



ZARJA THE DAWN

URADNO GLASILO
SLOVENSKE ŽENSKÉ ZVEZE



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HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN DECEMBER

Presidents:

- Dec. 5 - Rose Marie Streckel, Br. 26, Pittsburgh, PA
- Dec. 6 - Stella Ciccioni, Br. 70, W. Aliquippa, PA
- Dec. 14 - Josephine Mohorcic, Br. 25, Cleveland, OH
- Dec. 15 - Victoria Volk, Br. 99, Elmhurst, IL
- Dec. 21 - Mary Mihelich, Br. 79, Enumclaw, WA
- Dec. 28 - Agnes Tomazic, Br. 40, Lorain, OH
- Dec. 30 - Jennie Gerk, Br. 47, Garfield Hts., OH
- Dec. 31 - Josephine Kapla, Br. 81, Keewatin, MN
- Dec. 31 - Frances Vidmar, Br. 83, Crosby, MN

DATES TO REMEMBER CHRISTMAS PARTIES AND OTHER EVENTS:

- Dec. 1 - Br. 73, Warrensville Hts., OH, Christmas Dinner at Joanne French's home, 6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 2 - COMBINED BRANCHES OF CLEVELAND, Sterle's 1 p.m., BR. 14, EUCLID, OH
Dinner Reservations call Marty Koren 585-4227 or Vera Bajec 481-7473
- Dec. 3 - BR. 33, DULUTH, MN
Meeting - Penny Social at St. Elizabeth's Hall
- Dec. 4 - BR. 2, CHICAGO, IL
Mass for ailing members, 8 a.m.
- Dec. 6 - BR. 32, EUCLID, OH
Craft & Bake Sale, Euclid Clubhouse, 1-4 p.m.
- Dec. 7 - BR. 2, CHICAGO, IL
Advent Tea, St. Stephen's hall after Masses
BR. 19, EVELETH, MN
Dinner, Resurrection Church Hall, 1 p.m.
BR. 22, BRADLEY, IL
Dinner, South China Restaurant
BR. 47, GARFIELD HTS., OH
Pot-Luck, SNH Maple Hts., 1 p.m.
BR. 67, BESSEMER, PA
- Dec. 9 - BR. 56, HIBBING, MN
KC Hall

Secretaries:

- Dec. 9 - Elizabeth Birk, Br. 84, New York, NY
- Dec. 9 - Julia Trowbridge, Br. 100, Fontana, CA
- Dec. 25 - Jennie Mayasich, Br. 65, Virginia, MN
- Dec. 29 - Marge Church, Br. 42, Maple Hgts., OH

MANY HAPPY RETURNS OF THE DAY!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN JANUARY

National Officer:

- Jan. 6 - Irene Odorizzi, Cultural Heritage Officer, Reston, VA

Presidents:

- Jan. 2 - Kay Yuratovac, Br. 73, Warrensville Hgts., OH
- Jan. 4 - Elizabeth Kinder, Br. 22, Bradley, IL
- Jan. 11 - Frances Corel, Br. 93, Brooklyn, NY
- Jan. 11 - Kathleen Podobnik, Br. 96, Universal, PA
- Jan. 19 - Martina Michals, Br. 19, Eveleth, MN
- Jan. 23 - Mary Mundson, Br. 47, Garfield Hgts., OH

Secretaries:

- Jan. 5 - Mary Jackovich, Br. 28, Calumet, MI
- Jan. 12 - Mary Krall, Br. 37, Greaney, MN
- Jan. 14 - Virginia Zevkovich, Br. 57, Niles, OH
- Jan. 18 - Mary Swaggard, Br. 6, Barberton, OH
- Jan. 20 - Angela Mobilia, Br. 23, Ely, MN
- Jan. 24 - Mary Slaney, Br. 26, Pittsburgh, PA



- Dec. 10 - BR. 28, CALUMET, MI
Christmas Party
- Dec. 10 - BR. 95, SO. CHICAGO, IL
Christmas Party
- Dec. 11 - BR. 2, CHICAGO, IL
Mass at St. Stephen's 7 p.m. followed by Dinner
- Dec. 12 - BR. 16, SO. CHICAGO, IL
St. John's, Call Albina Sreboth for reservations, 221-4028.
- Dec. 14 - BR. 50, CLEVELAND, OH
SND Holmes, 1 p.m.
- Dec. 16 - BR. 54, WARREN, OH
Luncheon, Elks Club, Rt. 422, 1:30 p.m.
- Dec. 17 - BR. 32, EUCLID, OH
Christmas party, 7:00 p.m. at Rechar's Hall
- Dec. 17 - BR. 43, MILWAUKEE, WI
Luncheon, Packing House, noon, Reservations, Rose Kraemer 481-7357 by Dec. 10
- Dec. 18 - BR. 12, MILWAUKEE, WI
Crystal Palace
- Dec. 21 - BR. 17, WEST ALLIS, WI
Christmas Party
- Dec. 21 - BR. 17, WEST ALLIS, WI
BR. 20, JOLIET, IL
Brunch at Flick's Champagne Room, Shorewood
- Dec. 21 - BR. 42, MAPLE HTS., OH
Bus Tour of Akron Christmas Lights, etc.
SNH, 2:00 p.m.

Thru the wonderous eyes of children...we see Christmas!

Christmas is a time when we try hard to be children in spirit. We all want to recapture the trust, hope, love and beauty of Christmas as we knew it, as children. The Child came to make His presence known on earth as the smallest of us, to tell us how simple and pure is God's love. And, our response? We grow up forgetting what it was like to believe that everything new is really beginning with the night of Christ's birth...to anticipate and hope...to believe and trust.

It is difficult to be a child again. So many material things get in the way. We have so many worries, so many chores, so many obligations that come with the holiday. While trying to make Christmas all that is expected of us, we usually neglect the simple truth that Christmas is a spiritual lesson that we can apply to everyday living, putting the fairy-tale-like story of Christmas into its own reality.

It applies to me as it does to you. If we could only...remember...

That Christ was born without comfort or luxury.

There was no money, presents, parties, in His economic strata.

His family meant everything to him.

He loved and accepted the smallest animals, poorest people, most unlikely surroundings.

He came and said: I am here! I am here for you to come to me and believe in me.

That all we do, say and feel, can mean more if we try to be more like Him.

Do you think the little boy on our cover is listening to the ring of the little bell in his ear, or is he listening for a song that will make him feel more loved? Is the little girl touching a star or seeing the shining light in her mother's eyes? Is the tree full of ornaments beautiful because it is an artistic wonder or because father and mother placed it there so lovingly?

Oh, I hope I can make this Christmas the kind that children believe in, and I hope you do, too!

*** **V ISKREČIH OTROŠKIH OČEH JE MOGOČE PREPOZNATI BOŽIČ** ***

Božič je čas, ko se vsi trudimo, da bi postali otroci in sicer otroci v duhu. Ponovno bi radi, da bi se v naša srca naselilo upanje, ljubezen in lepota Božiča, kot smo vse to doživljali v naših nežnih otroških letih. Na svet prihaja nedolžen otrok, otrok kot mi, vendar otrok, ki nosi veselo sporočilo božje ljubezni. In kaj je naš odgovor? Se vam ne zdi, da z našim odraščanjem raste tudi vse večje pozabljanje na vse kar se sveti v prelepi iskreči zarji upanja, da pozabljamo na tisto čudovito noč, noč skrivnostne božje bližine Kristusovega rojstva, noč rojstva upanja in vere.

Težko je ponovno postati otrok. Toliko stvari je, ki nas ovirajo, toliko skrbi nas tare, toliko obeznosti nas čaka, da bo praznik Božiča zares po našem okusu. In res, kaj vse je treba še postoriti pred bližajočimi prazniki in ob vsem tem se rado zgodi, da spregledamo najbistvenejše, pozabimo, da je Božič naš samo tedaj, ko skrivnostno presenečenje božične noči postane naš Božič. Se je ob vsej navlaki, ki jo proizvaja komercialna sploh še mogoče spomniti, da je bil Kristus rojen brez vsakega luksusa, brez denarja, brez daril, brez praznovanja. Njegova starša sta bila edina svetla zvezda njegovega rojstva. Toda bil je rojen z ljubeznijo in iz ljubezni. Bil je rojen za ljubezen in sprejemanje: Sprejel je vse, sprejel je prijazne živali, uboge in revne ljudi, sprejel je nenavadno okolje.

Da, tukaj sem, tu sem za vas, da pridete k meni in verujete vame - to je njegovo poslanstvo.

Kaj niso majhni otroci s prazničnimi simboli njegovi najljubši glasniki? Kaj se ne svetijo v njihovih očeh radostni pesmi? Kaj ne izžarevajo njihovi obrazi materine ljubezni in očetovega razumevanja? Kaj ni drevo odsev skrbne roke, ki je vse lepo namestila?

Upam, da lahko naredim ta Božič, Božič naših otroških src, Božič vere in zaupanja v svetlejši jutri in vem, da ste tega sposobni tudi vi.



Happy Anniversary,
Officers and Members!

— 60 —

Our Founder

MARIE PRISLAND

June 21, 1890 — September 13, 1979

Many memories arise when we look upon the faces of our beloved pioneer leader of "Zveza" and we share with you their hopes and dreams that this organization will continue to prosper for many years to come! God bless each of them and all of you.

* * *

†Josephine Erjavec, †Bara Kramer †Josephine Erjavec, Josephine Muster (Joliet, Illinois), †Marie Prisland, †Albina Novak, †Marie Floryan, Ella Starin (Cleveland, Ohio), †Josephine Sumic and †Josephine Zeleznikar.



A d v e n t

Advent asks us if we are using our time to prepare for Jesus's return. Are we using our time to help realize the reign of God among all?

Instead of concentrating solely on our own preparation and celebration of Christmas let us also include the forgotten and hungry children in our celebration of the birth of Jesus.

Encourage our children to drop a few of their own coins into the Advent collection for the poor and hungry of the world.

Thoughts to ponder are, "How often do the presents of Christmas get in the way of the real Gift? How alert can we be to the message of the nativity when frequently it is the furthest thing from our minds?"

We must act in the way of the Spirit, with wisdom and courage, and address the problems of the poor and unjustly treated at home and abroad.

We needn't go far to encounter conditions of poverty and injustice. Consider the country of Columbia, the violence, poverty and destruction that is rampant there, the children of Lebanon, many of whom have known nothing but constant war. Also the children of Beirut's war-torn rubble, the most discouraged children might still be able to look up and see a peace and beauty in the world that is real and very possible.

Where we least expect to find God is often where the presence of God is most pronounced. God is in suffering as well as in joy. God is in the abandoned as well as the cared for, the sick as well as the healthy. In this holiday season, therefore, as we welcome our Savior into our lives, we must open our hearts, not only to the precious smiling and beautiful Christ Child, but to the cold, lowly child of humble birth and in doing so, recognize the world's street children and other innocent victims of war and poverty. For they *too* are the king of glory.

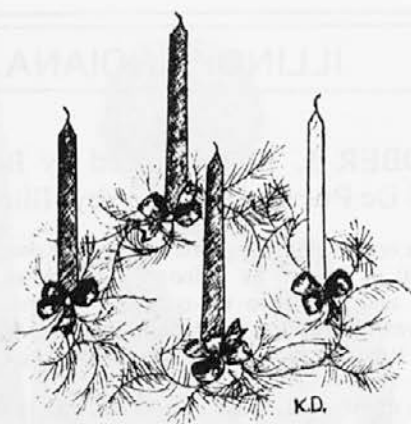
Rev. Athanasius Lovrenčić, O.F.M.

The Crib

Today we live a life full of anxieties: our financial problems, problems with children, our personal or we could say spiritual problems. All these things press on us. Many times we walk through life subdued. But in this season we would like to push aside all that bothers us, and free us of all anxieties and with simplicity in our hearts approach the crib and admire the divine Love. Once a year we become like children and filled with admiration join the millions who through the centuries knelt before the crib thanking our heavenly Father who sent His Son. Jesus came to become one of us, so that we do not walk alone. In all the multitudes of philosophies today, which in vain try to solve the mystery of human life, the only answer we find is the Baby in the Christmas crib. The Christmas crib with the little Baby brings us inner peace and joy. The crib is teaching us a good lesson; as Baby Jesus who lay in the crib had a purpose, so does the life of every new born baby, so does our life have a purpose.

The crib teaches us of infinite love and care of our heavenly Father. Little babies are very vulnerable, that is the reason that God put them in care of parents with great love. We too are vulnerable physically and spiritually, but our heavenly Father sent His Son, to be our strength, our joy and the way in our lives.

May this divine Baby of Bethlehem bless you and your homes!



The President's Message

Holiday greetings to you all. May the Christ Child extend His blessings on you and your families.

Most branches have Christmas parties for junior members as well as adults. This is a good time to invite friends to participate and perhaps join the SWU.

These past few months State Conventions have taken place, with opportunities to get input from various localities. Let us keep our minds and hearts open to suggestions that were made, especially beneficial, with the upcoming National Convention. We will need the interest and participation of each delegate, therefore, choose your delegates with this in mind. If you have any questions, please, feel free to write, I will be glad to hear from you, as I am sure, will the other members of the board. My address is: 8021 E. Osborn Rd., Apt. 103B, Scottsdale, AZ. 85251.

We have a new contributor to ZARJA "The Strategic Consumer". Welcome to the fold Bernadette J. Kovacic, it is refreshing to read an article that pertains to "here and now". It would be nice to hear from our young members, perhaps telling about their interests and activities.

I was very happy to receive cards filled with the names of members attending the conventions in Sheboygan and Illinois. I miss the participation very much, therefore, depending on my husband's state of health, we would like to relocate back among our friends.

To our December birthday and anniversary celebrants, we wish the best of everything.

Many of our members and friends are ailing, among them Anna Pachak; please remember them and my Wally in your prayers.

During the holiday season, let us, especially, ask God's mercy on our beloved deceased, that they may be with Him throughout eternity.

May God Walk With You.

Mary Muller



ILLINOIS-INDIANA STATE CONVENTION MINUTES

OCTOBER 5, 1986. Hosted by Branches 85 De Pue and 89, Oglesby, Illinois

The opening greetings were given by Rose Ann Prey, President of Branch 89 welcoming the clergy, honored officers and guests to enjoy the lovely buffet-dinner which was prepared at the Hotel Kaskaskia in La Salle, Illinois. Rev. Bernard Horzen gave a blessing and recited grace.

The dinner was enjoyed by all and during the serving of the desserts, prizes were awarded to the guests. After the dinner, President, Angela Nico, called the meeting to order and introduced the following:

Corinne Leskovar, Editor of Zarja, Olga Ancel, National Secretary of S.W.U., Emma Foly, Br. 89 Treasurer, Rose Ann Prey, Br. 89 President, Gen Grile, Br. 85 President, Rev. Bernard Horzen, O.S.B., teacher at St. Bede's Rev. Deo Gratias Mutefunya, pastor of St. Mary's, DePue, and Spiritual Advisor of Br. 85 and Eunice Komater, recording secretary of Br. 89.

Rev. Bernard Horzen took a few moments to reflect on days in the past. *"There should be no room for pessimism in our lives. To keep faith alive we must learn to love, for love can release the power within us."* Father Bernard invited all present to attend the Slovenian Litany at Resurrection Church, LaSalle, Illinois. Litany of the Blessed Mother will be followed by Benediction.

Rev. Deo Gratias Mutefunya gave a short after-dinner speech and was very sorry to leave so abruptly. He thanked all Slovenian women for their patience and kindness and for inviting him to participate.

A "Pledge of Allegiance" was given and the convention opened by President, Angela Nico.

Three letters were read by Angela Nico: one from Mary Muller, National President, sending her regrets that she was unable to be with us; Rev. Athanasius Lovrenčič, National Spiritual Advisor, could not come due to other commitments; Rev. David Stalzer also had to decline the invitation. They all sent their regrets and wished us a lot of luck in our endeavors.

Angela Nico then introduced Corinne Leskovar, Editor of Zarja, who suggested that young leadership is needed to help in the branches where most of the members are senior citizens. She spoke about the new "Pots and Pans" Cook Book being in its third printing and that books will sell for \$9 each. Corinne also read a poem from "Rože z mojih vrtov" (Flowers From My Gardens), written by Mary Štangelj Murn. It was a poem on love which seemed to be appropriate for the occasion. The book sells for \$8.50 and is a must for 1 who love poems of "laughter, love and tears."

Corinne stated that every member is valuable in all undertakings: "please pick your convention delegates so that they will be capable and willing to work towards the future of the organization whether on a national level, statewide or locally."

The Baraga Movement has been active for the Canonization of Bishop Frederick Baraga, and we of the Slovenian Women's Union could become members and subscribe to their bulletin for a total yearly cost of \$5. It will all help in some way towards the goal. Corinne also gave special thanks to the reporters and to all who work so diligently for ZARJA.

Presentation of \$1,000 was made by Frances Morison from Branch 2, Chicago: \$500 was given for the Heritage Museum, accepted by Dorothy Mahan and \$500 was presented for the National Scholarship Fund. Olga

Ancel, National Secretary, accepted the check with thanks.

Pauline Klobucar made a presentation to the Heritage Museum of a beautiful Baraga quilt designed and hand sewn by Clare Beaudoin, a member of the Daughters of Isabella of Calumet, Michigan. A beautiful set of 6 pictures was presented by Mary Stone. Also given to the Museum was a beautiful religious picture of Marija Pomagaj of Brezje. A wooden potato masher was brought from her native home in Slovenia by Frances Oberstar Meglan, a member of Br. 24, La Salle, Ill. It was given by her daughter, Agnes Meglan Bartley who is now 94 years old. She was unable to attend, so Mary Gramc made the presentation. Old and valuable mementos and books will be accepted by the Heritage Museum at any time.

Reports of Branch Delegates

Branch 2, Chicago, Illinois

Frances Morison, Delegate:

Branch membership was reported as follows: 62 Class A, 37 Class A over 75, 169 Class B, 23, Class B over 75, 133 Juniors and 42 Socials, total 466 members.

Meetings are well-attended with 65 to 80 members present and 100 members at special event meetings. A special theme is chosen for each month. Meetings are pleasant and informative. They are blessed to have such a fine group of women working together to further the goals of SWU.

All of the year's events were shown in a slide presentation given by Mrs. Morison such as: Penny Social, Advent Tea, Children's Christmas Party, Adult Christmas Party, Zveza Day and Picnic, St. Joseph-St. Patrick Celebration, trips to South Chicago, Games Party and Bowling Tournament. They have been asked many questions as to the reasons for their success and they hope the slide show will help and encourage others in similar endeavors.

They suggest forming committees to help attract young members and to make the branches more appealing. One 50 year member will be recognized this year, her name is Mary Raunikar.



The \$1,000 donation of Br. 2 was given to the Heritage Museum representative, Dorothy Mahan, left and for the Scholarship Fund, accepting the check from president, Frances Morison is Nat'l secretary, Olga Ancel.

Br. 5, Indianapolis, IN

Josephine Turk, Delegate (absent):

Delegate sent in the following report to State President Angia Nico which was read at the convention.

There are a total of 76 members, 44 in Class A, 16 over 75 in Class A, 5 Class B, 2 over 75, Class B and 5 Juniors.

Meetings are held every February to make plans for the Fresh Sausage Sale and Mother's Day Party. September is a business meeting and the Christmas Party is held in November due to so many other activities in December. Hospitalized members receive a card and monetary gift of \$5.

Deceased members are remembered with a Mass offering; the driver for the honorary pallbearers receives \$5. They have one charitable project every year. Masses for the deceased members are sent to the Franciscan Fathers in Lemont, Ill. and to Canada. They have members who have been in SZZ for 50 years and ask for an appropriate gift for them from the Home Office.

The branch is not an active one. It is an older group of members with very few younger ones, who do not attend. Most of the young mothers are very active in sports, church functions and school. The older members, a few, come to the parties and enjoy it very much. They were the workers in their younger days.



The quilt donated by Polly Klobucar, depicts the life of Bishop Baraga of Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

Br. 16, South Chicago, Illinois

Frances B. Zupancic, Delegate:

Report showed Class A, 17 members, A over 75 years, 13 members, Class B 98 members, 75 years old in Class B, 5 and Juvenile members, 36. They also have 13 social members, total 182. They meet every second Thursday of the month except January, July and August. There are 30 to 40 members attending meetings. They also have a good attendance at wakes for members and their families. They would like to recognize all members of Br. 16 for their generosity and cooperation. A special accolade to Polly Klobucar for her continued devotion to the Canonization of Bishop Baraga. A special thank you to the family of Ann Klobucar for their generous donation which enabled them to contribute \$100 to the restoration fund for the Statue of Liberty. Highlights are: the annual fund-raiser during April, this year very rewarding (they thank branches 2 and 95 for their attendance. They were able to donate \$100 to the Heritage Museum in Joliet plus help the pastor at St. George's Church); Mother or Woman of the Year dinner is held in May including crowning of the Blessed Mother; Members



Polly Klobucar presented a very old picture of Marija Pomagaj to the Heritage Museum.

attending 6 or more meetings of the year are invited to participate in a free dinner. This year there were 24 members. They try to attend Zveza Day in Lemont. A bus was hired for this convention. There are 28 members, 6 guests and the driver present.

Christmas party is a festive affair and it is attended by 100 members and guests.

Branch 20, Joliet, Illinois

Mildred Pucel, Delegate:

President and delegate reported their membership totalled 562 as follows: Class A, 222, Class B 240, Juniors 100, and this year they lost 5 members including charter member Mary Kunstek and secretary for the past 10 years, Agnes Lovati. Between 25 and 30 attend regular meetings. In May, Sept. and Oct. meetings are held in the evenings and in Nov., Jan., Feb. and March and April, on Sunday afternoons.

They wish to recognize Rev. David Stalzer for his dedication in promoting the Miners and Laborers Memorial and also his work towards the Restoration of the State of Liberty.

An accolade for Helen Plut, Zarja reporter and in memory of deceased member, Agnes Lovati, who held the secretary's office so successfully.

The branch had a benefit dinner-dance on Nov. 2nd 1985 and a total of \$6,100 made from various fund-raisers was given towards the restoration of the Statue of Liberty from Br. 20.

The Christmas Brunch was held at the Holiday Inn with 75 members plus husbands and guests. In January they held installation of officers followed by a celebration. In February the Valentine gift exchange resulted in every member contributing towards the Shepherd's soup kitchen. The First Midwest Bank sponsored an Ethnic Day "Liberty Coins Kickoff" and gave \$150 which they turned over to the Statue of Liberty Fund. In May the "Woman of the Year" was Mary Anzelc and a tribute was made to Our Lady of Brezje, Patroness of Slovenians by Rev. David Stalzer. Proceeds went to Hands Across America. The branch also donated \$20 towards this event. An Anniversary Mass for deceased and living members was celebrated June 10, 1986. In July many members attend Zveza Day in Lemont, Illinois.

On July 30th, the Joliet members went by bus to Chisholm, Minn. to attend the dedication of the Slovenian Miners and Laborer's Memorial at Iron World, USA. They also toured the Iron Ore Mine at Soudan, Minn. Rev. David Stalzer and artist, Lillian Brulc, member of Br. 20, were recipients of much praise for a job well done. Special appreciation to Jenny Lu Skul who edited the beautiful program book.

Bowling League of the branch has six teams in full swing weekly at Joliet Rival's Lanes. On Oct. 4th, the annual Grape Festival dance took place and the proceeds used to pay dues for members over 80 years of age.

They will be hosting the National Convention next year. The dates are Thursday, May 14 through Sunday, May 17th, 1987. Tentative plans are as follows:

Thursday, State President's Meeting; Friday and Saturday, Convention Sessions all day; Saturday evening, Grand Banquet and Dance; Sunday, Mass and Brunch. The Convention chairperson is Helen Horwath, a very capable member.

Thanks to DePue and Oglesby branches for their hospitality.

Branch 22, Bradley, Illinois

Margaret Planton, Delegate:

The members of Br. 22 consists of 9 Class A members, 4 Class A 75 years old, 6 B members and 3 social members. Three members reside out-of-state. Meetings are held every other month in members' homes. Usually 14 members attend. At the meetings they hold a money-maker and the proceeds are used to defray the cost of transportation to the convention. After the business meeting they socialize and play games. They have a special celebration for Mothers of the Year. At Christmas they dine out at a local restaurant with games following at one of the members' homes.

Several members do volunteer work at St. Mary's Hospital, Lady of Victory Nursing Home and Heritage House. They also donate to United Parents for Exceptional Children. Cards and a monetary gift are sent to the sick and Masses are said for deceased members. They look forward to receiving the ZARJA. It helps keep them in touch with all the branches and their activities. "Everyone enjoys reading The Immigrant and we must not forget the recipes in Pots & Pans."

They have 5 members celebrating 50 years membership and they are:

Helen Sebastiani, Anna Richards, Gabrielle Lustig, Antoinette Legris and Elizabeth Kinder. They have two charter members, Anna Jamnik and Rose Barothy.

Branch 24, La Salle, Illinois

Anne Marie Wangler, Delegate:

She reported the branch has a total of 102 members, 8 of whom are Juniors and they average about 12 members at the meetings which are six times a year in March, April, June, September, October and November.

In May they have the Mother of the Year dinner and in December, a Christmas Party. There are no meetings in January and February because of the inclement weather and no meetings in July or August due to vacations.

A suggestion was made that a visit to the branches from some of the National Officers might be beneficial. Members who do not get to the conventions do not have a chance to meet any of them and it might encourage new activities and new members.

Anne Marie stated: "My mother, Anna Lushina, is a 50 year member this year. She is home-bound and cannot

get out to any of our meetings or activities. I'd like to be able to present the award to her."

Highlights of the activities in the past year were: Hosting the 1985 State Convention. A lovely Christmas Party; May "luncheon" was enjoyed instead of the Mother of the Year Dinner. They provide honorary pallbearers and 2 masses are offered for a deceased member.

Spiritual Advisor, Rev. James Swaner, celebrated his 25th anniversary in the priesthood. Br. 24 joined in the festivities and presented him a gift.

Several members make routine visits to local nursing homes and hospitals and visit with shut-in and ill members. They were looking forward to Oct. 12th and the Singing Litany in Slovenian and and Benediction with Rev. Bernard Horzen at Resurrection Church, La Salle.

Branch 85, DePue, Illinois

Mary Jermenc, Delegate:

Reported were 9 Class A members, 16 Class B, 2 in Class A over 75 years old and 1 Class B over 75, also 1 junior member and 1 social member, total, 30 members. There are approximately 9 members in attendance at meetings. When anything important comes up a special meeting is called. Generally they meet 4 or 5 times a year. They have no suggestions at this time for improving the organization but hope that the dues are not raised.

At this time, Mrs. Jermenc recognized all of the members who cooperated and worked to help Br. 89 in making the convention a success.

Branch 89, Oglesby, Illinois

Rose Ann Prey, Delegate:

There are 28 Class A members, 8 Class A over 75, 1 Class B, total 37 members. Meetings are held on the second Monday at Dickinson House. No meetings in January or February due to inclement weather. Approximately 13 or 14 members are present and refreshments are served. Names are called for prizes or "B" is enjoyed. The ZARJA is enjoyed as is the Pots & Pans cookbook.

Br. 89 has decided to recognize two members per year. They have named their award: "You are Special". Mary Kernz, financial secretary, was their first choice for the honor. She has been a very active and dedicated member for many years.

At the Mother-Daughter Banquet held May 12th at the Fireside, Emma Foltz, treasurer, was named Mother of the Year. She was presented with two special plaque awards, from State Senator Patrick D. Welch and State Representative Richard Mautino.

50 Year members are congratulated this year: Anna Krancic, Frances Mozina, Alvie Jerin, Elsa Zobavnik. They were very happy to co-host the State Convention with sisters of Br. 85 and were very pleased to see so many present. "You all really made our day! Many thanks to all!"

Branch 95, South Chicago, Illinois

No delegate was listed. President Mildred James, sent the following report to the State President, Angie Nico which was read at the Convention.

Class A, 2 members, Class A 7 members over 75 years of age, Class B, 134 members and 13 over 75 years. Juniors, 5 and Social members, 10. Total 171 members.

When meetings are held, there are 30 to 46 members in attendance. Suggestions for improving the organization would be to enroll young members. In the membership now are senior citizens.

The members that they wish to recognize at this time are: Evelyn Driscoll, Charlotte Fryza, Mary (Bob) Perkovich, Manda Dosen, Helen Santy, Anne Yosue, Harriet Isek, Mary Ann Toporis, Anna Granich, Helen Price, Lottie Brkljaciach and Mary Brozynski.

For their Mother's Day Party they will travel to Drury Lane Theatre on Dec. 3rd for dinner and show. The Christmas party will be held on Dec. 10th and also a meeting.

Mildred James regretted that she was unable to accept the invitation to attend the convention, but Br. 95 will accept the responsibility of hosting the 1987 Ill.-Ind. State Convention.

Branch 99, Elmhurst, Illinois

The branch sent no delegate nor did they send a report. Br. 99 has five members all of whom are over 75 years of age.

The President expressed hope that they will attend the next Convention in South Chicago when Br. 95 will host the 1987 Convention.

President Angie Nico asked for copies of Sept. and Dec. 1985 ZARJAS which are in short supply at the Home Office.

Mike Morison, member of Br. 2, Chicago, extended an invitation to high school students for a retreat on Nov. 1st and 2nd. "I can show you what can happen to see the wonders of God's creation."

"If I can be with God on earth I can be with Him in peace".

"My help comes from God."

These are a few of the quotes that Mike expressed to the assembly. Best wishes were extended to Mike and prayers so the retreat would be a success. He was wished lots of luck from all. Mike presented each one present with a book marker and the psalm 19:1: "The heavens declare the glory of God, the skies proclaim the work of His hands."

Anne Marie Wangler made a motion for adjournment and Mary Jermenc seconded. Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Rose Ann Prey, and Gen Grilc, president of Branches 89 and 85 respectively, and Angie Nico, State President, all extended their thanks to those who attended to make the convention a success.



Angela Nico, regional president of Illinois-Indiana greeted guests at breakfast that followed Mass. She is seen right, with Theresa Wellner of Br. 24 and Ann Marie Wangler, president of Br. 24. Theresa and Ann Marie participated in the mass as singer and organist respectively.

Attendance at the convention was as follows:

From Br. 2, Chicago, 32 members and one guest; Br. 5, Indianapolis, was absent; Br. 16, South Chicago, 28 members, 6 guests and the bus driver; Br. 20, Joliet had 18 members; Br. 22, Bradley, 15 members; Br. 24, La Salle, 18 members and two guests; Branches 85 DePue and 89, Oglesby, each had 11 members; Br. 95, South Chicago and Br. 99, Elmhurst were absent, total 133 members, 10 guests.

Winners of the afghan and booties was Ann Batty of Br. 89; second prize, an album went to Mike Morison of Br. 2 and third prize, a wall decoration and plaque to Anne Stefanic, of Br. 20.

EUNICE KOMATER

State Convention Recorder and Member of Br. 89

Guests at Illinois-Indiana State Convention were feted by members of branches 85 and 89. Committee members are: from left, seated, Mary O'Berch, Mildred Laurin and Mary Jermenc of 85 DePue and Josephine Argubright, Emma Foly and Mary Kern of 89, Oglesby, standing with Corinne Leskovar, Editor of ZARJA.



ACTIVITIES

NO. 1, SHEBOYGAN, WI

Many thanks to all who made our 60th Anniversary convention a huge success. Our Christmas Party will be Thurs. Dec. 11th at 6:30 p.m. at Rupp's in Sheboygan. Our regular meeting will follow the supper. Hope to see a good number of ladies present.

Pots and Pans cookbook is available from Ruth Sheck or yours truly.

Our sympathy to Frank Jelovnik family on their recent loss.

Did you pay your 1986 dues? Please try to take care of this before the end of the year.

Merry Christmas to all.

DOROTHY BREZONIK

NO. 2, CHICAGO, IL

On Sunday, Oct. 5th, the "Space Shuttle Bus" took off at 8 a.m. from Chicago for the Slovenian Women's Union State Convention in LaSalle, Illinois. The driver, "Commander" of the ship and Mike Morison, the "Specialist" made the trip an exciting one. The "Crew", helpers, served breakfast of rolls and juice and then games were played. The Crew consisted of Fran Morrison and Sharon Naudziunas with Mike pitching in. Arriving at our destination, coffee and rolls were served to all and then we left for Mass. After a beautiful mass and sermon we boarded the shuttle bus and were on our way to the Kaskaskia Hotel for the luncheon and meeting. Fran Morison, our delegate, gave her report with a slide presentation which became a tough one to follow. Another presentation by Fran was two donations from Br. 2, for the Scholarship Fund (\$500) and the Heritage Fund (\$500). Mike also presented his slides on space and asked for young men and women to attend the retreat which was to be held Oct. 31st and Nov. 1st in Lemont.

Our October meeting went well, as usual. Old business was finished and the election of officers took place. All officers remain the same except for treasurer. Our Mary Kerzisknik did a fine job, our thanks to her. New Officer is Sharon Naudziunas. Congratulations, Sharon.

Thanks to Fr. Thad who agreed to be our moderator.

VESELE BOŽIČNE PRAZNIKE -- MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Our ZVEZA began sixty years ago this December by our foreseeing and wise foundress, Marie Prislant of Sheboygan, Wisconsin. She was interested in the status of Slovenian womanhood, civic, cultural and charitable causes and our heritages.

Through the years and from all points of the United States, friendships were made uniting us in many proud accomplishments.

All of the goals of our founding members and of those who followed have flourished because of the dedication and unselfishness of branch officers and members, for whom our deepest appreciation is bestowed.

For the Holiday Season --

*Our thoughts of you are warm and special,
Our memories are forever dear.
Our wish for you is very simple--
For Christmas Joy that lasts all year.*

SREČNO NOVO LETO -- HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Olga Ancel
National Secretary

Sylvia Vukodinovich
National Treasurer



Mass for the sick and ailing members is on Dec. 4th at 8 a.m. On the sick list are Mary Muller, Millie Persa, Antonia Densa, Ivanka Ferjan, Frances Maxwell and Angela Simec and Albina Rasp. Let us remember them and all the shut-in members in our prayers.

Our sister, Anna Ahacich, was 99 years young. Happy Birthday!

Omitted from the anniversary list last month were Helen Fitzgerald and hubby who celebrated their 40th anniversary. Congratulations to them and to Mary and John Kerzisknik on their 52nd.

Remember Br. 2 will celebrate the 60th anniversary in Dec. and Mary Raunikar who will celebrate 50 years

as a member. It will be on Dec. 11th at 7:00 p.m. Mass at St. Stephen's. Try to attend.

December events are as follows: ADVENT TEA will be on the first Sunday in December after all the masses. Bakery is needed and your attendance desired. Dec. 6th, CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY will be chaired by Irma and Louis Pasdertz and Jean Zeleznikar in charge of the kitchen. Donna Elsberg volunteered to help; she is our new auditor. Dec. 11th, ADULT CHRISTMAS PARTY after the 7 p.m. Mass. Chairpersons are Jean Hraster, Terry Morison, Phyllis and Jerry Marmozewicz. Dinner will be \$3 for members and \$6 for non-

members. There will be no grab-bag, instead a donation box will be available for the cheer basket for those who wish to donate. Please use envelopes for your donations to the cheer basket. Tickets for the Christmas dinner are now available thru Jean Hraster at the rectory. The tickets will be numbered and this insures your seating and for your guests. Party will be in the hall across the street and bakery is needed. Come and enjoy. Enjoy the decorations Ray Nusko and his helpers will be putting up - they volunteer every year. Thanks, Ray.

Br. 2 will host the Slovenian Heritage Day this coming year on September 27th with the help of our neighboring branches and our members. We hope to have a success. We are depending on the membership to help with this project. Please volunteer your talents and help.

December is a busy month with the holidays and shopping. Try to remember our shut-ins during this season. Send a card or phone them to wish Happy Holidays. Have a Blessed Christmas and Healthy New Year.

ANN SCIESZKA

NO. 12, MILWAUKEE, WI

Several of our regulars were missing due to other commitments but we still had a good attendance and the meeting started with prayer in Slovenian led by Frances Plesko. All reports were read and accepted.

Mary Brekkan and Louise Vodnik were reported on the sick list and we are sad to report that dear Louise Vodnik has passed away. Our usual respects were given at her funeral.

Marie has since recovered we are glad to say and was with us at Louise's funeral.

Mary Zorovnik also passed away and most of us attended her funeral with our proper respect and sympathy. Both members were long-standing ones and Louise, especially, was always active and attended all meetings and functions. God rest their souls.

We also had a report and discussion on the State Convention. Our branch is to host the 1987 State Convention and we're hoping you all come forward with your ideas and help.

The Christmas party will again be held at the Crystal Palace. We have the usual third Thursday date. Those who wish can bring a gift for exchange. You bring one - you get one. \$2 at least. Our savings certificate is to be renewed for another year. We

now have the new cookbooks for sale at \$9 each. They make wonderful gifts.

Stavia closed with prayer in English. Alma had corsages for all birthday girls. Happy birthday was sung for them and we enjoyed a good lunch donated by them as well as ever so numerous door prizes.

MARY D.

NO. 13, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

This time I have to write in English because so many people who do not speak Slovenian requested it.

Recently, we lost Anna T. Stich, our member and member of so many of our societies. Anna and husband, John Stich, were proud Slovenians, always ready to help in our Slovenian home. Grandparents to so many children we are proud of such honorable people who come from our Slovenian community. We will miss Anna and our deep condolences to husband, John and the whole family.

About a month and a half ago, our president, Josephine Aiuto, lost her son, only 42 years of age. What a sorrow for a mother is the loss of a loved one; only those know who have gone through this. Our deepest sympathy to you, Josephine, and your family from Zveza your friends and the Slovenian choir.

Sister Stana Pecaver is on the road to recovery. We were all so concerned about her. Just as she came home from the hospital, her husband, Peter, fell and broke his two hands. So, the bad luck never rests. Our organist's wife's sister, Dora, also fell and broke her hand. Many times we wonder why all the good people have to suffer the most. We don't have the answer.

Dora and Alex Simenc just recently became grandparents to their 6th grandchild. Their second daughter, Margie Smithdt had a darling little girl. Congratulations to parents and grandparents.

We have a lady who is our city congresswoman, Sara Burton, and like her late husband she is a fighting Democrat for the good, the truth and for the poor people. She is one of those good people who should get our vote. Another is the honorable mayor of San Francisco, Diane Feinstein, the beautiful and gracious lady of our fair city. I shouldn't forget that Sara Burton is of Slavic origin.

The theologian and author, Michael Novak holds the Frederick Jewett chair at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington, D.C. He was named head of the US

Delegation to the latest round of Helsinki Accord Talks. He writes in the Readers Digest about Slavic people. One of 10 Americans is of Slavic descent so in the United States there are about 15% Slavs.

POLDICA PODGORNIK

NO. 14, EUCLID, OH

This cold, rainy month of October is a vivid reminder of what awaits us in the very near future. Let's hope for a gentle winter!

Important discussion has been held at recent meetings to change the day and time of our monthly meetings. A vote will be held in the near future on whether to have our meetings in the afternoon, possibly on Monday, which would be more convenient for most members. More news on this in the future.

Member Addie Humphreys has moved to Wickliffe. Good luck to you in your new home, Addie!

December 2 is the date of our Christmas Dinner. We always have a nice turnout for this fun event and look forward to seeing all our friends at this holiday season. For your reservations call Pres. Marty Koren 585-4227 or Vera Bajec 481-7473. Ladies are asked to bring baked goods or prizes for drawing. hope to see you all there!

We've just heard the news that pres. Martha Koren is hospitalized after an auto accident... our best wishes to you Marty for a speedy recovery.

Other members on the sick list are Mary Uzman who had surgery, Agnes Dragolich who had a bad fall, and Jane Lube who also had surgery. Our prayers are with all of you and our ill members for a swift return to excellent health.

Ileene Collins' thoughtful husband, Jay, presented her with a Sweetest Day trip to California to see their son. Ileene's mother, Jo Lustig, also went along to see her grandson and his family and to bask in the California sun.

Our wishes to all for a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with love and joy!

ALICE KUCHAR

NO. 16, CHICAGO, IL

October 9th our meeting was opened with a prayer by Marge Prebil.

Our treasury covered \$200 of the charges for our group of 34 to attend the ILL-IND. Convention. Everyone enjoyed the day and want to thank Branches No. 85 and 89 for such a fine program.

Mary and Walter Muller

National President

Scottsdale, Arizona

*May peace fill your heart
because Christ has come to us.*

*Veliko božičnega veselja
in blagostova v novem letu*

vam želimo

Družina ED in OLGA ANCEL

JOLIET, ILLINOIS

Alvina Sreboth (221-4028) will take reservations for our Christmas Party on 12-12-86, at St. John's. Payment is to be made in advance.

Betty Natarelli and Maryann Starcevic are chairperson and co-chairperson and they are working very hard toward a good time for all.

Mary Brebrick is still on the sick list. Mary (Yaki) Stepien is in the hospital. Remember them in your prayers.

Mrs. Petric mother of member Maryann Strus, Joseph Laich brother of Elsie Starcevic and Emma Kralj and Peter Cubra husband of Ruth and brother-in-law of Helen Milanovich and Zora Yurkas have all passed away this past month. Please pray for their eternal rest.

On the lighter side we have Cayleigh Ann Blake born September 3 and Benjamin Carl Howe born October 9, 1986. They are Grandchildren of Maryann Starcevic and Great Grandchildren of Elsie Starcevic and Catherine Cerny. Matthew Blais Seaquist who was born August 13 is the Grandson of Elsi Grunhard and Great Grandson of Elsie Starcevic. This makes a grand total of fourteen Great Grandchildren for Elsie Starcevic. Congratulations and good health to you and your family. May all your troubles be tiny ones.

The Holy Christmas Season will be here soon, may it be blessed for all of us. May the New Year bring us every joy and happiness with family and friends.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

FRAN B. ZUPANCIC

NO. 17, WEST ALLIS, WI

Our meeting on Oct. 19th was very well attended as we held our annual event and honored our Mother of the Year with a lovely party. President, Marion Marolt, introduced our honored lady, Ann Gasparic, our sunshine gal. She is well deserving of his honor as she is a kind, generous, out-going and fun-loving person, a

great personality. She has 5 grown children and 10 granddaughters and all are members of our branch! We are fortunate to have Ann as our member and friend. We have received many of her generous donations for our functions thru the years. She attends our meetings faithfully and is a great help at many of our functions. Many pictures were taken at the party by our own photographer, Jo Imperl.

Thanks to the donors of various home-baked goodies, prizes, etc. and to those who in any way contributed towards the success of our annual event and honoring our Mother of the Year, Ann Gasparic.

The grim reaper reached out again and claimed our member, Helen Kodrick, who passed away Oct. 28th. Sincere condolences to husband, Joseph, and to the Kodrick family.

Members, please try to attend our meeting on Dec. 21st for after the business portion, we will have our Christmas social with the exchange of \$2 gifts among the members and the distribution of children's gifts. A nice Christmas lunch will be served.

By the way, we have two lovely gift suggestions for you, our new cookbook **Pots & Pans** and the poetry book, **Flowers from my Gardens**, by our member, Mary Murn. You can obtain these lovely books from our secretary, Joan Yaklich or president, Marion Marolt or from Mary Murn. They do make great gifts for the year round.

A very Merry Christmas to all our members and friends.

FRAN PIWONI,
Rec. Secretary

NO. 19, EVELETH, MN

The 1986 activity was highlighted by our selection of Mary Intihar as the "Mother of the Year." Mary was honored at a catered dinner on April 27. Her daughter, son-in-law, and three grandsons helped Mary celebrate this special day. She willingly participates in branch functions.

In June our Vice-President, Katherine Maurine unexpectedly passed away. Katherine, whose life long interest was flowers, had worked many years in a flower shop before retiring. In July, Olga Kluser was elected to fill the vacancy.

At the July meeting it was determined that Olga Kluser and Mitza Isaacson would be our representatives to the dedication ceremonies for the Slovenian Miner and Laborer at Iron World, in Chisholm on August 1, 1986. In September fifteen members represented the Eveleth branch at the state convention in Hibbing. We are looking forward to the 1987 convention in Biwabik.

The main topic of the October meeting was to plan for our Christmas party. The date has been set for December 7th at 1:00 p.m. at the Resurrection Church Hall. The dinner will be catered and members will cover their own expenses. Gifts will be donated to the nursing home patients. Following the dinner, a meeting will be held to elect new officers.

Please come and share some of your time with other branch members.

Wishing all of you a blessed holiday season.

VIDA LANARI, Secretary

NO. 20, JOLIET, IL

Were you there — WERE YOU THERE — at our annual Grape Festival Dance? Again, as in years past, we had a great time; beginning with the decorating on Friday night and the cleaning up on Sunday morning (before we went home — had to leave for the State Convention at 9 AM on the 5th). The hall was beautifully decorated with paper mannequins of Slovenian men and women working in the vineyards, harvesting the grapes and carrying them in baskets balanced on their heads. The entrance to the hall was an arbor decorated with bunches of grapes and greens and lighted with

ZARJA—THE DAWN

miniature bulbs. Through this arbor, the Mayor for the evening, Joseph Sterle, and his associates marched when it was time for the ceremonies to begin. They proceeded to the area in front of the orchestra where a cloth covered table held a container of new wine and freshly baked sarkelj. The Mayor read the proclamation, welcomed everyone and encouraged them to have a good time but to beware of intruders who would enter and try to steal the "fruit from the vine" hanging in the center of the hall. Among his "associates", were undercover detectives who were to apprehend the "Thieves", bring them before the judge who would render judgement of their guilt and assess a fine; if unable to pay the fine, they would be put into jail until bail money could be raised. The ceremony and fun began about 10 PM after the Mayor tasted the wine and sarkelj and shared it with his guests, and joined in the toast "Živijo, oj živijo". The homemade wine was provided by Tony Kaluza and the sarkelj by his wife Julie. We had 300 or more people in attendance, including a guest from the Napa Valley in California, Marian Juricic Bauer, a native Jolietan. She and her husband have a vineyard in the Valley. The proceeds from this dance are always used to pay the dues of our over 80 year old members and the fines collected are donated to the Scholarship fund. The Roman Possedi orchestra provided the music for dancing.

Master of Ceremonies was Bill Govednik, Judge: Tony Kaluza, Bailiff: John Anzelc and the Detectives were: Mr. & Mrs. Mauro, Mr. & Mrs. Suhadolc, Mr. & Mrs. Mahan, Gene Klainsek, Ed Rachor and Mr. & Mrs. Vidmar. Prizes awarded were 25 lottery tickets and 12 steaks, donated by our Mayor for the evening, \$50.00 cash drawing and a year's free dues to a member. Winning the 25 lottery tickets was Stanley Marolt, the steaks, 2 each winner, were: Elsie Rasich, Lill Randich, Lill Furgason, Mike Miller, Theresa Raousenelous and Gen Coats. The \$50.00 prize was won by Steve Malnarick and the year's free dues was won by Marge Rachor. Father David Stalzer presided over the prizes.

A great big THANK YOU to all our workers for the evening who helped keep everything running smoothly. The decoration crew: Millie & Rudy Pucel, Steve & Marie Malnarick, Gen & Gene Klainsek, Theresa Schmidberger, Jenny Lu Skul, Marge & Fly Rachor, Diane & Bill Govednik, John & Dorothy



**JOSEPH STERLE of Rockdale, IL
Mayor of Joliet's Vinska Trgatev**

Mahan, Helen Plut, John & Mary Anzelc, Tony & Julie Kaluza, Mary Marolt, Ed & Olga Ancel. Bartenders: Gene Klainsek, Fly Rachor, John Cepen, Rudy Mihelic, Bert Lilek, Bob Lilek, Ron Smith, Frank Yatanni, Mary & Felix Mavec, John Anzelc, Jonita & Fred Ruth. Kitchen Specialists: Ann Kobe, Margaret Stalzer, Gen Gorc, Mary Marvic and Helen Plut. Donations of strudle were made by Mary Marvic, Marge Stalzer and Donna Cepen; sauerkraut by Ann Kobe, crackers for the arbor by Joe & Smitty Ambrozich. I can still hear the strains of "Živijo, oj Živijo". Did I get you to come this year — well, there's always next year — reserve the date September 26, 1987, same place, same orchestra.

Oct. 5th was State Convention day for Illinois-Indiana branches. Eighteen of our members attended with Mildred Pucel as our delegate.

Anniversary wishes to two of our members; Emil and Bernice Ramsak, who celebrated their 30th and Rudolph and Jennie Dernulc of Rockdale who celebrated their 60th. Jennie has been a member of Branch 20 for 51 years.

Wedding congratulations to Marianne Klein and Dr. Dennis M. Kapraun who were married November 9. Marianne is the daughter of Chuck and Mary Klein. Her mom was a member of the National Championship Drill Team; they are both members of our branch.

* New babies make happy news; Grandma Evelyn Mauro tells us her daughter Mary Ann and husband Gaylord Faull are the parents of a baby boy named Chase; Marlene Ancel's daughter and son-in-law Nancy and Jeff Eskridge have a baby

girl named Jamie Rose; a new granddaughter was welcomed to the Lovati family; son and daughter-in-law Albert and Camella have named her Cara Elizabeth.

We wish a speedy return to good health to our members Roman Possedi, Linda Hotuyec and Anna Mae Lukancic.

Vacationers, Pam and John Bresan, former residents of Joliet, now living in Olathe, Kansas, are in Europe. They are visiting Rome, Florence, Venice and Ljubljana. On vacation from Hawaii is Marsha Fedo, who spent a month here in Joliet.

We have several new members to welcome: Mary Anne Galle, Marie Kanta, Barbara Lausch, Sylvia Endelson, Mary Mihelic, a junior transfer and Laura Mrozek. Hope to see you at our meetings — the third Tuesday of the month or the third Sunday of the month during the winter months.

Sincerest sympathy to the family of Frances Duckmanton, our member, who died recently, and to Loretta Grzetic on the death of her father, Clarence Lutz.

Christmas season is here and that means all kinds of parties. We will have our Christmas Brunch on December 21 at Flick's Champagne Room in Shorewood. The meal will begin at noon and the charge will be \$8.00 for members, \$11.00 for all guests. A \$3.00 gift exchange is optional. Reservations must be made; call president, Mildred Pucel to make yours.

Our next meeting will be in the new year — Jan. 18, 1987, Sunday afternoon at 1 PM. Plan to be there; there will be installation of new officers and the latest details on the upcoming National Convention to be held in May.

May all the joys of the Christmas season be yours to share with family, friends and neighbors and save a Happy Birthday wish for the Christ Child on His Day.

Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year!

HELEN PLUT

NO. 21, CLEVELAND, OH

Happy Thanksgiving to you all, though you may not read this until later.

We're on our way to celebrate Christmas and the birth of baby Jesus, a joyful season to you with many blessings from Him as you enjoy your families and the warmth of the love you share.

Our branch No. 21 celebrated the season early on Nov. 12th with a

delicious lunch prepared by the committee: Rose Kosko, Stella Dancull, Bea Zak, Pauline Stepic, Molly Sanker, Mary Hosta, Pauline S. and Helene Stojan decorated and distributed tickets for gifts we all contributed. Our members are generous as always.

So nice to see Anne Zalar attend looking well and supplying us with a delicious strudel. Marie Hosta made a special effort from Collinwood. Marie Pivik, on her day off, took time away from obligations. We are always happy to see Jo Mlakar looking well. Dorothy Pelcic, Frances Cimperman, Mayme Sanker, Frances Danner, Chris Sustarsic, Sophie Jurca and Anna Jesenko all attended in good faith and remained for elections. May Gorsek was unable to attend. She sent chocolates for each of us wrapped individually for 50 year members.

Actually, we were celebrating in a special way, however, due to weather predictions and perhaps a variety of reasons the committee was disappointed. This was to make up for the inadequacy of the May awards.

Elections followed. With a little encouragement all officers retained their seats except our Fin. Sec'y Stella. After 34 years of dedication she reluctantly accepted office for one more year. We understand her dilemma. Other issues were acted on and moved.

You are reminded of meetings in March, May, Sept., Oct., and November at 1:30 p.m., the 1st Wednesday at W. Pk. Slov. Home.

A few notes on our members:

Mary Stevens is hospitalized for a painful pinched nerve. Ann Manchette's hubby, Bob, underwent bypass surgery and is recovering at home.

Our condolences to Pauline Stepic on the loss of her daughter-in-law, Jackie. God grant her rest.

Leo and Celia Plaga are residing in a mobile home in New Port Richey until May.

Mike and Lucy Weiss vacationed in St. Petersburg, Fla. for a month. Marlin and Marianne Hosta are in Florida for the winter.

Happy 64th Anniversary to Carl and Mary Estanik. Happy 62nd Anniversary to Leonard and Marge Borek. Wedding bells: Congratulations and good wishes to Patricia Nosan and Gerald Bednarcik who were married Sept. 21st at St. Huber's Chapel by the river.

Thank you to Sophie Jurca and Marie Pivik for their generous gift to the branch.

From the officers and myself we send our sincerest get-well wishes to

all ailing, shut-ins, hospitalized and bereaved.

To those of you who are well please spread good cheer with a call, a card, a prayer for our members. May you all in your way stay well and comforted knowing God loves you in a very special way, always.

HELEN KOZELY KONKOY,
Reporter

NO. 22, BRADLEY, IL

Take a bow, Oglesby and DePue, for your stellar performance in hosting the '86 State Convention. We came away with many fond memories of the day!

And kudos to Francis Richards, husband of our member Ann, for again making the transportation arrangements to Oglesby and for his expert driving. How nice to be free of that onus.

Many thanks, too, to Ann for being the work committee of one when we met at her home October 21. You did it all so beautifully,

Ann. Mrs. Jamnik and I, though co-hostesses, were not assigned to spruce-the-house or kitchen duties. I would have flubbed either one.

Two ladies came in costume; it took a while to identify Mollie McIntyre but Doreene Althaus, wanting to see her way around, came unmasked. The real surprise was entertaining a guest, Helen Sebastiani's sister Dolores Lecci from Milwaukee. An infrequent visitor to Bradley, Dolores was able to see many old friends and acquaintances "at one lick".

October was a busy month fifty years ago when Louis and Mayme Starasinich Marcotte and Joe and Josie (SWU member) Zaletel exchanged wedding vows. Congratulations and wishes for many more years of happiness together to each couple!

This October, however, brought sadness to our dear Anna Jamnik in the death of her sister Mary Petric of South Chicago. Mary, 90, died October 13 after a long illness. May our prayers for Mary be your

**LEAGUE OF SLOVENIAN AMERICANS INC.
NEW YORK, N.Y.**

**SLOVENIAN SUMMER STUDY AND VACATION WEEKS
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League of Slovenian Americans, Inc. in conjunction with Mohorjeva družba is sponsoring a five week study of Slovene language and heritage in Celovec, Austria, for students ages 14 to 19.

Three courses will be offered in language, culture and history. You do not have to know Slovene in order to join! Language instruction will be given on the basis of student's ability.

Exciting activities are planned for afternoons and evenings: sports, entertainment, stage, music etc. Celovec is in the center of a beautiful alpine region, and there will be excursions to visit local sites and day-trips to Slovenia and Trst. Why not join to meet new friends and learn some more on Slovene past and present?

Proposed cost of trip is US \$ 1,500 - including tuition, room and board, excursions and round trip flight from New York, N.Y.

For more information please write:

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Language Proficiency: *I speak some Slovene ()
I do not speak Slovene ()
I am fluent in Slovene ()*

consolation, Mrs. Jamnik.

Around the corner is Christmas! That means dinner out for Branch members: to South China - restaurant, that is - on Sunday, December 7, then to the home of Helen Sebastiani for year-end meeting.

To all members and readers of ZARJA, Merry Christmas! and with a bit of wisdom from Cardinal O'Connell: "Shed no tears on the blotted pages of the past, but turn the leaf and smile to see a clean white sheet before you," Happy New Year!

EMMA LUSTIG, Reporter

NO. 23, ELY, MN

On Oct. 7th we met at the church hall. President, Ann Saari opened with a prayer. Minutes of the last meeting were read and treasurer's report given. A rainy night with 41 members present. At Hibbing, 255 members were present. Minnesota has 993 total membership in the SWU.

Ann Reichensberger received \$50 for applying for a scholarship. Ely had 46 at the Hibbing convention. R. Pucel and husband are celebrating their 46th anniversary. A microwave dish was given at the meeting; Margaret Kerntz won it. Ann Lunka won the door prize.

Ideas for the Christmas party were suggested. No old or new business. Adjourned after which a nice lunch was served and "B" played.

The Dawn Club met on Oct. 20th. President Molly Grahek opened with prayer and Rose Novak, secretary, read reports; Sally Davidson, the treasurer's report. No new business. 37 were present. Will have nominations next month. Door prize won by Rose Kerntz. Nice lunch and "B" played.

KRIS GARNI

NO. 24, LA SALLE, IL

We had a large group at our October meeting so our meeting was especially enjoyable. Fr. Swaner led us in prayer as we opened and closed our meeting. We appreciate having him with us at our meetings.

We had 20 members in attendance at the State Convention on Oct. 5, so instead of a regular Convention report we discussed the highlights of the day. We agreed that the Oglesby and DePue members did an exceptional job as hostess branches. We always enjoy meeting with our sister branches and getting ideas from each other. All thought Mike

Morrison's slide presentation on "Space" was outstanding.

Wanita Helmer gave a report on our recent bake sale. It was very successful but we are exploring ideas for a different type of fund-raising project--one that would involve all members. Your ideas would be appreciated.

All Saints Day and All Souls Day bring to mind our late members. We miss them and do remember them in our prayers. It makes one realize how important we are to each other. We can't waste time on silly quarrels and disagreements. I think our meetings are great because we truly are good friends.

Our Slovenian Litany to the Blessed Virgin Mary was well-attended, and a great Spiritual experience for us. We are lucky to have Fr. Bernard Horzen so close and so enthusiastic about all things Slovenian. The litany was his idea and he obtained all the music, etc., led us in prayer and celebrated Benediction--a beautiful service. We also participated in the Community Rosary service at St. Hyacinth's Church on October 26. Each parish provided ten people for a decade and each choir sang a Hymn to the Blessed Mother in their native language between decades. A tribute to our Blessed Mother in her month of the Rosary.

We were sorry to hear that Jo Grabowski broke her ankle. She is up and around on crutches at this writing. Hope you'll soon be good as new, Jo.

We will have a Christmas Party instead of a regular meeting in December. Details will be in the Church bulletin and local newspaper. We hope to have a nice attendance. Our next meeting will be in March of 1987. It will help if you call Financial Secretary, Wanita, (224-1336) and arrange to pay your dues before then.

A Blessed Christmas and prosperous New Year to all.

ANNE M. WANGLER,
Reporter

LETTERS...

Addressed to Nat'l Secretary, Olga Ancel:

I've been really busy, going out of business and taking care of my books, so forgive me for delaying my answer to you. Please use the enclosed for my dues and for a Mass. We have only one priest here and so I ask if Fr. Athanasius would say a Mass for me for my health. I have heart trouble. Also, I would like to ask you if I could send some money for the Slovenians for the Lady. If there is any other cause, I would be happy to contribute.

I am proud to be one of your members. We live 500 miles from Chicago.

Mary Swigle
Mineral Pt., PA

(Ed. Note: Olga says Fr. Athanasius accepted this as a special friendly gesture as a he remembered Mrs. Swigle and he promised to write to her himself. She is typical of our elderly members who really miss having Slovenian Masses and somehow live in the memory of their experiences.)



From Member of Br. 2, Chicago, IL, Stephanie Osterman:

After reading the November issue of ZARJA, I say "Hats off!" to Ann Nusich and Jennie Marinkovich from the "Range" in Minnesota who entertain with the skits "Pol & Half". This also goes to the ladies in South Chicago of Br. 16.

It gives me a very warm and satisfying feeling that the ladies in Zveza are enjoying something which I started over 30 years ago. Wish some of these skits could be published in ZARJA.

Love from Stephanie (and Joe)
Oaklawn, IL

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A BIG "THANK YOU" FROM BR. 50

On behalf of Br. 50, our sincerest thanks to all the nice people who attended the 55th anniversary on Sunday, Oct. 26th, 1986.

Our day started off with Holy Mass which was officiated by our Rev. Victor Tomc. He welcomed everybody and spoke on a lot of topics on what our SWU is all about and complimented the members for all their accomplishments and good works.

Our special "thank you" to all our sister members who came from the eleven branches of the greater Cleveland area which were well represented.

The State Convention meeting took place at St. Mary's School hall with 97 ladies present. Br. 50 Cadets were in full force and in charge of the candlelighting ceremony in memory of the deceased members from all the branches. Reports and many ideas were given, most were good and showed positive thinking.

Meeting was adjourned with prayer and the singing of "Češčena si, Marija", then we proceeded to the Slovenian Hall for dinner and the honoring of the eight 50 year members of Br. 50. The hall was decorated very nicely. Mary Blatnik dressed the head table with beautiful yellow skirting, candlebras, flowers, etc. "Thank you" very much, Mary. We also thank all the committee members for all their help to make the affair so wonderful. The hall was filled to capacity as all the tickets were sold. The delicious dinner was by our member and renowned cook, Julie Zalar. The melodious dinner music was furnished by Tony Jagodnik, who also played for dancing later; to him and to Jim Slapnik Florist (for the beautiful carnations), our thanks.

We also thank Br. 105, Detroit, Mich. for their greetings and monetary gift - to Br. 47 of Maple Hgts., and to Dorothy Lamm of Br. 32 and Mary Lou Prhne, past secretary of Br. 42 who now resides in Englewood, Fla. We will miss you, Mary Lou.

Again, "thanks" to everyone who attended the mass, meeting, and the celebration of our 55th anniversary. It was appreciated! God bless all of you.

Ann J. Tercek, President

MINUTES OF THE COMBINED BRANCHES' MEETING

The meeting of Thursday, Sept. 25th was called to order with prayer for the deceased and living members at 2 p.m. at Kovacich Center. Vice-president, Hermine Strainer, auditor, Marty Koren and reporter Marie Beck were absent. There were 14 members present.

Rec. Sec'y Jo Comenshek read the last meeting report and a motion was made by Dorothy Winters for acceptance. Kay Yuratovac, treasurer, read the financial report showing a balance of \$673.39. The books will be audited in December.

Branches present were No. 10, 21, 40, 41, 42. All other branches are giving good reports with no problems. Pres. Jean Planisek of Br. 10 is a very sick lady and will give up her duties. We wish her well.

Under new business, president, Ann Tercek reported on the 55th anniversary of Br. 50 in conjunction with the State Convention to be held Oct. 26th. A discussion was to donate \$100 to the Combined Branches treasury from the proceeds of a split money-making project.

Special attention was planned for Ernestine Jevc, as a long-time member and captain of the Marie Prislund Cadets.

The Combined Branches will hold a Christmas party on Tuesday, Dec. 2nd at Sterle's Country House at 1 p.m. Mark your calendar and bring a door prize.

I want to say a big "Thank you" to Jo Comenshek and Dorothy Lamm for sending me the notes for this meeting as I was too sick at the time to attend. Meeting adjourned at 3:40 with prayer.

Your reporter

MARIE BECK

Ernestine Jevc was honored as being a cadet for 50 years. Oftentimes she also was Captain of the Marie Prislund Cadet drill team. She was presented with a cake, proclamation and gift certificate. She is also a 50-year member of S.W.U. No. 50.



L to R: Mary Cesnik; Marge Maslar; Mamie Marin; Ann Tercek; Ella Skoda; Ann Winter; Jane Novak. Front: Lee Ann Goran; Ernestine Jevc; Betty Goran.

MEETING OF THE OHIO-MICHIGAN STATE CONVENTION

It was held on the 26th of October, 1986, a drizzly fall day with members of the Combined Branches gathered in and out of St. Mary's church on Holmes Ave. for a Mass to celebrate the annual event and the 55th anniversary of Br. 50, held in conjunction.

Eleven Marie Prisland Cadets of Br. 50 led the procession at 10:30 a.m. into church and then ALL the member branches followed. Regional President, Ann Tercek, did the second reading. Ella Skoda and Frances Horvat carried the offertory gifts. Fr. Victor Tomc gave his homily in Slovenian and the choir sang Slovenian hymns.

After Mass, a light breakfast was served in the school cafeteria and Fr. Tomc came and gave the blessing. A big thank you to the members of Br. 50 for pastries and the kitchen help.

The meeting was called to order by Ann Tercek at noon and the Cadets recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The introduction of National Officers and thanks were given to the 91 members present.

Officers present were Ann Tercek, president, Jo Comenshek, secretary, Cirila Kermavner, National Vice-President, state treasurer, Kay Yuratovac, National Auditor Irene Jagodnik, state auditor Vera Bajec, reporter Marie Beck. Absent was vice-president Hermine Strainer due to illness.

Reading of last year's minutes was given by Dorothy Winters and were accepted. On the agenda was discussion of next year's National Convention to be held in Joliet, Illinois from May 14 thru 16th. The choice of delegates to

the convention was discussed and all were informed that this is a matter to be studied and delegates be selected who know the by-laws of the S.W.U. Branches that are small in number will be combined with others and one delegate selected among them.

A plea to enroll new members and for branches to send reports to the ZARJA — THE DAWN was made. All present branches gave reports and were satisfactory. From each one we learned something new to benefit others. and the organization, that is why these conventions are so important. Sorry that we cannot get the small branches from out of town to join us.

The Mary Bostian Scholarship Fund is closed. Toni Turek's is still open. Please send in your donations to Scholarship Fund chairman, Hermine Dicke.

The new cookbooks are now for sale, cost is \$9. At this time a memorial service was held and the cadets given candles to light in memory of those who died since the last convention.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m. and from then we went to the SND a few steps away to enjoy the delicious dinner cooked by Julia Zalar. A big crowd of over 200 persons attended and sat at reserved tables with dinner music from none other than Tony Jagodnik, Irene's hubby.

Honors and presentation of S.W.U. pins were given to 8 fifty year members.

At the conclusion, I hope you all had a happy Thanksgiving and we are wishing you a most happy and healthy Christmas Holiday - God be with you.

MARIE BECK, Reporter

Marie Prisland Cadets continue tradition



L to R: Fran Hrovat; Mary Kovelan; Mary Cesnik; Marge Maslar; Dorothy Winter; Ernestine Jevic; Ann Tercek; Ella Skoda; Ann Winter; and Jane Novak.



Lausche receives Ellis Island Medal of Honor

by Edward Gobetz

Cleveland, OH — Senator Frank J. Lausche, retired senator from Ohio, has been selected to receive the Ellis Island Medal of Honor. The wonderful news was disclosed to the Slovenian Research Center of America on Wednesday, October 8, by the New York Statue of Liberty Centennial Commission in an informal telephone conversation and we were allowed to make it public on October 10, or immediately after Senator Lausche and other honorees had been informed of this unique recognition.

October 28, 1986 marked the one-hundredth anniversary of the Statue of Liberty on Ellis Island. To celebrate this great moment in American history, the New York Statue of Liberty Centennial Commission, the Ellis Island Foundation, and the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations had decided to honor about 80 outstanding Americans with the Ellis Island Medal of Honor. They are representatives of ethnic groups who symbolize the spirit of American liberty, opportunity, public service and ethnic contributions to America.

It goes without saying that we had no difficulty deciding whom to nominate as the Slovenian American candidate. We rushed to the commission our nomination of Senator Lausche as the most outstanding living Slovenian American, a great statesman, public servant and patriot and, in the words of leading magazines and President Reagan, "the Lincoln of Ohio." As supporting evidence, a copy of our book, **OHIO'S LINCOLN, FRANK J. LAUSCHE**, was enclosed. The nomination was "seconded" in Washington by Col. Edward Seitz (Ret.), the secretary-treasurer of the influential Cleveland Club of Washington, and by Congresswoman Mary Rose Oakar, who represents much of the City of Cleveland in the U.S. Congress.

As required by the rules, a Slovenian Screening Committee was consulted and, I am happy to report, unanimously confirmed Senator Lausche as the nominee. The committee consisted of the following persons: the Most Reverend Bishop Edward Pevec of Cleveland and Rev. Joseph Boznar, pastor of the largest Slovenian American parish; James V. Debevec, editor and publisher of the American Home newspaper; Tony Petkovsek, founder, past president and program chairman of United Slovene Society; Henry S. Grosel, national president, and Joseph Baskovic, Ohio Federation president, of the American Slovenian Catholic Union; Col. Edward Seitz (Ret.), secretary-treasurer of Cleveland Club of Washington; and Edward Gobetz, director of Slovenian Research Center of America and chairman of Education Committee of National Confederation of American Ethnic Groups.

We had done our best, but there was a sense of suspense: did we Slovenian Americans, really have a chance to be recognized with an Ellis Island Medal of Honor? After all, there are at least 200 ethnic groups in

America, only about 80 medals would be presented and some of the larger groups wanted more than one medal each. And there was a rule which has made our situation almost hopeless. To avoid too many medals, the New York committee decided to exclude smaller ethnic groups, those that had fewer than 200,000 members according to the 1980 U.S. Population Census. After the first meeting, I was informed that the Slovenian Americans were eliminated on that basis.

On September 9, I sent to New York a letter of protest. First, it was emphasized that contributions to America by any ethnic group did not depend on the numerical strength of the group, but on its unique character and dedication. Going by numbers alone, Mother Teresa could never be honored in India! Secondly, it was pointed out that the U.S. Census was in error. It has always underestimated the non Anglo-Saxon ethnic groups, especially the smaller ethnic groups, such as Slovaks and Slovenians, and scholarly as well as popular complaints have repeatedly been filed. Indeed, the possibility of pro-English (and anti-ethnic) bias was freely admitted even by the U.S. Census officials in 1980!

Thank God, our protest was successful and Slovenians were again in the running. Finally, on October 8th, I was informed in a telephone conversation with the Centennial Commission that Senator Lausche has, indeed, been selected to receive the Ellis Island Medal of Honor. What wonderful news!

Senator Lausche has again put Slovenians on the American map as the Slovenian American recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor. His good friend, Bob Hope, was Master of Ceremonies at the banquet, all proceeds of which will be used for the Statue of Liberty renovation and for the needy of our land. Among other distinguished honorees are also John Cardinal O'Connor, William May and Lee Iacocca.

How grateful we are to God and all the good people who have in any way helped to make this dream come true! As America honors Lausche, she recognizes and honors through him all Slovenian Americans from the humblest housewife and laborer to Ohio's Lincoln himself!

Congratulations and best wishes to Senator Lausche! And congratulations and best wishes to all Slovenian Americans!

OHIO'S LINCOLN, FRANK J. LAUSCHE

was published on the occasion of Senator Lausche's birthday in 1985 and is available from the SLOVENIAN RESEARCH CENTER, 29227 Eddy Road, Willoughby Hills, OH 44092 at \$13.50 postpaid per copy.

Sen. Lausche just celebrated his 91st birthday and we extend our very best wishes! A scholarship will be given in his name by the S.W.U. from a special fund instituted by our members in Washington, D.C. It is a very fine plan and one which the Senator himself admires for it will help in the educational pursuits of one of our talented young members. Your contributions are appreciated.

IN MEMORY OF

"Binnie"

ALBINA M. UEHLEIN



December 6, 1920
December 5, 1985

Do not stand at my grave and weep,
I am not there, I do not sleep.
I am in a thousand winds that blow,
I am the softly falling snow.
I am the gentle showers of rain
I am the fields of ripening grain.

I am in the morning hush,
I am in the graceful rush
Of beautiful birds in circling flight
I am the star shine of the night.

I am in the flowers that bloom,
I am in a quiet room,
I am the birds that sing.
I am in each lovely thing.

Do not stand at my grave and cry
I am not there. I do not die.

From the Lorain Journal, 6-18-83
author unknown.

With love,
Milo, Myron and Candi, Glen and Nora,
Succellen and Mike, and Laimie.



NO. 25, CLEVELAND, OH

Congratulations to our winners - Marie Orazem - first prize; Sweedy Debelak - second; Sylvia Plymesser Mihevc - third. We are all very happy with them.

Thank you to all members for selling tickets, also to everyone who bought them.

Deepest sympathy to the well-known Turk family in the loss of their beloved mother, Mary Turk. From this family we all should learn how to be loving and be patient, as they tenderly took care of their mother for a number of years. Also sincere sympathy to Rose Hren, sister of Jennie Laurich and to the family of Jennie. May God's love be with them and with you.

Wishing you all happiness at this holy Christmas Season and may the Newborn Jesus give us His everlasting love and peace in the new year of our Lord, 1987!

A very happy birthday to my Godson Derek Chrzanowski, who is going to be two years old Dec. 26.

CIRILA KERMAVNER

NO. 32, EUCLID, OH

Our Oct. meeting was preceded by the annual mass at St. Christine's church for the living and departed members. After the meeting and all business was taken care of the ladies had a good time with a blind auction. Most were happy with their purchases. Despite the illness of Mary Tauchar, she sent in a package with a note telling us that her husband had a stroke. We hope that by now both are doing much better.

Josephine Gornick is off to Australia. Ann Bradlaw and Josephine Skabor were on a bus trip to Atlantic City for 4 days. Sophie Skopitz and her husband are on a trip to Roanoke, Virginia to visit

their son and his family, also enjoyed the fall foliage enroute.

We are again planning on a craft and bake sale at Euclid Club House on Dec. 6th from 1 to 4 p.m. Our member, Charlotte Perdan is in charge of the tables. So, ladies, please help; if not with baked goods, come and buy.

Dec. 17th is our Christmas party where we hope to see a lot of members. Alma Eppick has a collection of very nice prizes for a special which will be held at the party. Money made will be for the Albina Uehlein Fund. The money will be donated to a worthwhile cause in Albina's memory.

The officers of Br. 32 wish all Happy Holidays and healthy and happy New Year.

JOANNA WEGLARZ



NO. 33, DULUTH, MN

There were 50 members at Harbor Inn for the Anniversary Dinner Oct. 1st. A Slovenian Doll was given to us as a money-maker in memory of Delores Heski and it will be given at the Dec. 3rd meeting. Our Penny Social will also be held then. Mary Giacomini will be "Queen" for December.

Ann Menart and Donna Carl will lead the Rosary prayer for our deceased members at the mortuary.

Discussed election day, bake sale and shopping trip Nov. 20th. Members should think of who

should be chosen as our Woman of the Year.

Prayers for any sick members included Ann Menart.

Sympathy and prayers to the family of Mildred Olsen, 80, Cloquet, a social member.

Prayers of sympathy also to Doris "Dodie" Skull on the death of her mother.

Dues are to be paid for 1987; please pay now.

Time for me to wish each of you a very "Merry Christmas" and a "Happy Holiday Season".

LOIS PELANDER, Reporter

NO. 34, SOUDAN, MN

The first snow of the winter has come upon us and until one gets used to snow again, it seems "too early."

Branch No. 34 met on October 15 and I repeat myself over and over again about our good attendance but it should be mentioned and much credit should be given to our members, who are so faithful.

Our parish held an Evangelistic Mission on November 2 through the 6. On Monday, November 3, a Founder's Day Mass was said and our branch served coffee an' afterward. It proved to be such a hit that Fr. LaPatka asked if someone could serve coffee an' for each morning during the Mission. When we served, coffee was served from a table covered with a lace tablecloth, with lighted candles, silk carnations and the Memorial Emblem of the SWU centering the table. Others who served were the Council of Catholic Women, the Altar Society and KSKJ. I want to thank all the ladies who helped out, serving, making coffee and doing the dishes afterward.

At our October meeting, we were reminded of the copies the home office wants of the ZARJA and a report was given on the Statue of Liberty Restoration Project.

FIVE \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 1987

Dear Graduating High School Senior:

If you are a member of the Slovenian Women's Union for at least three years and plan to attend an accredited college or university next fall, you are eligible to apply for one of the five scholarships. However, only one member of a family can ever receive a scholarship and only one scholarship will be awarded to a branch each year.

Academic achievement, branch and extra curricular activities, and financial need will be the basis for selection by the Scholarship Committee composed of: Mary Muller, Olga Ancel, Rose Kraemer, Anna Hodnik, Irene Odorizzi and Hermine Dicke, chairman.

We welcome your applications. Mail the tear-off section on page 33 to Hermine Dicke, 3717 Council Crest, Madison, WI, 53711 for scholarship information.

With best wishes for a happy and successful senior year,

Sincerely,

Hermine Dicke

Hostesses for the meeting were Lucille Svatos and Angeline Morin, who decorated the tables in a fall motif. Fr. LaPatka made a surprise visit to us and brought some goodies to share with us. Winners during the social hour were Adeline Mustonen, Agnes Tekautz, Angela Jamnik and Agnes Mattson. The door prize, brought by Angela Tekautz and won by Mary Vollendorf, was a nice container filled with wild rice and wrapped with a pretty kitchen towel-with oohs and aahs by all the ladies!

At our next meeting, we will have the election of officers. Those of us who are in office now feel the wonderful cooperation from each and every member.

On Tuesday, November 11, we celebrated the Feast of St. Martin of Tours with an Ethnic Mass with music played by the Poderzay Brothers, I served as lector and afterward we all enjoyed a stew dinner, prepared under the direction of Helen Adkisson and Emma Betourne. Another happy occasion in our parish.

Two couples in our parish have recently observed their 50th wedding anniversaries: Vida and Frank Popesh and Marge and Matt Skala. Our best wishes to both couples. Vida's mother was a charter member of our branch.

For our November meeting the hostesses were Mary Gornick and Helen Adkisson, with the door prize brought by Agnes Tekautz.

I wish each of you a blessed Christmas and much happiness and health in the New Year--this is a special time of year for us to be with our families and I hope you will enjoy the holidays with yours. God bless you!

ADELINE MUSTONEN,
Reporter

NO. 38, CHISHOLM, MN

Hello, sisters! The weather has been gorgeous! October is now coming to an end and will all be looking forward to the Thanksgiving Holiday. Our Halloween Card Party was held last Sunday at the Slovenian National Home. The attendance was great and the decorations were beautiful. Mrs. Samsa and her crew did a beautiful job with the luncheon. Punch was served, door prizes were given and we also had a special money-maker. All the prizes were donated by the members and friends of the branch. Thank you all for coming and thanks to the committee who did a wonderful job!

We planned to meet the 1st week in Nov to make plans for the Christmas

party in December. Also, we held the nominating report in November for officers in the coming year.

It surely was nice to see Mrs. Setina, who is in her nineties, at the card party, playing and enjoying herself.

Get well wishes to all of you who are ill and God bless everyone with good health.

ROSE NIEMI, Rec. Secretary

NO. 39, BIWABIK, MN

Hi, Ladies! Where did the summer go? The first meeting of the season was held in September. Upon suggestion of President Ann Kroger, the membership agreed that future meetings be held on the first Sunday of the month at 2:00 p.m. A donation of \$50.00 was given to the Biwabik Area Civic Association for the July 4th celebration.

It was nice to see all our friends at Zveza Day held in Hibbing on September 14 at the Moose Club. Twenty-three members from Branch 39 attended. Special thanks to Mary Strukel for the great job done relaying to the convention all the projects our Branch took part in 1986.

A dinner meeting was held at St. John's on October 12 at noon. Honored guests were: State President Rose Maras, National Auditor Victoria Bobenc, and State Secretary Kathy Knuth. A delicious meal was enjoyed by everyone. A slide presentation was shown by Jean Korsman about their recent trip to China, Soviet Union, and Helsinki. Jean and her husband, Roy, were chosen for a people-to-people trip to these countries to exchange thoughts and ideas in agriculture. What a delightful narration Jean made of the trip. Everyone enjoyed the afternoon.

Condolences to our sister, Fran Bezek, on the loss of her husband, Val. Our sympathies are extended to Fran and her family.

The second Sunday of September 1987, Branch 39 of Biwabik will host the Minnesota Zveza Day. Heading the ticket committee is Florence Milos. The prize committee consists of Mary Berknes and Helen Milos. Details of the event will be discussed at future meetings.

ROSEMARY RIBICH

NO. 40, LORAIN, OH

With Halloween behind us, it's time to think of Thanksgiving and Christmas which will be here before we know it; so Happy Thanksgiving

and Merry Christmas to all.

We have change in plans - at the December 10th meeting we will have elections of officers and the selection of the Mother of the Year - so please try to make this important meeting. Our Christmas party is a happy memory.

Agnes Tomazin was ill and she was ably represented by Agatha Donges. A job well done as acting president.

Birthdays of Jean Yelenc, Therese Rajher and Mary Ploszaj were celebrated. Happy Birthday to all - and a dessert lunch was served.

To Anthony and Anne Ribaric a very Happy 50th Anniversary; a Papal Blessing from the Pope was received along with congratulations from President and Mrs. Reagan.

Our sincerest sympathy on the death of Joseph Tomsic - to his family; wife, Angeline and step-daughter, Shirley Toman, and three grand-children. May he rest in peace.

On October 26th Angie Voytko, Agnes Tomazin, Mary Matos and I attended the 55th anniversary of Branch No. 50 and Ohio State Convention. It was so nice to see representation from 11 Branches - a time to talk and compare notes and to fit faces to names. It was a wonderful day.

To Joel and Joyce Ferlic Arrendondo, congratulations on the birth of their son; and to George and Mary Ferlic, good wishes on another grandchild - Happiness to all.

I'll close with this little phrase.

Let me walk in beauty and make my eyes ever behold the red and purple sunset.

MARY PLOSZAJ

NO. 42, MAPLE HTS., OH

Since the holidays are just around the corner, best wishes to all for Happy, Healthy days ahead. Birthday greetings to our December ladies:

Frances Wenckus, Marge Church, Chris Hajek, Eleanor Lipnos, Yong Hui Shega, Donna Stubljer, Susan Shega, Julia Lipnos, Anne Tomsic, Frances Zakrajsek and Mary Yemec. Since there won't be a January issue of ZARJA, greetings to the January birthday ladies: Camille Lao, Pat Wenckus, Kelly Gaines, Elizabeth Shega, Beth Ann Harr, Karen Lockhardt, Anna Rezin and Anne Marie Buehner.

Gretchen Wilk, daughter of Donna Wilk, is recovering from leg surgery. Karen Lockhardt's daughter, Jennie, had surgery on her eye. To our sick and shut-ins, our best wishes and prayers are with you.

Marge Church, Millie Lipnos,

Mary Yemec and yours truly attended the Mass and Ohio State Convention at St. Mary's on Holmes in Cleveland.

Congratulations to Br. 50 on their 55th anniversary. We paid a nice visit to Cilka Hovevar. May I add, it was good to see her so happy and looking so well. She hears from Mary Lou Prhne often. Mitzi and Lou Champa are going to Atlantic City for their 52nd wedding anniversary.

Johnny Gruden and wife, Mary Kay, moved to Chesterland. Karen and Fred Lockhardt moved to Hudson, Ohio. John Wolf is getting married to Karen Sorg on Dec. 6th in Finlay, Ohio. John is a member of the well-known Wolf Band. He is in his third year of medical school and is the son of Pat and Jack Wolf.

There will be a mass on Jan. 25th for the living and deceased members of the Slovenian community in Maple Hgts. at St. Wenceslaus church, 17825 Libby Rd. All are welcome.

Thanks to all who helped and donated to the Grape Festival Bake Sale.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

DONNA STUBLJER

A REMINDER FROM MARGE

We will have our regular (short) meeting in December with a light Christmas buffet served following the meeting. Our special Christmas Celebration is scheduled for Saturday, December 27th with a bus tour of Akron Christmas lights, its mansions, Quaker Square and a deluxe dinner at one of Akron's finer restaurants. Departure from SNH is at 2:00 p.m. and cost is \$19.00 per person. Send your checks or submit payment to Millie or Marge as soon as possible.

A special comment I would like to make, at the time of year when we thank God for our blessings, is that all our members appreciate Donna Stubljer for the excellent job she has done over the years as our "star" reporter for the ZARJA. Journalistically, she is keeping us together in mind and spirit. For this, we thank you Donna. Keep up the good work and this is to let you know we love you.

Best wishes to all for a blessed holiday season!

As ever,
MARGE CHURCH

NO. 43, MILWAUKEE, WI

The year is fast coming to an end and before we know, it will be 1987. As we get older it seems time goes

faster and we go slower. All our events for 1986 were finalized at the October meeting. Our card Party on Sunday, November 2nd was a great success. Thanks to all who participated by attending, working, donating prizes and money. Luncheon at the Packing House, make your reservation immediately. Call 481-7357 I have all the information.

Phillip Suhafer, son of Olga & Bob Suhafer, was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant on October 17, 1986 at Fort Benning, Georgia. Olga and her husband flew to Georgia and this was Olga's first plane ride. After Phillip's commission he was engaged to Valerie Bourne, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Harold Bourne. Phillip and Valerie will be married on December 21st 1986. Congratulations!

Cynthia Peters, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. James Peters was recently engaged to Randy Reick son of Mr. and Mrs. Neil Reick, of Muskego. Congratulations, Cynthia and Randy.

We have several ailing members, Mary Bushnik, Lucille Ganzel, Mary Komes, Jean Luzar, Dorothy Pike, Anne Rebernisek, Mary Strazisher, Vickie Sporis, Mary Tratnik and Ella Udovich we miss you all, and wish you and all other shut-ins a speedy recovery. Jim Verbick, husband of Josephine had major surgery and is at St. Francis Hospital, and also to his sister Mamie Ermenc who is very ill, a speedy recovery. Louie Ganzel, husband of Lucille is also in a nursing home seriously ill. Get well wishes for Louie.

Just got word that Marge Peters fell and sprained her left wrist and right arm. Marge, take care of yourself, hope you recover soon.

Please note: No meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 24th. Luncheon, December 17th at noon sharp. Be at the Packing House - 900 W. Layton Ave. between 11:30 & 11:45 a.m. Reservations must be by December 10th.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

R.K.

NO. 50, CLEVELAND, OH

That time of year again, with fall foliage in beautiful shades of red, rust, orange and scarlet and a nice meeting this October with 94 members present. Received a letter and dues from Carol Dickinson of Fruitland, Idaho, where she and husband, Dennis own and operate Dickinson Frozen Foods. Her daughter, Jennifer Rozanc and mother, Jean Paik, also belong to Br. 50. Jean at one time was our

recording secretary before she went west. They send their regards to all of us and we wish them well, too.

Grandmothers - Molly Mauer's son, Jeffrey and wife, Ursula, had a son, Craig Jeffrey. Sophie Japel is a great grandma to Tara Marie, whose parents are the Robert Zogdinskis from Madison, Ohio. Ella and Frank Skoda went to Westfield, New Jersey to "teenage sit" their grandchildren while Charlotte and Wayne Clevenger went to Florida on business. Albina Kocisko was here from Los Angeles. At age 90 and a spry 90, she visited her sons in North Carolina, Euclid and Solon and all her grand and great grandchildren, too. Grandma Kocisko sounds like grandma Mary Marinko, age 88, who has 21 grandchildren and one in heaven and 7 great grandchildren and she touched out hearts by giving us this recipe for longevity:

"Take it easy, smile, crochet, knit, pray and write cards to the ailing" and she hopes our wonderful cadets will come and pray when God calls her. Enjoy good health, grandmas and grandpas!

Jo Smith, our historian, gave us a synopsis on the ZARJA reports of the early meetings 55 years ago. Money was scarce in those days and only 20 members at the first meeting, but they did socialize and had many 25 cent dances and hiking trips. Who had cars? Very interesting comments, Jo.

Travelers - Amy Gad visited Alice Hraster in a nursing home in Dayton and then to Michigan to visit her nephew. While there, a tornado watch sent them into the basement of the house. Lights were out for 6 hours and lightning struck a new house two doors away. Homeward bound, she encountered a deluge. What a visit!

Marge Masler and Ann Glavic went to New York City on a tour to salute the State of Liberty. Marge said she walked up and down the 202 stairs. Both said it was a wonderful trip.

Vida Gowanda and Helen Bonac came back from San Francisco, Reno, Lake Tahoe, happy having a good time but broke. Those machines get you everytime!

Congratulations to John and Christine Nestor (Oct) and Louis and Ann Winter (Nov) who celebrated their 45th wedding anniversaries. Only five more years for the magic number!

Helen Hraster and Mary Habit both had accidents and injured hips. Take care, ladies, and hopefully we will see you soon at meetings.

Sympathy to the families of Loretta Koss, sister-in-law of Mary (please turn to page 23)

ZARJA—THE DAWN

BUYING FURNITURE FOR LESS \$\$\$



The third largest consumer expenditure is on furniture for the home, the top two being the home and automobile. By the time one has spent thousands on a home and car, visions of beautiful furniture may seem bleak.

Although area department stores offer discounts during periodic sales, you could purchase the same name brands from 35 to 80 percent off retail prices from a selection of furniture discount stores, mainly located in North Carolina.

It is known by most people that the Carolina's are a major furniture manufacturing region; however, since hardly any of these discounters and catalog retailers spend on advertising, they are less known and patronized than other furniture stores. The furniture dealers sell brand name items regularly from 30 to 50 percent less than department store furniture prices. Periodically their prices are also cut from the regular discounts.

Marvin Trott of Trott Furniture Co., in Richland, N.C. stated, "We represent 50 or 60 manufacturers. Our average discounts vary by line - the discount on Link-Taylor furniture is 42 percent, for example, and for Henkel-Harris it is 40 percent." Other top furniture lines at the Carolina discount dealers are: Drexel, Heritage, Barcalounger, Century, Thomasville, Henredon, Broyhill and Dresher.

There are drawbacks to making your furniture purchases at these discount places such as, a large downpayment and a period of several months waiting for deliveries. Additionally, these dealers do not provide free delivery; costs run from \$200-\$300. Advantages are no sales tax at most of the discounters, and same brand furniture sold at about half less than local stores.

GUIDELINES FOR FURNITURE SHOPPERS --

- Check local stores for the furniture you are interested in; note name of manufacturer; style, model number, finishes and descriptions. Write down the wood the furniture is made of, how it is put together (glued or doweled), and the list price.

Once you discover what you like and want to buy, time spent researching for the best price will enable you to save "big bucks" and perhaps buy more than you anticipated.

Check the Yellow Pages for local factory outlets. Call around and compare prices; you will be surprised at the huge variations for identical pieces of furniture.

OTHER SOURCES --- Check rental stores selling used furniture at huge discounts; department and retail furniture store sales in January/February and July/August are the most popular; wholesale distributors and factory showrooms where overstocked and returned pieces are marked down drastically to make room for new inventory.

ADVICE --- When you have found your best

bargain, be sure to read the entire contract before signing it. Many of us sign before asking questions about terms and conditions we do not understand.

The following is a list of furniture discounters in N.C.:

A & H Wayside Furniture
1086 Freeway Dr.
Reidsville, NC 27320
(919) 342-0717 or
342-3424

Alexander's
701 Greensboro Rd.
High Point, NC 27260
(919) 882-0915

BLACKWELDER'S Industries, Inc.
Rural Route 12
(Hwy. 21 N.)
P.O. Box 390
Statesville, NC 28677
(800) 438-0201

Boyles Furniture Sales
727 N. Main St.
P.O. Box 2084
High Point, NC 27261
(800) 334-3285

Country Furniture
607 Idol Dr.
High Point, NC 27262
(800) 334-2743

Edgar B. Furniture Plantation
Hwy. 158
P.O. Box 849
Clemmons, NC 27012
(800) 334-2010

Grindstaff's Interiors
927 W. Main St.
Forest City, NC 28043
(704) 245-4263

Mecklenburg Furniture Shop
520 Providence Rd.
Charlotte, NC 28207
(704) 376-8401

McMillian Furniture Factory Outlet
P.O. Box 599
Jacksonville, NC 28540
(919) 455-9712

Murrow Furniture Galleries
3514 S. College Rd.
P.O. Box 4337
Wilmington, NC 28406

Shaw Furniture
131 W. Academy St.
Randleman, NC 27317
(800) 344-6799

Sobol House
140 Richardson Blvd.
Black Mountain, NC 28711
(714) 669-8031

Trott Furniture Co.
P.O. Box 7
Highway 258
Richland, NC 28574
(919) 324-4660

For the more ambitious bargain hunter, refer to the Consumers Digest Discount Dealers Booklet from your local library. Also, an outlet guide for North and South Carolina may be purchased by sending a check for \$3.85 to:

CAROLINA PUBLICATION
P.O. Box 2550
Greensboro, NC 27402

Good Luck and a blessed Christmas season and successful New Year 1987 to all.

ZAK FUNERAL HOME

4 GENERATIONS OF SERVICE, SINCE 1890

(ZAKRAJSEK)
ZACHARY A. ZAK — LICENSED
8018 ST. CLAIR AVE.

361-3112 361-5921

LOUIS SLAPNIK & SON FLORIST

Flowers for all occasions
Cards & Gifts, city and suburb deliveries

6102 St. Clair Ave.

431-1126 and 391-2134

Cleveland, OH 44103

*Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year*

*Milostipolne božične praznike
in srečno novo leto!*

SHELIGA DRUG INC.

6025 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103
(216) 431-1035



TIVOLI ENTERPRISES

6419 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH
(216) 431-5296 - "Imports from Slovenia"

Officers & Members
Br. 73, Warrensville Hgts., OH

FORTUNA FUNERAL HOME

5316 Fleet Ave. Cleveland, Ohio
641-0046



Greetings and all the best
to our Sisters of S.W.U.
Officers and Members of

Br. 20, Joliet, Illinois

the 20th National Convention City

DR. & MRS. M. JOSEPH-
CHRZANOWSKI
Cleveland, OH

Anzlovar Department Store
6214 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, Ohio

Our thanks to Cirila Kermavner and Alouise Epley for securing the Cleveland Christmas ads

Br. 50:

Perusek and Max Jerin, father of Julia Zalar, who passed away in October. All of them will be missed. Ann Cern and family were deeply touched with the presence of the cadets at their recent death. Ann said most members don't realize what a comfort it is for survivors to have our cadets officiate and she says they deserve their new banner for display. Incidentally, we need more cadets and we have the outfits. You'll get transportation, too, and most of all, you will be appreciated. We just honored Ernie Jevic with a "This is your life" skit and was given a cake and gift for her 50 years of service as a cadet and captain. Do decide to be a cadet and join our lovely ladies.

Slovene Nat'l Art Guild Arts and Crafts show was very successful. While working in the kitchen. I noticed so many of our SWU members of all the branches attending or working. The displays were beautiful and we can surely be proud of our Slovene artists and our own heritage.

In spite of the many affairs in Euclid, we still had a full house for the 55th anniversary and the celebration of our 50 year members. Our honorees were:

Theresa Petrick, Frances Praprotnik, Mary Beck, Frances Derov, Ernestine Jevic, Jo Smith, Ann Nowakowski and Rose Zuzek. A good meal and Tony Jagodnik's music was enjoyed by all. Our Mass and the State Convention of the branches of Ohio and Michigan was also well attended.

Now, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all and do make some good resolutions that you can keep. All of us lose occasionally, but we're never beaten until we quit.

Enjoy your Christmas party and come to the January meeting to have fun and goodies and say, Hello!

VERA SEBENIK, Reporter

NO. 52, KITZVILLE, MN

Dear sisters! I am very sorry that I was unable to keep you informed as to what we were doing. Yours truly has been in the hospital for quite some time. I underwent surgery and will be laid up for some time yet; but, I will try to get caught up with the latest news.

We are now holding our meetings at the new community building. I hope that you will all enjoy it. We will also be holding our Christmas party there this year with dinner prepared by Millie Barbatto and other members of the branch. We would like to invite all to be present.

There will be no exchange of gifts. The more the merrier so we hope you all come. Guests are also welcome. Maybe we can recruit more new members.

We added two new social members: Shirley Oberstar and Gail Carlson. We also voted on the officers for next year such as Rose Rrombley, president, Genevieve Zidarich, vice-president, Jenny Crea, treasurer and secretary, Dorothy Russo, recording sec'y, Ann Roberts, Margaret Kochevar and Alice Baratto, auditors.

Our meeting was closed with prayer by president Rose. Hostesses for the evening were sisters Mildred Barbatto, Theresa Montcalm, Gen Zidarich. Door prize was won by Mary Techar. Cards were also played and honors to the following:

Rose Trombley, Jenny Crea, Florence Techar and Mary Techar. Bridge honors to sisters Julia Mancuso and Ann Toole. A very delightful evening for all of us.

We also wish all of our sick members Godspeed to a rapid recovery. And, to all our members who sent cards to me and offered your prayers and get well wishes, I must take this time to thank all of you. My stay at the hospital was more pleasant because of your caring. It takes people like my sisters of SWU to make a person want to get well. I hope to be seeing you all soon. May God bless you all and keep you in the best of health until we meet again... I expect it will be a long recovery.

Meetings are on the first Wednesday of the month and the next one is at the Community Building.

GERTRUDE KOICHEVAR

NO. 54, WARREN, OH

We had a wonderful Halloween party for our last meeting and 15 members were present. All wore costumes! It was held at our president, Jo Kassin's home and we had a covered dish dinner, too. It's unbelievable what great cooks our members are. We had potica, strudel and many other delicacies. Our president was attired as a nun and was quite a hit. Receiving prizes for the best costumes were Isabelle Rek, Anne Brdek and yours truly. We each received a box of chocolates.

Our Christmas meeting will be on Dec. 16th at 12:30 p.m. We will have a luncheon with guests at the Elks Club, on Rt. 422. We are having a turkey dinner with all the trimmings. You will be contacted for reservations. You are asked to bring a \$3 gift exchange, canned goods for the

basket and cookies. Please make an effort to come when you are called. We are hoping to have Delores De Pietro with her button box accordion for entertainment. We know you will have an enjoyable afternoon if you come.

My daughter, Pat was home for a long weekend from Columbia, South Carolina, and we had our Thanksgiving Dinner with her a month early as she can't be home for the holiday. The visit was over much too fast.

Get well to all those ailing and a Blessed Christmas and Prosperous New Year to all.

JOANNE PONIKVAR

NO. 55, GIRARD, OH

At our November meeting we made plans for our Christmas party. The date will be December 10 at 6:30 in the evening you will be contact by telephone to let you know the place.

If you are interested we will have an exchange of gifts and you can invite a friend.

Ladies having birthdays in December are Helen Degati, Gala Jhoss, Ivanka Florjancic, and Rosemary Juvancic. Happy Birthday to all. Well, I hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving, and in closing I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Here is a Poem that I read and thought it was so very nice.

THE OLD, OLD STORY

by Lola Neff Merritt

*Let's retell that beloved old story
now that Christmastime is near:
Once more lift our hearts and minds
with joy
This holiest time of the year.*

*Let's read of a man and a maiden
Led by angels, fulfilling God's plan
Of his son, who was born in a stable,
Bringing light to the world of lost man!*

*Once again, let us hear of poor
shepherds
Circled nightly around their camp-
fires,
Who listened in awe to the music
Sung by God's heavenly angel choir,*

*Let us join the three wise men who
journeyed
Over countries and lands from afar
As they offer their gifts to a small
king
While HE sleeps in the hay neath a
star.*

All My Love

ROSEMARY GORDON

MINNESOTA HAS A GREAT STATE CONVENTION

Regional President, Rose Maras and National Treasurer, Sylvia Vukodinovich welcomed guests at Minnesota Zveza Day in Hibbing.



Hello from lovely Northeastern Minnesota. Nature has let us know that by her beautiful color leaves that autumn has arrived.

Our convention day on Sept. 14 was cloudy & windy; but, it didn't dampen the spirits of the 243 + 3 SWU members that turned out for our 24th Annual Convention. We were very proud and pleased to have our National Treasurer, Sylvia Vukodinovich as our guest. We are lucky to have such a dynamic personality hold a National Office. She was accompanied by her charming husband, George.

Our meeting started at 9:30 a.m. and after a prayer recited by Frances Zalec of Chisholm and the singing of the "Common Bond" led by Ann Hodnik, our National Youth Director, then we got right down to business. The secretary read the minutes of a special meeting called in May regarding the Dedication of the Miner's Memorial and to set some guide lines for our annual State Convention. It was a very informative meeting and I would suggest that all regional presidents try to get together at least once a year with the presidents of various branches and find out how they feel about issues that will and should be brought up at the State Convention. We did not have a Vice-President for Minnesota and I felt, if something happened to me, who would take over? Our second runner up, Delores Heski, passed away this summer and the ladies voted unanimously for our new Vice-President, who is Emily Skull from Duluth. We are quite honored and pleased to have her. Congratulations Emily, from all of us.

After some discussions the ladies brought up two topics that will be brought up at the National Convention. The ladies of Minnesota voted and will go on record:

A- The Vice-President should be allowed to have a vote at the National Board meeting.

B- The Social members should be allowed to vote on issues. After our fruitful meeting, we adjourned and went to the Immaculate Church where we had our Mass, by Father Ziegler. His Con-concelebrant was Father Petrich, from Ely, who is a former recipient of a Scholarship by the SWU (1983). The singing was beautiful, quite a few of us were dressed in costume. It was a lovely celebration. After the Mass, we went to the Moose Club rooms where we enjoyed a delicious Turkey dinner and a program, with our Tostmistress, Ann Selvo who presented the Mayor, Dick Nordvold, who welcomed all of the SWU ladies, the Chisholm Songbirds, Fran Techar, Charlette Laurich, president of

the Chisholm Branch, Jennie Marinkovich and Mary Ruth Cameron and their accompanist, none other but the Chisholm President's son Mike Laurich. They did a wonderful job. Thanks. Then we had a most beautiful speaker, our National Treasurer, Sylvia Vukodinovich, who was very exciting and interesting; she held us spellbound. Hope we can have her again. We then gave out prizes to most members.

Ann Selvo, my chairperson of arrangements for our recent convention meeting, and I, wish to express our appreciation and gratitude to all members of Chisholm Br. No. 38 who so willingly accepted our invitation to join us wearing their native costumes to the convention.

It goes without saying--the costumes are beautiful! In church they presented a picture of Slovenian dolls as they preceded Fathers Ziegler and Petrich to the altar which was beautifully decorated with fresh flowers. Their presence and color in church left a lasting memory of a beautiful mass offering for all members in S.W.U.

Charolotte Laurich, Pres. of Br. No. 38, lead in congregation singing during the mass. Many said they preferred this to a choir. Local members who served in church were Mary Sikich, Mary Micholette; Sylvia Latick and Milena Kohler, usherettes, Ann Satovich, lector. Gift bearers were Rose Maras, Sylvia Vukodinovich and Charolotte Laurich.

The willingness of our sister-branch will always be remembered. I am sure it was done in the spirit of sisterhood which prevails within our Slovenian Women's Union.

I ask the master of mankind...to guide me day by day...and he has always answered me...with help to make my way...he washes worry from my mind...and fills my heart with strength...so when the need arises...I can go to any length...with every prayer home comes to me...my faith is born anew...and I find the task at hand...is smoother to pursue...God is the truest friend I have...without him life would be...filled with pain and sad regret...a wild and stormy sea...Oh master of my heart and soul...stay with me all time...only in your loving care...will reach the sublime...thank you, my Lord, for everything...help me to righteously tread...temptation hovers all around...to live, I need you, GOD.

Again--to one and all--

THANK YOU - VERY MUCH

Rose Maras, Regional President, Minnesota

NO. 56, HIBBING, MN

Our October meeting was opened with prayer by our president. Reports were read and accepted. Thank yous were received from Tory Bobence, Sylvia Vukodinovich from Joliet, Ann Hodnik and Phyllis Kukar of Gilbert on the fine convention we had. Thank you, ladies. Our treasurer was absent so our full report on the financial outcome of the convention was to be given at the Nov. meeting. Ann Selvo, co-chairman, congratulated the committee heads for doing a fine job. Thank you, too, Ann Selvo, for a job well done.

For the people who bought tickets, the prize winners were: Carry Pucel, Susan Carlson, and Angela Zbasnik (special prize), all from Ely, and Ann Stefanich from Tower. Locals were Gen Zidarich, potica, Milena Koehler, Santa Claus, E. Adamich, angel. With all the hard work and months of planning, it was a successful convention.

Veronica Marter and Mary Sporer were reported sick. Birthdays were recognized for Oct. Special prize winner was Mary Sikich. Tentative plans were made for our Christmas party which will be on Dec. 9th at the KC Hall.

Meeting was closed with a prayer. Lunch was served by hostesses Vic Ricci, Rose Matonich and Pep Erickson. Cards were played and winners were Rose Vukich, Amelia Domen and Dorothy Oberstar.

ANNE SATOVICH, Reporter

NO. 57, NILES, OH

Well, fall is in the air and trees are just beautiful. Hope you all get a chance to get out and enjoy them as winter isn't far behind.

We didn't have a meeting in Sept. so this is a report for our October meeting. It was held at the home of our president, Frances Yerman, with 11 members present. New business was discussed to have a Christmas party and plans were made to go out, place to be announced at the next meeting. We also decided to have our meetings in the afternoon on the second Tuesday of each month starting with the Nov. 11th meeting, so, ladies, please mark this time on your calendars.

Our month of Oct. will be remembered for beautiful weddings. Mrs. Opalka and her daughters, Ann and Olga, attended a wedding in Florida for her grandson. Frances Stanec and her son came in from New York to attend a beautiful

wedding of her granddaughter, Kim Kazimer, in Cleveland which also had many friends and relatives from Niles and surrounding area in attendance.

Charlotte Visnosky Lah gave birth to her second son in Sept. which makes Mary Visnosky a grandmother for the second time. Jane Logar had friends visiting from Tenn. I am sure other members had some beautiful times but if I don't hear from you I cannot tell about it. Please let me know.

We played "B" and later were served a lovely lunch with Mary Lukz, Viola Logar and Mary Ann Leonard on the committee. Viola could not attend as she had foot surgery a couple of days before and is now doing fine. Our hostesses for November were Mary Strah, Ann Pease and Mary DeCapua.

Our get well wishes to all our sick members and wishes for your speedy recovery.

Keep Going

*There's no skill in easy sailing,
When the skies are clear and blue.
There's no joy in merely doing
Things that anyone can do.
But there is great satisfaction
That is mighty sweet to take,
When you reach a destination
That you said you couldn't make.*

FRANCES STANEC

NO. 67, BESSEMER, PA

We did not have a meeting in November because there were just two of us present. Ann Markovich and Mary Percic. I found this article and do not know who wrote it but it certainly fits our situation:

DO YOU JUST BELONG?

Are you an active member, the kind that would be missed?

Or are you quite content that your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meeting and mingle with the flock?

Or do you stay at home to criticize and knock?

Do you take an active part to help the work along?

Or are you quite well satisfied to only "just belong"?

Do you ever take a stand for things you think are right?

Or leave the work to just a few and talk instead of fight?

Think it over members. You know what's right and wrong.

Are you an active member, or do you "just belong"?

We will have our Christmas party on Dec. 7th. Try to be there. Bring anything you want.

Mary Slavich will be 90 years old. Happy Birthday and good health to you.

It is a shame that we can't get together at least a few Sundays a year. Ladies, we have only 46 members left. We may have to close the branch and you will have to send your dues to the Home Office.

There are only three regulars that attend. We have no president; also we would like to pick a Mother of the Year.

God bless everyone with good health. See you in December.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

MARY PERCIC
Sec'y & Reporter

NO. 73, WARRENSVILLE HTS., OH

MERRY CHRISTMAS to each and everyone of you from Branch No. 73. We hope that the holidays are filled with happiness for all, and that any illnesses will stay away from your doors--so as not to hamper your celebrations. We also hope that in the flurry of activity, you will take time to relax. Let's not be so tired that we cannot enjoy this very special holiday. If you are like me--December means it's time to finish all the crafts you got an early start on last March. They do pile up, don't they?

Although our October Birthday celebration is long gone--we can't let the opportunity pass to say a big Thank You to all who participated. We did have a beautiful time. We enjoyed the company especially of Bob Mueller who could have awakened all of Cleveland with his beautiful button-box music. He played his heart out for us, and we enjoyed every note. Thank you, Bob. You may be our first (male) honorary member!

BON VOYAGE: Larry and Marguerite Franchino celebrated their 30th Wedding Anniversary with a visit to the South Pacific and the Orient. Lucky people. Congratulations to you, and hope the trip was a pleasant one.

CONGRATULATIONS: To Tony Petkovsek who has marked 25 years in the radio/music world. The Cleveland ethnic population depends heavily on Tony for information regarding dances, festivals, picnics, tours, etc. where they can enjoy themselves. Keep up the good work, Tony.

GET WELL WISHES: Frances Travnik took a trip, only hers resulted in a fracture. We hope you are feeling better, Frances, and that the cast won't keep you down too long. Get well wishes also to George Brindza, husband of "Babe" (Louise Godec/Brindza). "Babe" and George spent some time in Hot Springs, Arkansas visiting a friend, enjoying the visit to the fullest. George battled a bout of pneumonia on their return. Hope you're feeling better.

To those of you who have a Slovenian National Home in your area--just a small request. All the Homes are desperately in need of support, both financial and moral. Do what you can to assist them in any way that fits your life style. The demise of these homes will mean a link from the past, a special part of your heritage that will be removed and, in all certainty, will not be replaced. Their burdens are many. Support them in any way you can. It will be appreciated so very much.

One of the most rewarding aspects of this reporter's job is the response I receive from members and sometimes total strangers who approach me and let me know that they enjoy reading the material I put together. I thank you for taking the time to express that appreciation. It adds a special warmth to the job.

I would like to express a very special Thank You to Irene Odorizzi for the superb job she did on my father's life story (The Immigrant--Anthony from Primskovo) in the October Issue of ZARJA. You brought a special delight to many hearts. Thank you.

Have yourselves a happy and healthy holiday season. May 1987 be one of the best years of your lives. In true Slovenian style--let's drink to that!

Respectfully submitted,
EVELYN A. MAJERCIK

NO. 85, DEPUE, IL

Another Illinois-Indiana State Convention is past history and Br. 89 of Oglesby and Br. 85 of DePue want to thank all of you who attended. We thought it turned out pretty well and hope that everyone enjoyed themselves. We were so glad Father Bernard was able to make it for the mass and dinner. It is always a pleasure having him come as he is a "prav Slovenec!" Again, we of Br. 85, De Pue, would like to thank Mrs. Prey and all the other lovely ladies from Oglesby for all the help they gave us and also the kind hospitality shown at the meetings. We really

ENTERS NOVITIATE



Robert J. Peterlin

enjoyed working with them. We hope we can get together with them again some time. I would also like to thank the ladies from our branch who were so helpful in all our projects and to our president, Gen Grilc, and our past president, Mary Oberch, who did the driving to Oglesby. It was all appreciated.

One of our members, Virginia Grilc, is now in a nursing home in Rockford. We all wish her well. Another member and former secretary, Fran Machek, has been in the hospital. We hope you will be feeling better soon, Fran. To all of our other members who have been a little "under the weather" we also hope you will be feeling better. There have certainly been a lot of colds and flu around.

Thanksgiving wishes to all and hope everyone had a happy one giving thanks for all our blessings as we have a lot to be thankful for.

Blessed Christmas to one and all.

MARY JERMENC

NO. 89, OGLESBY, IL

A short business meeting was held Oct. 13th at Dickinson House with Br. 85 of DePue in attendance. Rose Ann Prey, President, commended everyone for a job well done at the Illinois-Indiana State Convention. An overall review was given of the event and payment of bills met at this time. There were 6 members of Br. 85 present and 15 members of our Br. 89. Irene Peterlin, one of our

past presidents, has a reason to rejoice. Her grandson, Robert J. Peterlin, entered the novitiate of the Norbertine Community at St. Norbert Abbey, DePue, Wisconsin on Aug. 27th.

Angie Nico, Regional President, received a lovely letter from Kobe, Japan, where her daughter, Lorraine and son-in-law, Jay Waite will reside for three to five years. They are the proud parents of three lovely daughters, Kathy, 3, Susan, 5 and Lisa 7. Jay works for Caterpillar Mitsubishi. Jay and Lorraine spent one week in Cincinnati, Ohio, learning the Japanese language before heading for Japan. The children will attend an American School sponsored by Canada. We all wish Lorraine, Jay and the girls the best.

We were fortunate to have Rev. Frank Perkovich and the Polka Masters of Eveleth, Minn. at our Holy Family Church on Sept. 27th. We all enjoyed the Mass and the singing was fabulous.

Our prayers go out to Rev. Deo Gratias Mutefunja of St. Mary's Church in DePue. He is the spiritual advisor of Br. 85. Fr. Deo just returned from Africa where he attended his brother's funeral. His brother, Rev. Longinus Rujwahura, was shot while sitting in the rectory of his church.

Happy birthday wishes were extended to Emma Foly and Eunice Komater. All joined in singing a chorus of Happy Birthday.

Rose Ann Prey, along with Angie Nico, Gen Grilc and Mary Jermenc, all take this time to thank everyone who helped in any way to make our convention a success and also a special thank you to all who took time to attend our convention.

Fifty year members deserve special recognition. They are: Alvie Jerin, Anna Krancic, Frances Mozina and Elsa Zabavnik. Congratulations to all. I will try to cover some of their activities in the old days in the next issue.

A special note to Rose Ann Prey, our President, who worked so diligently and patiently with both branches, nos. 85 and 89. Her one goal is for a greater interest in our Slovenian Heritage and of a sharing of all activities of S.W.U. Thank you, Rose Ann, for your sincere interest. We love you.

EUNICE KOMATER



Hermine Dicke
3717 Council Crest
Madison, WI 53711



Dear Members: Congratulations on your 60th anniversary of the Slovenian Women's Union. Your dedicated support made this possible. There are many happy years to come with your continued good work.

Lucille Smith, Regional President of PA, N.Y. and Wash., D.C., has sent me three excellent cookbooks over the years. One carries her favorite ORANGE COOKIES recipe which follows. At my sister's 50th wedding anniversary, Margaret and Robert Fischer, their daughter, Mary Turvey, of Branch No. 1 from Munising, MI, brought delicious treats: WING DINGS and GERMAN TORTE for the buffet supper. A lovely dinner was enjoyed at the American Club in Kohler, WI.

A Merry and Blessed Christmas,
Affectionately,
Hermine



ORANGE COOKIES

- | | | | |
|-------|------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | cup Crisco | 4 1/2 | cups all-purpose flour |
| 1 1/2 | cups sugar | 3 | teaspoons baking powder |
| 2 | eggs | 1 | teaspoon baking soda |
| | Rind and juice of one orange | 1 | cup buttermilk or sour milk |

Cream together shortening and sugar; add eggs and beat. Add rind and juice of orange. Sift dry ingredients and add alternately with milk beginning and ending with flour mixture. Mix well. Drop by rounded teaspoonfuls on greased cookie sheet. Bake 10 to 13 minutes at 350°.

Icing:

- | | | |
|--------|---------------------------|------------------|
| 2 | cups confectioners' sugar | Rind of 1 orange |
| 4 to 5 | tablespoons orange juice | |

Mix sugar, orange juice and rind together. Beat well. Ice cookies while warm. Makes 80 to 90 cookies.

WING DINGS

Sauce:

- | | | | |
|-------|---|-----|-----------------------|
| 2 | cups white sugar | 2 | teaspoons salt |
| 1 1/2 | cups vinegar | 1/4 | teaspoon ginger |
| 1 | cup chicken broth or 1 chicken bouillon cube in 1 cup water | 4 | tablespoons soy sauce |
| | | 4 | tablespoons ketchup |

Chicken Wings:

- | | | | |
|--------|---|------------|--------------------------|
| 2 to 3 | pounds frozen or fresh chicken wings or drum sticks | 1 to 2 | eggs, beaten with a fork |
| | | 1 to 1 1/2 | cups cornstarch |

Thaw wings. Mix the sauce ingredients and simmer, uncovered, in a saucepan for 30 minutes, stirring occasionally. Meanwhile, remove tips (for broth) and cut wings in half if not already done so. Rinse in cold water; dry. Dip in beaten egg and roll each in cornstarch. Brown in greased one or two fry pans. In one layer place pieces in a-roaster or broiler pan. Cover with sauce and bake, uncovered, at 350° for 1 hour and 15 minutes or until tender, basting every 20 minutes with sauce. Serve warm or cold as snacks or for a buffet supper.

GERMAN TORTE

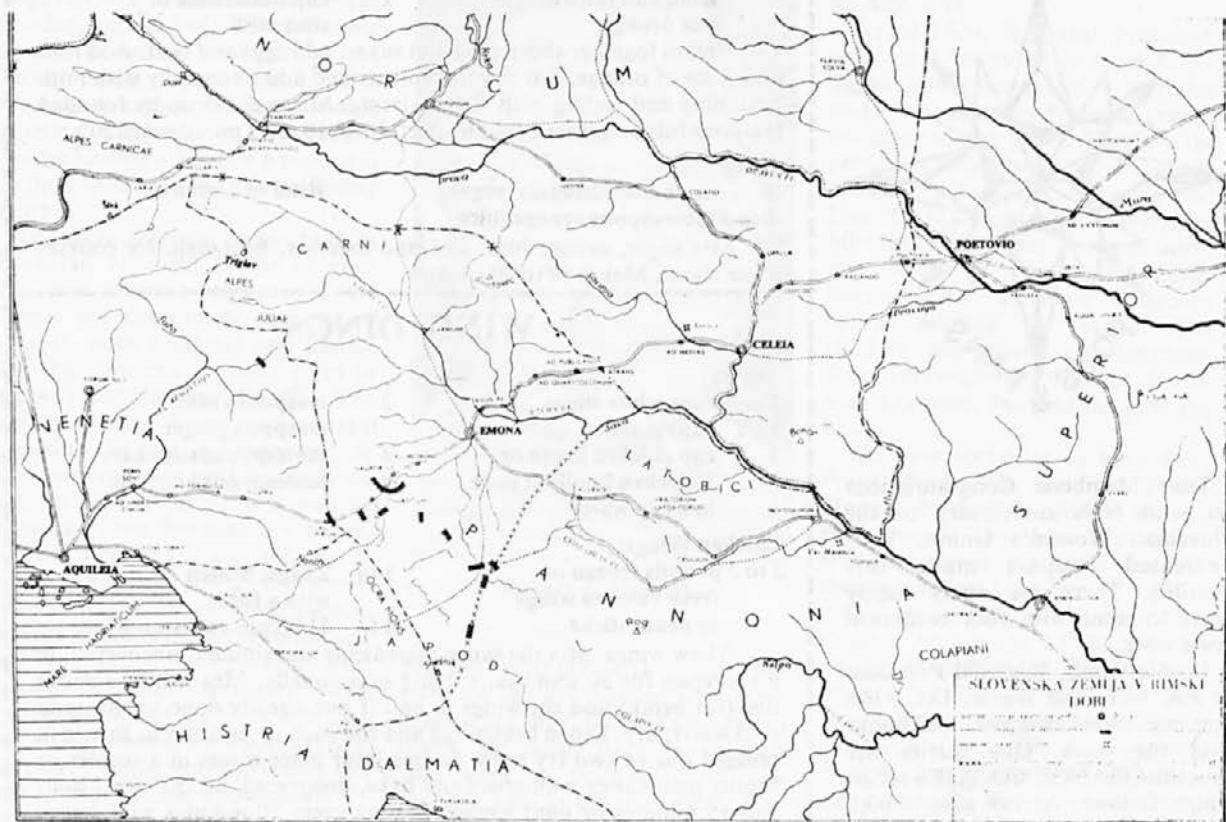
- | | | | |
|-------|---|-------|------------------------|
| 6 | eggs, separated and let stand to room temperature | 1 | teaspoon vanilla |
| 1 1/4 | cups sugar | 1 1/2 | cups all-purpose flour |
| 1/3 | cup water | 1 | teaspoon baking powder |

Have ready 9-inch ungreased springform pan, without center, or 8-inch angel food pan. Heat oven to 350°. Beat the egg yolks until thick and lemon colored, about 5 minutes. Add the sugar gradually; beat after each addition. On slow speed, beat in the water and vanilla. Sift together the flour and baking powder; slowly beat into yolk mixture. Clean beaters and whip egg whites until stiff. Gradually fold into batter. Bake in ungreased pan at 350° for 40 to 50 minutes until toothpick comes out clean when inserted in cake. Cool in pan upside down. Let stand one day or overnight before slicing crosswise into 3 to 4 layers (4 layers better).

Filling and Frosting:

- | | | | |
|---|--|-------|--------------------------------|
| 3 | large packages (4 1/3 ounces each) Jello vanilla pudding (not instant) | 4 1/4 | cups milk |
| | | 3/4 | pound butter, room temperature |
| | | 2 | tablespoons cocoa |

Cook pudding in heavy pan in 4 1/4 cups milk, stirring constantly. It will be thick. Let come to room temperature, covering with wax paper while cooling to avoid skin on top of pudding. When cool, cream butter in large mixer bowl and add pudding one tablespoon at a time, beating after each addition, takes about 10 minutes. To 1/4 of frosting, add the cocoa, beat well. Use it to frost a layer or two for color contrast. If desired, flute cocoa mixture with a decorator tube along top and bottom edges, adding a little more cocoa for a stiffer icing. Cake freezes beautifully. Refrigerate always and should stand overnight before serving first time, if not frozen. For a Christmas motif: Make berries from gumdrops and tint a little of the white frosting green for leaves.



THE EARLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN ROMAN SLOVENIA

by Fr. Rudolph Flanik, O. Carm.
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

For at least six centuries before the Slovenes settled in the eastern Alpine region, Slovenia was a very important and vital part of the Roman Empire. Like Caesar's Gaul it was divided into three parts at first, and later on into many smaller units. Basically these administrative units were more extensive than the boundaries of Slovenia today, or at any time in its history. Western Slovenia, the first unit, was considered even before the time of Christ a part of Italy, and was known as Regio X, the Tenth Region of Italy proper. The Province of Noricum in the north included more of present-day of Austria than Slovenia. Pannonia, the largest province, included a small sector of Austria, about half of Hungary and Slovenia, and parts of Croatia and Serbia as well. Emona (Ljubljana) at different times was a part of each province. The focal point of these divisions was the Danube river, bordering the provinces on the north and east, over which the so-called barbarians made their way through Slovenia into Italy from the end of the second century until they overthrew the empire in the fifth.

Except for two references to Illyricum, the Roman name for Yugoslavia, that are found in St. Paul's epistles (Rom. 15,19; 2 Tim. 4, 19), nothing is known about the beginnings and development of Christianity in Yugoslavia before the middle of the third century. It was then that the new faith began to spread like wildfire, not only in the Roman provinces of Yugoslavia, but also in the rest of the empire.

Curiously enough, the first recorded mention of Christians in Slovenia dates from A.D. 174. In Roman histories it is known as "The Battle of the Rain Miracle," and today a graphic representation of the event may be

seen on the Column of Marcus Aurelius in Rome. The battle occurred during the Marcomanni Wars, when the whole Slovene area of Pannonia was overrun by Quadi invaders from across the Danube. In desperation Marcus Aurelius had to bring his twelfth legion (The Thundering Legion) from Asia Minor to expel the invaders. The legion found itself hemmed in on all sides by the Quadi in a desolate region, and being unable to fight or retreat, was reduced to extremity by sweltering heat and thirst. The locale is suggestive of the Karst plateau of Slovenia. Prayers for divine assistance was the legion's last recourse. Almost immediately their pleas were answered. A great downpour burst over them, followed by a violent storm of hail and lightning that drove the invaders into confusion and destruction.

That prayers had saved the Thundering Legion was not doubted, and contemporary Christian and pagan writers were solidly agreed that a miracle did occur. However, the question of whose prayers were answered by whom became a point of heated controversy. According to pagan writers the miracle had to be attributed to the prayers Marcus Aurelius offered to the rain-god Juppiter Pluvius. Christian writers unanimously and vehemently insisted that the Christian God answered the prayers of Christian soldiers. Furthermore, Marcus Aurelius knew as well as anyone else that soldiers of The Thundering Legion were Christian to a man, who were recruited in Asia Minor, the most thoroughly Christianized area of the empire since the days of the apostles. The weight of history was on the Christian side.

The 'rain-miracle' notwithstanding, the presence of these Christian soldiers in Pannonia does not indicate any kind of organized Christian community in Roman Slovenia towards the end of the second century. The first signs of an established Christian church in Roman Slovenia appear in historical records for the first time before the great persecution inaugurated by Diocletian in 303.

Despite this obscurity efforts have been made by sincere Christians to link up, if at all possible, by means of legend or tradition, the first preachers of Christianity in Roman Slovenia with the twelve apostles. The saint best known to the Slovenes is just one case in point. According to a fifth century legend, St. Hermagoras (Sv. Mohor), a disciple of the evangelist Mark, was consecrated by St. Peter in Rome and appointed bishop of Aquileia (capital of Regio X) to carry on the labors of St. Mark in northern Italy and surrounding regions. The legend also says that Hermagoras and his deacon Fortunatus were martyred under Nero in A.D. 70. Hagiographers are in agreement that the legend is spurious on all counts.

The beginnings of the church in Aquileia are well documented from the middle of the third century and no earlier. The remains of Hermagoras and Fortunatus, which repose at Šmohor near Villach are most probably those of the Greek Hermogenes and his deacon named Fortunatus also. They suffered martyrdom under Diocletian in Sirmium (Sremska Mitrovica). Their relics were brought to Aquileia by Christian refugees in the middle of the fifth century, and then two centuries later were transferred to the Gail valley in Carinthia, the site of one of the first settlements early Slovenes made in the eastern Alps.

Fr. Flanik brings us the little-known history of early Christians in Slovenia before the Slovenes arrived there. We present it in the interest of our many readers for whom the history of their ancestors is a fascinating study. This is the first of three parts. We thank Fr. Flanik for allowing us to share in this knowledge.

To about the third century the Christian church experienced a slow growth, mainly in the urban centers around the Mediterranean and in Asia Minor. As cities rarely had more than ten thousand inhabitants, it is conjectured that Christians formed about ten percent of the empire's total population of fifty million by the third century. Rural areas, which held onto ancient deities and pagan practices more tenaciously, were not ready for evangelization till the fourth and fifth centuries.

Early in the third century when military units became heavily concentrated on the Danube to keep out barbarians, and merchants and traders poured into the region from Asia Minor and Greece, Christian communities with soldiers and immigrants forming their nuclei are known for the first time. Going on the assumption, that where there was a bishop there was a flock, by the middle of the third century bishops are known for certain in Pannonia at seven locations, four in present-day Croatia, one each in Hungary and Austria, and one in Slovenia at Poetovio (Ptuj). No information has come down to us as to precisely when, how, and by whom these Christian centers came into being.

It was the persecution of the Christian church that proved to be the most vitalizing stimulus for the growth and spread of the church in Roman Yugoslavia, especially in Pannonia, Istria, and Dalmatia, but not as yet in Noricum. The first general persecution was launched by Decius (249-251), the first Illyrian-born general to become an emperor. His successors intensified the persecution during the next half century by making emperor-worship the only acceptable way for proving one's civic loyalty. In Christian eyes this was downright ridiculous and frivolous. For them the surest way of winning victory over servitude, of saving one's life, was to sacrifice it for the Gospel of Christ. The blood of martyrs, as Tertullian predicted, was the seed of the church. Martyrs were exalted as heroes and champions in the great conflict of the new order with the old. That is why at the beginning of the fourth century the first and best authenticated evidence for a flourishing church in Roman Yugoslavia is the large number of martyrs who suffered during the time of Diocletian and Galerius (303-311). With ruthless fanaticism they tried to obliterate Christianity in the last general persecution. Prisons, according to the first church historian Eusebius, became so filled with the clergy, no room was left in them for common criminals.

Among the more popularly known martyrs are Anastasia (Sv. Stošija) and Chrysogonus (Sv. Krševan), whose names appeared early in the canon of the Mass, and whose remains repose in neighboring churches at Zadar. Other Pannonian martyrs are St. Quirinus, bishop of Siscia (Sisak); St. Eusebius, bishop of Cibale (Vinkovci); and the Five Crowned Martyrs, stonemasons who refused to carve a statue of the health-god Aesculapius for Diocletian's palace at Split. Not even an approximate count of the martyrs can be arrived at, as only few records of their trials have survived.

It was only after Constantine granted complete freedom and equality to Christians in 313 that the Christian faith made headway in Noricum. No Christian churches existed there before the fourth century, but in the second half of that same century bishops are known for certain at six locations in Austria. The best evidence for the church in Noricum, as in Pannonia, are Maximilian, Florian, and Victorinus, its three known martyrs.

The life of Maximilian, unfortunately, is only known from unreliable sources dating from the eleventh century. It is alleged that he was born in Celeia (Celje) of a wealthy family, was educated by a priest, and after renouncing his patrimony, he made a pilgrimage to

NO. 92, GUNNISON, CO

Eleven members answered roll call after Fran Austin opened the meeting held at the home of Margaret Depew. Fern White led us in prayer. Frances Guerrieri was the co-hostess, but she was not able to attend because of back problems.

Minutes and the treasurer's reports were given by Rita Bartelli. Correspondence included a thank you note from Matt and Ann Malensek who had a fiftieth Anniversary on October 12. This was held at the Elks Hall from 1 to 4 p.m. Music was furnished by Frank Kukar of Montrose, Co. We enjoyed his piano and his button accordion renditions of Slovenian songs. There was a large group of friends and relatives visiting with the happy couple. I am trying to get a special report for the ZARJA, to be sent in later. The beautiful cake was made by Margaret Depew's daughter, Connie Guerrieri. Many happy return to Matt and Ann. It was an honor to be included as a group.

Frances Somrak reported on the birthday party given for members of the Gunnison Health Center. This was held on October 18, and attended by approximately 25 guests in the Solarium. Refreshments, made by our club, were served by Fran Austin, Fern White, Elsie Massaro and Frances Somrak. We enjoyed a visit with an old friend from Crested Butte-Frank Yelenick.

Dues were paid this month to help Rita get all our money and reports in on time. Fran Austin reminded us that November was election of

officers and we should be getting people interested in the offices. The meeting will be co-hosted by Fern White and Rose Carricato at her home.

Fern White and Elsie Massaro were appointed to the Christmas Party Committee. They will find the place for our party which will be held on December 13. Details will be brought to our next meeting. I cannot realize yet that Christmas and other holidays are near. Plans for a gift exchange and money for a needy family will also be a part of the evening. Father Vandenberg will be our guest.

Fern White won the mystery box donated by Ann Malensek. Refreshments were served by our hostess and a silent auction of bakery goods was held.

Fran Austin led us in prayer and adjourned the meeting.

My apologies for my missing report in September. It was sent in and I am hoping it wasn't lost as all our summer activities were included. We wish good health for Frances Guerrieri and are also able to report that Rose Carricato was not too badly injured in her auto accident. Our prayers are for all of our members. **FRANCES SOMRAK**

NO. 95, SO. CHICAGO, IL

My thanks to Sylvia Vukodinovich for sitting in for me during my absence at the October meeting.

Cakes donated by Charlotte Fryza a beautiful 25 year Anniversary cake in honor of Evelyn Driscoll, Mary Wynn, Harriet Isek, Kay Nazimek,

Mary McLaughlin, and Marie Maras.

We extend our warmest congratulations to George and Sylvia Vukodinovich on their 25th Anniversary and to Bill and Evelyn Driscoll who celebrated their 25th Anniversary in October, and now are vacationing in Las Vegas. We wish both of you good health and true happiness for the next quarter of a century.

John and Lucy Kopilash were honored at their 50th Wedding Anniversary celebration held on Sunday, October 19, 1986 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Lansing, Ill. The party was planned by their loving children, John Jr., Robert and Helen Willis, 10 grandchildren with many relatives and friends. John and Lucy were married at Sacred Heart Church on October 20th, 1936. We congratulate both of you on this happy and memorable occasion, it must be a source of great pleasure and pride to have reached this milestone in your long and happy life together; may you both have many more years of happiness and health.

In conclusion: As we draw near the most joyous season of the year, I offer all of you my sincerest wishes for a enjoyable holiday and my warmest congratulations. May the years that lie ahead bring all of you deep satisfaction and happiness in your accomplishments. A Merry Christmas to you and to those near and dear to you, and may I extend to all of you and your family best wishes for a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. **PEACE!**

MILDRED JAMES

Rome. Pope Sixtus sent him as a missionary to Noricum, where he established the see of Lauriacum (Lorch near Passau) and spent twenty years laboring for the Gospel. He refused to sacrifice to the gods under the emperor Numerian and was beheaded outside the walls of Celeia in 284. The only certain facts about his life are that he was the first bishop of Lauriacum and that he was martyred, but actually when and where is uncertain.

St. Florian, the best known martyr for Noricum, for centuries has been the favorite saint of Germans and Slovenes in Styria as a special protector against fire and drought. As an officer in the Roman army he held a high position at Cesium (Sankt-Poelten). When Christian soldiers were thrown into prison at Lauriacum, he hastened to them with moral support and spiritual consolation but he too was put under arrest. He staunchly professed his faith before the prefect Aquilinus, was scourged twice, and then drowned with a stone around his neck in the river Aenus (Enns) on May 4, 304. According to tradition his body lies buried on the spot where the Augustinian monastery near Lienz stands today.

There is only one known martyr for the Slovene portion of Noricum, Victorinus, bishop of Poetovio (Ptui), another victim of Diocletian's persecution in 304.

His life is well authenticated from the writings of St. Jerome, the most famous of all Pannonia's saints. In Jerome's estimation Victorinus was "one of the pillars of the Church." His one failing was that he knew Greek better than Latin, a deficiency which Jerome claimed was the reason for his "low Latin style of writing." All the same Victorinus gained literary and theological fame on two counts: he was the first Bible exegete in the western church, and the first Bible exegete to write in Latin. Nearly all his writings are lost. He wrote commentaries on the books of the Bible, which Jerome used and quoted, but only his commentary on the Book of Revelation has survived in a fifteenth century manuscript. Another theological work on the creation of the world, *De fabrica mundi*, is partially preserved in a ninth century codex. Victorinus also wrote against the heretics of his day. While not tainted with Arianism, some of his writings were suspect for millenarianism, a belief that before the final judgment Christ would establish a kingdom here on earth lasting a thousand years. His relics are in Rome, but details of their transfer are not known. Since Victorinus is the only saint to have risen from Slovene soil, it appears somewhat strange that his cult did not become official for the church of Slovenia until 1768. **to be continued**

"JOIN THE SLOVENIAN LADIES UNION"

was the

title of an article appearing in our organization's first publication, **Ameriška Slovenka** or the **American Slovenian Women**. Our 20/20 Campaign Phase IV, alias our 60th Anniversary Campaign, netted thus far sixty six members -- 11 Class A's with five transferees, 33 Class B's with 17 transferees, 22 Junior and a similar number of Social members.

Of the 28 participating branches the standings are:

- No. 20, Joliet, IL -- 9
- No. 35, Aurora, MN -- 5
- No. 3, Pueblo, CO -- 4
- No. 23, Ely, MN -- 4
- No. 33, Duluth, MN -- 4
- No. 43, Milwaukee, WI -- 4
- No. 5, Indianapolis, IN -- 3
- No. 42, Maple Heights, OH -- 3
- No. 59, Burgettstown, PA -- 3

There are seven branches with two members and eleven with one new member.

Of the 43 individual workers Anna Hodnik of branch No. 35, Aurora, MN and Rose Kraemer of branch No. 43 Milwaukee, WI enrolled four each.

Sponsoring three members each are Frances Simonich of Branch No. 3, Pueblo, CO, Frances Yovanovich of Branch No. 5, Indianapolis, IN, Jonita Ruth of Branch No. 20, Joliet, IL and Rose Kozar of Branch No. 23, Ely, MN.

By observing various movements which were "launched and carried to a successful result by the women of this country", our foundress Marie Prislund felt the need of this type of work be carried on among Slovenian women. Sixty years ago this month there were three branches. They were located in Sheboygan, WI, Chicago, IL and Pueblo, CO for a total of sixty charter members.

In 1971 our daughter, Carita Ancel Girman, wrote in her essay as a Scholarship winner: "not only does the Slovenian Women's Union advocate pride in and recognition of one's sex, (our organization) fought for women's rights even before it became the fashionable thing to do."

With these ideals in mind, help celebrate our 60th anniversary by enrolling one or more members, to whom we bid a fond welcome.

Olga Ancel, Nat'l Secretary

NO. 103, WASHINGTON, D.C.

Our annual dinner-dance, held the last weekend in October, was a huge success, made possible by all the hard-working ladies. John Dubrovec and his Band from Steelton, PA were superb, as usual, playing many of the beautiful Slovenian waltzes and polkas. We were once again honored by the attendance of Senator Frank Lausche, who had a few inspiring words to say to a very appreciative audience.

Our regular meeting on November 2nd was well attended. It's very gratifying that our young members are now attending our meetings, and are contributing greatly with new ideas, etc.

We then proceeded with election of officers for 1987, after which refreshments were served by Mara Chokel and Angela Daley.

MATILDA AUSICH

NO. 105, DETROIT, MI

Our meeting on the 18th of Oct. was held at my home. There were ten members and two guests, my neighbor, Faye Russell, and of course, our handsome Tony Jamsek.

We discussed our plans for the Christmas luncheon. It will be on the

west side, either on the 6th or 13th or December.

We will have received and sold the candles we ordered. it will help our kitty very much.

We made a meeting to donate \$25 to the State Convention of Ohio-Michigan held in Cleveland in October.

We were sorry to hear Ann Lindich had surgery. Ann, our prayers and thoughts for a lasting recovery are with you. We missed you and Marie at our meeting.

Our friend and member, Frances Hostnik, has moved to another care center. She is now at the Whitehall Convalescent Home, 43455 Ten Mile Rd., Novi, MI 48050. Please remember her with a card.

On Saturday, the 25th, we attended the wedding of Vicki Doherty's lovely daughter, Elise, and Ian McGibbons. What an elegant affair it was! The bride's mother looked beautiful. We wish the newlyweds many many years of happiness.

As this will be in our December issue, may I wish our members everywhere a Blessed Christmas and the Happiest, Healthiest New Year ahead.

A belated Happy Birthday to Mary Vihtelic and Frances Hostnik. Happy Birthday to all our December members.

ANN POBANZ

Sorrow

Life is full of sorrow,
Sorrow comes from living,
A person cannot borrow love;
To fill the empty space.
Poor and rich,
Happy and sad people,
All have a point of sorrow.
In the end only love,
From the heart,
And, a strong relationship
Can change the feeling of sorrow.

Andrew Hodnik
Age 16, Fairbanks, Alaska
Br. 35, Aurora, MN

ANY EXTRA ZARJA COPIES AROUND?

Due to high demand for certain copies of ZARJA throughout the year, the Home Office often finds itself without enough extra copies for our archives. The issues of September and December, 1985 and May, 1986 are in short supply and we would appreciate your help in sending us your copies, if you can spare them. September, 1985 and December, 1985 and May, 1986! Thank you. Send to SWU Home Office, 431 N. Chicago, St., Joliet, IL 60432.

FROM THE YOUTH DIRECTOR:

Slovenia: My Heritage

by

Ken Drobnick

Br. 47, Garfield Hts., Ohio

III

Slovenian culture is second to none. Churches are abundant - every sizeable village and town has one. All these churches ring their bells at dusk and at dawn. With the bells ringing in synchrony, the entire valley is filled with music. The significance of the bells coinciding with the early morning or setting sun is to thank God for a new day or one well spent. Among tourists visiting Slovenia, this is one of the most impressive experiences. Also, the bells announce a person's death. For a man, the bell tolls three times; for a woman the bell tolls twice; and for a child, it tolls once. Most Slovenians are Roman Catholic and very dedicated to their religion.

Slovenes are also very dedicated to their education. They have maintained kindergartens and elementary schools in every town and have numerous colleges. Kindergarten is for children up to seven years old, then compulsory elementary education is from seven to fifteen years old. College is not mandatory, but most attend.

When not attending church or school, Slovenians can be found singing or dancing. Slovenian music is sentimental and melodious. "The people sing everywhere - in fields, at home, at festivities, and public gatherings - in sorrow and in happiness - in good and in bad times."⁴ Folk songs are soothing while polkas tend to entertain. When the accordion (Slovenian's native instrument) is playing, it is conducive to dancing. Slovenian dances are filled with swirling and twirling motions. The history of these dances dates back more than one thousand years and reflects the influence of Italy and Austria, two bordering countries of Slovenia. Although singing and dancing are favorite leisure activities, a visitor is always reminded of their love of literature.

Most of Ljubljana's streets are named after novelists, essayists, poets, grammarians, and dramatists; impressive monuments are erected to poets and writers. Some examples are Preseren, Gregorcic, Cankar, Finzgar and Zupancic. Also, for their love of drama, Slovenians support a state theater in addition to the Dramatic Society of Ljubljana (1967 was the celebration of the 100th anniversary). This reinforces what has been earlier stated about their love of culture.

Last, but not least, is the ever popular Slovenian wine. From the vineyards, farmers produce loads of wine which are shipped to Southern and Central European areas.

Overall, the so-called "Silent People" (Slovenes) have been through the worst and still come out on top. They had the courage to defy Hitler in 1941 and Stalin in 1948 - and survived both; they have also survived the "bloodbath" of the Nazi and Fascist occupation, Communist Revolution, guerilla war and civil strife. They have been through it all and yet, still prospered. In Bernard Newman's words, Slovenian history is "a miracle of survival, almost without parallel".⁵

I knew all my life that I was Slovenian - but I really never knew what Slovenian meant. When I found out, I was extremely impressed and proud of my Slovenian ancestry. I learned a lot about my background and heritage from this term paper - I hope you did too.

²G.E. Gobetz, *This is Slovenia*. (Toronto: Research Center for Slovenia Culture, 1958), pp. 107-108, from Edward Gobetz, *Slovenian Heritage I*.

³Bernard Newman, *Unknown Yugoslavia*, (London: Herbert Jenkins, 1960), p. 198.

⁴Marie Prislant, *From Slovenia - To America*, (Illinois: The Slovenian Women's Union of America, 1968), p. 33.

⁵Newman, *Op Cit.* p. 199.

Learn Slovenian!

A HOLY NIGHT

A quiet night with soft falling snow. A sky filled with sparkles, shines on Him below. Christmas, Christmas full of joy, announcing the birth of a special baby boy. With love and care we all come together to celebrate as one big family. We lay our presents under the tree, this is what Christmas means to me!

tree--drevo
Jesus--Jezus
presents--darili
church--cerkev
Holy--Svet
love--ljubezen

Christmas--Božič
celebrate--slaviti-praznovati
joy--veselje
snow--sneg
glitter--blišč
quiet--miren-tih

By

Christin Vovk

Age -- 11

Hoyt Lakes, MN

Granddaughter of Anita Vovk, Aurora, MN

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**THE HISTORY OF
KANSAS CITY KANSAS
STRAWBERRY HILL**

Wyandotte County Kansas and the many small towns within it which have flowed together to become the healthy city of Kansas City, Kansas had been possessed in earlier times by tribe after tribe of Indians. Finally the Wyandots, displaced from Ohio, purchased the area nearest the Kaw River and platted a small town. Soon French, German, Irish, Negro and other settlers moved into the community.

As one of the westernmost rail heads and lying at the strategic junction of two fine rivers, the Missouri and the Kansas (Kaw), Kansas City, Kansas became a pocket of meat packing houses and stockyards for the herds of cattle driven in from the plains. By 1883 scouts were sent to Yugoslavia and Poland and other Croatian areas of Europe to entice laborers to work here. The men came first, hearty, hard-working laborers who settled into shantytowns called "the Patch" near Armour's plant and "Todelop" near the stockyards and Wilson's packing house. These areas are in the "bottoms", the lowland near James Street and Central Avenue. Saturday nights were lively with singing, dancing and the music of the Tamburitza. The Croatian, Slavic, Serbian and Slovenian people were thrifty and soon were bringing their families from the Old Country and making real homes.

In 1903 one of the worst floods in U.S. history hit Kansas City and the Patch and Todelop were wiped out. But high on Strawberry Hill above the bottoms these

folks had already begun to build churches and soon the red brick walls of St. John the Baptist Catholic and Holy Family Slovenian Catholic and St. George Serbian Orthodox churches were surrounded by parishes of neat, solid brick and frame homes. Today these clean, well-kept cottages set on their tiny green lawns still line the red brick sidewalks which mount Strawberry Hill. From the I-70 Turnpike across the river Strawberry Hill can be seen, church spires, crosses, and onion domes outlined against the sky amid the heights of the modern City Hall and other civic buildings. At 4th and Barnett, near St. John's Church, there is a small plaza from which you can look east toward the area that was once the Patch or Southeast toward the stockyards where Todelop once clustered.

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church is one of the treasures of this historic neighborhood. Building began in 1898 but in 1902 the energies of Father Martin Krmotic moved it to swift completion. He did some of the masonry with his own hands and commissioned beautiful murals to be painted on the inner walls by Croatian artist Oton Ivekovic. Fire in 1932 destroyed some of the murals but several fine examples remain today.

In 1918 the terrible influenza epidemic left some sixty children orphans and the Children's Home was established next to St. John's Church to provide for them. It is operating yet entirely without use of public funds.

The political upheavals in Europe surrounding World War I made the Croatian people feel the need for unity and provision for displaced persons and so they built the Croatian-Slovene National Home at 406 North 5th Street in 1914 which contained a meeting hall where they could retain their wonderful Old Country customs.

December and the Christmas season is the time for giving gifts and we would like to acknowledge donations of artifacts and books which have been presented to the Heritage Museum.

*A series of Slovenian books were received from Josephine Ancel of St. Louis, MO.

*Two rosaries, 4 miniature pieces, wooden plate, candles, postcard and handkerchiefs were donated by Paul & Mary Dolinar of Finleyville, PA.

*A potato masher belonging to Mrs. Frances Oberstar Meglan of Br. No. 24 was received from her daughter Mrs. Agnes Meglan Barley. The potato masher was brought from Slovenia when Frances was a young girl. Her daughter, who is now 93-1/2 years old, sent it to our museum. You can see how old that potato masher must be by now! This artifact was received at the Illinois-Indiana Convention on Oct. 5.

*A set of Slovenian books were received from Rev. David Stalzer, an avid supporter of all things Slovenian. (Congratulations on your appointment as pastor of St. Mary's Nativity Church in Joliet.)

*Bishop Frederick Baraga Quilt, on display at the 1985 pilgrimage at Mackinac Island, Michigan was donated to the Museum by Pauline Klobucar of Br. No. 16, South Chicago. This quilt was displayed in the lobby of the hotel where all the festivities took place, and Mrs. Ferd Klobucar was the lucky winner of the quilt but stated, "My immediate reaction was that it was too pretty to be used as a cover and so after giving it much thought and discussing the matter with my son and daughter, we agreed that I should donate it to the Heritage Museum where it can be viewed and its artistic creation appreciated by all who visit the museum." The quilt was designed and hand sewn by Clare Beaudoin of Calumet, Michigan. It shows 12 beautiful scenes of Baraga which were hand painted by Robert Bochy whose wife, Anita, researched the work.

*Marija iz Brezje, a little picture of Marija Pomagaj was brought to America in the year 1906 by Joseph and Francisca Kompare when they returned from their first visit to Slovenia after arriving in America in 1886. This memento features the Blessed Virgin with a shawl on her

head rather than the crown which we are accustomed to seeing. The change from shawl to crown came in 1920, when an artist who was in prison felt that Marija with her infant Jesus was deserving of a more beautiful head dress and so he painted the picture of Marija which we see today.

The Church at Brezje, behind the chapel of Marija Pomagaj contains small hand-painted drawings of Marija donated by tourists in gratitude for favors. It was constructed about 90 years ago.

We thank Mrs. Pauline Klobucar for this donation as well as the brief history of the Madonna.

*A pleased Diane Govednik poses with the pink silk wedding gown donated by Louise Epley a number of years ago. It was Diane who undertook the delicate task of restoration. She deserves our praise and thanks for the lovely work.

*The oil painting behind Diane was a gift to the museum brought by Father Stalzer on behalf of the family of the late Rev. Zeleznikar, pastor of St. Roch's Church in LaSalle, Ill. It has served as a ceremonial side altar for the May 1985 "Our Lady of Brezje" vigil services "Light a Candle" for Branch No. 20.

Many thanks to Olga Ancel for submitting the photo to accompany this article, and to all the people who donated these lovely items to our Heritage Museum. Thank you for being so generous!

Christmas Blessings to all!

Irene M. Odorizzi

There are still delightful weddings, dances and spontaneous song festivals at "5th Street Hall". Younger people of Croatian background are turning again to the precious traditions of their ancestry and gathering there also.

Twenty years ago the young people of St. John's formed an exciting group under the direction of Don Lipovac called the Tamburitians. Each of the members is able to sing, dance and play a musical instrument and each is Croatian by birth or ancestry. They have traveled extensively, delighting audiences across the nation and in Europe with their authentic costuming and lively display of ethnic song and dance.

It is estimated that 40 percent of Wyandotte County is now of Croatian-Serbian-Slovenian ancestry. The children of the stout laborers who came to work in the packing houses, grain elevators and railroad shops can now be found on the roster of lawyers, doctors, businessmen, farmers and civic leaders as is the American tradition. Mulich, Tomasic, Podrebarac, Modrcin, Leavendusky, Calovich, Pitko, Rodina and similar names are well-known in Kansas City, Kansas contributors to the progress and solidarity of the community.



In a photo by Olga Ancel, Diane Govednik stands before the picture of Marija Pomagaj with her "friend", a manikin dressed in an old museum-piece dress donated by the Epley family.

RETREAT SHEDS NEW LIGHT ON RELIGION



A figure sits quietly in the cool shadows of the morning sun as he reads from Revelations "...Come up here and I will show you what must happen in the future." Reflectively the pages of the Highest Flight New Testament are closed. The man dressed in a blue flight suit takes a slow deep breath as he looks up at the rockets towering overhead. Those silent boosters of the past are outlined against the blue cathedral dawn. He is at prayer.

This is not a fantasy of tomorrow - Rocket Park is a very real place located at the Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama. The man is Michael Morison, a theology teacher at Holy Cross High School in River Grove, Illinois who last summer joined the staff of the U.S. Space Academy as a manager and member of the program development team. On November 1, 1986 he will lead a retreat to St. Mary's Seminary in Lemont, Illinois to expose high school students to what he called "the wonder of God's primeval workshop - outer space."

According to Morison, space exploration has provided an exciting new pedagogy for religious education. "The God who created the earth is also the God who created the universe, and we must prepare to take him with us as we reach out to the stars. There are a lot of really creative insights that can be gained by focusing on what has happened to man since he has walked on another world," he said.

Morison believes the retreat using space exploration as a catalyst for personal development through God's teaching is a unique opportunity for high school students

to see the timelessness of the Bible. "It will touch them where they are at by helping them reach out to the stars and discover more about the glory of God and the majesty of man," he said.

After the retreat, Frank Nicholson exclaimed: "The retreat was more than I expected!" He was one of seven students to participate in this exciting new retreat program. Mary Jeziorski said, "I really liked the retreat a lot. It helped me with my faith problems. I came to see God through a new way - through space."

The students received a High Flight Log Book (retreat manual) that was authored for this program by Mr. Morison. They also were given a signed copy of the New Testament titled, **The Highest Flight**, produced by Col. Irwin of Apollo 15. At the end of the retreat, each student received an inscribed photograph of Col. Irwin on the moon which read: "His (God's) love from the moon." This unique blending of science, technology and faith was enhanced by a special series of religious space paintings, special slide presentations and displays of aerospace memorabilia.

A special thanks to Br. 2 for sponsoring this retreat, providing homebaked goods, cooks and the material for the retreat. The branch's concern for the religious needs of our youth and this outreach to meet those needs is commendable. A thank you to Elis Martincic for preparing a special Halloween campfire program for the retreat.

M.M.

Request for Scholarship Application

I am considering applying for one of the S.W.U. scholarships which will be awarded to members who will be 1987 high school graduates. Please send me the official application form which must be completed by March 31.

- I am a high school senior planning to attend a credited college or university in fall.

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STREET _____

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Mail to: *Hermine Dicke, 3717 Council Crest, Madison, WI 53711*



In 1914 at picnic: fifth from left is Joseph Ancel and sixth from left is Barbara Govednik

Irene M. Odorizzi
2362 Paddock Lane
Reston, Va. 22091

THE IMMIGRANT

JOSEPH FROM MACKOVEC PRI METLIKI

Part II

It wasn't until June 1, 1914, that I met my future wife at a Slovene picnic; we were married three months later on Sept. 15, 1914. The name of my bride was Barbara Govednik and she had come from Businja Vas, a village close to my home, Mackovec. Barbara came from the same locale as I and had a similar background, being the sixth child in a family of five sons and two daughters. Her parents also worked a small garden and vineyard and she attended school two hours a day for three years in the nearest town of Suhor.

She was not quite sixteen years old when she left Slovenia on the liner La France in 1913 and it wasn't because she wanted to leave or looked forward to the great adventure. Barbara never wanted to come to America and couldn't understand why her mother had sent her to join her brothers on foreign soil. Her mother had said, "I'm sending you to America so you don't have as hard a life as we have had." But Barbara resented being in America for her entire lifetime, most likely because the decision to leave wasn't her own.

Upon her arrival at Ellis Island, she walked up the huge staircase with all the other immigrants wishing that someone would mark a white cross on her back so that she would not be allowed to enter America and be returned to Slovenia. That never happened.

When Barbara arrived in Joliet her first place of employment was the Kambic's boarding house at which she remained only two days. They were demanding and yelled at her for coming in later after visiting her brothers. Her brother John Govednik, who was living at Tomac's boarding house, arranged employment where he lived and she remained there for some time.

There were many aspects of her new life in America that displeased her and called for much social adjustment. One day her brother selected her among the other girls to go to the popular Grahek Saloon to get a bucket of beer, but she didn't want to go. He insisted saying, "You only have to go to the back door for the beer; you don't even have to go in."

But this young lady held her own and said, "No. If you want beer take the pail and go get it yourself."

On another occasion, she was ironing some clothes when one of the boarders came up to her and started flirting with her calling her "Maryanca." She was only in America one month and was frightened and cautious of the advances of young men, who were less reserved than in Businja Vas. Her means of defending herself on this occasion was to pick up the hot iron and say to the young boarder, "Do you want this iron on your face?" The flirting stopped immediately.

Even though the majority of immigrants in Joliet were hard-working, resourceful people, there were a few that intended on enjoying their new found freedom and life in America. Two such bachelors in the community frequented the Grahek Saloon for an "oketec" (an eighth of a barrel of beer). They would take it up to the loft of the big barn and look across the Desplaines River to the Illinois Steel Mill and say, "No, they aren't hiring yet." These two young men were full of mischief and enjoyed themselves immensely. They worked at odd jobs to support themselves rather than secure a good job.

After awhile, Barbara pressured her brothers to find her another job. "Why can't you find me a decent job so I have something to do instead of only housecleaning and taking care of boarders?" It wasn't easy for her because she was new, "a greenhorn," and people were inclined to take advantage of the inexperienced.

After we were married she told me this story. One Sunday afternoon as she was sitting on the porch very sad, lonely and unhappy, a friend stopped by and seeing Barbara's depressed condition asked, "Why are you sitting here thinking of your home in Slovenia and crying? There's a picnic at the park. All the Slovenes are there. Why don't you come with me instead of sitting here feeling sorry for yourself?" Barbara went with her friend and that is the picnic when we met for the first time. Three months later on Sept. 15, 1914, we were married at St. Joseph's Church. I was twenty-two and Barbara was eighteen. We found a small apartment on Broadway St. owned by the Skufca's and lived there until we bought our home two years later.

Building a home was a big event in the lives of young immigrants and we were only in our early twenties, but anxious to have our own home. We purchased a lot for \$250 and built a house for \$2,400. When I purchased the lot from a farmer, it was full of potatoes. I thought, "This is a real bargain to get all those potatoes," but the farmer said, "No," they belonged to him. Frank Wise, our lawyer reviewed the deed and abstract and explained

NOTE: Joseph and Barbara's son, Ed Ancel is a National Officer in the K.S.K.J. and his wife Olga, is the National Secretary of the S.W.U.

that the potatoes belonged to the farmer unless I wanted to buy them from him, which I did for \$10.00.

Our brothers helped with the excavation of the basement for the foundation. Everything was dug by hand for the solid red brick home located on Nicholson St. We were never shown any blueprints for the house, which was built by Anderson & Peterson. There were just a few homes in the neighborhood owned by some Irish families but when the Slovenes started to build homes in the area the Irish moved out.

Our house had a kitchen with a wood-burning stove, a dining room, living room and two bedrooms downstairs. The upstairs rooms were left unfinished until later when a bedroom was made. Eventually, when the number of children had reached six, the three boys slept on the pull-out sofa in the living room and the three girls occupied one of the bedrooms. My brother-in-law, John, also boarded with us for awhile.

Having a house seemed like the perfect end to many problems but there were responsibilities in having a home that we didn't count on, like heavy rainfalls. One year when the rain was exceedingly heavy, the basement which had a dirt floor, flooded. The sauerkraut crocks and wine barrels were found floating in the water. When the water subsided, I made stands and tied the barrels down so they wouldn't float the next time. Then we put cinders on the floor to absorb some of the moisture but nothing really worked until we had concrete poured in the basement.

As most immigrant families at that time, we had a cow, rabbits, chickens, sheep and we also performed the traditional yearly ritual of butchering a hog, rendering lard and making blood and smoked sausages. The everyday items and perishables were purchased at Hibler's Grocery & Meat Market a few blocks away.

There was one event that we never counted on happening and that was when the sheep got in the barn. Barbara had food stored in the barn and without her knowing, the sheep found the food, overate and died. We never had sheep again.

Feeding animals could become a costly affair if you purchased feed and so we looked for ways to economize. The rabbits were in the special care of our three boys who made an entire day of collecting dandelions for the rabbits in a field near the Guardian Angel Home on Plainfield Rd. and Theodore St. There was a ditch that passed through the field and as most boys would, they played in the water and collected dandelions the entire day. When Ed, Tony and Ralph came home with the dandelions piled high in the wagon, but already wilted from the hot sun, they were ready for a good supper and a bath. We could hear them coming down the road, blocks away, because the two back wheels made a lot of racket. After the original rubber wheels of the wagon were worn, they were replaced with steel wheels made especially by blacksmith who was a friend of the family. What noise! This wasn't the most prized wagon on the block, according to Ed.

Now that we had established ourselves, Barbara and I kept encouraging my brother-in-law, Joe Govednik to get married, as he was already thirty years old. Three weeks later, he was married, but we found out that he had selected his bride, Jennie, before we ever said a word to him. She had also emigrated from Slovenia and Joe was attracted to her immediately.

Our family grew to six children: Barbara, Ed, Tony, Ralph, Anne and Margaret. We both were active in fraternal organizations in Joliet because there was a large Slovene community with many social and religious activities for the immigrants. It was easier to adjust to the American way of life when you also participated in the culture of your homeland. The transition was much easier.

The arrival of World War II, was a hardship for our



Barbara Govednik and Joseph Ancel were married Sept. 5, 1914 at St. Joseph's Church by Rev. John Kranjec. Maid of Honor is Justine Bradach Gregorich and best man is Joseph Govednik, Sr.

sons and for us. During the First World War, I was a citizen but not subjected to the draft because my wife was pregnant. The second war, my sons were called into active duty: Tony on the European front, Ralph the Pacific and Ed the American.

Tony was taken as a prisoner of war in Germany and Barbara prayed daily for him at Mass and during her household chores. One afternoon when she was praying and crying for her Tony, the dog, whom she didn't have a fondness for, as she preferred cats, hopped up on her lap and began to lick the tears from her cheek as if he understood the heartache she felt. From that time on, her fondness for the dog increased and they became best of friends. Eventually our prayers were answered and all the boys returned home.

After World War II, we saw our children who had reached adulthood, marry and raise families of their own. They in turn have been blessed with children and grandchildren.

Barbara and I were fortunate to spend over sixty years together and we have had the joy of looking back and seeing hard times which we survived and good times which were blessed by God. We hope that the memories which we have created with our family and shared through the years will not be forgotten; that our great-grandchildren and those that follow will not forget their roots and will remember their Slovene heritage.

We pray daily that the good Lord will continue to bless those we hold dear and that when our time for joining Him will come that He will spare us the hardships of old age and take us gently to our final reward.

THE END

Mr. & Mrs. Ancel were an exemplary couple and devoted parents. They were given loving care in their old age by the children until God called them to their eternal rest, dad on August 14, 1984 and mother on January 6, 1985.

DESETI BRAT



Skupaj midva sva sedela,
Nama lep večer je bil.

S. Jenko

OSMO POGlavJE

Drugo Kvasovo pismo:



ho! Za enkrat si se še zmotil, predragi mmoj! Sicer skazujem vso čast tvoji modrosti in razumnosti, ali tako ti jaz vendar nisem rekel med vrstami brati, kakor vidim iz tvojega odgovora, da si presodil mene in moje »pomanjkanje«. Da sem jaz zaljubljen! Da samo zavoljo tega tako enostransko opisujem svojega tovariša Marijana, ker vidim, da mi je napoti! Moj Bog! ne vem, če, se norca delaš iz mene in iz mojih okoliščin, ali pa se je tebi samemu

kaj takega pripetilo, česar v svoji porednosti mene obdolžuješ.

Po vseh besedah je uvideti, da tako o njej govoriš, kakor cigan o žametovih hlačah, to je zmerom in najrajši. To so tvoje besede in nadalje imaš skozi in skozi neko veselje nagajati mi in mi reči podtikati, katere mi še na misel niso prišle, dokler nisem imel tvojega pisma v roki. Kar se omenjenega pregovora tiče, moram te opomniti, da nikakor ni na prevem mestu, čeravno je naroden. Kako se ti, hudoba, predrzneš mene ciganu primerjati in celo lepo deklico tiste reči, ki se v pošteni družbi celó ne imenuje. In ti, ki si meščan, ki bi moral vedeti, kaj je prav, kaj ne! Ko bi bil že jaz to izrekel, meni bi ne bilo tolikanj zameriti.

Premislil sem tvoje besede. Popolnoma se zalagam s teboj, da se mi zbuja čut, ali bolj prav, potreba v srcu, katere poprej nisem imel. Ali s tem, da trdiš, kakor bi bil tvoj prijatelj drugi del svojega srca tebi vzel in deklici oddal, pokažeš samo, da

me premalo poznaš, da mojemu razumu in značaju premalo zaupaš. Toliko bi me pa vendar moj prijatelj imel spoznati, da bi vedel, da ne bo Lovre Kvas nikdar ravnal samo tako, kakor mu bo srce velelo, ampak da bo poslednje vedno podlagal oblasti zdravega uma in premisleka. Nikakor ne morem tajiti, da me srce ne vleče do hčere mojega gospodarja, — da, to moram izpovedati se tebi, predragi moj, — če je eno bitje na božjem daljnem svetu, za katero bi se jaz z vsem mladostnim ognjem vnel, za katero bi norel in gorel, kakor je kdaj kak človek mogel, — bila bi to enaka deklica, kakor je ta, katere sem ti v zadnjem pismu omenil. Jaz sem si v nekdanji in zadnjih sanjarijah svoj ideal precej visoko zastavil, čeravno nisem preziral pri tem, da se od človeka kaj božjega ne sme tirjati. Reči moram, da v vsem času, kar sam tukaj, nisem na njej ni najmanjšega madeža zapazil, vedno je tista krotka, dobra duša, vesela in resna, domišljava in razumna.

Ali da bi si upal misliti z vso resnobo drugače na njo kakor s poštovanjem, tega ne smem, kajti razum mi veli: kaj je ona, kaj si ti?

Svet sodi človeka po tem, kar ima, kar je in kakršen je. Svet je pa že star, torej tudi ta navada v starosti utrejna; kdor bi jo hotel ovreči, ta bi sam stal, kdor bi ji hotel ravnati nasproti, moral bi skalo v strm klanec valiti.

Ona je edina hči premožnega, lahko rečem bogatega graščaka, imela bo lepo doto, in dasi oče njen ni plemenitnik, ima vendar češčeno, poznato ime.

In jaz! — nimam nič, ne veljam nič, nisem nič! Žalibog!

Ali bi ne bilo po tem takem več ko nespametno, ki bi se jaz srcu in njegovim nagonom vdal? Ali bi ne bilo naravno, da bi padel, ako bi tako visoko letal?

Vidiš, kako si ti te reči vse premalo premislil, preden si svojo trditev zapisal, da sem »zaljubljen«.

Velikokrat sem že premišljal, velikokrat sem na tihem tožil nad svojo usodo, ki me je tako nizko postavila. Ne da bi bil s tem nezadovoljen, kar mi je Bog dal, ne da bi se bil hudoval nad svojim rojstvom v malem, bornem podstrešju, nikakor ne, da bi me bilo sram, da sem iz najnižjega ljudstva; le zavoljo nje, da mi je nemogoče nanjo misliti, to mi je bilo bridko. Nočem ti prikrivati, da sem imel dostikrat hude boje, da sem potlačil take misli, in da me skrbi, bom-li imel moči dovolj zatirati čut, ki bi mene in njo nesrečna storila, ako prođere. Celó vraža me malo straši. Tukaj je namreč, kakor sem ti menda že omenil, čuden človek, prorokovavec deseti brat. S tem sem se bil sešel na prvem potu v grad in dejal mi je z nekako zvišenim glasom, da bom svoje stanovanje in življenje na tem kraju pomnil vse življenje. Čeravno ne dam nobenoga groša na take besede, vendar so mi že dostikrat na misel prišle in menim, da je izrekovavec modra res videl mojo prihodnjo nesrečo.

Vsak si sam kuje svojo srečo; zato upam, da se bodo vse skušnjave ubile nad mojim značajem, katerega hočem in moram ukrepiti in utrditi. Ob pravem času čem paziti, da ne bo imel moj gospodar vzroka, spominjati se me kot nehvaležneža.

Pamet je boljša ko žamet, da kakor Sancho Pansa v pregovorih govorim, in pamet mi Bog ohrani, pamet in preudarek, pa bo dobro!

Pa naj bo dovolj tega modrovanja; sicer boš, poredneš, še iz tega svoje sklepe delal in me boš morda v prihodnjem pismu domislil na volka, ki se je ravno s tem izdal, da je tele snedel, ker se je preveč branil. Nič ti ne zaupam, sama nagajivost te živi.

Ker po psihologiških postavah vsak o tem najrajši govori, s čemer se peča, ne smem se tudi jaz zvreči, ampak moram ti kaj iz svojega učeništva povedati. Moj učenec je kaj bistre glave in to me veseli tolikanj bolj, ker nisem takega pričakoval. Spomladi bom že pomalem z latinščino lahko začel, ker fantič je bil že precej pridobil od sestre, ki ga ima neznanško rada, pređen sem jaz prišel. Če bom kaj dalje časa tu ostal, upam si pravega mladeniča napraviti iz njega. Za prvega me je bilo volje ostati le kvečjemu dve leti, ali zdaj se pomišljam in pravim, da če bo tako ko zdaj, ostanem tri leta. Ta čas bom prislužil lep kupec in potem se vidiva, ti v zadnjem, jaz v prvem letu. Starejši moj učenec, stric prvega, pak je postal moj učitelj. Predvčeranjim me je bil zvabil, da sem šel z njim v krčmo, kjer so mi kmetje veliko ponujali piti, samo nazadnje sem moral več praznih bokalov plačati. Ti na mojem mestu bi bil rekel: rad imam kmeta, dokler ga ne vidim; ali meni ni nič žal ni za denar ni za čas, ker sem se veliko naučil pri možakarjih.

Prijatelj, prijatelj, kaj bo iz mene! Včeraj, ko sem ti do tukaj pisal, govoril sem takó, precej potem sem se svojim mislim, skoro bi rekel, izneveril in danes, ko zopet pero v roko jemljem, moram govoriti drugače. Res je, predragi moj Nande, kar si trdil; res je, česar sam ne morem ali nisem mogel ni sebi ni tebi povedati: vsadila se mi v



srce čut, ki je več ko spoštovanje in prijateljstvo.

In kje je moj razum? Kaj mi veli? Pravi mi, da ne ravnam prav, da sebi njej nesrečo na glavo nakopavam, da svojemu prijatelju Marijanu krivco delam. Pripoveduje mi um, da je vsaka misel nanjo nespametna, da njen oče ne bo nikdar dovolil, da bo nevoljen in jezen iztiral človeka iz svojega domovja, ki nič s seboj prinesel razen deset prstov na rokah in staro suktnjo na sebi, ki je kakor služač v njegovi hiši — in si upa vendar oči povzdigniti do nje, do njegove hčere.

Kje je tista moja glava, tista moja trdna volja, katero sem mislil, da imam? Nikjer je ni, nikdar je nisem imel.

In jaz sem eden tistih ljudi, ki so ga navduševale besede starega pesnika, ki poje: če se svet pogrezne, v razvalinah ostanem mož neistrašljiv, dosleden svojim prvim namenom in načelom! Ne, samo slaba trstika, tenka šibica sem, ki raste v hitrem potoku. Vsak valček, dve združeni mali kapljici jo zazibljeta, vsaka lehka sapica jo zamaje in pošibi. Nestalnost, neznačajnost, to je podedoval vsak Evin sin od svoje matere in jaz tudi nisem brez te podedine ostal.

Pa stoj! Ni res, kar sem tu izgovoril.

Ni me majhen valček genil, ni me sapica premeknila! Rajši bom burne terjatve človeškega srca primerjal goratim morskim valovom in hrupnemu viharju. Rajši se ti bom opravičeval kakor obtoževal. Nisem še omamljen, ali odprla je moč toilkanj, da kljuboval ne bom več dolgo, to vem.

Vdati se moram, srce tako hoče, da, vdal sem se že!

In kako bi se človek dogel ustavljeti čuti, ki mu je mila, za katero mu je sam stvarnik odločil velik del srca, ki je najblažja, najlepša izmed vseh potreb njegovega notranjega višjega dela!

Pa zakaj ti pripovedujem vse te reči? Naj ti s hladno, mirno krvjo povem najin večerajšnji pogovor in potem boš sodil, zakaj je drugi del tega mojega pisma različen od prvega. Reci nato, kar hočeš, jaz pravim samo to, na mojem mestu bi ti ravno tako ravnal. To se vé, marikdo drugi bi se

mi posmehoval, zato pa jaz te reči razkladam le tebi, ker ti poznaš mene in jaz tebe.

Včeraj popóldne sem se bil naveličal pisati. Mislim sem, pismo do Nandeta lahko jutri ali drevi spončam, zdaj pa naj se malo na prostem sprehodim. Ravno solnce je prav gorko sijalo, sneg se je po strehah topil; slišal sem v svojo izbico, kako se je drvje po vrtu veselo otresovalo zimskih bremen, ob enem: bil je najlepši zimski dan, kakor si ga le na deželi misliti moreš. Vzajem neko knjigo, bil je menda Katul, in grem ven.

Konci vrata stoji ulnjak. Dasi buče le zdaj pozimi mirno v svojih panjevih spē, zahajam vendar skoro vsak dan tjakaj na klopco sest. Ne bom dejal, da me mika na to mesto le solnce, ki ravno tu sem vsako popoldne posebno toplo sije, ne, mar ti resnico povém, tudi zato hodim rad tjakaj brat, ker dostikrat mahajam tam Manico, s katero se kaj pomeniva. Pa da si ne boš mislil, Bog vedi kaki so ti pomenki, moram ti povedeti, da s enisva še nikdar drugega razgovarjala ko najpametnejše reči, nikdar do — včerajšnjega dne.

Vselej sva imela pogovore, iz katerih sem jaz veliko koristnega pridobil. Ne vem, če sem ti že povedal ali ne, da je ta deklica izobrazena in razumna bolj kakor vsaka ženska, kar jih jaz poznám. Dostikrat sem se ji čudil, ko je govorila o Šeksperu, o italijanskih in nemških klasikih bolje, kakor bi bil ti govoril. Posebno rada ima Valvazorja, pozna iz njega našo domačo zgodovino skor do pike in ker me je dostikrat osramotila s tem, da sem bil v tem gotovo potrebnem znanju tako neveden, poprijel sem se bil še jeseni našega zgodopisca in sem ga do dna pregledal samo njej za ljubo, da sem mogel o tem govoriti. Pesmi našega menišiča Vodnika zna iz glave, in kedar začne kako deklamovati, zdi se mi za trikrat lepša, kakor če jo berem.

Usedel sem se bil na klop pred ulnjak. Bil sem nekaj nemiren, sam ne vem prav zakaj; morda so me ravno besede pekle, ki sem ji bil ravno za tebe napisal. Nisem imel nič veselja da branja; vendar da bi se razmislil, odprem knjigo. Naletel sem nesrečno mesto v svojem Katulu, zakaj, kar mi je prvo v oči prišlo, so bile besede:

Odi et amo. Quare id faciam fortasse requiris.

Nescio, sed fieri senito et excrutor.

Precaj teh besedi sem imel zadosti. Zdelo se mi je, da so záme in náme narejene. Zaprem knjigo in začnem — vest izpraševati. Kolikor bolj sem premišljajal tisto tvojo opombo v poslednjem pismu, toliko bolj sem se preveroval, da si me prav spoznal, da je res, česar si sam nisem bil v svesti. Ali sklenil sem še enkrat tam pred ulnjakom, da se hočem premagovati, da še tebi ne povem, kaj je prav za prav v meni, ker zdelo se mi je, da bom laglje zatrl vsako ljubezen, ki ni na pravem mestu, ako se nikomur ne odkrijem, ako še sam sebi tajim resnico, katere hladna pamet ne odobrava.

Dolgo sem menda tako sedel; solnce se je bilo že bliže na zahod pomeknilo, hladneje je bilo postalo na mojem sedežu.

Mil in prijeten glas me iz te sanjarije prebudi, in ko kvišku pogledam, vidim njo pred seboj.

Vem, da sem bil rdeč ko rak. Na pozdrav nisem

mogel besede odgovoriti. Stala je pred menoj, lepša se mi ni še nikdar zdela.

»Zdaj sem vas pa motila v kakih sladkih mislih. Tako ste bili vtopljeni, da mi je bilo na mar, tiho odtegniti se. Samo ženska zvedavnost, kaj ima pač tak mlad gospod, ki se mu veselo širni svet odpira, da glavo podpira in resno tu sedi, kakor bi bili vsi dobri ljudje pomrli,« dejala je ona in se usedela ne daleč od mene na klopico.

Jaz se posiljeno nasmehnem, odgovoriti nisem vedel kaj.

»O, na vse zadnje vam še rdečica v lice udarja. Že vidim, da sem vas še zalotila, ko ste kake svoje prijete skrivnosti premišljali. Ali se dadó ugeniti?«

Njena veselost je bila nalezljiva. Hitro me je minila otožnost, vdal sem se v ta pogovor in sem ji rekal: »Pač težko, da bi ugenil, kaj mi je ravno po glavi rojilo, in ne bom tajil, da ima tudi nekaj skrivnostnega v sebi.«

»No čedalje bolj sem védečna. Vidite, kako hitro uganem, kaj vam je! Kar z lica sem vam brala. Morda bi se še dalje prišlo od splošnega do posebnega. Kolikokrat se sme ugibati? Postava je trikrat.«

»Če tudi večkrat rečete, ne boste do pravega prišli...«

»Le stojte! Najpravo mi povejte, ali so bili vaši spomini ali vaša premišljanja, kakor rajši hočete, vesele ali žalostne vrste?«

»Kakor se pogledujejo,« odgovorim jaz — »saj veste, da imajo vse reči dve strani — eno svetlo in eno temno, ali...«

»Nič, nič! Že se mi odtegujete, pa mi ne uidete zlepa. Pa nič ne idé, če tudi nočete naravnost odgovarjati, vseeno vam pridem do konca, le čakajte. — Trikrat je dovoljno! — Potem pa morate biti tolikanj možat, da se boste vdali, kedar resnico zadenem.«

»To vam prav lahko obljubim,« dejal sem v svesti, da sama na sebe ne bo prišla. Čisto nič mi pa ni bilo dobro pri srcu, čeravno sem se drugekrati enaki nagajivosti lahko smejal.

»Začela bom od zgoraj. Prijateljstvo je vam po vaših lastnih besedah, če se prav spominjam, ena najvišjih in najblažjih idej. In ker ste tako srečni, kakor ste že pravili, da imate pravega, dobrega prijatelja, moram najprej misliti, da ste se njega spominjali. Mar ni tako?«

»Samo en del ste ugenili. Pač mi je bil tudi prijatelj v mislih, ali poglobitna oseba on ni bil,« rečem jaz.

»Že dobro, kaj pa hočete še več. Precej v prvič en del, v tretje pride morda vse. Zares nemara, da se bom tako prevzela, da bom sama preverjena svojega bistrourmja in se bom sama hvalila. Le tiho! Vi, gospod učenik, ste prav slabo odgovorili, ker ste se na dveh krajih odkrili, prvič, da sem e n d e l ugenila in drugi ste rekli, da prijatelj ni glavna o s e b a. Iz tega poslednjega posnemljem, da ste na o s e b e mislili in tako imam zdaj dve držali, katerih se lahko poprijemljem.«

»Ne, dovolite gospodična!« dejal sem jaz, »prvo ni bilo nič napačno. Da ste en del ugenili, to sem bil primoran povedati, ker ste me ravno prej na možato besedo priverili, da se moram vdati, kedar

resnico zadenete. Drugo je bilo pa že meni premišljeno.«

»To je veliko, če človek tudi svoje slabote spozna. Ponižnost je lepa čednost. Drugekrati bi vam take nepremišljenosti ne odpustila; ali zdaj imam toliko samopridnosti, da vas prav rada odvežem zato, ker je meni na korist,« reče ona.

Ne vem, če sem jo popred še kdaj videl tako veselo, kakor v tem razgovoru.

»Kdo bi si bil mislil, da znate iz vsake besede sklepe delati,« pravim jaz.

»O, to je spet slab poklon in znamenje, da vi mojemu umu malo zaupate. Le tiho, ne dam vam popraviti te pregrehe. — Zdaj velja v drugič. Kakor dober vojvoda grem precej v središče sovražnikovo. Morda ste mislili na kako podobo, ki vam je še ljubeznivejša ko prijatelj, o kateri mi pa do zdaj niste še ničesar pravili.«

Nande moj! Kje so besede, da bi ti povedal, kako mi je srce bilo, ko je ravno o n a to izgovorila! Kako mi je kri šla v glavo, kako se mi zagnilo pred očmi, kako mi je splaval vsak pomislek tistega razuma, vsled katerega do tedaj sam sebe nisem poznal!

Dasi mi je zastavila ono vprašanje kakor v šali in s svojim ljubeznivim smehljanjem, zazdelo se mi je, da se ji je glasek malo tresel, da s eji je lice malo oživilo, oko hotelo povestiti se — in prijatelj, to mi je bilo dovolj, kakor blisek me je prešinila misel, da bi mi ona lahko vračala tisto čut, ki sem jo jaz čutil, pa zatiral.

Nisem v tem hipu mislil, kaj sem, kaj imam, nisem mislil na njenega očeta niti na svet, ena misel je prodrila in zatrla vse druge, in to je bila o n a.

Ne morem povedati, kaj sem govoril, kako sem se obnašal, ali nerodno ali udvoreno; le to vem, da me je bila glava popustila, da je srce govorilo namesto nje, da sem jo za roko prijel, da mi jo je pustila, da sem ji povedal več, kakor sem sam vedel do tedaj.

Pa morda si še preveč upanja delam. Odgovorila mi ni namreč še nič. Ni imela časa.

Kakor usoda človeku od rojstva do groba nagaja, ni tudi meni prizanesla, ni mi pustila, da bi bil slišal brž včeraj tisto besedo, za katero dam kri in življenje. Prišel je bil tretji človek, ki je vsemu konec storil.

Ne smeš si pa misliti, da je bil ta nepotrebni tretji človek kak razjaren oče ali srdit tekmeč, bil je

hvala Bogu neškodljiv, dobrohoten človek, preprost berač ali moj "deseti brat«, ki ni drugega hudega napravil, kakor da mi je ona roko iz roke izpustila in za ulnjakom izginila. Vselej sem se tega človeka rad videl, ali včeraj bi ga bil kakor neljubo pričo najrajši vrgel čez deveto goro.

Bojim se sicer ne, da bi me izdal, ali vendar me je nekako pretresnilo, ko me je ta čudni mož domislil tiste noči, ko sva bila v prvič vkup in ko mi je prorokoval, da bom grad in grajske ljude pomnil vse življenje. In kako bi mogel tega večera pozabiti, ko bi tudi že drugega nič ne doživel več! Razloži mi, kako je ta človek vedel, kaj me čaka? Odkraja sem mislil, da je nor, večkrat sem pa že imel priliko prepričati se, da je popolnoma pri umu. Zdelo se mi je, da ga to nekaj posebno veseli, česar je en del videti, dasiravno si ne morem misliti, kaj bi tega malharja vodilo, da se tolikanj zame peča. Zakaj že večkrat sem ga zagledal na raznih krajih naenkrat za seboj ali pred seboj.

Govoriti nisem potlej mogel več ž njo na samem.

Davi pri zajutreu se ji skoraj nisem upal v obraz pogledati, pa kmalu sem se prepričal, da se zna vse drugače zakrivati ko jaz. Kakor je ona govor poprijela, ne bi bil živ človek na to misel prišel, da je bilo med nama v poslednjem času kaj posebnega, kmalu smo govorili kakor vselej.

Vprašal boš morda, kaj zdaj mislim.

Naprej! Storil sem veliko stopinjo, nazaj mi pač ni več mogoče. Skušal bom sebe, oči in srce toliko čuvati, da bo ostala skrivnost samo moja in njena. Ali učiti se hočem iz vseh moči. Morda mi bosta g l a v a in pridnost, ki sta me že do te stopnje spravili, pomagali, da bom čez nekaj let mogel stopiti pred njenega očeta.

Ali Bog vé, če mi ni še popred kaj drugega namenjenega. Saj se usoda človeku naglo premeni. Še tako dolgo človek tistih misli ne ostane, kar bi eno pismo spisal, kakor imaš živo pričo na meni in pričujočem listu. Naenkrat, v enem skoku sem se predruščil.

Zdrav, prijatelj! Kakor hitro se mi bo kaj imenitnega pripetilo, zvedel boš po drugem pismu. Čeravno boš iz vsega tega presodil, da je zaenkrat sangvinizem mojega temperamenta prevladal, vendar vem, da me ne boš grajal, zlasti ker bi nič ne pomagalo, kakor lahko previdiš.

nadaljevanje prihodnjič



Jaslice

Kar prek polja sva jo mahnila s stricem Jožem, prek ledene skorje, ki se je naredila vrh snega. Solnčni žarki so se poigrali po njej, kakor bi plesali premijero Ofenbachove-Barcarolle. Pod nogami je hrustalo kot bi ob vsakemu koraku vgriznil v sočno jabolko. Bila sva že ob obronku gozda. Postala sva, da sva izpod snega izbrskala nekaj, kot v polžke zvit teloh, ki bo lepo vzcvetel v hiši pri Bohkovem kotu. Pod snežno odejo bi še počival vse tja do zgodnje pomladi. Položila sva ga v jerbas, ki sva ga imela s seboj, da bova polagala mah vanj.

Še malo in bova tam v tistem koncu gmajne, kjer je najlepši mah. Tisti najbolji zelen in najbolj mehak. Mehak kakor žamet. Ta bo krasil hrib in dolino in pašnik okrog štalce. Lažje bo vse postaviti vanj. Noben pastirček, ovca, kozliček se ne bo prekucnil v njemu. Vse bo stalo kot, pribito vse tja do svečnice.

Dospela sva. Začela sva odkopavati, previdno, da se ja ne bo kaj poškodovalo. Počasi sva vzdigovala krpe mahu izpod snežne preproge in kmalu se je jerbas napolnil. Vsa prezebla sva se vračala proti domu. Parkrat sva se ustavila, da sva si ogrela ozeble prste. Vtaknila sva jih kar pod pazduho in med lase in tako srečno dospela domov.

Predno sva šla v hišo sva zložila mah na podu po tleh, da se malo presuši.

Bile so same lepe plasti. To bo, ko bo skupaj dano izgledalo, kot kak griček na Dolenjskem, ali hribček na Štajerskem ali kot zlito v podnožje gora na Gorenjskem.

Dan svetega večera. Stric Joža je odklenil ta veliko pisano skrinjo. Notri je bilo vse v židan papir zavito. Vse kar se je rabilo pri jaslicah. Štalca, Jezušček, Marija s svetim Jožefom, pastirčki, ovce, štirna, mala šipica, ki bo poleg štirne kot nekaka luža. Nekako v piramido zložene mala polenčka in seveda

rudeč papirček tudi ni manjkal, ki bo predstavljal ogenj. Par palm je bilo tudi vmes in sem pa tja tudi kak grmovček. Prinesla sva vse v hišo. Hiša se je imenovala ponavadi soba — cimer, kjer se je družina zbirala pri glavnih dogodkih dneva.

Šla sva še na pod po mah. Tam pod Bohkovim kotom se bodo razprostirale jaslice. Še nekaj. Podlago za jaslice. Cimperman tiste podlage je bil še stari stric Janez. Ni samo naredil podlage, ampak je tudi naslikal panoramo Betlehema za ozadje.

Lepo je pasala tja v kot. V ozadje sva naložila nekaj večjih kamnov, ki bodo služili za vzpetino in kjer bo hlevček nekako naslonjen nanjo.

Začela sva polagati mah. Vse čez. Tako lepo se je polagal. Vse je že prekrito. Hlevček se tako lepo vjema z vsem kot bi zrasel iz njega, kakor kaka goba po dežju.

Ta prvi pride sedaj Jezušček, nato Marija s svetim Jožefom. Osliček in voliček, kakor tudi malo slamce, da bosta lahko ležala na njej, ko bosta grela Jezuščka.

Postavila sva tudi štirno tam pod hribom. Ogenj bo pa gorel na travniku, na ravnini.

Sedaj sva začela razpostavljati pastirje. Tistega, ki nosi čebre okrog vratu, ta mora biti pri štirni. Potem oni z ovco na rameh. In tistega, ki ima piščalko pri ustih. Tudi tistih z dolgo pastirsko palico nesmemo pozabiti in vsakemu sva še dodala psa ovčarja. Potem onega, ki nosi drva za na ogenj. Oni drugi ima pa klobuk v rokah in še tistega, ki ima roko ob ušesu. Vmes so pa zdaj prišle ovce. Nekaj jih je stalo, nekaj pa ležalo. Tudi par koz sva dala med nje.

Tako sedaj pride pa še angelček z napisom "Gloria in excelsis Deo" prav na špico štalce.

Končala sva. Vzradoščena nad končanim delom in prepojena z duhom božica sva se vsedla tja na klop pri peči in zapela "Sveta noč, blažena noč."

Cirila Kermavner

Božično drevo.

Teško si je predstavljati življenje naših prednikov brez vere. Vera je bila tista vez, ki je povezavala življenje posameznikov in družin. Ni čudno, da je bil božič nekaj posebnega. Zdelo se je, da se je vso delo na sveti večer ustavilo in središče njih pozornosti je postalo božično drevo v kotu z jaslicami. To ni bila samo neka navada, ampak versko doživetje. Na božič so starši vodili otroke v cerkev, in ko je bilo maše konec, so matere peljale svoje otroke pred jaslice in jim govorile o majhnem Detetu Jezusu. In to vidimo tudi danes po naših cerkvah, kako vidijo starši otroke k jaslicam. To ni brez pomena. Otroci bi si naj živo vtisnili v spomin skrivnost, ki jo praznujemo ob božiču, namreč, da je Sin božji postal človek. V današnjem času ko mladina teka sem in tja in išče vzor po katerem bi lahko uravnala svoje življenje, ji prav Jezus v jaslicah daje novo upanje.

Božič je skozi stoletja prinašal neštetim dušam mir in veselje in pomen življenja. Zato tudi mi vsaj v tem svetem času stopimo pred jaslice in obnovimo svojo vero v božično skrivnost, da bomo tudi mi deležni božičnega veselja.

Naj vam vsem božično Dete podari svoj mir.



ZAPISNIK DRŽAVNE KONVENCIJE ZA OHIO IN MICHIGAN

Kakor vsako leto jeseni smo tudi letos imeli 26. oktobra letno konvencijo s skupno proslavo 55-letnice podružnice št. 50. V slovenskem jeziku je častiti g. Victor Tomc daroval sveto mašo ob 10:30 v cerkvi Marije Vnebovzete na Holmes Ave. Pevski zbor je prepeval slovenske pesmi.

Procesijo so vodile dekleta "Marie Priland Kadet", njim so sledile delegatkinje in članice podružnic.

Državna predsednica Ann Tercek je imela vlogo prebrati v cekvi drugo berilo, članici Ella Skoda in Frances Horvat sta k oltarju nesli "ofertory" darila.

Takoj po maši smo se zbrale v stavbi Šolske kuhinje na lahki prigrizek in kavo, nakar so nam servirali pecivo, lep dar članic št. 50.

Seja se je pričela prav opoldne s pozdravom državne predsednice Ann Tercek in kadetke so deklamirale "Pledge of Allegiance".

Ann je najprej predstavila odbornice, nato pozdravila in se zahvalila za lepo število 91 članic.

Zapisnik lanske konvencije je prečitala Doroty Winter, kateri se zahvalim, ker ima močnejši glas kakor jaz.

Vse odbornice so bile prisotne, le podpredsednica Hermine Strainer je bila odsotna zaradi bolezni. Naj jo Bog da kmalu med nami!

Sledila je važna razprava glede glavne konvencije v letu 1987, ki se bo vršila v Jolietu, Ill od 14. do 16. maja.

Znano je vsaki podružnici, da pošljejo svoje

delegatkinje s tem namenom, da te predlagajo, kaj je dobro in v korist posameznim podružnicam in celotni organizaciji. Torej je treba poslati zavedne sestre, ki so dolgoletne članice in poznajo potrebe Zveze.

Mary Bostian šolninski sklad je dokončan. Sklad za Tony Turek je še vedno odprt, torej se nadaljuje. Vaša darila lahko direktno pošljete Hermine Dicke v Madison, Wis.

Novo večje kuhinjske knjige so sedaj na prodaj. Te bodo zelo prav prišle kot božični dar ali v spomin nevestam. Cena samo \$9.00.

Vse prisotne članice podružnic so bile pri "Spominskem programu" za umrle glavne odbornice in vse umrle članice v letu 1985. Kadetke so prižgale in ugasnile svečke za vsako pokojno našo sestro.

Seja je bila zaključena ob 2. uri popoldne, nakar se je vsa skupina znašla v Slovenskem domu. Tam je bilo zbranih že veliko gostov, da so s nami pokusili dobro večerjo. Ves večer so nas spremljale mehke melodije, ko je igral nihče drug kakor Tony Jagodnik.

Proslava, v čast osmim članicam, ki so že 50 let v organizaciji, je bila res krasna; vsaka je dobila šopek rdečih nageljnov in "Pin" S.W.U.

Ko bo Zahvalni dan za nami — upam, da bo za vse članice vesel, takrat bo pred nami že Božič.

Zato želim že sedaj vsem prekrasne božične praznike.

Bodimo v ljubezni združeni!

Marie Beck

**ZA PRAZNIK MIRU,
ZA NOVO LETO 1987 —
ŽELI ZARJA VSEM
SLOVENSKIM ČITATELJICAM
OBILO BLAGOSLOVA!!**



SVETA NOČ

Selma Lagerloef

Legenda

Nekoč je bil mož in ta mož je odšel v temno noč ognja iskat. Od koče do koče je šel in potrkal na vsaka vrata: "Ljudje božji, pomagajte mi," je prosil. "Žena mi je pravkar rodila in zakuriti moram, da se mi ogrejeta mati in dete".

A bilo je pozno v noč in vse je spalo. Nihče se mu ni oglasil. Mož je hodil in hodil. Naposled je v dalji zagledal svit ognja. Krenil je v tisto smer in videl, da gori na plamen. Trop belih ovac je spal okrog in star pastir je sedel poleg ter pazil na čredo.

Ko je prispel mož do drobnice, je zagledal tri velike pse, ki so spali pastirju pred nogami. Ob njegovem prihodu so se vsi trije zbudili in na široko odprli gobce, kot bi hoteli lajati. Vendar ni bilo slišati glasu. Mož je videl, kako se jim je ježila dlaka na hrbtu, videl, kako so se v vsitu belo bleščali ostri zobje in kako so planili nadenj. Začutil je, kako ga je eden popadel za nogo, da je drugi hlastnil po roki, da mu je tretji obvisel na vratu. A čeljusti in zobje jih niso poslušali in možu se ni nič zgodilo.

Tedaj je hotel dalje, da bi si vzel, česar je potreboval. Ali ovce so ležale tako na tesno druga poleg druge, da ni mogel naprej. In mož je stopal živalim po hrbtih do ognja. In ne ena se ni zganila, ne ena prebudila.

Že je bil mož domala pri ognju, ko je pastir pogledal. Bil je čemeran starec, osoren in trd do vseh ljudi. Ko je videl neznanega človeka, je prijel za dolgo ošiljeno palico, ki jo je navadno držal v roki, kadar je pasel. Zalučal jo je v moža, Palica je hitele naravnost proti njemu, a preden ga je zadela, se je ognila in odbrnela mimo, daleč prek ravni.

Mož je stopil pred pastirja in mu dejal: "Priatelj, pomagaj mi. Daj mi ogorek ognja. Žena mi je rodila, zakuril bi rad, da se ogrejeta mati in dete."

Pastir bi najrajši rekel: ne. Ko pa se je spomnil, da tujcu psi niso mogli škodovati, da ovce niso bežale pred njim in da ga palica ni podrla, ga je občila tesnoba in ni si upal zavrniti prošnje.

"Vzemi, kolikor ti je treba."

Toda ogenj je bil že skoraj ugasnil. Polen pa ni bilo več in tudi vej ne, samo velik kup žerjavice je še tlel. Lopatice ali žerjavnice pa tujec ni imel, da bi mogel odnesti žareče ogorkke. Pastir je to videl in je drugič rekel: "Vzemi, kolikor ti je treba." Bil je vesél, da mož ni mogel odnesti ognja; a glej — tujec se je sklonil, nabral z golo roko živih ogorkov in si jih zdeval v plašč. In žerjavica mu ni opekla rok, mu ni osmodila plašča, odnesel jo je kakor orahe ali jabolka.

Ko je hudobni pastir to videl, se je začudil v srcu. Kakšna noč je to, da psi ne grizejo, da se ovce ne plaše, da palica ne pogodi, in ogenj ne osmоди. Poklical je tujca nazaj in mu dejal: "Kakšna noč je to, in kako da so vse stvari usmiljene do tebe?"

"Če sam ne vidiš, ti jaz ne morem povedati", je odvrnil mož. In je šel svojo pot, da bi ogrel ženo in otroka.

Pastir si je mislil: "Ne pustim te izpred oči, preden ne zvem, kaj vse to pomeni." Vstal je in šel za njim, prav do kraja, kjer je prebival. Tedaj je videl, da tujec niti koče nima, ampak da mu ležita žena in otrok v skalnati votlini, kjer ni bilo drugega ko gole mrzle stene. Pastir je pomislil, da bi utegnil ubogi nedolžni črviček zmrzniti. In čeprav je bil trdega srca, ga je vendarle ganilo in sklenil je pomagati. Snel si je torbo z rame in vzel iz nje mehko belo ovčjo kožo in jo dal tujcu, da bi položil otroka nanjo. Kakor hitro je pokazal, da je tudi v njegovem srcu usmiljenje, so se mu "odprle oči." Videl je, česar dotlej ni mogel videti in slišal, kar prej ni mogel slišati. Okoli njega je stala gosta množica angelcev s srebrnimi krili. Vsak je imel gosli v rokah in vsi so na glas prepevali. Nocoj to noč se je rodil Zveličar, ki bo svet odrešil.

Tedaj je pastir razumel, zakaj so bile tisto noč vesele vse stvari in niso mogle nikomur nič škodovati. Angelci so pa stali ne le okrog njega — vsepovsod jih je videl. Sedeli so tudi v votlini, sedeli po hribu in letali pod nebom. V gostih trumah so prihajali po poti, se gredoč ustavljali in se ozirali na dete.

Na vse strani je donelo veselo vriskanje in petje in sviranje. In vse to je videl pastir v temni noči, ko ni mogel drugače nič razložiti. Od veselja, da je spregledal, se je zgrudil na kolena in hvalil Boga.

“POVILA GA JE V PLENICE IN POLOŽILA V JASLI”

V BETLEHEMU

Jožef — mož Marije je brez dvoma imel sorodnike ali znance v Betlehemu. Zakaj ni šel potrkat na njihova vrata?

Na judovskem Vzhodu pri nobeni hiši ne zapro vrat tujcu in toliko manj prijateljem ali sorodnikom. Govorili so o navalu tujcev, ki so se prišli popisat, a vedno bi se našel prostor za tako malo zahtevna gosta, kakor sta bila Jožef in Marija. A zdi se, da za prenočišče nista preveč prosila. V stanju, v kakršnem je bila tedaj Marija, sta bolj kot udobje iskala samoto.

Tedanje hiše na Judevskem so morale biti zelo podobne današnjim hišam: en sam prostor, ki služi istočasno za sprejemnico, kuhinjo in tudi spalnico za vso družino. Včasih celo za hlev domačim živalim. Ko pade noč, razprostrejo po tleh lahke žimnice ali preproste preproge. To je postelja na kateri spijo oblečeni in na kupu hišni gospodarji in njih slučajni gostje in, ko medtem svetlika slabotno brli. Nekateri se tudi zatečejo na ravne strehe.

Ker je bil Betlehem zelo prometni kraj, je stalo na njegovem koncu zunaj vasi tudi kako gostišče. To je bila pravokotna zgradba obdana od visokih zidov in le z enimi vrati, brez drugih odprtih. Potniki in tovorna živina so bili vedno gotovi, da bodo našli tam vodo in zavetje, kjer bodo prenočili. Živali so se utaborile pod milim nebom na osrednjem dvorišču. Okrog tega so bile običajno male sobe, ki so jih dajali ljudem za malo ceno.

Tam sta Jožef in Marija upala najti željeno samoto. A vse so bile zasedene. Tako zanju ni bilo mesta za prenočišče.

V VOTLINI

Tedaj sta odkrila — ali pa so jima pokazali — eno tistih naravnih votlin, tako pogostih v apnenčastem terenu Judeje, v katerih iščejo domačini zavetje za svojo živino in kjer se včasih sami nastanijo. Vsa oprema v votlini so bile prenosne jasli, viseče s stene ali stoječe na tleh, da je bila v njih krma za živino.

Ko sta bila v votlini, se je Mariji dopolnil čas poroda. In porodila je sina prvorojenca, ga povila v plenice in položila v jasli.

Hlev! Jasli! Ta, ki je hotel postati nam podoben, da bi imel večje sočutje z našo revščino, se ni samo z nami izenačil, marveč se je ponižal daleč pod nas.

Marija ne potrebuje pri porodu nobene pomoči. Sama vzame pravkar rojenega, ga zavije v plenice in ga položi z lastnimi rokami v jasli.



PASTIRJI

V prav tistem kraju pa so pastirji prenočevali pod milim nebom. Bili so na nočnih stražah pri svojih čredah.

V Palestini so bile črede ovac in koz, ki so jih puščali vse leto v neobljudenih krajih. To so bile tako imenovane puščavske črede.

Judovska puščava ni ležala daleč od Betlehema. V tej samoti slabotnega rastlinja so puščavki pastirji vzdrževali svoje črede pozimi kakor poleti. Pogosto so se združevali med seboj, da so branili črede pred tatovi in divjimi zvermi. V mrzlih nočeh so iskali zavetje v votlinah pod skalami. To vrsto ljudi — to je pastirje — so pobožni Izraelci zelo zaničevali.

Živeli so skoraj kot divjaki daleč od templja in sinagog in zato niso izpolnjevali verske predpise. Bili so na glasu, da ne spoštujejo tuje lastnine. Farizej ni upal kupiti od njih mleka ali volne iz strahu, da ni sodeloval pri njih tatvini.

Vendar so bile med temi robateži in od usode zapuščenimi ljudmi tudi poštene duše in čista srca. Njim je veljal prvi klic Otroka v jaslih, ki se je ponižal in postal majhen, da bi pritegnil k sebi majhne in ponižne. Skupina teh ubogih ljudi je tedaj taborila v bližini Betlehema.

Kakšno iznenadenje in kakšen strah, ko jih je nenadoma obsijala svetloba in se jim prikazal angel z besedami: “Ne bojte se! Zakaj, oznanjam vam veliko veselje, ki bo za vse ljudstvo: rodil se vam je danes v Davidovem mestu Zveličar, ki je Kristus, Gospod. In to vam bodi znamenje: našli boste dete, v plenice povito in v jasli položeno.”

Komaj je angel nehal govoriti, se mu je pridružila množica nebeških duhov, ki so zapeli pesem upanja:

“Slava Bogu na višavah in mir ljudem na zemlji, ki so Bogu po volji.” Angeli so izginili, prav tako kot so se bili prikazali.

Ko so se pastirji nekoliko opomogli od strahu, so rekli: “Pojdimo v Betlehem in pogledjmo čudež, ki se je pravkar zgodil in ki ga je nam Gospod razodel.” In pohiteli oo.

Prišli so tja in našli Marijo, Jožefa in dete, v jasli položeno. Ko so to videli, so povedali, kar jim je bilo o tem detetu rečeno. In vsi, ki so slišali, so se čudili temu, kar so jim povedali pastirji.

F. P. — Misli

Domotožje!

*Čujte, gore in doline
iz vrhov sinje višine,
pesem mojo davnih dni
kaj srce mi poželi:
Rad bi videl še planine
moje drage domovine,
kjer srce hrepeni po njih.*

*Moje sanje še nekdanje,
so zbudile mi vprašanje,
da moj dom je dragi spomin,
sega v srcu globočin.
Polno rož, zelene trave,
duh moj plava preko vas
v mojo rodno, drago vas:*

*Kje ste bistri vi potoki,
slišim vas kakor nekoč,
ko sem bil doma, navzoč.
Rad bi videl vas domače,
enkrat še v vaši hiši;
srce hrepeni po vas.
danes in pa vsakokrat.*

F. Zibert

ŠT. 17, WEST ALLIS, WI

Z veseljem poročam, da je bila lepa udeležba članic na oktoberski seji. Žrebanje v korist naše blagajne se je dobro obneslo. Presrčna hvala vsem, ki ste tako velikodušno darovale mnoge stvari, posebno dobitke. Onim, ki ste imele srečne številke, pa iskrene častike. Zelo lepo smo proslavile našo Mater leta 1986. Ga. Ann Gasperič je bila vsa nasmejana, ko je prejela lepo vrtnico in darilo. Res imele smo lep dan in poleg tega še izvrstno jedačo in pijačo z visoko obloženo mizo okusnega domačega peciva. Presrčna hvala vsem, ki ste ga toliko darovale.

Da ne pozabim pridna dekleta, ki tako požrtvovalno vedno delajo v kuhinji. Res, hvala vsem, ki so pripomogle k uspehu tega dne!

Sedaj pa povabim vse te dobre duše, pravzaprav vse članstvo na glavno sejo 21. decembra. Ta

seja je, da si zopet zasigramo dober odbor za leto 1987 in poleg tega bomo obravnavale še druge važne stvari. Pridite, da bomo skupno začrtale pot naše podružnice št. 17 in bomo z udeležbo pokazale, da nam je Zveza pri srcu. Imele bomo izmenjavo božičnih daril v vrednosti dveh dolarjev in tudi razdelitev božičnih daril našim mladim članom in članicam. Seveda, zopet toplo priporočamo da prinesete pecivo, ker bomo imele X'Mas - party kot ponavadi.

Za vedno nas je zapustila članica ga. Helen Kodrič. Odšla je po večno plačilo 28. oktobra. Naj ji sveti večna luč. Soprogu in ostali družini izrekamo naše iskreno sožalje.

Ne pozabimo bolnih sester; za pokojne pa molimo, naj jim dobri Bog podeli večni mir in pokoj.

Vsem članicam naše Zveze v širni Ameriki želim blagoslova polne božične praznike in srečno zdravo novo leto 1987.

MARY MURN

ŠT. 25, CLEVELAND, OH

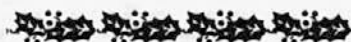
Čestitamo nagrajenkam naše tombole! Marie Orazem prva nagrada. Swedy Debelak druga in Sylvia Plymesser - Mihevc pa tretja.

Malo moramo včasih seči po hazardnih igrah, da dobimo malo denarja za v blagajno. Lepo se zahvalim vsem, ki so prodajale in vse, ki so kupili naše srečke.

Prišrcen pozdrav naši novi članici Pavli Dolinar. Mati, žena, odlična kuharica in gospodinja. Povsod se znajde in ve kaj je treba prijati v roke, naj si bo pri katerem koli delu.

**LE ENKRAT SIJE TI POMLAD,
BREZSKRBNA JE MLADOST;
OBJEMA LJUBKO ENKRAT TE
KOT SONCE TO PROSTOST.**

M. Beck



BOŽIČ

*Glejte, kaj nocj se sveti,
kdo mi more razodeti?*

*Vsi osupli križajo
se pastirci, nižajo
angelci se, do zemljice
nesejo jih perutnice.*

*O, pozdravljeni vsi trije,
Jožef, Bogek, sin Marije,
in preljuba božja Mati.*

*Tu naš Jezušček je mali,
ki smo dolgo ga iskali.
Pokleknimo in molimo,
Kralja našega častimo.*

Cvetko Golar

Globoko sožalje Rose Hren, sestri Jennie Laurich, ki je preminula sredi letošnjega leta, kakor tudi družini pokojne Jennie Laurich. Iskreno sožalje tudi izrekamo dobro znani Turkovi družini ob izgubi njihove dobre mame Mary Turk v starosti 96 let. Dolga leta so tako lepo skrbeli za svojo mamico, da bi se morali mi vsi učiti od njih. Tako nežno in ljubeče so se sukali okoli svoje ljube mamice. Sedaj počivata mirno v božjemu objemu Mary in Jennie. Hvala Marie Orazem in Fran Kotnik, ki sta podprli našo blagajno.

Drage žene in dekleta želim Vam vsem božičnega veselja in leto 1987 naj bo blagoslovljeno in naj bo leto miru v naših družinah in po vsej zemeljski obli.

CIRILA KERMAVNER

KOROŠKI POČITNIŠKI TEČAJ

Liga Slovenskih Amerikancev v New Yorku in družba Sv. Mohorja v Celovcu sta priredili poleti leta 1978 pet tedenski tečaj za ameriške in kanadske študente. Tečaj je bil v Celovcu v Slomškovem dijaškem domu. Liga in Mohorjeva družba sta se sporazumeli, da bosta skupaj pripravili podoben tečaj v poletnih počitnicah leta 1987.

Namen teh tečajev je, da se mladina izpopolni v slovenskem jeziku, v poznavanju slovenske zgodovine in kulture, in to v zdravem okolju, ki ga nudi Mohorjeva družba in njeni dijaški domovi. Poleg tečaja so na sporedu celodnevni izleti v znamenite slovenske kraje, Gorica, Trst, Sv. Višarje, Bled, Bohinj, Cankarjev in Prešernov dom, šport vseh vrst in zabava.

Ligini tečaji pa imajo še poseben pomen za bodočnost slovenske navzočnosti v Združenih državah in Kanadi: ustvarijo namreč priliko, da se spoznajo mladi ljudje, bodoči organizatorji slovenskih verskih, kulturnih in podpornih organizacij, kot so na primer KSKJ, SZZ, pevske, odrske in plesne skupine, pa tudi poklicnih druženj na širšem severno ameriškem kontinentu. Iako se bodo na primer mladi ljudje iz Clevelenda spoznali z onimi iz Chicage, Toronta, New Yorka, pa tudi z mladino na Koroškem in v Slovenskem Primorju. Te osebne vezi bodo trta, na kateri bo slovensko

življenje v Ameriki vztrajalo in raslo, ko starih rodov z izkušnjami iz domovine več ne bo. Brez take povezanosti bodo ostale osamljene skupine brez potrebnih vezi.

Prvi tečaj, leta 1978, je v teh stvareh zelo dobro uspel. Mladina, ki je obiskala tečaj, je ostala v dobrih stikih, si dopisuje, se sestaja in je delavna pri slovenskih kulturnih, podpornih in drugih dejavnostih. Dobili smo vse več, kot pa smo pričakovali. Bila bi velika škoda, če tega dela ne bi nadaljevali.

Poleg izdatkov za polet, hrano, stanovanje in izlete, kar bodo morali udeleženci plačati, je še precej stroškov, kjer bo pomoč slovenske skupnosti potrebna: spremljevalci iz Združenih držav in Kanade, pa tudi iz Koroške, predavatelji, zavarovanje i.t.d. Vseh teh in podobnih stroškov udeleženci tečaja ne zmorejo, brez temeljite organizacije pa tečaj ni mogoč. Družine s številnimi otroci težko pošljejo več otrok, poslati enega samega pa je največkrat težko, in posledica: tečaja se nihče ne bo udeležil.

Ko bo udeležba zagotovljena, bo Liga prosila slovenske podporne, gospodarske, kulturne in druge ustanove za denarno pomoč. Danes je prilika, čez nekaj let bo morda prepozno. Brez močnega dotoka zavednih in v slovenskih vprašanih večših mladih ljudi bo slovensko življenje počasi usahnilo - morda po naši krivdi.

Dr. Leo Klauž

Koordinator Liginega študijskega tečaja (1978)

KNJIGA LJUBEZNI, SMEHA IN SOLZ...

Rože z mojih vrtov

PESMI MARY ŠTANGELJ MURN

Članica št. 17, West Allis, Wisconsin

Gospa Murn nam v pričujoči pesniški zbirki poklanja svoje globoke misli, s katerimi v nas prebuja občutja in izkustva neslutnih razsežnosti. Ob branju njene poezije se bo v vas porajala veličina ljubezni izseljeniške duše, smeh ob otroški igrivosti, ki je sorodna vsakemu izmed nas in jok ob nerazrešljivih zagonetkah življenja. Skozi kar 88 pesmi, vas bo pričujoča zbirka popeljala na livade življenja, ki ga vsi izkušamo - v angleškem in slovenskem jeziku.

Prepričani smo, da vas bo privlačila okusna oprema z lepim aranžmajem slik s trdno vezavo, ki je kar zavidljiva.

Cena: samo \$8.50 ter 1 za poštnino.

Knjigo lahko naročite: Slovenian Women's Union, 431 No. Chicago St., Joliet, IL 60432.

(Knjiga je izšla ob 60. obletnici SLOVENSKE ŽENSKE ZVEZE)

Mary Murn:

DECEMBER

V mrzli noči zvezdica trepeče,
visoko gor nad nami mežika in šepče,
ste slišali, da Dete se je rodilo,
ki bo prineslo mir ter bo svet rešilo.

Nič več ne bo prepira, nič več ne bo vojske,
svet bo živel v miru — tja do vasice gorske,
narod se ne bo z narodom prepiral,
nikdar več siromak od lakote umiral.

Ljubezen bratstva spet bo zagorela,
izbrisala pregrehe, ki je svet zajela.
Gledam zvezdico ter sladke sanje sanjam
o miru in ljubezni, tiho noč preganjam.

Ali je mogoče, da bi se spnilo,
da grešni svet bi Detece rešilo;
njemu res je vse mogoče,
če v molitvi prosimo ga vroče.

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From Bishop Baraga's life...

One Christmas during a midnight Mass as Father Baraga read the gospel in Ojibway, and came to the words "and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes," tears welled in his eyes and ran down his face. He became so affected that his sobs were distinctly heard throughout the church. He could not recover his composure and descended the pulpit without completing the gospel.

At this Christmas season let us be mindful that Christ reduced himself to the human level out of love for man.



"FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART"

DAVY'S COLUMN

"A Child at Heart"



Jesus said to enter the Kingdom of Heaven, one had to have the heart of a child.

Well, I don't know about you, but I never really understood what a child's heart was like, until the other when my daughter and I went to church. Nor, did I realize just how far from a child's heart my heart had grown.

My daughter was lighting a candle for her great-grandma. I asked her if she told Jesus who the candle was for. She looked up at the life size crucifix, and ran behind me. Wearing a sheepish, smile, she peeked around me, "It's for G.G.," she blushed.

It was then I saw it. She was eager but yet shy. He was to her a friend, but at the same time so much more. He was awesome. Her heart was leaping for joy, I could see it in her eyes, but at the same time there was fear of the Lord. Just enough fear to be healthy.

Christ so much wants us to be open to Him with the heart of a child, that he came to us as a child. A child is innocent. A child is eager to please, but at the same time slightly afraid. A Child doesn't want to hurt, but wants to make all "boobos" better.

Once a year we celebrate the birth of a Child; the birth of our Lord. May this year's celebration bring our hearts home to their original state. May they be the hearts of children.

'Til Next Year.

DAVY

SNOW

It's really pretty you know when the ground is all covered with snow.

I like to play in the snow and make nice round balls we can throw.

I like to go sledding down in the park. But we have to be home before it gets dark.

I like to sit in my window at night and watch the snow glisten under the street lights, Oh, what a beautiful sight!

By

Daniel John Gordon
No. 55, Girard, Ohio

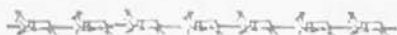
Come, let us adore Him

May you find Him in the small and simple things

May you meet Him in a little child on Christmas Day.

A Joyous Christmas and a Blessed New Year to all our junior members.

Anna L. Hodnik
S.W.U. Youth Director



Christmas

Christmas is a special time for me. When I deckarait the tree and put up the light all difrent colors. Shining bright on the windowesl.

Jesus was born on Christmas. Christmas morning is exciting, when I look into my stocking, and all the presents under the tree that's the most favorite time of the year. I wish everybody a Merry Christmas.

Becky Johnson, age 8
Br. 33, Duluth, MN

Becky wrote this for school last Christmas, 1985. Her teacher wrote "Super" on the paper!

A Legend of the Christmas Tree



O CHRISTMAS TREE!

Boniface was scared,
It was Christmas Day.
But nobody in Germany had
ever heard of Jesus.
No one even wanted to listen.

Boniface walked through the forest.
It was very cold.
Up ahead, he saw people dancing
around a big oak tree.
The people thought some kind of
God lived in the tree.

Boniface shouted, "Stop"!
He chopped down the tree
The people were angry.
They thought he had killed their god.
But then they noticed
a tiny fir tree.
It was hidden behind
the big oak tree.

Boniface told the people that
the little tree was a sign of Jesus.
He told them Jesus had come
to bring them a new kind of life.

The people believed Boniface.
Many of them became Christians
When Christmas came again,
they brought little fir trees home.
These were the first Christmas trees!

May Christmas and the New Year
bring you many blessings

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USE THIS APPLICATION BLANK FOR YOUR NEW MEMBER PROSPECT:



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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION OF AMERICA

SLOVENSKA ŽENSKA ZVEZA V AMERIKI

A BURIAL INSURANCE SOCIETY

INCORPORATED UNDER THE ILLINOIS INSURANCE CODE

New Member - Novi (a) član (ica)

Junior to Adult - Prestop iz mladinskega v odrasli oddelek

Class _____ Monthly Assessment _____ Annual Dues _____ Amount of Benefit _____
Razred _____ Mesečna članarina \$ _____ Letna Članarina _____ Zavarovalnina \$ _____

1. Last Name - Rodbinsko ime _____ Maiden Name - Dekliško ime _____ First Name and Initial
Krstno ime in začetnica _____

2. Address - Naslov _____ City - Mesto _____ State - Država _____ Zip Code _____

3. Date of Birth - Datum rojstva _____ Age - Starost _____ Place of Birth - Kraj rojstva _____

4. Descendant of which nationality - Narodnost _____ Marital Status - Zakonsko stanje _____

5. Are you a Christian? - Ali ste Krščanske vere? _____ Occupation - Poklic _____

6. Have you now any chronic ailments as cancer, disease of the heart, tuberculosis or diabetes?
Ali imate na raku, bolezni srca, jetki ali sladkorni bolezni? _____ 7. Telephone Number
Telefon številka _____

8. My death benefit to be paid to - Moja posmrtnina se naj izplača _____ Relationship - Sorodstvo _____
Name - Ime _____

Address - Naslov _____ City - Mesto _____ State - Država _____ Zip Code _____

9. In case the above beneficiary does not survive me, my beneficiary should then be _____ Relationship - Sorodstvo _____
V slučaju, da gornji dedec umre pred menoj, naj bo moj dedec _____
Name - Ime _____

Address - Naslov _____ City - Mesto _____ State - Država _____ Zip Code _____

I understand and agree that the Slovenian Women's Union of America assumes no liability whatever until this application is received and accepted by the local branch and the Home Office of the Union together with the payment of the first year's assessment.

I affirm that I have read the foregoing questions and state that the answers thereto are full, complete and true.

Razumem in pripoznam, da nima Slovenska ženska zveza v Ameriki napram meni nobenih obveznosti dokler ta prošnja ni sprejeta in odobrena tako v lokalni podružnici kakor tudi na glavnem uradu Zveze in je obenem s prošnjo priložen asessment za prvo leto.

Izjavljam, da sem prebrala gornja vprašanja in da so odgovori na vse popolni in pravilni.

Applicant recommended by - Sprejem priporoča _____

Signature of the Applicant - Podpis prosilke _____

Accepted by Branch No. _____ S. W. U., in _____ at the meeting
Sprejeta v podružnico št. _____ S. Z. Z., v _____ na seji

this _____ day of _____ 19 _____
na _____ dan meseca _____

Secretary - Tajnica _____

Treasurer - Blagajničarka _____

President - Predsednica _____

This application must be executed in duplicate. The local secretary is to forward both copies to the headquarters. Be sure to answer every question. Do it distinctly and completely, and write with ink. Illegibly or partially filled out blanks will be returned. The applicant must sign both copies by her own hand.

Za vsako novo članico izpišite dve taki prošnji in tajnica naj pošlje obe na glavni urad. Odgovorite na vsa vprašanja. Pišite razločno, s tinto, ne s sušilnikom. Prošnje, ki jih ne bo mogoče brati ali kjer bo kaj manjkalo, Vam bodo poslana nazaj. Prosilka naj podpiše obe prošnji lastnoročno.

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