helen Price and Marge O'Connor. Delphine also assisted.

The one-man-band, Dave Lash, kept everything lively. Champion polka dancer was Virginia Kwiatkowski.

Santa — Harriet Pikarski — made her annual visit distributing the gifts. Split the pot was won by Ann Cavlovich, Mary Toporis and Harriet Isek.

Forgot that Marge Niksic was

November hostess - sorry!

Here for the Radiology Convention from Denmark, was the cousin of Marge Simunic and Mary Brozynski. She is a native of Lika, Yugoslavia and a doctor of radiology.

MARIE MARAS

NO. 100, FONTANA, CA

I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas. Here we are in 1991 already. At our Branch meeting in November we held elections of officers for 1991 since we did not have a meeting in December. President, Ann Kapel; Vice President, Mary Lou Vidergar; Treasurer, Ann Arledge; Recording Secretary, Carol Harley; Reporter, Linda Costell. We also elected our delegate to the National Convention in May, Henrietta Bledsoe, with Ann Kapel as alternate.

We had a very nice attendance at our Christmas Party on December 1. We had a very nice dinner at Bon Appetito Restaurant in San Bernardino followed by a gathering for dessert and refreshments at the Costell home in San Bernandino. We had a very nice time. Frank Kapel, Frank Videgar and Linda played accordian music. A good time was had by all. Also, enough money was donated and raised for the VCR for the Slovene Rest Home. Thanks to everyone who contributed. I'm sure it will be enjoyed by the residents. I hope to see all the members at our 1991 meetings. Members will be notified of the dates and places by phone, as we still meet at different homes each month. Wishing everyone a very Happy New Year in 1991.

LINDA COSTELL

NO. 102, WILLARD, WI

Greetings everyone! We certainly were blessed with an extended beautiful Indian summer which lasted until the end of November. Unbelievable that a deer hunting season went by without a bit of snow; but that didn't discourage the handy hunters. Many were happy with their prize trophies!

Our Hunters Bake Sale was a big success. Thank you, ladies, for all the variety of goodies.

On a sad note, I must report the death of a member of many years. Ann Horvat passed away on Nov. 12 after a short illness. She was a very

GREETINGS FROM BRANCH 103 WASHINGTON, D.C.



kind soul who helped out anyone who was in need. Our condolences to all the family. She was a sister of our Secretary-Treasurer, Mary Djubinski.

Our annual Christmas party was held on Dec. 2nd. First we had our meeting which was followed by a delicious Pot Luck Lunch, gift exchange and our favorite game with cash prizes which was enjoyed by all. There were also several door prizes.

Some important issues were decided. A date was chosen for the 50th anniversary of our Branch 102, which will be May 5th. The day will begin with a 10:30 a.m. Mass for living and deceased members of our Branch. This will be followed by a dinner at the Parish Center to which all the members are invited especially those who live away from our immediate area, and we have quite a few. So please mark your calendars and plan to attend. We are planning a rather modest celebration as there are many other activities going on at this time.

Anne Collier was selected as our delegate to the National Convention with Mary Staut as alternate.

Mary (John) Lesar was selected as Mother of the Year and will be honored at our anniversary dinner. Mary was an officer when our Branch was first organized.

The busy Christmas season is over, the students are back at school and at their respective colleges. We wish them the best in their following semesters.

Winter is well with us, with a good snow cover and rather cold nights. The winter sportsmen and women are in their glory – snowmobiling, cross country skiing and ice fishing. We are enjoying watching 2 pairs of cardinals that have joined our large bird population at the big feeder this winter, the first time in all the years we have lived here. They are so welcome! Soon we will be thinking "Spring", as the seed catalogs are already arriving!

A very Happy New Year to all and a sincere wish that all our service men and women will return home soon and safely! May Peace come to the whole world.

Our next meeting will be in early February and we will have our Valentine Party. See you then!

MARY STAUT

NO. 103, WASHINGTON, D.C.

Our December meeting was very well attended, with enthusiastic participation by all.

Our October Dinner-Dance was a great success, as usual, celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the formation of Branch #103. We are grateful for the excellent dance music furnished by "The Express" -- a variety band led by John Dubravec of Steelton, Pennsylvania. An added feature was the visiting Soča Slovenian Folkloric Dance Company of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. These young dancers were excellent and very entertaining-they certainly added to the success of our celebration. We were also very privileged to be honored with the presence of Corinne Leskovar, Editor of ZARJA. She had some very inspiring comments in her speech and, once again, we appreciate her joining us on celebrating our Anniversary.

Several important items were discussed at our meeting concerning the events scheduled for 1991. All the members present contributed greatly making this a very productive meeting.

Finally, Bernadette Kovacic and Lydia Millonig demonstrated the art of arranging Christmas centerpieces. The materials for this project were distributed--they included candles. Christmas doves, fresh greenery, the container, and potting forms. They did an excellent job instructing, and the beautiful centerpieces seemed to be formed like magic. Thanks Bernadette and Lydia--these projects are always received with much enthusiasm. As usual, we did find time in this busy schedule to socialize with all our friends and enjoy the goodies.

We hope everyone enjoyed a very Merry Christmas, and that the coming year will be a successful and happy one.

KO VODA PODIVJA ...



Voda se je spet umaknila v strugo, ostalo pa je hudo razdejanje, ki ga je težko opisati...

MENDA ni Slovenca v svetu, ki bi ne slišal o katastrofalni poplavi, ki je letos prav za Vse svete pokrila z vodo eno tretjino dežele pod Triglavom. Sicer je voda kmalu odtekla in reke so spet v svojih strugah, pustila pa je opustošenje, ki ga naša zgodovina zadnjih tri sto let ne pomni. "Dnevi so bili ena sama prestrašenost, bolečina, žalost, s polno mero negotovosti ... " pravi poročilo v Družini. Najbolj prizadeta so širša območja Celja, Koroške, Gorenjske, Zasavja, Posavja, Cerkljanskega in Štajerske. Poplave in hudourne vode so zajele 37 občin, še posebej je prizadeto območje porečja Savinje, zlasti v zgornjem delu. Na najbolj prizadetem območju živi več kot 240.000 ljudi in mnogi od njih so danes brez strehe ter najpotrebnejšega za zimo, ki se s svojim mrazom že približuje. Po nepopolnih podatkih je bilo poplavljenih 2551 stanovanjskih objektov in poleg njih tudi 278 večjih in manjših industrijskih podjetij; 45 stanovanjskih in gospodarskih objektov je bilo v celoti ali delno porušenih. Voda je odnesla 41 pomembnejših mostov ter poplavila več tisoč hektarov kultiviranih zemljišč. Na mnogih mestih so hudourne vode izpodjedle in odplavile dele cest, ogromno je udorov, zasipov in nanosov. Sprožile so tudi veliko zemeljskih plazov, od katerih se nekateri še premikajo in otežujejo zaščitne ter reševalne akcije. Največja plazina ob Savinji obsega okoli 1,300.000 kubičnih metrov zemlje. Škodo ocenjujejo na 9 milijard dinarjev.

Dekan Jože Gračnar v Lučah je bil še na zahvalno nedeljo le telefonsko dosegljiv. "Obiskujem ljudi, poskušam jim vliti vsaj malo poguma. Toda panike je še vedno čez mero. Prenekateri, s katerim spregovorim, začne jokati. Danes so Luče obiskali s helikopterjem premier Lojze Peterle z ministroma Bavčarjem in Janšo. Pretreslo jih je to razedejanje in preplašenost ljudi, ki si sami ne morejo pomagati. – V cerkvi jih danes ni bilo veliko, kot tudi za Vse svete ne. Povabil sem jih danes: Drugod polagajo na daritveni oltar poljske pridelke, mi pa položimo na oltar svoje prečute noči, preplah, to našo razdejano zemljo, vrtove, poslopja, hiše, vso našo bo ečino. Bog nas je preizkusil. Prepustimo njemu sodbo..." je

DISASTEROUS FLOODS IN SLOVENIA

From newspapers and other publications received in the last few months, the story of how Slovenia was disasterously flooded has become most distressing.

Over one-third of Slovenia has had to withstand the surge of flood waters, thru all its most beautiful valleys, from the west to the east. Areas hit hardest were the upper (northern) regions of Gorenjska, Koroška, Štajerska with perhaps the worst damage in the Upper Savinja Valley, known by all tourists because of the beauty of the LOGARSKA DOLINA (Logar's Valley). Over one million sq. meters of the rich land in Štajerska where crops such as hops, grapes, wheat are grown, was destroyed. Damage estimates are in the billions. It was said that it looked like it might the end of the world – that judgment day could not be worse!

Prayers and messages of hope and support have poured into the country and from all over, fund drives were started to help the reconstruction. Not only will people have to rebuild their homes – many are homeless – but roads and bridges will be to be built. In some cases, there is no trace of towns, highways, etc.

In Slovenia, there is no source for funds from the government as there would be in our economically stable country. It is barely able to keep a standard of existence now as it is, with the people's fight for freedom so costly in terms of money, products, etc. Money collections from outside Slovenia, from every Slovenian community, are in operation. Any help that is sent to the SWU Home Office will be forwarded to Slovenia with your good intentions. (This information was taken from the publications Ameriška Domovina and MISLI, months of November, December, 1990.

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povedal po telefonu iz od ostalega sveta še vedno odrezanih Luč.

"Morebiti se v desetih letih ne izkopljemo iz razdejanja, v katero nas je pahnilo viharno vodovje. Kolikor bomo sami sebi prepuščeni, prav gotovo ne. Toda pomoč je že začela prihajati v različnih oblikah," je poročevalcu Družine povedal predsednik Krajevne skupnost Ljubno. Da, pomoč že prihaja. Od rojakov doma, ki na srečo niso bili ali vsaj ne hudo prizadeti. Pa tudi iz zamejstva in zdomstva.

Podatki so iz uradnega poročila in so točni, gotovo pa ne popolni. Podoba dežele pod Triglavom je razdejanje, "da sodni dan ne more biti hujši". Zato se je letošnja zahvalna nedelja – 4. novembra – spremenila v dan udarniškega dela. Bila je sončna in res pripravna za začetek čiščenja posledic, ki seveda še dolgo ne bodo izginile, če bodo sploh. "Dolina Ljubnice je povsem predrugačena; lepo asfaltirana cesta je v zgornjem delu izginila, hudournik si je utiral novo strugo in odnašal vse, kar mu je bilo napoti..." pravi eno izmed poročil.

**MISLI: November 1990** 

#### Spreminjati svet s spreminjanjem sebe

Sufi Bajazit pripoveduje o sebi: »Ko sem bil mlad, sem bil pravi revolucionar in k Bogu sem molil takole: "Gospod, daj mi moči, da bom spremenil svet."

Ko sem se približal srednjim letom in spoznal, da je minilo že pol mojega življenja, ne da bi bil spremenil eno samo dušo, sem začel moliti drugače: "Gospod, daj mi milost, da bom spremenil vse tiste, ki mi pridejo na pot: le svojo družino in prijatelje in dovolj mi bo."

Zdaj, ko sem star človek in so mi dnevi šteti, sem začel spoznavati, kako neumen sem bil. Zdaj je moja edina molitev: "Gospod, daj mi milost, da bom spremenil samega sebe." Če bi bil prosil za to že od vsega začetka, ne bi bil zapravil svojega življenja.«

Vsakdo bi hotel spreminjati človeštvo. Komaj kdo pa pomisli na to, da bi spremenil samega sebe.

#### ŠT. 68, FAIRPORT HRB., OH

Thanksgiving Day je, ko sem se spravila k pisanju tega dopisa. V rojstni domovini, Zahvalna nedelja smo jo imenovali. Praznovali smo bolj cerkveno, za pojedine tam ni bilo govora, le to mi je ostalo dobro v spominu, pesem, - Hvala Večnemu Bogu - je zadonela po vseh cerkvah. Za to pesem je bilo ljudsko petje, pri drugih mašah, so bili pa vedno dobro izvežbani pevci in pevke na koru. In te pesmi, se boste gotovo vsi spominjali, ki ste se skrcali v tej naši drugi domovini, katera nas je posvojila, za svoje državljane. In ta praznik je posebno posvečen, da družine pridejo skupaj od blizu in daleč, na ta četrti četrtek v mescu novembru, to je danes 22. novembra.

Ko to pišem, obujam spomine dobre in slabe. Slabi so se nekako pomeglili in obledeli v dolgih letih. Bog ne dopusti, da bi se še kdaj ponovili. Za to radi govorimo o naši mladosti in moramo reči – Hvala Bogu za vse, kar smo in kar imamo, posebno za zdravje, seveda kolikor nam dopuščajo naša leta.

Kaj pa, sedanje novice, po celem svetu, se bodo kaj ublažile, dosti je še ljudi, živih kateri so šli skozi dve svetovni vojni. Živi so nam še spomini, to je bilo med prvo svetovno vojno, ko se je molilo po vseh hišah rožni venec in tudi po cerkvah in vedno dodano – molimo za Rusijo, Bog nas obvari, kuge, vojske in lakote. Takrat kot otroci nismo še razumeli vseh teh besed v molitvah, kaj pomenijo. In sedaj po 70-tih letih tako velik preobrat po vsem svetu. Ruskemu voditelju-Gorbačevu – so Amerikanci poslali dva tisoč voščilnih kartic k njegovemu 59-letnemu rojstnemu dnevu in Mati Terezija, pomaga revnim in zapuščenim v Moskvi in Oče Jože Cukala do zdaj misijonar v Indiji je njen pomočnik. Tako smo čitali v časopisih. In tako nepričakovano se je to zgodilo, ta velika spremeba po 7 desetin letih, kar neverjetno.

Ker sem v zeuniem dopisu v Zarji pisala, du se Mrs. F. Skrabec nahaja v cskrbovalnem domu (ona je mati od naše tajnice Fany Ule) ko sem dopis že oddala na pošto, sem zvedela žalostno novico, da se je na žalost Mrs. Skrabec, za vedno poslovila iz te solzne doline, stara je bila 95 let. Bila je zvesta članica od vsega začetka naše podružnic št. 68. Vse smo jo rade imele. Kadar je ona pripravila, na naših sejah zakusko, smo se vse vedno razveselile rozinove potice, le ona Mrs. Skrabec jo je znala tako dobro speči. Mrs. Fany Skrabec naj počiva mirno v Ameriški zemlji, sorodnikom in vsem, ki ste dobro, blago ženo poznale, naše iskreno sožalje, od vseh članic št. 68.

Iskrene želje članicam, ki boste v prihodnjem letu 1991, obhajale rojstne dneve, se spominjamo Vas in zapele bi Vam pesmico: Januarja – Happy Birthday; Rozi Bradack, Mary Mahne; februarja

## PISMA

ANTHONY DE MELLO: Pitčja pesem – Prevod: Alenka Klemenc

Drage članice Ženske zveze. Vsam vsem želim zdravje v novem letu. Stara sem 86 let (10–20– 1904). Poslala sem ček tajnici Dolores Puhek. Poznam jo ko je še bila mala deklica. Poznam tudi njeno družino.

Jaz preberem kaj vse kar je v Zarji ker me vse zelo zanima.

V Floridi živim od leta 1972. Vse vas iz srca pozdravljam.

> Sabina Kamicar 242 Abbeyville St., Deltona, FL 32725

Za moj 89 letni rojstni dan se je odločil Ohio Arts Council da se opiše moje življenje, glede mojega ročnega dela – Slovensko klekljanje čipk (bobbin lace). In to je napisala moja hči brez moje vednosti. Hvala Ruth. Prosim, da to priobčite v Zarji. Sem članica pri št. 47. Hvala lepa.

> Anna Jesenko 3567 W. 61st St., Cleveland, OH 44102

(Vaše zelo zanimivo delo vsi spoštujemo in s veseljem smo sprejeli vaše poročilo, katerega je pisala vaša hčerka. Priobčeno bo v naslednji Zarji. Ured.)

pa Bender, Georgene, Jopko, Mary in Amalija Južna.

H koncu tega dopisa, pa Happy New Year 1991, ko stopimo v novo desetletje, želim, da imate dobro voljo in na obrazu pa smeha, smeh ne dela zgubano kožo na obrazu. Pa na svidenje v Zarji v Novem letu 1991.

#### Pa še malo za smeh.

Bogastvo starih ljudi?

Stari ljudje so bogati s srebrom na glavi – sivo – srebrni lasje; Z zlatom v ustih – ako je še kaki zob z zlatom pokrit; S kamni v njih ledvicah – Kidney Stone – ki niso zaželjeni; S svincem – Lead – v njih nogah – noge težke kot svinec; in Gas v trebuhu – to je bogastvo starih ljudi!

Prav srečno in zdravo Novo Leto 1991, Vsem čitateljem mesečnika Zarja po vsej naši Ameriki, kakor tudi vsem ki se trudite z dopisi za Zarjo posebno pa naši gospe Corinne Leskovar, urednici naše Zarje.

Vas pozdravljam,

JULKA KLAMMER

## OB OBISKU PREDSEDNIKA SLOVENSKE VLADE – LOJZETA PETERLETA – SLOVENSKI DAN NA PRISTAVI V CLEVELANDU



Igrivost in otroška nedolžnost naših najmlajših ljubiteljev slovenstva in njegove dediščine.

Predsednik slovenske vlade, Lojze Peterle v družbi naše glavne podpredsednice Cirile Kermauner.

Izvrstni "FANTJE NA VASI" so obogatili praznovanje Slovenskega Dne.

Predsednik Lojze Peterle med slavnostnim govorom na Slovenski Pristavi v Clevelandu.

Cirila Kermauner se v imenu nas vseh poklanja spominu žrtev krute vojne.

Naša glavna podpredsednica Zveze, Cirila Kermauner v družbi veselih "Ribncanov", Gustl Dragar in Frank Kogovsek.







JAN.-FEB., 1991 /29

## naša slovenska dediščina

Ana Gaber



## Začetki Katoliške Cerkve v Ameriki FRANC JAKLIČ

### BARAGOVI INDIJANCI

Indijanci niso prvotni prebivalci Amerike. Pred njimi je tam živelo pleme, ki jih je po izobrazbi in umetnosti daleč prekašalo; ostanki ogromnih okopov iz ilovice, starih do 2000 let, pričajo o tem ljudstvu. Indijanci so prišli najbrž preko Beringove ožine ali preko otočij, ki so se pogreznila v morje, iz srednje Azije; po telesnih in dušnih lastnostih so podobni Mongolom. V latinski Ameriki jih je mnogo več kakor v severni; Méhika jih ima n. pr. do šest milijonov, Združene države pa skupno s Kanado samo pol milijona. Jezikovno se ločijo v 11 jezikovnih skupin, docela različnih med seboj. Vsaka od teh skupin ima svoje rodove, ki govorijo podobne jezike, kakor so si podobni n. pr. slovanski jeziki. V jugovzhodni Kanadi in okoli treh vélikih severno-ameriških jezer so bivali Algonkini, h katerim spadajo Očipvejci, Otavani, Potavotómijci, Ilinojci itd. Od vseh severnoameriških indijanskih skupin so bili Algonkini najbolj nadarjeni.

Tam, kjer belo pleme ni blažilno vplivalo nanje, so Indijanci ohranili svoje temne, zahrbtne nagone, ki so včasih strašno kruto izbruhnili. Najhujši rod v severni Ameriki so bili Sjú (Sioux) v zvezni državi Dakóta. Leta 1860 so navalili na "bledo polt" ob Mississippiju; zverinsko so mučili in strašno klali priseljence vseh evropskih narodnosti. Država jih je potem polovila brez števila in jih po več sto po raznih trdnjavah pobesila; ko so se poslovili od svojcev in odpeli svoje smrtne speve, so mirno in mrko čakali na vrv. Naš misijonar Pirc je nekaj takih videl. V Združenih državah živijo zdaj Indijanci v "reservácijah"; to so prostrana ozemlja, na katere tujec ne sme stopiti. Ob vsaki reservaciji so trdnjave za vojaštvo, ki váruje njih pravice in skrbi tudi za zdravnike, učitelje, itd. Posebni uradniki skrbno pazijo, da kdo ne vtihotapi "ognjene vode", to je žganja, do katerega imajo Indijanci silno strast in ki jih je dolga desetletja telesno in dušno ugonabljalo. Indijanci se pa lahko izselijo iz svoje reservacije in gredo živet med belokožce. Čedalje bolj se spajajo z njimi. Potomci teh mešanih zakonov so krepki in nadarjeni, kakor sploh križanje plemen navadno obuja nove sile.

Baraga je deloval med rodovoma Otava in Očípve ali Čipéva. Pripadata jezikovni skupini Algonkin, ki ima še 12 drugih rodov. Nekoč so Algonkini bili zelo številni in mogočni; imeli so dosti visoko kulturo, o čemer priča bogastvo izrazov njihovega čudovito gibljivega jezika. V neprestanih medsebojnih vojskah so pa podivjali; njihovo število je strašno padlo.

Rod Otava je ob Baragovem prihodu štel samo še 4000 duš. Da je bil nekoč zelo številen, priča tudi ime kanadskega velikega mesta Ottawa. Rod Očipve je v Baragovem času štel 20.000 članov. Otavani so bivali večinoma na Dolenjem Michiganu, to je na polotoku med Huronskim in Michiganskim jezerom, Očipvejci pa na južni obali Gorenjega jezera (Lake Superior, izgov. Lejk Sjupfrier), na tako zvanem Gorenjem Michiganu, in na zahodni obali Gorenjega jezera.

Huronsko jezero ima površino 58.000 km<sup>2</sup> (vse slov. ozemlje meri okoli 25.000 km<sup>2</sup>), Michigansko 60.000 km<sup>2</sup>, Gorenje pa celó 81.000 in je sploh največje od vseh jezer s sladko vodo. Vsa ta tri velikanska jezera imajo čisto vodo in so izredno bogata rib; podnebje ob njih je pa mrzlo in so jezera več mesecev zamrzla, zlasti ob obali. Posebnih naravnih lepot tam gori ni; gozdovi še zdaj pokrivajo Gorenji in Dolenji Michigan.

Na tem velikanskem ozemlju so nekoč Indijanci svobodno živeli ob lovu in ribarjenju. Evropski priseljenci jih niso gonili proč; naselili so se na praznih planjavah in izsekavali gozde, začeli obdelovati zemljo in iskati rudnike. S tem so pa Indijanci izgubljali lovišča, trpeli lakoto in izumirali, kajti ti svobodni rodovi gozdov in goličav se niso zlepa lotili drugega dela kakor lova in ribarjenja. Z Evropejci so prišle k njim tudi razne bolezni, zlasti koze, ki so pomorile cele naselbine, ker se Indijanci niso znali prav nič varovati.

Še hujše gorje, ki so ga evropejski osvajalci prinesli Indijancem, je bil pa alkohol. Poprej so bili Indijanci zelo trezen narod. Imajo pa po svoji naravi veliko nagnjenje do žganja. To so Francozi in Angleži takoj opazili in strašno izrabili. Sodi za sodi ruma in drugih vrst žganja so se valili z ladij, ki so dovažale za Indijance tržno blago. Alkohol je še vse hujše moril med rdečekožci kakor pa nalezljive bolezni in bratomorne vojske. Alkohol je kriv, da je v severni Ameriki ostalo tako malo Indijancev. Katoliški misijonariji so reševali le že bolj zadnje ostanke.

Otavane in Očipvejce je Baraga opisal v posebni nemški knjigi, ki je bila takoj prevedena tudi na slovensko. Njegovi opisi veljajo le bolj za poganske Indijance; krščanstvo je Indijance čudovito prerodilo. Da bomo Baragovo delovanje med njimi bolj razumeli, poglejmo, kakšni so bili.



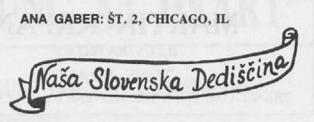
Indijanec Sioux z družino

## BARAGOVI DNEVI

#### in

PROSLAVA 20 LETNICE SLOVENSKE KAPELE

31. avg. - 1 sept. 1991v WASHINGTON, D.C.Udeležite se!



## Kako si pridobiš prijatelje

#### ČLOVEKU JE NJEGOVO IME NAJPOMEMBNEJŠA BESEDA NA SVETU

Jim Farley, eden od ministrov v vladi severnoameriškega predsednika Roosevelta, je že nekaj mesecev pred začetkom neke volilne kampanje napisal vsak dan na stotine pisem in jih razpošiljal vsem mogočim ljudem na ameriškem Zahodu. Nato je sedel na vlak in v devetnajstih dneh obredel dvajset držav. Z ljudmi se je sestajal pri zajtrku, opoldne, ob popoldanskem čaju ali pri večerji.

Po vrnitvi s turneje je enemu od znancev v vsakem mestu pisal, naj mu sporoči imena vseh ljudi, ki so bili njegovi, to je, Jimovi gosti. Tako je nastal seznam tisočerih imen, vseeno pa je Jim Farley vsakomur osebno pisal. Pismo je začel z »Dragi Bill!«, »Dragi James!« ali »Dragi Joe!«, vsako pa je podpisal z »Jim«.

Jim Farley je že zgodaj spoznal, da večini ljudi lastno ime pomeni več kot vsa druga imena na svetu. Treba si je znančevo ime zapomniti in ga izgovoriti s prijateljskim prizvokom: to je za človeka najlepši poklon, ki zmeraj užge. Če pa človekovo ime pozabite ali ga narobe izgovorite oziroma zapišete, je učinek prav nasproten.

Ko sta se »kralj jekla« Andrew Carnegie in njegov konkurent George Pullman zapletla v konkurenčni boj za prvenstvo na področju železniških spalnikov, sta obe orjaški severnoameriški industrijski družbi spodnašali druga drugo pri velikem naročilu za čezkontinentalno progo med Atlantikom in Pacifikom. Oba tekmeca sta pohitela v New York, pogajat se z upravnim odborom čezkontinentalne proge.

Nekega večera sta se možaka srečala v hotelu. Prvi je spregovoril Carnegie:

»Dober večer, gospod Pullman! Ali se vam ne zdi, da sva oba precej za luno?«

»Kaj hočete s tem reči?« je vprašal Pullman.

Nato mu je tekmec razložil, da bi bilo za oba boljše, če bi sodelovala, kot pa da drug drugega spodnašata in se spravljata ob ves zaslužek.

Pullman je pozorno poslušal, vendar brez navdušenja.

»Morali bi torej ustanoviti enotno družbo! A kako naj bi jo imenovali?« je vprašal.

Carnegie pa je takoj odgovoril: »Zelo preprosto: Družba salonskih vagonov Pullman.«

Pullmanu je obraz zasijal od zadovoljstva, ko je slišal, da bo njegovo ime zraven, in brž je povabil tekmeca k sebi v sobo, da se o vsem domenita. In sta se tudi res domenila.



When they got to Vienna, the city was all draped in black, and everybody crawling about miserably, like ants when their anthill has been set on fire.

»What's the matter with you,« asked Krpàn, »that you're all in mourning?«

»Oh Brrdows! Brrdows!« cried great and small, both men and women. »This very day he murdered the Emperor's son, to whom it seemed a burning shame that there should not be found among the lieges of the crown a single champion who was not afraid of the giant. So the prince accepted the challenge; but what was the good? He fared no better than the rest. So far not one has come back from the combat.«

Krpàn bade the coachman drive on quickly, and so they came to the Emperor's court, of which they say that it is very large and fine. A sentry stands by the door night and day, summer and winter, no matter how cold it is; and at once he announced Krpàn's arrival with a great shout, as it is the rule when one of the Emperor's own kin comes to court. Because for a fortnight past, day by day. there had been an order that none and nobody should be announced until such and such a man should arrive. My word, but they were glad of Krpan in Vienna! And why not? They were fairly at their wits' end. When the Emperor heard the shouting, he knew at once who had come, ran to meet him and invited him into the upstairs rooms. They were marvelous fine, finer even than a church. Krpán just stared, because to him it all seemed so garish. The Emperor asked him: »Krpàn of The Peak! Do you remember me?«

»Of course I do!« answered the other. »Why, it isn't more than two years since we met. Well, you are still in good health, as I can see by your face.«

The Emperor said: »What's the good of blessed health, when everything else goes wrong? You've heard about the giant, haven't you? What d'you think will happen, if there's no change for the better? He's killed my son, you see!«

Krpàn answered: »Well, what of it? We'll chop off his head, and that's that!«

But the Emperor answered sadly: "That's very true, if only we could! Oh, I think there's no champion under the sun strong enough to chop off Brrdow's head!«

»Why not? I've heard say that all men between them know everything; that there's nothing you can't find somewhere in this world, so why shouldn't you find a champion that's a match for Brrdows? I'm only a plain man, but I'll give him such a devil of a basting as shall cure him for good an' all of his wicked wish to rampage about in Vienna; an't please God, this be true!«

What could suit the Emperor better than these words! There was just one thing that worried him; so he said: »Of your strength you have given me proof. But consider: he has been used to weapons and armour since he was a boy; you have only peddled whetstones and tinder in Carniola; most like you've never seen swords and lances save at the Stations of the Cross in church. How'll you set about tackling him?«

Don't you worry,« said Krpàn.

The Slovenian classic story of "Martin Krpan", in English, is a delightful addition to our YOUNG AT HEART page, dedicated for the past many years to readers of all ages.

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»How I'll tackle him and what with, that's my business. I'm not afraid of the giant's sword, nor his lance, nor any other of his weapons, the very name of which I don't know, if he has great store of them about him.«

All this pleased the Emperor well, and straightway he called for a pint of wine, and bread and cheese, and said: »Well, Krpàn, drink and eat, and then we'll go and pick out weapons.«

Krpan thought it very shabby: a pint of wine for such a stalwart; but he said nothing, which was in itself an outsize marvel, but what could he do? Most probably he had heard that the quality have all poor appetites, because they eat whenever they like, and as much as they like, only dainty dishes. But a plain countryman, like Krpan, has other things up his sleeve. He finished that snack in a twinkling and then got up quickly. The Emperor saw it all, and because he was no fool, he realized at once that for such a large bodly rations must be bigger; and so, from that moment he was given day by day, and as long as he stayed in Vienna: two knuckles of pork, two quarters of lamb, three capons and the crust - he didn't eat the crumb - of four white loaves made with butter and eggs; wine he was given to order, as much as he could drink.

(To be continued)



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# "FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART"

## DAVY'S COLUMN

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For a short month, February is jam packed with special days. First, there's my favorite, Ground Hog Day. Then there's Presidents' Day and last, but by no means least, St. Valentine's Day.

Symbols associated with St. Valentine's Day are hearts and flowers. Another symbol is the cherub.

This last symbol caused me to wonder how one of nine choirs of angels became associated with Valentine's Day.

Although I didn't find the answer to this question, I did come across some information I found interesting concerning our Guardian Angels.

The Guardian Angel is God's gift to each of us at the moment our soul is born. Their main purpose is to guard

## "Guardian Angel, My Guardian Dear ... "

the soul they're assigned to.

Considering this, I couldn't think of a better time than Valentine's Day (a day of love) to write about these angels. They are a gift given out of God's unending love for us. Just and there way to insure that one day we we id be reunited with Him in  $h\epsilon_aven$ .

his belief of a Guardian Angel is ., t one of pure faith. It is supported by Scripture:

"...For to his angels he has given command about you, that they guard you in all your ways."

(Psalms 90:11)

"See that you do not despise one of these little ones; for I tell you, their angels in heaven always behold the face of my Father in heaven."

(Matthew 18:10) It wasn't until Pope Clement X (1670–1676) that the tradition of hon-



oring the Guardian Angel was approved, and it was Pope Clement X, who established October 2 as their feast day.

Til Next Month,

DAVY

## NICK IS A VERY SPECIAL BOY!

#### (See him on the Cover and on page 20.)

Another entire year has passed and as February rolls around, our thoughts turn to Valentine's cupids and hearts. But for Nicholas Martinetto, hearts and Valentines have a special meaning. Nicholas was born with hypoplastic left heart syndrome, a fatal heart defect, which requires either or a heart transplant or several corrective surgical procedures to repair the defective heart and to save the infant's life. Nicholas' parents decided on corrective surgery, since the chances of finding an infant heart donor are quite slim. After 3 corrective surgeries, Nicholas is now an active 5 year old. Here is an update on his progress over the last year.

The summer went by too quickly, as it always seems to do. Nicholas attended summer school, participated in the library reading program and enjoyed going for bike rides in his special carrier that is pulled behind a bike. His favorite summer activity was going to his grandparent's cabin, where he could throw rocks in the lake, while his toes cooled off in the water.

September was a busy month for Nicholas, returning to the school he attends daily for a full morning of activities. Nicholas has become a "whiz" on the computer, operating programs independently and learning academic skills in a fun and interesting manner. On September 16, Nicholas turned 5 and had several of his school buddies over for a "Ninja Turtle" birthday party. Grandma, grandpa and his special friend, Janice were invited to his school Christmas program. You could pick out Nicholas' voice above the others, belting out Jingle Bells, Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer and We Wish You a Merry Christmas. Nicholas also has cerebral palsy affecting his muscle control. His walking has improved steadily and he gets around the house and classroom independently, using his walker for greater distance. He works hard with his therapists (occupational, physical and speech therapy) and teachers to achieve the skills he needs to be independent. He very seldom gives up and can often be heard saying, "I can do it myself!"

Christmas was special this year for Nicholas, decorating the Christmas tree, frosting cookies and spending time with family and friends. The highlight of the holiday was a trip to visit Santa, where he sat on his lap, hugged Santa and told him he wanted more Ninja Turtles for Christmas.

And now, Valentine's Day nears and Nicholas takes time to remember all his special heart friends. These are friends that Nicholas has met through hospital stays, support groups, organizations and community. Each person has touched Nicholas' life in a different and important way, just as he seems to have touched theirs. A thank you for all that support and a special message from Nicholas.

> Happy Valentine's Day – from my heart,

Nic

written by Nick's Mom – Nancy Martinetto

