

Zanja

The Dawn

75 years

NUMBER 4

JULY-AUGUST 2004

VOLUME 76

THINGS ARE HAPPENING!

Branches' Calendar of Events

JULY

- 7 Br. 40, Lorain, OH, Luncheon at Pine Garden Restaurant
- 18 Br. 2, Chicago, IL, ZVEZA DAY IN LEMONT Mass at 11:00 a.m. - Picnic follows
- 28 Br. 10, Collinwood, OH, Mother's Day Dinner at Fanny's Restaurant

AUGUST

- 8 Br. 47, Garfield Hts., OH, Mass for Living and Departed Members, St. Lawrence Church, 10 a.m.
- 14 Br. 42, Maple Hts., OH, Pot Luck Lunch at Maple Hts. Library, 11 a.m., Call Marge (330) 467-0696

SEPTEMBER

- 3 Br. 33, Duluth, MN, Zarja Birthday Party at meeting
- 13 Br. 89, Oglesby, IL, Zarja Birthday Party at meeting
- 23 Br. 24, LaSalle, IL, Zarja Birthday Party at meeting
- 26 Br. 20, Joliet, IL, Slovenian Grape Festival, St. Joe's Park, 4-8 p.m.

OCTOBER

- 8 Br. 23, Ely, MN, "Taste of Slovenia" Coffee Social
- 31 Br. 99, Lemont, IL, Halloween Bunco Party, Slovenian Cultural Center, 2 p.m.

DECEMBER

- 4 Br. 47, Garfield Hts., OH, Christmas Party, Valleyview, 1 p.m.
- 7 Br. 14, Cleveland, OH, Dinner Party

STATE CONVENTIONS

- September 12 - MINNESOTA (at Tower, Br. 34)
- September 26 - WISCONSIN (at Sheboygan, Br. 1)
- October 3 - ILLINOIS-INDIANA (at Peru, Brs. 24-85-89)
- October 31 - OHIO-MICHIGAN (at Collinwood, Br. 32)
- October 3 - SLOVENIAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL
OHIO Branches - Kirtland, Ohio

In this Issue:

President's Message	1
Meeting Minutes	1-3
Secretary's Message	3
Heritage News	8-10
Scholarship Director	11-13
Book Reviews	14-16
Genealogy Research	18
"Recipes from the Farm"	20
Activities of our Branches	22-39
New Members & Donations	27
Tributes	35

ZARJA - THE DAWN

(ISSN 0044-1848)

Postmaster: Send all changes of address to: ZARJA - THE DAWN, 4851 S. Drexel Blvd., Chicago, IL 60615-1703

NUMBER 4 JULY-AUGUST 2004 VOLUME 76

Member, Illinois Fraternal Congress

Official Publication of the Slovenian Women's Union of America —
Uradno glasilo Slovenske Ženske Zveze.

Published Bi-monthly - šestkrat na leto.

Annual Subscription for non-members, \$20.00 — naročnina \$20.00
letno za ne-članice.

Publisher: SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION OF AMERICA

431 No. Chicago St., Joliet, IL 60432

Telephone (815) 727-1926

Periodicals Postage Paid at Joliet, IL and at additional mailing offices

All communications for the next issue of publication must be in the hands of the Editor by the first week of the month — vsi dopisi za naslednjo izdajo mesečnika morajo biti v rokah urednice do 1. v mesecu.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN JULY & AUGUST

National Officers:

- July 2 - Betty Ann Kolesari, Nat'l. V.P., New Berlin, WI
- July 10 - Mary Lou Voelk, Special Projects Director, Iron River, WI, Br. 23, Ely, MN
- July 16 - Bonnie Prokup, Nat'l. Secretary, Peru, IL
- July 30 - Rosemary Toth, State Pres. OH-MI, Br. 50, Cleveland, OH

Presidents:

- July 5 - Anne Brdek, Br. 54, Warren, OH
- July 6 - Maria Selak, Br. 55, Girard, OH
- Aug. 4 - Betty Matjasic, Br. 101, Bedford, OH
- Aug. 9 - Catherine Sandrick, Br. 38, Chisholm, MN
- Aug. 22 - Mollie McIntyre, Br. 22, Bradley, IL

Secretaries:

- July 21 - Rose Marie Stebick, Br. 101, Bedford, OH
- Aug. 7 - Eileen Kaplan, Br. 3, Pueblo, CO
- Aug. 7 - Moreen Spencer, Br. 13, San Fran., CA
- Aug. 10 - Peggyann Moore, Br. 25, Cleveland, OH
- Aug. 16 - Frances Ulle, Br. 68, Fairport Hbr., OH
- Aug. 20 - Charlotte Perdan, Br. 32, Euclid, OH

MANY HAPPY RETURNS OF THE DAY!

With this issue,

Zarja - The Dawn

commemorates 75 Years

Next month we celebrate it!

NATIONAL PRESIDENT' Kathleen Dorchak-Hall



Change...It's a Constant

As I was giving thought to my message for this issue, I was trying to come up with something different. However, my mind keeps going back to the word - Change. I know I mention "change" often in my messages and speeches. Once again, I mention it because it is so important to our survival as well as to all companies and organizations. I encourage each of you to look around and see what you can do to help **change** our organization to be better. It is you - our members - that make this organization what it is today. It is you - our members - that will contribute to what this organization will be in the future. I count on each of you to make us successful and give us each a meaningful contribution to our lives.

This issue of the ZARJA has the minutes from the National Board meeting in February. You will see that we discussed a variety of topics and the board is working on new projects and activities. We are setting our goals high and hope to attain them.

This is an exciting time of year. There are so many activities, dances, and festivals all around the United States in Slovenian communities. I hope that you are all getting a chance to get out and enjoy the summer at these fantastic events. It is a great way to see old friends and hopefully make new ones.

On a personal note - I have moved as of June 1st. My telephone number and e-mail address remain the same, however my address is different.

Enjoy the beautiful summer. I am hopeful to see many of you at some of these events.

Love, peace and laughter,

Kathleen

Kathleen Dorchak-Hall
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Munroe Falls, Ohio 44262
Telephone: (330) 686-1336
Fax: (330) 688-6203
Email: kdorchak@neo.rr.com



Slovenian Women's Union of America 2004 National Board Meeting

Thursday, February 26, 2004

Call to Order: 10:38 a.m.

Attending the Meeting: President Kathleen Dorchak-Hall, Vice President Betty Ann Kolesari, Secretary Bonnie Prokup, Treasurer Jonita Ruth, First Auditor Beverly Menart, Second Auditor Denise P. Bartlett, Third Auditor Nancy Henkel, IL-IN Regional President Genevieve Buol, OH-MI Regional President Olga Dorchak, WI Regional President Josephine Janezic, MN Regional President Lisa McDonnell, Special Projects Director Mary Lou Voelk, Webmaster Linda Ford, ZARJA Editor Corinne Leskovic.

Not able to attend: Scholarship Director Mary Turvey and Online Newsletter Editor Lynn Zalokar.

Opening Prayer: Regional President Josephine Janezic

Recording Secretary: Vice President Betty Ann Kolesari

President Dorchak-Hall stated that Third Auditor Marge Church had presented her resignation. With regret, the Board unanimously accepted Ms. Church's resignation. The Board unanimously agreed to appoint Nancy Henkel from Branch 89 (Oglesby, IL), to fill the vacancy. Nancy graciously accepted.

The July 2003 National Board Meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

President Dorchak-Hall discussed that meals will be catered, hotels will be reimbursed at the going rate agreed, and any room that costs over the agreed rate is the individual's responsibility.

President Dorchak-Hall reminded the Board that our *Focus* of this meeting is to keep diligent to our *Vision, Mission and Purpose*. Our ultimate goal is to keep our Slovenian Heritage flourishing within the hearts of many.

President Dorchak-Hall read a letter received from SNPJ soliciting ads for their up-coming 100th Anniversary. Treasurer Ruth motioned and First Auditor Menart seconded, to place a full page ad at the cost of \$150.00. All agreed and the motion passed.

Special Projects Director and Interim Heritage Museum Director: Special Projects Director Mary Lou Voelk presented a power point presentation of the accomplishments and necessities still needed for the future of our Heritage Museum. The need to be active in changing circumstances highlighted the discussion. Many good ideas were suggested that should help the growth and exposure of the Museum. A permanent Heritage Museum Director and active volunteer program is needed to help accomplish important goals.

The Regional Presidents have adjourned to another location in the Museum for a meeting on expanding branch membership and other branch issues and concerns.

Trust Accounts: Ron Erjavec and Joy Gruber from the Midwest Bank and Trust presented the investment update of the SWUA investment accounts. Information and some advice compelled the discussion to be tabled until Friday when Accountant William Prokup could be consulted.

The Scholarship Program: Scholarship Fund Director Mary Turvey furnished a detailed report of the progress and financial situation of the program. Vice President Kolesari did discuss such findings with Director Turvey prior to the meeting. The Board did discuss numerous issues and the Program's continuing success.

President Dorchak-Hall received a report from Pat Figurowski with regard to the 2004 Museum Magic Month Calendar sales. The financial report showed sales provided a profit. Second Auditor Bartlett motioned and Third Auditor Henkel seconded to continue with the Magic Month Calendar for January 2005. The motion passed unanimously.

With the ZARJA celebrating its 75th Anniversary, a sale

at special price of the SWU cookbook honor the occasion was suggested. Third Auditor Bartlett motioned and Secretary Prokup seconded, to create a ZARJA 75th Anniversary cookbook sales special of \$12.00 each, or 2 for \$20.00. Due to postage handling fees, if mailed from the Home Office, \$15.00 each, or 2 for \$25.00. Said motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion on how to celebrate the 75th anniversary with the branches. It was decided to try to travel to all branches and share with the members this big event.

Regional Presidents conveyed ideas from their group meeting and provided the Board with numerous suggestions to help assist with membership. Establishing a 2004 Membership Campaign was discussed.

President Dorchak-Hall closed the meeting with prayer and adjourned the meeting at 7:30.

Friday, February 27, 2004

Call to Order: 9:15 a.m.

National Secretary: National Secretary Prokup gave a financial and membership update presentation. Numerous graphs and information helped explain the present situation and future needs of the organization. She also offered many suggestions to assist the Board's discussion of these matters. Secretary Prokup mentioned the need of an independent committee necessary to handle the volume of work. It was tabled for further discussion.

Accountant William Prokup presented and discussed with the Board the financial situation of the General Fund and the Illinois Department of Insurance Trust Account. The Slovenian Women's Union of America Investment Policy of February 1, 2003 was received for review. The Board hereby affirms the current Investment Policy. Accountant Prokup provided the reports, which will be published in ZARJA. The Board discussed many facets of the reports. Second Auditor Bartlett motioned and First Auditor Menart seconded, to transfer \$5,000 from the Fidelity Growth Company Fund and \$5,000 from the Vanguard Index Trust to T. Rowe Price Mid Cap Growth to better the investment return. The motion passed unanimously. Further, Auditor Bartlett motioned and Vice President Kolesari seconded, that \$20,000 be transferred from the Reserved Acquisition Fund to the General Fund to pay the outstanding ZARJA printing bill. The motion passed unanimously.

Review by the National Secretary

No changes currently proposed for the investment policy. The recommendation is to reconfirm the policy dated March 1, 2003.

Resolved that the Board has reviewed the Investment Policy of the Slovenian Women's Union of America dated February 1, 2003 and hereby adopts, ratifies and confirms the Investment Policy of the Slovenian Women's Union of America attached hereto and shall be effective as of March 1, 2004.

Vote: Board approved unanimously

Resolved that the Board has reviewed and assessed the technical investment and administrative capabilities and expertise of the First Midwest Bank and hereby determines that it is qualified to execute the Investment Policy of the Slovenian Women's Union of America dated February 1, 2003.

Vote: Board approved unanimously

As required, First Midwest Bank has provided information for the time period October 1, 2003 through December 31, 2003. All investments are within the guidelines authorized by the Board of Directors of the Slovenian Women's Union of America under the investment policy dated March 1, 2003.

Summary of Investments:

	Market Value	% of Total
Cash & Equivalent	\$ 38,858.77	5.27%
Fixed Income	\$546,443.42	74.04%
Equities	\$152,734.99	20.69%
Other	\$ 1.00	0.00%
Total	\$738,038.18	100.00%

Cash and Equivalents currently exceed the cash needs of the organization and meet current reserve requirements for unpaid claims. For the first quarter 2004, no bonds are maturing. A \$25,000 par value bond is maturing 5/15/2004. It is recommended we instruct First Midwest Bank to re-invest in accordance to our guidelines.

Vote: Board approved unanimously.

We are currently above the guideline of 20% maximum in equities as required by section 215 of the ILCS code. This is typically due to market fluctuations. First Midwest is aware of the requirements and makes ongoing adjustments. At this time, I recommend no action. If we go beyond the guideline as of March 31, 2004, we may need to provide First Midwest additional direction.

Resolved that the Board has reviewed the summary investment reports for the 4th quarter 2003 and determined that all the Society's investments have been made in compliance with the SWU standards, limitations, and investment guidelines as specified in Investment Policy of the Slovenian Women's Union of America.

Vote: Board approved unanimously.

The Auditors adjourned to another room to audit all of the accounts and financial records.

Auditors' Report: First Auditor Menart presented the results of the auditors' review of the financial books. Record keeping recommendations were made. Auditor Henkel motioned and Secretary Prokup seconded to transfer all monies above \$2,000.00 to the Heritage Fund from the Calendar Raffle. The motion passed unanimously. A recommendation was made by the Auditors that a one time adjustment of \$1,500.00 shall be made to transfer monies owed to the General Fund for the cookbook postage. Auditor Bartlett made a motion to this affect. The motion was seconded by Auditor Menart. The motion failed. Auditor Menart motioned and Vice President Kolesari seconded to have the cookbook sale postage paid by the Heritage Fund, to be reimbursed on an annual basis from the Cookbook Fund. The motion passed.

President Dorchak-Hall closed the meeting with a prayer. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 28, 2004

Call to Order: 8:45 a.m.

Webmaster: Webmaster Linda Ford began her power point presentation with the history of the website and the need to keep it up to date. Discussions included ideas and strategies to ensure proper maintenance of the SWUA's website for the future. Webmaster Ford's expertise highlights many vital aspects of our organization, to be viewed worldwide via the Internet. An informational organizer position is necessary to correlate ever-changing information for the site. The Board agreed to seek additional help to assist with the maintenance necessary for the website's continual success.

On-line Newsletter Editor: Editor Zalokar provided the Board a Report with numerous suggestions to further enhance the richness of knowledge that the newsletter provides. Several Internet sites, along with additional information presented were discussed. Attending some free seminars to gather information should be very useful.

The Board further reviewed and discussed the 2003 Budget. A 2004 proposed Budget was then discussed. A motion was made by Auditor Menart, seconded by Vice President, Kolesari to accept the 2004 Budget as outlined. The Board agreed unanimously.

President Dorchak-Hall presented the need of business cards for the Board members. Webmaster Ford reviewed the Internet, gathering information, and will work on the project.

An Organizational Chart was reviewed and discussed. Treasurer Ruth motioned to approve the Organizational Chart. Auditor Menart seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved.

Membership Campaign!

"Let's Keep Growing"

We did so well in the last membership campaign, let's try to beat last year's record of 309! Let's see how many "Carnations" we can gather in our garden by the end of the year.

Prizes will be given to individuals getting the most new members and also for the region getting the most members.

Leaders in new members are as follows:

Branch	New Members
20	12
89	8
43	7
39	6
99	6
108	3
16	2
26	2
5	2
50	2

The following Branches each have 1 new member!
102, 103, 105, 13, 24, 3, 32, and 33

Let's all try to catch up with the top 3! We Can Do It!!!
Watch the next ZARJA for future updates.

LISA MCDONELL
MN Regional President
Membership Chairman



National Secretary, Bonnie Prohar Prokup:

It's a Really Small World...



Greetings Everyone!

I hope you are all enjoying the summer, I know we are here! It seems that every night we are at the softball field, whether it's one of the two teams I coach, the team I play on or the weekend traveling team. The best part is we are with family and friends and having a blast. The interesting piece about this is that of all the teams we participate in the majority of the kids/adults are of Slovenian ancestry. The newest addition is a family who moved into the Illinois Valley from Pittsburgh. Of course, they are Slovenian! What a small world we actually live in!

Enjoy your summer and be on the look-out for the 75th Anniversary issue in September. I am sure its going to be very special!

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

MINUTES OF MEETING:

The board agreed to continue work to acquire a 501C3 Tax Exempt Foundation status for the Heritage Museum.

President Dorchak-Hall suggested that we plan a Member Tour to Slovenia in 2005. After a brief discussion the board agreed to plan the trip for June 2005.

The 2003 Roster was reviewed for necessary updates and revisions. Vice President Kolesari will be provided with an information disk and asked to produce the updated 2004 Roster for distribution.

Auditor Menart has provided the Board with a design pattern for the Quilt Raffle. The Board was in full agreement. The Board thanked Auditor Beverly Menart for her most gracious offer to create another quilt for SWU fund-raising.

Auditor Bartlett motioned to produce colored post cards of the Heritage Museum/Home Office available for sale. Secretary Prokup seconded the motion. The Board agreed.

Home Office Manager/Museum Assistant: President Dorchak-Hall presented a newly proposed Home Office Manager/Museum Assistant Job Description. The description is for a person with the technical skills necessary to efficiently run the Home Office and assist in Museum tasks. Discussions took place and a majority of the Board agreed.

Membership Campaign Director: As previous discussed by the Board, a Membership Campaign Director position needs to be assigned. The necessity is truly warranted. Secretary Prokup motioned that MN Regional President McDonell fill the chair position. Auditor Henkel seconded the motion. The Board agreed unanimously. Lisa McDonell accepted.

Heritage Museum Volunteer Committee: The Board had previously discussed the absolute need to have our Heritage Museum open on the weekends. It is imperative that a Museum Volunteer Committee begin to achieve this goal. Auditor Bartlett motioned that a Heritage Museum Volunteer Committee be implemented. Secretary Prokup seconded the motion. The Board was in full agreement.

Before adjourning the meeting each board member reviewed their assignments to be completed after leaving the meeting.

President Dorchak-Hall closed the meeting with a prayer and the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Berry Ann Kolesari
Recorder of Minutes

Kathleen Dorchak-Hall
President

Meet Our SWUA Regional Presidents



Lisa McDonell



Genevieve Buol



Josephine Janezic



Olga Dorchak

Lisa McDonell

Minnesota

I was born and raised in Duluth, Minnesota and with the exception of one year I have lived here all my life. I graduated from Morgan Park High School and attended business school for restaurant management. My husband Scott and I have been married 20 years and have two sons, Anthony 15 and Andrew 9. I manage the Garden Cafe in St. Mary's Medical Center.

My special interests and hobbies are quilting, crocheting, cross stitch and reading.

I have been a member of Branch 33 since childhood. I also am a member of St. Mary's Hospital auxiliary and on the fundraising committee at my son's school. We as a family also enjoy many outdoor activities.

I am looking forward to serving as Minnesota Regional President.

Genevieve A. Buol

Illinois-Indiana

My life began November 15, 1942 on 22nd Place, in Chicago, IL. Yes, I was a home birth, the 3rd daughter of Gabriel and Jennie (Vidmar) Puhek. Being the youngest in the family, I was doted on by my two older sisters, Dolores and Mary, my parents and my maternal grandmother who lived with us. I learned to speak Slovenian along with English since communicating in Slovenian was a must with "Stara Mama."

I'm proud of my solid 100% Slovenian background. My maternal grandparents (Frank Vidmar and Johanna Habjan) came to the USA from the Gorenjsko

region. They helped to build St. Stephen's Church where they were one of the first couples to be married in 1902. My Dad was 17 years old when he immigrated to the USA in 1921 from Bela Krajina, Slovenia.

After attending St. Stephen's Grammar School (now the site of Cristo Rey High School) and St. Ann's High School I graduated from Ottumwa Heights Junior College in Ottumwa, Iowa where the curriculum prepared me for my career in Healthcare, currently in my 31st year. In Certified Professional Medical Services Management, my job is both challenging and unique for its diversity.

In 1967 I married Matthew V. Buol, III and moved to Cicero, IL. We just celebrated our 37th wedding anniversary on April 8th. Our marriage was blessed with the births of two children, Katherine Denise (Katie) in 1972 and Matthew Vincent (Matt) in 1975. As an active member of Mary Queen of Heaven parish, I have, over the years, been involved in the Parents' Club, School Board, Parish Festivals, Choir, Marian Council, Co-Chair at the Annual Pasta Dinner, served as Lector, and I bake the Communion bread every other month.

My involvement in the SWUA was natural since my mom was a member of Branch 2 for over 50 years, my sisters are both members and Dolores serves as Secretary/Treasurer of branch 2. I am now in my second term as IL/IN Regional President, a position that has enabled me to foster friendships with members not only in Illinois and Indiana but throughout the United States. It has also encouraged me to learn more about my heritage, enhanced my pride in being of Slovenian descent and motivated me to recruit new members.

I once read that "Service is the rent you pay for living" and I firmly believe in doing good for others even when inconvenient to do so. My parents instilled in me to be a faithful Catholic, to always be sensitive to the needs of others, to share with those who have

less than I do. They exemplified those words by their unselfish love, self-sacrifice and the corporal works of mercy they performed daily. What a fine example they gave our family.

As your Regional President, it is my pleasure to serve you.

Josephine Janezic

Wisconsin

Josephine Janezic, born of Slovenian parents in 1936 in Slovenia, spent her early childhood under Italian abuse and oppression. After going through the pressure of World War II, fighting for survival under Communism, fleeing to Italy while under age, living in refuge camps in Italy, and going on to Australia, she married Stanley Janezic in 1957. In 1960 they moved to the United States, settling in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where their daughter, Patricia was born.

Education was always foremost as her goal. As a youngster she schooled in Slovenia and continued on to college in Italy, Australia and the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee.

In 1989, her book, "*Pepca's Struggle*" was published. It was at this time that she first heard from Corinne Leskovar in Chicago, about S.W.U. of America and then became a member. She has been the president of Branch 43 in Milwaukee for 10 years and Regional President for five years.

Josephine and her husband now reside in Greenfield, Wisconsin, enjoying their young family especially their only granddaughter, Michelle.

Olga A. Dorchak

Ohio-Michigan

On October 13, 1928 I was born to Jacob and Ivanka (Kljun) Zadnik, both immigrants from Slovenia.

My schooling was comprised of a Public School education at St. Lawrence Catholic Church, a Slovenian Parish.

I attended concerts, operas and other activities at the Prince Avenue Slovenian National Home. It was here I was a member of the Kanarčke (Canary) Slovenian Singing Society.

Tragedy arrived in my family with the unexpected death of my father in 1938. My mother's one desire was to return to Slovenia to see her own mother. With father's belongings packed into a large trunk early in July, 1938 I left for Slovenia with my mother and sister. We traveled on an ocean luxury liner, Nor-

mandy, eight days on the ocean to LeHarve, France. Another train to Trieste, Italy and finally a hay wagon ride to my grandmother in Podgrad.

Here I met the grandest lady, my grandmother, Frančeska (Maslič) Kljun, aunts, uncles and many cousins. Fortunately years later I was to visit Slovenia 4 more times to be with many of these relatives, sadly never again with Grandma.

Returning to the U.S. my mother purchased a delicatessen on St. Clair Ave. in a mostly Slovenian area. In a predominance of Slovenian students in school I did not have to explain my nationality.

Mother married Pepe, as we called him the beginning. Later he was definitely Papa.

Always athletic, in High School I became a "gym" captain and in my senior year I was voted the Secretary of the Senior class. To this day I am still involved with my January, 1947 graduating class. We meet often and every 5th year gather for a special reunion.

The summer before my Senior year in High School I met Alex Dorchak who had been discharged from the Navy in 1946. He was employed at the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company. As a coincidence this is where I was employed after graduation from John Adams High School.

After a courtship of a year Al and I were married August 19, 1947. We had two darling daughters, Kathleen and Diane, both are members of the Slovenian Women's Union. Kathleen is presently serving her second term as National President.

I have been a member of S.W.U.A. since 1965. It so happened my mother was President of Br. 47 in Garfield Hts. at one time.

When she found it difficult to continue as President, a new president was voted in and I became Vice President. I found myself chairing many of Br. 47's meetings and following my mother's path I followed in as president and still maintain that position.

Al had always encouraged me in all my activities, he also saw to our daughters while I made two of my trips to Slovenia. He died in 1994, on Diane's birthday.

Currently, I am Ohio-Michigan Regional President, also Treasurer-Secretary of the Newburgh-Maple Hts. Pensioners Club. Our meetings are held at NASH, Slovenian National Home on 80th Street with members mostly Slovenian. I attend Federation meetings which are held at Slovenian National Homes and happily socialize with many SWUA members there. I love participating in every activity possible and also activities at other Slovenian Homes.

To keep our Heritage alive I feel we must encourage any and all Slovenian organizations.



New! SWUA Slovenia Travel Award 2005

Applications accepted between August 1 and December 1

The SWUA announces an award to send two young adults to Slovenia for a two week school and tour in July 2005. This tour is hosted by the University of Ljubljana Student Organization. This program provides guided tours to many of the tourist attractions, cultural events and informal language classes. Following is a summary of the guidelines and application process:

- 1) Applicants must be 18-26 years of age (18 by December 31, 2004)
 - have held a membership in SWUA (paid-up for the past 3 years)
- 2) Applicants must write an essay of 100 words or more (double-spaced)
 - tell why applicant wishes to receive the Travel Award, how will this experience help them to generate new members into the SWUA, and how will they use this experience to promote the Slovenian heritage
- 3) Must include a resume
 - include applicant's heritage background and photo
- 4) A recommendation by their branch officer must be included.
- 5) Within two (2) months of return, winners will submit
 - an article which will appear in the ZARJA and a photo or two from the tour

The SWUA Travel Award will cover cost of airfare. The university student organization underwrites cost of tour.

Applications are to be mailed to:

Mary Turvey, Scholarship Director
52 Oakridge Drive
Marquette, Michigan 49855

All applications must be received by December 1, 2004

For more information on the SWUA Travel Award, contact:

Anita Vovk
719 Knuti Drive
Aurora, MN 55705-1212
Phone: (218) 229-3202
gospa@cpinternet.com

Kathleen Wheeler
16917 Marlborough Circle
Minnetonka, MN 55345
Phone: (952) 935-7441
Cell: (612) 803-9416
kwheeler@compassmail.com

Lisa Ochsendorf
6096 145th St. N.
Hugo, MN 55038
Phone: (651) 653-5215
lfo1968@hotmail.com

We are anxious for our members to take part in this offer and wish each one GOOD LUCK!!!

Announcing!

The Abeceda Fund-Raiser!

*For the benefit of our
Student Scholarship Travel Award Fund*

I am asking those members whose first, middle or last name begins with the letter "A" to send only one dollar, \$1, to the 2005 Travel Award Fund,

c/o Mary Turvey, 52 Oakridge Dr., Marquette, Michigan 49855. Your donation will be gratefully appreciated.

Anita Vovk



**SLOVENIAN, NATO and EU flags fly together
at Ljubljana center**



SLOVENIA ACCEPTED INTO NATO; SWU MEMBERS ATTEND CELEBRATION



Celebrating Slovenia's accession to NATO, (left) Dr. Kracun with Erika and Lisa at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.; (right) at the flag display.

On Monday, March 29, 2004, many members of the Slovenian Women's Union were invited to a gala celebration to honor the visits of the prime ministers of seven countries being welcomed into NATO. These countries were Slovenia, the Slovak Republic, Romania, Macedonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Bulgaria, and Albania. The gala took place at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. Dr. Davorin Kracun, the ambassador and other members of the Slovenian Embassy headed the Slovenian entourage. The evening was filled with magnificent art, beautiful flowers, fine food and wine, and a spirit of cooperation and celebration. Further, the gala was very well-attended by representatives of all the countries, as well as with a rather large contingent of the press. The sight of the Slovenian flag worn by many

of our SWU members in attendance gave us such joy and pride that our nation is growing in its presence and influence in the international community. Having the opportunity to be a part of this historical event with my sister, Lisa will always remain etched in my memory. We are both proud of our Slovenian heritage.

Earlier that afternoon, President George W. Bush and other prominent members of his Cabinet welcomed the seven nations and their ambassadors into NATO at a White House celebration that was followed by a White House Lawn ceremony. Again, members of the Slovenian Community were present.

*Erika Kokal Roda
Br. 108 Historian*

UNITY TORCHES ARRIVE FROM AUSTRIA-HUNGARY-SLOVENIA

Ceremonies rang forth throughout Europe in celebration of 10 new member countries were admitted to the European Union. A festive occasion took place in the Prekmurje Region at the 3-country border of Austria, Hungary and Slovenia with folk music, traditional foods, children's performances, and singing and dancing for all. Unique to this ceremony was the invited visit by international figure, Sri Chinmoy (Shree Chinm-moy). In a historic symbol of unity, Sri Chinmoy led the thousands of participants from all three countries in a minute of poignant silence for world harmony.

A permanent border monument bearing plaques on each side in the countries three languages was unveiled.

Festivities celebrating Slovenia's entrance to the EU continued the following evening with "Opera Europissima" in the National Theatre in Maribor, a nationally televised event. Conductors and opera singers from the 10 countries newly entering the Union participated.



Hungarian Mayor Marton Ropos of Felsőszölnök, Slovenian Mayor Jožef Skalič of Kuzma, Sri Chinmoy and Austrian Mayor Franz Kern of St. Martin an der Raab (left to right) join hands during a ceremony uniting the three countries on May 1st, 2004 at the border.

Photo Credit: Pulak Viscardi

HERITAGE NEWS:

When thinking heritage/culture, a recent article in **Working Mother** (June, '04) says it brilliantly.

Simple Traditions That Teach Values

The making of a good mother “comes from wisdom you’ve gathered from your own mother, family But don’t overlook the powerful role your ethnic culture can play in raising children.”

Studies say that keeping cultural rituals alive can bridge the gap that parents say is missing. Cultural rituals in a family gives kids a guiding system of values for fitting in and dealing with the world. In addition family tradition unites families, giving a connection between past and present.

This article gives an excellent variety of cultural activities a family can share. I encourage each branch to read and discuss this article at their branch meetings. I know each branch can make a listing of “hands on Slovenian activities” that members can experience and then share with their own families.

Several other activities you might pursue:

Keep a check on your local PBS station. The recent “Colonial House” is an excellent example of American heritage and wonderful family viewing.

Check your local newspaper for ongoing museum activities in your area. For those living in the area of the Slovenian Heritage Museum, kudos to you. But do not ignore other heritage museums.

Become a role model, become a volunteer at a heritage museum. For those living in the vicinity of the Slovenian Heritage Museum, **WE NEED YOU**. Become a docent in this museum that is dedicated to the Slovenian woman immigrant.

In the next several issues of ZARJA I will be listing activities that fit in with cultural heritage. Children thrive on family activity, and using cultural heritage is an added bonus in teaching them what is really important in life.

In closing, “I hope you and your family dance” ... and yes, do teach your child to polka!

**Involve your Family,
Branch Members,
And Community
in Slovenian activities!**

* A Slovenian Wine Tasting in the Fall can bring out your adult members of all ages. Charge admission for the sampling and snacks.

* Potica-making or strudel-making demonstration. Many have never made this traditional favorite before, offer a workshop before the holidays and charge a small admission for materials and sampling of the finished product.

* Slovenian Independence Day is June 25th. Buy a Slovenian flag and display it. (Home Office has large, outdoor flags for \$50).

* Celebrate Kulturni Dan on February 8th (Slovenian Day of Culture) with a traditional wine toast. Read Preseren’s poem. Display information on Slovenian poets, artists, musicians. Make it a Slovenian-American holiday – wear red, white, blue or your favorite Slovenian t-shirt, carnation pin or traditional Slovenian costume. It is up to us to make this day our own! “Slovenia has celebrated 8 February, the day of Preseren’s death, as its national cultural holiday since 1945. Celebrated as an official holiday, the National Cultural Day shows the important role and special place which art and culture have always held within the Slovenian nation.”

The Slovenian National Anthem is France Preseren’s poem “The Toast” set to the music of Stanko Premrl.

ZDRAVLJICA

VESELO, MOGOČNO
Stanko Premrl
1880 – 1965

Pr - ja - tli o - bro - di - le so tr - tevin - ce nam ste -
Ži - ve naj vsi na - ro - di, ki hre - pe - ne do - ča - kat

dko, ki nam o - ži - v - lja Ži - le, sr -
dan, da, ko - der son - ce ho - di, pre -

ce ra - zja - sni in o - ko, ki vto - pi
pir iz sve - ta bo pre - gnan, ko ro - jak

vse skr - bi, v po - tr - tih pr - sih up bu - di,
prost bo vsak, ne vrag, le so - sed bo me - jak,

ki vto - pi vse skr - bi, v po - tr - tih pr - sih
ko ro - jak prost bo vsak, ne vrag le so - sed

up, v po - tr - tih pr - sih up bu - di.
bo, ne vrag, le so - sed bo me - jak.

*God's blessing on all nations,
Who long and work for that bright day,
When o'er earth's habitations
No war, no strife shall hold its sway;
Who long to see
That all men free
No more shall foes, but neighbours be.*

HERITAGE NEWS:

War Memorial Dedicated in Washington, D.C. SWUA Women also served in WWII

Public radio, television and newspapers were filled with articles of the new World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. and with stories of the veterans of this vintage. In scanning the issues of ZARJA I was amazed at the history our ZARJA holds of the WWII: the publication of those who died, those who were serving, ideas for cooking, canning, conserving, and Victory Gardens to name a few.

Our SWUA was founded in a time when women's organizations did not exist. SWUA was a new idea, an agent of change that gave women a social outlet, and a sense of empowerment. I deem it fitting at this time to name a certain woman who appeared on the cover of the August 1944 issue. Her name, Veronica Kosmach.

From the cover of ZARJA:

"PVT Veronica Kosmach, WAC, from Ely, Minnesota, is the first woman to be graduated from the parachute material school at the Naval Air Station, San Diego, California." Inside the magazine is the following:

"This month we are proud to publish the picture of

Pvt. Veronica Kosmach, WAC, who is the first woman to be graduated from the parachute material school at the naval air station, San Diego, CAL. She took the 12 week course with 37 sailors, and her sex was not permitted to make any difference in the strict requirements for graduation. She and her mother are members of Branch 23, Ely, Minnesota. Congratulations and the very best of luck to you. Veronica, and we hope that you'll meet with success in this unique Pvt. Veronica Kosmach career for women."



Another member is our own Veda Ponikvar. The Bong Memorial in Superior, Wisconsin features Veda as a Naval Officer and Interpreter in Washington, D.C. during WWII.

These are only two of the stories. If you have any stories or information about SWUA female family members who were in the military during WWII, please send in your story to ottolou@cheqnet.net. It is only fitting that we honor our women members during this 60th anniversary of World War II.

LIBRARY DONATIONS

Does your library (community library, high school library, university library) have the "More Pots and Pans" cookbook? If not, please consider donating a copy. It's a simple way for branches and individuals to promote Slovenian heritage no matter where they live.

Also, many of the testfood kitchens of the major food corporations have cookbook libraries (i.e. Kraft Foods and Quaker Oats in Chicago; General Mills in Minneapolis, Smucker's in Ohio, etc.

Lynn Zalokar (right) on behalf of Branch 93, recently presented the New York City library with the "MORE POTS AND PANS" cookbook. Branch 93 followed the lead of branches in Minnesota and Ohio who have been reporting cookbook donations to their local libraries. To all local branches, presenting a copy of this cook book to your local library would be a great branch activity.

Have a camera ready for the presentation, and make sure the local paper and the ZARJA get a picture and a write up. Your branch and the SWUA LOVE to meet the public!!



SWU Cookbooks now in Ohio Libraries

I decided to purchase one of our beautiful SWU cookbooks and donate it to our new branch Library in South Lorain in honor of my dear mother-in-law, Mary Pavlovic Klinar. Our Br. 40 decided to match my offer by buying another cookbook to be donated to the downtown Library in memory of all our departed members. We are quite enthused about this because many of our departed members were excellent cooks and were known for their participation as cooks for church and community functions.

*Fran Pavlovic
Branch 40*

Last October Branch 14 of Euclid, Ohio, donated a copy of "More Pots and Pans" to the Mayfield High School Library in Mayfield Village, Ohio. Every year students there are assigned a report on their heritage, and the school library had no books relating to anything Slovenian, so the book was certainly needed. In fact, when the librarian, who is not Slovenian, saw the cookbook, she requested a personal copy for herself!

*Patricia Habat,
President, Branch 14*

Thoughtfully interwoven threads

Bobbin-lace

Bobbin-lace is only one of the ways of combining flax, cotton, silk and other types of thread to produce remarkable creations; from tablecloths and decorated bedding to various clothing accessories and decorations for ritual objects. Bobbin-lace in Slovenia is part of the historic memory, which unveils the fashion particularly on festive, but also everyday needs of the population. By creating bobbin-lace the makers of Bobbin-lace in Slovenia generated a substantial amount of additional income. According to existing sources records on bobbin-lace reach back to the 16th century. One of the important lace-making centres was the mining town of Idrija, where lace-making skills spread through courses and other types of education to the wider surroundings of Idrija and beyond. Lace making also developed in the areas of Škofja Loka, Žiri, and Železniki as well as in the region of Notranjsko.



Premišljeni prepleti niti

Klekljane čipke

Klekljane čipke so le eden od načinov združevanja lanenih, bombažnih, svilenih in še kakšnih niti v občudovanja vredne stvaritve: od prtov in okraševanja posteljnega perila do raznih dodatkov k oblekam in okraševanja ritualne opreme. Klekljane čipke na Slovenskem so del našega narodnega zgodovinskega spomina, ki odstira pogled predvsem v praznične in tudi vsakdanje potrebe naših ljudi. Slovenske klekljarice so z oblikovanjem čipk ustvarjale tudi pomemben del dodatnega dohodka. Pričevanja o klekljanih čipkah po doslej znanih virih segajo v 16. stoletje. Eno od pomembnih klekljarskih središč je bila rudarska Idrija, od koder je klekljarske znanje s tečaji in drugimi oblikami izobraževanja prodrlo tudi na širše idrijsko območje in dlje. Tako se je klekljanje razvilo na Škofjeloškem, na območju Žirov in Železnikov ter ponekod na Notranjskem.

Reprint from *Craft Treasures of Slovenia*,
Rokodelski zakladi Slovenije, JANEZ BOGOTAJ

SLOVENIAN FESTIVAL IN OHIO OCTOBER 3rd!

The Slovenian Heritage Festival for branches in Ohio will take place on Oct. 3rd at the SNPJ Farm in Kirtland, Ohio. It will start with a Polka Mass at 11:30 a.m. and Father Pizmohr is the officiant. Joey Tomsick Orchestra will provide the music.

Immediately afterward, the Fun and Games Will Start!

- We hope to have a pastry-making demonstration;
- Slovenian-Chinese Raffle,
- Wine Table with demo/sales,
- SWUA Heritage Table,
- Art Exhibit with artists showing their work,

- Bobbin-lace demonstration with Ruth Abbot,
- Kollander Travel SWUA Slovenia Tour 2005
- SNPJ Junior Circle entertainment
Cecelia Dolgan, Director.



• Many, many other things to do and see!
Branches will be receiving more detailed information and updates! It promises to be a great day for all Slovenians and all Members of Slovenian Women's Union!

Next meeting for the committee is July 17th. Please contact me for any information.

Rosemary Toth
(440) 358-9141
e-mail: rosetoth@sbcglobal.net

Slovenian Women's Union
ILLINOIS-INDIANA STATE CONVENTION
Sunday, October 3, 2004

St. Joseph's Parish
Peru, Illinois
Schedule begins with Mass at St. Joseph's Church, at 11:30 a.m., dinner and meeting following:

Hostesses: LaSalle, Branch 24 – Oglesby, Br. 89
DePue, Br. 85

Mark Your Calendars Now – See you in Peru!



**Slovenian
Women's
Union**
~
Scholarship Program

Our Slovenian Women's Union Scholarship winners of 2003-2004 CONTINUE to GROW as they have successfully completed their first year of higher education. The SWU Scholarship winners of 2004-2005 have been

selected by our new SWU Scholarship Committee members: Marge Church, Melina Gobetz, Dorothy Jerneycic, Rose Marie Princ, Andrea Selak, Janice Singletary, and Lisa McDonell. Their professional discernment makes our program a success. Committee members: THANK YOU VERY MUCH! 2004-2005 Scholarship recipients will be announced in the September-October Issue of ZARJA in keeping with its special theme, "The FUTURE of SWU." Our young students are our future. Announcements will also appear on our website: <http://members.aol.com/sherryew/SWU/SWUScholarship.html>

***Biographical Updates
on our Scholarship Awardees***

JEAN ATKISSON LINDSAY

1982 Winner

Br. 34, Soudan, Minnesota

Writing from her home in Iowa Falls, Iowa

"I thought you might like to know what I have done since receiving your scholarship in 1982. The fall of 1982 I began my college career at Vermillion Community College. May of 1984 I received an Associate of Arts degree and the following fall enrolled in Bemidji State University. At BSU I double majored in Psychology and Speech/Theatre receiving a BS in Psychology and a BA in Speech/Theatre May of 1987. I stayed active in music and theatre and continued to do football statistics for the VCC and Bemidji football programs.

Following graduation I continued my employment at Bemidji Pizza hut, being promoted to Assistant manager in 1987 and in 1988 became Manager of the Northfield, MN Pizza Hut. I met my husband, Jess Lindsay at a managers' meeting in 1988 and we were married April 22, 1989.

Jess was interested in professional portraiture at this time and we decided to move to his hometown of Iowa Falls, Iowa in 1989. I stayed with the Pizza Hut as the Assistant Manager in Iowa Falls and later Manager while Jess opened Lindsay's Photography in downtown Iowa Falls. When our daughter, Marina Kie was born I retired to raise a family and help Jess in the studio. I currently handle customer service and sales and office management for Lindsay's Photography.

Jess and I are members of the Open Bible Church, and I am also a member of the Etude, a women's chorus. We practice twice month, study different aspects of music and give programs three times a year. My favorite pastimes are reading, cross-stitching and playing Barbie with Marina. Have a great summer!

SUE TERSELIC ECKERT

1981 Winner

Br. 103, Washington, D.C.

Writing from her Missionary Station in Africa

Thank you for your letter of December 4. It is a pleasure to remember how SWU helped me with my college expenses through the scholarship. I hope it will be evident that their investment was not in vain.

I was interested in an "international career" when I began my time at Penn State in 1981. As the college did not offer a major in "International Studies" per se, I was able to choose many courses of study that related to international affairs. I was given permission, because of my grade point average and due to the support of a faculty member who knew my father and was happy to get to know me, to try to put together a course of study on my own. We called the major "Socio-Development Geography." This enabled me to pursue many languages (which include Italian, German and Russian as well as informal Slovenian) and culture studies, economics and political science. Between my sophomore and junior year, I was invited to study Slovenian culture and language at the special school in Kranj, Slovenia. It was a joy to be back on Slovenian soil again and to visit relatives who were always very kind and friendly to me.

College was a time of deep spiritual searching and growing. As my faith in Christ was strengthened, I sensed that my interest in international things had been give to me by God (through the encouragement of my ethnically Slovenian and Italian families) to help guide me into service for Him. Instead of pursuing a career in international business in Slovenia or Italy, as I had thought of doing, however, I felt that the Lord was preparing me to serve Him among people in undesirable, unpopular lands who had not had the opportunity to know of and believe in Him yet. To "test"

this leading, I spent the summer of my senior year in Khar-toum, Sudan, where I assisted in hostess capacity to Christian workers in that country. I was also able to get major exposure to the Ethiopian refugee crisis at that time. Additionally, I spent the first six months upon graduation from Penn State assisting newly resettled Ethiopian refugees to Atlanta, Georgia, and encouraging a church planting work among them.

These experiences and others confirmed in my heart that God was preparing me for more service cross-culturally, and specifically to Muslim peoples. I went on to complete a one-year graduate course in Bible at Columbia Graduate School of Bible and Missions in Columbia, South Carolina. It was during this time that I met my husband, Tim, who was also preparing for cross-cultural Christian missionary service. We were married in August of 1987.

Tim and I received membership into SIM, an evangelical, interdenominational missions sending organization in November 1987. We were assigned to our county of interest, Niger Republic. In order to communicate in this former French colony, we moved to Quebec City in Canada in August 1989 to study French. In February of 1991 we moved to Niger Republic with our two little children, Tabitha and Peter.

Our first years in Niger Republic were spent learning the language and culture of the Wodaabe Fulani people (without benefit of a language school) The Wodaabe, a large group of nomadic livestock herders, were delighted to help us and let us live among them. After several years, we relocated to a town near a settlement of Wodaabe after they asked us to move closer to teach them the Bible. Since then we have been active both hosting thousands of Wodaabe people at our home and visiting with them in their camps and at their wells. An increasing number of them have become Christians. We feel very privileged to do what we are doing. A focus of our work is on training Christian men to carry on this work of teaching and leading. The growing number of churches will need capable and godly pastors and teachers and we hope to help bring this to pass.

Tabitha and Peter have been joined by James, Mathew, Josiah and Ruthanna. We have been very blessed by the Lord! Our children are treasures from Him and we are continually thankful for the lives. We have home schooled them from the beginning. Africa is "home" to them and they have many local friends where we live in Niger Republic. They also enjoy America, though, especially now as we are on furlough in the Hershey, Pennsylvania area, close to extended family and friends.

In thinking about SWU's Scholarship Program, I want to say that it definitely encouraged me to remember my Slovenian heritage. Going to Kranj and other places in Slovenia during my college years was a wonderful experience. SWU's desire to encourage me in my studies was fulfilled, as I worked hard at college and did very well academically. Although my studies did not result in me living in Slovenia or being directly involved with Slovenians, they were a springboard to me in setting me on a course that has led to a fruitful and satisfying life of service as a Christian missionary in a needy land.

One of my great desires is to take my family to Slovenia someday. I would like them to experience the lifestyle and



**Matthew, Tim & Josiah, Tabitha, Peter,
Sue & Ruthanna and James Eckert**

atmosphere in that land, as well as be able to meet some of the extended family who has been important to me there. I brought my Slovenian language learning books to Africa with me, hoping that I would be able to review and relearn that language in preparation for that hoped-for event! Perhaps someday I'll be able to do that.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to give account of the stewardship I received through the Slovenian Women's Union Scholarship Program back in 1981.

RON PUHEK

1957 Winner

Br. 56, Hibbing, Minnesota

Writing from his home in East Lansing, Michigan

It seems that I was one of the earlier recipients of a scholarship since I graduated from Hibbing High School, Minnesota in 1957. I went on to spend a year at Hibbing Junior College and then to College of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota. The scholarship along with other awards allowed me to concentrate on studies. After graduation from St. Thomas in 1961, I went to Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore for a Master's Degree in 1961 and then to the University of Nebraska for a Ph.D. I started teaching at Michigan State University in the fall of 1966 and had the Ph.D. formally conferred in early January 1967. I have been at Michigan State ever since with one more year teaching to go before I retire. My degrees are all in political science but what are called "integrative studies" courses. I've published about 16 books over the years; the most recent one came out last spring "The Redemption of Love."

My father died in 1985. My mother, Mary (Mim) Puhek was very active in the SWU, is in her 94th year but unfortunately we had to place her in St. Therese Home in Minneapolis because of Alzheimer's disease. I always remember the year she returned from one of your conventions with a doll she had won that had been dressed in a perfect replica of the Slovenian national costume. She kept the doll proudly on display until she passed it onto one of her granddaughters living in Minneapolis. My young brother, John, also lives with his family in Minneapolis and works for Honeywell; my older brother and his family live in San Diego where

he is an electrical engineer and managed a major part of the Atlas Missile Moon Program. We three brothers (no sister) are all "pure" Slovenian – all four of our Grandparents were immigrants (Puhek, Petrick, Arko and Virshek) Neither of my brothers (I am single) married Slovene so that's brought a change to the next generation. I never learned to speak Slovenian – my parents kept it as their "secret" language, but I understood more than they knew. I also occasionally recall and sing out loud (when I am alone) a few old Slovenian songs. There aren't a lot of Puheks around the country, but I understand there are some up near Marquette (twice since I've been teaching I have run into student with the name) I wish you well and hope the Union and the Scholarship Program as well will prosper.

STANLEY BRATINA

1954 Winner

Br. 3, Pueblo, Colorado

Writing from his home in Pueblo, Colorado

Thank you for the scholarship I received a while back. I was graduated from Notre Dame University in 1958. I was told that I was 6th in my class I Commerce my Junior Year. As a member of the U.S. Army Ammunition Division, I served several years in Alaska. My parents came from Croatia and Slovenia. Mother Rose Ribaric was member of SWU. Of our family of eight children only three daughters and three sons are alive. "Parents, Children and Facts of life" by Father Stattler of Notre Dame was one of the most influential books for me. Electrical engineering books can be read and forgotten but books of with a guide to life have to be practiced.

SWU SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS For April and May 2004

\$5.00 donations: Lois Pelander – Scholarship Fund, Branch 23, Ely, MN (†Caroline Deyak.) (†Moly Zupancich) (†Mary Lenich)

\$10.00 donations: Branch 42, Maple Hts., OH (†Albena Mroczka) Agnes D. Zabak (†Rose Lausche) (†Mary Zabak), Agnes A. Kurnick (her Mother, †Mary Ansel) (her Husband, †Edward Kurnick) (her aunt, †Matilda Kambic)

\$20.00 donations: Stacy Sleigh-Layman – 1976 Scholarship Winner – gift to Scholarship Fund, Yvonne J. McComber (†Josephine Koslucher Erickson)

\$50.00 donation: Branch 5, Indianapolis, IN – Scholarship Fund

\$700.00 donation from Patricia Turvey Fetsch – 1975 Scholarship winner – gift to Scholarship Fund

These gifts are deeply appreciated Donors, invest in the future! Leave a legacy!

For further information and for donations please write: Mary H. Turvey, Director, SWU Scholarship Program, 52 Oakridge Drive, Marquette, Michigan 49855 or MTurvey@aol.com

We send best wishes...

THE PRISLAND GIRLS

HERMINE PRISLAND DICKE, celebrated her 92nd birthday at a Lake Mills, Wisconsin restaurant, surrounded with family and friends. Hermine authored the original "Pots and Pans" cookbook, which took eight years to test and edit hundreds of recipes. She also was the Director of the Slovenian Women's Union Scholarship Program for over thirty years.

Hermine has been very active in Madison community projects of the past, including church organizations, Girl Scouts, and promoting funding for the learning disabled. Although she misses her dear husband, Bob, she is blessed with four children who live in the area and are there to care for her. Hermine lives at London Lodge, an assisted living complex owned and managed by her granddaughter, Meg and her husband, Jim. Almost daily she sees great granddaughter, Alexandria and great grandson, Noah. Knitting, bird watching, and, yes, assisting in London Lodge's kitchen continue to be Hermine's hobbies.



The lovely "Prisland Girls" Hermine Dicke and Mary Turvey, her niece (right), at the family party held in honor of Hermine's April birthday.

BOOK REVIEW:



The research efforts of the Institute for Slovenian Emigration Studies focus on emigration processes and organization, and the cultural activities and acculturation problems of Slovenian emigrants. Over the course of its history the Institute has published twenty-five monographs and bilingual proceedings, eighteen issues of *Dve domovini/Two Homelands: Migration Studies* (the main scholarly journal dealing with Slovenian emigration as well as with theoretical or methodological problems of interdisciplinary and comparative migration studies), and contributed over 1000 other bibliographic units, which constitute the core of the comprehensive result of Slovenian migration studies at large.

The SWUA is very fortunate to have several copies of *Dve Domovini/Two Homelands*. Articles are written in Slovenian and English. We need those who are fluent in

Slovenian to translate the Slovenian articles into English – it will double the learning! Although the articles are written in a “scholarly” fashion, careful reading will reveal interesting information regarding the formation of Slovenian-American communities during the first and second waves of immigration (Ellis Island period and post-WWII) in the U.S. and Slovenian migration patterns around the world!

Books can be borrowed from the following:

*Branch 43, Milwaukee, WI

Josephine Janezic

Phone: (414) 545-0691

e-mail: pg084@yahoo.com

*Branch 33, Duluth, MN

Lisa McDonnell

Phone: (218) 626-3630

e-mail: imcdonell3630@msn.com

Zarja-The Dawn

Phone: (773) 548-8878

e-mail: corleskovar@aol.com

For more information: ZRC SAZU – Institute for Slovenian Emigration Studies, Scientific Research Center of the Slovene Academy of Sciences and Arts, Novi trg 2, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia. Phone: +386 1 4706485; Fax: +386 1 4257802. E-mail: lzi@zrc-sazu.si; website: www.zrc-sazu.si/ises/.

Dve domovini – Two Homelands – 1.1990

EULOGY FOR A MAN OF TWO HOMELANDS

Rado L. Lenček

The following are excerpts from the memoriam of John Phillip Nielsen on the occasion of his memorial service, Sunday, September 24, 1989, St. Cyril Church, New York.

(This eulogy has been edited for ZARJA printing.)

John P. Nielsen, 77, Professor of Metallurgy

John Phillip Nielsen, was an emeritus professor of metallurgy at the Polytechnic Institute of New York and cofounder of the International Precious Metals Institute.

Mr. Nielsen was a precious metals researcher who helped to develop several alloys for dental work. In 1947, he left Phillips Laboratory to become professor and chairman of the Department of Metallurgy and Materials Sciences at New York University. In 1973, the engineering faculty of N.Y.U. merged with that of Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute to form the Polytechnic Institute of New York. In 1975, Mr. Nielsen was named adjunct professor of Dental Materials Science and in 1976, he became professor of Dental Materials Science. In 1976, he became professor emeritus.

A widower, he has no immediate survivors.

John Nielsen was born as Janez Sešek in Cleveland, in his own words »very much Slovenian, no different from being born in Spodnji Kašelj«, (a village in Slovenia) where his parents came from. Up to six years of age, he probably

never met anyone that was not Slovene. His first education was in St. Vitus School in Cleveland, an essentially Slovene elementary school with about 600-800 Slovene pupils in those years, as one of its 117 equally Slovene boys and girls in that year, which was 1917. He graduated in 1926 and continued at Cleveland High, a public high school, which was a first watershed of John's Slovenianism. It was during his high school years that he discovered the Cleveland Public Library. I quote his own words: »I was soon familiar with Henry James, Walt Whitman, Joseph Conrad, Shakespeare ... but I had difficulty to research Slovene topics in Public Library... It is then that I began question my provincialism on being a Mid-Westerner... I began to envy people with names like Bill Wilson and Jack Cole... I compared my mother unfavorably with the mothers of Irish and »English« fellow students, mothers who spoke English as well as the teachers, indeed, to my puzzlement, even better sometimes. I began to be ashamed of the homemade shirts and sweaters I wore to high school.«

We can not be amazed at this sudden selfconsciousness, embarrassment, even the feeling of inferiority and humiliation of a young man about being a nobody, part of an unknown, unheard-off tribe, with an unusual, awkward name – when his horizon opened up for the first time. The great Slovene writer, Ivan Cankar, went through the same agonies. The iconic images of his short stories: *Mater je zatajil* (He disowned his own mother), *Skodelica kave* (A cup of coffee), are tuned to the same theme and speak the same language.

After High School, John Sešek Jr. entered college, still at home in Cleveland, as he ponders those years in one of

his reminiscences – »as a stranger with my own family and friends«. »No one understood me if I quoted Shakespeare, or talked about 'moment of inertia' or the mechanics of rotating bodies... When I hinted that I wanted to be a chemist, there was skepticism... What was wrong in getting a good job in a factory? Or better yet, how about opening up a gas station or a small business in the neighborhood selling wallpaper and paints?« Not wanting to be unfair to his own parents, John gently softens his recollection here: »They wanted the best for me; it is that they did not want me to be hurt in trying to cross into a world where I did not belong...« When John graduated college, he graduated in Chemistry.

The known experience on his first professional job at a Chemical Company in Cleveland precipitated a string of drastic choices in John's life. In his own words, again, »I accepted the verdict that I could not cross the line to the Anglo-Saxon world. Now, I knew my place... and that I have to do something about it... I quit in a huff and decided to get a masters degree and a Ph.D. ... I decided to change my name and came East to Connecticut.« At twenty-five years old John Phillip Nielsen settled in New Haven, Connecticut, and entered Yale. Except for yearly visits to his home, he heard no Slovene words for the next 20 to 35 years. He ultimately settled in Manhattan and lived exclusively for science.

When came his official retirement in 1976, with more free time, the nostalgic longing for bygone time and places entered his life and led him to return to his Slovenianism. He began to look back on his growing up in a Slovene ambience. He developed a deep curiosity about his Slovene coordinates. In 1953, he, for the first time, visited the land of his parents, then year after year, almost annually. Through language he now identifies himself with Slovenes in their homeland, with their space and their past, moreover, as he put it, with their movement in history. »I now sense that I am part of this movement«, he wrote in 1988 – which marks a full circle of his Slovenianism, ending as it began...

Two of John's achievements and contributions in the matters of Slovene affairs are as an intellectual-visionary from which he derived a profound satisfaction after his coming home to Slovenianism once again, and a charitable-philanthropic one that constitutes his chief legacy in both his homelands, here and in Slovenia.

John joined the rank and file of regular active members of the Society for Slovene Studies in 1977. His essays, **Letter from New York** (1977), **In Search of Ethnic Identity** (1981), **The Americanization of Janez** (1988), his unpublished paper *The Slovene Immigrant and His Stay-at-Home Counterpart*, presented in a session of the AAASS in 1982 in Washington, D.C., as well as his **Rojškova Hiša Newsletter** (1981-1989) – mark this intellectual return to Slovenianism. In the Epilogue to his biography of his father, **The Americanization of Janez**, John speaks of this personal conversion: »I began to look back fondly on growing up in a Slovene ambience... I was raised as a Slovenian, by Slovenian parents... My curiosity led me learn about Slovene history, and I planned to visit the homeland of my parents. And so I came in 1953 the first time, and perhaps thirty times since then, almost annually... I began to sense the movement of a whole people developing the unique culture of Slovenianism. A movement that began some 1200 years

ago as a group of Slavs from the Carpathians made their way toward the Danube, and then fanned southward to the valleys and plains east and south of the Julian Alps. A people that spoke a Slavic language, which crystallized into what is now known as Slovene ... **I now sense that I am part of this movement.**«

During 1985-88, John served as member of the Society's Executive Council; during 1986-87 he took upon himself to sponsor a SSS membership drive which resulted in a substantial increase in members. He actively participated in all conferences of the Society. He talked about the Society's future. He talked about the work in the Society for Slovene Studies and its mission in American Slavic studies today. »I see it now«, he confided to me then, »I see it now and cannot but repeat about the Society the same as I have said once before about another organization dear to me, the professional precious metal institute (IPMI): 'I don't know exactly what the place for us in American universities is yet, but there is a need for us in the English speaking world. I think we are doing an important job.'«

* * * * *

It was part of his character, education and understanding of American humanitarian tradition which moved and prompted John's charitable-philanthropic projects and initiatives. This is the only way we can understand the establishment, the meaning and the substance of two trusts he financially initiated in 1984 and are active since 1985: **The Rojšek Trust** which supports the descendants of the Rojšek Homestead in Slovenia or elsewhere in Europe, the professionals in physical metallurgy in Slovenia, and worthy causes in promoting Slovene culture in Slovenia; and **The Nielsen Trust** to support the descendants of the Rojšek Homestead in the United States and Canada, and worthy causes in the promotion of Slovene-American culture.

John formulated a rule of conduct he decided to include in the letter sent to recipients of a grant from these two trusts. »To be the recipient of a granteeship from the Rojšek Trust is to be considered a singular honor and you must do everything you can to uphold its standards. My objective in setting up this Trust is so that descendants of the Rojšek Homestead enter into professions and perform well in their careers, always a credit to the Rojšek clan. In the long run the members of this clan should play their important role in world affairs.«

It is in this maxim that we are inclined to read John's faith and confidence in the »Rojšek Clan«, as well as in other crusaders in the Slovene movement of history here and in Slovenia in which John believed – to be instrumental in the implementation of his spiritual legacy. His *News from Nielsen Grantees* in the last issue of the **Rojškova Hiša Newsletter**, dated Winter 1988/89, speaks this language. Just several examples:

»One talented member of the Rojškova hiša has been granted support to study at the American University in Washington, D.C.; another grantee of the Nielsen Trust just submitted his doctoral thesis at MIT.« Or: »A prominent Slovene lady in Ljubljana received a Rojšek Trust grant to sponsor attendance at international conferences on the role of women in society; a prominent scholar in Ljubljana, a Nielsen Trust grant for publishing his English monograph on Jakob Gallus Carniolanus, a Sixteenth Century Slovene

composer, on the occasion of the 300th anniversary of his birth in 1991.« Or:

»An annual grant, started this year, for helping a newly formed *St. Vitus Alumni Association* in Cleveland; a grant to *Ameriška Domovina* for the continuation of its Cultural Page; an annual grant to the *Slovenian Singing Group Zarja*; a grant to the *Society for Slovene Studies* for publication of a volume of its scholarly journal *Slovene Studies*.«

The evolution of white ethnics in East European immigrational communities in America is known and well documented. Until recently, the immigrants of the first generation, transplanted, as it were, physically and emotionally insecure in the new country, could function and perform only in their natural linguistic communities. Their sons and daughters, this is the second generation, found themselves in a still more precarious situation: American by birth, with a stigma of immigrants, insecurity, an inferiority complex, intensive introspection, the rejection of their parents, linguistic and cultural heritage, running away from their ethnic communities. Not until the third generation, there appear the first signs of balance, self-confidence and self-assurance. It has been shown that it is only the grandsons or even only great grandsons who began »longing for the roots« and were able to show a sincere interest, without embarrassment, for language, culture and past of their grandparents.

In John Phillip Nielsen – in one single life span – the experiences, agony of inferiority complex, anguish of social stigma, adolescent rejection of parents' heritage, running away, struggle for recognition, recognition, life-success, and at the end, at the evening of one's day, longing for the roots and opening up for a final return home.

* * * * *

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Paul Fidel, Jr., Ph.D.

FINDING FAMILY

A commentary on a recent pilgrimage to Slovenia
in search of family

Part 2

For the second half of the pilgrimage we left ourselves only a few hours. We really had no contacts and we thought if we found a church or cemetery that provided some information, we would be satisfied and continue on our way. Well if you thought the first part of the pilgrimage was exciting, you won't want to stop here. In Šoštanj, we found no cemetery and one church. The church was closed. But determined to make some worth of the trip, we visited the post office to look for anyone with the same name as on our envelope from 1965 and if we were lucky, on the same road. Well to our amazement there were 3 names in the book and actually on the correct road! But where was the road?? After searching for some time and it getting dusk we finally came upon it. The address on the letter did not exist any longer. And older apartment building now sat at that site. So we moved to the next one. The next set of homes were staggered on the road, often behind one another making it difficult to locate the house numbers. So it finally came to getting out of the car and searching by foot. Bingo! Found one. People were looking at us like we were crazy! But this older woman in the house invited us in. She did not speak English but did understand the 1965 letter my mother gave her and recognized a few names. Turns out she was a relative on the in-law side of our family. She called her daughter and soon she and her son, who at 13 years old spoke English, showed up. They made a few calls. In a few minutes the phone hung up – the two daughters (Pepca and Ela) my great great aunt spoke of in her letter from 1965 were still living and in the area! Pepca was just a few minutes away. They offered to lead us to her. The woman who answered, well into her 80's and having difficulty moving around, looked identical to my grandmother who just passed away! The picture of her daughter at an early age that hung on the wall looked like my sister! Could our emotions stand another series of revelations! Well soon the door opened and more people came streaming into this relatively small dining area. The first was Ela who was in her mid 70's. She looked identical to my mother's sister! More people started arriving. They said through our interpreter (Simon, the 13 year old), that they could not figure who this could be from America – their cousin?? But no, their cousin (my grandmother) had to be well into her 90's! Well it turned out that they were seeing their second cousin (my mother). Soon more people arrived. Another second cousin, Tony, arrived with this daughter, Jana, who also spoke some English. Now we had 10 people in this little space talking and conversing with such enthusiasm. Again I had to just step back and take it all in. And again remember, we were supposed to visit a cemetery and be on our way! We soon were wisked off to Tony's farmhouse in nearby Topolšica where Jana, her husband and 3 children also lived.

By this time it was getting late and we were due back in Ljubljana that night in order to catch the early AM train to Vienna. But there was enough time to dig out some pictures. Astonishingly, there were pictures that both our family's had! And in many cases

we were able to name people they didn't know and they were able to do the same for those we didn't know. Again an amazing experience to witness.

So in these few hours several bonds were forged – 5 hours to be correct! But we had to depart. We did so, but I don't think either side really recognized what had just happened. It was all so overwhelming!

So if one can fathom what we experienced in 72 hours, it was breathtaking and actually took several weeks and months following to understand what really had happened. The time in Vienna was equally nice, but was dwarfed by what had just happened to the 4 of us. My father always has said, 'things in life will come and go, but you always have family' This was exemplified exponentially in our 72 hour journey.

Well that brings me to the sequel. Thank God for e-mail! I was able to communicate with several of the family members over the course of the next year. Gifts and cards were sent for the holidays and one could clearly see that our visit had a tremendous impact on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean. We even communicated enough to put together two of the three family trees. Little did we know that those trees would become some of the most important documents that would forge us into yet stronger relationships.

This past November marked my parent's 55th anniversary. What's more was that their anniversary was 2 days prior to Thanksgiving. So I had a wild thought – why not go back during Thanksgiving and allow them to celebrate their 55th anniversary with family! Better than that, my children (Clint – 10 and Maddi – 8 years old) were out of school that week, my younger sister, Paula (from Maryland), had a 4-year old daughter (Paulena) who was not in school yet, and my parent's were still able to travel, albeit slower yet than the year prior. So why not take our whole family! The children won't understand it, but they can at least experience a different country and who knows, make some new friends. So the planning began. Once again a long flight to Vienna and a train to Slovenia where we would rent a car. There were hotels to secure for this large group in each place. This time we would get 2-3 days in both places. Then came another idea – my

father's oldest sibling, Bill, his only surviving sibling (also living in Pittsburgh), had just lost his wife of 56 years a few months back. He was having a tough time with his loss. He being a historian knew more history about the family than anyone. He was also emotional when it came to family. So it seemed that the time was right that he should go as well. He agreed and talked his daughter, Dorothy (my cousin), into going too. So now there were 10 people including 3 seniors and 3 juniors. What had I gotten myself into!

As the time to go drew near, anxiety was building. Everyone had to travel light and at the same time, wanted to take gifts from the U.S.! The compromise was two pieces of luggage per person packing in whatever small tokens could fit from Pittsburgh, Louisiana, and Maryland. Actually things went fairly smooth. The kids were well behaved and the seniors seemed to be doing well with the planes, trains, and time changes. The trick was the rental van (or should I say bus!) We got a large van that didn't look like it would take 10 people plus luggage. But to my amazement everybody and everything fit! And off we went south to Novokračine and Šušak. Once again I tried to maintain a sense of reality and told everyone not to have expectations that could not be met, lest it be a let down after traveling so far. But once again I was wrong!

Our first encounter was at a hunting lodge, the only place that could fit all the people (50 if not more) who wanted to see us! There were people everywhere. The homemade schnapps was flowing and we were finally back seeing these strangers of a year ago who now were extremely close family members. Again once I said my hello's I just had to step back and watch my father, mother, and uncle embrace these people. What a sight! The party went on for hours. The family tree was posted and we finally got to put faces to names on the piece of paper. There were 4 generations present. The local newspaper came to take a picture. After a hearty feast and several speeches by both sides complete with exchange of gifts for my parent's anniversary, we parted for what would be the first of many family encounters.

(To be continued)



Newly-found relatives in Novokračine, Slovenia with the Fidel family from America

Genealogy Search

Dear Slovenian Genealogists:

Could some of your ancestors have emigrated from Slovenia to Canada? Prior to about 1924 there were a few Slovenian miners located in British Columbia and farm laborers were located sporadically in Western Canada. The pay at that time was \$4 per day with room and board. About 1924 to 1930, due to the depression, United States immigration laws stopped mass immigration, due to the depression, so Slovenes chose Canada among other countries throughout the world. Travel agencies in Ljubljana assisted future Canadians to purchase passage and have remaining as little as \$25 to begin their new lives. Contracts were made with settlers along the Canadian National and Canadian Pacific Rail Road line, supplying tools and food and the purchase of 160 acres of land for \$10 after one year's work. Others went to work as miners in Northern Ontario and Quebec at \$4 per hour, working 10 hour days.

During 1928, 300 settled in Trail, British Columbia as lead miners, most coming from Dolenjsko (Lower Carniola), Notranjsko (Inner Carniola) Bela Krajina (White Carniola) and Prekmurje (region beyond the Mura River). The depression caused a loss of mining jobs so many Slovenes, being highly skilled in agriculture relocated to Ontario in the "fruit tree belt" between Hamilton and St. Catherine's. Government loans were available to develop fruit farms. Between 1947 and 1951, 7,500 political refugees of Slovene ancestry left Italy and Austria, and came to Canada with a one year contract work work in farms, forests, and railroads. Women worked as domestics or in hospitals. Most settled in St. Catherine's and after 1 year were free to relocate, settling in Montreal, Kitchener, or Hamilton. Of this group, which entered Canada in 1947, the first worked as lumbermen in western Canada, and in 1948 a group of women arrived in Toronto gaining employment as domestics or hospital workers. During March 1948 Slovene textile workers became employed in Montreal and Toronto. In April 1948, Slovenian men became railway workers and sugar cane farmers in Alberta and British Columbia. September 1948 brought another group of young Slovenian women to Ottawa working as domestics.

Between 1957 and 1970 the socialized economics of Slovenia caused high unemployment in Yugoslavia so the government let people once gain immigrate. During this time 15,000 came to Canada, many from Prekmurje.

Suggestions for genealogy research information on Slovene Canadian immigrants:

1. Write to the Slovenian Churches of Canada: Our Lady, Help of Christians, Toronto, Ontario; Gregory the



THE SETTLEMENT OF SLOVENIANS IN CANADA

Great Slovenian Church, Hamilton, Ontario; St. Vladimir's Slovenian Church, Montreal, Quebec, for church histories, records and cemetery records.

2. For a microfilm listing of Canadian Immigration Certificates, from MS1 which lists the immigrant's date and place of birth, current address, name of spouse, maiden name, occupation, also census and vital records: write to the National Archives of Ontario, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N3, or visit their website at <http://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/index.htm> enter "refugee information."

3. Canadian Slovenian Chamber of Commerce lists Slovenian business people at <http://www.cdnslocc.ca>

4. St. Mohor Society, aka St. Hermagoras Society of Celovec, Austria has 1,000 Canadian members. KSKJ has many Canadian Slovenes in their membership as well.

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Please send comments, queries and requests for \$6.00 genealogy packets to Tončka, 52 Oakridge Drive, Marquette, Michigan 49855.

Wishing you Happy Hunting!

Tončka

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR FAMILY GENEALOGY?

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

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

Also, you can find it on our website,
WWW.SWUA.ORG

Everyone's doing it! Make your Family Tree!

Our Members Write...

"Have Cheesecloth Will Travel," or "The Štruklje Saga."

When we were youngsters in Eveleth, Minnesota, we knew we had it made as far as eating went. We were poor, like many people; our father re-soled and re-heeled our shoes to make them last another six months; our mom made our petticoats out of flour sacks. (Although I must admit, ours were well-bleached so I could never read mine.) In spite of the depression, in the kitchen our mother was a master and a magician. Her soups were heavenly, her noodles divine. Her štrudels and štruklje couldn't be beat. While most women have since perfected potica and štrudel making, štruklje has eluded many. This point was clearly made to me some years ago. When my sister, Penny moved from Idaho and joined us in Arizona, I promptly made štruklje. She sat at the table and almost cried, saying, "I thought I'd never eat them again." Since then, my cheesecloth travels with me. While visiting a niece at a convent in Nevada, Missouri, we tried our hands at a double recipe. The old German nuns were so pleased. It reminded them of something they'd eaten in their "old country."

GO SEE SLOVENIA! Member recommends it!

We just returned from a marvelous trip to Slovenia as part of a tour by the Smithsonian Travelers group of Washington, D.C. All the places we visited were truly and exceptionally beautiful. We learned many things such as the history and development of various areas. In Ljubljana we toured the old marketplace noting the architecture of Jože Plečnik, Slovenia's foremost architect, also the market building along the river. We visited many castles such as the hilltop castle in Ljubljana, ancient castle of Bled and Predjamska castle. The mountainous region around Mt. Triglav in the Julian Alps was spectacular but we were also reminded of the many victims of fighting on the Ita-

lian border in that region during World War I. On a visit to New York City, when our oldest daughter, Gigi delivered our first grandchild, I rolled out the dough again. Years later, when Gigi moved to New Jersey, I again made the štruklje. This time she watched and learned how to make the dumplings that her son now appreciates.

When visiting our daughter, Julianne near San Francisco, out came the cheesecloth again. The štruklje tasted just as good as it did on the other side of the continent.

Once, on the White River Apache Reservation in Northern Arizona, I again put together the delicacy that an old friend likens to "zimske gate," after it is all wrapped, tied and ready for the pot.

On a houseboat on Lake Powell amid spectacular scenery I was prompted to make štruklje for people who couldn't believe we ate this concoction as a main meal.

Later, at a family reunion in the beautiful high desert country of Challis, Idaho, I again rolled out the dough. I covered it with the delicious crumb, sugar and butter mixture and sprinkled white raisins over all of it. I rolled up the dough, wrapped it in cheesecloth, tied it up and boiled it. This time Gigi helped, along with some of the visiting children. My sisters and cousins

watched, too. "Oh, I thought I'd never see this again since mom died," and "I haven't had these for fifteen years," the chorus rang.

watched, too. "Oh, I thought I'd never see this again since mom died," and "I haven't had these for fifteen years," the chorus rang.

Of course, it's a favorite dish for our family back in Tucson. Our son, Jon, our daughter, Julianne, and their families will drop everything to come over for štruklje. Our niece from Phoenix, Cobyann, can occasionally look forward to the delight of štruklje, and all our "kids" are expected to fight over that last piece.

It's been fun over the years, making štruklje in various places. When will we eat them again? I don't know. But I do know that when we do, it will bring back many happy memories.

Dorothy (Cob) Hurst (Udóvich)
5962 East Waverly Place
Tucson, ARizona 85712
Member of Lodge No. 39


lian border in that region during World War I.

Most people we met spoke English which is one of the language choices the students have in schools there – all the young people are well-educated at the three universities in Slovenia.

Our leader on the tour was Dr. Milan Rebow, an associate professor of political science at the Univ. of Texas and he was assisted by local guides throughout the tour. Danilo Berg, a resident of Maribor, told us of the many changes going on in Slovenia after independence in 1991 to its present time.

Altho the food was fabulous, we did recommend, and other passengers agreed, that there was just too much food served at lunch and dinner, a sure sign of Slovenian hospitality!

Frances Ancel Ruggera, (Br. 20)
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA

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RECIPES FROM THE FARM

Food Columnist, Jean Korsman

4222 McKinley Rd., Gilbert, MN 55741

Here on our Minnesota farm we have had only five sunny days in May where temps reached into the 60's. But summer will be here by the time you get your ZARJA.

If you are an outdoor grilling buff, or just love good food prepared in the comfort of your air-conditioned home, here is a real winner! (Literally!) This "Bar-B-Cue Chicken Sauce" recipe is from Roy's friend Arnie, who along with his father, prepared and served thousands each year at the New York State Fair!

Barbeque Chicken Sauce

- 1 Pint cider vinegar
- 1 Cup vegetable oil
- 1 Egg, beaten
- 3 Teaspoons poultry seasoning
- 1/2 Teaspoon pepper

Cut 5 whole broiler-fryer chickens in half (about 2 1/2 to 3 lbs each). Broil (or grill) about 5 minutes on underside, brushing frequently with sauce. Turn and broil (or grill) 5 to 8 minutes on top side, brushing frequently with sauce. Test for done-ness by cutting into leg-thigh and juice runs clear. Will be golden-brown, crispy and DELICIOUS!

Refreshing Broccoli-Cauliflower Salad

Clean, drain, cut into flowerettes:

- 1 Bunch broccoli
- 1 Head cauliflower

Dressing:

- 1 Cup real mayonnaise
- 1/2 Cup sugar
- 1/4 Cup tarragon vinegar

Mix dressing ingredients. Set in refrigerator. Just before serving, you may add half lb. of cooked bacon, cut, drained and cooled, and 1/4 cup grated parmesan cheese. (Tasty without additions.)

Cool Lemon Sunburst Bars

- 1/2 Cup powdered sugar
- 2 Cups flour
- 1 Cup butter or margarine, softened

Filling:

- 4 eggs, slightly beaten
- 2 Cups sugar
- 1/4 Cup flour
- 1 Teaspoon baking powder

Combine dough ingredients until crumbly. Press in bottom of ungreased 13x9" pan. Bake in 350° oven for 20 to 30 minutes or until golden brown. Meanwhile, combine all filling ingredients except lemon juice. Blend well. Stir in 1/4 cup lemon juice. Remove pan from oven, pour filling over warm



dough. Return to oven and bake for an additional 25 to 30 minutes until light golden brown. Cool for 1 hour.

Glaze:

Combine 1 cup powdered sugar and 2 or 3 teaspoon lemon juice for desired glazing consistency. Blend until smooth. Glaze 36 bars.

Parsley Potatoes

- 1 1/2 Lbs. baby red potatoes
- 1 Teaspoon vegetable oil
- 1 Clove garlic, crushed
- 1 Cup fresh chopped parsley, divided
- 1 Cup chicken broth
- 1 Medium onion, chopped
- 1/2 Teaspoon pepper

Peel strip of skin around the middle of each potato. Place in cold water, set aside. Heat oil in large skillet, saute onion and garlic until tender. Add chicken broth and 3/4 cup parsley. Bring to boil. Place potatoes in single layer. Return to boil. Cover and simmer 10 min. or until potatoes are tender. Remove pot to serving bowl, add pepper to skillet, stir and pour sauce over all. Sprinkle with remaining parsley. Serves about 6.

Hermine Dicke's popular recipe:

CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES

- 1 cup Crisco shortening
- 3/4 cup brown sugar
- 3/4 cup white sugar
- 2 large eggs, unbeaten
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon water
- 12 ounces Nestle semi-sweet chocolate chips

Assemble all ingredients. Preheat oven to 350°.

Cream shortening. Add brown sugar and beat until thoroughly mixed. Beat in white sugar. At medium speed, beat in the 2 eggs until dough is fluffy, scraping bowl occasionally. Add 1 cup flour. Beat to mix. Add salt, soda, vanilla and water and continue beating to mix. Add second cup of flour; beat until well blended. Add the chocolate chips and beat until mixed into dough. Drop by well-rounded teaspoonfuls onto ungreased cookie sheet and bake at 350°, on second rack from top, for 11 to 12 minutes until lightly browned (baking only until lightly browned makes for chewy cookies). Let stand 3 to 4 minutes then transfer cookies to rack. Yield: About 60 soft and tasty cookies.

"The Slovenian Potica Bowl"

The round potica baker has a hole in the middle, like an angel food cake pan. Only it is ceramic and is called a "Tordal."

Whatever you use, be sure the mold is a high one, like the angel food pans.

Potica is supposed to be raised a lot!!

For good potica, the proportions of the baking mold vs. its width should be at least 2:1 (set oven to 200 degrees.) (approx. 375°F.)

Roll out dough to the thickness of your little finger (that's the traditional measure.)

Spread filling to within 3 cm. of the edge. Poke with a fork as you roll or a sharp knitting needle.

Grease baking dish and sprinkle with bread crumbs.

Transfer the potica carefully into the bowl; the covering (the last edge) should be at the bottom.

Cover and raise potica in a warm place until double its size before baking.

Put potica in preheated oven and bake 1 hour... If the top gets too dark, cover with a damp paper (brown grocery bag??)

Baked potica should be removed from pan immediately (if you greased and dusted the pan properly, you just need to turn it over onto an appropriate plate.

Sprinkle warm potica with vanilla-scented castor sugar (powdered); and cover with a cloth.

But do not cut until completely cooled (traditionally, potica is baked the day before it is served.)

Potica is a well-known original Slovenian dessert.

Anita Says:

**My bowl, which I purchased at the "Dom" store, across the street from the Open market in Ljubljana instructed that I put it to soak in hot water for 1 hour before using and this is a one-time thing. Also, I was told to put the bowl with the potica in a COLD OVEN, turn oven on to 200 degrees and when the temperature reaches 200, you then put it on your regular temperature setting

for potica. At that time you also begin to set your timer to the length of time to bake. You do this process each time you use the bowl.

*When potica is done baking the instructions say never to put the bowl on a COLD SURFACE or METAL SURFACE. You must use a cloth pot holder or the woven turrets.

*This bowl bakes very nicely BUT I own the small one and I do not know the proper size potica recipe to use. I used the potica cake recipe and I could not get the rolls to fit around the hole to meet. I will keep trying...

Roll up potica and be sure there are no airholes.

*I did not mark the source of most of the first part of this recipe but I think it was from the "Kulinarika" web-site.

Anita Vovk



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Activities of our Branches



Reports due first of month
preceding publication.

NO. 2, CHICAGO, IL

Founding Date: DECEMBER 19, 1926

**Meetings: 3rd Sunday, 1 p.m.
St. Stephen lower hall**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA 1776 — 2004

On May 16, we honored all members of Br. as Members of the Year with a "Glad We're All Together" theme. A poem was written by Jean Hrastar.

*As we celebrate today
our S.W.U. Branch 2,
we remember all our members
Past & Present -- Me & You.*

*The year was 1926
when all of this began.
We recall the contributions
that was made by all of them.*

*They were looking toward the future
to keep this heritage alive;
and as the membership grew
this commitment was its strive.*

*Now as we near our 80th year,
we too, must do our part,
to keep the dreams they worked for
deep within our heart.*

*So, let's celebrate now
to make today much better.
Our thanks to You, dear God,
I'm glad we're all together.*

*Created by:
Jean Hrastar*

There were 40 members and guests present – each member received a pretty red rose flower. Fran read a delightful and touching story about Mother's Day. We all prayed for our deceased members and our SWU founders. Our oldest member attending was Millie Paisoli who will be 93 in August; youngest was Melissa Shachter who is 12. Of all in attendance, 20 members have been honored as members of the year; there were 10 members who are

50 year members, only one member present who had a May birthday and Marija Rigler celebrated her birthday with a cheering, singing audience. Over the years, our branch has donated to ZARJA; Scholarship Foundation; the Museum; we bought the St. Francis Statue who welcomes you when you come to St. Mary's/Lemont; bought the table and chairs for the Heritage library; support the children's party each year. Many of our members are unable to attend Mass; they are fortunate to have Mass on TV which is said at the Chapel of the Mercy Home for Boys, Chicago. The Fathers are responsible for the Mass each Sunday. A gift of \$250.00 will be sent to the Fathers to thank them for this service.

Julane Svoboda made each person a cute recipe holder with a recipe for "Cheery Creme" that we can make later – sounds very tasty. Our dinner caterer was the VFW/Summit – everything was delicious and thanks to the members who supplied all the goodies – there was soooooo much, lots of jello molds, cakes, cookies, brownies and of course coffee/tea. Thanks, everyone.

Among our guests were: John and Nancy (Zerdin) Giza from Sutherland, Iowa. Nancy grew up in the old neighborhood and attended St. Stephen School.

Our condolences to the family of Vern Sadel – to her daughter, Marsha and son, Tim and her granddaughter, Cindy Black. Please remember her in your prayers. May she rest in peace. Sympathies also to Mayme Fabian and daughters on the passing of dear husband and father, and also, our dear friend and neighbor, Bill Fabian.

Remember our homebound and those who have been in the hospital: Geneva Cerjak; Sophie Bogolin; Anne Bunnetta, Roe Litwin and Chris Pirman. Hope they are all up and around.

Congratulations to all the graduates and good luck as you go forward with more education or careers. JoAna Ferraro was very happy to tell us that her grandson, Vincent Ferraro just graduated from the U. of Austin/Texas; also to Anthony J. Cerec and Glenn Lationeca, great grandsons of Elsie

Ciszek; George and Zack Britt, grandsons of Roe Litwin. Much luck to you all.

St. Mary's/Lemont has a project for the repairs of their old organ on which Father Vendelin plays those beautiful songs, also to build a church Bell Tower. If you would like to donate it would help.

We have many activities coming – our picnic July 18, picnics in August, the Baraga trip in September, our IL/IN convention October, Penny Social in November. Mark your calendars.

God Bless all our Service personnel; keep them in your prayers that they will be home soon. Enjoy your summer.

Love,

DAISY

NO. 3, PUEBLO, CO

Founding Date: DECEMBER 19, 1926

**Meetings: 1st Tues.
St. Mary's Church Hall**

Our meetings came to a close until Fall with our May party when Lillian Galich, our "Mother of the Year" was honored.

A lovely breakfast was served to the ladies of St. Mary's Church on Mothers' Day by the Holy Name Society. Also, in May, there was a Mass in honor of Our Lady of Brezje, Mary, Help of Christians, Patroness of St. Mary's Church. Richard Eurich played the Accordion prior to the Mass and then during Mass the newly formed Historic Community Choir, led by Mary Walsh, led the singing. We commend them.

Congratulations are in order for Maria Perko. She won first place in Painting, oil and acrylics, in the 2004 High School Art Show at the Colorado State University, Pueblo. She is the daughter of Charles and Ursula Perko and granddaughter of Charles and Jo Perko and Anna Knific.

Many of our friends are homebound, in nursing homes and Assisted Living Centers. Let's not forget them and also their caretakers in our prayers.

Have a good summer!

PAULINE PAUCHICK

NO. 5, INDIANAPOLIS, IN

Founding Date: JANUARY 15, 1927

Meetings: 1st Thurs.

SND, from May to Dec.

Greetings, Members of Branch 5!

Our summer season here in Indy has started off with a bang! Storms, hail, lightning and tornados all in one day. Hope you are staying nice and safe and dry! As we enter the "lazy days of summer," please remember our friends and neighbors that are home bound, or have lost a loved one. Drop them a note, bring them some flowers or just a quick phone call to let them know they are in your thoughts. It will brighten up your day and theirs.

When I stopped by my home to check messages one day there was one from Jonita Ruth at the Home Office, asking me to do "a favor."

The favor ended up being a delightful task for me, one which I was very happy to do. One of the members of Br. 20 was to receive the SWU College Scholarship, but she lived in Indianapolis and attended Cardinal Ritter High School here. Jonita asked if it was possible for me to attend the Senior Award ceremony and present flowers and the scholarship to the young lady on behalf of SWU. Since it is only 20 minutes from my house to get to the school, I was more than happy to attend. I also happen to be a graduate of Cardinal Ritter High School, as are my daughters, Katie, Sara, and Betsy (a former SWU scholarship winner) so it was an honor to be a presenter at the ceremony.

When I arrived, they were presenting the additional awards to the seniors, so I waited until my name was called to present a "special award." Many of the students there knew me, so I could tell they were all wondering why I was there. As I was being introduced as "Slovenian Women's Union President of Branch 5", I could see the surprise on Hanna Girman's face as she realized I was there for her! She was not expecting any extra recognition on this special day, but that is what made it even better as they announced her name and she came up for her bouquet of red carnations and her card from all the ladies of Branch 20. I gave her a big hug for all of you, and I couldn't help but remember the first time I met this young

lady. She was dancing to a polka tune at the KSKJ FamilyFest concert, and loving every minute of it!! Hanna was about 4 years old at the time and in a beautiful dress, spinning and dancing the whole time. You could tell she had polka music in her soul!!

Hanna's mother, Carrie Girman came to me after the ceremony and thanked me for giving the award in person.

Thanks to all of you who turned out for our May meeting. We definitely had some wonderful foods, especially the desserts!! I know we will miss Fr. KT's attendance at our meetings, as we will miss him at Holy Trinity. He has always been a strong supporter of all our Slovenian organizations and events. We wish him well at St. Michael's parish.

Have a wonderful summer, stay safe and healthy. Please let us know of any sick members, or of any news of members and their families. Keep all members and their families in your prayers, especially our military families. Peace.

PHYLLIS

NO. 10, CLEVELAND, OH

Founding Date: MARCH 8, 1927

Meetings: 4th Wed. 1 p.m.

SND Holmes Avenue

Hi ladies! The weather in Cleveland was terrible - rain, rain and water everywhere. It rained every night. People were cutting their grass twice a week. I wonder if the good Lord is trying to tell us something. It seems a lot of our members are ailing. Wishing them good health and hope for the sun to shine.

| | | | |
We postponed our Mothers' Day dinner because many of our members had doctor's appointments. Will try to have a Mother's Day dinner on July 28, 2004 (4th Wednesday), again at Fanny's Restaurant. Please put this date on your calendar.

| | | | |
Congratulations to Sylva Jansa. Her granddaughter, Kimberly Swartz graduated from college and Linda Passorille is TV-5 news announcer.

Congratulations to our members, Caroline Stefancic, Ann Stefancic, Helen Shuy on celebrating their 90th birthdays this year. Best of health to you!



It was a nice surprise for Hanna Girman at her high school graduation in Indianapolis to have her 2004 SWUA Scholarship Award presented in person by me! Her home branch, No. 20, asked me to present her with a bouquet of red carnations, too, which was doubly meaningful. Hanna was totally surprised as she was the only recipient that day. On the photo with Hanna and me is her mother, Carrie Ancel Girman (left).

Happy birthday to my great granddaughter, Shannon Vojtkofsky, July 26 and my son, Michael Segulin, July 13. God bless you!

All the ladies of SWU Br. 10 congratulate Rev. John Kumse for serving 25 years at St. Mary's Church in Collinwood. Best wishes and God bless you.

Wishing a happy 4th of July to everyone.

Please call me 1-216-451-1876 if you have any news.

Thanks and stay healthy.

STEFFIE SEGULIN

NO. 12, MILWAUKEE, WI

Founding Date: OCTOBER 31, 1927

Meetings: 3rd Thursday

St. Peter's Church Hall

except July & August

At the April meeting we sent get well cards to Ann Jelinek, Rose Lorek and Leona Zigmund. Julia Pesec is at Franciscan Villa in So. Milwaukee; she fell and injured her leg.

We discussed the State Convention in Sheboygan Sept. 25th. I will be the delegate for Br. 12. In May we honored all the mothers with a dinner at

JULY-AUGUST 2004 /23

Rupena's. Thanks for all the delicious pies, Virginia. I received dinner tickets for the convention, at \$10 each. We will begin the day with a procession into SS. Cyril Methodius church and mass begins at 9:00 a.m. by Fr. Glenn Powers. After mass we will be gathering for brunch at Al & Al's Restaurant followed by a business meeting and entertainment.

Louise Schlecht celebrated her 90th birthday with three parties. Her son flew in from San Diego, California with his family. Her sister, Toni, also had a birthday. Happy 90th, Louise.

I received a letter informing me of the 75th Anniversary of ZARJA – the first issue is dated July 1929. We have to thank our Founder, Marie Priland and many pioneer friends who responded to her call for this association and to contribute their ideas and writings in ZARJA. In her letter, editor, Corinne Leskovar asked that we have some sort of ZARJA anniversary celebration in September, a "Happy Birthday" party, and every branch and individual member is invited to send in a greeting in the shape of a birthday cake. Our branch will order a special birthday cake greeting for \$50 and Fran Remshak will take care of. It's my birthday month in September, too!

STAVIA DOBERSEK

NO. 13, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Founding Date: OCTOBER 30, 1927

Meetings: 1st Thursdays

Slovenian Hall

Contact Person:

Beverly Jackson – (650) 631-1098

I have just returned from our "Hello to Summer" pot luck dinner and meeting. It was so nice to see Jo Aiuto, Louise Petrusich, Michele Twers, Agnes Leach, Virginia Sustarich, Ceta Zagar, Barbara Chiodo and Doreen Sustarich. We all missed Moreen Spencer. Thank you ladies for wonderful food and a lovely evening.

We are happy to welcome a new member, Dorothy Govednik Cummings. She is the sister of Joe Govednik who is a member, also.

On June 5th we celebrated the Centennial of the Church of the Nativity at a dinner at the Mark Hopkins Hotel in S.F. The next day Bishop Alojz Uran of Slovenia and Archbishop Lavada of S.F. concelebrated Mass.

We have no meetings in July, August but we do want to extend birthday wishes in July to Barbara Chiodo, Mary Coppinger, Mary Goodman, Lois Jensen, Caroline Purtell, Margie Schleiger, Edythe Ansel, Janice Crofut, Antonia Harden, Helen McQuiller and junior member, Viktoria Plut.

And, our August celebrants are Betty Doherty who will be 94 – God bless you, Betty – also Stephanie Creager, Frances Lavrich, Mary LeHane, Jeanette Lovrin, Shirley Marasco, Katica Pecavar, our twin sisters, Moreen Spencer and Doreen Sustarich, Diane Brahney, Evelyn Brandi, Carolyn Gale, Joan Sefcik, Lynn Yager, Dorothy Zaharin who also celebrates her 94th – Bless you, Dorothy – also junior member, Joseph Stimach, Ceta Zagar and this reporter (Ceta and I celebrate the same day!) You are all very special to Br. 13 so here's wishing you happy returns of the day!

Hope to see some new smiling faces on Sept. 2nd and lunch is provided. Have a safe summer. *"Friendship is like a bank account. You cannot continue to draw on it without making a deposit!"*

BEVERLY JACKSON

NO. 14, EUCLID, OH

Founding Date: OCTOBER 31, 1927

Meetings: 1st Tuesday, 6 p.m.

Slovenian Society Home

Another rainy spring did indeed manage to finally deliver our colorful riot of tulips, hyacinths, daffodils, crocuses (or is that croci?) and now our rose bushes are even beginning to show some fat flower buds. Now if only some of these weeds would disappear on their own!

Once again we celebrated with all mother and grandmothers at our May Dinner Party in which we had another well-attended crowd of members with their families and friends.

As we entered our dining room we were greeted with tables topped with colorful cloths, and goblets of intense purple pansies and golden marigolds. The flowers were still surrounded in their soil so that we could plant them in our gardens to enjoy the entire summer! Each place was set with another goblet filled with candy goodies tied with a ribbon, with an attached "Happy

Mother's Day" sentiment: "May your days be full of perfect moments... May your heart overflow with love and contentment... May your home ring out with laughter... May your life be filled with all the joy of living."

We can thank the Prijatelj ladies for once again making all of these decorations and preparations for us. Applause to mother Fran Prijatelj, and her lovely daughters, Marilyn Beasley, Joanne Bowman, and Louise Formica! Among folks seated at their table was Rev. Mr. Jeff Cornelius from St. Rita in Solon who was, at that time, 9 days away from becoming a priest, and who said grace before our meal. Other guests were Pat Milavec, Emil Peters, Ed Beasley, Henry and Gail Prijatelj, Natalie Formica, Lisa and Rachel Formica.

Another beautiful family with two full tables were Pep Stupica and sister, Vickie Lindic with their sons and daughters and their families along with brother, Paul Yanchar.

We need to thank many folks who helped make another pleasant evening for us: Ed Koren our trusty bartender assisted by Joann Bauman; Vice Pres. Pat Habat and Stana Grill who busily checked us in at the door and a special thanks to Stana who called members to remind us about the party. (How could we forget!); Jimmy Slapnik, florist and wife, June who donated the hanging basket of beautiful, blooming sparkling white petunias for our drawing; Larry Varney who provided us with flowers from Petitti's Garden who sold them to us at cost, which were also raffled off; and thank you, folks, for the many lovely door prizes.

Diane Varney, Pres. and Financial Sect., presided at a brief meeting and thanked everyone for attending especially all those who helped make this another pleasant and successful evening. Another milestone for our Branch No. 14 since this is the 77th year of our existence. We had a great turnout for our April meeting which was held at Gateway.

Keep your eyes and ears peeled for the upcoming combined branches festival at SNPJ farm on October 3rd, opening with a Mass and later music for dancing by Joey Tomsick.

Congratulations were extended to our fifty-year member, Caroline Mikancic from Mentor.



Marian Altar at St. George Church in South Chicago was dedicated to Marija Pomagaj in May

Vida Kumse and Gladys Buck, dressed in their national costumes, and pastor, Fr. Phil Kiley, revere the beautiful picture of Marija Pomagaj, the Patroness of Slovenia on her feastday, May 24th. Members attended a special service organized by Br. 16 on the 23rd.

We can always count on Sophie Mazi and her excellent staff to prepare an outstanding home-style dinner. Just writing this makes my mouth water remembering liver and farina dumplings in soup, succulent roast chicken, tender breaded pork chops (how come, mine are never this fall-apart tender and tasty?); ending this feast was flaky apple and cheese strudel.

Larry Varney made a few more rounds at tables selling tickets before our raffle began with Jackie Ulle keeping them in order. Thanks to you both for another job well done. Thanks to seven year old Rachel Formica for an outstanding job delivering packages to winners, and to Steve Valencic our reliable number caller, who always has a comment to pass on to any of the winners. All in all, a delightful evening in which we were able to spend time with members and friends whom we haven't seen since our last get-together.

Deepest sympathy to the family of Vera Bajec and her cousin member, Justine Prhne, who passed away in May. Vera had been an officer and very active in our Branch for many years. A few of our members gathered at Jakubs Funeral Home for prayers and to pay our last respects. May our Dear Lord and His Mother provide peace and love to our dearly departed.

Hope to see everyone, members and friends, at our next dinner party on the first Tuesday in December... the 7th. Mark your calendar!

ALICE KUJAR

NO. 16, SO. CHICAGO, IL
Founding Date: FEBRUARY 13, 1928
Meetings: 2nd Saturday, 1 p.m.
monthly except Jan.-July-Aug.
St. George's Hall
Contact: Mary Therese Ehnat
Tel. (773) 646-5758

Our Luncheon to honor our Member of the Year, Mary Jane Strus, was held on May 6th at the Jovial Club. Among the 53 attending were Mary Jane's husband, John, sons, Michael, John and wife, Debbie, daughter, Joan Krilic and sister, Dolores Wright; also Fr. Phil who said Grace, Fr. Juan who gave a Blessing after the meal and Fr. Keating (St. Francis de Sales). As last year's Member of the Year, I had the honor of crowning Mary Jane with a wreath of flowers created by Connie Saviano. President, Mary Therese Ehnat presented her with a bouquet of red carna-



tions. A red carnation was also at each place setting. Again our "Sweets Table" was a delicious success. Thank You, members and friends.

On May 23, the eve of the the Feast of Marija Pomagaj (Mary Help of Christians) Patroness of Slovenia, Br. 16 and St. Florian KSKJ joined together to honor Mary. We prayed the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary and sang "O Queen of Holy Rosary". Fr. Phil celebrated the Mass (and Homily) and Angelsko Česčenje (The Angelus) was sung during Communion. At Benediction, John Krmaric led us in praying the Litany of the Blessed Virgin. Afterward everyone was invited to the Church Hall for coffee and rolls. About 50 accepted. Thanks to all who participated and worked to make this a Beautiful Service. Special thanks to Dotsi Rossi for planning the service and program, Rosa Tomasich for printing the program, Vida Kumse for passing them out at the entrance of the church and as we were leaving she gave us each a Holy Card donated by Bob Oberman (Director, Kompare Funeral Home). Thanks also for the picture of Mary in the church bulletin and explanation of Marija Pomagaj; to organist Tom Marks and the Choir.

The picture of Mary was on display in front of the side altar. On each side was a vase of red carnations. This was set up by Ralph Caruso and Rose Tomasich. Again, thanks to Vida for the Slovenia Artifacts to complete the display - the Slovenian Flag, Avba (Head Piece worn with the National Costume), Cekar (Straw tote bag carried with the outfit) Scarf worn over the shoulders, Handkerchief pinned to apron. Carnations tied with a blue ribbon and a Candle from Brezje. Vida and Gladys also were wearing their National Costumes (Narodna Noša).

Last, but not forgotten, thanks Jim Rossi for setting up the tables and chairs and making the coffee and his kitchen help. Thank You All! Hope we can do this again next year.

The last of our travelers in May were Helen and John Battista to Las Vegas and meeting up with family there. Rosemary and George Petrich along with her sister Dorothy Swiatosky and friend, Mary Thomas have just returned from Croatia and Italy – Zagreb, Medjugorje, Dubrovnik and Venice. Gladys, Dolores Franko and myself had the pleasure of traveling in 2001 with Dorothy and Mary on the SWU 75th Anniversary tour of Slovenia.

Cards were sent to Fran Zupancic, Ana Lustig and Clara Saviano.

Our sympathies and condolences to Lena Amicarelli and family on the loss of her son-in-law, Sam Mobile.

No meetings in July and August. Next meeting is on September 11th. Please try to attend.

SYLVIA SPRETNJAK
Reporter

NO. 20, JOLIET, IL

Founding Date: JUNE 11, 1928

Meetings: 3rd Tuesdays
except June to September
St. Joe's Park Hall

Contact: Sr. Marlene (815) 724-0731

At the April meeting, the 50/50 winner was Mary Mihelich. The accumulating attendance award was won by Richard Demick who was not present. Some of the women had their handwriting analyzed by Lou Frye from Joliet Junior College.

The following events took place on May 18, 2004. Mark Cepon played familiar polkas and waltzes on his button-box. The meeting began at 6:00 p.m. with President Char Kobe who presented the 'Woman of the Year', Sister Marlene Ambrose. She came and introduced her guests and added a few comments on her honorary award and also thanked ALL who made this evening memorable. Past honorees were recognized. Fr. Tom Paul, our spiritual advisor, gave a short talk about 'Our Lady of Brezje'. Mark Cepon then sang the 'Ave Maria', and Češčena si, Marija' with audience participation. Jonita Ruth presented the Br. 20 Scholarship to Francis Koncar. Mae



WALK AMERICA – MARCH OF DIMES was held on May 2nd. Participants from Br. 20 are pictured here.

Back row, Barbara Delaney, Marla Lustik, Sue Bartholme, Melanie Keltz, Dave Bartholme, Christy Ford, Cindy Welsh, Jonita Ruth; (Front row), Anton Wartenberg, Jodi Wartenberg, Mary Lewis, (Captain) and Jeanne Warsaw. The team was the 4th runner-up.

Rose Schumm won the 50/50 raffle. Todd Allen, who was not present, won the accumulating attendance award.

Lillian Cepon served a delicious dinner at 6:30 p.m. Entertainment by 'Company B' was a delightful rendition of songs from the 70's. Yes, Sister Marlene took a small part in this. Thank you to Grace Doerk who made a great effort to attend.

Many thanks to:

Ward Ambrose, Sr. Marlene's nephew, who did some video taping for Channel 6; Heidi Domark and husband, Bar; Mark Cepon, Soloist.

Dinner tickets and 50/50 were sold by Agnes Dobczyk, Mary Kay Demick, Pat Figurowski, Jo Lustik.

Some members of Br. 20 went to Gilbert, Minnesota to celebrate Fr. Perkovich's 50th Anniversary of Ordination. He is the originator of the Polka Mass which we all enjoy.

On June 13, Fr. Chris Groh celebrated his 25th Anniversary of ordination. He is pastor of St. Mary Nativity in Joliet, and a loyal supporter.

July 18 is Zveza Day in Lemont, IL. Br. 2 of Chicago, IL hosts. There will be a Mass (Slovenian singing) at 11:00 a.m. Picnic follows. Need transportation? Call Agnes 722-2580.

Our Slovenian Grape Harvest Dance is coming up on Sunday, Sept. 26 at St. Joseph Hall on Theodore St. Bob Doszak Band will play from 4:00 to

8:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Come and enjoy the dance and friends.

Our meeting will be on Tuesday, Sept. 21, 7:00 p.m., St. Joe's park hall.

S.W.U. Illinois-Indiana State Convention is on Sunday, Oct. 3, 2004 in Peru, beginning with Mass followed by dinner and meeting. Hostesses are Br. 24, Br. 89, and Br. 85. Call 726-6990 for travel information.

Plans are in the making for a scary Halloween night. Junior members and adults are welcome. We could use some volunteers. Information will be sent by mail.

Volunteers are always needed and welcomed in our Slovenian Heritage Museum in Joliet, IL.

'Sunshine Girl', Jonita Ruth will write to those who are sick, celebrating an anniversary, having a baby, etc. Call 726-6990.

Congratulations to: Kathy Holden, Br. 20, who received 'Woman of the Year' Award at St. Raymond Cathedral.

Hannah Girman, Br. 20, Indianapolis, IN, who received the National SWU Scholarship. She graduated on May 29th and then will be attending Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio. Hannah is the daughter of Scott and Carita, granddaughter of Ed and Olga Ancl. See page 25.

Zachary Pucel is the son of Chris and Judy, brother of Eric and Nick,

grandson of Rudy and Millie. He graduated on May 8, 2004 with a BS in Civil Engineering from Michigan Technological University in Houghton, MI (near Baraga Shrine). At present he is working for Transystems as Construction Engineer.

Rita Bottomley, Jean and Jerry Herbst's daughter, received her Master of Education Degree at the University of St. Francis, Joliet, IL on May 8, 2004. She has taught the fourth grade at St. Paul's for several years. Rita's daughter, Elaine, is also a member.

Kelsey Singletary graduated from Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa in Sports Management. She began her internship at the Iowa Golf Association. Kelsey is the daughter of George and Janice and granddaughter of Jonita Ruth.

Barbara Delaney graduated from Joliet Jr. College. Her Degree is Associates Applied Science Horticulture and Special Education. She and her husband run Delaney Landscaping. Barbara is the daughter of Bob and Pat Figurowski.

Michael and Tanja Bellis on the birth of Ryan Michael - 5-29-04. Grandparents are Lillian and Frank Cepon and Barb and Dave Bellis. Ryan has a little sister, Stephanie.

Science Fair Congratulations:

John Koncar, seventh grader at St. Joseph School received an Outstanding Award at the Region 11 Science Fair at the University of St. Francis. He will compete at the Illinois Junior Academy Science State Fair at the U. of I. in Champaign. He was also awarded Best of Category in Materials Science, Best of Fair and an Award for Artistic Backboard. Other 7th grade students who competed were Sarah Blowers and Amy Lilek.

For further information on the Scholarships awarded by Br. 20, see the Mar. Apr. issue, 2004, p. 28.

We offer our sympathy and prayers to Barbara Kociuba on the death of her sister, Rose Zoran, and to Mary Jane Vergo and Benny Papesh on the death of their brother, Michael Papesh.

"When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left, and could say, 'I used everything you gave me.'"

(Erma Bombeck)

Submitted by,
SISTER MARLENE AMBROSE

Welcome "NEW" Members

Name	Branch
Ostrowski, Margaret	100
Vannucci, Patricia A	100
Eckert, Susan A	103
Kauffman, Stephanie	16
Marinelli, Anne Marie	16
Petrich, Katherine	16
Sebahar, Victor J. Jr.	16
Kozlik, Marianne	2
Engelman, Elizabeth	20
Pershey, Patricia	20
Pershey, Peggy S	20
Nowakowski, Gloria	24
Smith, Alice	24
Riley, Mary	3
Sorensen, Valerie	3
Gornick, Katherine	33
McComber, Yvonne J	33
Purkat, Mary Jo	39
Thanosaurus, Sophia	40
Habjan, Joseph H	42
Croze, Honore	43
Croze, Mame	43
Anne, Loretta	50
Gyorkas, Jan	99
Zudic, Josie	99

ZARJA DONATIONS

Additional Invoice and miscellaneous Donations received April, May, 2004. It shows the wonderful loyalty of many members. We thank them for these free-will donations.

Donor	Zarja
Popich, Katherine A (30)	\$20
Kozlik, Marianne (2)	10
Ribich, Rosemary (39)	10
McComber, Yvonne (33)	20
Zanone, Pamela (47)	50
Varney, Diane (14)	20
Gruden, Angela J (42)	15
McFarland, Margaret M (108)	5
Branch 20 Picture	10
Branch 33 Picture	5
Branch 43 Picture	5
Branch 3 Picture	5
Branch 39 Picture	5
Branch 102 Picture	5
Branch 35 Picture	5
Memory of Eunice Komater (89)	50
from Nancy Supan Henkel, Eunice Kernz Supan, Denise Henkel Duffin and Jordan Duffin	
Br. 24, Memory of Eunice Komater	25
Br. 85, Memory of Mary Jermenc	50
Ambrose, Sister Marlene (20)	10
Siskar, Kathy (39)	5
Menchek, Milka (43)	5
Hull, Mara Cerar (30)	10
Norton, Jane (20)	10
Br. 89 Picture (Sitar)	5
Br. 16 Picture (Strus)	10
Br. 89 Picture (4 Generations)	10
Sherek, Jerry (39)	10

NO. 22, BRADLEY, IL
Meeting: 3rd Tuesday
every other month
Members' Homes

Meeting was held at the home of president, Mollie McIntyre. We don't have a reporter since we lost our dear Emma Lustig. Br. 22 has not many members left. I was 16 when we had about 29 members but many have since passed away. As I am going on 92 so I have seen many members leave us, but I want to see our branch continue, so I am asking you to enroll your daughters and granddaughters so that we will keep getting our beloved ZARJA and keeping in touch with members. Mrs. Smole and our mothers and sisters worked very hard to keep Br. 22 going, so we have to keep it up, too. There are 9 members who live out-of-state but I think there are still many prospective members nearby. Please see what you can do so that we celebrate the 75th anniversary of ZARJA with a bunch of new members!

MOLLIE MCINTYRE, Pres.

NO. 23, ELY, MN

Founding Date: SEPTEMBER 19, 1928

Meetings: First Monday of the month
(except "J" months)
Reporter: Jane Yadlosky
Phone: (213) 365-5441

Sunday, May 2, 2004 — was a beautiful day starting out with 38 degrees and sunshine — 'a little brisk' but the fresh spring air and clear skies were very welcome. A perfect day for a celebration and that is what we had! SWU Branch #23 honored our "2004 Member of the Year" Pat Lammi, with a lovely dinner party at Vertin's Cafe. Daughters, Bunny and Barb were able to attend and son, Bob was there. Daughter, Mary sent a nice, complimentary and memorable letter which was read by Gloria Smuk, who also presented a few congratulatory remarks. Son, Rick wasn't able to attend.

Jane Yadlosky also read and presented Pat with a poem she composed from little anecdotes from many of her friends. We were then entertained by the musical group — "Dobros" — a three piece band with accordion, bass,

guitar, and tambourine. They played Slovenian songs plus sing-a-longs, keeping us all captivated with their talent – ending with a tribute of songs to Pat. What a memorable celebration!!!

Our next meetig will be in August to make plans to attend the State Convention in Tower on Sept. 12th. All members are encourage to attend – we will also make further plans for our “Taste of Slovenia” coffee social to be held on October 8th.

I felt so special the other day – a little fairy left a “May Basket” on the back stoop, then disappeared! I didn’t know that children still do this! With all the strife, problems and war going on all over the world, isn’t this refreshing?!!

Everyone, have a great summer!!!

JANE YADLOSKY

NO. 24, LA SALLE, IL

Founding Date: OCTOBER 17, 1928

Meetings: 3rd Thursday

Eureka Savings Building

Monthly except July and August

Dober Dan!

We are very happy and honored to report that Branch 85 of Depue will be merging with our branch. A formal procedure will take place at our September meeting. We admire President Genevieve Grilc and her fellow members for their steadfast loyalty to their Slovenian heritage and welcome them into our branch.

Our Spring luncheon, hosted by Vice President, Linda Struna and Mary Mecum was held at Mario’s Maples and attended by 40 members. Once again we enjoyed the delicious food, the lovely atmosphere and delightful company.

We discussed the upcoming events of the summer – the 25th anniversary of the merging of St. Roch’s and St. Joseph’s of La Salle, which is now Resurrection Parish. A Mass on Sunday, July 18th will be celebrated by Bishop Daniel R. Jenky, CSC, of the Peoria Diocese, followed by a dinner in the La Salle Catholic School Hall. Our members have been invited to be active participants in this important occasion since so many parishioners from St. Roch’s were of Slovenian descent.

We have been invited by Branch 89 of Oglesby to attend their ZARJA

“birthday party” on September 13th at LeHigh Park. We look forward to celebrating with them and to our “birthday party” celebration at our September 23 meeting, which will be hosted by Delores Spelich. She’ll have something special planned for us and it will no doubt involve Slovenian music, of which she is a big fan and an expert.

We also discussed how important ZARJA – The Dawn is an had been to each and everyone of us for so many years. As one of our members stated, “It is the heart of our organization.” How fortunate we are to have this magazine, compiled so beautifully, so rich in information not only regarding our heritage but in countless other areas, connecting us to each other. And, when you think of ZARJA – The Dawn you automatically think of Corinne Leskovar, it’s editor and “lifblood,” whose dedication, skill and love can be seen on every cover and on every page. (*Sincere thanks!* C.) It will truly be a “birthday” to celebrate!

Until next time, enjoy every day as a gift – that’s why it is called the present. And, may your hearts be happy and filled with peace and love.

LORETTA STORY

Making a Donation?

When making a donation to our ZARJA, Scholarship or Heritage Funds please remember the following:

If the date of your donation is past the deadline date for publication of ZARJA (first of month previous to publication) we will happily acknowledge it in the next ZARJA issue. Many times the donations come very close to the date you receive your ZARJA in the mail, and we ask you to allow some weeks for all the recording and printing that precedes an acknowledgement.

Your understanding will be very appreciated because your donations are very, very welcome!

NO. 25, CLEVELAND, OH

Founding Date: NOVEMBER 22, 1928

Meetings: 2nd Sundays, 1:30 p.m.

St. Vitus Social Room

Hello Summertime...we are all looking forward to a wonderful summer! To all our Fathers, Belated Happy Fathers’ Day. We love you for being a great guy and a wonderful father. Have a Happy Fourth of July.

Congrats to Anne Tomsick, #50 Mother of the Year. She was feted at Christy’s Tavern on May 19 with a bunch of good friends...Čestitke!!!

Fr. Kumse of St. Mary’s Church in Collinwood celebrated his 25th anniversary on May 16. Eddie Kenik was honored at East 80th Slovene Home the same day. Congratulations and happy future to these two wonderful gentlemen.

On April 25th John Kerry delighted us with his presence at the St. Clair Slovenian National Home. About 600 people attended the rally. The St. Clair Pensioners last visit to Mountineer Casino was a lot of fun. We had a few happy faces as winners...but to the losers ... better luck next time ... but you have to admit coming and going on the bus was fun, fun, fun. We have a fun-loving group and so compatible.

The Ohio-Michigan Conference will take place Oct. 31st with 12:30 p.m. mass at St. Mary’s in Collinwood.

Josie Ambrosic was laid to rest May 7th. She had a long life, 93 years. Dan Cosic and Associates were in charge of the funeral. Her son, Joe and wife, Pat will miss her as will grandson, Jason and sister, Marie Orazem and many nieces and nephews and a host of good friends. Rest in peace, Jo!

Congrats to Ivanka Matic’s grandson (#50), George Matic Jr. on his beautiful poem. Our teens are really growing up to be wonderful adults. Čestitke. Sometime ago some of my friends and I attended the monthly raffle at the Slovenian Home in Newburgh and lo, and behold, we bumped into Olga Dorchak. She noticed that I wasn’t eating any of the sausage sandwiches (too spicy for my tummy) so she gave me some desserts. Thank you very much, Olga!

I read the ZARJA each time I receive it from cover to cover. It is most in-

teresting to note what the other groups are into.

My best to Mary Miller of Branch #50 who is retiring. She is a friend that I met when I attended the raffles on Holmes Avenue Slovenian Home. Good Luck, Mary.

Here's hoping that everyone will attend the SWU Fall Festival on Oct. 3rd at SNPJ farm. I really like the theme "Keeping our Slovenian Heritage Alive." My congratulations to Rosemary Toth for chairing such a great undertaking. Thank you, Rosemary. You are a gem in my book.

Remember this: A day without laughter is a DAY WASTED. Keep laughing AND SMILING!!!

LUV YA!!!

Zbogom

EMILEE

NO. 32, EUCLID, OH

Founding Date: AUGUST 25, 1929

**Meetings: 3rd Tues., 6:30 p.m.
Euclid Public Library, Erie Room**

In May, we celebrated Mother's Day by treating ourselves to a night out at Home Town Buffet. We had a short meeting at which we discussed the Slovenian Heritage Festival, as well as other topics. One of our generous members, Mary Sterle has agreed to pay the fee for the polka mass at the festival. I have agreed to head up the children's activities for the day. Our branch has agreed to help with supplies and prizes for the children's games. My dilemma is what shall we play? I've been trying to find some traditional Slovenian games to play but I have not found any. Many members and grandparents remember working hard as children. They barely had time or money for games. Some games that were remembered were jump rope and jacks. One other favorite was "stick in the mud." The game entailed several children trying to dislodge the stick before the others got to it. I'm not sure that parents would like that game! If anyone has any traditional game suggestions, please contact me. (Pam, try internet contact to Slovenian Ministry of Culture, www.gov.si/MK/ Corinne)

Mother's Day and the Slovenian Heritage Festival bring back memories, which mostly entail baking and polkaing. I remember helping my parents

prepare for the debutante ball and all the dinner dances. It's a shame that so many Slovenian halls are struggling. Let's face it; there aren't too many young Joey Tomsicks and Sumrada brothers out there to keep the music alive even if the halls are open. If we don't bring youth into the picture soon, I fear many of our traditions will be lost. I love being an American but there is something to be said about learning from your past.

My father, Rudy Perdan was our president for a couple years before he helped me to become active. My mother, Charlotte Perdan is the branch secretary and treasurer. She joined the lodge because of her mother, Frances Ogoreuc, who is our Sunshine Lady. I've now brought in my daughter, Alexandria Perdan as our hostess. Someday, my other daughter, Mary Dirk may join the ranks of officer. Our lineage in this branch reaches back to my great grandmother, Frances Rupert, who was a principal in the branch and with Cadets. This is not an unfamiliar story. Our Vice President, Adrienne Jager is part of three generations in our lodge. Her mother, Ceal McLean served as our past Hostess. Adrienne's grandmother, Ceal Znidar has also been active for many years.

These generations have kept us going. Let's try to keep our heritage alive through stories and activities. Let's all try to meet together on October 3rd out at SNPJ Farm for a day of remembrance and fun. Bring your children. Bring your grandchildren. Bring your ideas to keep us strong. I'm willing to help with the youth movement. Help me. In past years, we sponsored majorettes and marching groups. Do we want to try again? A pompom squad, perhaps? March in a few parades... what do you think? Don't forget we've opened our doors to non-Slovenians. We can get them to polka, eat potica and sing E I E I O!

PAM DIRK

23861 Colbourne Rd.

Euclid, OH 44123

Pam.Dirk@mmoh.com



NO. 33, DULUTH, MN

Founding Date: OCTOBER 8, 1929

**Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month
St. Elizabeth Church**

We are so happy and proud that two of our members received the 2004 SWUA Scholarship. They are Denise Bucar and Elizabeth Spehar. Denise's parents are Frank and Sharon Bucar who do very much to promote Slovenian activities with the Singing Slovenes and various other activities. Elizabeth's parents are Tom and Peggy Spehar and her grandparents are Bill and Suintina Spehar who are all also great supporters of SWUA.

Did you plant your Carnation seeds? I planted mine and it has been such a cold spring here in northern Minnesota, I almost have to make a quilt to cover them so they don't freeze!

Sharon Bucar and her committee are making plans for our 75th Anniversary celebration. We will have a polka mass, banquet, program and entertainment by the Singing Slovenes. The date, time, etc. will be in the next ZARJA.

At our September meeting we will be having a "Happy Birthday ZARJA Party," complete with Slovenian treats and games etc.

Mary Spehar White, our Woman of the Year, was treated to a wonderful celebration at our May meeting. We had a nice lunch and entertainment and family and friends gave a wonderful tribute to Mary.

Our best wishes and prayers for a speedy recovery for our members that have been on the "sick" list.

Enjoy the summer!

BEV MENART

Reporter

NO. 34, SOUDAN, MN

Founding Date: OCTOBER 12, 1929

**Meetings: 3rd Wed., 1 p.m.
St. Martin's Church Hall
Jan. to May; Sept., Oct. & Nov.**

Olla!! Back from Mazatlan, Mexico, suntanned, rested and rarin' to go! We were in paradise for two weeks at Emerald Bay, and now, back to business!

Branch 34 met on April 21st in the Upper Room at St. Martin's. Thankfully, a most able Helen Adkison presi-

ded in my absence. There were two funerals in my family. Member, Bertha Jean Zimmerman lost her father-in-law, Jake Zimmerman and my aunt, Rose Globokar passed away.

Hostesses were Theresa Glaski and Pauline Trucano who served a delicious lunch. Theresa brought the door prize won by Ag Mesojedec. Pakeno was played and winners were Frances Tanko, Helen Adkinson and Emma Be-tourne. Reports were made on the progress of plans for the State Convention on Sept. 12th. Our raffle tickets are soon to be distributed to all in this area. The May meeting also centered on plans for the Convention. Thank you, members of Br. 34, for all your help and efforts and your attendance this year. Working together as a team has made my job easier!

A potluck lunch was planned for the May 19th meeting honoring all Mamicas. It was a very successful event. All Slovenian-style dishes were brought for us to enjoy!

Good to see my neighbors, Fred Pahula, Frances Panko. They were the oldest members there. Thanks to Fred for his donations toward our convention fund. We sang Happy Birthday to Lucille Savatoes and Theresa Berg (welcome home, Theresa!).

Lorraine Berg was a surgical patient recently. Get well wishes to her.

Member, Marcella Rooney will be moving to Duluth. Jerry and Marcella have grandkids in sports and will be busy. Our prayers and wishes for a happy life. – we will miss you at morning mass!

Thanks to Zella DeMasi for giving your winnings of the door prize to the convention.

Have a great summer and don't forget our troops, their families. Also, hats off to our graduates of this year and their families. Please give a hug to your grandchildren. Check on the elderly this summer and visit the sick.

Keep our SWU alive! Hope to see you are the 75th Diamond Convention Sept. 12th, 2004!

Nasvidenje!

ADRIENNE MIKLICH



NO. 35, AURORA, MN

Founding Date: OCTOBER 15, 1929

Meetings: 6 times per year

Community Center

Contact: Anita Vovk

E-mail: AMV@cpinternet.com

April Report

At the beginning of the April meeting, after the usual opening prayers, Pres. Vovk enrolled all our members, living and deceased, in a Novena starting on Easter Sunday. Thanks, Anita for all you do for our branch.

Our president and her daughters, Theresa and Lisa, traveled to Slovenia in May. We were all happily expecting their nice reports when they came home.

Thank you to everyone for the donated photo albums, scrapbooks and other material we are busy sorting for our 75th Anniversary in October.

Congratulations to Jennifer Menart. She has been accepted at the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth and will be working to receive her doctorate in Physical Therapy, a six year program. She received a Benedictine Scholarship based on academics from the College; also, the president's scholarship from the American Slovenian Catholic Union, (KSKJ) and from the American All Slav Club of Aurora. Jennifer has been a member of Br. 35 since birth.

Congratulations to all graduates. May you all succeed in your future plans.

Kevin and Michelle Klandar Hubbard of Stillwater, MN, became the proud parents of a son, Andrew Joseph, born on April 9th. Our heartiest congratulations. His mom, sister, Lucy and grandmother, Kris (Smolich) Walburn are members of our branch. Michelle was a past SWU Scholarship winner.

Get well wishes to Mary Nosan and all our members and their families who are ill.

Anita Vovk donated a cheese strudel which was raffled and the winner was our secretary, Gabriella Gorichan. Thanks to Anita and to our hostesses, Dorothy Jamnik and Anna Hodnik for the delicious lunch they served.

May Report

Forty family and branch members and friends gathered on May 2nd to

honor our Mother of the Year, Barbara Urick at the Am. Legion Clubrooms. Vice President, Dorothy Jamnik welcomed everyone and Fr. David Forsman. Barbara's niece, Kathleen Wheeler introduced her family and friends and we enjoyed visiting before dinner. Fr. David led the prayer of Thanksgiving before a delicious dinner was served by the Legion Auxiliary. Barbara was presented with a vase of carnations and our Founder, Marie Prisland's book, "From Slovenia to America" from our branch.

Barbara's grandchildren, Kaila, 11 years old, Jenna, 9, and Spencer, 6, presented her with a framed acrostico poem entitled GRANDMA and read it to her as follows:

G – is for Gardener because she always grows beautiful flowers;

R – is for Resourceful because she is creative and never wastes anything;

A – is for Amazing because she makes amazing food like chicken and mashed potatoes;

N – is for Nice Dresser because she wears nice clothes;

D – is for Dedicated to her family, friends and grandchildren;

M – is for Mother because she is daddy's mom and our grandma;

A – is for Awesome because we think she is awesome and we love her.

Marty Urick and his wife, Diane put together a May basket of gifts that illustrate how his mom has touched their lives:

"When I was young – to get through the day and brighten my way – peanut butter for all those lunches, and flower seeds for the beautiful garden that welcomed me home;

"As I grew, through ups and downs, a skier (Snoopy) for introducing me to my favorite sport and other fun tasks, and pom poms for cheering me along in all my endeavors;

"What you taught me – to do my own thing – under angels wings, a red, white and blue Snoopy to signify a sense of independence, and an angel to signify life's lessons that are like religion;

"With our family – to get kids in bed by 9 – a precious gift of p.j.'s to signify all the pajamas you made for the kids, and a watch, for the precious gift of time."

Marty was a SWU Scholarship winner in 1985.

Guests shared many good and sad times with Barbara and expressed their admiration for her. In spite of a hearing loss she has never stopped from accomplishing everything she ever set out to do. She is my sister and along with all the family, I can say we are very proud of her.

Barbara thanked everyone who came to share this special day with the family. Prayers of thanks and safe travel ended the celebration.

Our past president, Florence Holland passed away on May 24th. Our sympathy and prayers are with her family. May she rest in peace. We just heard of the illness of Veda Marinsek. By the time you read this, we hope she will be feeling much better!

Happy Summertime, everyone!

ANNE M. ORAZEM

NO. 39, BIWABIK, MN

Founding Date: FEBRUARY 3, 1930

Meetings: 1st Sunday monthly
St. John's Church

Sunday, May 2nd, was a cool and windy day at the Giants Ridge Ski Resort, but it did not dampen the festive atmosphere as we honored our "Woman of the Year," Kathy Siskar. The table in the Timber Lodge Restaurant was decorated with the Slovenian and U.S. flags and our traditional Slovenian glass vase of carnations and baby breath to welcome 26 members and guests.

Our branch president, Jean Korsman, welcomed Kathy and her family members, husband, Frank, daughter, Jamie and Jamie's husband, Kyle Gierhart. Seventeen previous honored members were in attendance. Vida Lanari, Branch secretary, presented Kathy with a corsage of carnations and a gift certificate from Branch #39. Jean read the article written for ZARJA about our choice of Kathy as our "Woman of the Year." Kathy responded with thanks to the Branch and stated she was proud to have been selected and will always remember the love and good example shown to her over her years of membership. Thank you, Kathy, for those kind words.

May is a busy month of celebration along with the beginning of spring. Our branches celebrate their members and I had the pleasure of being invited to

Dear SWU!

Just a quick note! Am enclosing an application for membership, filled out by my dear friend, Mary Jo Purkat. She filled out the application while we were working the dough on our first batch of krofe on Good Friday. Of course, we were using the recipe (provided by my mom, Jeanne Korsman), in the March/April issue of ZARJA. We had such a good time, trying out a recipe together that we both remember our grandparents making and enjoying at Easter time!

Mary Jo's grandmother, Mary Bradach, was a member of SWU from the Gilbert, MN branch. Mary Jo's picture even appears in an earlier (1967) issue of ZARJA, when her grandmother was the "Mother of the Year" for that Branch! Mary Jo is thrilled to become a new member of the SWU, and, like her grandmother before her, will help preserve and pass on the traditions of our heritage.

Mary Jo has been my friend for ever, and actually, is a relative for some time now. She and my cousin, Craig Purkat, will be celebrating 20 years of marriage in November!

Welcome, Mary Jo!

Sincerely,

Barb Schoonover



Barb and our new member, Mary Jo (left).

Branch #35 in Aurora, MN to celebrate with their "Woman of the Year," Barbara Urick. It also was a delightful afternoon helping to honor my dear friend and ski-buddy, Barb, renewing acquaintances with her family and the Branch #35 membership. It is good to be bonded with SWUA at its source. Also, welcome back Anita Vovk, from your month spent in Slovenia. We are looking forward to hearing about your adventure at one of our Branch #39 meetings. We all grow when we are united with each other through our heritage.

By the time this gets to press, we will have celebrated with our "beloved and unique" Pastor, Fr. Perk, his GOLDEN JUBILEE of the priesthood. We all know him as our POLKA PADRE and enjoyed reading the articles about him in the May/June issue of ZARJA. We hoped to see members of SWUA from Joliet and surrounding

area, who have befriended him through his attendance at various functions there. Congrats, Perk, we will miss you.

Pending is discussion on attendance to the MN State Convention being held at Fortune Bay Casino on beautiful Lake Vermillion in Tower, MN on September 12, 2004. Again, we will look forward to seeing Branch members from all of Minnesota. We will be notified of the date and place of the planning meeting. All members are welcome to this event in Tower. Let us know if you are interested in attending.

Adijo!

ROSEMARY (SERTICH) RIBICH

Our Members 100 and Older!!

Can you believe that we have four distinguished elder members who have reached the year 100 and more! We congratulate them and wish them well!

Ana Gacnik

*member of Br. 14, Cleveland, Ohio
was born on 7/15/1901,*

*(joined SWU one month after the first issue
of ZARJA was published, July, 1929)*

Vicki Sporis

*Br. 43, Milwaukee, Wisconsin,
December 18, 1901,*

Helen Kunich

*Br. 26, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania,
November 17, 1903,*

Barbara Sitar

*Br. 89, Oglesby, Illinois,
November 20, 1903*

NO. 40, LORAIN, OH

Founding Date: APRIL 21, 1930

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

It grieves me to report the death of one of our most faithful members, Agnes (Tomazin) Drstvensek, who died on April 19, 2004 at age 84 after a brief illness. She had been a member since 1937. At that time our lodge sponsored a drill team of which she was president. It was a great group and they won many competitions. They looked wonderful in their snappy uniforms and performed in parades here and elsewhere. Agnes was also a long time reporter of our lodge activities to the ZARJA. She made a scrapbook of all those articles -- really a history of our lodge -- which is now in the SWU museum in Joliet. Agnes married John in 1946. He died in 2001. She is survived by son, Dr. John Drstvensek, MD, daughter, Dr. Elaine Edgar, three grandsons, a brother, Mike and two sisters, Anne Tomsic and Angeline Grayson. Memorial prayers were led at the wake by Agatha Donges. Many of our members attended her funeral mass at SS. Cyril and Methodius Slovenian Church, celebrated by Father Paul Krajnik. We miss you, Agnes, and will always hold you close in thought. May you rest in peace.

If you see Angie Voytko, be sure to ask to see pictures of her beautiful new great granddaughters, Vanessa and Vi-

vian, born of granddaughter, Amy, joining brothers, Justin and Griffin. Their daddy, a career soldier in the army was in Iraq at the time of their birth, but is now stateside in officer's training in Alabama where his family will join him shortly. Angie is the daughter of our longtime officer, Angeline Kozjan, now deceased, whom we all remember for her zeal in promoting Slovenian activities and especially SWU. Congratulations to all.

Our July luncheon will be at Pine Garden Restaurant, 2519 West 21st Street, in Lorain. However, please note the date change. It will be on July 7th at 1 p.m. And again, if you need a ride or just to say you will be there, call Agatha or me. Guests will be warmly welcomed. We are hoping for a large turnout.

To all our friends -- have a great and safe summer.

Love,

STEPHANIE POLUTNIK

NO. 42, MAPLE HTS., OH

Founding Date: MAY 31, 1930

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

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

June was the month of graduations. Terry Anzo's granddaughter, Jenny, completed her studies at University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan in Political Science and Spanish. Jenny's sister, Alexis, graduated from Woodward Academy High School in Atlanta, Georgia. My granddaughter, Katie Kossakoski, graduated from Saugus High School in Santa Clarita, Calif. Although still in high school, our own Kimberly Balach is already racking up honors having been selected by the Ohio Dept. of Education's Summer Institute for Gifted Students. As such she will study business and journalism at the Univ. of Akron. She was also selected to study digital photography at Baldwin Wallace College and was awarded a certificate of achievement from the J.F.K. Library Profiles in Courage 2004 Essay Contest. Congratulations to all the graduates and success in your future endeavors.

Happy July birthday celebrants Josie Gruden, Rose Meljac, Ellen Bodziony,

Mary Catherine Gruden, Mae Danicic, Ludmilla Tacsar and my grandson, Alex Kossakoski.

Happy August birthdays to Betty Ann Harr, Emily Gruden, Suzanne Harris, Fran Hocevar, Jane Szymkowski, Eleanor Charvat, Gabrielle Wall and Marge Zupancic.

The month of May saw the passing of my sister, Fran Tomsic, a 73 year member of Br. #42. For the past 12 years she had been a resident of the Little Sisters Home. Her early years were difficult due to the depression which forced young people to abandon higher education and seek work to help support a large family. Lacking a high school diploma and the necessary subjects to pursue a nursing career, she worked by day and went to John Adams night school to complete her high school education which qualified her for St. Alexis Hospital's Nursing School from which she graduated in 1931. She eventually met and married Frank Tomsic, a product of Newburg and St. Lawrence Parish. They were only married a few years and had just welcomed their first born 2 months earlier when Frank succumbed to a sudden and fatal heart attack. She resumed her nursing career and devoted her life to raising a son who would never know his father. While in the prime of her life she conquered a life-threatening illness and again after a serious automobile accident. Through the years, her son, Tom, met and married a St. Alexis Nurse who was also the daughter of a St. Alexis nurse. They have 5 beautiful sons to carry on the Tomsic name. As a member of the 3rd Order of St. Francis and a devout Catholic all her life may she now rest in peace secure in the knowledge of a job well done.

Since our last issue of ZARJA we also lost long-time member Albina Hribar Mroczka who passed away in April. Before the Slov. National Home was built in 1937 the Hribar home served as a community place for Br. 42 meetings and the children's Catechism classes. The Hribars remain a force in S.W.U. through Albina's daughters. Diane Balach and our Vice President, Jeanne Offutt, Diane's daughter, Kimberly and Jeanne's husband, Joe. We extend our deepest sympathy to all the family. Grandma Pauline Hribar's fraternalism was certainly passed through the ranks.

SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION FUND-RAISER

Proceeds for the benefit of ZARJA-THE DAWN

Official publication of Slovenian Women's Union

On the 75th Anniversary of publication!

Hand-made, queen-size QUILT, made by SWU National Auditor, Bev Menart of Duluth, Minnesota in colors of red, beige and green and in a pattern called: "Sugar Maples."



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Plans for the Oct. 3rd SWU Heritage Festival at SNPJ farm are moving right along by the joint committee. Please make a sincere effort to attend our branch meeting on Aug. 14th when our participation in this event will be a major topic of discussion. As usual, the meeting is at the Maple Hts. Library at 11:00 a.m. A pot luck lunch was unanimously approved. You can call Marge at (330) 467-0696 with your selected food contribution if you wish to avoid duplication.

As always, get well wishes go out to any ailing members and a special welcome to our new member, Joe Habjan.

Zbogom.

LIL SADOWSKI



NO. 43, MILWAUKEE, WI
Founding Date: JUNE 4, 1930
Meeting: 4th Wed., noon
St. Mary Help of Christians
Contact: Yvonne Johnstone Khaldy
YJK1013@AOL.COM
(414) 744-3837

Our April meeting was well-attended. We were treated by our birthday members and non-birthday members to a very good luncheon. At this meeting we had a guest, MaryJo Young. She is planning on becoming a member. Welcome, MaryJo. On May 8th St. Mary Help of Christians Church celebrated its 100th Anniversary at Mass. Celebrated by Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan, the Uspeh Chorus was in the choir. This church was the first Slovenian church in West Allis.

Milka Menchak was unanimously selected to be the Member of the Year 2004. She selected May 15th for a noon luncheon at Klemmer's Banquet Center. The Member of the Year 2003, Ray Delopst presented her with the Crown. Milka's family also attended and her daughter, Lucy gave a talk on

some of the highlights in the lives of her mother and father, which was repeated in the June ZARJA. On May 23rd the USPEH Chorus gave a 25th Anniversary Spring Concert at the St. Vincent Palloitti Church. It was a beautiful performance.

No meetings in July and August.

Remember to keep our sick and deceased members in your prayers.

ANNE E. KONCZAL,
Reporter

NO. 47, GARFIELD HTS., OH
Founding Date: JUNE 17, 1931
Meetings: 2nd Sunday of the month
Maple Heights Library, 1 p.m.
Contact: Elsie Spellacy
(440) 232-8733

Hi everyone. Our Mother's Day celebration was a great success. Everyone enjoyed a delicious meal and a nice get together. Announcements were made about our Mass for Living and Deceased Members which is August 8th, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Lawrence Church.

We also discussed our Festival on

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TRIBUTES

In Loving Memory

†Eunice Komater



We are saddened to say we had to say goodbye to one of our devoted members, Eunice Komater. Eunice passed away on April 20, 2004. A red carnation was sent with her as a final tribute. Eunice will always be remembered for her beautiful articles in the ZARJA and her dedication to Branch 89 and Slovenian Women's Union. We pray for Eunice and the repose of her soul.

†Mary Jermenc

Mary F. Jermenc was 82 years old when she passed away on February 15, 2004. She was buried from St. Mary's Church in DePue, Illinois.

Mary was our firm member and reporter for Br. 85. Besides her many friends, she is survived by three nephews, Tom DeBord, Jim DeBord and Ed Jermenc, two nieces, Cindy Hultine and Jeanine Crockett, and a sister-in-law. Preceding her in death were her parents, Anton and Mary Jermenc, a brother and a sister.

We will miss Mary very much and remember her with love and admiration for her dedication to her Slovenian heritage.

May she rest in peace.

Reporter

†Agnes Drstvensek

With great sadness we inform you that our member, Agnes Drstvensek died in April, 2004, at the age of 84 years. She was a life-long member of Br. 40, Lorain, Ohio and loved reading ZARJA, sharing many of the articles and recipes with her family, especially daughter, Elaine Edgar.

She is also survived by a son, John, three grandsons, sisters, Angeline Grayson and Ann Tomsic and a brother, Mike Matjasic, all of Lorain. She was preceded in death by her husband, John, parents, Andrew and Agnes Tomazin and other relatives.

Many organizations claimed her interest, and she loved to play golf, travel and spend winters in Florida.

A Mass of Christian Burial was offered at SS. Cyril & Methodius Church, Rev. Paul Krajnik, officiant.

May She Rest In Peace!



Oct. 3rd 2004 at SNPJ Farm in Kirtland: A Polka Mass before the festival at 11:30 a.m. Dress code is Red, White and Blue!

Also the Ohio-Michigan Convention is on October 31st, 2004 at St. Mary's.

Plans are underway for the Christmas Party on December 4th, 2004 at 1:00 p.m. at Valleyview. There are plans for an all Slovenian menu, which will be talked about at a future meeting.

Birthday wishes go out to all of our July and August members:

July members: Mary Kociancic, Mary Kuzel, Anthony Mezgec, Julie Mezgec, Courtney Mundson, Katelyn Mundson and Rhiannon Wallace.

August members: Emma Zupan, Judy Freeman, Jason Hall, Ginger Kemmerling, Rosalie Zeleznik, Elsie Kohun and Hermine Mezgec.

Best wishes to all.

KATHERINE WALLACE

NO. 50, EUCLID, OH

Founding Date: SEPTEMBER 15, 1931

Meetings: 3rd Wed. 1 p.m.
except Jan., Feb., July & Aug.

Euclid Public Library

Contact: Anne Tomsick

Tel. (216) 531-2745

The beautiful month of May was a whirlwind of activity in honor of mothers everywhere, despite the fact that Cleveland set new records for rain.

We earthly mothers enjoyed a festive Mother's Day brunch at St. Noel Parish in nearby Willoughby Hills, and in late May attended the KSKJ Ohio Federation "Lady of Brezje" (Marija Pomagaj) devotion to Our Blessed Mother at Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine in Euclid, Ohio, concelebrated by Fr. Kumse, Fr. Boznar, and Vincentian Fr. Stanko Gerjolj from Slovenia. The candlelight Rosary procession and the blended voices singing the litany and divine

praises in Slovenian was truly inspiring.

Attending the May crowning at Saint Felicity's Church by the 2004 eighth grade graduating class (including my own grandson, Jonah) portraying the Joyful, Sorrowful, and Glorious Mysteries of Our Lady was another May highlight for our community.

So many thanks to our president, Rose Mary Toth and Cookie Maxin for coordinating the SWU "Mother of the Year" luncheon. Rose Mary also performed as Mistress of Ceremonies and had the audience in stitches with her quips and jokes.

A few more words about our Mother of the Year luncheon. Thanks to our excellent phone committee, there were eighty attendees, including many of our Branch 50 members, representatives from the Cleveland Slovenian Radio Club, friends of St. Anne's AMLA No. 4, well-wishers from Saint Vitus Village, four of my own sons, and my brother and his wife and sister and her

pg. 37

Branch 89 in Oglesby, Illinois is very proud to introduce our longest living member,



Barbara Hrovat Sitar

At age 101 years and looking forward to celebrating 102 years on November 20, 2004, Barbara still lives alone and is an independent homemaker under the watchful eyes of her children and their families. Born in 1902, she has made Oglesby, Illinois her home for her entire lifetime. Her parents came from Novo Mesto, Slovenia. She married Stanley Sitar on January 25, 1923. Stanley's parents were from Kamnik in Slovenia. He passed away on July 30, 1991. They are the proud parents of 5 children (4 surviving), Betty Torchia, Dorothy Senica, Mary Sterchi, and Donna Kain. Barbara has 19 grandchildren, 42 great grandchildren, and 8 great great grandchildren!

Barbara is very proud of her Slovenian heritage. The traditions passed down from her mother, making bread, poticas, and strudels hold a special place in her heart. She

recalls many fond memories from her younger years. One tradition that stands out most is taking homemade horseradich, sausage, potica, and bread to church and having it blessed at Eastertime.

Barbara credits the longevity of her life to hard work. They always had a big garden and canned and ate "everything I could get my hands on." She remembers her mother boiling green beans and then making gravy out of the bean water. They then would soak the gravy up with homemade bread, not missing any of the nutrients. They made sauerkraut, grew their own horseradish, raised chickens and rabbits and made their own sausage, too. She remembers going to the grocery store on a regular basis for only a handful of items. They harvested almost everything from home. When the harvest and canning season were over, Barbara and Stonnie would call the winter months their "vacation."

Barbara's Catholic faith is a very important part of her life. She spends a lot of her time in prayer. She says, "there is always someone to pray for."

Barbara feels it is very important to tell your children about their heritage. She loves receiving her Slovenian magazine, ZARJA-The Dawn. Over the years she has enjoyed many wonderful recipes and loves reading the happenings of the different branches.

Would you believe that Barbara is still holding down a part-time job at the age of 101? She stuffs envelopes for her son-in-law's business, John's Sales and Service!

Barbara's membership in SWU Branch 89 started in 1938. We are so happy and proud she is a part of us.

Thank you Barbara, for being such an inspiration in our lives!

A. Ebner, Br. 89

FOUR GENERATIONS

BELONG TO

BRANCH #89

Pictured here are sisters, Eunice Kernz Supan and Josephine Kernz Argubright holding their great granddaughters while their daughters and granddaughters gather around. All are present members of the same branch. Their mother, Louise Gergovich Kernz, was a charter member and officer of Branch #89, Oglesby, Illinois for many years.



daughter, the daughters of former president, Ann Tercek, and many others including Father Vic Cimperman, who gave the benediction and led grace. Some highlights of the life of yours truly in a short video prepared by my boys came as an added surprise.

There were also generous gifts I would like to acknowledge – one in particular was a red hat from Val Pawlowski (the polka gal) which unofficially makes me a member of the “Red Hat Club,” – and Jimmy Slapnik, who provided carnations for all the ladies in attendance, and Tony Petkovsek, of WELW radio who promoted the luncheon on his radio programs.

We had Tenth Anniversary celebration at the Croatian Home in Eastlake, Ohio for Patti Sluga, who does a monthly radio interview called “Ladies behind the Scene.” Her unique program highlights wives and mothers of musicians who tell of their personal interests, hobbies and accomplishments. Many of our branch 50 members had been guests on Patti’s show in the past and were in attendance to share her special day.

President Rose Mary Toth of our Branch 50 and her Fall Festival committee are busy meeting with other branches (including Branches 14, 32, 42, 47) making exciting plans for our October 3rd Festival at the local SNPJ Farm. Father Pizmoht will celebrate the Polka Mass at 11:30 and the Joey Tom-sick Orchestra will play for the opening of the “Keeping Slovenian Heritage Alive” festive day.

A Chinese Auction, Afghan raffle, Slovenian Pastry demonstration, and many other activities and events are in the plans, including paintings by Enika Zulic, and others from the Slovenian Art Guild.

Once again, congratulations to Fr. Perkovich on his 50th Anniversary of ordination to the priesthood. He celebrated on June 6. His autobiography, entitled, “Dancing a Polka to Heaven” is now available at the Polka Hall of Fame in Euclid, as well as from Fr. Perk.

Fran Kajfiz has volunteered to take over the duties as treasurer.

Happy to hear our secretary, Cookie Maxin is getting ready to pack her bags and meet with her niece, Allison Hrovat in Slovenia. Allison was the recipient

Dear Members:

You are cordially invited to participate in the following scheduled events:

PICNIC – PLAY – PRAY

on Zveza Day in Lemont

Sunday, July 18, 2004

Mass: 11:00 a.m. – Litany: 2:30 p.m.

* * * * *

IL/IN Regional Convention

Sunday, October 3, 2004

Peru, Illinois

Hosted by Branches 24, 85, 89

Your participation is needed and appreciated.
Let's make 2004 a most memorable SWUA year!

Genevieve A. Buol
IL/IN Regional President

of the SWU tour to Slovenia. It's Cookie's first trip there and you can imagine the excitement.

July 26, will be our annual “Ann” luncheon inaugurated many years ago when Ann Opeka, Ann Ryavec and Ann Erste had lunch on the feast of St. Anne, and the idea of having all ladies named Ann get together was carried on by our former president Ann Tercek. As of last year, the group has blossomed to as many as forty (40) “Anns”!

Good news! Theresa Clements is home from the hospital. She resides at the Gateway Manor, Room 102, 4 Gateway Drive, Euclid, Ohio 44119 and I am sure she would appreciate a note from her many friends. Mary Miller on the road to recovery, get well soon!

In closing, Rose Mary Toth reminds us that we would appreciate correspondence, greetings, anecdotes, essays, stories, old photos and other items which will help stir memories as we commemorate the 75th Anniversary in the September edition of ZARJA. These items are needed as soon as possible in order to make publication deadlines.

Our next general meeting will be on September 15th. There will be no meetings in July and August.

Have a great, wonderful, healthy summer!!

ANNE TOMSICK

NO. 89, OGLESBY, IL

Founding Date: MAY 9, 1938

Meetings: Second Mondays

Place: Dickinson House

Branch 89 met at Holy Family Church on May 2 at 8:00 Mass for our deceased members. We then gathered at Delaney's Restaurant for fellowship and breakfast. A beautiful start to a beautiful Sunday.

Angie Nico is back at her home at 115 Portland Ave., Oglesby, IL 61348. She has a lady friend staying with her to help her out with her daily chores. Angie is getting along very well and always has a smile for everyone.

Our longest living member, Barbara Hrovat Sitar, will be celebrating 102 years of age on November 20, 2004. She lives at 233 East Third Street, Oglesby, IL 61348.

On July 18 and August 8, a trip to Lemont is planned for Branch 89. An outdoor Mass, picnic and music is on the agenda. Sounds like a great time! Each member will receive a reminder phone call from our phone chairperson prior to the dates.

Our September meeting will be held on Monday, September 13 at Lehigh Park. We will meet in the Slovenian Shelter. We will share a potluck meal with everyone bringing a dish to pass and a lawn chair. Guests are welcome.

A date in September will be announced for cleaning at the S.W.U. Museum in Joliet.

On Sunday, October 3 we will be co-hosting our Illinois/Indiana Regional State Convention at St. Joseph's Parish in Peru, IL. More details will be passed on as they happen.

On Monday, October 11 we will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Dickinson House. An update on the Convention will be presented and we will pray the rosary for our living and deceased members.

Until we meet again, Peace to All.

ALICE EBNER

NO. 99, LEMONT, IL

Original Founding Date: JUNE 13, 1940

**Meetings: Fifth Sundays of the year
Slovenian Cultural Center**

Contact: C. Leskovar (773) 275-1115

Hi, members! Hope to see you on August 29th, our next meeting date. The fact is, the same day is our Franciscan Fathers' Honey Picnic on the Hill here in Lemont, so we will just all meet there! We have lots of planning to do for our Halloween "Bunco Party" that will take place on Oct. 31st, our next meeting date. Fran Schultz volunteered her daughters to take care of the details and we are very grateful. Please look for us on the Hill, Aug. 29th.

To make the Bunco Party more fun, we will invite all our Tarok players who meet at the Center regularly to join us. Children and grandchildren are invited, too. We'll give some fun prizes for those who show up in Halloween costumes!

At the last meeting on May 30th we enjoyed some treats brought by Jean Gale and prizes donated by Martha Pecharich. Hvala stokrat!

The Feastday of Marija Pomagaj, celebrated on May 23rd at our church, was a special event for Br. 99. Thanks to our pastor, Fr. Metod, we prepared six mass readings, in Slovenian and English, read by six of our members, Joan Sobocan, Mihaela Simrayh, Fanika Gorsic, Liz Kluge, Mimi Stariha and Natasha Tkalec Kosi. Then later, two of our little 8 year olds, Claudia Zerdin and Claire Kluge (Fanika Gorsic and Joan Sobocan's granddaughters, respectively), led a slow procession, wearing beautiful white dresses (they both made their Holy communions this

Two beautiful children participate in Br. 99 Marian tribute



Claudia Zerdin and Claire Kluge, left photo, carried flowers as gifts to the altar on Marija Pomagaj Sunday in Lemont. Their moms and grandmas are seen with them on the top photo, Jean Sobocan, Liz Kluge, Milena Zerdin, Fanika Gorsic and Ivanka Zerdin.

year) and with wreaths of fresh white baby's breath on their blonde tresses, their beauty just took our breaths away! They carried small bouquets of red carnations as gifts to the altar. The concluding Marian hymn in Slovenian was joined by the entire church. We hope to continue this as a new tradition for Br. 99.

CORINNE LESKOVAR

NO. 102, WILLARD, WI

Founding Date: MAY 11, 1941

**Meetings: When convenient
Parish Center - (713) 267-6764**

Our spring is very wet and cool. Hope everyone will enjoy a wonderful and safe summer.

Our meeting was held on May 16th with 12 members and 8 guests. We hon-

ored our Mother of the Year, Sue Pakiz, who is a most deserving person to receive this honor. She received a Trenton Collector Clock. Judy and Ray Di Pasquole came from Penfield, New York to attend. Our next meeting will be on September 12th and we will celebrate the 75th year of the ZARJA magazine.

A motion was made to help Sheboygan with the state convention.

We are donating a More Pots and Pans cook book to our local Library in Greenwood.

Our plant sale was on May 15-16. Thanks to Frank and Rose Pakiz who brought many plants.

On May 2nd there were 4 children that made their first communions; May 9th we had Mary Crowning with Kim Artac, crowning Mary. Her escort was Mitch Behrens. May 23rd our senior class students were honored at 10:30 Mass. They each received a Rosary and

Bible from P.C.C.W. Congratulations to Kim Artac. She received the Silver Lake College Catholic student recognition award. Kim and Mitch completed all 12 years of CCD classes.

On May 22nd the Richie Yurkovich and Eddie Blazonczyk Versatones played at the Willard Athletic Club. Eddie's band is from Chicago, IL. Our Slovenian picnic will be July 25th with Pot Luck lunch and many prizes.

New member is Joanne Zwaschka! Welcome!

Sophie Trunkel is now living at the Angelus Center in Neillsville. Mary Koschak is recuperating at Memorial Home from a fall in her apartment.

Our prayers and get well wishes go out to Mary Koschak, Sophie Trunkel, Ann Snedec and Jean Govek.

Condolence to the family of Lucille Lunka.

AGNES DEBEVEC

NO. 108, OLNEY, MD

Founding Date: NOVEMBER 16, 2003

Meetings: Second Sundays
at Mamma Lucia Restaurant or
other locations, which coincide
with a branch event

Contact: Bernadette K. Fitzsimmons
BTFITZ@NETCONNECT.NET
and Joan Strnisa Simmons
JOANY600@YAHOO.COM

Lepe pozdrave (greetings) to all our members and SWUA friends. Our new branch offers a variety of Slovenian cultural events for individuals, families and children. On April 4 several members attended Mass at the Slovenian Chapel of Our Lady of Brezje to celebrate Palm Sunday by bringing butarice. Lynn Koiner, Helena Schweiger, Nika Kovacic and the Fitzsimmons family brought homemade butarice (bundles of greens tied with ribbons). Slovenian folklore promises good health, safety and prosperity to all those who bring butarice to mass on Palm Sunday.

On April 17, Branch 108 members proudly dressed in Slovenian national costumes and participated by singing Slovenian folk songs, playing the zither, and reading Slovenian folk tales at the International Children's Book Festival in Gaithersburg, MD. Junior members, Ayla Roda and Matthew

International Children's Book Festival in Maryland!



April 17th was a day for festivities in Olney, Maryland, especially for children. Junior members of Br. 108, are seen waiting for their turn to perform "We are Slovenian, Let's Sing Together!" as a Slovenian choir, with their moms. Front row: Juliana, Matthew, Ayla, Thomas, Brielle and Celine; back row: Bernadette, Patricia and Erika.

Fitzsimmons read the Slovenian folktale "Jancek Jezek" (Harry the Hedgehog) in English, and Bernadette read the story in Slovenian. Several other stories and folktales were read in both Slovenian and English to the primarily American audience. The morals of these stories stirred interest from the audience who recognized the themes of integrity, honesty, love, and happiness, universal to all cultures throughout the world.

On May 30 we had a meeting followed by a Slovenian potluck dinner in honor of all our mothers, grandmothers and members of Br. 108 for their dedication to Slovenian family heritage. May we be united together by contributing our talents and sponsoring interesting meetings and events in honor of our shared Slovenian heritage. Thanks to all who contributed to a delicious Slovenian feast - Estelle for Slovenian sausages from Cleveland and sauerkraut, Nika for štruklje, Patricia for Slovenian potato salad, Ann and her mother Louise for an assortment of salads, Helena for potica, John for his mother's butterscotch pie, Bernadette

for palačinke, Florence for cake and Slovenian wine and Erika for more wine. Along with the aroma and tasting of all these traditional Slovenian dishes, we listened to Slovenian musical tapes and sang a couple of folk songs. Husbands, friends and children joined us for this festive occasion. We missed all those who were unable to attend due to travel plans.

Our next three meetings of the year are scheduled for September 12, October 10 and November 14. On September 12 the guest speaker will be Helena Schweiger, a Slovenian Economist, who has been invited to broaden our understanding about the economic and cultural aspects of living in Slovenia in contrast to living in America. Helena promises to hold an interesting discussion and will be happy to answer questions.

We welcome all our members, guests and friends to join us in fall. Best wishes for a pleasant summer.

BF

Membership Application

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

Please type or print legibly. Choose type of membership:

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Street Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

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Date of Birth _____ Do you speak Slovenian? _____

Please describe your Slovenian ancestry _____

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

Applicant's signature: _____ Date: _____

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

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

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

Please allow four to six weeks for membership processing.

In addition to my dues, I wish to contribute to the General Fund: For Office Use:
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I would like to volunteer for the S.W.U. My area of interest or expertise is: _____

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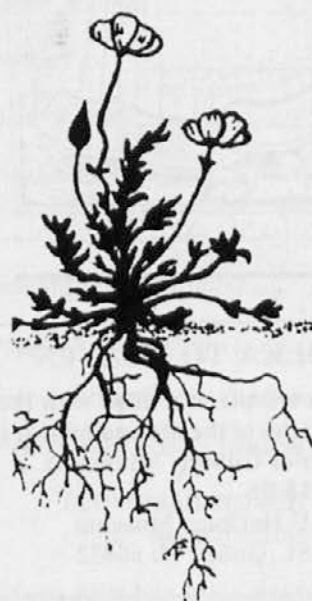
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FOR ZARJA'S BIRTHDAY!

