

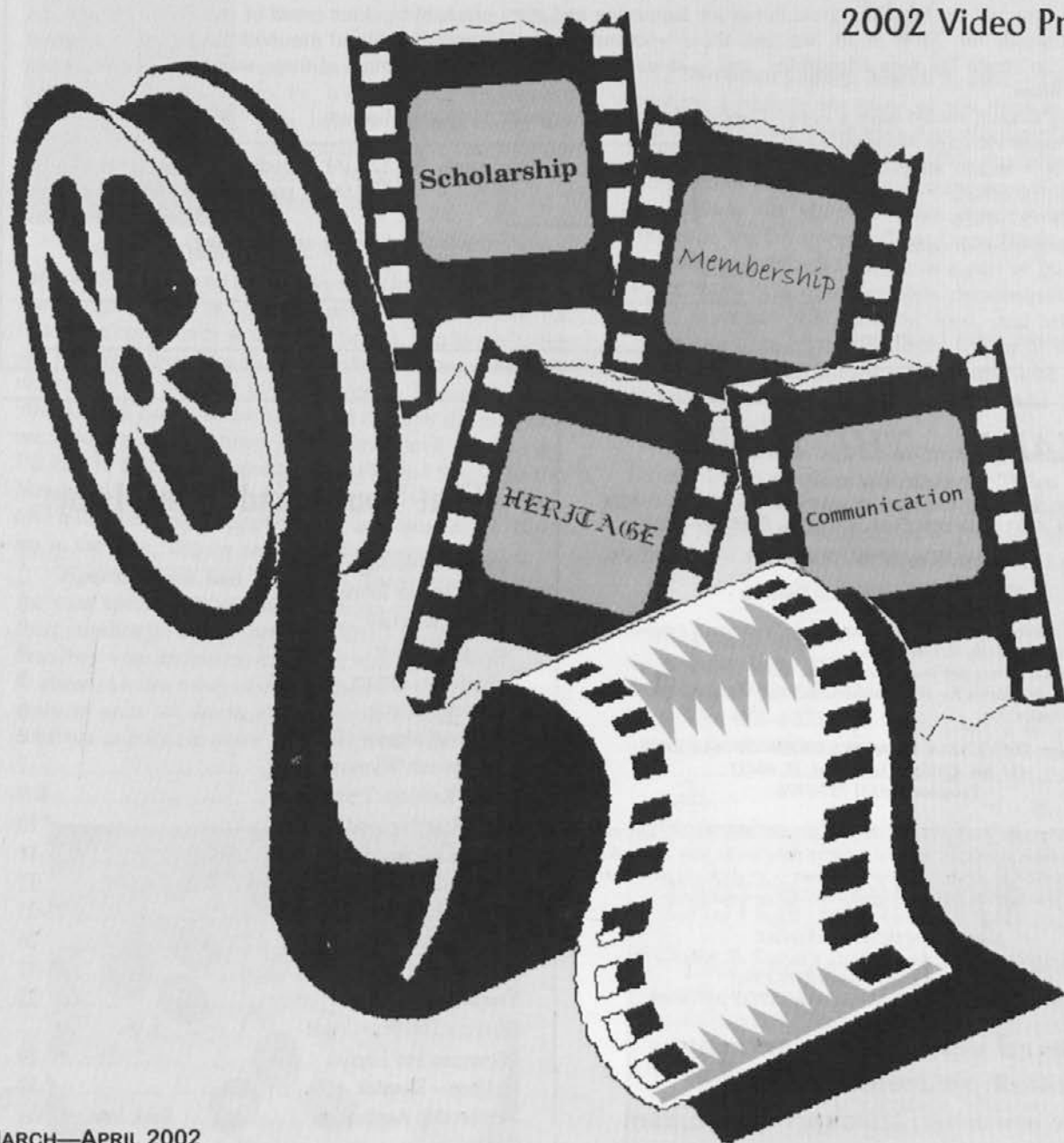
ZARJA — THE DAWN

URADNO GLASILO SLOVENSKE ŽENSKE ZVEZE V AMERIKI
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION OF AMERICA



"Come, Look Through My Eyes..."

2002 Video Production



On the Cover:

Come, Look Through My Eyes

A promotion video for the Slovenian Women's Union (SWU) henceforth called the Heritage Video

Just what is a promotional video (promo video)? The word "promotional" says it all, the video is produced to promote a concept, an idea, an organization. In this case, the video was produced to promote the SWU.

This heritage video is saying, "look at us, we are involved in all that is Slovenian":

heritage — communications — genealogy — scholarship — membership

In addition this heritage video gives the SWU sisterhood an avenue to rekindle the spirit of our foundress, to become visionary activists in all that is Slovenian, it is now possible to create a data base of interest in countless areas of the Slovenian people down through history. Most of all, we invite you to join with us, work with us, learn with us.

And now a few notes about the involvement in producing this video. I had never written a script, produced a video, I only had the passion, the drive to achieve this project for the SWU sisterhood. I must say, it was total immersion, in past ZARJAs, books and periodicals from the Museum library, conversations with branch presidents, countless moments of thought while driving, washing dishes, ironing, sewing, ... and countless emails with Lynn Zalokar, Bonnie Prokup, Kathy Dorchak, Reza Lockwood, Jonita Ruth, and my dear friend from the SGS and a SWU member, George Plautz, all who gave such wonderful encouragement. As Bonnie Prokup would say ... "You go, girl." And during this time I had to remind myself that this project was not a historical documentation, it was heritage video for the SWU.

I am proud of the museum, great things are happening and more can happen. I am proud of the SWU, I believe in all that it stands for. Most of all, we need those who endear the Slovenian people to join with us, to become active members, to create life long friendships, and to share and become life long learners of these wonderful people called the Slovenians.

Every Branch should have a copy! They are for sale through the Heritage Museum:

Slovenian Heritage Museum
431 N. Chicago Street
Joliet, IL 60432
(815) 727-1926
swuhome@msn.com

Heritage Video _____ copies @ \$23.00 including mailing costs
\$20.00 if purchased at the Museum

Total _____
(Includes shipping and handling)

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NATIONAL PRESIDENT
Kathleen Dorchak

“As we swing into 2002!”

Here we are, already into March of a new year. This is a start of a new beginning for our beloved Slovenian Women's Union. While we continue to remember the past we are creating pathways for the future that have never been walked before. I hope that all of you can feel the enthusiasm and excitement about our plans and events.



Thank you to all that participated in our “Museum Magic Month” calendar fundraiser. I am sure many of you were very happy to be winners. We appreciated your help in the success in this moneymaker to raise funds for our Heritage Museum. See page 7 for winners' names.

Carnation Quilt Raffle – This has been a very good fundraiser. Thank you to all of you that have already purchased tickets. And the exciting news is if you think you missed an opportunity to purchase tickets, you haven't, they are still available. The Board decided to change the raffle drawing to the banquet at the Slovenian Jubilej on March 9th. Tickets can still be purchased through the mail from me, and we will continue to sell them until the drawing. I'd like to extend my special gratitude and thanks to Bev Menart, National Auditor, for creating and sewing this beautiful quilt. The quilt is displayed at the Home Office. If you are in the area, stop by and see it for yourself.

Special Mass and Prayers – Thank you, members, for your special prayers and intentions for the victims and their families on September 11, 2001. I know a few of the branches were unable to obtain one mass for your members to attend. I know many of us kept these events in our prayers daily to unite us during these troubled times. Let us all continue to pray for peace to come in the near future.

More Pots and Pans Cookbooks. Our cookbooks continue to be sold, however we still have more to sell. Please keep in mind that these make wonderful shower gifts for brides. This is a great way to pass on our Slovenian traditions to younger generations.



Slovenian Jubilej! March 9, 2002 – The event of the century! I hope to see many of you there as we celebrate our most exciting event ever. Our Heritage Director, Reza Lockwood, has quite an incredible day planned. We are truly honored to have a group come from Slovenia to help us celebrate in true Slovenian style. Joining us from Slovenia, are the singers, Oktet Lesna. How special it will be with these talented people as a part of our anniversary event. We will also have exhibits, demonstrations of bobbin lace, Slovenian folk dancers, food, and information on genealogy. One of the highlights will be to see the newly renovated Heritage Museum. It's a new look and new approach to our heritage and traditions. And there will be much, much more.

It's going to be a great 2002 for the Slovenian Women's Union! In the words of Lillian Gish, “What you get is a living – what you give is a life.” Let's all get our life as full as possible as we continue to give and keep our spirit alive as we share our Slovenian heritage and traditions.

Love, peace, and laughter,

Kathleen

3088 Markle Drive
Silver Lake, Ohio 44224
Telephone: (330) 686-1336
Fax: (330) 688-6203
Email: kdorchak@neo.rr.com



EASTER CARDS FOR SALE!

Again we are proud to offer beautiful Easter Cards, designed by Bernadette Kovacic Fitzsimmons depicting Slovenian Easter eggs (pirhi). Each card is a treasure by itself. Cost for a packet of Easter and Birthday Cards is \$2.50. Send in your order to the SWU Heritage Museum, 431 No. Chicago St., Joliet, IL 60432.



Slovenian Jubilej!

Looking for Slovenians!

If you are Slovenian or interested in Slovenian Culture/Heritage/Art, then come to Joliet, IL on March 9th! We are celebrating our Slovenian Jubilej, the 75 years of the Slovenian Women's Union of America and 25 years of the Slovenian Heritage Museum. All of this in one full weekend! This is one event you won't want to miss!

Here are the details:

March 8th, 2002, Friday: Admission free at the SWU Slovenian Heritage Museum and Home Office, 431 No. Chciago St., Joliet, Illinois. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Strolling button-box musicians and an old fashioned sing along led by the singers of Lesna Male Oktet of Slovenia – there will be songs we all remember and love! Homemade Slovenian sausage, potica, apple strudel and drinks will be available. ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN IN THE FUN OF MEETING SLOVENIANS FROM ALL OVER!

March 9, 2002, Saturday at the Museum and Home Office: Open for browsing, strolling button box musicians, presentations throughout the day on Genealogy, Cooking, History lecture, Travel to Slovenia, Meeting the National Board Members Slovenian Items for sale and Artists displaying their work!

4:00 p.m. Slovenian Mass at St. Joseph's Church, Joliet, Illinois (across the street).

6:00 p.m. Dinner Reception at the Slovenian Cultural Center in Lemont, Illinois. (30 minutes away from Joliet). The gala banquet, strolling musicians, two concerts, one by local group, the second by the Lesna Oktet of Slovenia, Slovenian folk dancers, viewing our new SWU Video and Program in honor of our 75th Anniversary will be sensational and don't forget, that last of all will be... DANCING!

This event has been in the works for almost one year now. I know in my heart that it will be something you won't want to miss. This is the first time in decades that the SWU put something on of this caliber. It will be talked about for years and you won't want to say later, I missed it! Everyone is welcome, spouses, families and friends! Make your reservation right away. Saturday evening cost is \$35.00 per person, \$10 for children. Call the Home Office at (815) 727-1926.

If you have any questions or need more information, please call me. We have buses coming from many different area such as WI, MN, OH, Central, IL. We have guests coming from Slovenia, Canada, CA, MO, VT, DC, GA, KY, WA, MD, FL, VA, MN, OH, IL, WI, IN and CO so far! The numbers keep growing daily.

Hopefully you will consider coming to Joliet! I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you in person in Joliet March 8 and 9th.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Pohar Prokup
National Secretary SWU
(815) 223-9596

BRANCHING OUT

- Reorganization of Branch 93, New York. Read more about this in Branch Reports.
- Birth of the Internet Branch 404. Coming soon!
- Branch 2, Chicago, IL generously donated conference table and chairs for the newly founded Slovenian Women's Union Library.

75 Years

68 Branches

Same roots

Our Heritage Forever!



CHICAGO, ILL: Governor George H. Ryan sponsored a tribute to Illinois' ethnic museums at the James R. Thompson Center. Slovenian Women's Union Heritage Museum and Slovenian Cultural Center received an award for their participating. *Left to right: Maria Petek, Corinne Leskovar, Illinois First Lady Lura Lynn Ryan, Ivanka Vuksinic and Reza Rozman Lockwood.*

National Secretary, Bonnie Pohar:

THE BEGINNING OF A PROSPEROUS YEAR FOR SWU!

A prosperous year for SWU is exactly what I am predicting. Each year seems to get better but I know this is the year that is going to take us in another direction. Already in just a short time we have many positive changes coming our way. Let me share a few with you:



- Slovenian Jubilej – March 8–9, 2002
- Reorganizing of Branch 93 in New York City
- Birth of the Internet Branch 404 – for all those members who can't attend local branches but want to be active on the internet
- Quilt Raffle to be announced on March 9, 2002
- Ancestry Contest to be displayed on March 8–9, 2002
- Entertainment from Slovenia for our Slovenian Jubilej on March 8–9, 2002
- Recent trip made by Kathleen Dorchak and myself to Slovenia. We started a relationship that will only continue to grow between Slovenia and the Slovenian Women's Union of America. (Read more about our trip in this issue).

It's amazing to think all of the above is taking place in just the first three months of the year. Stay tuned for the continuation of our successful year, as it will only get better!

A great achievement for last year was reaching our 200 New Members that we set as our goal for 2001. Thanks to everyone who went out in the community and encouraged people to join. Now for 2002 we need to do even better. I am sure we can do it! Bringing in 200 members was the greatest amount in recent history for SWU. We should all be proud of this and *realize we have a strong reason to exist.*

Preparing and mailing the invoices was my smoothest year ever. Both were achieved in about two weeks. In addition to the invoices, each member received an invitation for the Slovenian Jubilej. I had everything out the door by January 22, 2002 – the day I left for Slovenia. When I returned home on January 31 I had well over 1000 invoices waiting for me. You can only imagine how overwhelming it was. As I am writing this I am still sorting through everything. Luckily I am almost caught up. There are a lot of steps to take during this process. Each envelope has to be sliced open, then I need to make sure a check and the member's name is on the cut off piece of the invoice. If the sheet is still the whole sheet then I need to cut it down. If there is no name (which happens about 10% of the time) then I need to save the envelope it came in and write the

amount of the check. Then I need to sort into two piles. The first pile is for those members who made a donation and the second for those who were unable to. For those making donations I need to enter their names on a report so they will be included in the ZARJA issue. In just a short week of opening invoices we received the generous amount of \$2,600. This money is greatly appreciated and necessary to help with the expenses we have with ZARJA.

As many of you read in the past issue of ZARJA a percentage of our member's dues do not cover the ZARJA. Each ZARJA issue is approximately \$1.85 an issue which comes out to \$11.00 a year. Thank you to everyone who is able to help us maintain six issues a year of the ZARJA.

In order to make 2002 the prosperous year we want and hope it to be, we will need everyone's help. Here is what you can do:

- Tell everyone you know about SWU and encourage him or her to join. We have something for all ages.
- If you have some spare time please think of us. We can always use volunteers no matter where you live.
- If you are in the need of special gifts – keep in mind all of our heritage items for sale and especially our cookbooks.
- Start thinking about attending our National Convention in Duluth, MN in 2003. It's just around the corner.
- If you have any ideas/suggestions please let us know. Remember we are here for you!

I am looking forward to working with all of you in 2002!

Bonnie Pohar Prokup
National Secretary, SWU
3119 Carrie Street
Peru, IL 61354

Welcome 200 New Members in 2001!

Remember our goal for 2001? Bonnie Prokup, National Secretary kept us informed of the increasing number of new members thru the year, reminding us in every ZARJA that we were striving for 200! And, we did it! Welcome, each and every one!

The greatest number of members enrolled by individuals are:

Theresa Lockwood, Br. 20, Joliet, IL	11
Mary Mejac, Br. 103, Washington, D.C.	10
Bonnie Prokup, Br. 24, Peru, IL	10
Corinne Leskovar, Br. 2, Chicago, IL	7
Barbara Yattoni, Br. 20, Joliet, IL	6
Nika Kovacic, Br. 103, Wash., D.C.	4

To **all** the workers, even if you only got one new member, our thanks and best wishes!

**Over 30 branches participated
with at least one – and more –
new members!**

**Reza Rozman Lockwood,
Heritage Director:**



HERITAGE ALIVE!

We are deep in the heart of the Lenten season and this not only brings to mind Easter coming, but the old Slovenian traditions that I remember as a child that we looked forward to during the Easter Season.

I remember when Stara mama would make butare. Star ata and Stara mama always had a few pussy willow bushes growing in the yard so that when Palm Sunday came around, they would have enough blooming stems to make a butara for each one of us – children and grandchildren alike. On Palm Sunday, we proudly took these bouquets to church, where they were blessed as we celebrated the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.

A simple “butara” is a bundle of fresh greenery (usually evergreen), pussy willow stems and colored ribbons. More elaborate versions can include sprigs of heather, honeysuckle, spring flowers, and even oranges and apples. Since in Slovenia, palms were absolutely unavailable, the first blooming branches of spring were used in place of palms and blessed on Palm Sunday.

There are many customs associated with the butara that have been preserved to the present day. Some record has been made of these traditions, which varied from region to region. After the blessing in church, the butara was kept at home for the rest of the year for good fortune and to ward off unwanted ills. In many regions of Slovenia, it was the custom for the boys to rush home with the butara after church on Palm Sunday, remove the leaves and offer them to the farm-animals for good health. Whoever in the village was first to offer leaves from the blessed butara, was to have healthy livestock for the rest of the year. Then the mother took the blessed leaves to the attic of the house and placed them between the rafters, to protect the home against fire and lightning. In the north the boys returned home with the blessed sheaves, circled the home three times to protect the home from fire and lightning. In the east, the custom was upon returning from church to burn some branches of the sheaf in the house against evil.

What would Easter be without **pirhi**?

These colored eggs are taken in a basket (a jerbas or cekar) with traditional Easter foods to church on Easter Saturday to be blessed and later set out on the table for the Easter meal. The eggs that were blessed (at least in our family) were always five eggs that were colored to a deep

red with no markings or decoration. These eggs represented the wounds of Christ and the blood He shed on the cross for us. In our family, the blessed food – the egg, apple, orange and sausage, was to be the first thing eaten after Easter Sunday Mass – *before* any other food. Easter Sunday, your fast was broken with the Eucharist at Mass, followed by the blessed foods... and only THEN would you be able to eat all of the “goodies” that were long-awaited after Lent.

There is a rich variety of design and method of decoration of Easter eggs, each region having developed its own style. In Bela Krajina and Prekmurje the eggs are characterized by geometric designs. They are decorated with straight, dotted, and zigzagged lines, crosses, spirals, triangles, hearts, and circles, as well as the monograms of Mary and Christ. In the western regions of Slovenia, Gorenjska and Primorska, the eggs are decorated with naturalistic forms: clover, daisies, grapes, birds, as well as the eucharistic monstrance. Easter greetings, such as “Vesela Aleluja”, are also popular decorations for pirhi.

Our Slovenian heritage is rich with tradition and we should not let it fade away. If you have traditions that your family or your village did, write them down so they can be remembered and passed down. Better yet, teach your children and grandchildren what is rightly theirs – their heritage, their culture, and their traditions.



MUSEUM THANK YOUs!

A big “sitting ovation” goes to Branch 2, Chicago, Illinois, led by Mrs. Fran Morison. Branch 2 has very generously donated \$2,400 to enable the Museum Library & Reading Room to purchase a beautiful new conference table and eight very comfortable chairs. Najlepša Hvala!

Our Library and Reading room will be dedicated on March 9th along with the celebration of our Jubilej. Come down to the library, check out a book, and enjoy the comfortable surroundings now enhanced by the generous donation of this hard working branch.

Donated by	In honor/Memory of:	Amount
Nancy Burnett, (30) Sandpoint, ID		\$100.00
Marge Church (42)	In memory of: Cindy Piechowski, Mary Fink, Angeline Zupanc	\$ 30.00
M/M John Blaskovic	In memory of Mary Louise Prhne	\$ 12.00
Mrs. Maria Dolynka & Son, Frank Dolynka	In memory of Walter Dolynka	\$ 10.00
James Debevec	Honor of his wife, Madeline Debevec	\$100.00
Br. 24, La Salle, IL	“Heritage On the Move!”	\$ 25.00
Janice & Jerry Mueller	“Heritage On the Move!”	\$ 25.00
Br. 2, Chicago, IL	Reading Room Table & Chairs	\$2,400.00

MARCH 10TH IS DEADLINE FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS!

ATTENTION STUDENTS! Application forms must be postmarked no later than March 10 when applying for 2002-2003 Slovenian Women's Union Scholarships!



During the past five years, William Slogar, a member of Branch 23, Ely, Minnesota has been a fantastic donor to our program. Almost monthly he sends us gifts. Bill has been a member of Branch 23 for many years and his sister, Ann Saari was also very active until her passing. He is interested in anything and everything pertaining to Slovenia; genealogy, artifacts, etc. and is the number 1 salesman of tickets for any and all groups in Ely. He keeps scrapbooks of all SWU activities and is the "keeper" of his sister Ann's memorabilia. He supports the Scholarship Fund because he believes that this is one way we can keep our Slovenian heritage alive. God bless you, Bill and may you continue to promote our rich culture for years to come!

SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS December 2001 and January 2002

\$5.00 Donation: Be Be Lobe (†John Debeltz)

\$10.00 Donations: Branch 1, Sheboygan, WI (†Mary Ann McCue), (†Josephine Zschetzsche), (Theresa Udovich); Bill Slogar (†Florence Pengal), (†William & Laura Schiltz)

\$15.00 Donation: Ron Erjavec (†Alice Jakovich)

\$50.00 Donation: Branch 32, Euclid, OH (†Mary Tusher), (†Jo Comenschek), (†Johanna "Jennie" Gustincic), (†Mary Golobic).

\$1,000.00 Donation: Anthony Colnar: in memory of his mother, Frances Barman. (The Frances Barman Award of 2002-2003).

\$2000.00 Donation: Rose Marie Princ: in memory of her husband Josef Princ. (The Josef Princ Award of 2002-2003), (The Rose Marie Princ Award of 2002-2003).

Donations should be sent directly to the director and will each be acknowledged and reported in ZARJA. For further information or comments contact: Mary Turvey, Director.

Scholarship Donations will no longer be an option when mailing in annual membership fees to the National Secretary.

Mary H. Turvey
52 Oakridge Drive
Marquette, Michigan 49855
MTurvey@aol.com

F

or the first time in the history of the Slovenian people, the Holy Father, Pope John Paul II bestowed the honor of beatification upon a Slovenian native son, Bishop Anton Martin Slomšek. The ceremonies took place in Maribor, Slovenia on September 19, 1999. Many of our members attended this never-to-be-forgotten event when the Slovenian nation celebrated the close relationship between our culture and spirituality.

Portraits of Bishop Anton Martin Slomšek have been installed in churches in major Slovenian communities including St. Joseph church in Joliet, painted by artist Lillian Brulc, our member (see page 18). Now we are happy to accept a beautiful oil painting of Bl. Anton Martin Slomšek for our SWU Museum, painted by a long-time member, Helen Lukancic-Valerugo. A generous donor through the years, her painting of Marija Pomagaj also graces our Home Office.



Love God with your whole heart – as whatever is yours was given by God. Le ljubimo iz celega srca Boga – saj karkol' imamo, le on nam vse da.

Genealogy Search

A MESSAGE FROM Shirley Kochevar Ferguson of Charlotte, Florida in the last issue of ZARJA was a request for information on her family by the name of Kochevar who came to Pueblo, Colorado back in 1908, then moved to Michigan. The spelling of Shirley's name was incorrect and we apologize for this error.

Dear Tončka:

Can you find out anything about the surname **Pogorevc** associated with Frederick Baraga? Let us pray for peace around the world.

Cecile Bacinski

50 Third Street, Unit A-2
Orangeville, Ontario
Canada L9W 2B1

Dear Tončka:

I found some old photographs but can't date them. Do you have suggestions? Thank you.

Mimi

Dear Mimi:

If the name of the photographer appears on the picture you can check through local directories to determine when they were in business. Clothing can also give some definition of time frame.

Throughout history clothing has served purposes other than for warmth and protection. Historically, social mores – extent of body covering, social preference – the silhouette (which parts of the body are highlighted), role models – who are we emulating – (Jackie Kennedy is a good example), and social upheaval – wars, social reforms, changing roles (women's lib styles, women beginning to wear pants in factories during WWII) are all reasons while styles of dress change.

Here are some criteria of six different years of the past for dating apparel on photographs:

1860 – The silhouette was shaped by a caged crinoline light – weight fiber, no boning used, center front closure using fancy buttons or hook and eye. Jacket bodices were popular and shoulder seams were wider sleeved to fitted laced cuffs Hems brushed the floor, and detachable collars were used.

1880 – Skirts had built-in bustles, narrower, but shelf-like projections, front closures to boned tight-fitted bodices, sleeves long and fitted, bustles narrower with few pleats and steel strips sewn into skirt to make desired bulge. Colors of heavy fabrics used were wine, peacock, and dark greens

accented with velvet trim. A lowered waistline with a pointed bodice at center front was a main feature of the 1880's.

1900 – Boning was used at seams, until 1903, then shaped by tapes, tying at the waist in back. High, flimsy collars were the rage but leg of mutton sleeves of 1890's disappeared into tiered unlined sleeves, often puffy fabric narrowing at the elbow and ending fitted in lower leeve. Pointed cuffs with wrist trims enhanced this style. Fine lawn, silk, and chiffon, trimmed with embroidery, lace, and ribbon were fashionable.

1910 – The silhouette was simplified; soft and draping, slender tubelike, one pieced frocks, and also skirts topped with tunics, vee and square shaped necklines and added for modesty – sailor or peter pan collars. Long sleeves for morning dresses and elbow length sleeves were designed for afternoon. The kimono sleeve was popular and ankles were first seen. Due to the war, bedecked dresses changed to bare necessities – large nonfunctional button decorations were used.

1930 – A soft silhouette – one piece dresses were cut on bias to give a clingy feminine look. Side zippers replaced snaps, rounded necklines and the wide shoulder look was achieved with Shirred material, inserted cutwork, and a caped appearance. Velvets and new rayon and crepe elastic made cling dresses easier to slip into.

1950 – A feminine and elegant look achieved with shirtwaist dresses, strapless formals, back zippers, darts at bustline, rounded small collars, boat necklines, bolero jackets, poodle and full skirts with yards of stiff crinolines at mid calf length. Synthetic nylon, bold prints, glazed cottons, permapress were in fashion. Formal wear was of net and taffeta.

We have come a long way from those boned bodices!

Tončka

The SWU Heritage Museum is currently adding files of Slovenian immigrant families, along with those who have promoted our culture in the past. If you would like your immigrant family pictures, or records preserved for further generations, please send whatever information you have to Reza at our home office in Joliet.

Slovenians living in American cities during 1898

"Koledar družbe sv. Mohorja, 1898"

Courtesy of Baraga Archives, Marquette, Michigan

New York – Adamič Karol, Burgar Ant., Češark Al., Rems Jos., Rojanec Jos., Založništvo "Glas Naroda" Bobek Ant., Sakser Fr., Kranjc Ive; **Brooklyn, NY** – Tassoti Fr. Gabr., Gole Fr., Coghe And., Zelenc Frank; **Little Falls, NY** – Jesenko Urša; **Rock Glenn, NY** – Gornik Ivan; **Buffalo, NY** – Kozina, Frank; **Bridgeville, PA** – Rev. Zalokar Jože, Misijon, Šola, Pevci, Društvo sv. Jožefa, Barbič Iv., Čadež Jan., Debeljak Urb., Drmota Fr., Frlan Fr., Frlac Jakob., Hladnik Tom., Križišnik Jan., Majdič Val., Markovic, Jan., Oblak And., Rainer Mart., Savšek Val., Ušeničnik Fr., Dolenc Marija, Fidej Katra, Jakob Marij., Kverk Neža, Pajenk Magd., Pavlič Marj., Taučar Kat.

"Magic Month" Calendar Winners

\$500.00

Mary Therese Ehnat Chicago, IL
 Mary Jo Martinich Shawnee, KS
 Margaret A. Prebil Chicago, IL

\$300.00

Emilee Jenko Euclid, OH
 Mary Ann Jereb Grayslake, IL
 George Singletary Ankeny, IA
 Art Weber Des Plaines, IL

\$100.00

Dolores Ambrozich Joliet, IL
 Doris Babich Joliet, IL
 Carmella Bonazza Hibbing, MN
 Pat Butterbach Joliet, IL
 Veronica Dalton Euclid, OH
 Richard & Mary Kay Demick Joliet, IL
 Erin & Ryan Emery Wauwatosa, WI

Rob Fanella San Diego, CA
 Gloria Gobel Joliet, IL
 Jo Grabowski LaSalle, IL
 Karl Gumsey LeRoy Township, OH
 Mary Hofbauer DePere, WI
 Adrienne Jager Euclid, OH
 Anne E. Konczal West Allis, WI
 John Korsman New Brighton, MN
 Mary Ann Morose Joliet, IL
 Mary Muller Oakbrook, IL
 Frank & Marie Muster Joliet, IL
 Therese Papesh Joliet, IL
 Mr. & Mrs. Petronio Joliet, IL
 Agnes Serazin Elyria, OH
 George Singletary Ankeny, IA
 Krista Zobel Joliet, IL
 Carolyn Zuzich Flossmoor, IL

Congratulations to all 31 winners!



Illinois State Senator, Larry Walsh is seen with Pat Figurowski as he pulls out a winning contest entry.

Others pulling names were Rev. Thomas Paul, Spiritual Adviser of Branch 20, City Councilman Joe Shetina, Br. 20 member, Joe Strle, Br. 20 member who sold 45 calendars, National President Kathy Dorchak, National Treasurer, Jonita Ruth, Women's Activities Director, Agnes Dobczyk and a few members and a few non-members.

PAT FIGUROWSKI

HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN MARCH

National Officers:

Mar. 16 - Fran Morison, Nat'l. Auditor, Brookfield, IL

Presidents:

Mar. 12 - Josephine Janezic, Br. 43, Milwaukee, WI

HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN APRIL

Presidents:

Apr. 15 - Phyllis Fon, Br. 5, Indianapolis, IN
 Apr. 24 - Charlotte Laurich, Br. 38, Chisholm, MN
 Apr. 25 - Kathleen Emerson, Br. 105, Detroit, MI

Secretaries:

Apr. 24 - Delores Puhek, Br. 2, Chicago, IL

MANY HAPPY RETURNS OF THE DAY!

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

MARCH

- 8-9 Slovenian Jubilee, SWU Home Office and Slov. Museum
- 12 St. Joseph's Table, Br. 20, Joliet, IL Park Hall
- 17 St. Joseph's Table, Br. 2, Chicago, IL
- 24 Bake Sale, Br. 102, Willard, WI

APRIL

- 16 Video Show of Slovenia Trip, (Jean Herbst), Br. 20, Joliet, IL
- 20-21 Bake Sale, Br. 20, St. Joseph Church
- 28 Spring Outing, Brooklyn Botanical Garden, Br. 93, New York City, 1 p.m.

MAY

- 4 Mother of the Year party, Br. 14, Euclid, OH
- 5 Mother of the Year party, Br. 35, Aurora, MN
- 15 Mother's Luncheon, Br. 54, Warren, OH
- 17 Mother of the Year party, Br. 10, Cleveland, OH
- 21 Mother of the Year party, Br. 20, Joliet, IL

Slovenija

A trip of a lifetime!



Jennie and her brother, Ivan, were reunited in Slovenia for the first time. Jennie is 86 and her brother, 94!

My first trip to Slovenia

In January, I got to see my brother, Ivan for the first time. He is 94 years old. I was so happy to see him. My two sons, Charles and Richard told my great niece, Bonnie Prokup to take me the next time she goes there. Also my two other nieces, Jean Ficek and MaryAnn Brunner and my friend, Kathy Dorchak helped make the trip special. We were first supposed to go on September 12th but it was changed so we got to go on January 22, 2002. I never thought how nice the country was. I got to see where my mother, Josephine Pregar's house was in Šmarjeta. And also to see where my husband's family lived in Radeče. The people were very friendly to us. We enjoyed it very much.

Jennie Pohar

On January 22, 2002 I began my long-awaited journey to Slovenia in the company of my great aunt, Jennie Pohar, aunt Jean Ficek, aunt MaryAnn Brunner and Kathleen Dorchak. This was the beginning of one of the greatest trips ever for the five of us. It was wonderful in so many ways, but the best part was that it was enjoyed by all. Not a day or hour went by that we were not smiling and laughing. Never were we bored or tired. We were constantly on the go and forever enjoying every minute. I had a hard time going to sleep at night because I could not wait to see what the next day would bring. Every corner we turned brought about a new pleasant surprise. But the greatest surprise and treasure was my great uncle Ivan (John) Brekan! Meeting him again was a blessing but leaving him was the hardest thing we all had to do. I truly believe that my uncle is one of Slovenia's greatest treasures.

When we returned home every one was anxious to hear about our trip. We had so much to tell. Most importantly, this was more than a trip. Not only was it my favorite time to Europe, out of over 40 times, but it was definitely the trip of a lifetime! Everyday was filled with laughter. We were always enjoying each other's company. We learned so much! Thanks to Brane Vidmar (our driver) who gave us so much history on Slovenia including what it was like for them during both World War I and II. He explained so many misconceptions on what really happened. I never realized how bad it was for the Slovenians during the wars. This was true for my uncle. His family was given 10 minutes notice during WWII to gather their belongings. He and his wife and five children under the age of 6 were sent to work camps in Germany. His house was then given to a German family as well as the other houses in his region. When he returned home from the war he was left with nothing in his house or a roof. Life was very hard for this family as well as all the others. We also learned about the religious issues, the problems Slovenia is facing now and much more. Everyday was a lesson for us. And everyday meant delicious food. Not a day went by that we did not rave about the food. I was so surprised that we did not gain any weight. I guess my favorite was all of the bread and homemade mushroom soups. I could live on that.

Besides enjoying the food the scenery was fantastic. You never wanted to close your eyes in fear of missing something. Our driver was quick to point out all areas of interest. Everyone was just lovely to us everywhere we went. We were treated like true VIP's. We felt very special.

Originally, Jennie and I were scheduled to depart on 9/12 and join up with the SWU 75th Anniversary tour. At first we just postponed the trip like the others and then after much thought I had to cancel for my own reasons. As many of you read in the ZARJA it was very hard and disappointing decision for me. I felt bad because this trip was to reunite Jennie - age 86 and her brother, John - age 94 for the first time. Since 9/12 I've been waiting and watching for the right time to go. It would be a time where I would feel comfortable traveling and a good time in my schedule. Less than two weeks before January 22, I asked my aunt Jennie if she was ready to go and if so we would leave on the 22nd. Of course, she was ready! The next day I was in Joliet, IL for an SWU meeting and announced my trip. Within minutes we were on the phone with American Airlines scheduling Kathy Dorchak's flight and then booking a car for us to drive around. We now had three of us leaving for Europe in just 11 days. On Saturday I receive a phone call while I was still in Joliet that two of my aunts would also like to join. Once again we were on the phone with American Airlines making their reservations. We now had a "mini tour" and transportation became an issue. It was not until three days prior to leaving that we had our previous September Tour Driver, Brane Vidmar booked. (He was the same tour guide they had for the 75th Anniversary Tour.)

No one had time to think and before we knew it the date came! It was January 22 and we were starting - A TRIP OF A LIFETIME!

Stay Tuned for Part Two....

*Bonnie Pohar Prokup,
National Secretary, SWU*

Our Seven Days in Slovenia were incredibly happy, exciting and unforgettable!

January 22, Tuesday, we left the USA and January 23rd, we arrived in Ljubljana

- Kompas Travel Reception with music and in costumes hosted by Brane Vidmar and Mojca Sosteric
- First meeting for Aunt Jennie with Uncle Ivan; dinner at a local gostilna

January 24, Thursday

- Shopping; then meeting with staff at Slovenske Izselsjenska Matice where we were given 4 anniversary books, "Slovensko Izselsjstvo" and discussed plans for our 75th Slovenian Jubilej in Joliet
- Meeting with Mrs. Inya Smerdel at the Ethnographic Museum
- Walk around Ljubljana (Three Bridges, Prešeren Square, Open Air Market, Franciscan Church of the Annunciation, Dragon Bridge).
- Travel to Galerija Lenček in Domžale
- Dinner with Uncle Ivan (met Milena, his granddaughter and her husband, Miro)

January 25, Friday (Štajerska Region)

- Brane introduces us to the special custard-filled doughnut at Trojane
- Rogaška Slatina – bought our crystal and drove past the spas of special mineral waters
- Ptujška Gora – famous Gothic relief of Virgin and Child at the Church of the Virgin Mary
- City of Ptuj
- Lunch at a winery in Jeruzalem wine country
- Maribor – toured Maribor castle and walked around the main square; saw the oldest known grape vine (over 400 years old)
- Drove to Habakuk Hotel and Spa to view the ski and sled hills

January 26, Saturday (Dolenjska Region)

- Travel to Novo mesto with Uncle Ivan
- Ribnica – St. Stephen's the Pope Church
- Nova Štifta Church
- Smarjeta – Visited Uncle Ivan's birth home – invited in for food, drink and song
- Pohar Mountain – and meeting Bonnie's relatives, the Pregar's, at their home for dinner

January 27, Sunday (Primorska Region)

- Attend mass at St. Anthony in Divača
- Lipica to see the stud farm of the Lipizzan horses
- Lunch at the seafood gostilna on the Adriatic coast in Izola to visit with Kathy's relatives, the Kljun's.
- Walked around coastal cities of Piran (St. George Cathedral and Guiseppa Tartini Square) and Portorož



That's Mt. Triglav in the background, on a clear day, atop Mt. Vogel.

January 28, Monday (Gorenjska Region)

- Brezje to the Church of Our Lady at Brezje
- Drive around Bled and Bohinj
- In the Julian Alps – Cable car up Mt. Vogel for view of Mt. Triglav
- Visit costume maker
- Dinner at Gostilna Lectar in Radovljica

January 29, Tuesday

- Interview with Uncle Ivan and Aunt Jennie for local newspapers
- Last walk around Ljubljana for shopping and lunch with Brane and Mojca
- Dinner with Bonnie's family with special food and entertainment

January 30, Wednesday

- Early flight home

Isn't it amazing how much one can do in seven days!



Pleasant Meeting at Slovenian Office for Immigrants

The whirlwind trip to Slovenia made by Kathy and Bonnie in January included a stop at the office for Slovenian Immigrants in Ljubljana where they met with the folks who are helping us plan an exciting 75th Anniversary celebration this month at the SWU Home Office and Museum. They also received commemorative books on the last 50 years of Slovenian Immigration for our SWU Library.

Lynn Zalokar

The New Neighborhood Online Newsletter

The New Neighborhood Online Newsletter continues to thrive! Every month there is something new to learn because it is the subscribers who are posting information or asking questions. One important point -- please let me know if your e-mail address changes. Each month I have to delete a few e-mail addresses that bounce back to me as "undeliverable." If you'd like to subscribe (it's free), send an e-mail to lzalokar@yahoo.com; past issues are posted on the www.swua.org website.



FAR FROM HOME

Year is over and it is time to make some of the resolutions, if you didn't do them before as me. If I remember right, I never did make any, or I did and forgot about them next day. But this time is different, this time I am in New World, with different kind of living and surrounded with different kind of people.

Last year I was searching for Slovenians to talk to, for new friends and trying to put my dreams on the first place. This year I entered with new Slovenian friends and with a dream come true. I am developing my web site for Slovenians around the world, to find out what really Slovenia is. That small country in a shape of chicken is not such as Switzerland and not even poor. It is a country that still fights for her place on this world, country that has its ups and downs but will never fall on the ground. I don't think I can describe Slovenia better than **Frank Bruni** did in last year's New York Times, when he said:

...What an oversight. There is little you might seek in Europe that Slovenia, which has only about two million people and covers an area roughly comparable in size to Wales or Israel, could not provide, and that it could not provide in a more pleasant, peaceful fashion.

You want castles? Slovenia has hundreds of them, including Predjama Castle, near Postojna, less than an hour's drive from Ljubljana...

You want hills tumbling to a royal blue sea? Slovenia can do that, too, even though the stretch of the Adriatic that belongs to it is only about 30 miles long. There are not really wide, respectable beaches here, but there are old, labyrinthine cities like Piran, which has Venetian Gothic architecture and nestles close against the water. Because you are at the apex of the Adriatic, on the narrow curve where Italy becomes Slovenia and Slovenia then becomes Croatia, you can see across a carpet of blue to distant hills and, on a clear day like the one when I was there, even more instant mountains, sometimes dusted with snow.

You want open-air cafes? Ljubljana has scores of them. The local residents fill them in the morning to drink cappuccino, in the evening to drink respectable (and cheap) Slovenian wine and tasty (and cheap) Slovenian beer, and at various points in between to eat their beloved gelato. You cannot walk more than 25 yards through the center of Ljubljana without running into yet another gelato stand, and late into the night the lines are a dozen-people long.

You want shopping? Ljubljana again obliges, not with the high style of Paris or Rome but with its own delights, like I'd range Italian shoes at low-range prices...

Slovenians are as friendly and helpful as any people I have met. One of the benefits of traveling through a country that would like to have more tourists than it does is the warmth of your reception, and I was constantly startled and moved by the politeness I encountered."

This is the Slovenia as I remember and I want to share with you and with my children. I want you to know who Slovenians are and that for a long time no one knew anything about us. People still don't and there are so many things to tell, to share that you can't do in one day.

Few months ago, I moved to NYC, from small town next to Croatian border, **Brežice**, for me as for many of you, to move from Slovenia was a huge challenge. I never thought that there are so many differences in cultures and many are hard to accept, especially the rush, speed of life in U.S. I dream about sitting in a café with my friends, slowly drinking coffee and just talking about every day things. Here? People don't even see you on the street; you are easily pushed over, if you are not careful. I don't want to start talking about lovely viewpoints on nearby hills, the mountains, vineyards; everything is so peaceful surrounded with bird's songs, wind blowing...

Don't you miss that? I know I do, I know that all these memories, even tho I am just 26 years old, will always take me home where my parents and sister are, where all my family is. And one day I will go back for good. Bet many of you told yourself that, many years ago and you are still stuck here. As they say back home: "**Zarečenga kruha se največ poje!**"

At the end, let me wish you from all my heart:

*Vsem skupaj želim srečno novo leto,
polno zdravja in da bi se vam vse skrite želje uresničile.*

Please come and see my web page far from home--dalec od doma and I know that together we can do a lot of nice reminiscing. May be you'll also learn something new about your heritage.

This web page is for all Slovenians in heart, soul and mind, for their families and friends:

For children: - **Pen Pal Club**, where we will find children in Slovenia to write to:

— Slovenian language (learn how to write and read, see lovely Slovenian movies, hear talk shows, projects that their friends from many schools did)

— Finding information about jobs, traveling in Slovenia, news etc. — Message boards — Photo Gallery — Connecting small businesses around the world — Bringing HOME to you.

Suzana Zupančič-Brathwaite,
Brežice - Brooklyn, NYC
suzikz@yahoo.com or
farfromhome11225@yahoo.com

Veda Ponikvar:
From Our Heritage Kitchens



It is hard to believe that this is February 1st, and we all wonder where January disappeared so fast.

Here, in Minnesota, we had the pleasure to host a reception at the Slovenian National Home in Chisholm for Magdalena Tovornik, Secretary of State for Slovenia. The friendships made will benefit both the United States and Slovenia.

Terry Rugar, a member of Branch 38 in Chisholm is spearheading a project to create a Slovenian Heritage Room at Ironworld. Slovenia wants to help. We, in our United States, are committed to make this project come to fruition. We hope to do this for other nations, such as Sweden, Norway, Finland, Italy and beyond.

Our thoughts and efforts are also concentrated toward the 75th Jubilej in Joliet, Illinois. We hope to have a bus or two come from Minnesota in March for the grand event.

Courtesy of Mimi Mejac, Secretary of Branch 103, Washington, D.C., we are sending some very special recipes from the cookbook of Skye Chokol of Morgantown, West Virginia.

Kailua Kona Spareribs

- 1 cup soy sauce
- 1 cup cointreau
- 1 cup honey
- 1 (13.5 oz.) can crushed pineapple undrained
- 4-5 lemons thinly sliced
- 1 tablespoon ginger, grated
- 8 cloves of garlic, crushed
- 6-8 lbs. spareribs

In a large mixing bowl blend soy sauce, cointreau, honey, pineapple, lemons, ginger, and garlic. Arrange spare ribs in a roasting pan, cover with marinade for at least two hours or overnight. Baste the ribs often while roasting at 350 degrees for about 1 1/2 to 2 hours until done. Great served with steamed white rice and fresh vegetable kabobs.

Grand Finale Chocolate Mousse

- 1 cup strawberries
- 1 cup raspberries
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons orange liqueur (optional)
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 7 oz. semisweet chocolate coarsely chopped
- 3 egg yolks
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 tablespoons powdered egg whites
- 6 tablespoons warm water

Hull and quarter strawberries. Put in a large skillet with raspberries and 2 tablespoons sugar. Cook over low heat, stirring until berries soften and sugar dissolves. Stir in liqueur. Place fruit in a bowl and refrigerate.

Wash and dry skillet. Combine the cream, chocolate and 1/4 cup sugar in skillet. Cook over low heat, stirring occasionally, until chocolate is melted. Remove from heat.

In a bowl whisk egg yolks, then whisk a little chocolate mixture into yolks. Whisk mixture back into the skillet. Cook over low heat for 10 minutes, whisking constantly. Stir in vanilla. Cool to room temperature.

Stir together the egg whites and water until the water is absorbed. Beat with an electric mixer until soft peaks form. Gradually beat in the remaining sugar until stiff peaks form. Stir about 1/4 of whites into chocolate mixture, then gently fold in the remainder. Chill mixture until cold. To serve, spoon berry mixture on plates and top with the mousse.

Honey Rum Wings

- 4 pounds chicken drumettes (make sure they are plump and nicely sized)
- 3/4 cup dark rum
- 1/2 cup soy sauce

- 1/4 cup pineapple juice
- 3 tablespoons honey
- 1 1/2 teaspoons fresh ginger, grated
- Cayenne pepper to taste
- 1/4 cup toasted sesame seeds

Preheat oven to 275 degrees. Place chicken drumettes in a roasting pan. In a large measuring cup, combine rum, soy sauce, pineapple juice, honey, ginger and cayenne pepper and pour over chicken wings. Bake for three hours, turning wings over every 30 minutes. They will develop a deep mahogany color and become very tender. To serve, transfer wings to a platter and sprinkle with the sesame seeds.

Note: If you are using whole wings, cut off the wing tip and then cut the wing into two parts by cutting between the drumettes and the other piece of the wing.

MORE POTS AND PANS



SLOVENIAN-AMERICAN
COOKBOOK

Popular MORE POTS AND PANS cookbooks are still only \$18 per copy postpaid. An order form is on page 26. Or write the SWU Home Office, 431 No. Chicago St., 60432. Your mail orders will receive immediate attention.

Slovenia in 2001

Part 2

No longer do stores close their doors in the early afternoon in Slovenia. Department stores in Ljubljana and most large towns are open till 6 p.m. and even till 8 p.m. on some days. Vele supermarkets have sprung up everywhere just within the last year since I've been there. What were at one time neighborhood grocery stores have been taken over by a Slovenian enterprise, Vele, and have been renovated and modernized with extended hours and are even open on weekends!

A topic of conversation which came up among folks and especially on European CNN news programs is the Euro dollar, which in some countries becomes their money at the end of this year. Folks will have several months afterward to convert their money to the Euro and any money they have in the bank will automatically be converted. Some prices in Slovenia were already designated in Euro dollars which is about 1.10 Euros to \$1 U.S. dollar.

I stayed with my cousins in Komenda while in Slovenia, and on Sunday morning we gathered a huge bouquet of flowers from the garden and several candles. As we walked toward the grave site next to the church, we could see everyone hurrying to the grave sites of their loved ones. Most folks stop by before mass to clean up any debris and place fresh flowers and light candles. We were going to attend a high mass at Sveti Juri which was filled to standing room. This church had been renovated quite a few years ago with statues refurbished in gleaming gold leaf. The pews are still hard wood and kneelers are as hard as ever. But the majestic sounding organ and choir raised in song with familiar Slovenian melodies created a special magic that brought a tear to many of our eyes.

Lojze Slak Ensemble was playing for a local volunteer firemen's festival at Ivančna Gora and I looked forward to

meeting up with the Kollander Travel Gostilna Tour group who were at the celebration. Our Cleveland gang was whooping it up and enjoying every bit of the food, refreshments and especially the music when I joined them. As we caught up with news of their exciting travels, village teens came along the tables selling chances "srečke" for a white elephant-type sale and as we drew out slips of paper with numbers, we turned them in at a nearby stand for various items. Many of the items we won brought out gales of laughter as we won a rubber mat, a can of paint, plastic shelving and even a bottle of wine which was cradled in the arms of Bob Hopkins. As the evening latened and the group began to board their bus to return to their hotel, a feeling of nostalgia came over me as I waved a final good night to our good friends.

Turkey or "puran" is quite popular in Slovenia and is served year round not only roasted but also stewed, served cold, or prepared with vegetables. It can be served at weddings, New Year's day and other festive occasions. A few restaurants serve turkey dishes as their specialty. We stopped at one such restaurant and ordered turkey scallopini which was served with a delicious cheese sauce and mushrooms. Of course I ordered my favorite potato dish, "pommes frit" (French fries), a salad and a glass of wine which came to \$8.50. Well worth that delicious meal!

On a warm afternoon we stopped at a new health spa complex. At this "bazen" were hundreds of adults and children enjoying the thermal waters in several outdoor pools which included a large whirlpool, and a children's pool and playground. These thermal waters are said to be recommended for treatment of arthritis, stomach area, psoriasis, and strengthening of bones. Other health properties are still being investigated. The pool area will be covered in winter months so that the waters can be enjoyed year round. The owners are working toward expanding this area to make a fully staffed health spa with a hotel and medical facilities.

Fortunately I returned home a week before the horrendous attack on September 11. God Bless America!

Alice Kuhar

Slovenian Women's Union 75th Anniversary Raffle

Win a beautiful, hand-made, queen-size QUILT, crafted by SWU National Auditor, Beverly Menart



Can you guess what this is?
It's a chicken (hen), right? All dressed up in a Slovenian costume! Compare it with the outline on page 31.

A note on this caricature is in Suzana's column on page 10.

RAFFLE EXTENDED!
DRAWING ON MARCH 9, 2002

Tickets, \$1.00 each

We will fill out your tickets, and place them into the Raffle for you.
You will not receive any tickets.

Send to SWU National President, Kathleen Dorchak,
3088 Markle Drive
Silver Lake, Ohio 44224
Telephone (330) 686-1336 Email: KDORCHAK@NEO.RR.COM

Make your checks to S.W.U.

Name: _____ Number of Tickets: _____
Address: _____
City, Zipcode: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

Activities of our Branches



Reports due first of month
preceding publication.

NO. 2, CHICAGO, IL Meetings: 2nd Thurs. St. Stephen's lower hall

Correction to our article of Jan./Feb.: Fran Morison's brother's name, who passed away, should have been - Charles Puchreiter (Chuck), everyone in Duluth, MN knew him as the "Pancake Man" because he was in charge of the Lions Club - Pancake Breakfast for many years. Sorry for the error.

Our 75th Anniversary closed with our Christmas dinner - 12/2001 - we celebrated with 42 members, 22 guests, 4 Sisters from Lemont; who taught our children at St. Stephen; Fr. Blase, and Fr. Vendelin. Hall was beautifully decorated by Ray and Paul Nusko. Joe Worth donated the centerpieces and also gave floral arrangements to our sick. Louis and Irma Pesdertz gave everyone a Christmas ornament of the Holy Family which they made. Thanks to Fr. Blase who said the Mass for our sick and deceased members and to Fr. Vendelin for playing those touching Slovenian songs. It took many back to the years when they came with their mothers. There were many tears for the past and also for what America is going through at this time. Thanks to everyone who went on Br. 2 journey of 75 years, to Fran Morison who lead us on this interesting year.

Jr. member Glen Latronico, student of Marist High and active with their marching band, participated with the band, marching in the Rose Bowl Parade - Jan. 1, 2002. His aunts: Elsie, Mary and Chris are very proud of him. His grandpa, Billy Reich taught him music.

Our sympathy to Meta Hanzlik, son, Mark and mother, Gisela Lah on the death of her son, David Hanzlik. He battled brain cancer but lost the fight when our Lord called him home. David worked overseas for the U.S. State Dept. Please remember him in your prayers.

Our deepest sympathy to the family of Stephen Balazic who died recently.

ST. JOSEPH'S TABLE ON MARCH 17TH

Here's news of our annual St. Joseph's Table event. This year, because of the construction around St. Stephen's we are having it on Sunday, March 17th at 2 p.m. in the Lower Hall. For details and information call our president, Fran Morison, (708) 485-7306. See you there!

His wife, Marija, daughter Theresa Krampac and granddaughter Barbara Krampac are all our members. May he rest in peace.

Ann Bunetta received a letter of thanks from the N.Y. Port Authority for sending \$100.00. She made and sold American Flag Pins for their lost comrades. Ann is always making special things and also for Zveza. Thanks, Ann.

Jan. 10, 2002 was our first meeting - we could not have wished for a better night (even when we left the hall there was a great big moon waiting for us). No snow this year to shovel, great turnout, installation of officers by Gen Buol - State Pres. We have the same officers for another year. A birthday surprise for Ray Nusko. Connie Taylor baked and decorated a beautiful cake, chocolate and vanilla, to please everyone's tastebud. When the birthday candles were lit, Jean Hraster, Ashley and Melissa Shachter wheeled the cake into the room, everyone sang happy birthday and needless to say, Ray was very surprised. He really deserved it. To commemorate 75 years of Br. 2 we voted to donate \$2,400.00 to the Heritage for new tables and chairs to be used in the museum library. Fran told us she had talked to Mary Foys Lauretig. It was great to hear about her, she was always so active and we all miss her. She made such beautiful dolls of all nations.

We send our condolences to the Franciscan Fathers on the passing of

Fr. Benno Korbic, OFM, 87 years old at the time of his death in February. He was a big part of the Slovenian spiritual community in Lemont, and was the manager of Ave Maria publication for many years. Between 1980 and 1983, he was the Assistant Pastor at St. Stephen Church here in Chicago.

We just learned that Fr. Kalist Langerholz passed away. He died Feb. 16th at Mother Theresa Nursing Home. He was 91 years old just last month. We all remember Fr. Kalist so well from the 16 years he spent at St. Stephen's. He was also a great walker and took a long stroll in the neighborhood every day. He always said he would miss St. Stephen's if he ever had to leave it. Well, he did, when the Franciscan Fathers moved out three years ago. He loved Lemont, too, and we saw him there almost every Sunday, sometimes he felt good enough to be in the sanctuary during mass. He had a perpetual smile on his face and greeted everyone. May they both rest in peace.

Condolences to Tony Trinko's family, wife Alma and children Billy, Theresa, Mark. Tony sang with the St. Stephen Choir for many years and the Trinko family were one of the first in the Slovenian community.

Please remember in your prayers our sick and home bound members, especially Ann Scheke, Chris Pirman, Mary Persa, Amelia Smith and Millie Paisoli.

Changes: St. Stephen's will have only (1) Mass in the first Sunday of each month. The Gym Bldg and several houses on 22nd place will be torn down in February to start work on the new school bldg.

Try to attend the "Slovenian Jubilej" Joliet - March 8 and 9, info. in ZARJA. Call Fran if you need more info regarding Br. 2 attending.

Keep in touch with each other.

*Love is not only something you feel.
It is something you do.*

(David Wilkerson)

Love,

DAISY

"The Afghan Lady" Frances Jasbec



All the members of Br. 2, Chicago, IL know this wonderful lady, Frances Jasbec for her beautiful handwork. She is the most prolific knitter and crocheter – everything she makes is a treasure! But, she specializes in afghans, such as the one on the accompanying photo.

Frances completes one and immediately begins another – the patterns are all intricate and take a smart memory and nimble fingers! At the age of 97 – yes, 97 years, Frances wants you all to know that it's possible to do this kind of work no matter the age!

As you can see on this photo, the flowers are roses and various colors of red and pink on a white field. This pattern is very old, she remembers making the first one for her son, Jerry's wedding, twenty years ago. She will be glad to respond to anyone who wants to know more about making this pattern, if you write to her at: 9223 So. Hamlin Ave., Evergreen Park, IL 60805.

Oh, and don't think Frances is only adept at handwork. She is also a perfect bread and cake baker – and in fact, when her beloved late husband John was alive they made many fresh loaves every week – they never bought bread in the store! John also helped her skein

yarn into balls and kept track of all her "equipment." They were quite a couple!

I would say that Frances has earned many admirers, but most of all, she is loved by her family and friends for being just the most pleasant lady with a sweet smile and good word for everyone. God bless you, Frances, for a long time to come! C

NO. 3, PUEBLO, CO Meetings: 1st Tues. St. Mary's Church Hall

We had very poor attendance at our meeting in January. Several ladies who come regularly had other commitments so were unable to come.

We had a beautiful memorial tribute for Anna Boitz who lost her life in a car accident along with her daughter Rebecca Warren. Our sympathy goes out to their families.

After the regular order of business, President Margaret Cullen called for nominations from the floor for President and Financial Secretary. There being none, the current officers, President Margaret Cullen and Eileen Kaplan, Financial Secretary, agreed to remain. They have done such a beautiful job.

Josephine Poder will be our Member of the Year for 2002. She is very worthy of this honor. She has been such a faithful member.

The mystery gift was brought by Margaret Cullen and won by yours truly, Pauline Pauchick.

After the meeting, hostesses Katherine Kochevar and Pauline Pauchick served a delicious dessert and then we played Bingo.

Happy 2002 to all.

PAULINE PAUCHICK

NO. 5, INDIANAPOLIS, IN Meeting: 1st Thurs. SND, from May to Dec.

Branch 5 would like to extend our sympathies to the family of Jennie Milharic Bastin, who passed away on Dec. 24, 2001.

We also extend our sympathies to Mary Fon and her family on the death of her husband, Henry Fon, on February 9, 2002. His family and friends, many of whom are members and supporters of Branch 5, will miss Henry. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Member news:

In December, Anna Fon, a junior member, won a Christmas card design contest at her school, St. Malachy Catholic. The cards were then sold to fund the 8th grade class trip to Washington, D.C. Congratulations, Anna!

On a personal and member note, I am pleased to let the members know that my husband and I are expecting our first child in August. We are quite excited, as is the whole family. Please keep us in your prayers.

Love from Texas,

BARBARA Mohr FRIESENHAHN

Congratulations on your 75th Anniversary and best wishes from the officers and members Slovenian Women's Union Br. 10, Cleveland, OH

NO. 10, CLEVELAND, OH Meeting: 4th Wed. alternate months SND Holmes Ave.

Hi Ladies! The weather in Cleveland, Ohio has really been great. We are enjoying a lot of sunshine; it's almost like being in Florida. I believe the good Lord is really caring for us.

At our meeting in February the main topic was selecting our Mother of the Year 2002. The Ladies nominated Stephanie Dagg. A very deserving member, she helped at our dinners and donated things for our meetings.

Our Mother of the Year 2002 dinner will take place May 17, 2002.

For more information, please call Ann Stefancic, (216) 531-7635 or Stephanie Segulin, (216) 451-1876. Ladies, please put this on your calendar.

Our ailing members are Ann Stefancic, Helen Suhy, Lucy Romik, Bea Zimmerman, Mary Pierce, Joyce

LeNassi and Justine Girod. We're sending get-well wishes to all.

Our deepest sympathy to the following families: Ann Stefancic, her sister-in-law passed away. Josephine Suspancic lost her husband, Joe. Also to the relatives of Lucy Kolodosky. May they all rest in peace.

Wishing all members Happy Easter and may God keep you healthy.

Closing with "God Bless America."

STEPHANIE SEGULIN

NO. 12, MILWAUKEE, WI

Meeting: 3rd Thurs.

St. Peter's Church Hall

We had our Christmas party at Meyers Restaurant; it was a sit-down dinner, family style. Everyone showed up, except Molly Macht, our "sunshine girl", who was ill.

Mary Bucovnik, our charter member, was at our party with her daughter, Marilyn. We were happy to see Mary. She resides at Mount Carmel Health. Rehabilitation Center, Mary was 88 years old on Dec. 17th.

Her daughter takes good care of her; she visits her alot. Mary's sister, Ann Paulin is also a member of SWU Br. 12 for many years.

We sang "Happy Birthday" to Mary Evanich and Mary Bucovnik.

Member Agnes Morrow passed away recently. She was a good friend of Evelyn Laurich, both of them worked together in the kitchen making sandwiches and coffee a few years ago.

I received a letter from Jackie Nimmer's grandson. He tells us that Jackie is forgetting alot and spends her days in a wheelchair. We all remember Jackie as a good donor who make every meeting with Ann Jelenek and son, Al - she is 91 years old. We miss her.

My sister-in-law, Constance Dobersek was 90 years old January 10th. She is at Silver Spring Beverly Healthcare. She was a long-time member, also. Recently she fell and broke her wrist. I visited her with my nieces at Christmas-time. Brother Al sees her every day and spends some time with her.

I hope everyone has a good year, and mostly good health as this is important.

Take care,

STAVIA DOBERSEK

Reporter

NO. 13, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Meeting: 1st Thurs.

Slovenian Hall on Mariposa St.

We had a wonderful meeting in December and a delicious pot luck lunch to follow. We switched to an evening meeting in hopes of seeing new faces! It was good to see Diane Brahney and hubby, Dennis who really had a "harem" with him!

We voted to send out a mailer with our meeting and events dates which you should have received by now. Thank you, Michele and Moreen. We also voted to have an evening meeting/pot luck in June and December of this year for our members who can't make it day-time.

A motion was passed to elect our slate of officers and we extend a gracious thank you to these ladies: Pres. Josephine Aiuto, Vice Pres. Louis Petrusich, Sec. Moreen Spencer, Rec. Sec. Beverly Jackson (and Reporter), Treas. Michele Twers, Auditors Virginia Sustarich, Ann Sustarich and Do-reen Sustarich.

In March and April bring a bag lunch and dessert will be provided. Please join us a noon at the Slovenian Hall.

Condolences to the family of Marie Fir who lost her dad, Mario Matiasic. He was the grandfather of Diana Fir. Our prayers to the family.

Ceta Zagar and this Reporter are truly looking forward to the 75th Anniversary celebration of SWU in Joliet. Br. 13 will be celebrating 75 years in October. Please put the date on your calendar as we plan to have a special event. Details at a later date.

Am sending March Happy Birthday wishes to Eleanor Hnilo, Dora Simenc, Josie Plu, Gail Hilton and Shannon Devlin; and for the month of April, wishes to Kathleen Trombetta and Ina Henderson.

It's been terribly cold in California which we are not used to - so it's hard to think of spring right now.

Wishing you a very Happy Easter, after you've had a Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Kind hearts are the gardens,

Kind thoughts are the roots,

Kind words are the flowers,

Kind deeds are the fruit.

Have a joyous springtime!

BEVERLY JACKSON

NO. 14, EUCLID, OH

Meetings: 1st Tues. 6 p.m.

Slov. Society Home

While many areas of the U.S. have been dogged with horrible weather this winter, we here in greater Cleveland are asking, "Is it really mid-winter January!" As I write this article the temperature is expected to reach a balmy 59°! We've only had a few dustings of snow so far but we're holding our breath to see how long it will last.

Our annual Christmas dinner was another rousing and well-attended event. Once again Sophia Mazi and her staff prepared a delectable home-style meal which began with her farina and liver dumpling soup, and which, according to Eddie Habat, was "out of this world!" Thanks to everyone who brought along gifts for door prizes, who decorated the hall, and who helped make this another enjoyable evening. Thanks also to Diane Varney and Vice Pres., Pat Habat for taking notes at the party since I was on a Holiday Tour to London at the time.

Ed Koren brought in a lovely painting which commemorated our lodge's 60th anniversary from 1927-1987. The painting, along with other materials, will be sent to Joliet, IL. Ed is the husband of our late President, Martha Koren, who passed away several years ago.

Secretary Diane Varney and her mom, President Jennie Fitzthum will be going to SWU 75th Anniversary celebration and the 25th Anniversary of the Heritage Museum in March. Congratulations and best wishes!

Get well wishes to our trio of sisters Josephine Stupica, Mary Grill and Vicky Lindic. Also to Rose Rodgers who has been under the weather and to Ann Cekada who has been staying with her son.

Reminder that our next meeting is Tuesday April 2 at 6:30 and our popular Mother's Day Dinner honoring all mothers and grandmothers will be held beheld on Tuesday May 4 at 6:00. Be sure to call in reservations for yourself and friends to Jennie Fitzthum at (216) 261-1196.

Wishing you all a bright green St. Patrick's Day. And may your Easter basket be filled with *pirhe*, *hren* and *šunka*!

ALICE KUCHAR

NO. 16, SO. CHICAGO

**Meeting: 2nd Saturday, 1 p.m.
monthly except Jan.-July-Aug.
St. George's Hall**

Greetings dear members!

The time for celebrating our beloved Zveza's 75th birthday is almost here. How I wish that we could all attend the planned doings in Joliet. I was reminiscing about our 50th anniversary – the work – the fun – the beautiful people – and all of us 25 years younger. So many members are now of blessed memory – may they rest in peace. Our prayers and best wishes go to our officers and members for the continued success of the Slovenian Women's Union.

Here are a few birthday greetings to extend – a belated one to our Rose Salakar of Racine, WI who had a real bon fire on her cake – she became 96 on November 9. Our best to you, Rose. Our January celebrants were Stephani Golob – Stephi is well-known for making beautiful afghans; she and her family celebrated her 90th on Jan. 1. Mary Brozovich can now boast about reaching 86 on Jan. 10. By the way she also visited her son in San Antonio. Have fun Mary. We also had word that Ruth Cubra, who has resided in Arizona for many years – reached her 90th year on the 10th. Mary Rago, our former Vice President was feted by her family with a lovely dinner party on her 85th birthday on Jan. 19th. Our dear Elsie Starcevich reached 96 on January 23. She is at Manor Care Facility in Lansing, IL.

Our youngster of the group is Lena Amicarelli – she is only 77 years old. Please remember all of our dear members in your thoughts and prayers.

Happy birthday, girls!

Julie Vrllich has been under the weather for a while now, but she is recuperating and should be with us soon. You are in our prayers, Julie.

Can you believe this! Gladys took a trip without leaving Chicago! About three weeks ago, she did a trip on one of our infamous side walks in Chicago. She suffered several facial bruises and a very sore shoulder. It will take a bit to heal, but Gladys will do it. We are all pulling for you.

Have you heard that Br. 16 had three winners in the Museum Calendar drawing? Therese Ehnat won \$500.00 on

An Active Branch — #20!

Photos on page 17: (Left) Installation of new 2002 officers was an occasion to celebrate by members of Br. 20. Frontrow are: Vice President, Agnes Dobczyk, Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Tom Paul and President, Char Kobe. Back row: Financial Secretary & Treasurer, Jean Herbst, Recording Secretary, Grace Doerk, Auditors, Bernice Nemanich, Jo Lustik, (third Auditor, Mary Kay Demick is missing from photo), Sgt. at Arms, Ann Dragovan and ZARJA Reporter, Sister Marlene Ambrose. Lots of luck to all officers. Photo on right: Char Kobe, Jonita Ruth and Jean Herbst enjoy selling our SWU cookbooks at the annual Joliet Mall Bridal Show.

Jan. 1 – Dolly Zurich won \$100.00 – and I won \$500.00 on Jan. 31. I would say that we did quite well.

My best wishes for a Blessed Easter to you and yours.

Happy birthday wishes to all March and April celebrants.

Love,

MARGE

**NO. 20, JOLIET, IL
Meetings: 3rd Tues.
except June to Sept.
St. Joe's Park hall**

As I begin my report, it is the 20th day of Christmas. (Am I in college again?) Also, today is the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus. Many members and guests enjoyed the Christmas dinner at David's in Joliet on Dec. 16. Father Tom Paul gave a short talk in which he referred to childhood memories – especially potica. He encouraged us to see Christ in people more, see Him in strangers and in ourselves. Ron Erjavec won the 50/50. Prizes (made by Pat Figuroski's husband, Robert) were raffled including the table centerpieces.

On Dec. 30, there was a 10:00 o'clock Mass requested by Branch 20 for the victims of Sept. 11 at St. Joseph's Church.

Congratulations to the new officers who were installed by Father Tom Paul at the Jan. 20th meeting. They are: President – Char Kobe, Vice President – Agnes Dobczyk, Financial Secretary and Treasurer – Jean Herbst, Recording Secretary – Grace Doerk, ZARJA Reporter – Sister Marlene Ambrose, Auditors – Mary Kay Demick, Jo Lustik, Bernice Nemanich, Sgt. at Arms – Ann Dragovan, Spiritual Advisor – Father Tom Paul. Attendance prize award was increased from \$2.00 to 5.00. There

were many door prizes. Bea Nemanich won the 50/50. Joseph Wolf's name was drawn for a \$50.00 Award, but he was not present. Next month's will be \$60.00. See you! Entertainment on a keyboard by Judge Penn was enjoyed by all for the sing along. You missed a wonderful afternoon if you weren't there.

Some upcoming dates are March 8 and 9. At 7:00 p.m. on Friday, Mar. 8, there will be a social hour at the Home Office, Joliet, IL. You are all welcome. There will be a cash bar and buttonbox music.

March 9 – various ethnic displays will be at Tezak Funeral Home on Ottawa St. On Saturday, Mar. 9, we will celebrate our 75th year of the Slovenian Women's Union. Open House at the Heritage Museum will be from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Mass at 4:00 will be at St. Joseph's Church in Joliet, IL. At 7:00 p.m. there will be a Reception and Dinner-Dance at the Slovenian Cultural Center in Lemont, IL. Anyone interested in going to Lemont, please contact Jonita Ruth for reservations – 727-1926. Tickets at \$35.00. Round trip for the van is \$9.00. Leave from St. Joseph Church – immediately after Mass. Leave from Lemont – time to be determined.

Any volunteers??? Give Theresa (Rozman) Lockwood a call if you would like to help in the Heritage Museum. Would she appreciate it? Yes, she would!

On Tuesday, Mar. 12, at St. Joseph's Park, there will be a St. Joseph's Table, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Kindly bring a dish to pass. At 7:00 p.m. the meeting will begin, followed by a few games of Bingo. Come and help us celebrate! We really want to see you!

Happy St. Joseph Day – Mar. 19!

(Continued on page 18)



BR. 20, JOLIET, ILLINOIS OFFERS THE FOLLOWING SCHOLARSHIPS TO ITS MEMBERS

Adult Continuing Education Scholarship

We are pleased to announce the availability of funds for members 21 and over who may be pursuing advanced or continuing education.

The award in the amount of \$500 will be granted to any qualified adult member in need of financial assistance.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. Member of SWU a minimum of 5 years, and must be 21 years or older.
2. A citizen of the United States.
3. Must be actively pursuing an advanced degree, or currently in an educational program, either in college or vocational education.
4. There **must** be an indication of financial need.
5. The applicant must be working toward a degree or certification, and must be making satisfactory academic progress (with GPA of C+ or better).
6. The applicant may not be in default or owe a refund on a federal grant or federal education loan.

The following items need to be forwarded to the Scholarship Committee.

1. A letter identifying your need for the award.
2. A transcript of your most recent semester grades (if applicable) from the institution you are attending.
3. A current, signed Federal Tax Return.

Mail the above information to:
Br. 20 Scholarship Program
Mrs. Barbara J. DeLaney
2209 Greengold Street
Crest Hill, IL 60435

For questions call (815) 744-9422

HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP (Graduating Eighth Graders)

The Slovenian Women's Union, Branch 20, is pleased to announce the availability of a high school scholarship for academically qualified eighth grade students who wish to attend a Catholic high school. The scholarship, in the amount of \$500, will be awarded to applicants who meet the following criteria:

1. Must be a current 8th grade student and must be a member of Br. 20 for five full years.
2. Applicant must have been accepted at one of the Catholic high schools, and be enrolled for the fall semester.
3. Scholastic ability must be proven. A written recommendation from the school principal or eighth grade teacher should include an estimate of the applicant's ability to perform and complete high school work. Recommendation must also include an evaluation of applicant's character and code of behavior.
4. A statement from the applicant outlining his or her individual or family membership in Br. 20 and any involvement in branch activities.

Completed forms to be sent to the above address.

HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS (Current High School Students)

The Slovenian Women's Union Branch 20 is pleased to announce the availability of a \$500 Scholarship for academically qualified high school students who wish to continue their education in a Catholic high school, or are planning to transfer from a public to a Catholic high school.

(See Criteria for High School Scholarship)

Deadline for submitting completed application is April 30, 2002. Envelopes postmarked after due date cannot be accepted.

To maintain objectivity in awarding the Scholarship names of the applicants will not be published by the Scholarship Chair. Each applicant will be assigned a number so that committee members will not know which applicant they are reviewing.

Scholarship will be presented to the winners at the branch's May meeting/Woman of the Year Banquet. One scholarship per family per year.

If you are interested contact Barbara DeLaney at (815) 744-9422 for application papers.

Congratulations to our member striving to be elected as Will County Clerk! She is Nancy Schultz VOOTTS, and you can vote for her at the March 19th election. Good luck, Nancy!

After the regular meeting on Tues., Apr. 16, at 7:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Park, we will have Jean Herbst, member of Br. 20, narrate a video of her recent trip to Slovenia. Come and enjoy, hostesses will be Marlene Ancel and Jo Tezak.

Sat. Apr. 20 and Sun. Apr. 21, the SWU Branch 20, will hold a Bakery Sale at St. Joseph Church before and after the Masses - 4:00 p.m. Sat., 8:30, 10:00, and 11:30 a.m. Sun. Bake, donate, bring your best offerings. The chairpersons are Jo Lustik and Theresa (Rozman) Lockwood. Proceeds will benefit the Br. 20 Scholarship Fund.

Congratulations to Jennifer Higgins who became Mrs. Michael Otis on June 30, 2001, in New Lenox, IL. Jennifer is a graduate of Joliet Catholic Academy. She was a recipient of the Br. 20 Continuing Education Award.

Also, congratulations to Erin Regis who graduated from the Univ. of Wisconsin, Milwaukee with a Master of Science Degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders. In Jan. she began her career as a Speech-Language Pathologist at St. Luke's Medical Center and St. Luke's Hospital-South Shore in Milwaukee, WI. She is engaged to Jason Dzwiniel, Mequon, WI, with a wedding set for Oct. 18, 2002 at St. Joseph's Church in Joliet, IL.

Sympathy and prayers go out to the family of Alice M. (nee) Benedick Jakovich who is now at rest. She passed away on Dec. 26, 2001 at Silver Cross Hospital. She enjoyed cooking, baking, and time with her family and friends.

As I was going through the names of Br. 20 members, I came across my second cousin's name, John Hlade.

In a class of my first grade a few years ago, I asked: "What would you like to ask God?" Some answers were... "if I can go to heaven? But how can I find my way?" "...Will you help me be like Your son?"

The following is by Frank Bianco: "If you begin to live life looking for the God that is all around you, every moment becomes a prayer."

At the banquet on Tuesday, May 21, remember to come and find out who will be honored as Woman of the Year.

Special Honors

Lillian Brulc and her sister, Lucija (Brulc) Dragovan were named 2002 "Distinguished Graduates of St. Joseph School." The award was presented January 27 in conjunction with the beginning of Catholic Schools Week.

Both Lillian and Lucija are artists of great talent and accomplishment and have exhibited their work nationally and internationally. They were honored for their outstanding work in their chosen field and for their many contributions to St. Joseph school and parish.

This honor was awarded to Lillian and Lucija by the Department of Elementary Schools of the National Catholic Educational Association for:

"Exemplifying the highest qualities of Catholic Education and rendering distinguished service to the Catholic Church and the United States of America."

Both are long-time members of Branch 20, Joliet and we all admire their outstanding abilities. We have seen their most beautiful paintings, sculptures and versions of sacred subjects in and around our area. They are most loyal to their Slovenian culture, heritage and deep spirituality.

"The Greater our freedom, the greater our responsibility before God." - Blessed Anton Martin Slomšek.

If you have any news, contact Sister Marlene Ambrose, (815) 727-3686.

We wish all of you a Blessed Easter!

SR. MARLENE AMBROSE

NO. 22, BRADLEY, IL

Greetings "pa nazdravje" from Bradley! May all your needs in 2002 be filled!

The Lustig sisters at Heritage Village are deeply grateful to all members of our local branch for coming here for meetings and furnishing prizes and

goodies. It's great to see them! Unfortunately, Margaret Planton had broken a hip a few days before our December affair but is recovering nicely, as is Ann Richards from knee replacement. "Starost še pride!" Anyway, we did have a good time and will meet again March 19.

The Mass for Sept. 11 victims will be offered at the Village on Feb. 5. In one way or another we all will be victimized for many years to come.

Congratulations and good wishes to Helen Sebastiani on her 11th grandchild, Katlyn Elizabeth, born Dec. 20, 2001, the fifth child of Steve and Diann Sebastiani.

To our January birthday people: Margaret Planton, Elizabeth Kinder, Emma Znidarsich and Gabrielle Lustig, you can't be 90 and not have a party, so a niece and nephews brought "the works" to the Village to make the day special, not forgetting the little children who are a delight.

God bless you all!

Our dear friend Leo Rittmanic passed away in September at age 96. Our sympathy to his daughter, Barbara who is a loyal and active branch member. One can only rejoice with Leo for his life of faithful service to his God and fellowman. It certainly has endeared him to the Lord.

Well, Easter will soon be here, so happy Easter everyone!

EMMA LUSTIG

NO. 24, LA SALLE, IL
Meetings: 3rd Thurs.
Catholic School Library
Mar.-Apr.-May-June
Sept.-Oct.-Nov.

We don't have meetings in January and February so there is not too much to report. We had a very nice Christmas dinner at the Red Door Inn in Peru on December 6th and I want to thank Mary Mecum and Linda Struna for making all the arrangements.

We were all shocked to hear of Josephine Savnik's death on December 28. She passed away suddenly in her home. She had traveled with us to the Illinois-Indiana State Convention on October 7th, her 86th birthday. She had a great time and especially enjoyed her Happy Birthday song sung at the Convention and again on the bus. She was

with us at our Christmas Dinner and in great spirits. She was very artistic and made favors and decorations for our conventions and dinners in La Salle. She was generous with her time. We were not the only beneficiaries -- she was kind and generous to many and our local newspaper printed a tribute from the La Salle-Peru High School Band for her many kindnesses to them. She always put her front porch light on so they could see their way to the football stadium on game nights. My children were in the band in the 1960's and she did that then, and she was generous to the band when they had fund-raisers for their tours, etc. She will be missed. Her husband, John, preceded her in death as well as four brothers. Her survivors were nephews out of our local area, and a sister-in-law. Her funeral mass was held on December 30th and a large group of members attended the S.W.U. Prayer service before the funeral. Our sympathy to her family survivors and may God grant her Heavenly Peace.

Birthday celebrants in March are: Mrs. Josephine Pohar Brady and Cassie Witek and Theresa Kinczewski, Helena Millman, Mary Gertrude Piletic, Mary Hewitt and Trese Hollerich and those celebrating in April are: Mary Jean Weihman, our recording secretary -- Adele Gensler, Marianne Schweickert, Theresa Wellner, Frances Jean Ficek, Mary Ann Brunner, Jr. Ashley Collins, Ann Cassidy and Debbie Pohar. Best wishes to all of you for a good year.

We welcome the following new members, Jr. Emily Brekan Collins, Robbie Donahue, Jr. Julie Fiocchi, Lori Janko-Wilke, William Lushina, Emily Marchiori, Jennie Pohar and DeLores Spelich.

Pray for Peace during the Lenten Season and Happy Easter to all. We will have our next meeting on Thursday, March 14, at 7:00 p.m. We may have a new meeting place so watch for news in the Church bulletin and local newspaper. At that time we hope to have a nice report from Bonnie on her trip to Slovenia and the festivities at the Museum.

ANNE M. WANGLER,
Reporter



NO. 25, CLEVELAND, OH
Meetings: 2nd Sunday, 1:30 p.m.
St. Vitus Social Room

To all our faithful SWU members...
Happy New Year. May it be prosperous
Healthy and peaceful.

To all the shut-ins, in nursing home
and ailing membes we wish you well
and speedy recovery.

I want to tell all how surprised I was
to be a recipient of a \$310.00 winner
in the January calendar. Thank you so
much.

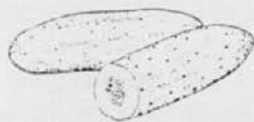
Get well to Jan Krivacic who is our
Rec. Secy. who is on the sick list with
an ailing foot problem. Hurry and get
on your feet. No pun intended; we miss
your smiling face.

Also glad to see Fran Gazvoda up
and around since she was on the sick
list for a time. Fran is our wonderful
president.

Erin Go Bragh on March 17. Don't
forget the wearing of the green... By
gorrah!!!

Congratulations to SWU No. 10 it
is their 75th year that they are celebrat-
ing. To Rose Mary Pozarelli, SWU
member...deepest sympathies from all
on the passing of mother, Alice Arko.
May she rest among the angels.

Here's a recipe as requested by a
reader of our publication.



Parjene Kumare **(Stewed Cucumbers)**

Slice 3 cucumbers in a dish and add
a bit of salt. Let set covered for 1/2
hour. Take 2 tablespoons of lard with
one cut up onion and saute till slightly
browned, add cucumbers that have
been squeezed of excess water.

Add two tablespoons of flour in the
above mixture and blend well.

Add some beef stock to cover the
cucumbers and cook till thickened.

Add one tablespoon of vinegar be-
fore serving...more vinegar can be
added to taste.

Pour over mashed potatoes.

EMILEE JENKO

NO. 32, EUCLID, OH
Meetings: 3rd Wed. 7 p.m.
Euclid Library
E. 222nd and Euclid Ave.

Hearts and Love to all our members!

Excellent food, beautiful table set up
and our Christmas party was just great!
V.P. Alma Eppich opened the yearly
meeting; absent was Pres. Ann Cooke
who will be in Florida for these months.
Ann's knees and hip are hurting her
and her wish was to give up the presi-
dent's job. We can understand that. We
thank Ann for years and years of service
to Br. 32 and we wish her good health!

We wanted our officers all to stay
the same, except it couldn't be, so
yours truly, declining to take the presi-
dent's job, came up with the perfect
solution. Nominated Rudy Perdan, one
of our most active and diligent mem-
bers, in fact, he's done more than most
of our members. So, we have made a
break thru and he's our first Mr. Pres-
ident! That night Rudy even made us
a great dish, baked ham with pineapple!
He's a great person and the husband of
our Charlotte, Sec.-Treas. (she's had
that office for many years), and the
son-in-law of Frances Ogoreuc. So,
now we have the Big Three to keep us
strong and together. Everyone agreed
unanimously, so the first man to be a
branch president of the SWU is Rudy
Perdan! We congratulate you, Rudy
and wish you the best!

Now, let us all support Rudy and
keep our circle going! The other offic-
ers for 2002 are:

Vice President, Alma Eppich; Sec-
retary-Treasurer, Charlotte Perdan
(216) 289-6316 - Rudy has the same
number!); Auditors, Jo Gornick,
Lovena Avitt; Sunshine, Jean Smiddy
(216) 486-0515, hostesses, Ciel Mc-
Lean, Fran Ogoreuc; Reporter,
Dorothy Lamm (call me with news:
(440) 269-8721. We meet at the same
time and place. Watch ZARJA for more
notices!

Thanks to all officers for their work
in 2001 and to all members for your
cooperation. Good luck to all the offic-
ers! Remember my quote (American
Home newspaper): A person's reputa-
tion is just what people think she/he is;
his character is what God knows she/he
is!

Our best ticket salespersons, Helen Kovacevic and Dorothy Lamm are always around to help you be lucky winners. Keep buying tickets, they help keep our treasury afloat!

Ladies, we are looking forward to our trip to Joliet this month. For latest information call Charlotte. This will be a nice trip and we'll have much to see and discuss.

Next meeting will be April 17th at 6:30 p.m., same place. Our snowbirds will be returning with "tans" and soooo relaxed! Looking forward to seeing everyone and with our new president it should be a treat for us!

Sympathy to Ann Deptola and family on the loss of husband and dad, Raymond; also Fran Ogoreuc and Charlotte who lost their brother and uncle respectively. To all sick members, get well and strong. Remember, your dues for 2002 are due! Bills were mailed to each member in January.

May the 75th Jubilee be fruitful for the organization and interesting for the members. "He who pursues righteousness and love finds life, prosperity and most of all, honor!"

DOROTHY LAMM

NO. 33, DULUTH, MN
Meeting: 1st Wed.
St. Elizabeth Church Hall

Christmas Party in December brought out 35 members; all enjoyed a nice lunch by Rosemary (Rot) Donald and Mary Ann Rot.

Lucy Olaf and Agnes Galleberg entertained with Button Box / Accordion music.

Junior members enjoyed Bowling and Pizza at Incline Station.

On Jan. 30 Br. 33 had a Mass offered for Sept. 11 victims.

Congratulations to Cyrilla Collard on the wedding of granddaughter.

Prayers of sympathy to Helen Peterson who lost her husband Roy, age 85 on Dec. 6, 2001. Emma Himebaugh, Genevieve Shubitz and Dorothy Janchar mourn the deaths of brothers: James Shubitz, 59, 12/21/01 and Thomas Shubitz, 76, on Jan. 6, 2002. Rose Burger's husband, Albert "Honey" died on Jan. 20, 2002.

Greetings for Easter holidays to all our members.

LOIS M. PELANDER,
Reporter

In Memoriam



NO. 35, AURORA, MN
Meetings: 6 per year
Community Sr. Center

We met on Dec. 9th for a short meeting followed by our Christmas party. Pres. Anita Vovk led the prayer directed to all members who are ill, especially for Maria Bradach. In November several of our members attended the special commemorative mass we had for the families and victims of the terrorist attacks in NY and Washington.

Information on the trip to Joliet for the 75th Anniversary were presented, now we are awaiting for the day we leave for Joliet!

Update on plans for the Minnesota State Convention in Aurora in September was presented by the president. Committees will be appointed as we go along.

Congratulations to Elizabeth (Betty) Carlson, our 2002 Mother of the Year. She will be honored on Sunday, May 5th. Treasurer, Bernice Ceglar presented Kris Waldron with a 50 Year Membership Pin and a carnation. Congratulations, Kris! Many of her family have been dedicated members of our branch, including her aunt, Anna Rose Smolich, and daughter, Michelle, a SWU Scholarship Award recipient.

Sorry to report that Marie Bradach, a 50-year member, passed away on Christmas Day. Our sympathy is with

Emily R. Debeltz Skull, 78, of Gary-New Duluth, died Oct. 22, 2001. She was our member and belonged to St. Elizabeth Church, KSKJ, Women's Council, and Choir, and had done catering.

Husband, John Skull, who died in 1993, is pictured with her.

She was a very active 56-year member of Branch 33 and participated in all activities especially as President of our Branch and also State President of Minnesota. She was Mother of the Year in 1986.

Survivors include daughter, Susan Skull, with whom she lived, sons, John J. and Gerald W. Skull; also brother, John Debeltz, six grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren.

God grant her eternal peace.

all her family. May she rest in peace. Now we need prayers for her husband, Joseph, who is hospitalized and very ill.

Get well wishes to all who are feeling under the weather!

The prayers after the meeting led us right into the mood for our Christmas party; the dinner was served at 4 p.m. by the Am. Legion Aux. Several beautiful prizes were called to lucky members, donated by president, Anita. Thank you! Instead of a gift exchange we made a \$50.00 donation to the nursing home. Thank you, ladies! Hostesses for the dime social meeting in February were Betty Rokser and Pauline Korpela. News on that event next month!

A note of interest: I found out during the Olympics that tho everything was made in the USA, the glass used in the Olympic Torch was made in Croatia – a special glass to keep the flame burning!

Happy Springtime and Happy Easter to Everyone!

ANNE M. ORAZEM

NO. 39, BIWABIK, MN
1st Sunday monthly
St. John's Church

Our Christmas party was held on Jan. 13th at St. John's Social Hall with Fr. Frank Perkovich as our guest. The tables were decorated beautifully with

tall colored glass candle-holders imprinted with a religious motif. Thank you to our decorating committee, Angie Hietala, Mary Lou Enquist and Helen Milos. There was also a fresh floral bouquet of red and white carnations, babies breath, greenery (and more candles) on the head table. Wine was served with the delicious oven-baked chicken dinner, catered by Dennis Purkat.

A short meeting was held to elect officers and distribute a brochure detailing our SWU 75th Jubilee celebration.

A very pleasant and unexpected development was having two prospective members at our party: Fran Rojeski and Shelly Berts. We hope they decide to join our branch.

Congratulations to Jane and Don Purkat; we presented Jane with a card on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Our favorite dice game was played and each of us went home with several presents.

Sunday Feb. 3rd was a beautiful sunny day, but so many of our usual attendees had other plans that only 9 were at our meeting. We did get our list of officers completed.

Several of the members who had shown an interest in joining a bus group to Joliet for the 75th Jubilee, were unable to make it. We are still hoping to get a busful.

Rosemary Ribich, a longtime member (1982) and past officer was named our Woman of the Year for 2002.

Hostesses for the meeting were Joyce Debevec, Judy Stuntebeck and Ann Tushar. They served strawberry shortcake so refreshing at this time of the year. Joyce is the Religious coordinator for St. John and Judy is the organist. Ann was unable to attend, as her husband, John has some recurring health problems. We are so fortunate to have them as members. The gals went all out with three attendance gifts. Jane Purkat, Jenny Ahlin and Helen Milos were the lucky winners.

Hope to see you all in Joliet in March.

JEAN KORSMAN, Reporter

NO. 42, MAPLE HTS., OH
Meetings: Quarterly, 2nd month
of the quarter, 2nd Saturday
Maple Hts., Library

Hi, everyone! The month of December, in spite of the joys of the holidays, had its sadder moments, too. Our member, Joyce Scott finally succumbed to a lingering illness after a long and courageous battle. Willie Ponikvar, a beloved Maple Hts. pioneer and father of member, Pat Wolf went to his eternal rest. On Dec. 18th I attended a party honoring the 101st birthday of my cousin, Mary Shamrov held at the Walton Manor and then, early the next morning she quietly departed this earth. More recently, Betty Hocevar Pearl lost her battle with a devastating illness. We extend condolences to all the families and relatives of these fine people. May they rest in heavenly peace.

Very Happy March Birthdays to Anne McCaslin, Ann Zupancic, Marie Vercek, Albina Mroczka, Tina Pomerey, Kimberly Balach and my granddaughter, Katie Kossakowski. Happy April Birthdays to Arlene Legan, Eleanor McArdle, Imelda Blazy, Terry Anzo, Dorti Zidar, Mary Jo O'Neill and Sr. John of Arc, our Spiritual Advisor.

Early Christmas morning I had a very pleasant surprise phone call from my cousin, Ivanka Franetic in Slovenia. We have never met but established a contact prior to my planned visit during the SWU tour last September. When the original tour was postponed following the events of Sept. 11th we had to put our first meeting on hold. She does not speak English, so my Slovenian is really being put to the test. In 1955 our mom made her last visit to Senadole in Slovenia; while there also visited our dad's home in the village of Dvor. She got her young, single nephew, Stanko Franetic to drive her there and introduced him to daddy's single, young niece, Ivanka Legan. That ulterior motivated introduction developed into a full-blown romance and eventually, marriage! This union forever cements our parents' families.

By the time you read this I will be in Florida visiting my cousin, Florence Boh Gramh, daughter of Frank and Anna Boh. We spent much of our child-

hood and growing up years in each other's company, and when we get together now it's like we were never apart.

My sister, Frances Tomsic has recovered from a fall, fracturing her hip and requiring a partial replacement.

Our congratulations to the entire Vercek clan on the selection of Hattie Vercek Mussig as Slovenian Woman of the Year from the East 80th Slovenian National Home. It could not happen to a more deserving person.

As always, best wishes to all our shut ins and ailing members. Have a nice St. Patrick's Day and a Happy Easter to one and all.

Zbogom...

LIL SADOWSKI

NO. 43, MILWAUKEE, WI
Meetings: 4th Wed.
St. John Evangelist Rectory

We had no meeting in December; we had our Christmas party at Klemmers. Everyone seemed to enjoy the luncheon and the visiting. We had many prizes for raffling. Even the weather cooperated.

Our January meeting was opened with a prayer, November minutes were read and the financial report was given.

Our officers for the year 2002 are: President, Josephine Janezic; Vice Pres., Yvonne Khaldi; Sec./Treas., Mary Martino; Sgt. at Arms, Helen Hajicek; Program Chairman, Betty Anne Kolesari; Auditors, Elizabeth Gallun and Anne E. Konczal; Reporter, Anne E. Konczal.

We were treated to a wonderful luncheon by our birthday members, Milka Menchak and Theresa Kotar, and some additional goodies by our President.

One of our members, Vicky Sporis celebrated her 100th birthday on December 18th. She was a very active member and for quite some time we held our meetings at her home.

She now resides at South Shore Manor, 1915 E. Tripoli Ave., St. Francis, WI 53207. I am sure that she would be happy to hear from some of the old timers.

We are looking forward to going to Joliet on March 9th for the celebration of the 75th Anniversary of S.W.U. We are to contact Denise Bartlett for reservations and deluxe coach transportation.



From the Youth Director Angela Stare:

Warmest greetings to all of my readers. I hope that you enjoyed the past holidays! Let's continue to celebrate as we will celebrate in one way or another the Feast Day's of St. Patrick, St. Joseph, and Easter.

As I indicated in my last article in the ZARJA and asked for input from my readers, especially all of the branches I ask again that you assist me in reaching out to our junior members. We would all agree that you, the branches, would benefit by inviting your junior members to your meetings and find out how they can get involved. I am still waiting to hear from all of you. I have written many times and requested any information that the branches can provide. I would like to know how we can best serve and include our juniors in the various events and activities that are available in the SWU.

Wishing all of our readers a blessed and Joyous Easter!

ANGELA STARE, 7601 Elmore Ln., Bethesda, MD 20817,
Fax (301) 229-8149, email bartstare@wans.net
tel. (301) 229-7587



Rita Majerle - Klug works at the Post Office. She was keyed in on an address change on the ZARJA magazine and got excited to see it was partially in Slovenian. She attended our January meeting and will enjoy being our member.

ANNE E. KONCZAL

NO. 47, GARFIELD HTS., OH
Meetings: 2nd Sunday in
March, Sept., & Nov.
Maple Hts. Public Library

I hope everyone had a very blessed holiday season. Just a reminder that our March meeting will be on the 17th instead of March 10th due to the celebration in Joliet, IL. Please plan on attending the meeting on the 17th. Anyone wanting to go to Joliet please let Olga Dorchak or Kathleen Dorchak know

now. Some of us are already going. There will be a bus and the cost is \$60.00, round trip.

Birthday greetings go out to our March and April members: March: Catherine Barta, Barbara Culkar, Joyce Rozman, Millie Stautihar and Mary Vlcek. April: Mary Gorisek, Dolores Hrovat, Samantha Spellacy, Eleanore Strazisar and Rose Vatovec.

Thanks!

KATHERINE WALLACE

NO. 50, EUCLID, OH
Meetings: 3rd Wed.
Euclid Public Library
Except July & Aug.

Being the first issue of ZARJA for 2002 at least two months go by before it is issued, and still no meeting until the 20th of March when we celebrate

The Slovenian Community in the USA Today

In 1990, to the question of their ethnic origin, 124,437 people living in the USA (2,026 fewer than in 1980) answered that they were Slovenian by origin. Of these, 87,500 (70.3 per cent) reported that Slovenian was their sole or primary line of descent. The highest numbers of Slovenes can be found in Ohio (49,598), Pennsylvania (14,584) and Illinois (11,743).

The largest Slovenian organization is the Slovenian National Benefit Society (SNPJ), which has more than 40,000 members. The American Slovenian Catholic Union (KSKJ) is the oldest organization, 1894.

In Cleveland there are nine Slovenian centers, three church centers, and two schools for supplementary instruction in the Slovenian language. The Lemont Slovenian Cultural Center is the newest Slovenian community center and operates an active Slovenian language school for children and adults. It covers a wide area around Chicago. In 1910, the insurance company, American Mutual Life Association (AMLA) was established in Cleveland; the AMLA has 16,000 members and a capital of USD 20 million. The Slovenian Women's Union (SWU) was founded in 1926 and has members throughout the U.S. The Progressive Slovenian Women's Association (PSWA) was established in 1934; in 1991 the United Americans for Slovenia was organized.

The Cleveland-based Slovenian American Council was founded as Slovenia was gaining independence.

New York is host to the Church of St. Cyril (the Slovenian House), which has been in operation since 1916. In recent years it has become an important meeting center for Slovenes living in New York.

Source: Ministry of Economic Relations and Development

St. Patrick's Day a bit late.

You all should have received your new membership notices by now, so join us once again. Also, the Slovenian Jubilej in Joliet, Illinois will take place March 8-9, 2002, try to make it if possible.

The best news so far has been that our President, Ann Tercek is again a pleased great grandmother. This time - girl and boy twins, Lauren and Ryan Stella. Their parents, Debra and Scott Stella, are as proud as can be.

Ann Winters and daughter, Dorothy are still under the weather. Get on top of this Gals!

Evelyn Hrovat is having a bad time with her leg problem. We all pray that this will ease up. Evelyn is a very brave person in spite of it all. Francis Nemanich is at St. Mark's - St. Joseph's nursing home on Chardon Road, and Caroline Lokar has entered

the Gateway nursing home. Please wend your prayers their way and send get well cards for remembrance and affection if not a visit. By the way, Mary Sirna has returned home and needs a lot of encouragement, also.

We started the year January 4th regretfully with the death of Marie Kelhar who was followed on January 20th by Millie Pike and Sophie Zagorc. We all know their journey to the Good Place was brief. We hope they will encourage us while we await our turn down here.

The atmosphere of our planet seems to become more wierd all the time. Let's hope it will ease up before our next meeting. See you there.

Na svidenje,

VI MORAVCHEK

NO. 54, WARREN, OH
Meetings: 3rd Wed. Feb. thru May
Sept., Nov., Dec.

Congratulations to SWU for 75 Years and especially to Corinne for 50 years as Editor. She can never be replaced! (O, my, Joanne! Not true but thanks for your lovely sentiments. CL)

Our meeting this month is on March 20th at my home. Bring a sack lunch and I will provide the dessert. It is at noon. Our Mother-Daughter luncheon will be on Wednesday, May 15th at 1 o'clock at Café 422. You will all be called.

You girls are to be commended - all dues have been paid for the year 2001 and now, we are hoping you will quickly pay up for 2002, as soon as you get the bills. We have such good national officers and we thank them for their hard work and energy and love for Zveza.

Harry and I finally are traveling to Europe. I will be in April since the September trip had to be rescheduled. Hopefully, all will go well. Vic Zuga is now vacationing in No. Carolina, at the beach with her daughter, Karen Zuga.

Happy and blessed Easter to all and good health and God's blessings! Special greetings to Ann Savor, Mary Zuga and Angela P. Kaferle.

JOANNE PONIKVAR



NO. 85, DEPUE, IL
Meeting: at Members' Homes

We finally got a taste of winter with 8" of snow. Oh, joy!

We would like to congratulate Father Bernard Horzen on his 50 years of teaching at St. Bede's. Father has been a very good friend to all of us. He has taught in the science fields - Chemistry, Math, Computer programming and Latin. If I were to write about all the honors he has received, I would have to write 2 pages. Father is brilliant and has been instrumental in students going into medicine, law, math, and the science fields. How rewarding it must be when his former students come back and say to him "you were the one teacher who challenged me and if it were not for you, I would not be where I am today." He also had charge of the scholastic bowl and his team placed first many times. His latest award, one of many, many was when he was chosen as the Bureau County Conservation teacher of the year. Father still teaches one chemistry class at St. Bede's. He is also the administrator at St. Thomas More Church in Dalgell. We wish Father Bernard good health and all the best in the future.

I got to thinking how fulfilling a teacher's job must be and how much good they do.

Our member, Jackie Barto is a teacher and her son and daughter-in-law are teachers also. Gen Grilc's daughter Bev is a teacher, Mary Benkse's daughter is a teacher, Mary Plantan's daughter-in-law is a teacher, Caroline Widmar's daughter and son-in-law are teachers. Ann De Bord has a son and daughter-in-law who are teachers and we also have 3 cousins who are teachers. These are all very dedicated people and we are very proud of them.

I hope everyone has a happy Easter and a good spring. God bless.

MARY JERMENC

NO. 89, OGLESBY, IL

It just doesn't seem possible that we are into the year 2002. Time really flies and we are getting older. Vanessa Morrison, granddaughter of Pres. Rose Ann Prey will be graduating from Beloit

College and I might add that Vanessa is doing it in 3-1/2 years! Good work, Vanessa! And, I'm sure that her master's degree will be putting her at the top. Wonderful. We are proud of you.

Our city of Oglesby will be celebrating the 100th anniversary in June. Our branch will also participate in some of the activities. More to follow in a later issue.

February brings to mind the lovely Valentine's Day poem I received from a neighbor (6 years old) and I'd like to share its sentiments:

*I gave a hundred Valentines,
a hundred did I say?*

*I gave a thousand Valentine's
one cold and wintry day.*

*I didn't put my name on them,
or any other words,*

*because my Valentines were seeds
for February birds.*

Have a nice springtime and enjoy the outdoors.

Love,

EUNICE

**Getting New Yorkers
together again!**

New Yorkers, most of them new members enrolled and gathered by Lynn Zalokar, met in January to enjoy the company of the newly formed Br. 93. Read about them in the accompanying article! Reporter is Suzana Zupancic Brathwaite, a young Slovenian-born member who will be writing a special column for young people, giving us some of her knowledge of the Slovenian language and customs! Thanks to Lynn for organizing this new group!

We are encouraged by the many new members enrolling in Slovenian Women's Union who are anxious to connect with their Slovenian roots again!

B.

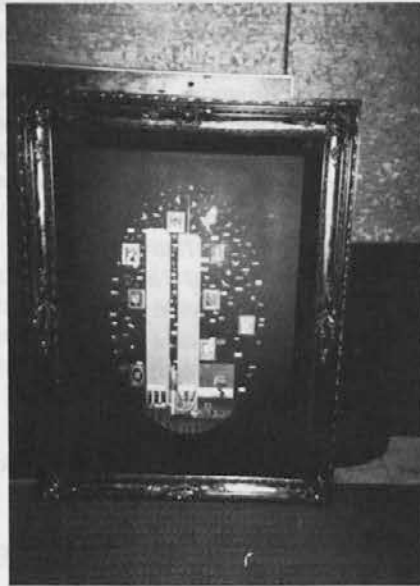
*Bog živi vas Slovenke,
Prelepe, žlahtne rožice!
Ni take je mladenke
ko naše je krvi dekle...*

*-Words taken from the
Slovenian national anthem
France Prešeren*

The New York "Scene"

NO. 93, NEW YORK, NY

Slovenian Independence Day and Holiday Season Reception was held on December 11th at the Millennium Hotel, New York, U.N. in the Plaza Ballroom. It was sponsored by the Consulate General of Slovenia in New York and the Slovenian-American Business Community.



A Slovenian artist presented a painting at this event to the City of New York. A representative of Mayor Giuliani accepted the gift. The painting depicts the World Trade Center with small flags of nations around the world who lost citizens in the Attack on America.



Left front to right: Jana Colonna (graphic artist/web designer), Mirjana Lavrencic-Lipitz (translator – English, German, Slovenian), Lynn Zalokar, Ira Ivana Cecic (Public Relations, International Festival of Theatre and Dance – in New York for a few weeks on an artists grant) attended the event. Jana and Mirjana are new members of NYC Branch 93 -- they are both from Ljubljana.

Brooklyn Branch 93 is back and reorganizing as the New York City Branch! We invite any S.W.U.A. members in the area to affiliate. We only need to meet five times a year to be considered "active." This will easily be accomplished with the variety of Slovenian-related things to do in the New York City area (European style cafes for coffee, Italian wine bars, Hungarian restaurants for goulash and palacinke, the New York Philharmonic in Central Park, etc.).

Our spring outing will be at the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens, Sunday, April 28 at 1:00 p.m. for the annual "Cherry Blossom Festival." We will celebrate the Slovenian love of the great outdoors. We invite any S.W.U.A. members in NYC for business or pleasure to join us. We are young – first generation, second generation and native Slovenians! Imagine how interesting it is to share the past, present and future of Slovenia with the "natives" and in turn describe Slovenian-American "hot spots" in the states. Wish us luck! Our contact is new S.W.U.A. member, Suzana Zupancic-Brathwaite, a native of Brezice in Posavje, Slovenija:

Suzana Zupancic-Brathwaite
482 Montgomery Street, #1B
Brooklyn, NY 11225
suzikz@yahoo.com
(718) 778-8645

NO. 100, FONTANA, CA

About twenty-five Branch 100 members and friends gathered once again for a lovely lunch and social in celebration of Christmas on Saturday, December 15. Anne Kapel conducted a short business meeting, as well. A financial report was given by Treasurer, Rosemary Mlakar. Anne and Rosemary had attended the SWU Tour to Slovenia in September and filled us in on their wonderful experiences. They had a great time!

After the delicious meal at Napoli's Italian Restaurant, we continued our social at the home of Frank and MaryLou Vidergar in Colton. Hot cider and spiced wine warmed us... accom-



Mocca (Hungarian) on Sunday, January 13th celebrated the 75th anniversary of the S.W.U.A. Left to right: Jana Colonna, Lynn Zalokar, Mirjam Miharcic-Hladnik, Ph.D. (sociologist), Kevin Lustik (Sales), Suzana Zupancic-Brathwaite (computer programmer), husband, Terry Brathwaite and their son, Michael Vilijem. The women pictured are members of NYC Branch 93, but Kevin belongs to Br. 20, Joliet. Mirjam is from Ljubljana, Suzana is from Brezice.

Photo: Kevin Lustik

SWU New Member Report

December, 2001

Name	Branch
Cihan, Beverly	103
Kokal, Erika	103
McNeill, Ivana	103
Mejac, Conrad	103
Mejac, Peter	103
Sustersich, Sarah	103
Sorgel, Collette	12
Pasderetz, Logan	1
Dolnak, Robert	20
Elliott, Joanne	20
Gingerich, Cheryl	20
Mutz, Fran	20
Palcisko, Carrie (Kochevar)	20
Testen, Mary Ellen	20
Waszak, Madonna	20
Zakosek, Jerry	20
Kobe, Merijo	23
Kuzma, LaVerne	24
Lenkaitis, Adam	24
Lenkaitis, Alex	24
Lushina, William	24
Kellen, Susan O'Block	26
O'Block, Phyllis	26
Susa, Judithy	26
Black, Cynthia	30
Bruno, Mary Lynn	30
Bruno, Mary Rose	30
Cummings, Mary E	30
Jakopec, Marijana	30

 panied by tasty treats, mostly made by our ladies. It's kind of fun to share holiday cookies and such while visiting and catching up on the news of our families. Thank you for being such wonderful hosts once more. We always look forward to visiting.

We are happy to announce the Branch 100 "Member of the Year" who will be honored on May 5th with a luncheon. Matilda (Tillie) Skebe will be our honoree for this year. She's a wonderful and generous lady and we are happy to have her represent us for 2002. You will be able to read more about her in the next issue of the ZARJA. Please contact Anne Kapel or Rosemary Mlakar for reservations to attend this event.

Many ladies attended the Mass for Peace arranged by our officers on Saturday January 19th. It was held at St. Joseph's in Fontana.

Easter is early this year so we wish you all a Blessed Easter. Perhaps your

family can revive an old Slovenian custom this holiday. Our ZARJA and New Neighborhood can help! Best wishes to our homebound and convalescing members.

Na svidenje!

JEAN KOCI,
Reporter

NO. 102, WILLARD, WI Meeting: When convenient Parish Center

We are enjoying the greatest winter – snowmobilers are not happy, of course. A lot of our business up here depends on our winter snow.

The meeting and Christmas party was attended by 13 members and a guest on Dec. 6th. We enjoyed pot luck lunch and played bingo. Mary Staut resigned from the office and Vice President and Agnes Debevec was elected to take her place. Three new members joined: Mary (Artac) Vrhun, Dorothy Podboy and Angeline Leverque. Welcome to them. A donation of \$10 was made for a charity in connection with the Sept. 11th tragedy. We made plans to meet again in February and celebrate St. Valentine's day. On Palm Sunday we will have a bake sale.

Troy Pakiz, son of Larry and Sue Pakiz and grandson of Rose and Frank, graduated from UND Grand Forks on Dec. 21st with a degree in aeronautics. Angeline Leverque of Orlando, FL spent the Christmas holidays with her sister, Rose and Frank and celebrated her 90th birthday.

On Dec. 9th our Santa came to Holy Family lodges and furnished bags of candy. A little program was done by the school CCD students. We had a cookie sale after the party. It was a great success and the proceeds went to the Hope Lodge. Our adult kids made Christmas cards for the elderly and sick of the parish along with fruit and candy baskets. Our CCD teachers at this parish are truly commendable, Diane Perko, Lona Rakovec and Pat Stremikis. Thanks to them.

Congratulations to Helen and Val Krainz on their 60th wedding anniversary. The family enjoyed dinner together after a special mass was celebrated with Rev. Joseph Follmar at Holy Family.

As of this writing we are wishing our dear Mary Staut better health. We



Agnes Lesar of Br. 102, Willard, WI stands next to the display of a beautiful, old-style dress that is from the early 1900's. Agnes' mother, Frances Lesar, hand-sewed this dress and it is still in perfect condition!

miss her input into our branch activities, especially me since I have been president. Mary kept a wonderful scrapbook of all SWU activities and correspondences. Get well, Mary, and come see us soon!

Br. 102 will host the Wisconsin State Convention on September 8, 2002 and we hope to see many of you in our town that day! Everyone is most welcome. We had hoped to be able to come to Joliet for the anniversary event, but the elderly cannot travel too well. We appreciate the help of our younger members who were so helpful to us when we celebrated our 60th anniversary in September, 2001.

There is progress being made with our Memorial Park. It will take a lot of work, donations and efforts. All is appreciated.

Condolences to Betty Fraid on the death of husband and also to the family of Fannie Djubenski LaFlex and Silvian Krultz, husband of Vickie and brother of Frieda Klancher. Condolences also to the family of Mary Govec Lesar, sister of Frank Govec.

Our prayers for the health of Marie Amundson, Betty Fraid and Mary Staut.

Sincere wishes to all from,
 AGNES DEBEVEC

The 75th Anniversary Celebration Mass on Sunday, December 2, 2001, at Our Lady of Brezje Chapel at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., and commemorative visit by National Officers, President Kathleen Dorchak and ZARJA Editor Corinne Leskovar, made a truly special day for members of Branch 103. We were honored and delighted to host them. Fr. Ray Waddas offered the mass in memory of the deceased and also for the living members of the Slovenian Women's Union. The focal point of the little chapel is the beautiful Madonna painting of Our Lady of Brezje, which was copied from the same at the Shrine of Marija Pomagaj at Brezje, Slovenia, which travelers visited on the Heritage Tour.

Following the mass, Kathy and Corinne gave very inspirational and riveting talks on the current status and exciting future prospects of the national SWU. It was very interesting and informative to hear the national, versus local branch perspective of our organization. The SWU is full of life and on the move for the changing generations of Slovene Americans. Today, in the U.S., only five percent of marrying couples are both of Slovenian descent. As Corinne said, it only takes a little Slovenian blood to proud! Both Kathy and Corinne reinforced how proud we all are of our beautiful heritage and to be Slovenian American. To round out and conclude the afternoon, we assembled for lunch in the Shrine cafeteria.

Branch 103 welcomes four new members: Beverly Cihan, her daughter and junior member Sarah Sustersich, junior member Ivana McNeill (granddaughter of member, Iča Zebot), and Erika Kokel Roda (daughter of member, May Kokel).

We did not have branch meetings in January or February 2002. Members, keep an eye out for the post card notices of Br. 103 meetings. Please attend and re-acquaint yourself with your Slovene sisters.

VALERIE BOHINCE

From the Slovenian Kitchen

The following recipes are from the cooking school our travelers visited in Slovenia last fall. Seen with our teacher, Sr. Nikolina are Gladys Buck (standing), Sylvia Spretnjak and Dolores Franko, all of Br. 16. Thanks to Nika Kovacic and Tillie Ausich (Br. 103) who edited and copied Sister's original recipes for us.

SKUTINA KLOBASA

1/2 cup surovega masla, 1 zavitek skute (Farmer cheese 7.5 oz.), 1/2 cup pšeničnega zdroba, sol in 2 jajci.

PRIPRAVA: Dobro vmešamo maslo, posamezno pridajamo jajci z malo skute (da se ne sesiri), nazadnje preostalo skuto, zdrob in sol. Dobro premešamo. Testo naj počiva vsaj pol ure. Prtič-servijeto namočimo, dobro ožmemo in potresemo z drobtinami. Nanj nanesemo testo v obliki klobase. Ohlapno zavijemo in na koncih povežemo z nitko. Klobaso kuhamo v vreli slani vodi 40 minut. Kuhano takoj razrežemo in ponudimo z mesom ali s solato ali s kompotom.

GOBOVA OMAKA

2 cups gob, 2 žlici olja, 1 čebula, česen, malo mleka ali juhe, 1-2 žlice moke in 3 žlice kisle smetane.

Gobe dobro otrebimo, operemo in zrežemo na listke ali jih debelo sesekljamo. Na olju zarumenimo seseklano čebulo, pridamo pripravljene gobe ter jih pražimo, da se gobji sok posuši. Prilijemo malo mleka ali juhe in naj vro gobe še da se zmečajo, pridamo še česen, peteršilj ter zakuhamo kisló smetano, pomešano z moko. Da ne bo podmet (smetana) pregosta, prilijemo malo mleka. Pred serviranjem omako dosolimo, lahko tudi popoprano in okisamo z limonim sokom. Po želji še pridamo sesekljan peteršilj.



COTTAGE CHEESE LOAF (Skutina Klobasa)

**1/2 cup butter
1 package cottage cheese or farmer's cheese (7.5 oz.)
1/2 cup farina or cream of wheat (NOT instant)
Salt
2 eggs**

METHOD: Mix butter, add one egg at a time, with small amount of cottage cheese (to prevent curdling). Finally, add rest of cottage cheese, farina, and salt. Form dough in loaf form. Put on wet towel sprinkled with bread crumbs, and loosely roll in cloth. Tie ends with string. Cook in boiling water to cover, 40 minutes. Immediately cut in pieces. Serve with meat, salad, or fruit.

MUSHROOM SAUCE (Gobova Omaka)

**2 cups mushrooms
2 tablespoons oil
3 cloves garlic
Milk or broth
1-2 tablespoons flour
3 tablespoons sour cream
Parsley**

METHOD: Clean and wash mushrooms, slice or chop. Brown chopped onion in oil, add mushrooms and saute till all mushroom juices evaporate. Add small amount of milk or broth. Boil until mushrooms are soft. Add chopped garlic, parsley, and finally add sour cream mixed with flour, and remaining broth or milk to gravy consistency. Mix together, as needed. Before serving, add necessary salt, pepper, or lemon juice, and add more parsley.

OB 75. OBLETNICI USTANOVITVE SLOVENSKE ŽENSKE ZVEZE...

NADALJEVANJE

Slovenija je zelo poznana po lipicanskih konjih, čeprav se jih lastijo na Dunaju vsled svojih predstav. Sami konji pa so le prišli iz Lipice. Kraj Lipica leži na zeleni oazi poraščeni z nešteti drevesi lip in hrastov čisto blizu Jadranskega morja. Kraj je zgodovinsko poznan iz leta 1580. Konje pa so v tem kraju gojili in vzgajali že veliko let popreje. Po izredno lepi predstavi klasične šole jahanja smo si še ogledali z vodičko kobilarne. To so črede konj lipicanske pasme ter stavbno in umetnostno dediščino, katera je od leta 1996 dalje razglašena za kulturni spomenik v Republiki Sloveniji.

Na poti proti Ljubljani smo si tudi ogledali Postojnsko jamo. Jama je odprta vse leto, obisk traja uro in pol in stalna temperatura v jami je 8°C. Jama si ogleda $\frac{1}{2}$ milijona ljudi letno. Je največja v Evropi. V jamo se najpreje pepelje z vlakcem. Potem je pa še potreben dobršen del hoje navkreber in navzdol v jami. Tu se lahko vidi človeške ribice, najznamenitejše prebivalce temni. V milijonih let je kapljanje vode ustvarilo čudovito lepe kapnije, stebre različnih oblik in barv. Ti se formirajo od zgoraj dol in od spodaj gor. (stalagniti in stalaktiti)

Pa še nekaj besed o nekaterih cerkvah, katere smo videli. Gotsko cerkev v Piranu sem že omenila. Druga zelo zanimiva romarska triladijska cerkev, tudi v Slovenski Istri, katero smo obiskali je v Hrastovlju. Od daleč je bolj zgedelala kot trdnjava. Iz vasi smo hodili v hrib v to srednjeveško cerkvico in si v njej ogledali zelo dobro ohranjene freske žalnih plesov. Leta 1490 je svoje slikarsko delo v tej cerkvi dovršil Janez iz Kastva s svojimi sodelavci.

V bližini Ribnice smo 27. sept. obiskali pri Novi Štifi in Brinovem griču cerkev Marije Vnebovzete. Tu je daroval sv. mašo pater Christian (Gostečnik). Pater Niko, tudi frančiškan v tej cerkvi, pa nam je lepo in nazorno predstavil to lepo romarsko cerkev. Cerkev je krasen primer baročne



arhitekture osmerokotnega prostora in zvonika. Vsi oltarji so rezljani iz lesa, pozlačeni, posrebrni in pobarvani. Pilastri v prezbiteriju nosijo 16 metrov visok obok, v ladji pa 27 metrov visoko kupolo. Naj pripomnim, da je ta božjepotna cerkev posebno pri srcu Corinni Leskovar. Predno je njena stara-mama, zapustila Slovenijo (1909) je hodila v to cerkev. Ravno pred kratkim je cerkev dobila nove zvonove. Zanimivo je videti darovalce za pomoč pri tem podvigu. Poleg domačinov je velik delež pomoči iz Avstralije, Amerike, Kanade in drugih Evropskih držav. Ljudi bo vedno pritegovalo nazaj, kjer so vzklile njihove korenine. To velja za nas vse in tako je tudi prav.

Nahitro smo dobili vtis mesta Ribnice, ki je srce suhe robe. Že v 15. stoletju je mesto dobilo dovoljenje od Habzburžanov za izdelavo 400 različnih vrst lesene robe. Tu smo si ogledali razstavo o Slovencih, ki izhajajo iz tega dela Slovenije in so pripomogli na kakršen koli način doma ali drugje k napredku človeštva. Kako lepo, da je na vidnem mestu prikazana tudi gospa Albina Novak, ustanovna članica naše zveze in dolgoletna urednica Zarje.

Še isti popoldan smo se ustavili v Mali vasi pri Dobriču. Obiskali smo Baragovo rojstveno hišo s sobo v kateri je bil rojen in cerkev v domači župniji, kjer je bil krščen. Pod doprskim kipom Barage, je v cerkvi napisano: "Irenej Frederik Baraga rojen v gradu Mala vas 29. jun. 1797 in isti dan krščen v tej farni cerkvi. Po dovršenem pravoslovju na Dunaju in bogoslovju v Ljubljani. V mašnika posvečen 21. sept. 1823. Kaplan v Šmartnem p. Kr. in Metliki. Od leta 1831 misijonar Otava in Očipve – Indijancev v Michiganu Sev. Amerike. V škofa posvečen 1. nov. 1853. V Gospodu zaspal 19. jan. 1868 v Marquette". Postavili njegovi častilci leta 1897.



Nova Štifa – cerkev Marije Vnebovzete

Svetovno znane Postojnske jame skriva tisto najlepše, kar je ustvarila narava v milijonih let.

Foto: Postojnska jama turizem

Po slovesni večerji v gradu Otočec smo prespali v Novem mestu v hotelu Šport. Drugo jutro pa smo nadaljevali vožnjo proti Ljubljani. Ogedali smo si Pletarski samostan in grad Kostanjevica. V gradu so zanimive razstave priznanih umetnikov kot je Boždar Jakec in drugi. Bila pa sem prijetno presenečena, ker sem videla razstavljenih več del znanega kiparja Franceta Goršeta, dela še izpred vojnih let. Nekaj let pred svojo smrtjo, se je resno pripravljaj, da bo na povabilo tamkajšnjih prijateljev razstavljal svoja dela v Kostanjevici, pa je oblast v zadnjem trenutku prepovedala, da bi razstavljal. To ga je takrat zelo prizadelo. Pa danes so zopet drugačni časi...

Po kosilu v Kmečkem hramu v Kostanjevici na Krki, smo se preko Žužemberga, Muljave (J. Jurčič-ev roj. kraj) peljali proti Ljubljani. Naj omenim še to, da so bili posebno Amerikanci poznejših generacij med nami prijetno ganjeni nad tolikimi cerkvami, ki smo jih videli iz avtomobila. Prav tako so poudarjali, kako je vse čisto in kako so ceste v dobrem stanju v Sloveniji.

(nadaljevanje)

Corinne Leskovar (Translator):

Observing the SWU's 75th Anniversary with a great Heritage Tour to Slovenia

We continue with our travelogue:

Part II

One of Slovenia's best known wonders is the stud farm of the noble Lipizzaner horses that originated in the year 1580; in this atmosphere the horses are born, grow and change in color from brown colts to a sparkly, beautiful white after maturity. They are known throughout the world since the time when the Austrian Emperor Karel took them from the Slovenian town of Lipica to Vienna and began training them in what became known as the world-renowned Spanish School. A visit to Lipica brings you to a green oasis amidst the rocky terrain and caves of the Karst region, near the Adriatic Sea.

We joined a larger group of tourists at the daily dressage performance by the elegant Lippizaners and then visited the stables to see them up close. Since 1996 the stud farm at Lipica is considered a cultural landmark of Slovenia.

Then to the caves in the Karst region – those wondrous underworld geological formations below the earth near Postojna, known since the year 1215, and nearby places such as

Škocjan and Vilenica, a world landmark site. We chose to go to the Postojna Caves and took a one and a half hour train ride thru tunnels and lower level areas that brought us right into the main caverns where one could disembark and walk further to examine the sculpted galleries and chambers of stalactites and stalagmites. Tourists are provided warm capes and very knowledgeable guides who explain the existence of the various underground rivers and formations. We learned of the existence of the creature called Proteus anguinus (the human fish) who lives in darkness in these caves.

In Slovenia are many, many ancient castles and churches from the middle ages. In the southwestern part of Slovenia where we were now traveling Slovenian history tells many stories of the centuries when the Turks besieged villages, ransacking and carrying off young women and men. We know that in those times, between 1200 and 1400, churches were fortifications for the protection of the people, besides places where frescos could be used to describe the old and new testament, themes from Genesis to Christ's Passion. We stopped at Hrastovlje, a small village with a chapel of the Holy Trinity that is prominently ranked by art historians for the frescos that completely cover the walls (but are badly in need of restoration). People come to view the frescos from all parts of the world and countless studies and descriptions have been published in all languages. The most remarkable fresco by reputation is the work of Janez of Kastava in 1490, called the Danse Macabre, a name given to the wall of figures depicting people of various callings and professions, from kings to beggars, and of all ages, with skeletal forms that almost seem to be dancing, holding each others' hands, and clearly telling the viewer that ultimately, a dance of death takes us all. In our little group we found many people interested in purchasing postcards and brochures showing this chapel covered by art-work, and one of our group, Nancy Malone, gladly bought a book that was a complete historical art manual she will share with artist students in Illinois.

By motorcoach, driving eastward across the southernmost highways we reached our next destination, Ribnica, a city whose crest is the depiction of a fish (three rivers converge there with historically an abundance of fish, thus the legend). A road sign greets the visitor stating this is the



Photos: Rodna Gruda, this page and top right page 29

Over 500 year old frescos adorn the church at Hrastovlje, especially known for the "Danse Macabre" figures, part of the wall shown here.

center of manufacture of "suba roba", the Slovenian terminology for wooden ware. Anyway, Ribnica is an area from which many of our first immigrants came to the USA, among them the family of maternal origin for our ZARJA Editor, Corinne. Her grandparents, the Krizmans lived there as it was the birthplace of grandfather, Matija and two of his six children, Matt and Albina. Ribnica claims to be the birthplace of the earliest Slovenian composer of sacred music, Jakob Petelin Gallus (1550–1591), and poet France Preseren is said to have attended school there. Poet Valentin Vodnik spent some years at St. Stephen's Church as a cleric. But, getting back to the reason for our visit, at what remains of the Ribnica castle, 10th century, is a museum that was currently exhibiting a special study on Immigrants to America. There we saw huge enlargements on the walls of pages of the handwritten ledgers telling names and places of those who left Ribnica about the turn of the 20th century to make new lives for themselves. There were artifacts and



An aerial view of Bishop Baraga's home church at Dobrnič, circa 1777

Because the recent ceremonious blessing of the bells was known to us, we were interested in the listing of donors from America who helped to make it financially possible for the church to afford three new bells, an expensive undertaking. We noted they were mostly from Cleveland, Ohio, but many also were from Canada and Australia, places to which families and individuals had immigrated. It seemed to all of us that this was a beautiful way to remember their homeland.

The last stop on the way back to Ljubljana was at Dobrnič, the parish of our candidate for sainthood, Frederic Baraga. We first went to his birthplace at Mala vas – actually stepping into the room where he was born and seeing the bed, chair, table in this simple room, then to the church at Dobrnič and the baptismal font where he was baptized. The present church building is from 1777. Inside, a marble bust of Baraga has this inscription:

"Irenej Frederik Baraga, born at the castle of Mala vas 29. June, 1797 and baptized the same day in this church. Following his study of law in Vienna and theology in Ljubljana he was ordained as a priest 21. sept., 1823. He was the assistant at Šmartnem pri Kranju and Metlika. The year 1831 he became a missionary among the Ottawa and Chipewa Indians in Michigan, North America. He was consecrated as Bishop on 1. November 1853. He rests in God 19. January 1868. in Marquette."

This monument was erected by his followers in the year 1897.

To be continued



Mala vas, small manor house where Baraga was born in 1797



Immigrants from the Ribnica area include prominent SWU pioneer officer, Albina Novak seen here as part of the exhibit we viewed at Miklova hiša museum.

pictures of groups and individuals and it attracted every one to dwell on the photos that showed magnitude of this exodus. Another room in the museum, Miklova Hiša showed the oldest forms of wooden ware still preserved as it was made and sold all over Europe by walking "peddlers" who went from farm to farm, across the country. This is how they made their living, selling their wares, while at home, the families were busy making more utensils: spoons, paddles, bowls, chairs, stools, sieves for winnowing wheat, etc.

Just 7 miles from Ribnica, on the top of a hill is the church we were bound for, the chapel of Nova Stifta, a small beautiful octagon shaped church dedicated to The Assumption of Mary. We missed by one week the blessing of their newly installed bells – but we heard them ringing for us after the Sunday (afternoon) mass that our gracious Fr. Christian Gostečnik offered for us. The church is administered by the Franciscans and pastor, Fr. Niko, gave us each a souvenir of our visit, a small bottle shaped like a miniature carafe, painted with an outline of the church and tightly stoppered. We thought it had holy water in it until someone lifted off the stopper and took a sip! The welcoming words of Fr. Niko and the thoughtful homily of Fr. Chris made this afternoon memorable. Nearby the church is also a 350 year old lipa tree that has a tree-house built high up in it. What a temptation! – Many tried to go up the winding stairway, but I would say they were mainly those who had kept the stopper in their bottles.

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P REŠEREN in S LOMŠEK

— Frank Žebot —

Pogledi Odnosi Srečanja

— Nadaljevanje —

Celovski razgovori

Zgodovinski pomen možberškega sestanka, na katerem so se literarni predstavniki Kranjske (Prešeren), Štajerske (Slomšek) in Koroške (Jarnik) zedinili o osnovi slovenskega knjižnega jezika, je v literarni zgodovini daleč premalo povdarjen. Knjižna slovenščina seveda ni bila rojena preko noči, poteklo je še nekaj desetletij predno je prišla v splošno rabo pri vseh Slovencih. Vendar je upravičeno povdariti, da je bila "spočeta" na Svečnico leta 1832 v možberškem župnišču.

V zvezi s celovškimi razgovori je tudi Prešernova kritika Slomškovih ljudskih pesmi. Pri Leonu v Celovcu je leta 1833 izšla knjiga "Pesne po Koroškim ino Štajerskim znane, enokoljko popravljene ino na novo zložene. Na svetlo dal Matija Ahacel, cesarsk kraljev vučenik v Celovškkih viših šolah". Sodobniki so vedeli povedati, da je pesmi zbral Slomšek. Ahacel ima pri zbirki le to zaslugo, da je denarno podprl njen natisk. Slomšek je imel zbirko v rokopisu že leta 1831. Ko je bil kaplan na Bizeljskem, je v tam udomačenih ljudskih pesmih odkril mnogo lepih napevov, besedilo pa je bilo često oporečno. Slomšek je pridržal napeve, besedilo pa je priredil, tako da je iz njega izločil vulgarijme. Nekaterim napevom pa je tudi sam napisal izvirno besedilo. Tem "enokoljko popravljenim ino na novo zloženim" popovkam je dodal nekaj pesmi koroškega ljudskega pevca Mihe Andreaša. V zbirko je sprejel tudi poedina dela svojih nekdanjih in tedanjih učencev. Prešeren je rokopis videl in ga tudi pregledal. Njegova sodba o pesmih pa je bila negativna. Vznemirila ga je Slomškova korekcija ljudskega besedila. Dobro leto pozneje, 14. marca 1833., je podal ostro kritiko o zbirki v slovensko pisanem pismu češkemu prijatelju, slavistu Ladislavu Čelakovskemu:

"Koroški Slovenci bodo z' enim zvezikam ljudskih pesem na noge stopili, katere Vam že morebiti bomo z' perhodnjo bučelico poslati zamogli. Meni ni nobena, kar sem jih bral dopadla. Napis ljudske pesmi (Volkslieder) se mi zdi je laž, ker niso pesmi med ljudstvom pete, ampak neslane puče, ki bi farji in tercjali (Bettbrüder) radi z' njimi prave ljudske pesmi odrinili."

Slomškovo zbirko si je Prešeren "privoščil" tudi v evpigramu "Ahaclovim pesmim", v "Poezijah" leta 1847:

*"Ne čudi se, neslane
da pesmi bodo brane,
lej pure vabi: 'puri, puri!'
in božje volke: 'šuri, muri!'"*

Ta "sršen" pa v primeri z žaljivo ostrino kritike v pismu Čelakovskemu, nima niti "brencljevega žela". Epigram je bil prvič brez naslova objavljen že leta 1832 v tretjem zvezku "Čbeljce", celo leto pred natiskom Slomškove zbirke. Radi tega sta Kidrič in Slodnjak izrazila mnenje, da se ni mogel nanašati na Ahaclovo pesmarico. Prezrla pa sta pri tem dejstvo, da je Prešeren pregledal rokopis kmalu po svojem prihodu v Celovec (januarja 1832), kar je sam potrdil v pismu Čelakovskemu ("kar sem jih bral"). Imel je torej dovolj časa, da je zložil epigram in ga poslal v Ljubljano za "Čbelico", ki je izšla šele koncem aprila. Ni si mogoče misliti, da bi si leta 1846, ko je pripravljaval "Poezije", "sposodil" epigram, ki bi naj leta 1832 bil namerjen kakemu drugemu delu in ga sedaj namenil Ahaclovim pesmim; saj bi lahko brez truda napisal izvirne štiri vrstice. Upravičeno smemo torej sklepati, da je epigram že v "Čbelici" bil naperjen proti Ahaclovi oz. Slomškovi zbirki. Pa tudi besedilo epigrama samo upravičuje tak zaključek. Pesnik je rabil prihodnji čas: "da pesmi bodo brane"; torej tedaj ko je zabavljico pisal, še niso bile objavljene.

NADALJEVANJE

VELIKONOČNO JUTRO



*Utihnil glas je raglje. Že zvonil
v nedeljsko jutro sveže, razigrano.
V bandera rdeča veter se lovi,
v monštranci Bog smehlja se čez poljano.*

*Velika noč! Vstajenja dan veseli!
Zvonovi so čimdalje bolj glasni,
od vsepovsod njih vrisk sladko doni,
vstajenja pesem pevci so zapeli.*

*Vsa žalost, skrb ljudem je danes tuja
in srce vsako je kot v travi svet,
med svojimi ljudmi! Bog roma spet
in v vrisk zvonov se zliva: Aleluja.*

Karel Mauser



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