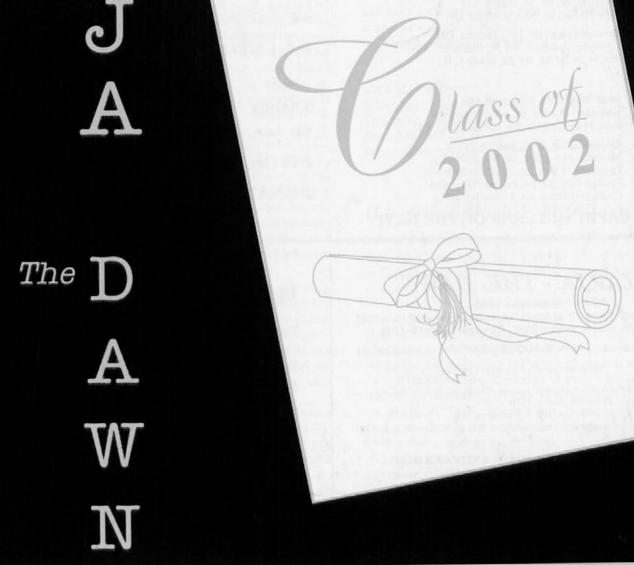
ZARJA

Congratulations Scholars! Your achievements will shape the future world!





Awards total \$6,000 for academic year 2002–2003

NUMBER 4

JULY-AUGUST 2002

ON THE COVER:

Seven SWU Scholarship awards are announced on pages 6-8.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN JULY & AUGUST

National Officers:

- July 16 Bonnie Prokup, Nat'l. Secretary, Peru, IL
- Aug. 26 Beverly Jackson, Nat'l. Aud., San Francisco, CA
- Aug. 26 Ceta Zagar, State Pres. Western States, San Fran., CA
- Aug. 29 Angela Stare, Dir. Youth Services, Bethesda, MD

Presidents:

July 5 -	Ann Cooke, Br. 32, Euclid, OH
July 5 -	Anne Brdek, Br. 54, Warren, OH
July 6 -	Maria Selak, Br. 55, Girard, OH
July 23 -	Ann Tercek, Br. 50, Cleveland, OH
Aug. 4 -	Betty Matjasic, Br. 101, Bedford, OH
Aug. 9 -	entering entering entering menting mart
Aug. 22 -	Mollie McIntyre, Br. 22, Bradley, IL
Secretaries:	
July 7 -	Mary Maxin, Br. 50, Euclid, OH
July 10 -	Rosemary Donald, Br. 33, Duluth, MN

- 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!

ZARJA - THE DAWN

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Internet webpage: www.swua.org e-mail: swuhome@msn.com On line newsletter: lzalokar@yahoo.com

COMING EVENTS

JULY

- 21 ZVEZA DAY IN LEMONT, IL, Br. 2, Chicago, IL
- 21 SUMMER PICNIC, Br. 42, Maple Hts., OH Call Marge (330) 467–0696
- 25 ANNE's DAY, Cleveland, OH

SEPTEMBER

- 8 MINNESOTA STATE DAY, Aurora, MN, Br. 35, Hostesses
- 8 WISCONSIN STATE DAY, Willard, WI, Br. 102 Hostesses
- 18 PICNIC, Euclid Clubhouse by the Lake, Br. 50, Cleveland, OH
- 29 GRAPE HARVEST DANCE, St. Joseph Park Hall, Br. 20, Joliet

OCTOBER

- 4–9 BACK TO OUR HERITAGE 2002 Slovenian Tour. Contact Kathleen Dorchak, (330) 686–1336
- 6or13 IL-IN STATE DAY, Indianapolis, IN. Br. 5, Hostesses

Thanks	Donor	Zarja tage (\$)	Schol- arship (\$)
or your	Fon, Phyliss (5) Francel, Margaret (30)		50 50
	Laurich, Charlotte (38)	10	50
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DONATIONS!	Charvat, Eleanor (42) Jamnik-Gornik J.M. Good Deborah (33) Plut, Viktoria (13) *memory of Ana Plut	10	\$100 convention fun 5 15

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NATIONAL PRESIDENT Kathleen Dorchak

"Living the SWU Statement of Our Vision, Mission, and Purpose"

"What a great time to belong to the Slovenian Women's Union of America as we, the members are actually living our "vision, mission, and purpose." We carry on our "Vision" by keeping the living spirit of our founders and past



members alive through creating a legacy in our Heritage Museum. The new look to our museum has more heritage items than ever before. Our "Mission" is being accomplished through reaching individuals interested in the Slovenian culture and traditions. The Membership in Branch 93 in New York City is growing by leaps and bounds and work has begun by Kathleen Wheeler on a new Branch in the

Minneapolis/St. Paul area. And we are continuing to achieve our "Purpose" by providing resources, communication, and foster friendship in honor of our beloved Slovenian heritage. Keeping your branches up to date with events through a calendar of events is a great way to keep members informed and active.

Communication along with education is very important for a successful organization. Communication through our bi-monthly publication of the ZARJA, the online newsletter – THE NEW NEIGHBORHOOD, and our website – www.swua.org are all methods to assure our members that projects and plans are in place to make sure we stay on track for our SWU statement of our Vision, Mission, and Purpose.

Those of you fortunate enough to attend our Slovenian Jubilej in Joliet, Illinois realized first hand that our SWU Statement of our Vision, Mission, and Purpose is alive and thriving for all of our members. Let's let our branches catch this excitement and energy that we all shared at the Jubilej.

Summer is a wonderful time to get out and begin "Reaching Above and Beyond" Each One – Reach One! This is the theme for our New Member Campaign 2002! Great prizes will be awarded for individuals and branches recruiting the most new members. Our Membership Committee comprised of Charlotte Laurich, Branch 38 in Chisholm, MN; Jonita Ruth, Branch 20 in Joliet, IL; and Lynn Zalokar, Branch 93 in New York City are willing to work with you to help you gain in membership. Let's grow in 2002! I know each of us can – "Each One – Reach One!" Then we will double in size. What a vision!

By now those of you planning to take the "Back to Our Heritage" Tour 2002 should have made your travel plans with Kollander Travel. However, if you haven't and still want to, please contact them **as soon as possible.** Airline seating is limited and cannot be held much longer. I hope that many of you plan to join us. This trip promises to hold just as much excitement as last year's trip, plus a few more surprises.

As each of us is trying reach one to gain a new member this summer, remember this quote by Anais Nin –

"Each friend represents a world in us, a world possible not born until they arrive, and it is only by this meeting that a new world is born." Inspire love and laughter,

Kathleen

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

ILL. GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Slovenian Women's Union was founded 75 years ago on December 19, 1926, in the city of Chicago by a group of Slovenian women who were new citizens of the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, the Slovenian Women's Union does charitable work, supports churches, the SWU Slovenian Heritage library, foundations through the community and also provide scholarship grants for their members and promotes the rich Slovenian heritage and culture; and

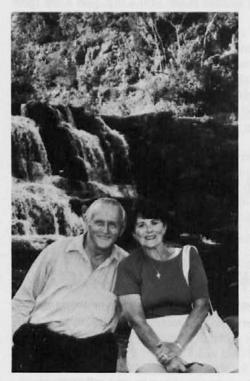
WHEREAS, the Slovenian Women's Union Heritage Museum is celebrating its 25th Anniversary and was opened on March 6, 1977. The museum features the Slovenian immigrant history from its earliest years with exhibits, a library and genealogy center, and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Corinne Leskovar has been the editor of Slovenian Women's Union publication, "Zarja–The Dawn" since 1952 and she is celebrating her 50th anniversary as editor. The magazine has been in continuous print since 1929, previously under the editorship of Corinne's mother Albina Novak; and

WHEREAS, Kathleen Dorchak, President of Slovenian Women's Union, and the Jubilee Committee announce the 75th Jubilee Year Celebrations which include programs at St. Joseph's Park Hall in Joliet, the Slovenian Heritage Museum Library & Home Office in Joliet and the Dinner Reception at the Slovenian Cultural Center in Lemont; and

WHEREAS, prominent guests from Slovenia will join the celebration including the Oktet Lesna and Bostjan Zanoskar; THEREFORE, I, George H. Ryan, Governor of the State of Illinois, proclaim March 8–9, 2002, as SLOVE-NIAN WOMEN'S UNION DAYS in Illinois. Stories of their lifetimes...

A TRIBUTE TO OUR MEMBERS FROM THEIR SWU SISTERS



Adrienne and Don Miklich

Br. 34, Soudan, MN

Adrienne Theresa Miklich

Adrienne has been honored by Br. 34 as their chosen Member of the Year for 2002.

Adrienne has always been friendly in nature and loves socializing, hostessing, entertaining people, not only at her home, but at community and lodge functions. She is one who has always been there to lend a helping hand and is a great support person for her fellow man. Very quick witted, she enjoys traveling, visiting her children and grandchildren, (all together she and Don have 6 children and 11 grandchildren) and spends time gardening, cooking and being with the family. She is always on the go and appreciates the arts and finer things in life.

She is attractive and is health and exercise conscious so you know her physical appearance is always neat and fashionable. Her brown eyes sparkle and oftentimes there's a snappy remark or joke coming from her joyful nature. She loves to talk and express her views.

She is married to Don Miklich, a radio personality with his own Polka Show on WELY for 25 years. They met when Adrienne was a widow of 6 years. Their life is always filled with excitement and she works hard at whatever she is doing, helping people, and living a busy life. She says she feels humble to be selected because to her, Motherhood plays a vital role in inspiring and influencing the lives of all those she touches.

(Thanks to Theresa Berg and Frana Dolenshak-Cherico for the above information.)



Branch 10, Cleveland, Ohio

Stephanie Dagg

Stephanie Dagg, daughter of Stephanie and Clarence Segulin, was born on March 26th, 1943. This made grandparents, Joseph and Steffie Koncilija very happy because it fell on Easter Sunday that year.

Stephanie graduated from St. Mary's grammar school in Collinwood and then from Kirk Junior High in East Cleveland. She married William E. Dagg, a sailor of the U.S. Navy. They had a daughter born in the U.S. Navy Hospital in 1964 – the only mother to have a baby at this hospital! They raised a family of five children and Stephanie says her present job is helping to take care of her 11 grandchildren!

She thanks the members of Br. 10 for honoring her this year. It made her very happy and appreciative of all the good friends she has there.

"Reaching Up and Beyond" Each One – Reach One

To follow-up on the goodwill and camaraderie generated from the 75th Anniversary Jubilej we have launched our 2002 membership campaign well in advance of previous years. The membership committee is pleased to announce over \$100.00 in gift certificates and merchandise has been collected for the top five recruiters in this year's campaign! We wish to thank the following supporters:

DRB Imports, Lemont, IL

(Slovenian wine) The Kobe House Bakery, Sugar Creek, MO (mail-order potica, gift certificate) Mericha's Restaurant, Joliet, IL (gift certificate) Santa Papers by Hunter, Inc., Fairview Park, OH (St. Nicholas Day cookie kits) Seasonal Creations, LaSalle, IL (embroidered dish towels with Slovenian motif) Smolich Brothers Homemade Sausage, Joliet, IL (gift certificate) Syl's Restaurant, Joliet, IL (gift certificate)

There are many ways to win!"

*The top three individual recruiters. *The branch that brings in the most new members.

*The branch that increases its numbers the most with new members.

*We are tallying new members brought in January 1 to December 31, 2002.

Please help us to preserve and promote the legacy of our heritage. Here are some simple ways we can all can help with the 2002 membership drive:

• Tell at least one person a day about the S.W.U.A. Many times we have opportunities but say nothing, we need to remember to promote the S.W.U.A. a little bit every day!

 Wear a Slovenian t-shirt to the mall, airport, health club or community event.

• Utilize "Silent Salesmen." Try to display flyers, posters, and calling cards at public locations: employee lounges, bank lobbies, churches, laundromats, post offices, town and city halls, health clubs, libraries, schools and universities, bars, barberships, beauty salons, etc.

• Request copies of the membership brochure from the home office or xerox copies of the membership application (back page of the May/June issue of ZARJA-The Dawn) and distribute to family, friends and other prospective members in your community.

 Donate your extra copies of ZARJA-The Dawn to your local library.



E AND D UP

B

• Sell the S.W.U.A. cookbooks (with a membership brochure tucked inside) at a community event, family reunion or branch picnic.

• Hold a "Membership Madness Party" – invite prospective members and show the S.W.U.A. promo video, serve Slovenian appetizers, display Slovenian family keepsakes or souvenirs and distribute those membership brochures!

Member benefits include:

• The bi-monthly publication "ZARJA-The Dawn."

• The free monthly online newsletter "The New Neighborhood."

· Local branches and events across the country.

• *S.W.U.A. Heritage Museum in Joliet, IL with exhibits, library and merchandise.

• Scholarship opportunities for high school seniors and adult continuing education students of any age. Best of all, the opportunity to connect with others of Slovenian descent!

Please share your membership recruitment ideas with us – together we can do so much! Write, e-mail or phone your ideas to Jonita Ruth at the home office.

2002 Membership Committee

Charlotte Laurich, Branch 38, Chisholm, MN Jonita Ruth, Branch 20, Joliet, IL Lynn Zalokar, Branch 93, New York City, NY

National Secretary, Bonnie Pohar:

REACHING ABOVE AND BEYOND



Hello again:

"REACHING" is the new buzz word at SWUA. We are REACHING new destinations, REACHING the top with our new membership campaign, REACHING Slovenia with another successful trip planned and most importantly we are REACHING you and it's starting to show! I can hear it when I read your letters and emails that keep pouring in. I also see it in the ZARJA Branch reports, especially the last issue where branch after branch gave raving reviews on the Jubilej – even if they were unable to attend. That is good news and it makes all the hard work we've been doing seem worth it. We ARE making a difference out there and I am proud to be a part of this successful team. The enthusiasm out there is getting quite contagious.

Together we can make things happen and together we can REACH above and beyond!

Now I realize not everyone is lucky enough to live near a branch but it's ok, you can still be active in other ways. There are many of us who correspond on issues regarding anything Slovenian on a daily basis and its rather fun. If you are on the internet please drop me a line and I can get you more involved. It can be very rewarding. I have learned so much more about my heritage than I ever knew. And so many things I thought were normal while growing up I am now learning it had to do with my Slovenian Heritage. For example, I never realized how special it was that my family makes sausage, flancati and potica for all big holidays. I thought every family did that.

Your membership with SWUA is all you make it to be. I encourage each one of you to take a step forward and join your National Officers as we REACH ABOVE AND BEYOND!

It's time to take the SWUA challenge – EACH ONE, REACH ONE...

If you are asking what you can do the answer is simple – many things. "Ask not what SWUA can do for you, but what you can do for SWUA." You can start by telling everyone you know about it. We have a wonderful membership campaign going on with excellent prizes. Sometimes it takes that personal touch of asking someone to join. Don't assume they are not interested, they may be waiting for the invitation OR the right time in their life. You can also try new ideas for meetings! Take a look at our Mission Statement and center your meetings around that. I guarantee they will be a success. Our members are with us because they want to feel connected to their heritage. Hosting a bingo party

and calling "O 72" will not get the younger members there but maybe having a bingo party and calling out the word "Dober Dan" might. Do you get my drift here? Be a little more creative with your meetings. Maybe your members like to play Bingo and that is fine, but bring in the heritage side of things. THIS is what our younger members want. I know I say this many times and I will continue to say it, BUT everyone will make time for something they want to do. I am a very busy person but I make it all work. By the way, I now have to add that I coach two softball teams. Can you imagine that on top of everything else? But I do just fine because I enjoy it and I am getting something out of it. So keep this in mind when planning your next meeting.

Speaking of meeting, a great meeting idea would be to purchase the new videos from the home office to show at your meeting. We have one of the Jubilej and our new pride and enjoyment "Come look through my eyes." I am sure your members will enjoy it.

Other ways you can help would be to become a volunteer. A volunteer doesn't just have to live in Joliet near our Museum. We can take a volunteer living in Alaska. There is always some place where help is needed. We are also looking for a Heritage Director and a new ZARJA Editor as Corinne Leskovar will be retiring after 50 years of excellent service. The list of helping is endless. Anyone interested please drop me a line. I look forward to hearing from you.

On a final note be sure to read more about our Heritage Tour to Slovenia this year. I am sure it is going to be a wonderful time. Until next issue...

Bonnie Pohar Prokup National Secretary SWUA 3119 Carrie Street, Peru, IL 61354, WPROKUP©aol.com

Attention Members!

Interested in a challenging and rewarding position? The National Board is in the selection process for a Heritage Director for our Heritage Museum in Joliet, Illinois as well as Editor for our bimonthly publication, ZARJA-The Dawn. These positions do not require you to live in Joliet to apply. We are looking for individuals dedicated to keeping our Slovenian traditions and heritage as a part of our lives.

Contact National President Kathleen Dorchak for more information at (330) 686–1336 or kdorchak@neo.rr.com. Resumes can be sent to her at 3088 Markle Drive, Silver Lake, OH 44224.

Please respond soon so your resume can be reviewed along with those already received.

Bonnie:

SLOVENIA-A TRIP OF A LIFETIME

Part two:

January 22, 2002 was an exciting day for me. I was finally fulfilling a promise that I made to my great aunt Jennie by taking her to Slovenia. (Just to back up here we were originally leaving on 9/12/01 and unfortunately had to cancel.)

The day in Illinois was a beautiful sunny day and the drive to the airport was filled with all types of questions. What will it be like? Will we be able to understand Jennie's brother who doesn't speak English? Will it be fun? But most of all, it was filled with excitement. We could not wait to get there. Traveling with me were my great aunt Jennie who was 86 years old, my dad's sisters, Jean Ficek and Mary Ann Brunner and SWUA President, Kathy Dorchak. We all met at O'Hare Airport where we started our journey across the ocean. I was fortunate enough to have one of those lovely spacious seats up in the first class while the other four sprawled out in coach class. I was taking advantage of my benefits of working for the airline but kept feeling lonely and went in back often to join the others. Everyone had a hard time sleeping on the plane as we were excited to get there. The flight over was easy with a quick connection through Frankfurt and before we knew it we were passing over the beautiful alps between Austria and Slovenia and beginning our descent. We could not get over the beauty in all of this. Landing in Ljubljana airport is perhaps one of my favorite scenic descents of all time.

Stepping off that airplane was the beginning of many emotional feelings. I was the first one off so that I could video tape aunt Jennie walking down those steps and entering the country that her parents left behind. I believe the first tears started there. I can only imagine what she was feeling. We walked into the baggage area and the first thing we heard was an accordion playing. We learned this was a surprise for our group compliments of Kompas Travel Agency. I bet all of the locals were wondering who the VIPs were and that is exactly how we were treated from that moment on - VIPs! We had a group of four musicians singing and playing for us as we arrived in the designated area. They offered us the traditional bread for greeting and gave each of us a carnation which bloomed the entire time we were there. We sang along with them all the songs we knew and even danced. What a way to start our trip of a lifetime!

Kompas Travel agency reps Brane Vidmar and Mojca Sosteric were on hand to meet and greet us. They drove us to our hotel and before we knew it Brane walked us over to the moment we've all been waiting for – the reunion of a brother and a sister. Our hotel was not even a $\frac{1}{4}$ block away – it was right there. We could not have asked for anything better.

To give you a little background here, aunt Jennie was my grandmother's sister. My grandmother and three brothers (uncle Ivan still living) were born in Slovenia and my aunt Jennie was born later in America. When my great grandparents came to the U.S. they left behind the two oldest boys. Louis who is now deceased and Ivan who is 94 and living in Ljubljana. They only brought my grandmother and her brother (both deceased). It seems odd that parents would do this but apparently it happened quite often. The children would remain behind with grandparents and perhaps would go to America at a later date. In this case neither of the two boys made it over as planned. When my uncle Ivan was around 9 years old his grandparents passed away and he went to live with an aunt who also died later on. Just when he thought he was coming to the U.S., WWI broke out and he was in the war. We learned a lot about my uncle and what he lived with all those years. We know he grew up with love or he would not be the wonderful man he is but we also know he grew up with a hard life. Just when things were starting to look good and he was married with a beautiful house and five children WWII broke out. Like many of the farmers in their area they were given 10 minutes to gather their belongings and load a train for a concentration camp. My uncle lived in a working camp with his five children and wife. He survived the war only to come home to see the roof missing from his home along with all the furnishings. So my uncle Ivan started over. Life after that in Slovenia was different but that did not stop my uncle from enjoying his days. I believe that is the secret to his longevity. He lives for the day and does not look back. What a wonderful example he is!



Bonnie, Jean, Ivan, Brane, Jennie and Maryann

My uncle remembered me from my earlier trip and that was the trip that got these two siblings, Ivan and Jennie corresponding via email. He also remembered my aunt Jean who was there two other times. For my aunt Maryann it was the hardest because he immediately reminded her of her mother who passed away 17 years earlier. And he really did look like my grandmother and whistled just like her whenever he had nothing else to say or do. What a trait to be running through both of them. We noticed a lot of that going on, too. Even the way he used his hands for expressions were just like my dad's. There was no mistaking he belonged to our family.

Dinner that evening was the first of many awesome dishes. Each day was better and better for food. I was very surprised that I did not gain any weight because the helpings were plenty and the food was to die for. We had many toasts to good health, etc. and we started to get to know our uncle better. Already after that first night we all knew saying goodbye was going to be very rough. We wanted to take him with us. The saying all week was that we were bringing him home as our souvenir of Slovenia.

SEVEN SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS FOR 2002!

The Slovenian Women's Union Scholarship Committee is pleased to present seven scholarship winners with \$6,000 in award money granted this year. We thank the Scholarship Committee members most sincerely for their work and salute the extraordinary young scholars for their academic proficiency.

The Committee:

Dr. Margaret Francel, Gail Milton, Dr. Mary Prisland, Mildred Pucel, Dr. Lisa Vidergar Lucas, Therese Mlakar Koci Mary Turvey, Director



Jacquelyn Ravnikar

THE ROSE MARIE PRINC AWARD

Jacquelyn M. Ravnikar, 1507 71st Avenue North, Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, daughter of Paul and Mary Ravnikar and a 17 year member of Branch 34 is the recipient of this year's Rose Marie Princ Award. Jacquelyn's great grandmother Agnes Tekautz, 91 years of age, continues to serve as a mentor for Branch 34. Jacquelyn has been interested in forensics, theater, and the biological science for number of years. During her freshman year she served as a Girls' Science and Math Retreat Counselor, working with 50 fifth grade girls. She has done research on the blow fly organism development as a method of determining time of death, receiving a number of awards for her work. Spare time is filled with volunteering at the local nursing home. Jackie has learned American Sign Language and interprets the Mass for an eight year old deaf girl of the community, along with teaching First Communion religion classes weekly and being a nanny. Jackie is a member of the HOSEA, National Honor Society and the ASL Club. This fall Jackie will be attending St. Mary's University, Winona, Minnesota, majoring in Biology and Education.

Congratulations, Jacquelyn, on your fine scholastic and community work!

JOSEPH PRINC AWARD



Christina Skalko

Christina Marie Skalko, 142 Larson Road, Esko, Minnesota, daughter of John and Christine Skalko and a member of Branch 34 for 18 years was selected to receive the Joseph Princ Award. Christina's great grandparents and paternal grandmother emigrated from Slovenia to America and through her grandmother, Victoria Bobence, former National President of the SWU, Christina has learned of Slovenian customs and traditions.

Throughout these last four years of high school Christina has maintained an A average. She is a member of the National Honor Society, and CHILL (Choosing Healthy Intelligent Lasting Lifestyles), a saxophonist in the band, the Knowledge Bowl, Mock Trial, math and swimming teams. She volunteers at the local nursing home and plays the saxophone at Masses in her church.

In September Christina will be entering the Civil Engineering program at Michigan Technological University in Houghton, Michigan.

Wishing you all of the best, Christina - hope you enjoy busy, long winters!

FRANCES BARMAN AWARD

Charles Perko, 27 Dartmouth Pueblo, Colorado, son of Ursula and Charles Perko and a member of Branch 3 for 17 years has received the Frances Barman Award of 2002–2003. His mother, Ursula, a brother and sisters, as well as his maternal and paternal grandmothers are all members of Branch 3. Charles is a member of a Slovenian church of Pueblo which keeps him close and involved in his ethnic roots. This past year Chuck has been the editor of his school's newspaper, and enrolled in an Honors Philosophy class. He has been instrumental in keeping the speech and debate team together, helping students prepare presentations and instructing beginning students in cross-examination. Chuck has been



Charles Perko



Gianna Rossi



Claire Blakeley

elected to the National Honor Society, and received the following:

Awards: Most Valuable EPYCS Student, National Forensic League Degree Distinction, Outstanding Honors Functions Student, Knowledge Bowl State Qualifier, Student Election Judge and a score of "5" on the AP Psychology Test, Community involvement is with the Wayside Cross Gospel. Mission: prepare evening meals for the homeless and visiting with them, Sertoma Club: helping set up and clean up a fireworks show, and also District 60 Summer Musicals: working on set construction, prop design and lighting, preparing for Broadway like productions, since being in the seventh grade. For the past four years he has worked as a computer troubleshooter and repairman at the Central High School Library.

Charles is enrolled at the Colorado School of Mines where he will major in Chemistry and Physics.

Best wishes, Chuck, in your new endeavors!

ANNA ROSE SMOLICH AWARD

Gianna Rossi, 1204 120th Street, Whiting, Indiana, daughter of Theresa Rossi and 6 year member of Branch 16 has received the Anna Rose Smolich Award for 2002–2003. Her great grandmother, Mary Novak was a charter member of Branch 16 and her grandmother, Dorothy Rossi and her mother, Theresa are all active members. Gianna has maintained a 4.210 GPA and higher since her freshmen year. She has been serving as Vice President of the Booster Club, the Spanish Club, and the Fine Arts Academic Team. Her athletic interests included junior varsity and varsity volleyball, basketball and varsity softball. Last season she was a starting center fielder with a 100 percent fielding average. Gianna is a section leader for the St. John the Baptist Youth Choir and also with the church youth group performed the Passion of Jesus during Easter Week. Gianna has been accepted into Pre-Veterinary School at Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana.

Many good wishes to Gianna as she pursues her lifetime goals.

SWU NATIONAL CULTURAL AWARD

Claire Blakeley, 6581 Newhouse Court, Mentor, Ohio, daughter of Kevin and Mary Ann Blakeley and an 18 year member of Branch 14 has been chosen to receive the SWU National Cultural Award. Claire has been involved with the SWU through her great grandmothers, Frances Globokar and Margaret Tomazin, her grandmother, Mitzi Globokar and mother, Mary Ann Blakeley. Claire has learned much from her "melting pot" immigrant ancestors of Slovenian culture, as they built families, houses, businesses and communities in Northeast Ohio. At school Claire was the Secretary and President of the Student Council and a DARE essay contest winner. She enjoyed volleyball, basketball, safety patrol and was the first girl to serve on the altar at St. Christine's Church. She ran Cross-Country, volunteered at the Lake Hospital kitchen, sings in the St. Christine choir where she has served as a soloist and sang the National Anthem at high school sporting events. Claire's long time interest is in performing Musical Theater. She danced with the Kres Slovenian Dance youth dancers. Her colorful narodna noša was a favorite costume; she loved the way her full skirt circled about her while she twirled. Claire has studied voice with Shari Pachinger, Lakeland Community College and performed many well known roles at the college - a few of which are "Fiddler on the Roof" - soloist, Beggar, "The Crucible" - Merry Lewis, "The King and I" - Royal Wife, "Wizard of Oz" -Ozonian, Enchanted Tree, Poppie, Jitterbug, Munchkin and "Music Man" -Marian Parvo.

Claire will begin studying Musical Theatre this September at Ashland University.

May Claire give pleasure to many as she continues to develop her performing talents!



Debbie Pohar



Ann Mattson

CONTINUING EDUCATION AWARD

Debbie Pohar, 2253 Crosat Street, LaSalle, Illinois, daughter of John and Barb Pohar and 10 year member of Branch 24 has made a major contribution to the Slovenian Women's Union. She wrote the new, current computer system of financial record keeping that is being used by her sister, Bonnie Prokup, our National Secretary. Beginning as a youngster, Debbie has had a life long interest in Slovenian ways, thanks to her grandmother. Debbie received her B.S. degree at Western Illinois University, Macomb, Illinois in 1984 and since then has functioned as a Medical Technologist in many of it's different aspects – serving as a supervisor of the Immunochemistry Department, Coordinator of Laboratory, Information System, and Director of the Laboratory, all at Maricopa Medical Center in Phoenix, Arizona. Debbie also won employed as a Medical Technologist at Perry Memorial Hospital, Princeton, Illinois and served as the Administrative Assistant of John Pohar and Sons, Inc. of LaSalle, Illinois. Currently she is the owner of Liqui-Green of Illinois Valley at LaSalle, Illinois.

Debbie will begin a new career this fall when she enters a Horticulture curriculum at Illinois Valley Community College.

Congratulations on your fine achievements to date Debbie, and best wishes in your new venture!

CONTINUING EDUCATION AWARD

Ann Mattson, 904 Margaret Street, Iron Mountain, Michigan, daughter of Dan and Mary Turvey, has been a 31-year member of Branch 1 and is also the great granddaughter of Marie and John Prisland, of whom she states "As I think back to those conversations with great grandmother (Marie) as an adult I am struck by what a strong, determined woman she was, and that is what I strive to be." Ann has been of immense help to the SWU Scholarship Program and the "Ask Tončka" project by her typing and handling of postal mailings. Ann attended Northern Michigan University's two year business program, then married and put her career on hold to raise two children. Currently she holds a Vice President position at the Iron Mountain's P.T.O. and is a member of a local support group for parents of children with disabilities, and a former Girl Scout leader. Last spring she graduated from Michigan's Partners in Policymaking, a year long program where advocacy skills and working with community and state officials is studied. Given a child with a disability means spending a great deal of time in clinics, hospitals, and doctor's offices. She has discovered what a positive difference a good nurse can make to the patient and his or her family.

Ann will continue her nursing classes in the fall of 2002 at Bay De Noc Community College, Escanaba, Michigan.

Ann, may your new career bring happiness to you and comfort to those you serve!

SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS April and May, 2002

\$5.00 donation: SWU Branch 23, Ely, MN (+Ann Markovich)

\$10.00 donation: Bill Slogar (+ Mary Bachar), Bill Slogar (+ Ann Markovich)

\$34.00 donation: Nancy Carol Malone – Scholarship Program

\$50.00 donation: Julie Zgonc (Frances Hollis)

Thank you to each and every one of you who has donated to the SWU Scholarship Program, and an especially huge thank you to the donors of this year's scholarships. For information on the program or to send a much appreciated donation, write: Mary H. Turvey, Director, SWU Scholarship Program, 52 Oakridge Drive, Marquette, Michigan 49855, e-mail: MTurvey@aol.com.

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the National Officers of the Slovenian Women's Union of America, will be guided by our Constitution, Bylaws, and Regulations, and with God's help, pledge to:

* Unite American-Slovenian women and their families

* Enhance the presence of the Slovenian community in America

* Inspire our youth in spiritual and moral values

* Promote the legacy of our heritage

We ask the members to join us in the success of our mission.

SWU SCHOLARSHIP GRADUATE IN CONTINUING EDUCATION

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Congratulations to Janice Ruth Singletary on her recent graduation from Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa. Janice graduated with a master's degree in Early Childhood education.

She earned her undergraduate degree at Illinois State and is a graduate of St. Joseph's grammar and St. Francis high school in Joliet. Her mom, Jonita Ruth is our National Treasurer.

Janice was awarded a Continuing Education Scholarship last year from the SWU.

It's always so rewarding to hear from our scholars in whom we have much pride, and place lots of hopes. And, say lots of prayers.

Janice and her husband, George are the parents of four, seen on the photo, from left, Hayley Rose, Kyle Joseph, Janice, Hannah Ruth and Kelsey Beth. Hayley and Hannah are twins. They are all members of Br. 20.

It's a wonderful world for families of our SWU Scholars!

Gacnik, Patricia A (3)

DONATIONS TO THE GENERAL FUND

Thank you for your generosity

General

Donor

Klemencic, Frances L (10) Allen Veronica (7) Ancel, Mariene (20) Androjna, Francka (14) Anzelc, Mary (20) Arko, Josephine (50) Augustine, Jill Caldwell (103) Augustine, Paige E (103) Backus, Edith (102) Bartlett, Denise P (43) Bartol, Sabina (16) Behrman, Helene (16) Bogatich, Frances (30) Bogolin, Sophie (2) Bowers, Marion (20) *honor of Bonnie Prokup Braeckel, Joseph (71) Brdek, Anne (54) Brown, Deborah (20) Bruch, Barbara (89) Buol, Genevieve (2) Burger, Antonia (93) Carlson, Elizabeth M (35) Carlson, Dorothy T. (28) Cesnik, James (103) Coffelt, Mary (43) Cole, Denise (79) Crombine, Louise (30) Demshar, Rosemary (100) Derlinga, Judy (20) Dincau, Dolores C (33) Doles, Anne (50) Dovnik, Danielle E (43) Dragavon, Justine (34) Dus, Ann (14) Eggen, Lillian (30) Ehnat, Mary Therese (16) Erjavec, Olga (20) Erjavec, Ronald (20) Farrell, Sandra (13) Fedran, Theresa C (12) Ferguson, Leslie (20) Fitzsimmons, Bernadette K (103) Fitzsimmons, Juliana (103) Fitzsimmons, Thomas John (103) Fitzsimmons, Matthew Erik (103) Fraid, Elizabeth M (102) Friesenhahn, Barbara (5)

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Slovenski otroci in mladina

Y.Y.Y.Y.Y.Y.

Parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles!

My name is Suzana and I am a stay-at-home-mom with two little boys. I try to work in my profession, that is web and graphic designing, programming and the same time I want to give my boys a big taste (or, how we would say it at home) "VELIKO POGAČO" of Slovenian culture. At the same time I can bring all of that to your kids, too. Parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles -- please show this page and pass along to children/teens of Slovenian descent. Please write me or e-mail me and let me know how you keep the Slovenian heritage alive with the young people in your families, too.

Slovenian Stories:

DRAVA, SAVA in SOČA (Koroška pripovedka, zapisal Josip Levičnik)

Drava, Sava in Soča so sestre. Nekoč so se zmenile, katera bo prihodnji dan prva pritekla v morje.

Zvečer sta Sava in Soča zaspali, Drava pa se je potuhnila in kmalu začela tiho teči naprej.

Ko se je Sava zjutraj prebudila, je opazila, da se Drava že vali proti morju. Zato se je tudi sama spustila v jezen tek.

Nazadnje se je zbudila tudi Soča. Ko je videla, da sta jo sestri ukanili, je na nasprotni strani s strašno močjo predrla gorske stene, se srdito zagnala skozi skalne soteske in prva pritekla do morja.

THE DRAVA, THE SAVA AND THE SOČA RIVERS (A Carinthian Folk Tale, written by Josip Levičnik)

The Drava, Sava and Soča are sister rivers. One day they were talking about which one of them should be the first one to flow into the sea.

As the night came, the Drava waited until her sisters fell asleep. Then it quietly continued to wind its way to the sea. In the morning, the Sava woke up and noticed that the Drava was already pushing towards the sea. The Sava angrily rushed after her sister.

Finally, the Soča woke up and realized that both sisters tricked it. The Soča broke through a barrier of mountains in a towering rage. With unstoppable force it rushed down mountain valleys and was the first one to reach the sea!

EXPLANATIONS:

The Drava, the Sava and the Soča rivers are Slovenian rivers but they are not the only ones. If you look on the map you will find also Krka, Kolpa, Savinja and many others. Which ones can you find there on the map? Sava is the longest and flows from the Julijske Alpe all the way to Croatia and even further. Look in to the map and find out through how many countries Sava flows? Drava passes the city of Maribor and the Soča is the most beautiful. It also starts in the Julijske Alpe and goes across to Italy, directly into the Adriatic Sea.



SUZANA ZUPANCIC-BRATHWAITE 482 Montgomery St., 2B Brooklyn, NY 11225 E-mail: Suzi@stmdesigning.com

SLOVENIA ON-LINE

Did you ever think about Studying in Slovenia?

You can find out about studying in Slovenia at http:// www.ljudmila.org/srce/ ...The Student Resource Center SRCE gathers and passes on the information on higher education possibilities worldwide. They collect information for high school students, undergraduate and postgraduate students or other persons wishing to study abroad.

Their web pages will lead you to the resources about study in Slovenia, different European countries, the United States and other regions of the world. There, you will find links to foreign universities, academic departments, scholarships, admission tests, summer schools, language courses, internships, job opportunities, voluntary work, etc. If you have any more questions, please e-mail me or write to me.

Slovenski brskalniki/Slovenian search engines:

http://www.matkurja.com/eng/... this one is most used by Slovenians, you will find all information about Slovenian, Slovenians, tourism, education, etc.

http://www.najdi.si/...Just in Slovene language, information from matkurja

http://www.slowwwenia.com/ ... also in English

Genealogy and Heraldry in Slovenia:

http://genealogy.ijp.si/ ...all information which you can find on-line about your roots in Slovenia from

- · References Search for Names
- · General Reference Help
- Families
- · Heraldry
- Vexillology

http://genealogy.ijp.si/Kraji/ ...Find Slovenian places on the map

Contact me:

If you have any questions, ideas, please e-mail me or write.

If you need any web and graphic designing or programming, please visit my web site at http://www.stmdesigning.com or e-mail me at stmdesigning@stmdesigning.com

Lynn Zalokar

The New Neighborhood Online Comments

Special Request

The online newsletter is a success, but I am losing quite a few people each month due to invalid e-mails. This is not unusual as people change e-mail addresses and internet service providers quite often. However, many are not contacting me with their new e-mail addresses!

Here is how each branch can help. Please form a committee and call every member of your branch to collect e-mail addresses. This will get more people on the newsletter, plus each branch will see how many members are on e-mail. You might be able to do more communication via e-mail which saves time and money!

It's also a way to reach out and communicate with your members – you might get some interesting feedback from the phone calls. Lets see which branch is the most "wired!"

Jubilej

It was wonderful to put faces with names and meet members from all over the country. Many SWUA onliners did introduce themselves to me as I requested in the March online newsletter. New member Kara Patterson made the trip down from Oshkosh, Wisconsin with her husband Josh. Lisa Bergant Koi came (via Atlanta then Cleveland) with her mom Diane Bergant and sister Suzanne Bergant Martin both from Ohio. (see photos page 30) It was easy to see that Josephine Poder of Pueblo, CO is not shy, makes friends easily and was having a great time! She came with her



Lynn, her dad, Bill, Christine (13-1/2), mom Marilyn and Michael $(11^{1/2})$

daughter Jan Doran of Washington State. I got to meet the author of "Pepca's Struggle" (a book I recently read) – Josephine Janezic of Milwaukee, WI. My mom and dad drove out that cold, windy day from Tinley Park, IL with my niece and nephew (Christine $13^{1/2}$, Mike $11^{1/2}$). I put the kids in the front row for the Slovenia travel lecture and video so they would see that Slovenia is much more than potica and Slovenian sausage!

Congratulations to Reza, her committee and all the others that helped put on this memorable event.

Slovenia Travels

I had the opportunity to make a quick trip to Slovenia in early May. My first and only travel to Slovenia was in 1988 so I barely remembered anything. I stayed in Ljubljana and immediately noticed three things. There were lots of people...on bikes, in the cafes and eating gelato or ice cream. My most memorable day was spent with Francka and Tone Gortnar (Francka is the cousin of SWUA member Marge Church). They showed me their "weekender" house in Vrhpolje; we went to Celje, Logarska Dolina and Kamnik - all in one day. This energetic duo also wanted to cross over the Austrian border to show me views of Slovenia from afar, but it was not an international crossing point so I was not allowed over. The joke was that I got five meters into Austria (to get the car turned around)! Tone did an incredible amount of driving and I wish I could have helped, but their car was a stick shift! Did I mention that Tone is 80 years old? Tone is also a Dachau survivor. I learned a lot about his experiences that day with Francka translating back and forth (he only speaks German and Slovenian). We stopped



Francka, Lynn, Tone in Celje at Hotel Turška Mačka

off at an association where he volunteers (for Dachau survivors in Slovenia) and I was given a hardcover book "Dachau" by Hardvik Pirnovar. The book has some horribly graphic photos, but it's important that "man's inhumanity to man" is documented. With time, it's easy for people to disbelieve that these kinds of things ever happened. The book is entirely in Slovenian so I will donate it to the SWUA museum.

Slovenia is very green (all shades – dark green, light green, kelly green) and truly "the green piece of Europe". Everyone seems more attune to nature too.

You can find things some of us only see in our Slovenian-American cookbooks (potica, gibinica, krofi and the incredible krem rezina/krem šnita) at stands, bakeries and grocery stores. A krof at 100 tolars equaled 40 cents! I noticed that – hot chocolate, krofi and apple juice in Ljubljana were gently sweet and that in the states things are overly sweet. Portions are also appropriate – a small is really a small!

As I looked at the little wooden souvenirs sold in the open air market in Ljubljana I remembered that I have my own rather large souvenir of Slovenia in my kitchen. When I moved to New Jersey in 1993 I purchased a little dinette set. I was very surprised to find "Made in Slovenia, Logatec" stamped on the bottom!

Although many people speak English it is helpful to know a little Slovenian. I hope that those traveling with the SWUA this fall, or planning a trip anytime soon, will find our new language series helpful! Marjana's Language Corner debuts in this issue. (see page 14.)

LET'S TRAVEL, AGAIN !!!



Back to Our Heritage Tour 2002 October 4–19, 2002

Because so many of you asked to have another trip to Slovenia arranged SOON, the travel agency, Kollander, from Cleveland, was asked to put together another interesting 15-day Tour for us this fall.

Here are a few of the highlights of the 2002 Tour:

BAVARIA, GERMANY: This is the time for Oktoberfest, the entertaining autumn seasonal festival! After arrival in Munich, the group heads directly to the city center that is all decked out for its many guests from all over the world! We'll have specially prepared food: sausage and roasted chicken; and for entertainment, amusement parks, the quaint city sights and German brass bands!

SALZBURG, AUSTRIA: Beautiful city of historic architecture, music and culture. Let's see where Mozart was born and lived. No place like it for museums, castles and of course, pastry shops!

CELOVEC, AUSTRIA: where the Slovenian nation was born, the "cradle" of Slovenian people is just a few miles from the city (it is **Klagenfurt** in Slovenian) at the field called "Gosposvetsko polje". The original stone throne is the Duke's "seat" from this oldest form of democracy where the Slovenian peasants received their leader and his pledge for justice and equality. Few tours include this highlight of our ancient heritage, but we will.

LAKE BLED, SLOVENIA: The first place we visit in Slovenia is its most beautiful attraction, Lake Bled, with its jewel-setting. Can you imagine us having lunch at the Castle of Bled, far above the Lake, and surrounded by the Julian Alps? Bled has a certain unforgettable unique charm.

MARIBOR: The day is filled with sights and experiences, motoring through the northern part of Slovenia toward Maribor. We visit quaint Kamnik, Logarska Dolina, museums and churches along the way.

At Maribor, Slovenia's second largest city, we are into the Stajerska region, from where we radiate out to nearby settings at Ptuj, the wine capital, Ormoz, and the crystal capital, Rogaska Slatina. Our new, modern Hotel Habakuk has a fantastic indoor pool with waterfalls and swirling thermal baths.

POTOROŽ: Slovenia's seaside resort area is exciting and interesting because of the mix of cultures here. The architecture is Venetian, food is a combination of Slovenian, Italian and Croatian. Piran and Portoroz are so close and we are able to walk along the shore between these two cities. Excellent fish and seafood here.

LJUBLJANA: At the "Art deco" Hotel Union we are at the center of Slovenia's capital city which opens its hospitality to us. Sightseeing, dining and exciting events in Ljubljana, the City of Love (ljubljena – beloved). We get our fill of shopping, too.

Did we tell you that all the hotels are Superior, 4 and 5 star, and all the food service is Outstanding with a capital O, and all the programs and visits are managed professionally by excellent Kompas guide, Brane Vidmar, with the best drivers and buses available and that you'll learn a lot about this country of our ancestry from Brane and others?

If you can't immediately decide about this trip, call Kathleen Dorchak, SWU Nat'l. President for further details and whatever you need to know. Everyone who has been on our SWU trips love them and recommend them to others! This might be your turn! Not only arrangements but COSTS are the best value for the dollar! Now, remember, there's no time to waste!



Tour package cost \$2,795

per person from Philadelphia based on double occupancy

From Cleveland add \$50.00 Airfare available from most cities

Call Kollander for the best price from your city. Single room supplement \$325 Taxes not included (approx. \$130 per person)

If you don't know where to go for Potica, Smoked Sausage, etc., especially for the holidays, consider the prize donors in our membership campaign who all accept mail orders for their Slovenian foods.

MAKE RESERVATIONS TODAY!

For further information, immediately contact National President of SWU, Kathleen Dorchak, 3088 Markle Dr., Silver Lake, OH 44224, Call (330) 686–1336, Fax: (330) 688–6203 or Email: Kdorchak@neo.rr.com. This proposal is dependent on minimum of 25 passengers. Travel arrangements by Kollander Travel (800) 800–5981, www.kollander-travel.com.

Name:		
Address:		
Telephone:	E-Mail:	

Bonnie:

TRIP TO SLOVENIA

If any of you have ever dreamed of going to Slovenia – don't wait any longer. Now is a time to make that dream come true. Slovenia is truly a precious gem that is hiding for the time being from tourism. It's beauty is unlike any other country in Europe and believe me I've seen plenty. Having worked for the airlines for the past 17 yeas I've been to Europe well over 50 times and to over 20 countries. Slovenia is truly my favorite. I encourage you to see it now before places like McDonald's change the landscape forever. This year's trip looks very exciting. It starts off at Oktoberfest. How much better can that be? For those of you who have never been to this before it is a fantastic time. Oompa bands galore! And tasty beer, too! Please be sure to look at the article on the trip in this ZARJA or request a copy of the itinerary from Kathy Dorchak.



Bonnie, Kathy and friends recently visited one of Slovenia's famous wine cellars and in this photo and they raise their glasses in a toast to you all! Come to Slovenia this fall and see for yourself all that Slovenia can offer! Left to right: Bonnie Prokup (Br. 24), Jean Ficek (Br. 24), Brane Vidmar, our excellent tour guide, Kathy Dorchak (Br. 47) and Mary Ann Brunner (Br. 24)



Sylvia Spretnjak, Dolores Franko, Gladys Buck and Corinne Leskovar at the top of Mt. Vogel, with the magnificent view of Mt. Triglav in the background. "We have so many memories of the beautiful trip – this is one of them!" (Photo from 10–01, D. Franko).

Another "best place" in Slovenia was our visit to Lake Bled. It was just as we anticipated it to be. We grew up in South Chicago, Illinois, and a yearly pilgrimage to a Franciscan Monastery in Lemont, Illinois, was a part of our Summer. On the grounds of this monastery, there is a circular pond with a miniature church (Bled) in the center. A rowboat ride on that pond was a big part of our day. But now, it was great seeing the real thing after all these years. Lake Bled is a part of our Slovenian childhood!

> SYLVIA SPRETNJAK and DOLORES (KRAL) FRANKO BRANCH 16, SO. CHICAGO, IL



Marjana Lipitz:

Dear Readers,

Soon we will be lounging by the pool, sipping on a chilled drink and reading "summertime" books. Well, how about learning some Slovene while getting that sun-kissed tan?

This is the first issue of Marjana's Language Corner. The inspiration came from Lynn Zalokar who asked me if I would be interested in writing the column. Her idea stroked the tutor chord in me, and I gladly accepted to embark on this new project. Although writing the column is breaking new ground for me, I will devote my efforts to making it instructive as well as entertaining.



Each issue of the ZARJA will contain some useful phrases in Slovene as well as their English translation. I will

Marjana's Language Corner

start off with the basics of the Slovene language and try to cover as many topics as possible (for example, greetings, asking directions, etc.). If you have any suggestions or comments, feel free to contact me at:

marjana1210@yahoo.com

Let's start with a few basics:

About me:

I was born and raised in Ljubljana, Slovenia. Throughout my childhood, I showed great interest in languages, especially English and German. My parents encouraged me to develop/ hone my language skills by sending me to language schools at home and abroad. Thanks to them, I also had the benefit of learning about everyday life in English and German-speaking environments. Additionally, I learned the Serbo-Croatian language by spending time with my grandmother, who came from Bosnia.

Later on, I studied translation at the Faculty of Arts in Ljubljana. During my study years, I gave private lessons and translated for local translation agencies. After my graduation I moved to the United States to join my then future husband.

For a while I also lived in Brooklyn, New York where I worked at a translation agency. I currently live in Albany, New York.

In order to perfect my translation skills, I'm currently taking an online translation course at NYU (New York University), to obtain a certificate in translation from German into English.

I now work as a freelance translator of Slovene, English, German, Bosnian, and Croatian languages.

PRONUNCIATION AND READING

Slovene is easy to spell and to pronounce. Each letter is pronounced separately, and words are for (the most part) spelled as they are pronounced. The alphabet is comprised of 25 letters:

Note the letters that do not exist in English:

č like ch in chocolate

š like sh in sheep

 \check{z} like s in Asian, s + u in leisure, or g + e in beige

Vowels

There are five vowels, pronounced as folows:

a as in March, art, money

e as in bed, belt, red

i as in Peter, three, peak

o as in pot, body, box

u as in spoon, pool, noon

Letters e and o can also be pronounced as illustrated below:

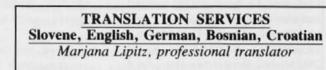
e (long and narrow) does not exist in English; it resembles the final sound of the French word entrée when pronounced strongly.

o (long and narrow) as in all, always, Albany.

Each syllable contains a vowel, for example:

Do-bro ju-tro!	Good morning!
Ka-ko ste?	How are you?
Do-bro, hva-la!	Fine, thanks!

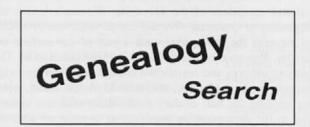
Next time: Consonants, stress and some exercises.



Interested in quality translation of old letters, cards or other documents? Call (518) 464–4472, or send an email to mariana 1210@yahoo.com.



Ask Tončka!



Dear Tončka:

Researchers seem to use libraries for their work but I find them overwhelming and difficult to access for information

Please help!

Janez

Dear Janez:

Your local PUBLIC LIBRARY should have many valuable ways in which you can obtain genealogical information and research librarians are always happy to be of assistance.

*SHELF COLLECTIONS: Most libraries hold an historical collection which will often contain early maps, land charts, city directories, local histories, biographies, and school yearbooks. Also on the shelves you will find some of the following: "The Source" - a book which tells where all records and documents are located, along with addresses. "Redbook" - information which is available within different localities of the United States, "Researching Your Eastern Europe Ancestors" author, Angus Baxter - a wealth of information on how to go about finding records in specific areas of European countries, "Genealogies in the Library of Congress" - submitted genealogies that are on file at the National Archives, "Who's Who in America," Who's Who in Eastern Europe or Austria" - may list persons with surnames you are researching and in biographies name the native home of an individual which may or may not give you a clue on your ancestral location. Microfilms of old newspapers will be of immense service when looking for old obituaries, wedding anniversaries, accidents, or other noteworthy events that may have been publicized.

*LOCAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY COLLEC-TIONS: Often genealogy societies will house their data in local public libraries. Information may include cemetery records, church records, funeral home records, family ancestral charts, books dealing with research in various foreign countries, CD's of census or immigration, photographs. Civil War, passenger lists, etc. Genealogy periodicals are usually available to be used, as are all other reference materials in the library only. Your local genealogy society can be contacted to give you some assistance with your work, or just attend one of its meetings.

*ON-LINE SERVICES: OCLC (Online Computer Library Center) - one of the premier world wide bibliographic sources, nonprofit is a research organization dedicated to furthering access to world information and research sources. Their FIRST SEARCH SERVICE provides titles of books and periodicals on a database from all over the world. Your librarian will access this source for you.

*ANCESTRY PLUS - This is a free 3,000 database available at some local libraries, very similar to Ancestry.com which is available for a fee from your home computer. To access it, ask your library for assistance. It is an invaluable source and does have foreign country data bases as well. Census, family tree charts, biographies, social security index, vital records, are only a few of its databases.

*INTERLIBRARY LOAN - Through your local library, using an order form, you can order books, microfilm, manuscripts, and print-outs of pages, from libraries throughout the world. Books ordered will arrive within a few months time, and you will be called when they come in. Usually there is a three week loan period but valuable books may have to be used in the library only. For microfilmed census, usually there is a fee but other microfilm is of no charge. If the information needed is from a reference book which will not be circulated, request specific information you need from the book, such as a search for a specific surname, the index, maps, and events of a specific era. Photocopies will be sent to you.

A good example of how to use this system: Suppose you have an ancestor living in Philadelphia in 1910. There are 15 reels of microfilm for that city and you need to know which to order. Write or e-mail the Philadelphia Free Library, asking for a listing of persons from the 1910 city directory with the surname you need. From this photocopy you will find the street on which your family resided. Then you can order microfilmed census for the specific region of Philadelphia in which your ancestor lived.

Libraries continue almost daily to add new materials to their collections. They are a wonderful source of genealogical material.

Janez, good luck with your work!

Tončka

Some Important Library Websites:

- LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN -
- www.libofmich.lib.mi.us
- AUSTRIAN ARCHIVES -

www.oesta.gv.at/engdir/geneal.htm

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN ELECTRONIC LIBRARY www.library/wisc/edu

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY www.acpl.lib.in.us

ST. LOUIS PUBLIC LIBRARY www.slcl.lib,mo.us

PHILADELPHIA FREE LIBRARY www.library.phila.gov

We are continuing to add to our SWU Heritage Museum genealogical research files. Articles of interest on Slovenian artists, musicians, writers, sports, historians, cultural promoters are all needed. Please send in family records, such as the biographical interview forms that were handed out at the 75 Jubilee this past March in Joliet, Illinois, or you received in your genealogy packet of \$6.00 which you ordered from me. Your contributions today will be of great historical value in years to come!

For comments and questions, genealogy packet orders of \$6.00, or queries please write to Tončka, 904 Margaret Street, Iron Mountain, Michigan.

JULIAN H. SLEEPER HOUSE MUSEUM WILL HOLD SPECIAL EXHIBITION ON SLOVENIJA

The Julian H. Sleeper House, a historic house museum in St. Paul, Minnesota, is currently planning its Special Exhibition on the History and Culture of Slovenija, announced Dr. Seth C. Hawkins, director of the JHSH. The exhibition will run for fifteen months, opening on 01 September 2002, and closing on 15 December 2003.

Slovenija (usually spelled Slovenia by Americans) is a historically and culturally significant Central European nation, independent since 1991, but with over 1500 years of cohesive ethnic and cultural national identity, and a rich literary tradition in the complex and beautiful Slovene language.

Those unfamiliar with Slovenija will be informed of the richness and beauty of this compact nation by a series of twenty-two wall panels with photos, maps, and bilingual text. Major figures such as national poet Dr. France Prešeren, encyclopedic cultural historian Janez Valvasor, and extraordinary architect Jože Plečnik will have special displays. Other notables will also be introduced.

Visitors will discover the history and cultural delights of Ljubljana, the national capital, as well as important and picturesque towns such as Ptuj, Celje, Maribor, Škofja Loka, Radovljica, Kranj, Kamnik, and Piran.

The unique folk arts form of beehive and panels decorated with folk legends, rural satire, and religious themes will be given special attention. The lacemaking of Idrija, honeybread hearts, and other ethnographic specialties will be shown.

Slovenija is a country with a long, varied, and skillful winemaking tradition. Visitors will be shown how to plan a wine tour of the three major growing regions. Slovene wines will be for sale at a shop near the museum.

Both manmade and natural wonders in the countryside will be pictured and described. Beautiful castles perch on hillsides or hilltops in major cities, small towns, and in rural spots. The Karst region has many caves for exploring, a seasonal disappearing lake, and the strange blind albino cave salamander.

Visitors will find out how easy and fast it is to get around Slovenija, either by its interstate highway system, winding back roads, or inexpensive and punctual railway system. You will also see what the JHSH considers the most beautiful postage stamps and paper money in existence.

Recreational tourists will be reminded that Slovenija, as an Alpine nation with the topography of Vermont, is a winter sports paradise. The greatest Alpinists are Slovenes, and the exhibition will show how to join them, or go skiing, snoboarding, and many other activities. The JHSH will also mention that Slovenija has a small Adriatic coast for summer fun. Visitors will be encouraged to visit Ptuj for Kuretovanje, the lavish ten-day pre-Lenten carnival, to chase away the spirits of winter.

For more details about the Special Exhibition on Slovenia, write the JHSH at 66 South Saint Albans Street, St. Paul, MN 55105, or phone (651) 225–1505.

A NEED FOR PRESERVATION

With each passing year, the precious documents and cultural reminders of the Slovenian Women's Union are beginning to disappear. We did not do what was necessary to preserve the things that were a part of our earliest activities. Preservation did not seem to mean much to us. The pioneer officers and members did not equate saving lodge papers, program pictures, etc. with any need. Later, when we reached the half century mark, there was less interest due to the determination requiring us to keep up with the membership in their present numbers. We didn't think that destroying old things held much meaning as the future was so strong... and, our remembrance still good.

But now, it is different. We have great hopes for many years to come – we are renewed by vigor and resolve. And, we have a new membership of younger family members and friends. Now, everyone is asking about the old days and we, ourselves, have found that there is much beauty and value in remembering. The old is the witness for the new.

The project to save our branch histories, and documents to prove them, have a new home, in our own SWU Museum Library. We will gladly accept all the material that is now taking up room in someone's closet and does not see the light of day, and give it a new home. Original ledgers, reports, any written material, are all important for our history.

Many branches are working hard at this archive project and we urge those of you who have put it off to begin to gather the old memories. We will supply archival boxes for you. Select someone or a committee to start, and give them your support.

There are many private institutions that value their archives. We must do the same. Protecting our historic and cultural heritage is vital to our future. We want to promote Slovenian Women's Union and share the ideas, experiences and effors of our predecessors. These things have brought us into the 76th year of existence.

EDITOR

An invitation... SWU Minnesota State Convention September 8, 2002 Holy Rosary Catholic Church Aurora, Minnesota Hostesses, Br. 35 Registration, 8:30 a.m.–9 a.m. Meeting, 9 a.m.–11:15 a.m. Holy Mass, 10:30 a.m. Banquet, 12 noon Guest speaker, Beverly Menart National Auditor Duluth, Minnesota



Reports due first of month preceding publication.

NO. 1, SHEBOYGAN, WI Meetings: 5 per year SS. Cyril & Methodius Church Hall

Greetings to All!

Plans were discussed regarding attendance at the SWU Wisconsin State Convention to be held in Willard, Wisconsin September 8, 2002.

Reminder: that by vote, as a fund raiser, each member of Branch 1 will contribute \$5 dollars to the fund in the month of her birthday. Contribution to be sent to:

Dorothy Brezonik 1108 Alabama Ave. Sheboygan, WI 53081

Reminder: to pay your annual dues, also any delinquent dues. Direct payment is to be sent to:

> Bonnie Prokup National Secretary, SWU 3119 Carrie Street Peru, Illinois 61354

Best Wishes,

ANGELINE FRITZ

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

God Bless America! Our country again is suffering – we are at war. We were attacked by those people we thought were our friends. Our service personnel are overseas trying to protect us. Please remember them in your prayers, that they will be safe and will return to their loved ones. Fly Old Glory!

July 21 – St. Mary's, Lemont Zveza Day Picnic

Please join us for our annual event as we celebrate another year. Mass – 11:00 a.m. at the Grotto and Litany 2:30 p.m. Picnic food will be served on the hill after Mass. Music by Vince Rigler. You will have fun...

May 19 – Br. 2 honored all the women of our branch as "Women of the Year". Melissa and Ashley Shachter carried the crown and Ashley crowned our Blessed Mother. Father Blase said Mass. Luncheon was later served in the church hall. There were 50 members and friends in attendance. It was a beautiful affair.

We are glad to report that Ray Nusko is home from the hospital and doing better. Get well Ray, we miss you and you are remembered in our prayers.

Baraga Days, September 21 & 22, 2002

It will be held in Houghton, Michigan. For more information contact Bishop Baraga Assoc. (906) 226–7024.

IL/IN Convention will be held in Indianapolis, IN in October. More particulars later, keep the month open, it should be a fun trip. We are all looking forward to this trip.

Our condolences to the following members and their families: To the family of Betty Svetich (90 years old); she had 1 son and 2 daughters. She always remembered our Zveza Picnic – to meet her old friends. Dolores Puhek, Mary Podder and Gen Buol lost their cousin, Steve Puhek, who lived in Helena, Montana.

Amelia Troha Smith passed away on May 5. She will be missed very much by her family: daughter, Annette Corgiat; niece, Mary Newbould; sister Daisy (Jean) Zeleznikar; her grandchildren, great grandchildren and friends. Amelia was a great cook and baker, it was her passion. She could talk and read recipes for hours and had as many cook books as any library. She also inherited from our mother a talent for crocheting, knitting and sewing, her fingers were never still. Our members know she always came to meetings bringing a cake. Lest we forget, she loved animals, and always had pets.

Irene Smid lost her sister-in-law Therese Zupancic Smid (husband, Joseph). They lived in the St. Stephen neighborhood many years.

Remember all our deceased in your prayers that they will rest in peace, they are now in the hands of Our Lord.

Congratulations to all our juniors who are celebrating graduations.

July & August Picnics at St. Mary's, Lemont:

July 21 - SWU Zveza Day

July 28 - KSKJ - St. Ann Society

Aug. 4 - KSKJ - IL Federation

Aug. 11-Slovenian Cultural Center

Aug. 26 – Medeni Piknik – 90th Anniversary of Franciscans in America

Everyone have a safe and happy summer!

The reason volunteers aren't paid isn't because they're worthless, but because they're priceless'' – Readers Digest. Love.

DAISY

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

Branch 5 has lost another dear member, Sophie Leske. Sophie was a long-time member. Our sympathies go out to her family, especially her sisters, Annie Leske and Emma Stevens as well as her sister in law, Dolores Konechnik and her niece, Phyllis Fon, who are all members of the SWU.

We extend our deepest sympathy and prayers to Rose Ivancic, who lost her sister, Frances, in June.

Member News:

By the time you read this article, Phyllis Fon and Mary Fon will be back from their trip to Slovenia. Phyllis is going as part of the Sister-city Council from Indianapolis. I am sure she will tell us about her experience in a future newsletter.

Mary Frances Mohr has retired after 23 years at Cardinal Ritter High School. Mary Frances walked the hallowed halls for the final time in June. We wish her the best of luck with her retirement pursuits.

Kristina Cox, one of our Junior members, graduated from the 8th grade this year. Kristina is going to attend Avon High School this fall. We wish her the best of luck.

Love from Texas,

BARBARA FRIESENHAHN

JULY-AUGUST 2002 /17

Greetings Branch 5 members! Thank you for your patience with me, but Barbara in Texas did such a good job with this column and I missed the first column I was supposed to write. Barbara is so busy picking out cribs and baby carseats, I am hoping that she didn't notice!

Congratulations to Mary Frances Mohr on her retirement from her job as registrar at Cardinal Ritter High School. I know she will enjoy all her free time with husband Bob and her family. She is planning on visiting Texas for the birth of her newest grandchild. Maybe Grandpa and Grandma Mohr will beat the Stork to the Freisenhann house!!

We want to thank the wonderful ladies who planned the 75th celebration in Joliet. The Fons, Mohrs, Barbarichs and Zarichs made the road trip up to Joliet on a very windy day, but at least it wasn't snow. The displays at the Museum, and down the street at the Hall were very interesting and informative. We really enjoyed the demonstration on sausage making (not as good as Henry's!!) and the talk by the tour company. The dinner and concert that evening were wonderful. Some of us had been to dinner at the Slovenian Cultural Center before, and knew how great the food always is, so it was fun watching the others as course after course arrived at our table. The servers are always so nice and friendly, no matter how many desserts we request !! Again, thanks for the entertaining weekend.

We would like to invite all our members to join us in October at the first ever Indiana/Illinois SWU State Convention held here in Indianapolis. It will be either October 6 or October 13, so watch the next issue for complete details of our meeting. If you are interested in coming on Saturday and spending the night, then attending the meeting on Sunday, please let your branch president know. I am trying to get together hotel prices for those interested. For more info contact me at my e-mail,

SLOVENEFON@AOL.COM.

This has been a tough year for Branch 5 with several of our members passing away, or family members passing. Please keep them all in your prayers, especially long time past president, Rose Ivancic, on the passing of her younger sister. We will have our memorial Mass in October to remember our deceased members.

Well, this column is probably too long, but for a first try I hope I didn't do too badly. I am in the middle of packing for 2 weeks in Slovenia (my first trip back in 25 years) so will bring back plenty of prizes for our Christmas Raffle!!! Have a safe summer!

PHYLLIS FON

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

We had a nice party honoring Stephanie Dagg at Fanny's Restaurant on May 17th. She was our Mother of the Year and received flowers and many gifts. 18 ladies present enjoyed the day. Stephanie expressed her thanks to all.

On our sick list are Lucy Romik, Joyce LaNassi, Mary Pierce, Bea Zimmerman, Ann Stefancic and Theresa Ferraccioli. We wish them speedy recoveries and may the good Lord watch over them.

Happy birthday to Joyce Segulin (May birthday), Shawn Collins (in June) and Shannon Vojtkofsky (July). God bless you and keep you safe.

We will have a meeting July 17th at the Gateway, 1 p.m. Hope to see many of you present. And, best wishes for a Happy 4th!

STEFFIE SEGULIN

NO. 12, MILWAUKEE, WI Meetings: 4th Wednesday St. Peter's Church Hall

March meeting was well-attended. Mary Evanich met Mary Rosbornik at a restaurant where she was celebrating her 90th birthday. Mary has been our member for a long time. She lives in Campbellsport, Wisconsin. Member, Tanny Smolich, treated us to wieners and snacks as it was her birthday on our meeting night in March.

Sophie Rozman passed away on April 12th. I gave a eulogy at the Bevsek Funeral Home and attended the funeral. She had suffered a stroke. Sophie is survived by her sister, Rose (Ray) Luebke, Mary (John) Timiano, son Robert (Ann) and five grandchildren. Sophie and her sisters, Rose and Mary are all long time members of Br. 12. Rose works in the kitchen at all our affairs and helps out many other ways.

We were happy to have Leona Zigmuth attend a meeting. She had been ill and was in the hospital. Also, Ann Jelinek came to see us after being ill. Thanks to Al, her son, for bringing her to the meeting.

Fran Remshak gave us a few facts about the coming State Convention in Willard. It will be on Sunday, Sept. 8th, 2002 at 1 p.m. Fifteen tickets were sent to our branch and I hope we have many of our members attending. I've been to Willard and enjoyed the home cooking and hospitality of the wonderful Willard people.

Congratulations Corinne Leskovar as Editor for 50 years. (Thanks, Stavia. C.)

Louise Schlicht celebrated her birthday in April – she helps in the kitchen.

To all members, a happy belated Mother's Day and I want to thank you for attending the meetings!

Later Report

At the May meeting I was honored as Woman of the Year from our branch. We had no meeting and were joined by eleven guests. My son, Fireman Captain Lance Dobersek of Pewaukee was there too, taking snapshots of the event. Also, the "Silk Umbrella" man, Louie Bashell attended.

I was presented a corsage and a plaque by Fran Remshak, and Fanny Smole read what she wrote about me. Thanks to them both. Also, Virginia Strukel served a delicious meal. Everyone remembered that I have been president of Br. 12 for 25 years and a member for 60 years! It was my day and I'll never forget it!

Mary Bucovnik, our charter member, came with her daughter, Marilyn and was presented a floral tribute. She has a most distinguished long-time membership.

I am looking forward to the Willard State Convention, also having a good group of members from our branch attending with me, on Sept. 8th. I will be the delegate from Br. 12.

STAVIA DOBERSEK



This is an Old-World recipe that was at first cooked only on Sundays!

Zucchini with Pecans

- 1¹/₂ cups julienned zucchini
- teaspoon olive or vegetable oil 1
- 1/. teaspoon garlic salt Dash of pepper
- 2 tablespoons chopped pecans, toasted

In a skillet, saute zucchini in oil for 5 minutes or until crisp-tender. Sprinkle with garlic salt, pepper and pecans. Serve immediately.

Banana Toffee Cream

1/, cup whipping cream whipped

- 1/2 cup English toffee bits or
- almond brickle chips large ripe banana, sliced 1

In a bowl, combine the cream, toffee bits and banana. Spoon into parfait glasses or dishes. Cover and refrigerate until serving. Yield: 2 servings.

Oatmeal Fruit Cookies

- 1 cup all purpose flour, sifted
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- cup water 1
- 1/2 cup dates, chopped and pitted
- 1/2 cup apple, peeled and chopped
- 1/2 cup prunes, chopped
- 1/2 cup raisins
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine
- 1/2 cup quick cooking oats
- 2 eggs beaten
- teaspoon vanilla 1
- 3/4 cup walnuts, chopped

Sift together flour and soda; set aside. In a 2-qt. saucepan over medium high heat, bring water, dates, apple, prunes and raisins to a boil. Reduce heat to medium low; simmer for 3 or 4 minutes. Remove from heat, add butter and stir until melted. Pour into large bowl and cool slightly. Stir in dry ingredients, oatmeal, beaten eggs, vanilla and chopped walnuts until well blended. Cover and refrigerate over night.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Drop by heaping tablespoonfuls 2 inches apart on greased baking sheets, bake for 12-14 minutes. Remove from baking sheets; cool on racks. Store in refrigerator in air tight container. Yield: 40 cookies.

Corn Bread Casserole

- can (151/4 oz.) whole kernel 1 corn, drained
- can (143/4 oz.) cream style corn 1
- package (81/2 oz.) corn bread 1 muffin mix
- 1 egg
- tablespoons butter or 2 margarine melted
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/4 teaspoon paprika

In a large bowl, combine all ingredients. Pour into a greased 11 inch by 7 inch by 2 inch baking dish. Bake, uncovered at 400 degrees for 25-30 minutes or until the top and edges are golden brown.

Layered Toffee Cake

- cups whipping cream 2
- 1/, cup caramel or butterscotch ice cream topping
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- prepared Angel Food Cake 1 (16 oz.)
- 9 Heath candy bars (1.4 oz. each) chopped

In a mixing bowl, beat cream just until it begins to thicken. Gradually add the ice cream topping and vanilla, beating until soft peaks form. Cut cake horizontally into three layers. Place the bottom layer on a serving plate; spread with 1 cup cream mixture and sprinkle with 1/2 cup candy bits. Repeat with second layer. Then place top layer on the cake. Frost top and sides with remaining cream mixture and sprinkle with the remaining candy bar. Store in the refrigerator. Yield: 12-14 servings.

Irish Soda Bread

- 2 cups whole wheat flour
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons brown sugar
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon cream of tartar
- 1/, teaspoon salt
- cup golden raisins 1
- 13/4 cups milk

In a large mixing bowl, combine the flours, brown sugar, baking powder, baking soda, cream of tartar and salt. Stir in raisins. Make well in dry ingredients.

Add the milk. Stir until moistened.

Turn into a greased 9 by 11/2 inch round baking pan. Bake in a 350 degree oven for 30 to 35 minutes or until the top is browned. Cool in the pan 10 minutes. Remove from the pan and cool thoroughly.

Wrap bread in foil or clear plastic wrap and store overnight before serving.



Popular MORE POTS AND PANS cookbooks are still only \$18 per copy postpaid. Write the SWU Home Office, 431 No. Chicago St., 60432. Your mail orders will receive immediate attention.

NO. 13, SAN FRANCISCO, CA Meetings: 1st Thurs. Slovenian Hall on Mariposa St.

There isn't much news from the West Coast right now, but I wanted to wish our members Happy Birthday:

In July, Mary Coppinger, Mary Goodman, Lois Jensen, Carol Purtell, Margie Schleiger and my sister, Barbara Chiodo.

In August, our dear Betty Doherty will celebrate 92, Mary Lesser, 91, Frances Laurich, 91, Mary Lehane, Janette Lovrin, Shirley Morasco, Stephanie Nagel, Katica Pecavar, twin sisters, Doreen Sustarich and Moreen Spencer, and Ceta Zagar and this reporter. We celebrate the same day.

Twenty-seven of us shared a lovely Brunch at the Marriot celebrating our Women of the Year. We honored all of us! Ann Sustarich won the coveted afghan, again, way to go, Ann!

I have a beautiful garden where I spend most of my summer. I have a small corner that is "my secret garden." Bird feeders, suet holders, a tea table and dreams. A secret garden is not a microcosm of the world. It is the world. Your secret garden is next to your heart. It shelters your innermost thoughts. Recognize the key, unlock the door. Rest, dream, love.

Remember, a person does not have to be in full flower in order to blossom.

Have a beautiful summer. BEVERLY JACKSON

NO. 14, EUCLID, OH Meetings: 1st Tues. 6 p.m. April, May, June, Nov. Dec. Slov. Society Home

Members can always count on a pleasant evening as we celebrate at our Mother's Day Dinner along with our friends, at which we honored all of our mothers and ladies this year. Among our family tables were member, Kristina Blatnik and husband, Henry surrounded by their adorable grandchildren and children. They were 9-1/2 year old Ashley and mother, Diane Savor, Jeffrey 7-1/2 and 9-1/2 year old Holly Melnick. Youngest guests were 18 month old twins, Lydia and Sophia, the delight of Kristina's son, Frank and wife, Shanti. Racing around the hall and having a great time was 5 year old Rachel Formica with mother, Lisa running after her while grandma, Fran Prijatel smiled on with the rest of her family of lovely daughters who filled another table.

Josephine (Pep) Stupica and her family filled another table, which included her brother, Paul Yanchar, enjoying the evening.

It was a pleasure to see Addie Humphries with us along with Vera Bajek who both had given so many years of dedication to Br. 14.

Many folks stopped by to tell Pat Habat to give their best regards to her husband, Eddie Habat, who was unable to join us this time, but Pat tells us that Eddie's doing very well and is a good patient.

Congratulations were extended to 50 year members Diane Bergant, Banner carrier, Josephine Kastigar and Olga Klanchar.

Sophie Mazi and her crew of capable women, as always, did an outstanding job with their dinner presentation from homemade chicken soup with liver and farina dumplings, and with all the goodness between, ending with each of us getting a piece of flaky apple and a piece of cheese strudel.

We must thank President, Jennie Fitzthum for handling all the phone calls for reservations and to Jennie and Stana Grill who greeted us at the door. Special thanks to Larry Varney, Secretary Diane's husband, for selling tickets for door prizes even though he had eye surgery just a few days before; he also arranged for several door prizes of potted exotic geraniums from Petiti's Gardens. Thanks to Jimmy and June Slapnik who donated a lovely floral centerpiece, and to all members who donated clever gifts which were passed out as door prizes. Thanks to Steve Valencic who was chosen once again to call winner's names and to Kristina Blatnik's grandchildren, Jeffrey, Ashley, and Holly who ran around the large hall delivering the gifts. Thank you Ed Koren for another great job as bartender.

Greetings from all of us to Rose Rodgers, our Sunshine Lady, who is presently in assisted living at Gateway Manor. Welcome to Ileene Collins who is back up north for the summer. Good to hear that Jo Emser, who had been undere the weather, is now doing much better. Also member, Laurie Trevino, Diane Varney's daughter, is now in North Dakota working in a hospital. Good luck to all!

We very likely will hold our next meeting at Gateway Manor on Tuesday, November 5 at 6:30 as we plan our Annual Christmas get-together.

Stay well and cool this summer!

ALICE KUHAR

Our member, Claire Blakeley received for a SWU Scholarship and we wish her success. She is the daughter of Mary Ann Blakeley and granddaughter of Mitzi Globokar.

Attending the 75th anniversary in Joliet were Jennie Fitzthum, Diane Varney, Diane Bergant with daughters, Suzanne Bergant-Martin and Lisa Bergant-Koi. (see photo, page 30)

Fifty year members are Josephine Kastigar, Diane Bergant and Olga Klanchar. We are proud to have these great members!

On the sick list are Rose Rodgers and Peggy Smerke. All our best wishes, ladies!

DIANE VARNEY

NO. 16, SO. CHICAGO, IL Meetings: 2nd Saturday, 1 p.m. monthly except Jan.-July-Aug. St. George's Hall

Hello, Dear Members!

By the time you read this I hope we are enjoying a decent summer. So far it has been rather "yucky." My two tomato plants are doing quite well as are the flowering plants, in spite of the wet weather.

There were sixteen of us at our April meeting. Fr. Jozef also joined us. We will miss him when he leaves us this summer to return to his mission. God be with you, Father.

Our ladies are so generous with their calories! Vida supplied us with a delicious potica, Helen Battista baked a yummy cherry strudel, Mary Puterko and Julie Vrlich treated us with a delicious birthday cake, Gladys baked an angel food cake and topped it off with strawberries and cream. I even baked – it was an Irish soda bread. I am sorry if I missed any of our donors.

On May 9th we celebrated Vida's day. There were 32 members and friends at Tom's to pay tribute to our

dear friend and excellent secretary. Thank you for your capable and meticulous work and also for those delicious treats, Vida! She does so much in her quiet way.

On May 22 we gathered at St. George Church in conjunction with members of KSKJ to honor Marija Pomagaj's feastday. Fr. Jozef was the celebrant. We prayed the rosary and litany and listened to his beautiful homily, all this followed by benediction of the Holy Sacrament. The choir led us in singing Slovenian songs, among them Lepa si, Marija. After the service we had a social hour and enjoyed Fr. Jozef's birthday cake, baked by none other than Dotsi Rossi. Thanks!

How about Gladys!! She is really enjoying driving a brand new car, a Ford, of course! Congratulations and many happy miles and smiles, Gladys!

Did you hear about the population explosion in Reno, Nevada? Well, not really an explosion, just a little 'pop'! Andrea and Ed Kral's granddaughter, Caitlyn Ann was born on April 10th. Her parents are Becky and Erik Strauss. Congratulations to all.

Congrats and best wishes also to two special high school grads. Gianna Rossi received one of our SWU \$1,000 scholarships this year and she will attend Purdue University, intent on getting a degree in pre-veterinary medicine. Gianna, her mom, Teri and Grandma Rossi are all our members. Kristi Lynn Nishimura, my granddaughter, received the Margaret Niksic Memorial Award Art Scholarship for being named the outstanding senior art student at Munster High. Kristi will attend the Illinois Institute for the Arts. Our best to these two top students and congratulations to all grads this year!

We have a few members not feeling up to par – so, please remember them in your prayers and a card, maybe – would be very nice. They are: Ann Lustig, Manda Maggio, Clara Saviano, Vi Somin and Matilda Voss.

On the morning of April 30th I received a call from Elsie Grunhard telling me that her dear mother, our longtime member and friend, Elsie Starcevich went home to God. She was a grand lady – to know her was to like her – as shown by the many who attended her wake. We prayed the rosary and final SWU ritual prayers at her funeral. She was our member for 66 years, and contributed much thru the years.

Joe Wolfgang, a long time parishioner of Sacred Heart Church passed away suddenly. He was a cousin and dear friend of Dolores O'Brien. Joe's late mother, Ann was our member. May they rest in peace.

Members, have a safe and healthy summer and enjoy your travels – or whatever you do! Next meeting is Sept. 14th. Be with God.

MARGE PREBIL

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

Our Woman of the Year banquet was held on Tuesday, May 21, 2002, preceded by cocktails and the musical entertainment of Joe and Tony Wolf on their button-boxes, with Jack Lausch on his percussion instrument. Thank you to Heidi Domark, who tended the bar, and Lillian Cepon, who planned the banquet.

The Branch 20 meeting began with prayer led by Fr. Tom Paul, our spiritual advisor, followed by the hymn, *Češčena si Marija*, sung by Mark Cepon. Fr. Tom Paul presented an inspiring talk on Our Lady of Brezje, whose feast was May 23. He also requested prayers for priests. He quoted our incoming pastor to St. Joseph's, who claims that St. Joseph Church is "a jewel."

Mary Kay Demick was honored as Woman of the Year. Many members of her family attended the banquet and were introduced to the assembly. In addition, the past Women of the Year were recognized and each presented with a potted geranium.

The name drawn for the accumulative attendance prize was Theresa Minier, but she was not present, so she did not get the \$90. Now we start over in September. Bertha Hofer won the 50/50 prize.

Dinner, prepared by Lillian Cepon and her crew, was enjoyed by all. The special entertainment after dinner was provided by the Joliet Central Swing Band, directed by Mr. Ted Lega.

Something new:

In Branch 20, we are starting a scholarship drive for our junior members. With the rising cost of tuition, we need to increase our Scholarship Fund. Many thanks for donations given at the banquet: Ed and Olga Ancel, in memory of Mary Ivanich: Renee Rozman; Bertha Hofer. You can be a donor or give in memory of someone. Send donations to Jean Herbst, Branch 20, 912 Barber Lane, Joliet, IL 60435. Please, we need your generous support in this endeavor. You can be sure the junior winners will deeply appreciate this.

The Branch 20 scholarship winners of 2002 are: Frances Koncar; Kenneth Tezak; Robert Koncar; and Gordon Muir.

Coming events:

July 21, 2002

Zveza Day in Lemont, IL, will be hosted by Branch 2 of Chicago. There will be a Mass at 11 a.m. (Slovenian singing). This will be a very entertaining day! If you need transportation, call Jonita, 727–1926. Come and have some fun!

September 29

Branch 20 will host a Grape Festival at St. Joseph's Park Hall, with the Bob Doszak Orchestra providing the music.

October 4-19

A trip to Slovenia is being planned. Even if you have gone before, you might want to go again! Call Kathleen Dorchak, (330) 686–1336. You'll never regret this wonderful trip. Also included is a trip to Germany for the Oktoberfest.

1st or 2nd Sunday in October

Branch 20 is taking a trip to Indianapolis, IN. More details will be given in the September/October issue of ZARJA.

June 12-16, 2003

Our next national convention will be in Duluth, Minnesota. This could be your vacation or a short get-away. A wonderful time is being planned. We will also visit Ironworld, so let Jonita Ruth know if you would like to attend.

October, 2003

Branch 20 will be celebrating its 75th anniversary. To mark this occasion, we are planning to enroll 75 new members!

Hearty Congratulations, Ed & Olga Ancel!



Their 55th Wedding Anniversary and Olga's 80th Birthday Celebration – July 2001

From left to right: Mark & Marie Benko with Max (12) and Annie (9); Scott & Carita Girman with Maria (11) and Hannah (15); Ed & Olga; Joe and Lupe; Nadine; Andrew and Pam with Katie (10), Elizabeth (8), and Joe (5); Vera Muir with Gordon (15).

The drive is on, so let's get working on this! Let's roll! Membership application can be found in ZARJA.

Tony Kambic and his wife, Carolyn, were in Slovenia last October. While there, they started the first Montessori School in Ljubljana, Slovenia. Many thanks for thinking of the Slovenians.

Congratulations to:

Mary Kay and Richard Demick, whose daughter, Mary Lee, was married to Robert J. Strahanoski in St. Joseph Church, Joliet.

Tony and Madeline Golobitsch on the wedding of their son, Dennis, to Mary. Thanks.

Marcia Limbach and husband, on the birth of a baby boy.

St. Joseph School Alumni College Grads: Mark Cepon ('94), Matthew Mahalik ('94), University of St. Francis (Joliet) and Daniel Markun ('93) Loyola University (Chicago). They all recently achieved their bachelor degrees.

We sent get well wishes to Mary Marolt, Evelyn Lustik, Judy Merzlock, Bertha Hofer, Lorraine Lange, and Mary Ann Stukel. May God keep you in the best of health!

Our prayers and sympathy are extended to:

The family of Albert Vidmar, Ad-

22/ ZARJA - the DAWN

riana (wife), Michael (son), and Nicholas (grandson); Julia Pucel on the death of her brother, Joseph T. Maloney; Anne Mahkovec and Josephine Goron, on the death of their brother, Ralph M. Mahkovec; Michelle Papesh, on the death of her father; Diane Kalcic and Sylvia Plese, on the death of their sister, Marie; the family of deceased Naomi Potochnic.

By the time of the next issue of ZARJA in September, I will have returned from my pilgrimage to Italy and visit to Slovenia.

"No duty is more urgent than that of giving thanks."

(-St. Ambrose) Submitted by,

SISTER MARLENE AMBROSE, OSF



Bernice Metesh collectors' Baseball Card

Bernice Metesh named 20th Century Top Athlete

Joliet, IL. Bernice Metesh has been named one of the Top Athletes of the 20th century by the Joliet Herald-News on May 5, 2002. She is a graduate of St. Joseph Grade School, Joliet, and Providence High School, Class of '47.

She was a baseball pitcher with the South Bend Blue Sox and Rockford Peaches of the All Ameican Grls Professional Baseball League. The movie "A League of Their Own" was made based on that League.

Bernice pitched for the St. Joseph Park American Legion Post 1080, a semi-pro, All-male team. She is featured in a movie "short."

Her likeness appears in a mural depicting local baseball athletes. The mural is located in the area of the newly constructed "Silver Cross Field" in Joliet.

Bernice was featured on the Chicago Television ABC, Channel 7 Program "190 North" and interviewed by Janet Davies on that program.

Bernice has been a member of the Slovenian Women's Union for 60 years. She was the Drillmaster for the SWU, Branch 20 Junior Cadets and an officer of the SWU, Branch 20 National Championship Cadets.

CONGRATULATIONS, BERNICE!

NO. 22, BRADLEY, IL

We won't take this July 4th for granted, will we!?! We thank Him for His gift of independence and rich resources, may we never cease to be grateful and never take it for granted!

Sorry to see our dear, dedicated Corinne Leskovar retiring as editor of ZARJA, but it won't be the end of her service to the Slovenes in the USA, I'm sure. God bless you, Corinne, for your 50 years of labor of love. You have made us proud to be Slovenians! (Thank you. I don't think it's so difficult to show one's own love for the Slovenes when it is so greatly reciprocated. CL)

We feel blessed, too. In June the neighboring parish, St. Teresa in Kankakee is welcoming a new pastor, Fr. Gregor Gorsic, a Slovenian ordained five years ago. My niece, Barbara, the parish secretary, has met him and his parents and was so impressed. We are looking forward to meeting him, as well. Fr. Gregor spent a year studying in Slovenia, comes from a wonderful Slovenian speaking family and is talented in many ways. He also speaks Spanish and will fill the needs of his new parish. We wish him well. (And, we will miss seeing him at our special occasions in Chicago-Lemont. Please know how lucky you are! Besides, he's a member of SWU and will no doubt be sharing news he reads in ZARJA with you! C.)

Sincere condolences to member Anne (Smole) Zorbas and the Vanden Hout families upon the death of dear ones, Carole, wife of Michael and Mary T., wife of Dennis V. They died within months of each other, Mary on May 15th. Both were victims of cancer at ages 62 and 58. The widowed brothers are sons of our late member, Marie Smole Vanden Hout.

Our cousin, Edward Lustik, 89, passed away in Minnesota on May 1st, feast of St. Joseph the Worker . Ed did beautiful woodcrafting, replicating the old trolley car that ran through Bradley. To brother, Bill and famíly our condolences. God grant eternal peace to all.

Mollie McIntyre will be celebrating her 90th birthday August 22 and Br. 22 herein publicly wishes you God's favors of good health, happiness and inner peace. Can't buy those gifts at any price! Molly enjoyed Don's visit on Mother's Day; he will make that trip from Kentucky again for your special day!

Oh, what a thank you note can do! Mollie M's great-great niece, Megan Orwig, a recent graduate of Carleton College (MN) in the Arts was given a Thomas J. Watson Foundation award of \$22,000 to study native lullabies in Mali, West Africa, New Zealand, Ireland and Scotland and their impact on daily life. They said to her: "...you showed the elegance and enthusiasm we are looking for. Perhaps a thank you note has never yielded such a tangible and immediate result. Congratulations, we're giving you the money!" Beautiful. We'll be following this young lady!

EMMA LUSTIG

Oh, it was a grand day!

Snapshots from our 75th Anniversary Jubilej

Angie Nico, our wonderful member of Br. 89, Olgesby sent us these great pictures – we are happy to share them with our readers!



Top: Nika Kovacic (second from left) greets our ladies in Slovenian national costume, Terri Turner (Br. 47), Angie Nico and Gladys Buck (Br. 16).

Bottom: from left, Adele Gensler (Br. 24), Elmer and Delores Spelich, (she's a new member of Br. 24), Grace Doerk (Br. 20), Angie, and banquet guest, Vera Magayne of Chicago.

NO. 24, LA SALLE, IL Meetings: Monthly except Jan., Feb., July & August 3rd Thursday LaSalle Catholic School

There were 25 members and guests present at our Spring Luncheon at Mario's Maples on May 16. Roberta Donahue, Mary Mecum, and Linda Struna made all of the arrangements, table decorations and individual favors. The centerpieces were given as door prizes. We were all honored as Women of the Year. It was especially nice to see Cathy Lenkaitis present with her two darling little boys--as she said "No baby sitter-- they're all here today." We will welcome them any time. By the time you read this we will have enjoyed our "Slovenian" Potluck Picnic, when all who attend must bring a Slovenian dish to pass. We always have a nice assortment of dishes and all are a remembrance of growing up Slovenian. We thank Barb Pohar for her generosity in letting us gather in her back yard.

Loretta Story and husband Joseph were in Nebraska for the May 11th wedding of son James Nicholas Story and Jennifer Lynn Vana at St. Columbkille Catholic Church in Papillion, NE. We congratulate the parents and wish the bride and groom much happiness.

No sick people have been reported at this time. If you know of a member who is sick please call me (223–5556) as the Branch remembers our sick with prayers and a card.

There will be a lot of celebrations in July but none more important than those of our birthday celebrants: Amy Schweickert, Jr. member Barbara Jean Prokup, Mary Mecum, Ann Dresen, Bonnie Prokup, Alvina Ann Strukel, Junior member Melissa McLaughlin, Barb Krogulski, Audrey Prokuski, and Emily Marchiori. The celebrating continues in August when Julie Ann Wangler, Jane Sherman, Evelyn Kastigar, Susan Collins, Jr. Member Emily Brekan Collins, Dorothy Parola, and Barbara Pohar will be the honorees. I hope each one of you has a very special celebration followed by a year of health and happiness.

There are no meetings in July and August so we will get together on Thursday, September 19 at 7:00 p.m. in the meeting room of Eureka Savings Bank (south entrance). If we must have a change of meeting place you will be advised in the News-Tribune and Resurrection Church Bulletin.

If you travel, drive carefully, enjoy every minute of the summer, and if you are content sitting under a shade tree, keep cool. We have had a lot of funny weather so far this year, who knows what we will experience this summer. This is one thing we have no control over.

> ANNE M. WANGLER, Reporter

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

Our meeting was held at Sterle's Country House on E. 55th and St. Clair with a luncheon and we (members) all were celebrating as "Women of the Year." We were all honored. We salute all the members. Živijo!

To all our shut-ins and on the sick list we wish all a speedy recovery.

Happy belated Mother's Day. Mothers are so precious to a household. Bless you all.

Happy Father's Day was in June; best wishes to all the bread winners in our families. Also let's have a "bang up" Fourth of July.

Get well wishes to our Secretary Jan Krivacic who has been in and out of the hospital and has been ailing for quite a few months with a foot problem. Keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

Happy birthday to Rikk Jenko on June 1st. He is our reporter's son.

Gene Drobnic! We welcome you back with open arms from too long a stay in Florida, but I'm sure your family there now misses you, but we are fortunate to have you in our midst.

Every time the ZARJA issue is released I read it from cover to cover. It is so interesting and wonderful to read about what is happening with SWU from coast to coast. How about that? Don't you agree it is a fine publication?

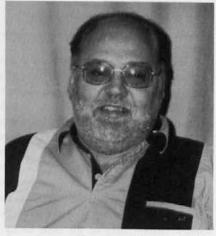
The luncheon meeting at Sterle's Country House was nicely attended. Josie Perpar brought a few table decorations that were raffled off... also Albina Pozelnik had peanuts artfully wrapped for each member. Fran Gazvoda told us the raffle drawing will be in Sept. Luncheon as usual was delicious.

We all said our adieus and went our separate ways, until our next meeting. Love thy neighbor and keep smiling.

Till we meet again... Na Svidenje, EMILEE JENKO

NO. 32, EUCLID, OH Meetings: 3rd Wed. 6:30 p.m. Apr., May, Oct., Mar. Euclid Library

Our new president, Rudy Perdan called us together to open the meeting in April. We all think he will be a great asset to our branch! It was decided and voted on to hold 4 meetings per year, April, May, October and March, so we were looking forward to the May 15th meeting to end the spring season. It



Rudy Perdan, new president of Br. 32

was to be a Mother's Day dinner honoring all mothers at the Home Town Buffet.

Many thanks to our Alma Eppich for all her years of wisdom and help. Our new V.P. is Adriene Jagar to whom we send best wishes and good luck!

To all our ill members, special love and wishes for good health. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

Belated Happy Mother's Day to all. Hope you had lots of beautiful flowers, wishes and love shown to you. To all fathers, happy summer day in June! And, God's blessings to all!

Later news

The next meeting will be held September 18, 2002 at 6:30 p.m. at the Euclid Library.

Mother's Day dinner at Home Town Buffet was very good and enjoyed by all.

Anne Cooke was scheduled for surgery May 21st – our best wishes for a speedy recovery. Thanks to Adrienne and Frances for the door prizes they provided at the meeting and good wishes to the winners! Charlotte and Rudy will contact Diane Varney to confirm the date and place for the State Convention. Notices will go out before our next meeting so members will be reminded to bring in door prizes and respond to our request for volunteers. The 50/50 Raffle collection was \$28 of which \$24 went into the treasury. Alma led us in the closing prayer.

Happy Father's Day (belated) to our Great Dads!

"Every work of God can be traced to some kneeling form."

DOROTHY LAMM

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

Mary Pogorelec was honored in May as our Member of the Year. Lucy Olaf played the accordion for a Sing-a-long!

The turkey dinner in April made a profit of \$1,300. Breakfast meeting in June was held with a speaker on Medicare, Fraud and Abuse. The August meeting is being planned as a picnic.

Virginia Mikrut, our Sunshine Lady, sent cards to Ann Maki, Rose Borland and Doris Skull. Shirley Hoppenyan was greatly honored when her grandson, Michael Pattulo was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Duluth. His first mass at St. Elizabeth's church.

Alice and Joe Janchar celebrated their 50th anniversary recently. My grandson, Karver Popovich will be presented his Boy Scout Eagle award in July.

Have a great summer! LOIS PELANDER

NO. 34, SOUDAN, MN Meetings: 3rd Wednesday St. Martin Parish Hall

Flawless rendition of "Prayer for a Nation" was given at the Families of Freedom – Families of Promise Rally on May 17th at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Minneapolis. My daughter, Michele introduced the 45 children, led by composer, Billy Kuchin (a Croatian) in this performance. They opened the show with a standing ovation. The star entertainers of the evening included Wintley Phipps, Jump 5, Sounds of Blackness and Dolly Parton, all Grammy winners! They made the evening unforgettable.

At this Rally they hoped to raise additional funds for their goal of 100 million that they need to generate scholarships for the next 30 years for secondary education for the children of Sept. 11th. The CD we presented in Joliet at the Jubilee is one of the fund raisers and was played at the Heritage Center.

We hope to use the SWU videos at Ironworld in July. Charlotte Laurich has it all set up to work towards increasing our membership. These are certainly exciting times!

We met on May 23rd at Fortune bay Casino for lunch to celebrate Adrienne Miklich's big day, as our Mother of the Year. About 22 members and friends gathered in her honor, including two of our "sisters" from Eveleth. The evening affirmed that the report on Adrienne captured the essence of good "mothering." Special thanks to Agnes Mesojedec who did a superb job heading the Mother of the Year Committee.

In keeping with our SWU program we did mention our celebration in Joliet. It was such a special time! We will show the videos in the fall when meetings will resume. We also recognize the awards of scholarship to Jacquelyn Ravnikar and Christina Skalko. We share in the pride of their families.

In July we plan to contribute time and energy to Charlotte Laurich's program of SWU promotion at Ironworld.

These are exciting times! THERESA BERG

Branch

Welcome "NEW" Members 2002

Name

Jerneycic, Dorothy	100
Pinkerton, Mary Moran	103
Plut, Viktoria Ann	13
Buldak, Diana	20
Limbach, Audrey	20
Limbach, Stefanie	20
Medved, Albina	23
Welch, Sandra	24
Linnemeyer, Mary	3
Mramor, Stan	30
Riley, Jill	30
Wetzel, Cate	30
Walsh, Barbara	32
Good, Deborah	33

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

Pres. Anita Vovk opened the April 7th meeting with prayers for all our members. Plans for the State Convention are almost completed. She thanked everyone for all their cooperation. We are looking forward to seeing all there.

We have some exciting news about opportunities for our young people to go to Slovenia to study the language and culture. Information was received too late to make plans for this summer. If any group does go this year we will be anxious to hear from you.

We had an interesting meeting with State President Charlotte Laurich on April 17th. She gave a report on the SWU Board Meeting held in Joliet in March. Membership was stressed so she is planning to have a booth at the Slavic celebration at Ironworld on July 13–14. We viewed the promo video, "Come Look Through My Eyes" and it will be shown at Ironworld along with the SWU 75th Jubilee video. Those of us who went to Joliet gave a report and showed pictures taken at the special event. Bev Menart gave an update on plans for the SWU Nat'l. Convention in Duluth next year. They have so many interesting activities for everyone – it isn't too early now to set the date to attend.

Betty Carlson, our Mother of the Year, was honored on May 5th with all her immediate family and several sisters, brothers and their spouses present. It was a special day as they also celebrated her 80th birthday. Wine was served before dinner which was catered by the Am. Legion Auxiliary. We also enjoyed a special cake. Betty was presented with a bud vase of carnations and Marie Prisland's book, "From Slovenia to America" from Br. 35. After dinner we told a little about Betty and she responded with stories about her life and family. It was a wonderful time for everyone and this is what honoring our Mother (Woman) of the Year is all about.

Thanks to Helen Zupancic for her monetary gift.

Congratulations to:

Julia Menart who made her First Holy Communion; David Wheeler who was confirmed – God Bless You Both! To Alison Furry who graduated from Mesabi East High School – best wishes for your future success. And, to all our young people who have been active in their extra curricular activities!

To our Mesabi East High School Band who won first place trophies in: Overall for all Bands, concert band, Superior (highest rating) and Jazz Band. Some of our junior members are part of this group and their band director won as best conductor! This took place in Orlando, Florida this spring. We are so proud of you!

Our sympathy and prayers are with Jennie Klune who lost her sister, Agatha (she also lost two sisters in February). Our sympathies and prayers are with Rose Antilla and all her family. She lost her mother, Mary Bajda in May. May they rest in peace.

See you all at the MN State Convention in Aurora, Sept. 8th!

ANNE M. ORAZEM

NO. 42, MAPLE HTS., OH Meetings: May, Aug., Nov., Dec. 2nd Saturday, 11 a.m. Maple Heights Library

Our annual mass at St. Wenceslas on May 26 for living and deceased members is now history. In attendance was Teresa Gorup, fresh from a wonderful trip to Slovenia, accompaied by her daughters, Kathy from San Francisco, Margaret from Solon, Agnes and husband, John from Columbus and from Bainbridge, Teresa's son, George and wife, Linda. Cousin Hattie Mussig completed the group. En route to Slovenia they stopped in Italy to pick up Teresa's granddaughter, Ivana, who had just completed a semester in the arts at NYU's Florence campus. It must have been a monumental task to coordinate all these travelers but it just goes to show you - "where there's a will there's a way."

At this time we want to welcome as new members, Teresa's daughter, Margaret Gravier and her children, John Anthony, Elizabeth and Chris. Also joining our ranks as a new member is Marge Church's Salt Lake City cousin, Tatjana Cernigoj. We also welcome as transfers from Br. 73, Helen Husky and her daughter, Debi Zolyniak.

Happy July birthdays to 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, Frances Hocevar, Jane Szymkowski, Eleanor Charvat, Gabriella Gruden, Marge Zupancic and Terry Son.

Get well wishes go out to Marie Vercek and any other ailing members experiencing health problems.

A summer picnic is planned for Sunday, July 21 at the Zupancic's cottage on Pymatuning Lake. The branch will supply the burgers and sausage and Marge is suggesting donations of any covered dish and/or dessert. Please try to attend and feel free to bring any family members or guests. If you have any questions call Marge at (330) 467– 0696.

As you read this I will be visiting my daughter, Lynn, in California. I take with me my son's 7 year old daughter, Melanie, who just made her

Baraga Days 2002! St. Ignatius Loyola Parish in Houghton, Michigan

September 21 & 22, 2002

Saturday at St. Ignatius Loyola Parish Slovenian Mass, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday at St. Ignatius Loyola Parish English Mass, 4:00 p.m.

Banquet & Annual Meeting 6:00 p.m.

First Holy Communion and will now go to visit her special auntie Lynn, uncle Gene and cousins, Alex and Katie.

Have a nice summer, members, and enjoy your families – it's later than you think. Till next time.

Zbogom

LIL SADOWSKI

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

Our April meeting was well-attended. We were treated by our Birthday girls, Helen Hajicek, Arlene Fritz, and Mici Bregant. Paula Behling was selected to be our Woman of the Year, a well-deserved honor. Paula selected to have the luncheon at The Patowatami Casino. Angeline Johnstone, our Mother of the Year 2001, placed the crown on Paula's head. Many family and friends of Paula attended this luncheon. As Denise Bartlett, her niece says, she is a cherished member of the Delopst family, always ready to help. We had our own section and the food was very good. After we had our tummies filled we went down to do a little gambling. It was just a very wonderful day.

Our next meeting was to be on June 26th when we would need to discuss our trip to the State Convention in Willard on September 8th.

ANNE E. KONCZAL,



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

Our May meeting Mother's Day celebration was held May 5, 2002 at Sterle's Country House. Our Mother of the Year Millie Stautihar was very happy and surprised with all who came to the dinner. I made 3 different size afghan's and 9 sets of potholders. One afghan and one set of potholders were given to our Mother of the Year. The rest were all raffled off to the guests that were there. The meal was good and everyone had a good time.

Birthday wishes go out to all our July and August members.

July members: Mary Kociancic; Mary Kuzel; Anthony Mezgec; Julie Mezgec; Courtney Mundson and Katelyn Mundson. August members: Judy Freeman; Jason Hall; Elsie Kohun; Ginger Kemmerling; Hermine Mezgec; Rosalie Zeleznik and Emma Zupan. Have a great and safe summer.

KATHERINE WALLACE

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

Summer really has arrived. Enjoy, take it easy. Only spend what you need to. Carefully save what you can. Be personally prepared like the good Slovenian you are. Nevertheless, we do have some usual good times to look forward to, and fond memories of recent ones, good and bad.

The Frances Kaifez, Mother of the

Year Dinner at Sterle's was a winner. Thanks to all who attended. It was a happy, well-fed crowd of our membership, even those who were handicapped with illnesses and losses so far this year had a reprieve to start once again. Frances and her family members were a delight to see and meet. We were proud of the brave men who attended, and hope they continue to do so at our special events.

Other events in the near future would be "Anne's Day" to be celebrated on Thursday, July 25th and the "Picnic" in September on our regular meeting date, September 18th at the usual Euclid Club House by the Lake.

Our special birthday girl is Mary Januskevic who celebrated her 100th year. Mary has resided at the Slovenian Home for the Aged for over three years. Her birthday celebration must have been a special occasion. Mary has had a supurb record which we wish her to exceed.

Alice Karberg has returned from Florida and is living in an apartment at #4 Gateway Manor. We are glad to have you among us again Alice.

Helen Raplanovic did not survive her recent stroke. She made her journey to heaven on April 25th. It was a sudden and too soon a happening.

Caroline Lokar was missed so much at our last few meetings since she was always very ready and able to move our programs forward. At the end of May, she permanently left our midst and went to receive her reward. We will miss her even more. Also, Director, Frank Gorensek will no longer do all the fine things he did to encourage the Slovenian heritage for us. He, too, died at the end of May. His wife, Juliana and daughter, Margaret are both members of our Branch. Our sympathies go to all.

We must be steady and prepared in this topsy/turvey world of change again. Our leaders are too selfish to be concerned about the majority except to use them to further their purposes. Be relieved that the last count of decision will be the righteous and firm one. In the meantime, endure.

Na svidenje,

VI MORAVCHEK

MINNESOTA REGIONAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi from Chisholm, Minnesota! You have not heard much from us lately because not much has been happening.

Our April meeting was not held because we lacked a quorum. However, the members that did attend enjoyed a long social hour and the delicious cake served by Ann Polichnik.

Our May meeting was held on Wednesday, May 1st to make plans for our Mother's Day celebration. This year we honored all mothers with a supper at Jim's Sports club on Friday, May 10th, then on Saturday, May 11th, we attended the evening mass at St. Joseph's Church in a body honoring all mothers, living and deceased.

I attended a meeting at Ironworld, at which time plans were formulated for the annual Slavic Celebration which is being held this year on July 13th and 14th. Since the SWU is having a membership drive this year, I thought it would be appropriate for our Minnesota Branches to have a SWU Membership Booth. We would have our video "Come Look Through My Eyes" playing, have our cookbooks for sale, have copies of the ZARJA, and a lot of membership forms available. If you are planning on being at Ironworld on July 13th and 14th, come and visit with us.

We will not have meetings now until August, when we will be making plans to attend our state convention which will be held in Aurora, this year.

Hope you are all having a safe, enjoyable summer.

Charlotte Laurich

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

Our group had a lovely luncheon recently, a mother-daughter gathering. Our thanks to Louise Vett for the table arrangements and favors and Fran Sainto for a religious favor. We had a nice attendance, but our group keeps getting smaller!

Congratulations to Virginia Shine's granddaughter, Janet Horodyski of Cleveland, a graduating high school senior who had one of the highest ACT scores in the USA. She has received a \$25,000 scholarship from Vanderbilt University. We know her parents and Al and Virginia are very proud of her.

Elsie Shine's granddaughter, Rebecca, who lives in Georgia, is the best 10 year old tennis player in the state and her brother, Neil, a 15 year old athlete, is the 34 in the U.S. Congratulations to them, also.

Harry and I are back from our Heart of Europe Tour. It was a wonderful trip and we'll have many happy memories. Our group was all ages and all very nice. We saw so much and such beautiful countries, none, though, are as beautiful as our beloved Slovenia!

Back from the branch in No. Carolina are members Vic Zuga and her daughter, Karen and our daughter, Pat was here for a visit from So. Carolina. It's always a joy to have her home with us.

Happy and safe traveling to all and remember, our next meeting will be on Wed. Sept. 18th at 12 noon at my home. Bring a sack lunch. We might also have a meeting on Nov. 20th. You'll be called about this. Get well to our shut-ins and God bless and keep you!

JOANNE PONIKVAR

NO. 55, GIRARD, OH Meetings: 1st Monday Mar.-April, May, Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec. President's Home

Greetings from Girard! Branch 55 members and their families have been quite busy in recent weeks. On May 14, members gathered at McMenamy's in Niles for the annual May banquet. It was an evening full of fun, great food, and entertaining conversations. One of our members, Kay Sefcik announced the start of her new radio program "Jammin' Buttons" with Kathy and Kay on WKTX Radio AM830. Kay and her friend, Kathy Paulenich's polka music program airs every Monday from 6 p.m. to sign-off. There are request lines available for the Cortland area at (330) 638-0830 and Cleveland area at (216) 221-0330. Kay can also be reached at BUTNBXTIME@ ZOOMINTERNET.NET. Tune in to hear great polka hits from yesterday and today!

Anna Marie Zagger went to Ft. Lauderdale, Florida to visit her grandson Michael over spring break. She said the weather was beautiful (in the 80's!!!), a welcome change from all of the rain we've been having lately here in Ohio. We all wish we could have gone with you, Anna!

Several of the women have grandchildren graduating from high school or college this year. Virginia Bestic's grandson, Danny graduated from the University of Dayton and will enter Ohio State University in September to become a veterinarian. Amy Bestic, Virginia's granddaughter is attending Cornell University and will be interning at the Cleveland Botanical Gardens this summer. Rose Juvancic's granddaughter, Jaclyn is graduating from Marietta High School and will be entering college in the fall. Sophie Kren's grandson Brian Kren will be attending law school at the University of Akron this fall. Best of luck to all of you!!!

Following in the SWU tradition of the Kregar-Selak family, I, Monica Selak, have recently taken over Joan Twaddle's position as reporter. From all of us at Branch 55, thank you, Joan, for your many contributions! I will be a senior at Ursuline High School this fall and am looking forward to reporting for ZARJA throughout the year. It's a great way to stay connected with my Slovenian roots and learn about the members of my branch. This will also improve my journalism skills as I was recently appointed editor of the Irish Times, the school newspaper. Along with this new responsibility, I am looking forward to my final year as a cheerleader on the Varsity squad and my final year as a member of student council. I'm not too sad though - I am looking forward to applying to college in a few short months.

We won't be having any meetings

MONICA SELAK

NO. 59, BURGETTSTOWN, PA 2nd Tues. alternate months

God Bless our Departed Member

Our members of Br. 59, Burgettstown, PA mourn the loss of Hilda Kranak. She was a member for many years. She passed away on April 27th. Our deepest sympathy to her surviving family, husband, Frank whom she married in 1947, a daughter, Carol Hanna, and son, Robert Kranak.

ROSEMARY ORENCHUK

In Memoriam †Anna Mae (Lokovsek) Anderson

It is with heavy hearts and great sorrow that our family announces the death of Anna Mae Anderson. She rose to heaven on Saturday, May 18, 2002 at the age of 63. Anna Mae was a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, aunt, sister, daughter, day care provider, and true friend to all she met. She was a life-long member of the Slovenian Women's Union Branch #79 in Enumclaw, Washington.

Anna Mae (also known as Annie and Lokie) was a life-long resident of Enumclaw, Washington. She grew up on a small farm with her Slovenian parents and ten brothers and sisters. Growing up, she attended Enumclaw High School and was in the graduating class of 1957. Class reunions were a big part of Lokie's life and she looked forward to planning and attending these gatherings of life-long friends. She was looking forward to the Class of '57's 45th reunion scheduled for this October.

She married Robert L. Anderson in 1958 and they made their life-long home in Enumclaw. Following the birth of their three daughters, Anna Mae began watching children in their home. She ran an in-home daycare for over forty years up until the time of her death and has been the beloved care provider to hundreds of children around the area. Caring for children brought great joy to Annie and she will be sadly missed by many families who cherished her love and devotion for their children.

Passions in her life were family, children, friends and fun. Family gatherings were a special occasion for Annie and she loved serving the traditional Slovenian foods of her heritage. She traveled twice with her mother and other family members to her Slovenian homeland and was a life-long member of the Slovenian's Women's Union. She served for many years as the secretary for Branch #79 in Enumclaw, Washington. She was a previous Mother of the Year recipient and helped wtih many activities and social events of the group. Her daughters, grand daughters and nieces are all members of the Slovenian Women's Union.

One of her most recent passions was named "Hewy." This was her Hewlett Packard P.C. "Hewy" gave Anna Mae access to the world wide web! She loved doing email and "talking" with family, old school pals, and long time friends. She enjoyed learning new things by doing internet searches regarding issues concerning her life. The technology scared her at first, but once she learned how to use this new form of communication, she spent many hours conversing with the world! Forever young, Annie had a heart of pure gold and will always be remembered for her zest for life.

She is survived by husband Robert (Bob) Anderson of Enumclaw; daughters and families - Denise and David Cole of Redmond, WA, Gwen and Jim VanOrder of Pullman, WA and Paula Jensen of Lakewood, CO. She will be mourned and so missed by her grandchildren, Devon, Brennan and Katherine Cole, Danny and Emily Van-Order and Leila Jensen. She is also survived by siblings Dorothy (and Deryl) Sleigh, Mary Kell, Martin (and Donna) Lokovsek, Warren (and Cindy) Lokovsek; all of Enumclaw and Harold (and Jill) Lokovsek of Upland, CA as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services and prayer vigil were held May 23 and 24, 2002 at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Enumclaw with Rev. James Northrop officiating.

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

Memorial Day is past. We had a lovely mass at our St. Mary's Cemetery and the American Legion and the Knights of Columbus participated. Our priest, Fr. Baily Clemens was the celebrant and gave a nice homily. We have a lovely cemetery and many of our members and friends are buried there. May they rest in peace. After the mass, coffee and doughnuts were served at the church hall.

We have some graduates. Theresa Kimble graduated from Illinois State University. She is the granddaughter of our president, Gen Grilc. Nicholas Benkse, grandson of our vice-president, Mary Benkse, graduated from Illinois Valley Community College and will continue his education at Ill. State studying computer science. Emily De Bord, granddaughter of Ann De Bord, graduated from Bloomington High School and will be attending NYU in New York. Ann's grandson, Jonathan Hultine was recently honored by being chosen as the outstanding male student in the 7th grade class of 100. He was also selected for academics on the principal's list and the Junior Nat'l. Beta Club in Conyers, GA.

Jenah Jermenc, granddaughter of Muriel Jermenc graduated from preschool and will be attending kindergarten in the fall.

Our congratulations and best wishes to all these fine students.

Have a good summer, everyone. God bless.

MARY JERMENC

NO. 89, OGLESBY, IL Meetings: Feb.-Apr.-May-Sept. Oct.-Nov.-Dec. Dickinson House 2nd Monday at 6:30 p.m.

Nancy Henkel surprised each of the members with a lovely medal which she brought from Italy on her recent trip there. She enjoyed the tour very much, including all of the beautiful churches and museums. Thank you, Nancy, for the medals.

Phillip L. Nico of California earned his doctorate from the University of California last September (2001) in Computer Science. He is an assistant professor at California State Polytechnical Institute at San Luis Obispo.

Peter S. Nico earned his doctorate from Univ. of California also in Sept. 2001, in Agricultural and Environmental Chemistry. He is now employed as a Post Doctoral Research Associate at Stanford University at Palo Alto. I know that their grandmother, Angie Nico is very proud of them both.

Anne Batty received a plaque for achievement and a charm bracelet as a gift from the Elks. They named her Lady Elk of the Year! On April 6th, 2002 her granddaughter, Kelly Dooley became Mrs. Michael Legrenz. She was a lovely bride and it proved to be a lovely spring wedding. Grandma Anne was all smiles and as pleased as punch at the beauty of it all.

Mitzi Banich's son, Adam, a student at L.P. High School, has been named a U.S. National Award Winner in mathematics. He was nominated for this award by his math teacher. The U.S., Achievement Academy Official Year Book is published nationally.

Lots of luck to our junior member, Kitty Bruch, daughter of Barbara. Kitty will be heading for Wesley University in the fall.

We all enjoyed ourselves at the Mother-Daughter Banquet held at Christo's in Oglesby. The food, as well as the whole evening, was awesome. I would like to thank the ladies of my branch and Mitzi Banich for the honor of being named Member of the Year. I was deeply touched by the honor and all I can say at this moment is Thank You Very Much! I love you all.

Have a lovely summer.

EUNICE

NO. 93, NEW YORK, NY

Dobrodošli (greetings) from Br. 93, New York City. Branch 93 continues to be busy – we are in the process of putting together a branch website and are keeping busy with activities. In early June, Branch 93 was in attendance at a picnic organized by the Slovenian-American business community in NY. Mirjam M. Hladnik, Janja Lupše, Patricia Shusterich and Lynn Zalokar enjoyed a traditional picnic that included

roast pig, goulash, gibinica, strudel and Slovenian wine! We were planning to meet again on June 23rd at Mocca Hungarian at 11:30 a.m. for brunch. We are also planning to meet on July 24th at 8 p.m. in Central Park for the New York Philharmonic Concerts in the Park, and on the afternoon of August 10th at Anita Erzetic's home in NYC for coffee, Slovenian cakes/pastries and a visit with Anita Erzetic's mom from Sydney, Australia. In the fall, we are planning to invite several individuals to meet with us, including a specialist on Eastern European cooking from NYU. We are hoping to have a Slovenian cooking/baking demonstration, as well.

The diversity of our group is really very broad. We not only have native Slovenians, but a Slovenian-Australian and Slovenian-American members are from all over the country (Chicago; Allentown, PA; Girard, OH, etc.) Anita Erzetic, a new member to Branch 93, was born in Tumut and raised in Sydney, Australia, to Slovenian immigrant parents (father from Primorska and mother from Bela Krajina). Anita's parents preserved and passed on the Slovenian culture by speaking Slovenian at home, attending Slovenian mass, surrounding themselves by Slovenian friends and maintaining the old customs. Anita has been to visit Slovenia several times and currently lives in New York with her husband. They share a passion for traveling and in addition to their European travels, they hope to visit all 50 U.S. states before ultimately returning home to Australia. We are looking forward to the opportunity to meet with Anita's mother later this summer. We also have a broad diversity of interests and talents among our members. For example, there is Cynthia Shaw, who grew up in Pueblo, CO and is a professional vocalist and pianist, and also Mirjam Miharcik-Hladnik, who is writing a book and whose institute made a generous donation of books. Mirjam has suggested that we coordinate a summer library for Br. 93. We also have quite a few travelers in the group. It seems that there is always someone in our group going to or coming from visiting Slovenia: Janja Lupše and Tea Rozman-Clark were both in Slovenia this Spring, Mirjam Miharčik-Hladnik will spend the summer there with her

LIGHTS – CAMERA – ACTION!

The 75th Anniversary Jubilee brought out many guests including these online readers of the "New Neighborhood"



Lisa Bergant Koi, Diane Bergant and Suzanne Bergant Martin Josh and Kara Patterson

daughters, and Marjana Lavrenčič-Lipitz and Adrienne Bonser will be going in July. I'm sure everyone will have exciting stories to tell about their travels!

Please feel free to contact me. Andrea Selak at andrea.selak@gs.com if you have any questions or for more information about our activities.

ANDREA SELAK

NO. 100, FONTANA, CA

May 5th was a beautiful day in Southern California and many SWU members and friends gathered at St. Joseph's Church in Fontana for a 12:00 noon Mass. The occasion was to honor our Member of the Year for 2002 and to gather for a joint communion service with one another. Tillie Skebe, our honoree for this year, was asked to stand and be acknowledged by the congregation.

After Mass we proceeded to our favorite Italian Restaurant, Napoli's in Loma Linda, for a lovely luncheon. About thirty members, with family and friends, attended. Tillie was accompanied by her son, Edward. This was his first time with our group and he seemed to be pleasantly surprised with the warmth shown among our members. Tillie was truly honored by the display of affection given to her and she glowed with excitement.

We were happy to have with us a new member, Dorothy Jernejcic, and several prospective new applicants. Anne Kapel is working with the new applicants and we look forward to welcoming them soon. Dorothy came to us through her new connection with the SNPJ and the SGS. She has developed a great interest in her Slovenian roots and is eager to learn more through these organizations and the people she has met, and will meet, by taking part. She is a retired teacher. Welcome to our Branch!

It was great to be able to congratulate Mary Lou Height Jensen and her new husband, Paul Jensen on their recent marriage. Mary Lou was last year's Member of the Year. Mary Lou and Paul have been regular attendees at our social gatherings.

Sadly missed at our luncheon was Mary Glad, mother of MaryLou Vidergar. She passed away on April 21 at the age of 98. Ten days later, the Vidergar family brought forth a new baby girl, Anna Grace Vidergar, born to Frank Jr. and Gretchen of Maryland. We were happy to see Frank and MaryLou, the proud new grandparents, at our gathering. Congratulations!

Have a wonderful summer! JEAN KOCI

To all the members of Branch 100!

No wonder there's such warmth behind the thanks this brings your way – Your special kindness brought such joy. it really made the day – And when any group of people – does the thoughtful things you do. It's hard to find words warm enough to thank each one of you!

I am so grateful and honored to be chosen as Member of the Year 2002. Thank you!

Tillie Skebe

NO. 102, WILLARD, WI Meetings: As called Holy Family Church Center

Our meeting was held May 5th with 22 members and 4 guests. Judy DePasquale was honored as Mother of the Year. A Pot Luck lunch was served and after a short program, Judy was presented with a gift, a lovely picture. She played some songs on her accordion.

Our plant sale was held on May 4-5 and was a great success – many plants were sold.

Br. 102 is hosting the Wisconsin State Convention at Holy Family Church and Parish Center on Sept. 8th. Coffee and rolls will be served from 9:30 to 10 and the meeting is from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Mass will follow at Holy Family Church. The dinner and program will be at the Parish Center about 1:15 p.m. We are hoping many of you will attend.

May 19th was the graduation day for: Ashley Trunkel, Jos Gosar and Kaily Purvis who were honored at Sunday Mass and each received a rosary and bible.

Mindy Debevec was installed as a member of the Golden Key International Honor Society at the University of Eau Claire. This is offered to the top 15% of juniors and seniors. Mindy is the granddaughter of Agnes Debevec.

Scott Caliebe earned the Boy Scouts Eagle Award, the highest they offer to scouts. He is the son of Jim and Linda (Koschak) Caliebe. Ashley Trunkel had a piano recital at Greenwood High School where she is a senior and planning to attend the University at Madison. She is the granddaughter of Sophie Trunkel.

Mary Sladich received the 2002 Profession Award from the Alzheimer Association for outstanding contributions and dedication.

May 29th was the day Lucille Lunka celebrated her 95th birthday! A mass was said for her and her family. Coffee and cake followed at her daughter Avis Suda's home. She received many cards and many visitors.

Condolences to the families of Mike Krultz (brother of Frieda Klancar), Frank Bayuk (brother of Ed Bayuk), John Kuznacic (brother-in-law of Sophie Trunkel) and Mary (Luzovic) Novak and Frank Makovec.

Our prayers also to Mary Kokaly and Frances Matousek who had to move to nursing homes.

Your reporter,

AGNES DEBEVEC

Letter from Past President MARY MULLER

Dear Corinne,

I just finished reading the May ZARJA – all of it. Congratulations on your anniversary. (Thanks, Mary! C.) I read all the magazine features as I remember so many friends from the time of my active years. I am now 87 years old and not able to get around, except with a walker, but my mind is still active.

My youngest son, Martin lives close to me in Lemont and takes me shopping when needed. My daughter lives in California as do her three married children – so I see them seldom, and Michael, my middle son who lives in Ohio came for Mother's Day with his daughter and spent the weekend with me and Marty's family. It was a great weekend!

I am no longer active, which makes me lonely, but I have wonderful memories. Remember me to all our ladies.

And, enjoy every day – as life is precious! Love,

Mary Muller 1801 35th St., Apt 1125 Oak Brook, IL 60523–2626

NO. 103, WASHINGTON, D.C. Meetings: 1st Sun. except July & Aug. St. Columba's Ch. Albermarle St.

On April 7, 2002, Branch 103 met to discuss regular business and plan future events. Thank you, hostesses, Mara Chokel and Angela Daly for providing delicious cakes and refreshments. We welcomed new member, Joanie Simmons, who is full of enthusiasm.

Tillie Ausich gave a compendious account of the 75th Anniversary March weekend in Joliet, IL. The museum, events, mass, banquet dinner and entertainment were fabulous. What a beautiful weekend in celebration of our heritage!

The Branch voted to purchase a copy of the SWU video, "Come, Look Through My Eyes," as well as the March 9, 2002 Heritage Weekend Highlights video. We will all be able to watch the videos at a future meeting. The greater part of the meeting was spent planning the October 2002 social event. Joanie Simmons, who is experienced at catering large events, was full of fresh ideas. The discussions moved swiftly, and we have finalized the menu and other matters for the social.

On May 5, 2002, members met immediately following the Slovenian mass at the Chapel of Our Lady of Brezje at the National Shrine. Plans were made for the picnic to take place on June 23, 2002 at Lake Needwood in Rock Creek Regional Park, Rockville, MD. Great thanks to Bernadette Fitzsimmons for arranging the site and activities.

Our sincerest sympathies are extended to Molly Thomas, Br. 103 Treasurer, and her family upon the death of her husband, Russell, who passed away in mid-May and will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery on July 9, 2002.

May every one have a happy summer.

VALERIE BOHINCE



Tim and Bernadette (Kovacic) Fitzsimmons of Gaithersburg, MD enjoyed their visit to the SWU Slovenian Museum and Home Office in Joliet, in May. Bernadette's beautiful greeting cards, with text in both Slovenian and English, and made from her own photographs, are available by ordering thru the Home Office.



Hi, ladies, I really enjoy the on-line newsletter and look forward to receiving it. It makes the world seem small and brings all of us Slovenians and those of Slovenian descent closer together. Had the opportunity to visit the Slovenian Heritage Museum in May and was glad to see the progress and the publicity it gets. Bernadette Kovacic Fitzsimmons Branch 103, Washington, D.C.

We are so grateful for any of your donations, small or large. In the past we did not acknowledge donations sent for photo processing, but it seems important now that it be acknowledged, too. In the last few weeks, we were able to increase our publication fund with a donation from Br. 101 of \$25, also, for photo processing, \$5 from Lois Pelander (33) and \$10 from Jean Korsman (39). For the Mother's Tributes that you see in this issue, each branch was asked to remit \$5 per photo, and we did receive (for 9 photos) \$45 total. Thank you so much to each and every branch and member.

OB 75. OBLETNICI USTANOVITVE SLOVENSKE ŽENSKE ZVEZE...

NADALJEVANJE

Po treh dneh zapuščamo belo Ljubljano, glavno mesto Slovenije in naš novi cilj je Maribor. Na poti v Savinjsko dolino smo se na kratko ustavili v starodavnem mestu Kamniku s slikovitimi Kamniškimi planinami v ozadju. Mesto je znano že iz 15. stoletja. Srednjeveški trgovci in druge znane evropske plemiške družine, so še bolj povzdignile baročno pročelje hiš in ulic s svojim naseljevanjem v to mesto. Prav v sredini mesta je na hribu nekdanja grajska kapela na Malem gradu, ki sodi med najzanimivejše romanske spomenike v Sloveniji. Mali grad vsebuje dve kapeli v dveh nadstropjih na vrhu kripte. Prostori so med seboj povezani s stopnicami za debelimi zidovi same kapele. Vse to je bilo zgrajeno v času med 11.-16. stoletjem. Iz Malega gradu se lahko vidi sedem drugih cerkva po Kamniku. V tem očarljivem kraju sem preživljala svojo rano mladost.

Ena najlepših in najbolj obiskovanih alpskih dolin v Sloveniji je Logarska dolina. Tu so razpotja v različne smeri v Kamniške ali Savinjske Alpe. Dolina je 9 km dolga in široka 16000 čevljev. Do znamenitega slapa Rinka dospemo po avtomobilski cesti v Logarski dolini. Po slabih 20 minutah hoje v hrib pa se zagleda slap, ki pada 100 metrov po navpični skalnati steni. Obiskovalec je presunjen nad lepotami barv in nepopisno naravno mogočnost.

Na poti z Logarske doline v Zgornji Savinjski dolini, smo si ogledali cerkev Sv. Frančiška Ksaverija (1725). To je lepa in na novo prenovljena cerkev na hribu. Cerkev hrani dragocene mašniške obleke, katere so darovali francoski in poljski kralji. Tudi cesarica Marija Terezija. Razstavljen je zlat kelih, katerega, je daroval francoski dvor, katerega je leta 1760 izdelal pariški zlatar. Zapisano je, da so omenjeni imenitniki darovali vsak po 400 zlatnikov. Le zato je tudi sama cerkev tako bogato opremljena s Karara italijanskim marmorjem.

Pozno popoldne smo se pripeljali v Maribor v lep moderen hotel Habakuk. Škoda, da je hotel tako odmaknjen od mesta. Naslednje jutro, 2. oktobra, smo obiskali romarsko cerkev na Ptujski gori, katera je prava zakladnica gotskega kiparstva. nad glavnim oltarjem je Marija s plaščem iz začetka 15. stoletja. Po njenim plaščem išče zavetja 81. oseb. Na podobici je lepo napisano: "Gorska Marija, ohrani nam vero, dom in rod!" Posebnost te Marije s plaščem (2 metra višine) je v tem, da je cel relief sklesan iz enega kamna. Prvotno je bil relief zunaj na pročelju cerkve, visoko obešen, in le zato se je lahko ohranil pred Turki. Leta 1780. je bil relief prenešen na glavni oltar v cerkev.

Obiskali mesto Ptuj z gradom. Mesto ima 12000 prebivalcev. Najprvo smo si ogledali vinsko klet, bili deležni okusnega prigrizka ob poskušanju petih različnih vrst vina. Nato pa smo se odpeljali preko reke Krke na Ptujski grad, kateri je najboljše ohranjen v Sloveniji. Zgrajen je bil v 12. stoletju. Najstarejši del gradu je še ohranjen. Leta 1697 je bila gradnja gradu ojačena in obnovljena. V gradu smo si



Maligrad - Kamnik



Stranski oltar, kjer je grob blaženega škofa Antona Martina Slomška – Mariborska stolnica (Foto Nika Kovacic)



Marija na Ptujski gori (Foto Nika Kovacic)

ogledali veliko večjih sob, okrašenih z najrazličnejšimi zelo bogatimi lestenci, iz različnih Evropskih mest, kitajsko posodo in najfinejšim pohištvom. Stene so npr. v tapetah, toda so popreje ročno slikane na platno. Zadnji lastniki tega gradu, družina Arberstine so rastreseni po celi Evropi po različnih gradovih, živijo pa tudi v Afriki in Avstraliji.

Mesto Ptuj, najstarejše mesto na Slovenskem, leži ob robu Slovenskih Goric, tako, da mu celotno Dravsko in Ptujsko polje ležita pred nogami. Na južnem delu mesta pa se v vsej svoji veličini vzpenjajo vinorodni griči Holaz.

Na isti dan proti večeru smo obiskali župnijsko cerkev Sv. Marije v Jarenini. Ta kraj leži v zahodnem delu Slovenjskih goric. Od Maribora je kraj oddaljen le kakih 12 km. Mesto je prvič omenjeno v daritveni listini Salzburškega nadškofa Konrada, ki je Admontskemu – Benediktinskemu samostanu poklonil posestvo pri Jarenini s cerkvijo in vsemi pritiklinami. Datum dokumenta je 10.10.1139. Cerkev je bila po turškem napadu med leti 1532–1535 sezidana v pozno gotskem slogu. V tej cerkvi sem prvič videla Lurško Marijo s krono z Jezuščkom v naročju in v lepšem modro rumenem oblačilu. Sv. Bernardka pa je že v obleki častite in kleči pred Marijo. Na podobici te Marije je zapisano: "Jareninska Marija pribežališče grešnikov".

Predno smo zjutraj zapustili Maribor, drugo največje mesto v Sloveniji, smo si še ogledali Mariborsko stolnico. V 12. stoletju je začetek te cerkve. Najprvo je bila romarska in župnijska cerkev. V 15. stoletju so cerkev modernizirali in zopet ponovno v 17. stoletju. V kapeli Sv. Križa je pokopan blaženi škof Slomšek, prvi škof v Mariboru. Na tem mestu je molil papež Janez Pavel II ob drugem obisku v Sloveniji in ob beatifikaciji škofa A.M. Slomška 19.9,1999. Slomšek je združil slovenske Štajerce (ne Nemške) v eno župnijo in s tem rešil večjo slovensko ozemlje. Napisal je tudi slovenski učbenik, katerega so celo našli v St. Petersburgu v knjižnici, kot nam je povedal g. Franc Zdolšek, duhovnik Mariborske stolnice. Slomšek ni pisal samo nabožne pesmi, pisal je tudi slovensko narodne pesmi in nešteto drugih poučnih spisov in knjig.

Notranjščina mariborske stolnice je triladijska z gotskim mrežastim obokom in velikimi tridelnimi okni.

Mesto Maribor je samo 17 km oddaljeno od Avtrijske meje. Leži približno v sredini med Dunajem in Trstom. Ob mestu teče reka Drava in ob vznožju so Pohorski hribi. Mesto Maribor se prvič že omenja kot mesto 1254. Prebivalci mesta so se poleg usnjarske in mlinarske obrti preživljali tudi z obdelovanjem vinogradov in prodajo vina. Trgovina s Koroško je bila neobhodno potrebna. Vinogradništvo je še danes del pomembne domače in izvozne trgovine. Z odprtjem železnice 1846 se je mesto pričelo vedno hitreje širiti na obe strani Drave. Danes je drugo največje mesto v Sloveniji.

Ogledali smo si Etnografski muzej v Mariborskem gradu, zgrajenem 1478–1483. Grad je grajen v baročnem in renesančnem stilu. V gradu, ki je od leta 1903 tudi del muzeja se lahko vidi arheološke, etnografske, oblačilne, kulturne in zgodovinske zbirke.

Maribor smo zapustili z najboljšimi vtisi. Popoldne smo se odpeljali do Rogaške Slatine, kjer je poznana trgovina z veliko izbiro lepega kristala in to po malo znižanih cenah. Potem pa kar nazaj proti Bledu. Vozimo se skozi Tuhinjsko dolino, Močnik, Zg. Tuhinj, Stara Sela, Kostanj, Šmartno, Vrhpolje, Kamnik itd. vse do Bleda. – Nadaljevanje –



Climbing to see the waterfall Rinka (Photo, Dolores Franko)



Josephine Tercek from New Jersey admired especially the Logarska dolina – Logar's Valley (Photo Janet Tercek)



Ptuj, the oldest town in Slovenia (Photo, Nika Kovacic)

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

We continue with our travelogue:

Part IV

After leaving "Bela Ljubljana" (White Ljubljana) we headed eastward toward Maribor, the second largest city in Slovenia. We made a short stop at the old town of Kamnik that is surrounded by the picturesque Kamnik mountains. It is a lovely town, only 23 km from Ljubljana. Festivals such as Medieval Days and a National Costume Parade in Kamnik are celebrated yearly. The baroque architecture of the manor homes and façades of town buildings, some from the 15th century, are especially interesting to historians. The most beautiful part of the town is, no doubt, the old town core with the prime example of 11th century architecture, the small castle, Mali grad. It contains two chapels on two floors above a crypt and has very thick walls with a connecting stairway. If you stand on the highest point of Mali grad you can view the surroundings and identify seven churches in the vicinity. (Nika said: "In this magical place I spent the years of tender childhood." She proudly walked us around her hometown and along the way we indulged in freshly roasted chestnuts being sold by a street vendor.)

We headed eastward, and came to one of the favorite tourist destinations in Slovenia, known for its exceptional vistas of the Savinjske-Kamniske mountains, the alpine valley first explored by a local mountaineer named Logar. Logar's valley now holds many tourist hotels and recreational centers and is a favorite vacation area with walking and biking paths, and horse-back riding facilities. Just sitting on the patio of one of these places is so relaxing, especially if you are enjoying a tasty snack at the same time. The hotels here are often used for professional exhibits, meetings, banquets and shows of all kinds. On a clear day, in this Logarska Valley, it would be hard to find a lovelier spot in all Slovenia.

Nearby is the waterfall "Rinka" that we visited the same day, giving us a chance to exercise a little while at the same time enjoying the scenic path up to the 100 meter high waterfall. The surrounding mountains are so close – one just feels so insignificant at their sight. At the very highest rocky precipice overlooking the mountain range is the "eagle's nest" (Orlov gnezd), on a ledge that serves as a tiny observatory. I think we all made the relatively easy climb, but not everyone got to that high spot. (In Slovenia these climbs are not along smooth, evenly-placed stones, or steps, in other words, they are not for leisurely walking.)

Deep into the valley between these majestic mountains we stopped to see the hilltop church of St. Francis Xavier (c. 1725). Next to it is a small museum that contains a valuable collection of mass vestments from very early history. Made of precious silks and gold and silver thread, some were the gifts of French and Polish Kings and Empress Marie Theresa of Austria. There is also a solid golden chalice (c. 1860) made by a French master and given by the French court of that time. The articles are priceless and the church itself has been beautifullý restored and re-covered in Italian Carrara marble.

Late in the day we arrived at Maribor, and went directly to the beautiful, new, ultra-modern Hotel Habakuk where we rested in gorgeously appointed rooms. Only two years old, it is located outside the city-center and next to a most modern new ski resort. The first thing on the agenda the following morning was a short ride to Ptujska gora to see the renowned marian pilgrimage church, home of the treasured sculptured relief of the Blessed Mother holding out her mantle to gather close to her the Slovenian population. It is from the 15th century and at the base are engraved the words: Mary of this mountain, save our Faith, Home and Nation. The mantle that covers the shoulders of the figure is 2 meters wide and it is made of one piece of marble. Because at one time this relief was a part of the facade of this church, placed high up on the tower, it was saved from destruction during two Turkish invasions. In 1780, however, it was brought down and is now a part of the interior of the church.

We were now deep into the area known as Stajerska. We visited Ptuj, the oldest city in Slovenia and one of the three cities remaining from Roman times, B.C. It was then known as Poetovio, (others are Ljubljana: Emona and Celje: Celeia). It is a very quaint and charming city with 12,000 inhabitants who enjoy gathering at the town square. Because of its statuary and imposing façades, this part of Ptuj is oftentimes used for tourism pictures of Slovenia. In the afternoon we visited a famous wine cellar to enjoy five of the specialty wines of Štajerska. After all, we needed to relax after our busy morning, and we were in one of Slovenia's major wine-growing regions (Slovenskih goric) that surrounded the city. In fact, just south of here is the famous Haloze wine-growing region. We all had a chance to buy some of this delicious wine to take back home as souvenirs!

Refreshed, we took a turn walking up the hill to see the Ptujski grad, (castle of Ptuj), an exceptionally preserved and carefully maintained jewel of Slovenia. Very professional guides take you from room to room, thoroughly explaining all the details. The oldest part of this castle is from the 12th century, and 400 years later it was restored and brought to its present beauty. For instance, the walls have treasured tapestries, ancient porcelains and the finest furniture in rooms made to look as they did in the mid 12th century.

At the end of the sightseeing day we stopped for dinner at a delightful restaurant in Jarenina, only 12 km from Maribor. The pastor of the town church invited us first into the church that dates from antiquity. He led us in singing some marian songs and asked us to join him at one of the side altars where he had photos, candles and refreshments all laid out for our "apertif" enjoyment. Nika noticed that the statues replicating the Grotto at Lourdes with the Blessed Mother and Bernadette were in their usual positions, except that this Blessed Mother was crowned and holding the Baby Jesus in her arms and Bernadette was dressed as a nun. One



Molly Thomas, Mara Chokel, Nika Kovacic and Tillie Ausich, all from Washington, D.C. area with Corinne Leskovar (standing) at the Jarenina Restaurant Hanzic. (Photo, Kathleen Dorchak)



Slomšek, a Slovenian hero (Photo, Jean Herbst)



The 400 year-old grape vine in Maribor (Photo, Nika Kovacic)

of the most delightful evening meals and entertainments awaited us.

Although each dinner time was special, this one stayed in our memories because the hospitality was so great. We listened to the music of Alfi Nipic, even danced a little, walked in and out from the dining room to the patio enjoying roasted chestnuts (it was the season) and joined the musicians singing at the tops of our voices every folksong we could remember. It helped to have Bill Lah from Hibbing, Minnesota with us. He brought out the old Zveza songbook every time he could! And did he love to sing!

Maribor, a cosmopolitan city indeed, is only 17 km from the border with Austria. Located right between Vienna and Trieste, city records show it was first considered as a city in 1254. Industries were leather tanning, millinery and of course, the growing and production of wine.

Since September 19, 1999, Maribor has also gained fame because of the only Slovenian named saint-candidate, Blessed Anton Martin Slomšek. The Cathedral where he served as Bishop contains his remains and there is a chapel in his honor. We were graciously welcomed by Fr. Franc Zdolšek, who resides at the Cathedral. He gave us an interesting accounting of the history of this church and Blessed Anton Martin. Many American Slovenians attended the beatification ceremonies in 1999 and remember being a part of the million people who welcomed Pope John Paul II. His Holiness also visited this Cathedral and prayed in the lovely chapel. We were all in awe of the magnificence of the gothic interior. Slomšek lived from 1800 until 1862 and was a contemporary of Bishop Frederik Baraga and poet, France Prešeren. He was a great Slovenian patriot who transferred the headquarters of the diocese from Carinthia's St. Andraž to Maribor, thereby recognizing Slovenia as a separate nation. This was a significant political event as well as of highest pastoral importance. Slomšek's books and poems, put to music, are well-known and beloved among us.

The city of Maribor has a riverfront setting on the historic river Drava that is now used mostly for recreational purposes but in past history was used as a commercial route between Slovenia and other parts of Europe. Down at the river's edge is a 400 year old living grape vine, that still produces annual yields, amazing!

To be continued

Bavaria, Oktoberfest, and Slovenia

Due to the great interest and enthusiasm of the membership attending our 75th Anniversary in March, SWU is planning an October excursion to Slovenia – to visit places we haven't as yet seen! There's a lot more beauty there – and we want everyone to have a chances to see it's glories!

More information in this ZARJA! Or call Kahleen Dorchak for latest information at (330) 686–1336! (Recipes from our Slovenia Tour, October, 2001)

COOKING SLOVENIAN!

APPLE STRUDEL (Sadni Štrudelj)

(24 slices)

1. Dough

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 whole egg
- 2 tablespoons oil
- 1 cup + 1-3 tablespoon very warm water (not boiling)

Mix the above ingredients together and proceed to make a stretched dough. Use a wooden board or a large table to work on. Knead dough well for at least 10 mintues and keep sifted flour handy to shake on the table during the process to keep the dough from sticking. The dough should be smooth, elastic and not too hard. The dough should be covered with a bowl for at least a halfhour.

- 2. Begin preparation of the filling
- a. 4 lbs. Granny Smith apples
- 6 tablespoons sugar
- 2 tablespoons lemon rind
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- b. ^{1/2} stick or 4 tablespoons sweet butter
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 4 heaping tablespoons plain bread crumbs

Peel and slice apples for strudel. Place in large bowl separately. Heat butter and oil in pan and add bread crumbs until slightly toasted. Then add sugar, cinnamon and lemon rind together with the sliced apples and lastly add the bread crumbs and mix everything together well.

Immediately top the spread-out dough with the filling and spread it evenly across the dough. If desired, you may add some freshly halved plums or cherries at this point. Roll up in a jelly roll-like fashion and transfer the rolled up strudel to a well-greased baking pan.

Brush 1 whole beaten egg or some sourcream on the strudel and bake in pre-heated oven at 375° for approximately 60–70 minutes.

Let strudel cool slightly before slicing and serving.

Suggestions to help in preparing the dough and completing the strudel:

Before mixing all the ingredients for the filling, prepare the stretched dough.

On a large table covered with a cloth and sprinkled flour, roll out the dough with a rolling pin in a small rectangular shape. Sprinkle a bit of oil evenly on the dough and spread with the palms of your hands to prevent it from sticking. Remember to gently pull and stretch the dough outward to a size of 26×50 .

From this dough three loaves can be made. Just cut the long roll into three equal parts. All three loaves may be baked in one baking pan. Use a baking pan that is at least 2 inches high.

SADNI ŠTRUDELJ (24 koščkov)

- 1.) Testo:
 - 3 cups presejane moke
 - 1 žličko (čajno) soli
 - 1 celo jajce;
 - 2 žlici (jušni) olja
 - 1 cup + 1-3 žlice (župne) tople (ne vrele) vode.

Na večji leseni deski ali mizi naredimo vlečeno testo. Testo dobro gnetemo vsaj 10 minut in po potrebi potresamo nadoknadno presejano moko po deski ali mizi, ko gnetemo testo. Testo naj bo gladko, elastično in ne pretrdo. Pustimo ga počivati na pomokani deski pokritega s skledo najmanj za $\frac{1}{2}$ ure.

2.) Ko testo počiva pripravimo nadev:

- a.) 4 lb. ali 10 velikih kislih jabolk (Granny Smith)
- 6 žlic (jušne) sladkorja
- 2 žlici (jušne) drobno naribane limonine lupinice
- 1 žličko (čajno) cimeta
- b.) ^{1/2} palčke ali 4 žlice sladkega surovega masla
- 2 žlici (jušni) olja
- 4 zvrhane žlice (jušne) kruhovih drobtin

Sister Nikolina, our cooking class teacher at the Franciscan Motherhouse at Repnje, near Ljubljana, endeared herself to all of our tourist-students for her energy and bustling movements in the kitchen! She kept us all very busy helping with the preparations and baking. We may have learned a few things, and her gracious acceptance of our group is greatly appreciated.

After bringing her recipes home, it became the task of Nika Kovacic (Br. 103 Washington, D.C.) to look over Sister's recipes and ready them for ZARJA. The translations in this issue were done by her daughter, Bernadette Fitzsimmons and have been tested again in Nika's kitchen.

NOTE: Nika uses the Slovenian words for tablespoon (jušne or župne žlice) and teaspoon (čajne žlice).

(Editor)

Jabolka olupimo in na drobno narežemo.

Pridamo na maslu in olju prepražene drobtine, sladkor, cimet in limonino lupinico.

Premešamo in nadev takoj porazdelimo po razvlečenem testu. Po jabolkih lahko še položimo pazpolovljene slive ali češnje. Zavijemo v zvitek ter prenesemo na dobro namazan pekač.

Štrudelj po vrhu rahlo namažemo s stolčenim jajcem ali pa s kislo smetano. Damo v vročo pečico in pečemo na 375° priblizno 60–70 minut.

Nekoliko ohlajen štrudelj razrežemo, po želji posladkamo in še toplega ponudimo.

NASVET:

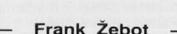
Predno zmešamo vse sestavine za nadev pripravimo raztegnjeno (vlečeno) testo.

Na večji mizi pogrnjeni s pomokanim prtom testo potolčemo, nekoliko razvaljamo, dobro pokapljamo z oljem in z dlanjo razmažemo, da se med vlečenjem ne sprime. Velikost vlečenega testa naj bo 26x50 inches.

Iz te velikosti testa se cel zvitek štrudeljna lahko razdeli (prereže) na 3 stručke.

Vse tri stručke se pečejo v enem pekaču, kateri naj bo vsaj 2 inches visok. SREČANJE MED POETOM IN SVETNIKOM





Pogledi Odnosi Srečanja

– Nadaljevanje –

Celovški razgovori

Prešeren je bil v resnici prvi slovenski kritik, čeprav se ta vloga splošno priznava Levstiku. V epigramih, sonetih in tudi drugih pesniških oblikah je grajal napake in nedostatke svojih sodobnikov. V tem ni delal razlike med nasprotniki in prijatelji, tudi ni bil zbirčen pri rabi besed. Med žrtvami njegovega ostrega žela niso bili samo Kopitar, Ravnikar, Pavšek, Vraz, Gaj, Mirku, Volkmar in Krempeli, prizanesel ni niti ožjim pri "Čbelici" Zupanu, Kastelicu, sodelavcem Levničniku in Holzapfelu. Tudi najboljši prijatelj Čop ni ušel njegovi vroči satiri. Slomšek se je kot tarča Prešernove kritike znašel v odlični družbi:

"Naj misli, kogar bi puščice te zadele, da na visoki vrh lete iz neba strele."

Slomškova zbirka ni bila vzvišena nad kritiko ali od nje imuna. Razen Prešerna jo je pograjal - seveda v mnogo milejši obliki - tudi ocenjevalec nemške literarne revije "Die Leipzige Biene". O priredbi pesmi pravi, da Slomšek povsod postavlja poleg utice še zakristijo. Vendar se Prešeren s sodbo o "neslanih pučah" ni izkazal preroka. Zbirka je bila tako priljubljena, da je bila natisnjena v štirih izdajah. Med pesmimi, ki jih je Slomšek "enokoljko popravil in na novo zložil", kar je Prešeren tako srdito obsodil v pismu Čelakovskemu, so tudi "Večernica" (Glejte!, že solnce zahaja), "Veselja dom" (Preljubo veselje, o kje si doma), "Veseli hribček" (En hribček bom kupil) in "Zdravica Slovencev" (Sloven'c Slovenca vabi). Te so se ljudstvu tako omilele, da so v kratkem postale pravi narodni zaklad. Kolikor tisoče krati so te pesmi donele v veselih slovenskih družbah, toliko tisoče krati je bila zavrnjena Prešernova sodba o njih.

Prešernova nepovoljna ocena Slomškove zbirke, izgleda, ni osenčila njunega vzajemnega prijateljstva, kar izpričujejo pohvalne pripombe o pesnikovih delih v Slomškovih pismih Čopu po Prešernovem odhodu iz Celovca. Prešeren pa je izkazal Slomšku posebno pozornost, ko mu je pred slovesom poklonil prav takrat izišli tretji zvezek "Čbelice", v katerega je lastnoročno vpisal Kopitarju namenjeni sonet "Apel in čevljar". Sonet bi moral biti objavljen prav v tej številki, pa ga je Čop izločil, da z objavo ne bi povečal Kopitarjevega srda zopr "Čbelico".

Zanimiva je usoda te Slomšku poklonjene knjižice. Slomšek jo je uvrstil v svojo osebno knjižnico. Ko je dr. Kovačič pisal Slomškov življenjepis, jo je našel v njegovi literarni zapuščini. Ker je knjižica zgodovinsko pomemben spomenik prijateljskih odnosov dveh velikih Slovencev, je dr. Kovačič izposloval, da je bila izročena v hrambo mariborski Študijski knjižnici. Tam pa se je med drugo svetovno vojno izgubila. Menda so jo nemški okupatorji požgali obenem z drugimi slovenskimi knjigami.

ILIRIZEM

V drugi tretjini 19. stoletja je za porajajoče se slovenstvo nastopila nova nevarnost, ki je grozila razrušiti njegove prav tedaj postavljene temelje. Pod vplivom romantike so tudi slovanski narodi poliglotske habsburške monarhije dvignili klic za duhovno zedinjenje. Slovanska vzajemnost naj bi slonela na štirih temelinih kamnih. Pesnik Jan Kollar (1793-1852) in slavist Pavel J. Šafařik (1795-1861), oba po rodu Slovaka, ki sta pisala v češčini, sta razvila v svojih spisih zamisel, po kateri bi se naj manjše etnične skupine odpovedale svoji individualnosti in se priključile eni izmed štirih jezikovnih edinic: ruski, poljski, češki ali ilirski. Tako bi bili postavljeni štiri mogočni jezovi, ki bi bolj uspešno kot večje število manjših zavrli valove potujčevanja. Najbolj navdušeno so se za ta načrt ogreli Hrvati, ki so pod ogrskim delom monarhije bili izpostavljeni radikalni madžarifikaciji. V šolah je bil učni jezik madžarski. Vpeljavati so ga prav v tisti dobi začeli tudi v cerkev. Hrvati so se upravičeno uprli nasilnemu potujčevanju. Rešitev so videli v ilirizmu, gibanju, ki bi naj jezikovno in kulturno združilo vse južne Slovane od Triglava do Črnega morja.

NADALJEVANJE

Najbolj znana je Slomškova pesem, Vesell hribček (1833),

En hribček bom kupil, bom trte sadil, Prijatlje povabil, še sam ga bom pil. Tam gori za hramom en trsek stoji, je z grozdjem obložen, da komaj drži. Že čriček prepeva, ne more več spat, v trgatev veleva, spet pojdemo brat... Konjički škrebljajo in vozjo težko, ker vince peljajo, k' je močno sladko. Prelepo rumeno kot čisto zlato, le pijmo pošteno prežlahtno blago...

ZANIMIVO PRIPOVEDOVANJE

Prilagam kratek popis iz obiska v Sloveniji s svojim sinom Stanetom in njegovo družino. V enem tednu smo prepotovali vsaj pol dežele. Moj sin Stane je predvsem hotel, da bi njegova otroka Nikolaj in Viktor spoznala deželo svojih dedov. Otroka sta z odprtimi očmi sprejemala vase nove vtise in zdaj že delata nacrte, kdaj in kako bosta znova odšla v Slovenijo.

Pravkar sem prejela zadnjo številko Zarje. Vedno jo z veseljem prebiram. Upam, da še en popis obiska v Sloveniji ne bo preveč, saj ob vsakem obisku odkrijem kaj novega. Zlasti me veseli napredek, ki ga je mogoče opaziti, odkar je Slovenija postala neodvisna država. Ko je prvo navdušenje minilo, so mnogo skoraj obupali pred nalogo, ki jih je čakala ob obnovitvi dežele. Prvih deset let je minulo kot blisk. Tisti, ki so doma se niti ne zavedajo, kako daleč so že prisli v graditvi svobodne, demokratično urejene družbe. Počasi spoznavajo, da demokracije ni mogoce ustvariti čez noč, da je to delo, ki se nikdar ne konča.

Bog nam daj nekaj poštenih in izkušenih mož in žena, ki bi bili pripravljeni delati samo za to.

Lepo pozdravljam,

Ivanka Velikonja Antolin Št. 103, Washington, D.C.

Pomlad 2002

Po deželi dedov in pradedov

Za velikonočne počitnice je šel Stane Antolin s svojo družino, ženo Peggy Barron in sinovoma Nikolajem in Viktorjem v Slovenijo. Za vodnika je šla z njimi stara mama Ivanka Velikonja Antolin.

Napravili so si natančen načrt, kje vse se bodo ustavili in koga bodo obiskali. Iz Amerike naj bi šli z letalom preko Toronta v Kanadi do Frankfurta in Münchena v Nemčiji. Pot se jim je nekoliko zamešala, ker so zaradi dolgih pregledov na letališču v Toronto zamudilil letalo za Frankfurt, ter so nato nekaj ur kasneje preko Londona prišli v München šele okrog šestih zvečer. Ker kovčki niso prišli z njimi, so morali ostati eno noč v Münchenu in so nadaljevali pot z najetim avtomobilom šele naslednji dan opoldne. A to je bila le sreča v nesreči. Vozili so se naslednji dan, lepo



Ivanka Antolin, Viktor, Peggy in Nicholas pred Ljubljansko univerzo

spočiti in v lepem vremenu preko Nemčije in Avstrije, zavili pri Beljaku na pot proti Italiji, po dolini Tagliamenta, preko Furlanske ravnine mimo Vidma (Udine) in Palmanove do vstopa v Slovenijo pri Gorici. Pregled na meji je bil hiter in brez zaprek in v pol ure smo bili na Brjah pri sestrični Alenki. Tam nas je čakala tudi njena mati, teta Mija. Vipavska dolina je bila pokrita s pomladnim cvetjem. Cveteče breskve so bile kot rožnati oblaki med njivami, češnje in hruške so blestele v večernem soncu.

Drugi dan je bila velikonočna nedelja in smo šli k maši v domačo cerkev. Cerkev je bila nabita. Presenetil nas je oltar okrašen z bujnim cvetjem in ubrano petje na koru. Za južino so nam postregli s šunko, pirhi in potico. Vse smo zalili z dobrim vipavskim vinom.

Popoldne smo se odpeljali proti slovenski obali, ki pa je na žalost na zapadni strani Trsta še vedno pod Italijo. Ogledali smo si Devinski grad le od daleč in nato stali na produ v Sesljanu ter gledali proti Trstu in dalje na Istrsko obalo. Sama od sebe nam je prisla na misel pesem o lepi Vidi, ki je pri morju stala in plenice prala, pa jo je črni zamorec odpelal v daljno Španijo, da bi skrbela za mladega španskega princa... Vida je spoznala, da je napravila napako, ko je zapustila svojega starega moža in bolno dete in je poslej pri oknu stala, povpraševala mesec, če kaj ve, kako je z njima in dan in noč jokala. Stari mami Ivanki so skoraj prišle solze v oči. Spomnila se je na čase, ko je ona v Španiji pri oknu stala in jokala, ker je bila tako daleč od doma, in čisto sama.

Proti veceru že smo se oglasili na Dolu, na Angeljski gori, na domu deda Narteja Velikonje. Na hiši je plošča z napisom:

> V TEJ HIŠI SE JE RODIL 8. JUNIJA 1891 NARTE VELIKONJA SLOVENSKI PISATELJ 1891 – 1945

Narte Velikonja, moj oče, Stanetov ded in Nikolajev in Viktorjev praded je bil od komunistov proglasen za izdajalca in kolaboracionista in je bil 25. junija 1945 obsojen na smrt in ustreljen. Njegova literarna dela so izginila iz knjižnic, kinjigaren and šolskih knjig za pedeset let. Še le ko je ob stoletnici njegovega rojstva Slovenija prvič zaživela v pravi svobodi kot samostojna država, je bil Narte Velikonja spet sprejet v deželi "med ljudi besede... med tiste, katerim pripadaš in ki mislijo, da branijo meje duha, ki so brezmejne. Upamo, da ne bo v tej deželi nobeden več umorjen, preganjan, ali zaprt in sojen zaradi izrečene misli, zaradi zapisane besede." (Iz govora Daneta Zajca ob odkritju plošče).

Naslednji dan smo se odpeljali preko Razdrtega mimo Postojne, skozi Škofjeloške Rovte do Škofje Loke, kjer smo se oglasili pri Jožetu Berniku, ki je Stanetov krstni boter. Dolga leta je živel in delal v Chicagu; zdaj pa je narodni poslanec v slovenski skupščini v Ljubljani.

Na velikonočni ponedeljek smo se pridružili praznovanju osemdesetletnice rojstva tete Mije, Marije Velikonja Kandus, najstarejše izmed desetih otrok Narteja in Ivanke Velikonja. Tam smo srečali več tet, stricev, bratrancev in sestričen kot jih je mogoče presteti na prstih obeh rok in nog. Starejši so obujali spomine in si pripovedovali svoje življenske zgodbe, otroci pa so se igrali in tekali pod kozolcem in med njimi ni bilo nobene jezikovne meje.

Stanetova žena Peggy Barron je imela raslednji dan poslovni sestanek v Kranju v podjetju Sava, ki izdeluje avtomobilske gume in je povezano s tvrtko Goodyear, kjer je Peggy zaposlena v Greensboro, v Združenih državah. Med tem ko je ona govorila z zastopniki "SAVE", smo si mi ogledali Kranj, zgodovinsko mesto, središče Gorenjske, dom največjega slovenskega pesnika Prešerna. Našli smo njegov veličasten spomenik, in mali Viktor se je obesil na pesnikovo roko in se veselo pozibal.

Pot nas je nato peljala do Bleda, kjer smo dobili izvrstno južino, nato pa odšli do Bohinja. Zdaj smo morali izbirati med obiskom slapa Savice ali pa oditi z žičnico na Vogel. Ker so pred enim letom zgradilo novo žičnico, smo izbrali to in bili v desetih minutah tisoč metrov nad Bohijskim jezerom v slovenskih Alpah. Kaksen razgled! Gore so bile se vedno pokrite s snegom, Triglav je bil zavit v meglo, jezero pa se je svetilo v soncu.

Vrnili smo se v dolino in se znova odpeljeli do Bleda in se povzpeli na Blejski grad. Od tam se nam je odprl pogled na Gorenjsko, na Stol in Begunščico, na Babji zob tik nad jezerom. Ni čudno, da je toliko slovenskih pesnikov in pisateljev izšlo iz "te podobe raja" kot ga imenuje Prešeren. Pesem se ti kar sama od sebe porodi v glavi, ko gledaš ta čudovit svet.

Na povratni poti smo se se oglasili pri Mariji Pomagaj na Brezjah. Ni bilo časa, da bi odšli v Begunje, do rojstne hise nadškofa Antona Bonaventure Jegliča. Njegov brat Jozef je oče naše stare mame Ivanke Jeglič Velikonja.

V sredo smo si ogledali Ljubljano. Ljubljana – ljubljena, Emona – amata kot jo imenuje Ivan Pregelj v svojih spisih. Stoji na tem mestu že od rimskih časov, kot nam spričuje kip Emonca, ki stoji v Zvezdi, prav blizu tam, kjer so ga našli zakopanega skoraj dva tisoc let.

V mesto smo se peljali z avtobusom. Šli smo mimo neboticnika do pošte, nato pa hodili do Cankarjevega doma in do skupščine, preko kongresnega trga mimo ljubljanske univerze, mimo Oražnovega doma, kjer je kot študent stanoval naš oče Viktor Antolin, do frančiškanske cerkve in tromostovja, potem pa na grad, ki je zdaj ves lep in prenovljen. Nato smo si se Ogledali ljubljanski trg. Šli preko zmajskega mostu, po stari Šempeterski cesti, zdaj se menda imenuje Trubarjeva ulica, do Šempeterske cerkve, kjer je bila krščena naša mama Ivanka Velikonja Antolin in več njenih bratov in sestra. Stane je slikal hišo, v kateri so Velikonjevi živeli kakih petnajst let vse do tragičnih dogodkov leta 1945, ko so se otroci razpršili po svetu in sta papa in mama slavila 10. maja petindvajseto obletnico poroke le v družbi najmlajsih, desetletne Mete in devetletne Lenčke. Papa je bil naslednji dan aretiran in je začel pot do mučeniške smrti.

Še toliko stvari je v Ljubljani, a mi smo morali oditi proti Prekmurju, kjer nam je tri dni preje umrla teta Angela, najmlajša sestra našega oceta. Preko Trojan, mimo Celja in Maribora smo do sedmih zvečer prisli do Radencev k Autolinovim. Stane je omenil, da je ta dan Peggin stirideseti rojstni dan. Čudežno se je na mizi pojavil velik sadni kolač s štirimi prižganimi svečami. Veselo smo zapeli vse najboljše za rojstni dan in se lotili predobre sladice.

Spomini, spomini, spomini! Pregledovali smo slike, stare in nove. Mama Ivanka je namreč bila tukaj na obisku 11. septembra 2001 in je tukaj gledala na televiziji, kako so se letala zaletela v New Yorku v World Trade Center Twin Towers in so se ti nato v ognju in dimu zrušili.

Naslednji dan smo šli še v Odrance v hišo, ki stoji na mestu rojstne hiše Viktorja Antolina. Staro, leseno, s slamo krito hišo so namrec podrli in sezidali nov, prikupen dom. Skoraj vse hiše po Prekmurju so prezidane. Le malo jih je ohranilo lesene stene in slamnato streho.

Že se je večerilo, ko smo se poslovili in se odpeljeli nazaj proti Mariboru. Tam nas je čakal še eden Viktorjev nečak, Kornelij Antolin z družino. Čeprav smo bili že utrujeni, smo se dolgo v noč govorili, obnovili prijateljstvo in obujali spomine.

V soboto zjutraj smo odleteli preko Frankfurta do Toronta in nato v North Carolino Domov? Seveda domov, saj smo Amerikanci, Amerikanci slovenskega rodu.

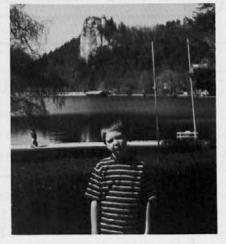
Ivanka Velikonja Antolin



Zmajski most - Peggy in Ivanka



Pri Bernikovi hiši v Skofji loki



Viktor, v ozadju je Blejski grad

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*TO PA GOTOVO VESTE, da je v Sloveniji veliko majhnih vasi in krajev z ozkimi cestami in drvećimi avtomobili.

> (Zbrala po pripovedovanju vodiča v Sloveniji) Nika B. Kovačič



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