

Zarja - The Dawn

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Communications for the next issue of publication

Do you have something SUA-related you would like to share with readers, like an event you want to let people know about or an idea for an article? We would love to hear from you! Please email the editor at pohar4@aol.com. We reserve the right to edit any article submitted. It is preferable that you submit your idea for discussion prior to writing an article. Articles must be related to SUA events or members. The deadline for articles is the 15th day of the month, 2 months preceding the issue. For example, articles for the July/August issue must be received by May 15th. Thank you.

Submission Guidelines

Tell us how to reach you: Include your name, daytime phone number, e-mail address, and mailing address with each submission, including e-mailed submissions.

Go Digital: We regret that we can no longer return submitted materials. It is best to e-mail your photos. Use a 3.2-megapixal (or better) camera set for the highest picture quality, and attach your photos as jpeg files. If you have an old photo that is irreplaceable, please make a good-quality copy to share with us. (Scanned copies must be a resolution of 300 or higher.)

By submitting material for publication, you grant the Slovenian Union of America (formerly the Slovenian Women's Union of America) the use of the material, including your name, hometown, and state. We may modify, reproduce, and distribute it in any SUA authorized medium and in any manner or appropriate place.

President's Message

Greetings: We are so thrilled! We, the Slovenian Union of America, have been approved for 501(c)(3) status. Please stay tuned to Carol Ryba's column in *Zarja* for ongoing updates. This is an important achievement and can make a huge difference in many ways for years to come.

One way to start planning for the future is by recruiting new members. Whether you are a part of an active branch, live in a city where you assume you are the only Slovenian-American, a city that was once thriving in Slovenian heritage, or a town where you want to start your own Branch - the time is now! We need you more than ever.

Your National Board of Directors have been working very hard to improve this organization that has been alive since 1926 and now we need your help. Without members, we are nothing! We are challenging each one of you to find a new member. Consider giving a gift to a friend or relative. The future depends on our members. Can you help?

Thank you to everyone who signed up a new member since the last issue. Let's keep this going! EACH ONE REACH ONE is our motto. If everyone could find one person to enroll, our legacy can go on for decades to come. If you cherish your heritage – show it by recruiting a member. Junior members should be the easiest to recruit. For \$5 they become a member and after three years of membership they qualify for SWU scholarships, which are \$1,000 and \$2,000. Even if an applicant is not chosen for a scholarship, they qualify for a merit scholarship of \$100 – all for a \$15 investment. But the investment does not stop there; not only can you have fun, but also being involved in an ethnic organization looks great on an application for college and jobs.

I challenge EACH ONE!

Applications are in every issue of *Zarja*, or can be downloaded from our website www.slovenianunion.org.

Sincerely,
Bonnie Pohar Prokup, National President
wprokup@aol.com

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Our family would appreciate some help in solving a family mystery. Perhaps the SUA membership could help. Would you please print our request for information? Thank you.

- Denise P. Bartlett, Branch 43

Mary Delopst (Missing for 92 years)

Anyone with information about Slovenian immigrant, Mary Delopst, who left her parent's home at 588 (renumbered 3016 in later years) South Clement Avenue in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1921 at age 16, never to return, please contact:

Denise P. Delopst Bartlett 7902 W. Howard Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53220-1612 414.327.4990 or denisepbartlett@wi.rr.com Mary Delopst's two living siblings, Raymond J. Delopst, age 94, and Paula V. Delopst Behling, age 92, both members of SUA Branch 43 - Milwaukee, still think about her and wonder what happened to her. They are sure she is no longer living as she would be 108 today, but they believe Mary ran away and might have settled in another Slovenian community. The Delopst family would like to solve this family mystery for her siblings. Any information would be appreciated.

October 2012

Samantha Jane Berg, daughter of Mitch and Nancy Jane Berg of Machesney Park, Illinois, and grand-daughter of Russ and Theresa Berg of Eagles Nest, is a recent graduate of the University of Minnesota – Duluth (UMD), majoring in science. She is student-teaching in Ely, MN.

Following this experience, Samantha Jane will proceed to Ljubljana, Slovenia, in a newer program of UMD in which she will student-teach at the international school, Danila Kumar Elementary School. While there she will live a stone's throw from Ig, Slovenia, where her great-grandfather, Jacob Pavlich, was born and lived until he immigrated to the United States at the age of 11. First cousin, Paula Kavansek, and family live in Ig. Her sister, Kamana Zic, and her family live a short distance away in Opatija, Croatia.

Theresa Berg is a member of SUA's Branch 34 – Soudan, Minnesota, as was her mother, Angela Pavlich (who was the first president), Aunt Adeline Pavlich Mustonen (who was president for 20 years), Aunt Agnes Pavlich Yapel, and Aunt Michele Berg.



Samantha Jane Berg, Branch 34

Update February 2013

Samantha Jane had a banner time teaching in Ljubljana, Slovenia, and meeting first cousins in Ig and Opatija, Croatia. - Theresa Pavlich Berg, Branch 34

The Slovenian Union of America has been approved to operate as a 501(c)(3) non-profit tax exempt organization!

All donations given to SUA will be tax deductible.

Ryba's Reminders

by Carol Ryba - National Treasurer

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Please review the following list of deceased members. The families of these members have notified us of the deaths since 2001 but claims have not been submitted. We will probably have to turn this money over to the State of Illinois as Unclaimed Property. We want the deserving beneficiaries to receive this money, not the State. Please call the home office at 815.727.1926 if you have any information. We especially ask the current active Branches to help us locate the beneficiaries.

001, Brezonik, Dorothy J.
001, Ribich, Louise
002, Rasp, Albina
002, Paisoli, Millie
002, Gottlieb, Elsie
002, Bernasek, Mary
002, Longosz, Stella
003, Drobnitch, Erma Theresa
003, Evans, Velma
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003, Kocman, Elsie
003, Legan, Dorothy M.
003, Medonich, Elsie
003, Pachak-Holfeltz, Marcia Ann
005, Albin, Ludmilla
005, Mivec, Josephine
005, Banich, Florence
006, Killoran, Jeanette
006, Stopar, Christine
010, Gombach, Marie
010, Kovach, Anna
010, Doles, Mary
010, Batich, Martha
010, Kovach, Mary
010, Kerzicnik, Antonia
010, Wrocławski, Frances
012, Kotze, Sylvia
012, Coppersmith, Eleanore M.
012, Matzelle, Catherine H.
012, Grambow, Ann
012, Zigman, Leona
012, Paulin, Ann
013, Coppinger-Griffin, PatriciaA.
013, Nanut, Anna F.

013, Kurnick, Otillia

013, Kambick, Anna

014, Prijatel, Frances

014, Kuchta, Marie

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	uic
014, Marolt, Betty	Ann
016, O'Brien, Dolo	
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020, Ostrem, Franc	
020, Horwath, Hel	en
020, Stukel, Mary	Ann
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020, Kauzlauric, Ju	ıstine
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023, Slogar, William	n
023, Yadlosky, Jane	e
023, Krueger, Barl	bara J.
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023, Hutar, Ann	
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023, High, Delores	
023, Gornik, Rose	W.
023, Skubitz, Marg	garet
023, Gornik, Margi	ie
024, Savnik, Joseph	hine
024, Wangler, Ann	e
024, Gruenwald, Ja	ane
024, Senica, Mary	
024, Kinczewski, 7	Γheresa
024, Hoefferle, An	tonia
025, Pelcic, Doroth	ny
025, Mohorcic, Jos	ephine
026, Kunich, Heler	1
026, Susa, Mary	

028, Wickstrom, Lucylle

030, Zabukovec, Louise

030, Perko, Mary A.

eneficiaries.				
030, Epley, Alouise	050, Miller, Jean M.			
030, Vidmar, Frances B.	050, Zak, Ann Marie K.			
030, Lombardi, Emily	050, Loushin, Arline			
030, Healy, Margaret	050, Krajewski, Jean			
030, Tomsick, Joann	050, Chemas, Danica			
032, Calta, Genevieve	050, Vukcevic, Mary			
032, Jelenic, Emily	050, Katai, Valerie T.			
033, Dunaiski, Gertrude	050, Kovelan, Mary			
033, Benedik, Ann	057, Mateyko, Louise			
033, Emanuel, Arminia G.	066, Scavarda, Catherine			
033, Vukelich, Mary J.	067, Stanish, Ann J.			
033, Bianco, Albertina	068, Mohorcic, Emily			
033, Rychlak, Dorothy	071, Horvath, Lillian D.			
035, Kern, Josephine A.	074, Rosenberger, Jennie C.			
035, Voiovich, RoseMarie	079, Potocnik, Frances			
035, Kvaternik, Anne	079, Richter, Cecilia			
038, Bizal, Martina	079, Mitchell, Jeanette			
039, Dewhurst, Marj	081, Mestnick, Antoinette L.			
039, Glatch, Frances	085, Jermenc, Mary			
040, Tomsic, Anne A.	093, Klun, Frances			
042, Anzo, Terry M.	093, Burger, Antonia			
042, Tomsic, Frances	095, Hansen, Julie			
043, Bistan, Mary	097, Mihelcic, Mary			
043, Tratnik, Ronald	100, Phillips, Nellie Ann			
043, Zortz, Frances	100, Prebeg, Rose			
043, Schneider, Frances	102, Perme, Ann			
043, Martino, Mary	102, Petkovsek, Dorothy			
043, Hribar, Rosemarie	102, Debevec, Agnes			
043, Sporis, Vickie	102, Lesar, Agnes			
047, Zupancic, Theresa A.	103, Menapace, Ana Rojina			
047, Kocevar, Rose M.	103, Richardson, Alenka			
050, Zagorc, Sophie	103, Chokel, Mara Kocevar			
050, Petkovsek, Anne	103, Michelitch, Freda H.			
050, Zupancic, Anna	103, Ausich, Matilda			
050, Seifert, Pauline	105, Perhay, Ann			
050, Goryance, Lillian	108, Mathews, Eric			
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050 H				

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+Anna Shelko Kozan, mother

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Pecaric, Irene, 99, SUA DiBartolomeo, Lillian, 20, SUA LaJoie, Julie, 99, +Frances M. Schultz Korst, Joyce, 20, +Richard Korst Mahaffey, Carol Ann, 50, +Helen Mary Violet Agnich, Georgene, 20, +Mary L. Agnich, mother Cargould, Lainie, 40, +Milo & Binnie Uehlein Yovanovich, Sue Ann, 5, +Frances Yovanovich France, Beverly, 20, SUA Peterson, Mildred, 20, +Justine Gregorich Zalokar, Lynn, 93, +Marilyn (Kovacic) Zalokar Tate, Alyssa, 3, SUA Kais, Mary Kay, 43, +Arline M Fritz Feroni, Olga, 23, SUA Polnaszek-Gray, Jane, 20, +Barbara R. Kociuba Kehoe, Christopher, 20, SUA Byrne, Susan, 93, +Anna (Birsa) Sicinsky Prokup, Barbi, 24, Honor of Debbie Pohar, aunt Prokup, Bekki, 24, Honor of Debbie Pohar, aunt Schwab, Lavergne, 99, SUA Leach, Agnes, 13, SUA Leach, Agnes, 13, +Josephine Aiuto Ponikvar, Joanne, 54, +Rose Racher Benedict, Haley, 13, +Sophie Troya Benedict, Ashley, 13, +Ann Nanut Adelman, Verdean, 2, +Mary Foys Lauretig Ebner, Anna, 89, +Josephine Argubright Ebner, Olivia, 89, +Josephine Argubright McGraw, Mary, 108, SUA Zebrowski, Dianne, 43, SUA Ungrad, Ruth Ann. 3. +Eleanor R. Blatnick, mother Ceglar, Bernice, 35, +Jene Plevell, sister Renning, Carol, 35, +Frances Petrich Schiffler, Gloria, 2, +Bill Maras, Marie, 16, SUA Marsey, Albina, 50, SUA Cooke, Mary, 50, SUA Kuhar, Alice, 50, +Anna Kuhar, mother Stropki, Christine, 42, +Jennie & Frank Intihar, parents

Stancar, Frances, 1, +Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Stancar Glivar, Dolores, 100, +Joseph & Catherine Glivar Gudac, Bernadine, 20, SUA Rossi, Rea, 23, +Helen Slogar Theno and +William E. Slogar Ivanich, Daniel, 20, +Mary Ivanich Dragan, Angeline, 5, +Dragan family Barbarich, Martin, 20, +Laura Barbarich Mutz, Marie, 3, Honor of Theodore M. Mutz family Jernigan, Tina, 5, +Josephine Tomasic Slapar Skerjanec, Alice, 3, SUA Koporc, Agnes, 50, +Albert J. Koporc Kaye, Rebecca Marie, 43, +Mici Coffelt Bestic, Virginia, 55, +Frances Juvancic Zevnik, Darlene, 1, +Gary Hustad Bevsek, Sophie, 43, +Frank M. Bevsek, husband Bubel, Bernice, 16, +Walter J. Bubel and +Alvin & Elizabeth Soliday Koncar, Dorothy, 20, +Mary Fedo Alkovich, Mary, 16, +Emma Yergovich Dunne, Aloise, 30, SUA Sterle, Rose, 35, SUA Shubitz, Genevieve, 33, +Mary Shubitz, mother Netzer, Patrice, 1, +Ann Louise Hoffman Tevsh, LeAnn, 1, +Mary Tevsh Wos, Charlotte, 26, +Josephine Pintar, mom Mohr, Mary Frances, 5, +Mary Konovsek Brady, Josie, 24, SUA Fritz, Angeline, 1, SUA Tarro, Mary Ann, 30, SUA Schmidt, Joleen, 1. +Joseph & Marianne Barbuch Kochevar, Michelle, 2, +Mary Kochevar Gorenc, Anton, 43, SUA Brunner, MaryAnn, 24, +John Pohar Sr. family Thies, Mary, 89, +Andrew Dergance Nauheimer, Dolores, 2, Honor of Amy N. Brandt Johnson, Virginia, 100, +Patricia Vidergar Janezic, Karen, 43, +Josef Janezic Scherbak, Ann, 3, +Scherbak and Jersin families

Donofrio, Adrienne, 2, +Evelyn (Fabian) Tome, mother Massaia, Amelia, 93, +Mom Virant, Justin, 1, +Carol M. Virant Vidergar, Mary Lou, 100, +Mary Lipovec Glad and +Mary Vidergar Gillen, Sharon, 50, +Ann Tercek, grandmother Mlakar, Fredrick, 100, SUA Lorek, Carol, 50, +Charlene Gerchman Glass Jermenc, Murielann, 24, +Anton & Mary Jermenc family Lesnik, Mary, 20, +Bill Lesnik, husband Kotnick, Frank, 1, +Kotnick family Hull, Mara Cerar, 50, Honor of Breda Loncar Baker, Cheryl, 20, Honor of Branch 20 Otis, Jennifer, 20. +Frances A. Higgins (Jursinovic) Plese, Eileen, 20. +Andrew & Rose Hrvatin Kramer, Catherine, 20, +Rudolph H. & Bertha R. Wolf Zupancich, Judith, 23, SUA Savol, Rosanne, 20, +Ann Ramuta Savol and +Josephine Ramuta Sumic Nuteson, Cecelia, 43, +Duane, husband Zaitz, Ann, 3, +Frank Zaitz and Honor of Riley Lehew Volpe, Marion, 30, +John & Agnes Zornik, parents Krasovec, Bernice, 3, +Mary Hiza Kimmel, Sylvia, 50, +Christy Southard Kamnikar, Steve, 89, +Kamnikar family Kamnikar, Terry, 89, +Kernz family Roland, Virginia, 103, +Mr. & Mrs. Andy Susman Leskovar, Corinne, 99, SUA Grozdanik, Judith and Christina, 50, +Grozdanik, Vercek, and Sever families Rossi, Dorothy, 16, +Mary Novak Walter, Josie, 89, +Margie Walter and +Josie Argubright Chepeck, Rose, 43, +Antonette Needham Hennelly, Dolores, 16, +Mildred James Kolosov, Helene, 99, +parents Todd-Fellows, Mary, 2, +Deceased members of Branch 2

Barbarich, Paul, 5, +Sophie Broknik Barbarich Marquardt, Lydia, 20, +Leroy H. Marquardt Orazem, Linda, 35, Honor of Anne Orazem Marel, Eleanor, 26, SUA Hoppenyan, Shirley May, 33, SUA Riddlebaugh, Mary Jane, 50, SUA Golf, Mary Lou, 20, +Mary Barbic Tiedmann, Marie, 2, +Mary Koscak Samargia, Kathy, 35, +Pauline Lopp Cazin, Linda, 35, +Bernice Cazin Cazin, Christopher, 35, +Rudy Cazin Briddick, Beverly, 89, SUA Malensek, Anton, 93, SUA

Donation \$5 Birsa, Joann, 3, SUA Oberman, Sarah Elizabeth, 50, SUA Bledsoe, Henrietta, 100, +Frances Martin Burich, Antonia, 30, +Anton "Tony" A. Burich Kunovar, Irene, 43, +Ivan Kunovar, +Joze Starich, and Honor of Irene Kunovar Terselic, Nancy, 103, +Terselic family Rabb, Marlys, 35, Zarja Hakala, Patricia, 35, +Frances R. Anzelc Wiley, Betty, 3, +George & Elizabeth Skube Batic-Sciarrabba, Beverly, 50, +Mary Batic, mother Novak, Amalija, 99, SUA Lesnik, John, 20, SUA Lesnik, Joan, 20, SUA Lesnik, Julie, 20, SUA Glavich, Agnes, 3, SUA Novince, Anne, 50, SUA Olson, Olivia, 99, SUA Mavec, Eric, 99, SUA Mayec, Michael, 99, SUA Ferrante, Kathleen, 47, +Elsie Speillacy

Ferguson, William, 20, +Anna (Terlep) Zerwett Fooy, Dori Kregar, 55, +Frank Kregar Fooy, Nicolas Thomas, 55,

+Milka Kregar Kobe, Charlene, 20, SUA Kobe, William, 20, SUA Gacnik, Patricia, 3, SUA Glowienka, Frances, 43, +Mary Kokalj

Rooney, Marcella, 33, SUA

Hartnett, Janet, 30, SUA Soltesz, Lucinda, 109, SUA Bregant, Mary (Mici), 43, +Ed Bregant Wagner, Antonia, 26, SUA Kranjec, Marie, 99, SUA O'Block, Phyllis, 26, SUA Gorenc, M. Lillian, 43, SUA Doherty, Elizabeth, 13, SUA Behrman, Helene, 16, +Anne Klobucar Behrman, Alexis Anne, 16, SUA Behrman, Ryne Robert, 16, SUA Rapaic, Antonia, 30, +Franc Tomsic, Ljubljana

Lemerande, Rose, 102, +Dorothy Petkovsek, great-grandmother Motta, Frances, 103, +Angelica Verant

Kovic, Judy, 20,

+Helen (Malesich) Darin Tomac, Darla, 20, SUA Bencin, Diane, 50, +Molly Mauer Elish, Jeannette Zaman, 10, +Jennie Zaman Steensland, Janet, 20, SUA

Orrego, Helena, 108, SUA Larson, Charlene, 20, SUA Benac, Helen, 20, SUA Bossard, Mary Kay, 47, Honor of Mary Kociancic

Figurowski, Patricia, 20, SUA Kern, Sophia, 71, +Richard J Kern Baum, Helen, 3,

+Cecilia Adamic Kostka Galle, Dennis, 20, SUA Kamnikar, Johnathan, 89, +Grandpa Kamnikar Androjna, Francka, 50, SUA Thorpe, Sheryl, 5, +Deceased members of Branch 5

Zab, Joseph, 42, SUA Tanita, Cynthia, 100,

+Frances K Kinkopf Tanita, Alexis, 100.

+Frances K. Kinkopf Zaletel, Wilma, 1,

+Willian A. Zaletel, Sr.

Kwiecinski, Mary Anne, 35,

+Mary Krebs

Kopfensteiner, Kathleen, 2, SUA Zuponcic, Helen, 35,

Honor Margaret Cina Ferkul, Mary, 35, SUA

TRIGLAV OR BUST

Donation \$25

Vlasic, Maria, 99, Triglav or Bust - Paula's Trek

Welcome New Members

- 1, Klein, Rose Marie
- 2, Desnica, Angela
- 3, Barker, Mary Ann
- 5, Grill, Robert
- 16, Machek, Judith
- 20, Anzelc, Mike
- 20, DelRaso, Karen
- 20, Egizio, JoAnn
- 20, Koff, Jennifer
- 20, Lausch, Kathleen
- 23. Donahue, Blake
- 23, Johnson, Maureen
- 23, Niemela, Judith
- 23, Rodich, Rick
- 23, Schwochert, Ryan
- 23, Stage, Ginny
- 30, Bollich, Joan
- 30, Bratina, Barbara
- 30, Bratina-Burns, Ludmila
- 30, Michael, Peg
- 30, Spreitzer, John
- 35, Madzey, Katherine
- 43, Urh, John L.
- 43, Urh, Loretta A.
- 50. Mertel, Lisa
- 89, Ernat, Janice
- 89, Kamnikar, Lydia
- 89, Lyons, Barbara
- 89, Novack, Ava
- 89, Novack, John
- 89, Novack, Rebecca
- 89, Taylor, Charles
- 93, Byrne, Molly
- 93, Dennis, Paul
- 93, Whiteley, Metza
- 99, Bajda, Marty
- 99, Collins, Lilia Ann
- 99, Mavec, Eric
- 99, Olson, Olivia
- 100, Fajnor, Ana Maria
- 100, Fajnor, Jacob E.
- 103, Tugberk, Vuka
- 103, Zadnik, Grace Rose
- 103, Zadnik, Hope Katherine
- 103, Zadnik, Leighton Rudolph
- 108, Konchar, Mark D.
- 110, Carmody, Candi
- 110, Dantzig, Julia
- 110, Hocevar, Mike
- 110, Kepic, Theresa 110, McGihon, Marty
- 110, Olson, Shelly

May/June 2013 7

SWU Scholarship Foundation

by Mary Turvey, SWU Scholarship Director

Dr. Dorothyann Zakrasek Lindes 1967 SWU Scholarship Recipient

Long Time Supporter of the Program

Dr. Dorothyann Zakrasek Lindes, a 1967 SWU Scholarship recipient and long time supporter of the program, has graciously submitted an account of her educational and fascinating career experiences.

Dr. Dorothyann Lindes wrote the following message which accompanied her writing: "I hope that my enclosed overview of my career will inspire other young women who are bestowed scholarships."

"My name is Dorothyann (Zakrasek) Lindes. In 1967, I was awarded a SWU Scholarship to encourage me in my pre-medical studies at Creighton University. I graduated "summa cum laude" in 1971 and was accepted in the University of Nebraska School of Medicine (before Title IX was passed in 1972 and when less than 10 % of U.S. Medical students were women). In my class of 200, there were six women. In 1975, I received my M.D. degree and entered a three year residency in Family Practice at Grant Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. This was very challenging, as we were the only residents in a 600 bed hospital (no specialty residents), so we experienced very intensive training in all branches of medicine, including obstetrics.

I married a physician in 1976 and we joined a private rural practice (1978) in the West Elk Wilderness of Colorado, where six underground coal mines operated around the clock. We treated a great deal of trauma patients and, as doctors, we were the "first responders" who then notified the ambulance volunteers. During those six years, two beautiful sons, Eli and Derek, were born. It was very challenging with the constant emergencies and so, in 1984, we moved to Cleveland, Ohio. There, I joined a Family Practice group of nine; I was the only female physician for the 17 years I practiced there. Obstetrics was a large part of my work, and I delivered over 1,000 babies. It was always so miraculous and joyful, but the responsibility and time input was constantly competing with the time needed to care for my family. In 1988, after my mother-in-law (who cared for the children when we were at the office) died of leukemia from her radiation exposure near Rock Flats in



1957, I stopped doing obstetrics. I continued all other aspects of Family Practice on Oahu in Hawaii. For 11 years, I continued my work, even running all aspects of my business the last three years. In June 2011, I retired and feel very blest.

I always felt that medicine was a calling to service as a "universal servant." I am very touched by all the memories of the beautiful acts of kindness of my patients over 36 years. I am grateful for the privilege of serving them and humbled by the trust they placed in me for their care.

I am thankful for my Slovene heritage, for the strong determination required to preserve my profession, and to the Slovenian Union of America for their encouragement and support through their scholarship program. With best wishes on life's journey, Dorothyann Lindes, M.D."

CELEBRATING 64 YEARS OF FINANCIALLY ASSISTING STUDENTS

Mission: To generate funding to financially assist students with hope that they will promote and preserve Slovenian culture.

MARIE PRISLAND'S BOOK - "FROM SLOVENIA TO AMERICA"

Marie Prisland's granddaughter, Katie Dicke Gorton, now holds the copyright for her grandmother's book, "From Slovenia to America." Recently she gave permission to McGraw Hill Publishing Company to copy the first page of Marie's book, "Ladies First," the well known account of Marie's first experience when she stepped out onto Ellis Island. McGraw Hill sent Katie a check in return for the permit. The excerpt is being used in their United States History & Geography program in print, online, and in eBook format. Katie has donated the proceeds, after tax deduction, to the SWU Scholarship Foundation.

Great-granddaughter, Lauren Fetsch, did an internship during her 2011 fall semester of college at the Sewall-Belmont House and Museum History Center, in Washington, D.C. The archives contain histories and documents of women and progress toward equality. Lauren presented archivists at the Sewell-Belmont Museum with Marie Prisland's book, some biographical information, a picture of Marie in her suffragette costume, and articles written about her work for women's rights during her life.

SWU SCHOLARSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

Those applying for SWU Scholarships for College Students must hold paid membership in the SUA for three years prior to application. Their parents or grandparents need not be members of SUA. Applicants for the Rose Marie Princ Scholarship for a Graduate Student do not have to be members of SUA, but do have to have one parent of Slovenian ancestry.

Hvala, hvala to all of our generous donors and supporters! Your contributions are an investment in the future. Education received can not ever be taken away.

Happy Mother's Day to our dear Mothers, wherever they are. They have been and will always be our number one cheerleaders.

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For further information on SWU Scholarships, or to send a most appreciated donation to SWU Scholarship Foundation (tax exempt), please contact:

Mary Turvey, 4 Lawrence Drive, Marquette, Michigan, 49855 mturvey@aol.com
or Marge Church, 1028 Skyland Drive, Macedonia, Ohio, 44056 yemec1@windstream.net

Death of a Surname

By George Plautz, Zarja Staff Writer A Record of Immigration

Slovenian Pioneers to America 1840-1879

We continue with our immigrants from Stearns County, Minnesota, and Clinton County, Iowa. I have discovered another immigrant in Pennsylvania and I wonder what brought these families to the Johnstown area. If you know your ancestors came before 1872 and I have not listed them before, please let me know. Two family genealogists provided updates on their family lines. These contacts were made through the Slovenian Genealogy Society, International, Inc. If you are on Facebook there is a face page moderated by Mary Artac Urban and can be found listed as Slovenian Genealogy (Genealogy 2000). Many people are working their research on the page and many contacts and help is provided. Contact information at the end of this column.

UPDATE: 1852-During this year, George Lorditsch, arrived in Pennsylvania. He was born April 19, 1826, and died December 15, 1912. He was one of the first employees of the Cambria Iron Company. He was married to Catherine Wess, the daughter of John and Tekla Wess, who was born in Germany in 1843 and died August 12, 1910. In 1857, Catherine married George Lorditsch in New Germany, Pennsylvania. At the time of Catherine's and George's deaths there were 25 grandchildren and 11 greatgrandchildren. Margaret Lorditsch married Lawrence Bopp. Cresentia Lorditsch married John Fees. Thanks to Brian Pozun for the information on a branch of his family's surname.

UPDATE: May 26, 1866-During this year Peter Gorsche arrived in America. His parents, John Gorse (born June 4, 1797) and Ana Bradjic (born December 13, 1807), were from Zapudje house number 9 in Dragatus Parish. Peter's brother, John, arrived during the same year but not by the same ship. Peter's wife's name is Sophia and they had three children, settling in St. Louis, Missouri. John and Peter had other siblings: Nicholas, born October 19, 1830; Catarina, born September 25, 1833; Maria, born July 8, 1841; and Anna, born January 25, 1850. All children were born in Zapudje. Barbara Tomec, the wife of John Gorsche, was born on February 7, 1861, in Zapudje, house number 6, Dragatus Parish. Her parents were Peter Tomec and Ana Gorse; they were married April 13, 1842, in Dragatus Parish. Barbara's siblings were: Peter, born January 8, 1843; Maria, born December 1, 1845; John, born August 12, 1847; Catharina, born February 19, 1849; George, born August 19, 1852; and Anna, born August 19, 1853. Thanks to Bob Muelleman for information on his family.

January 22, 1866-On this date Peter Stubler, his wife Anna Kren, and sons Peter, Joseph, Francis Xavier, and Jacob

arrive in New York and settle near New Germany, Pennsylvania. Peter, born about 1816 in Crnomelj Parish, Slovenia, married Anna Kren on January 18, 1846, in Crnomelj Parish. Anna Kren, born about 1822, was living at Svibnik house number 5, at the time of the marriage. The family lived primarily in Oil City, Venango County, Pennsylvania. All that is known is that Peter died about 1888. His son, Peter C. Stubler, was born May 30, 1847, in Svibnik, house number 5, Crnomelj Parish; married Katherine Walsh about 1870. Peter and Katherine had two children: Edward Aloysius, born August 4, 1871, in Erie, Erie County, Pennsylvania, died July 9, 1947, in Tulsa, Tulsa County, Oklahoma, and Mary Agnes, born March 4, 1878, and died October 16, 1950. Katherine Walsh Stubler was born about 1853 and died about 1873. Peter C. Stubler then married Mary Elizabeth Weaver on April 3,1873; she was born about 1861 and died about 1933. Peter's and Mary's children were: Miriam, birth date unknown, died April 1980, in Bradford, Kean County, Pennsylvania; Francis Arthur, born February 24, 1885, died April 23, 1916, in Oil City; Anna, born March 30, 1887, died August 9, 1970; Peter, born April 16, 1893, married Julia Irene Sterner, died October 25, 1973; John George, born October 30, 1895, married Melania Loretta Judy, died February 4, 1980; Joseph Harold, born September 23, 1897, died February 27, 1916, in Oil City; Eugene Frederick, born March 5, 1899, died November 22, 1977; and Catherine, born about 1901, died March 6, 1921, in Tucson, Pima County, Arizona. Peter C. Stubler died on November 29, 1912, in Oil City, Venango County, Pennsylvania. Peter and Anna Stubler's son, Joseph, was born June 5, 1852, in Svibnik house number 5, in Crnomelj Parish and died August 5, 1932, in Oil City, Venango County, Pennsylvania. Francis Xavier was born June 16, 1857, in Svibnik house number 5, Crnomelj Parish, married Mollie B. Moran, on April 28, 1886, died December 17, 1909, in Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. Jacob, born May 1862 in Crnomelj Parish, married Amelia Mollie Lueb Kemans on May 22, 1886, in Eau Claire, Chippewa County, Wisconsin, and died on June 1, 1918, in Duluth, St. Louis County, Minnesota. In the 1870 U.S. Census for Oil City, Venango County, both Peters (those born in 1816 and 1847) are living with George Stubler, possibly a brother of Peter; there is no occupation for them. In the 1880 U.S. Census, Peter Stubler is a hotel keeper, and his brother, Jacob, is a bartender, brother Joseph is living with his brother-in-law, M. Mullerich, his wife is Elizabeth, age 22, possibly a sister to Joseph, and his brothers. In the 1900 U.S. Census, Peter C. is a wholesale liquor distributor.

August 4, 1866-On this date Lucas Mensinger arrives in Baltimore, Baltimore County, Maryland. He settled in

Brockway, Stearns County, Minnesota. Lucas was born about 1837 in Slovenia and died June 4, 1925, in St. Stephen's, Minnesota. Lucas married Agnes Blenkush, the daughter of Caspar Blenkush and Mary Louticher on May 5, 1871, in St. Anthony, Hennepin County, Minneosta. Agnes Blenkush was born on May 1, 1847, in Kranjska Gora and died June 17, 1906, in St. Stephen's. The following children were born to Lucas and Agnes: Franciska, born March 7, 1872, died June 16, 1902; Mary, born about 1873, died about 1890; Joseph, born February 11, 1875, married Rosaline Supan on July 8, 1906, in St. Stephen's, and died on March 2, 1944; Aloysius, born September 19, 1878, died November 30, 1905; Frank Method, born July 26, 1880, died about 1940 in Los Angeles County, California; Anna, born June 17, 1882, died February 26, 1906; Edward Joseph, born February 17, 1885, died in Colorado; Angelica, born in May of 1887. Edward and Frank moved to Pueblo, Colorado, and worked as printers in a local print shop; Edward shows up in the 1940 U.S. Census in Pueblo as a printer. I could find no record if either Frank or Edward were married when they died. Lucas Mensinger was a farmer in St. Stephen's (Brockway), Minnesota.

1867-During this year, Mathias Fercy, born 1847, arrives in Brockway, Stearns County, Minnesota. He married Catharina Gerdesic in Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Minnesota, on November 11, 1884. Mathias and Kate had the following children: Stephen, born about 1886; Joseph, born about 1887; Cyril, born about 1889; Frank, born about 1891; and Severin, born about 1895. I cannot find this surname anywhere after 1895; I think it's possible the family went back to Slovenia or the surname changed drastically in transposition of census data.

1870-Before this year, John Blenkus, born October 14, 1841, in Kranjska Gora, Slovenia, arrived in St. Stephen, Stearns County, Minnesota. His parents are Casper Blenkus and Mary Louticher. Several of John's siblings also immigrated to St. Stephen's. In 1870, John Blenkush married Margaret Pleml, daughter of Bartel Pleml and Helena Bergant. Margaret arrived in Minnesota in 1865. Margaret and John had the following children in St. Stephen's: Mary, born October 24, 1871, married Frank Obermiller, died December 30, 1911; Margaret, born January 17, 1873, married Frank Hassler, died February 14, 1955, in Perham, Minnesota; Cecelia, born November 14, 1874, married Frank Sand, died December 16, 1958, in Cando, North Dakota; John, born January 13, 1876, in North Dakota, died in Cando, North Dakota; Joanna, born September 11, 1877, married Nick Schirmers, died February 1981, in Avon, Minnesota; and Stefan, born 1879, died March 29, 1879, in St. Stephen's. Margaret died in 1879 and John then married Rose Zemwa, on August 3, 1879, in St. Stephen's. John and Rose had the following children: Gertrude, born June 16, 1880, married Mathias Notch, October 6, 1896, died November 16, 1959, in Sherburne, Minnesota; and Christel Lawrence, born April 9, 1882, married Josephine Evangeline Blanchette, and died May 23, 1978, in Duluth, Minnesota. John Blenkus died June 7, 1882, in St. Stephen's, Minnesota. He died of wounds suffered when kicked by a horse. John was a farmer. Rose Zemwa Blenkush married Andrew Supan after John died.

Many descendants are researching the Blenkus surname. 1871-During this year Joseph Luskey came to Clinton County, Iowa. Joseph was born July 14, 1853, in Suchen 2, Koprivnik Parish, the son of Josef Loschke and Margaretha Rom. He married Anna Jerman about 1878 in Iowa. Anna Jerman was born July 26, 1859, in Slovenia, the daughter of Michael Jerman and Magdalena Black; she immigrated about 1875. Joseph and Anna had the following children: Joseph, born about 1879, married Clare Schierdner, died about 1945; Mathew, born about 1882, died about 1943; John Joseph, born January 26, 1883, married Catherine Pluth on October 26, 1909, in Minnesota, daughter of Martin Edward Pluth and Mary Peschel, born December 7, 1886, died October 13, 1987; John died on December 7, 1945, in Grey Eagle, Todd County, Minnesota; Anna Clara, born January 28, 1885, married John Hurla on April 6, 1910, died October 15, 1967; Henry, born September 1886, married Loretta Stukle, daughter of Stephen Stukel and Mary Skalla; Louis George, born October 15, 1893, married Ludwina Franzen on January 25, 1927, died February 8, 1934; Frank, born September 1896, married Eva Banowetz on January 23, 1929, daughter of Mathias Banovec and Katharerine Franzen, died about 1931; Antone J., born September 1897, married Rose Mary Green Stille on April 23, 1924; Marie E., born June 1, 1900, married Leo Simon Agnitsch on October 17, 1922, and died on December 2, 1960. Joseph was a Gottscheer, a descendant of German immigrants to Slovenia in the 1500's. Farming was the principle occupation in Clinton County,

1871-During this year Mathias Banovec arrives in America and settles in Clinton County, Iowa. Mathias, born March 1, 1861, in Strazni Vrh house number 32, Crnomelj Parish, Slovenia is the son of Michael Banovec and Gertrude Stonitsch, who also accompanied their son to Iowa. Mathias's brother, John Banovec, arrived in America in 1866 and is listed in a previous article. Mathias married Katherine Franzen on April 2, 1883, in Sugar Creek, Clinton County, Iowa. Mathias and Katherine were the parents of the following children: Michael Matthew, born February 9, 1884, in Iowa City, Wright County, Iowa, married Wilhelmina Reuter, and died on February 1, 1911, in Iowa City; Christine Wilhelmina, born August 28, 1885, in Clinton, Clinton County, Iowa, married Henry Herman Trenkamp, and died on April 6, 1921, in Preston, Jackson County, Iowa; William, born on March 25, 1889, in Clinton, married Madyalena Zeiser, and died on December 1, 1985, in Clinton; Mary, born April 18, 1889, in Clinton, married Antone Derganz, and died on April 19, 1921, in Waterford, Clinton County; Katherine Elizabeth, born on February 9, 1892, in Iowa City, married Peter Reuter, and died on March 15, 1978, in Preston, Jackson County, Iowa; Helena, born April 29, 1893, in Clinton County, married John Mathias Reuter, and died in June 1974, in Dixon, Lee County, Illinois; Elizabeth Marie, born July 23, 1894, in Sugar Creek, Clinton County, married Alvis Lawrence Rose, and died on March 11, 1917, in Clinton, Clinton County; Theresa, born November 1896, married John Dunn on February 7, 1922; Anna, born November 20, 1898, in Iowa City, married Orie Continued on page 16

Antonja:

Growing Up in Gottschee

By David G. Sodac, Branch 89

The Gleibaesch haus nr. 14, circa 1900's, as seen in the online Hermann "fotobuch" collection. Antonja reported the roof as being thatched in the late 1800's, now updated with shingles.

In the lower central region of today's Republic of Slovenia, nestled near the border of Croatia, was once a most unique territory of transplanted Germans, surrounded by Slovenian countrymen. The German historian, Erich Petschauer, referred to the settlement, carved out of what was once considered as an uninhabitable dense forest, a German-linguistic island. The settlement was called the duchy of Gottschee. Its inhabitants were referred to as "Gottscheers." Through the years a unique spoken language of German and Slovenian evolved and was referred to as

"Gottscheerisch." Many of the neighboring Slovenian village inhabitants moved into the region, mingled, and inter-married with the Gottscheers, blending cultures, languages, and traditions forever.

In the early 1840's, train lines developed by the Austrian Empire opened up transportation and facilitated movement throughout much of the Empire, including opportunities within the duchy of Gottschee. The major cities of Vienna, Trieste, and then Laibach (Ljubljana) were connected by railway. A train line linking the main city of Gottschee to the capital city of Laibach, in the crown land of Carniola, was completed in the early 1890's. The Gottscheer people began to venture outside their borders more readily and for longer distances because of these train routes. The train to Laibach greatly enhanced the opportunities for peddler trade for the Gottscheer men. Laibach (Ljubljana), the capital city of Carniola, became a major European railway hub. Progress was affecting everything and everybody. By the late 1800's, the Gottschee territory had grown to 176 villages, organized into townships and parishes. Twenty-six thousand people populated the lands.



Today, there are almost no more traces of the descendants of this small German ethnic group residing in that forested region of Slovenia. The German transplants that settled the area existed for just 600 years and are now scattered all over the world, many to North America. They were driven out by the selfishness of wars, the wrath of Hitler, and the seductions of the modern world. During World War II, after the reluctant German citizens of Gottschee territory refused to join the Third Reich, Hitler forced them out of their adopted homeland. Twelve thousand Gottschee refugees were relocated into the German Reich-controlled town of Brezice, Slovenia. By 1942, most of the Gottscheer lands, villages, and homes were laid to waste and destroyed in retaliation for not joining the Third Reich. The region today is called Kočevska, Slovenia. The former main city is known as Kočevje. The duchy of Gottschee, from 1890 to 1899, is the setting for the following story of Antonja Papež. Antonja was a young Slovenian girl, who moved into the area as a six year old, and was greatly influenced by its people. Antonja remained in the Gottschee region until she immigrated to America.

In the small, northern border Gottschee village of Neulag, in the autumn of 1892, Johannes Hegler passed away at the elderly age of 82. Johannes' wife preceded him in death, four years earlier. Their four children had



The village of Neulag, Gottschee, circa 1900's. The photos were reportedly taken by the German government as part of chronologically arranging all the villages, buildings, and house structures throughout Gottschee.

all moved on with their own lives, away from their birth home. Johannes and his family had been residing in the *Gliebaesch* house, numbered 14. The *Gliebaesch* house was named after the surname of the original builder. It would continue on with that moniker until the village of Neulag became abandoned and dismantled, sometime during the early stages of World War II. The house was situated on the distant hillside over-looking the quaint village of Neulag (meaning *New Town*), near the village of Altlag (meaning *Old Town*). The village of Altlag was the parish and the church center for Neulag as well. With the passing of Johannes Hegler, a new family would soon be moving into the *Gliebaesch*.

he Martin and Marija Papež family were looking forward to a new start in a new village. A move might be helpful in overcoming the emotional loss of their nine month old infant son, Josephus, who died in November 1889. It was the second loss of an infant in six years for his wife Marija, and the third such tragedy for Martin. Martin's two year old daughter, Karolina, from his first marriage to Margareth Škufca, passed away in 1881. Margareth had died shortly after giving birth to Karolina, due to post-birthing complications, leaving Martin a young widow with two children. Shortly after the death of his daughter and wife, Martin married Marija Oberstar from the neighboring village of Prevol. With all the sorrow that the family faced, it was time for life to get better. Martin and Marija knew they would be leaving their extended family support behind in their home village of Ratje, but also needed this new beginning. Ratje would be only a short distance of 25 miles away.

Young Antonja Papež, who was turning seven years of age, was very excited about her parents' discussion about moving. This would be a thrilling adventure, having lived all her life in the same house number

36 in Ratje. It seemed to her that everybody was moving away; why not her? At least it wasn't as far away as her Uncle Štefan and Aunt Uršula Oberstar were moving! They were already booked for passage on a huge steamer and planned to travel all the way to America, taking with them her two favorite cousins, Anna and Elizabeth. All three cousins were close in age and lived in neighboring villages. She'd miss them. Her Uncle Johannes, her mother's younger brother, had already left and was living in America, in La Salle, Illinois. A move will be just fine; she needed her own journey.

The Slovenian village of Ratje, within the duchy of Rudolfswerth, was near the upper border of the Germanic Gottschee territory. It was within this German land that the Papež family had decided to relocate. It was well known that the land was primarily Germanic, but many Slovenes were relocating into the area. As both Martin and Marija were ethnic Slovenians, they were slightly apprehensive about the move into a primarily German settlement territory. Their country had been under the dual monarchies of the Austro-Hungarian Empire for quite a while. They had grown accustomed to the many Germanic

and language dialects spoken, as well as life under Austrian rule. Despite any language concerns, the Gottschee opportunity offered a large acreage of land for farming and was most enticing. They knew of others who had moved into the territory and they were prospering. The Martin and Marija Papež family chose to move and settled upon an established house in the outskirts of the village of Neulag. The house was named the "Gliebaesch" 14, after the original builder, and it had just recently become available for lease following the death of the last resident, Johannes Hegler. The local parish priest entered into the church's familienbuch (literally "family book") the date of 4 May 1890 as the day the Papež family, formerly of Hinje parish, took up residence within haus 14 in the adjoining village of Neulag.

For Antonja, it was all thrilling! Such open spaces, beautiful mountain views, and woods to play within. The thatched-roof house was built on a foundation made of the stones that were removed from the surrounding fields. The house was constructed on the side of a hill, so that one side of the foundation was completely exposed. A basement barn was built into that exposed foundation and faced outwards to the meadow. They would play down there when the oxen weren't occupying the space. Antonja was the oldest child and only daughter of Martin and Marija Papež. She was always very helpful to her mother, taking care of her younger brothers, Lorenz and Primosh, and knew how to stay away from the constant teasing of Anton,

her 14 year old stepbrother. She loved the fruit orchards that the previous owners had planted around the acreage. The entire hillside was a great place for playing hide and seek with her brothers. Her father had warned them all to be alert to the presence of the native brown bear, grey wolves, and the elusive, spotted lynx that inhabited the rugged, forested countryside.

The inside of the house offered much more space for their family of six and the pending arrival of a new baby. The open fire pit was situated in the middle of the one- room house. Large steps surrounded the fire pit and were used as a sleeping platform by the Papež children. Antonja and her brothers all gathered around the glowing embers during the cold, harsh winters, where they slept comfortably, snug and warm on their corn husk-stuffed mattresses. The new house was wonderful. Her older stepbrother, Anton, didn't enjoy the move quite as well as the rest of the children. It meant more hard labor in the fields working with his father; more boulders to be hauled out from the ground, hooking up the oxen for more soil to be tilled and made ready for the spring planting. It was all very strenuous work for a 14 year old, but he loved the time spent alone with his father and away from the pesky, younger kids. He felt like an adult.

The day would break early, at around 5:00 in the morning, for all of the Papež family. Father would rouse the slumbering family by loudly reciting the Lord's Prayer, to awaken the household and signal their need to begin daily chores. Each member had their own responsibilities to take care of before breakfast was served. The fire pit had to be stoked, the animals fed, the stalls cleaned, and the kettle filled and hung over the fire. There were many winter days that they went out to the fields carrying lanterns for light. The young family flourished there on the hills of Gottschee, although death found its way back to the Papež household and took the lives of three month old Johannes, born that harsh January of 1892, and then six month old Franz, who had been born the following year. Aloys (Louis) was born in March of 1894 and would escape the curse of infant death that plagued the Papež family through the years.

The Catholic church of St. Margareth's, in the neighboring larger village of Altlag, served as the parish for Neulag as well. The assigned German priest made sure his parishioners' faith and sacraments were maintained and recorded faithfully in the church's *famillienbuch*. It was his governmental duty to keep a diligent record of each house's current and former residents in this family book. Births, deaths, marriages, and sacraments were all faithfully recorded as well. It was typical in German



The Parish church of St. Margareth's in Altlag, Gottschee. Photo taken in the 1930's.

communities that a priest was often the only authority the peasant people ever saw, and it was this way as well throughout Gottschee parishes. The Papež parents instilled strong religious values and piety in their children. They devotedly traveled the distance to Altlag to attend Sunday Mass and celebrated each child's milestone sacraments. They would often remain in the village as a social activity, sharing their meals in the large hall-tavern, enjoying the developing friendships, and catching up on the political news and controversies of the day.

The Papež family would receive occasional letters from Antonja's Uncle Štefan and Aunt Uršula, that arrived from Cleveland, Ohio, in America. What a treat to hear the tales of their lives from a land far-reaching across the ocean. They always encouraged the family to join them in Cleveland. There was a growing number of immigrant Slovenians residing there that were very welcoming and helpful to their fellow countrymen from the motherland. There also was a very large contingent of immigrants from within their own Gottschee region settling there. There were good jobs to be had working the mines, that paid very handsomely. Antonja's older stepbrother, Anton, had the same intrigue of the unknown and restlessness that was prevalent of young men throughout most of Europe at the time. The mystery and the offerings of a new land were very enticing. Anton answered that wanderlust urge and left the Papež family for America. He was almost 18, and a young man who needed to find himself. Anton immigrated near his relatives in Cleveland, Ohio, America.

A letter from her Aunt Uršula arrived, encouraging Martin and Marija to consider a marriage proposal for Antonja, now 15 years of age. She shared that there was a Slovenian immigrant from near their village in Gottschee, who had expressed an interest in marrying a young woman from his village area. He had heard about Antonja from her Aunt and would like her to come to America and meet him. He was an older, established man and a hard worker. He could provide for Antonia. Antonia was always considered an adventuresome soul, but to be shoved abruptly from her adolescence into adulthood... was unsettling. To hear her name spoken in the context of a marriage arrangement to a man she had never met... was unthinkable. To leave her family and cross thousands of miles over a horrendous ocean, to an unfamiliar land... was unfathomable. There was much discussion, but no decision. She needed time to make such a bold decision. Her Aunt's request totally caught her off guard. Any final decision was delayed when Antonja's father, Martin Papež, took ill that late summer and died on the 1st of September, 1899. Martin was buried at the St. Margareth's church cemetery in Altlag and his death was recorded by their parish priest in the famillienbuch. His passing left behind a grieving widow, Marija (age 46 yrs.), daughter Antonja (age 15 yrs.), sons Lorenz (age 13 yrs.), Primosh (age 12 yrs.), and 5 year old Alois, to begin the fall's harvest and prepare for another harsh winter.

The newly widowed Marija had daunting decisions to be made. With her husband's passing she wouldn't be able to afford the rent and the provisions necessary to raise four children from the ages of 5 to 15. There was the feeding and care of the animals to consider; the harvesting of the crops; the chopping, collecting, and splitting of the firewood to make it through the winter. The boys had always helped their father with these chores, but he had carried most of the responsibility and



Young Antonja at 17 years of age.

decision-making to see them through. In the winter months Martin had provided much needed added income for the growing expenses by peddling perfume and scarves for a German-based company. He would travel by train to the large capital city of Laibach and peddle the items from a cart pushed on the streets. When everything was sold, he'd return home to his family. Now, where would this extra income source come from?

The Papež family made their decision. They prepared for a move before the heavy snows and harsh winter was upon them. They would move back with relatives in the village of Ratje until their hearts and minds were clearer and not as heavy with grief. It did, however, seem to be an advantageous move for Antonja to leave her family and move to America. Plans were readied; her passport and passage was arranged. She would be accompanied on her voyage to Cleveland, Ohio, with another young woman, Gertrude Mrocher, and her sister Emma, both from the Gottschee village of Altlag. They, too, were moving to be with relatives in Cleveland.

The wide-eyed Antonja departed for her journey to America on May 8, 1900, aboard the S.S. Kaiserin Maria Theresia, sailing out of the Port of Bremen, Germany. She would travel to reach the port of New York; an anxious and queasy eight days in steerage accommodations. After docking at the German Lloyd's Harbor, she would be ferried to Ellis Island for processing for entry into America. After all the stages of uncomfortable and often humiliating inspections, she would be allowed to purchase a train ticket for Cleveland, Ohio, and there be met by family. Her ship's manifest showed that her final American destination was at the address of her Aunt and Uncle in Cleveland. She became known in America as Antonia Popish and worked briefly as a servant at a Slovenian men's boarding house run by Frank and Mary Korchever, on Burke Street in

Cleveland. She did meet the man who had wished to marry her, but declined his offer. After only one month, she boarded a train headed for Chicago. Arriving in Chicago, she transferred trains and traveled on to La Salle, Illinois, where her mother's younger brother, John Oberstar, and his wife, Ana, were residing. Her legacy in America would begin. Antonia Popish eventually would marry twice, mourn the deaths of two husbands, and give birth to 10 children. This adventurous woman, my maternal grandmother, lived to be a glorious and satisfied 99 years and 8 months.

She may not have been born a Gottscheer, but she truly exemplified the resiliency and irrepressible spirit that its people embodied.

Note: Antonja was joined in America two years later by her mother, Marija Papež (Mary Popish), who lived out her life in Aspen, Colorado, and her three younger brothers - Primosh Papež (Popish), who raised his family in Aspen, Colorado, Lorenz Papež (Lawrence Popish), who left Aspen and lived his life out in California, and Alois Papež (Louis Popish), who left Aspen and raised his family in California and later, Oregon. It has been just in the past five years that descendants of all these families have reconnected.

Continued from page 11... McCloy and died in December 1973, in Delmar, Clinton County; Josephine, born March 21, 1900, in Charlotte, Clinton County, married Leo Fuegen, and died on April 8, 1977, in Sugar Creek, Clinton County; Joseph J., born November 19, 1902, in Iowa City, married Pauline Caroline Teshak on February 5, 1927, in Jackson County, Iowa, and died on October 22, 1990, in Iowa; Eva, born June 26, 1904, in Clinton County, Iowa, first married Frank Luskey on January 23, 1929, the son of Joseph Loschke and Anna Jerman, then married Anton Baresh after Frank Luskey died, and died on March 23, 1978, in Clinton, Clinton County; John, born July 31, 1907, in Clinton, Clinton County, died on June 21, 1970, in Iowa City; Margaret Ann, born October 13, 1908, in Sugar Creek, Clinton County, married Francis Koch about 1931, and died on August 8, 1969, in Clinton, Clinton County. Pauline Teshak is listed in the previous column and Frank Luskey is listed in this column. The families of Sugar Creek are sometimes related to others who came to America from Slovenia and afterwards through marriages among themselves. Reuter is of German ethnicity. Zeiser is a surname that will be listed in a later column, and Rose was listed in the previous column with the Teshak family. Most of the inhabitants in Clinton County at this time were farmers, some owned stores or provided other services. April 30, 1872-On this date, Simon Oman arrived in New York. He came to Brockway, Minnesota, soon after. Simon is the son of Gregor Oman and Katarina Kosir, brother to



Thomas Oman, listed in a previous column. Simon was born on October 1, 1835, in house number 97 Vas of Gozd, Kranjska Gora, Slovenia. He married Theresa Zwan Leggatt in December of 1875 in Brockway, Stearns County, Minnesota. Simon and Theresa were the parents of the following children, born in Brockway: Simon, born about 1877, died before 1900; Mary J., born January 1878, married Joseph Blenkush on October 15, 1900; John Jerome Robert Msgr., born May 22, 1879, died March 14, 1966, in Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio; Frank J., born November 20, 1880, married Helen Trobec, and died December 1, 1961, in Stearns County; Mathias Emory, born October 17, 1882, died on February 7, 1948, in St. Cloud, Stearns County; Louis, born about 1884, died before 1900; Paul Charles, born January 11, 1886, married Julia Warneke, and died on July 15, 1968, in Grants Pass, Josephine County, Oregon; Rose Regina, born September 10, 1887, died on September 23, 1977, in Little Falls, Morrison County, Minnesota; Joseph P., born March 25, 1889, married Rose Riley; and Michael Francis, born September 13, 1891, married Evelyn McDonald, and died March 1954, in Euclid, Cuyahoga, Ohio. Simon died on June 1, 1917, in Brockway, Stearns County, Minnesota. Simon's and Thomas's brother, Mathias, will be listed in the next column.

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Mary Turvey

Tribute to Long Time Members

by Patricia Budzilek

Reporter's Note: In order to write these articles I like to personally interview the subject, but that was an impossibility because Mary Turvey lives in Northern Michigan, and I live in Cleveland, Ohio. Consequently, I asked Mary to send me information that I could use to write an article, and was pleasantly surprised when I received this wonderful article from her which is printed here almost in its entirety. Thank you, Mary!



hen authors write their biographies three issues come into play. First, there are many deserving Slovenian Union/ Slovenian Women's Union members who have dedicated much time and energy to the promotion and preservation of Zveza. Second, many writers are not boastful and want to remain blended into society. Third, the author has to examine how he or she has spent a lifetime and review once again good and bad decisions, emotional trials, and events of the past.

My name is Mary Fischer Turvey and I was born into a loving, faith-filled, hard-working family in Sheboygan, Wisconsin. I was the oldest of four children in a welladjusted and happy family in the village of Kohler, WI. During the mid 1950's, however, a very difficult situation arose when some employees of the Kohler Company, including my father, went on strike. This tragedy lasted seven years during which time I was attending high school, walking past the Kohler Company which had machine guns mounted on its roof, and racketeers from Detroit releasing tear gas as the employees, some of which were my friends' fathers, entered and left the plant each day. People were beat up, homes damaged, and families parted, never to speak to each other again. My father left for work in northern Wisconsin, while my mother took care of us and our home on a limited budget. Fortunately, our school setting was a safe haven. Teachers and students did not discuss the strike much, and our small class of 21 students remains very close to this day. Grandmother Marie Prisland, SWUA's founder, helped me through this tough time, encouraging me to study hard, working on my clothing and appearance, and giving me great support and confidence.

I met the love of my life and married after high school. Dan and I were blessed with four handsome children who all earned college degrees and continue to contribute to the betterment of society, each in their own field of expertise. These four produced five shining star

grandchildren whom we enjoy; sharing their progress as they grow into young, successful adults.

Like most young mothers, I served as a Girl Scout leader, Cub Scout leader, church choir member, community chorus member, CCD teacher, and hospital auxiliary volunteer. As the children became older I first went to work as a floral designer and later as a dental assistant. I took classes at Northern Michigan University, and wore out the bottoms of two pairs of cross country skis, and won a cache of golf trophies all while attired in dresses! Four summers were spent tramping through the woods and swamps of Alger County, Upper Michigan, doing bird nesting surveys which were later published in 1991 in the "Atlas of Bird Breeding of Michigan." My membership since 1988 in the Marquette County Genealogy Society continues to this time. Transcriptions of cemetery tombstones are one of our ongoing projects.

In 1983, I caught the most infectious hobby anyone can experience - Genealogy. First I traced Dan's French Canadian ancestors back to the 1500's in France, then I tracked my German ancestor Herman von Schwalenberg to the early 1100's, and my Slovenian ancestor, Thomas Rosenstein, back to 1704. Mitochondrial DNA testing indicates that my earliest traceable maternal ancestor was living in Tuscany, Italy, between 10,000 and 13,000 years ago before that line moved into Slovenia. I hired out as a genealogist and helped many people track down their ancestors, even tracing the history and descendants of one family of eight children who were all adopted and did not know of each other until we held a big family meeting! From 2001 to 2005, I was the author of the "Ask Toncka" column which appeared in each edition of "Zarja - The Dawn," and "The Prisland Girls" series. I met many wonderful Slovenians through these adventures. From 1996 to the present I have authored the SWU Scholarship column which appears in "Zarja" - not missing an edition!

The only scholarship work I had experienced before taking over as director of the Slovenian Women's Union Scholarship Program was as chair of an ad hoc committee which established a scholarship program for the Munising Memorial Hospital Auxiliary in Michigan. When, during a period of two years, the SWUA was unable to find a volunteer to take over its scholarship program, they accepted my application. My aunt, Hermine Prisland Dicke, had directed the program from 1949 until 1991. Carita Girman replaced her for some years, followed by Marge Church, who, while working full time, took over the program temporarily until a permanent director could be found. When my 17 year service began in 1996, the Scholarship checking account held \$7,000 and a CD held \$11,000. From 1996 until 2012, with



Seated: King Peter of Yugoslavia in Kohler, Wisconsin 1949 Standing: Mary Fischer Turvey, Marie Prisland, and Margaret and Robert Fischer

generous gifts from SUA/SWUA members and friends, a number of special, dear benefactors who funded scholarships, and with the dedicated, professional assistance of Marge Church, Vice-President and Treasurer of the SWU Scholarship Foundation, and the communication skills of Pat Figurowski, Secretary of the Foundation, we have been able to award over \$129,000 in annual scholarships! The Slovenian Women's Union Scholarship Foundation became a tax exempt corporation in 1998. In 1996 I had no idea of the scope of this work, and was only answering Aunt Hermine's plea, so that all of her work of many years would not be lost. This is truly charity work for me. I love working with and being with young people, watching them as they progress in their educational pursuits. I feel personally rewarded as they step out into the real world to establish their places in

Dan and I have traveled to a number of countries, including the West Indies; the jungles north of Thailand, where we rode on elephants in a "technicolored" jungle, a most peaceful place on earth; New Brunswick, Canada; Malaysia, where we walked the ruins of St. Francis Xavier's first church; and Singapore. We visited the highlands of Scotland, where we walked on the Culloden Battle Field where Dan's ancestor died; and Ireland, where we climbed into the 5,000 year old passage tombs of Newgrange and Knoweth this past October. During a 1997 tour of Slovenia, I was able to sit in my Grandmother Marie's home, alongside a huge foothill of Recica ob Savinja, and walk into the home of Grandfather John

Prisland at Sentjenz. In all of these regions, as in events and communications with members of the Slovenian Union, and within my own community setting here in Upper Michigan, I find God's beautiful, loving people.

Often as I walk the pristine shores of Lake Superior and the heavily forested trails of Upper Michigan, my mind fills with God's remarkable creation, perfect in every way, evolving as it is. I think of the many gifts of time, teaching, and love that I have received from my parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, teachers, and close friends, and hope that in some small way, those same feelings of warmth, love, and gratitude will be transferred to my own children and grandchildren. My family is my most proud achievement in life.

My basement holds a box of pastels, brushes, paints, and Arches paper waiting to be covered, The computer room holds 17 binders of family documents, photos, and charts which all need to be compiled and written up into a family history. I must March On!

Tribute to Long Time Members

Note: Please notify me if you would like to suggest a SUA/SWUA member to be profiled in this feature. Remember - they must have been active for many years, and are probably in their 70s or 80s.

My e-mail is <u>pbudzilek@oh.rr.com</u>.

MARY ANN SCHELLINGER Branch 1 - Sheboygan, Wisconsin Branch 1 is happy to announce Mary Ann Schellinger as our Member of the Year. She has been a member since February 2006. She continues her love of her Slovenian heritage by being very active in the SUA organization. Mary Ann has served in our branch as Sunshine Lady, Vice President, and President. She is currently the Wisconsin Regional Vice-President, serving as Acting President. She has been married to Bob for 45 years and they have two sons, Robert and David.

Mary Ann worked for the State of Wisconsin/Division of Vocational Rehabilitation for 24 years and retired as a Consumer Case Coordinator in March 2009. Her major interests are music and crafts. She volunteers at local nursing homes, bringing them her love of music. She is also a volunteer at the Senior Activity Center where she leads a group in making greeting cards. Whether it is music, crafts, cooking, or baking, Mary Ann is willing to share her time and talents. She was honored to receive 3rd place in the potica contest at the National Convention in Milwaukee, where one of the judges was the esteemed Dr. Janez Bogataj.



Mary Ann is very proud of her Slovenian heritage, which has been passed on to her from her father, Ed Fedran. Since 1996, she has traveled to Slovenia seven times and Australia three times, keeping in contact with her relatives and friends. It was very special for her to celebrate one Christmas and New Year's holiday with her family in Ljubljana and also attend the wedding of a cousin in Mozirje. Congratulations, Mary Ann, on behalf of the members of Branch 1.



NORMA BECCO Branch 3 - Pueblo, Colorado

One might say that Norma Becco was born to be involved in community work and to be a leader in SUA's Branch 3 activities. Her mother, Pauline Pauchick, was a longtime member of Branch 3 for which she wrote Zarja articles. Pauline was a delegate to a SWUA National Convention, and Norma herself served as a delegate in 2011.

Norma's life has been one of volunteerism. She is known for her work on the restoration of Bessemer Park; is a volunteer at St. Mary-Corwin Medical Center, and is active in her parish, Our Lady of the Meadows, where she volunteers monthly as church receptionist. She is a member of the Eagles Auxiliary #145. Norma also formed a scholarship program called Tours for Scholars, Inc., for which she organized chartered buses to New Mexico casinos, using the profits to assist Pueblo area students with their tuition needs. In addition, Norma assisted with other community programs benefiting the hearing-impaired and toddlers.

The Democratic Party has been the focus of much of Norma's leadership.

She volunteered at the 2008 Democratic National Convention in Denver and has served on several state-level Democratic committees. In 2012, Norma was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention. She also chaired the campaigns of several Colorado Democratic candidates.

Norma has been a member of KSKJ Life Immaculate Conception Lodge 104 for over 40 years and serves as its secretary-treasurer. She was the recipient of the 2005 "National Fraternalism of the Year" award by the KSKJ American Slovenian Catholic Union. Norma's creativity in looking for ways to combine the efforts of the KSKJ Lodge 104 and SUA Branch 3 benefits both organizations. In addition to her volunteerism, Norma is busy with her family, which includes husband, A.J., son, Michael, three stepdaughters, eight grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

JERRY WATSON Branch 5 - Indianapolis, Indiana The month of May means two things here in Indy - the INDY 500 race and SUA Member of the Year! This year, our honored member was one of our first male members, but belongs to a family of long-time SWUA members. We congratulate our Member of the Year, Jerry Watson! Jerry is very involved in the Slovenian community here in Indy. His membership in many of our organizations, whether local or national, is an asset to them because of his work ethic. Jerry willingly gives of his time to so many events! He and his children are often working fund-raising events at Holy Trinity Church or the Slovenian National Home, sometimes with Jerry cooking in the kitchen! Jerry



and his family, including his mother, Stella Watson, could always be relied upon to work our Slovenian Heritage booth at the yearly INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL.

Mary Dragan writes: As long as I can remember, my cousin, Jerry, was the adventurous family member! Always interested in everybody, everything, and everywhere, but especially his Slovenian Heritage. One of the great things about Jerry is that not only does he join ethnic clubs, parent associations, and church groups, but he also PARTICIPATES! Jerry is always ready to donate his time and money! He has three beautiful children, Josef, Marija, and Kristina, and has been part of their many activities growing up, and now is enjoying watching them grow as young adults. They are also ready to help and give of their time and talents. Jerry is currently the primary caregiver for his mother, Stella, who will celebrate her 95th birthday this year! And yes, her grandchildren are also a very active part in her life as well! Jerry truly is one of those people who put the "LOVE" in sLOVEnian!!

Many thanks and good wishes to our Member of the Year, Jerry Watson!



DENNIS COHIL and JAMES LILEK Branch 20 - Joliet, Illinois

A great big salute to our two gentlemen who have graciously helped behind the scenes for most Branch 20 endeavors over the years. Dennis Cohil and James Lilek are like a tag team. One of them is always around to lend a hand. Dennis and James are long-time Branch members whose family names are familiar to the Slovenian community and Catholic Churches in Joliet. Dennis and James are probably best known for their bar tending skills at Branch 20 Grape Festivals, but it is the "behind the scenes help" that is most appreciated.

Hauling chairs and tables, running errands, helping with after-party boxes, stringing lights, and just saying "Can I help?" make "our guys" valued beyond a thank you.

Dennis is retired from the United States steel industry and is now active in many clubs and centers in the area. He belongs to the Slovenian Catholic Center in Lemont, Illinois, KSKJ, and the Croatian Club. His latest interest is taking cooking classes at the Lemont Center. Dennis says, "I am now learning the skills that looked so easy when my mother cooked. I can appreciate a handful of this and a handful of that and how it translates into making a Slovenian recipe."

James says he is humbled and honored to help when he can. He says, "I do a small part." But it is such a large part to Branch members. James has a daughter, Deirdre, and a son, Casey. James is employed as dispatcher for Kaluzny Bros., Inc. In his spare time he is president of the Slovenian Club, is a member of the Chaney Club, the South Side Civic Club, and the Slovenian Catholic Center.

Branch 20 is proud and honored to have two Members of the Year.

Congratulations to SUA's Member's of the Year



BERNICE CEGLAR Branch 35 - Aurora, Minnesota

Branch 35 will honor our secretary/treasurer, Bernice Ceglar, as our 2013 Member of the Year. She has been a member for 33 years. She also is active in the All-Slav Club, American Legion, KSKJ, Council of Catholic Women, Assumption Group Noodle Makers, and other local civic organizations.

In 1931, Bernice was born of Slovenian parents, John and Pauline Plevell. She was one of 11 children. Her mother, Pauline, was a charter member of Branch 35. Pauline was Mother of the Year in 1975, and enrolled Bernice into the organization in 1980. Bernice was born and raised in Aurora, attending the Aurora schools. After graduation, she worked for Minnesota Power and Light. On June 17, 1961, she married Edward Ceglar. Together they have raised four children - Jimmy, Annette, Tina, and Jody. Ed and Bernice have three grandchildren. After her children became older, Bernice returned to work at the Mesabi East Schools for 17 years.

Bernice has lived up to her oath of office with loyalty to the cause of preserving our Slovenian heritage. She has served in so many ways, which are not listed in her job description, but extremely important to our Branch. She escorts the elderly to and from meetings, runs all errands, keeps accurate bank records, is on the Sunshine Committee, and has the amazing ability to never say "no."

Her service to our Branch is still valuable as she continues to serve in her position for the 12th year. Thank you, Bernice, and may God bless you and your family, always.

JANICE LUZAR GEHM Branch 43 - Milwaukee, Wisconsin Branch 43 is pleased to announce that Jan Gehm has been chosen to be our 2013 Member of the Year. Jan has been a SUA/SWUA member since 1976 and is starting her fourth term as our President. She has been a very busy officer during this time. Jan has been married to Tom Gehm for 31 years and he is very supportive while participating in all of her Slovenian activities. Their only child is an adorable teddy bear-like dog, Sophie. Jan retired after 35 years as a hairdresser.

Jan is 50% Slovenian, and very proud of her heritage. Her grandfather, Joseph Luzar, Sr., came from Slovenia and opened a grocery store in Milwaukee, specializing in his Slovenian sausage. Jan's father, Joseph Jr., took over and after 57 years Jan keeps hearing fellow Slovenians rave about those sausages. Jan was born in Milwaukee and this is the environment Jan still lives in - surrounded in Slovenian heritage. Today, Jan's calendar is filled with Slovenian activities due to her many roles -



President of SUA's Branch 43, Auditor of KSKJ #65, Auditor of the United Slovenes to Preserve our Ethnic Heritage (U.S.P.E.H.), membership in SNPJ's Badger Lodge #584 and the SNPJ Balina League, and singing in the Uspeh Slovenian Chorus, St. John the Evangelist Slovenian Church Choir, and the Prešeren Vocal Ensemble. Jan has a beautiful soprano voice and loves to sing the many beautiful songs of her heritage. Besides reading, walking her dog, and traveling, she particularly enjoys entertaining and is a very skilled party planner with a touch of Slovenia at every event.

Jan's and Tom's efforts and generosity have enhanced our Branch meetings and both were invaluable in making the 2011 National Convention in Milwaukee a success. A celebratory luncheon is planned for May 11th at Alioto's Restaurant in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin.

ONA REHN Branch 89 - Oglesby, Illinois

We are proud to announce our 2013 Member of the Year, Ona Rehn. Ona is the daughter of John and Helen Komater Jr. Ona shares her Slovenian heritage with her sister, Mitzi (Komater) Banich, and brother, Jay (Cindy) Komater, who also happen to be members of Branch 89. Ona's grandmother, Frances Komater, was a charter member of Branch 89. Ona and her husband, Bob, have celebrated 49 years of marriage and are blessed with two children, Jeff (Wendy) Rehn, and Chris - Branch 89 - (David) Sabotta. Ona and Bob are the proud grandparents of five grandchildren, Brandon, Megan - Branch 89-, Jon, Daniel, and Annalise - Branch 89.

Ona's profession, registered nurse, speaks volumes of who she is; a caring, compassionate person. Retired now, Ona enjoys cross-country skiing, is well known for her delicious homemade pies, spending time



with her grandchildren, and her involvement with her church. Ona is a fantastic, hard worker. She is reliable, generous, dedicated, and a joy to work with. This was proven again and again by her commitment to Branch 89 as she shared in the duties of co-hosting the National Convention in 2007, hosting the State Convention in 2010, hosting our Slovenian Heritage Event in 2012, and is currently on committee for our Heritage Event of 2013. Ona was able to further her love of her heritage as she enjoyed a SWUA tour to Slovenia in May of 2009. Congratulations Ona! We are thrilled to recognize you as Member of the Year of Branch 89!



MARCIA LEATHERS Branch 100 - Southern California

Conceived in Barberton, Ohio, and born in San Bernardino, California, in July 1947, Marcia Leathers came to join SUA through the encouragement of fellow members. She is the daughter of long time SNPJ lodge member, Sophia Janes, and granddaughter of Louis and Mary Novak. The family became one of the spokes in the wheel that drove the momentum of the festivities at the Slovene Hall in beautiful Fontana, California, during the second half of the 20th century.

Mathew Janes, the Lithuanian born father of Marcia, and brother, Larry, set the pace playing banjo with the Tomazin Brothers Orchestra. Music and dancing became a way of life for Marcia. Seven years of piano lessons and later continuing education in formal dance training and journalism set the stage for a very eclectic life. As a full time mother and part time everything else, the twice widowed mother of two, relocated from Orange County, California, in 1980, to the mountains of Big Bear Lake where all the hiking, skiing, and "into the woods" took place. Career highlights

include joining Mary Kay Cosmetics in 1973, where she remains active as a consultant today. Ten years of onstage training in acting and singing in community theater gave rise to a latent desire in performing. Returning to Fontana in 2006, Marcia received continuing education in property management.

Marcia would like to thank Elvie Blasick for the extra Slovene cooking and language lessons, and also to thank her family for their support and encouragement. She greatly appreciates her daughter, Desiree Holland, and son, Jesse, and his wife, Angela Leathers, as well as her six grandchildren for their constant love. Marcia includes in her hobbies, "just being a friend."

Branch 100 is happy to have Marcia Leathers - a true friend - as our 2013 Member of the Year!



RUTH ZWIEG Branch 102 - Willard, Wisconsin

Ruth is the daughter of Valentine and Helen Krainz. Her mother's parents were John and Johanna (Godec) Horvat. They both came from the parish of Ambrus and then came to America in 1896 and 1886, respectively. Ruth's dad's parents were Valentine and Antonia (Zgonc) Platisha. Valentine was born in Skofja Loka and came to America around 1905. Antonia was born in Malem Vihu na Kranjskem. They were married in 1909. In 1914, they settled on their property near Willard, clearing the land, creating their farm, and raising their family. During November and December of 1918, parents as well as son, Stanley, and daughter, Louise, were stricken with the swine flu and perished. They are the first four persons buried in the Willard cemetery. Valentine Jr., age 11 months (Ruth's dad), and his sister, Antonia, age 8, survived and were adopted by their neighbors/good friends, Anton and Catherine Krainz, who had no children of their own. During this time, the Krainz's kept all of their correspondences, which were later retrieved from a large leather purse stored in the garage. The letters dated back to 1914

and give a good indication of what life was like back then, including through the great depression years.

Ruth has been married to Darwin Zwieg for nearly 30 years, and has two sons. She became interested in genealogy and found the study fascinating. She hired a genealogist in Slovenia to help research her lineage. She has information dating back to 1770 on her dad's side and back to 1814 on her mom's side. Ruth hopes someday to travel to the "old country." Ruth helped with Willard's Centennial celebration in 2007. She enjoys making potica, strudels, and other Slovenian delicacies. She remains close with her childhood Slovenian friends, known as the "Fab Four," and shares their love of wine and cheese.

JEAN ROLSTAD Branch 109 - Twin Cities (TC), Minnesota

Jean was born Mary Jean Wessel in Greenwood, Wisconsin, and now resides in St. Peter, Minnesota. Jean's grandfather was John Kucler from Polhov Gradec, Slovenia, and her grandmother was Ursula Predalic, born in Rakitna, Slovenia. Jean and her deceased husband, Lowell, had two children - a son, Tracy, and daughter, Bridget. She has six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

As a member of the TC Slovenians, Jean was the corresponding secretary for the past five years. She was adept at computer graphics for all our invitations, and along with her daughter they designed and machined embroidered Slovenian words/sayings on aprons, towels, and wine sacks. This became a fund-raiser for Branch 109. Even though she had to drive over an hour for our membership and Board meetings, Jean rarely missed a meeting, even in the dead of winter. A memorable milestone in celebrating her Slovenian ethnicity was when she organized a "Kucler" reunion in 2003. Many descendents of the three brothers, who came from Slovenia to the United States, attended, and prior to the reunion Jean researched the family history and genealogy. The book she put together will be an everlasting keepsake for every member of the family.



Jean will say that the highlight of her life, besides her family and her Slovenian ethnicity, was sending packages and newsy letters to 31 soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan - a gesture that was begun when her grandson was in the Marines in Afghanistan in 2007. Writing these letters and keeping contact with these soldiers gave her a great sense of patriotic satisfaction and endeared her to soldiers who were fighting for our freedom.

Jean was recently diagnosed with lung cancer and is fighting the battle courageously. She certainly has been an inspiration to all who love her. "Hvala Lepa, Jean" - from all members of Branch 109.



Slovenian

Union of America

Branch Reports

BRANCH 1 - Sheboygan, Wisconsin

Contact Information: Mary Ann Schellinger

920.457.7946 <u>rhmas@yahoo.com</u>

Our first meeting in 2013 was on February 24th. We invited those attending the 9 a.m. Mass at Sts. Cyril & Methodius parish to come down to the church hall after the service to "Meet Your Slovenians." The members put together a display that included: copies of the Zarja - The Dawn, SINFO, Slovenija, Slovenian American Times, and membership applications for SUA. We had many traditional Slovenian souvenirs: cemetery memorial candles, Idrija lace, painted cups and plates, painted wooden gifts, and more. The officers shared their baking skills with

> homemade cookies, breads, flanciti, and of



were disappointed in the number of people who took us up on our invitation, but it

appeared that those who did come were interested in the displays and enjoyed the home-baked goodies.

A business meeting followed the fellowship gathering. Besides the usual items included in the meetings, some "info about Slovenia" was shared from articles published in the Slovenian American Times. These included the biggest postcard in the world created in Nova Gorica, measuring 54 square meters and weighing 23 kg, and an accordionist in Brezice, by the name of Zoran Zorko, playing the accordion for 35 hours and 32 minutes in a marathon. He set a new Guinness world record. By sharing little tidbits like this we are hoping to feel a little more connected with our Slovenian homeland.

We will be hosting the Wisconsin Regional Convention on Sunday, October 27, 2013. More details to follow in the next Zarja.

BETTY REPENSHEK

BRANCH 2 - Chicago, Illinois

Contact Information: inkzy121@aol.com

Happy spring to all Branch 2 members! Thanks to Paula Mavec for inviting Branch 2 members to her house to learn how to make the "Butara" for Palm Sunday and the Slovene art of egg decorating. We can pass this information to our members.

On the 3rd Sunday of July, we will have our Pilgrimage and Zveza Day Picnic. Please put the date of July 21st on your calendar for some great music, food, and fun with friends.

Our condolences to the Podder/Puhek/Buol families on their loss of Christine Podder. Chris was a big help for our Zveza Day Picnic and other branch activities. She was a "hockey mom," not only for her son, Anthony, but also for his teammates at St. Rita's High School. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

Effective April 1, 2013, Branch 2 will have a new board; however, the auditors will remain the same. Branch 2 officers are: President - Daisy Zeleznikar; Vice-President - Donute Benedict; Treasurer - Judy Stall; Secretary - Meta Hanzlik; Recording Secretary - Michelle Sarbarnek; Auditors - Mary Podder, Jennie Kovacic; Sgt of Arms -Irene Smid; and Kitchen-Patsy Pasderetz. We would like to thank Fran Morison and her board for their dedication and service over the years. We would especially like to thank Fran for her time and help which has made the Branch what it is today. We wish her the best in the future, and the new board appreciates your continued cooperation. Due to the change of officers, this year we are not able to have a Member of the Year.

On March 12, 2013, I attended the St. Joseph Table hosted by Branch 20. Thank you for a fun evening.

Hope everyone had a nice Easter. Wishing all Mothers and Fathers a happy day. Hope to see you all at our Zveza Day Picnic at St. Mary's in Lemont on July 21. Come meet the new board! Don't forget to attend our meetings on the third Sunday of each month. Keep our Armed Forces in your prayers.

DAISY

BRANCH 3 - Pueblo, Colorado

Contact Information: amtcharron@yahoo.com

On Tuesday, February 5, Branch 3 held its first meeting of 2013. Betty Skul was the hostess and served St. Valentine's Day cookies and fruit cups. The meeting was held in St. Mary's School and attendees played a unique bingo game in which they made up their own cards using names of birds and flowers in anticipation of spring. The game turned out to be both entertaining and educational. Members were introduced to many unknown flowers and birds. The meeting's program was printed on Branch calendars, which were blessed by our chaplain, Marie Mutz, and given to each attendee after the opening prayer. An election of Branch officers was held and all current officers were retained: Marge Cullen - President and Eileen Kaplan - Secretary-Treasurer.

The March meeting was held in St. Mary's Church hall on Tuesday, March 5. Mitzie Drobnick hosted the meeting and served cookies and ice cream with a St. Patrick's Day theme. The meeting's program focused on the Slovenian, wild, mountain goat with golden horns named "zlatorog," found in Slovenian folklore. Angela Perez, daughter of Eileen and Vince and granddaughter of member Bernice Krasovec, was recommended as our SUA scholarship candidate. She is a senior at Pueblo South High School and president of the student body. Angela plans to pursue a pre-med major in college, with an emphasis in bio-medical studies.

ANNETTE SABO CHARRON & BARBARA KARLINGER

BRANCH 5 - Indianapolis, Indiana

Greetings! It is time for our annual Member of the Year meeting and pitch-in! This year, we are honoring one of our newer members, Jerry Watson. Jerry and his family are very active in our Slovenian community and Holy Trinity Church, and can always be counted on to volunteer at many events. Congratulations, Jerry!

Our Member of the Year meeting this year will take place on Friday, May 10th at 6 p.m. at the Slovenian National Home. Instead of a pitch-in, your wonderful officers, Mary, Karen, and Phyllis, will be your cooks for the evening, as they will take a turn at cooking the Friday night meal at the Nash! Our menu will be pork roast, potatoes, and green beans... or at least that is the plan!! Menu is subject to change! Dinners usually run around \$6-\$8, and various groups take turns providing the meal. So come join us for a good meal and to congratulate our Member of the Year, Jerry!

Congratulations also go out to Branch 5 Treasurer, Karen Zarich, on her recent retirement! Karen worked as a speech therapist for our public school systems and in private practice, but now is enjoying sipping wine, eating bonbons, and playing with her grandson, Blaise. Enjoy!!



Four generations of Dragans: Martina Dragan Schuett (mother), Josephine Dragan Thompson (aunt), Mary Dragan (grandmother), Angelina Schuett (granddaughter), and Angeline Dragan(great-grandmother).

One of our junior members, Erika Pell, is graduating from Eastern Hancock High School, and plans to attend Indiana State University this fall. Congratulations and good luck! Congratulations also go out to Branch 5 Secretary, Mary Dragan, on becoming a first time grandmother! Her daughter, Martina Dragan Schuett, gave birth to a beautiful daughter, Angelina! Angelina is named after her Great-Grandmother, Angeline Dragan. Welcome to our newest member!

As spring makes way for summer, stay safe and cool in your travels and activities! Please remember in your prayers our homebound members, and our military families, especially those overseas. God Bless!

KAREN, MARY & PHYLLIS

BRANCH 13 - San Francisco, California

We want to wish all of our Mothers a very Happy Mother's Day. Our Moms and Grandmothers have given us the wonderful experience of a warm kitchen and the delicious smell of potica and strudel baking in the oven. I think we all have been asked, "not to slam the door," as the potica was rising in the kitchen. So many lovely memories. We also want to wish the wonderful men in our lives a very Happy Father's Day. The June meeting will be our annual "welcome to summer" hot dog luncheon, at the Slovenian Hall. Should you wish to view our Slovenian Hall in San Francisco, please go to the web site www.slovenianhall.com.

MOREEN SPENCER

BRANCH 16 - South Chicago, Illinois

Contact Information: Marjorie Mitchell 773.646.4392 <u>Dolores60617@yahoo.com</u>

Alberta Corey's Valentine bags filled with homemade caramel corn brightened our February meeting, with one bag for each of the 16 members attending. Maybe because



the weather was better, the March turnout was much better for our salad luncheon. Everyone outdid themselves with many varieties of salad, plus a special dish of zlinkrofi made by Vic Sebehar. Dotsi Rossi prepared a Hungarian cheesecake and Bob Kuhel brought potica. Hopefully, this will become an annual event.

A special "hello" to Mary Therese Ehnat, past president for many years, and to those unable to attend meetings.

DOLORES KRAL FRANKO

BRANCH 20 - Joliet, Illinois

Contact Information: 815.439.0062 patricia.schager@att.net

Happiness is seeing the sunshine and feeling warmer weather in this part of Illinois. Our last meeting until September is Tuesday, May 21, when we honor our Very Important Members of the Year with a special banquet.

Dennis Cohil and Jim Lilek are two of the "behind the scenes" guys who help Branch 20 whenever and wherever needed. In the tribute portion of this magazine issue they are proudly standing in front of a map of Slovenia wearing their Slovenian shirts. Thanks for all your gracious and uncomplaining help these many years, gentlemen.

Scholarships to three deserving applicants will be announced during the banquet. Our Branch has given out the scholarships each year in years past to a member entering a Catholic high school, a member already enrolled in a Catholic high school, and a member wishing to continue with adult education.

Another highlight this year was welcoming Paula Mavec from Branch 99 - Lemont, Illinois, who delighted us at our April meeting with stories of her adventure climbing Mt. Triglav in Slovenia. We have had some exciting and delightful guest speakers at our meetings this year.

Just want to remind everyone of the Heritage Museum located across the street from St. Joseph Church in Joliet. So many items for sale to choose from and many one-of-a-kind for gift giving. One of the keepsake "finds" for yours truly's grandbabies were tatted, lace-trimmed, baby bibs in blue, white, or pink. Slovenian music CDs, many books on the mother country, and logo shirts are just a few of the many articles just waiting for a good home. Browsers welcome!

Happy Mother's Day and Happy Father's Day to our many members. May your day be filled with the warmth of being with your families.

PATRICIA SCHAGER

BRANCH 24 - LaSalle, Illinois

Contact Information: 815.223.9596

wprokup@aol.com

A big hello to Branch 24 members! Be on the look out for information on the upcoming Mother's Day Luncheon and Summer Slovenian picnic. Find us on Facebook at Slovenians of the Illinois Valley. "Like us" and you will get information.

Several of our members attended the fantastic Slovenian event hosted by Branch 89 of Oglesby. Congratulations on another year of success! Let's keep this tradition going.

Congratulations to Barbi Prokup who will be graduating from St. Bede Academy. She will be attending St. Mary's in Notre Dame, IN, from which fellow member, Megan Considine, will be graduating. Megan served as an Ambassador to St. Mary's during one of Barbi's campus visits. What a small world! Congratulations to Megan and also to member Adam Lenkaitis, who will be graduating from 8th grade and attending St. Bede Academy.

BRANCH 35 - Aurora, Minnesota

Contact Information: 218.742.8049

johnks6@yahoo.com

By the time this *Zarja* is received, spring will have arrived! Some of you may even have seedlings ready to be transplanted. Hope everyone has a good growing season.

Our Member of the Year dinner will be May 5th, at the Aurora Community Center at noon. Our member this year is our present Secretary/Treasurer Bernice Ceglar. She has been a member for years and officer for a long time. Our Branch is pleased to have her as our 2013 Member of the Year.

Plans for the Minnesota Regional Convention in September are moving along. Watch future *Zarja*'s for more information. Branch 35 is hosting this year.

Our March meeting was held on March 3rd. We had five former Branch 39 members at our meeting. We hope they continue to attend.

Get well wishes to Barbara Urick who was hospitalized recently and is now at home recuperating and doing well.

Hvala lepa, ROSE ANTTILA

BRANCH 43 - Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Contact Information: Jan Gehm 414.321.1413

twogames@wi.rr.com

Our weather here has been very unpredictable. Since our last meeting fell on a February day with bad weather, it was sparsely attended, but a few brave souls weathered the storm and enjoyed a delicious luncheon prepared by our members. Weather did not keep many area Slovenians from attending Slovenian language classes taught by our Branch 43 member, Milly Mursec, on the four Monday's in March. We are proud of the expert in our midst. We also had good weather and a great time on March 19th as many members attended the performance of Slovenia's Pop Jazz A Capella Group, Perpetuum Jazzile, at UWM's Zelazo Center.

Congratulations to our Branch President, Jan Gehm, who was selected as Branch 43's Member of the Year! Mark your calendars for the luncheon that will be held in her honor, May 11, at Alioto's Restaurant in Wauwatosa. Lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m. A special guest, doing the invocation, will be a native Slovenian, Father Peter Rožič, S.J., a Jesuit Priest from Washington, D.C. doing post-doctoral research at Santa Clara University.

Mark your calendar for noon on May 29th, the date of our next meeting at the West Allis Library. You'll be treated to a delicious lunch and get in on the planning of our fall and winter activities. There are many ideas in mind and we need your input.

Please note that our June meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 26, at 6 p.m. at the West Allis Library. This is a meeting planned for our working members, so we hope that they will take advantage of this time change and attend the meeting. We look forward to seeing you.

I hope that you all had a very Happy Easter.

MARY BREGANT

BRANCH 47 - Garfield Heights, Ohio

Contact Information: Olga Dorchak 330.468.7989

Greetings! Ohioans are finally coming out of our horrible winter and are ready to enjoy a beautiful spring. Everyone is encouraged to attend our first meeting and luncheon in 2013 on May 4th at 1 p.m. at the Burntwood Tavern (formerly Max & Erma's) on Kruse Drive in Solon. Please call our President Debbie Duris at 330.467.2281 or e-mail her at dcduris@gmail.com so you can be included in the reservation count.

I'd like to remind everyone again of our upcoming meetings - On Saturday, September 7th at 1 p.m. at Panera Bread in Solon, and on Saturday, December 7th is our Christmas Luncheon at the Valley View Community Center to begin at 12:30 p.m. and the potluck luncheon is immediately following.

Another event our members should be looking forward to is the Ohio Regional Convention on Sunday, October 13th. Mass will be held at St. Vitus at 10:30 a.m. with a

lunch afterwards right across the street from the church. We would love to have a great showing of our Branch 47 members.

I'd like to extend a very happy Mother's Day and Father's Day to our members.

I will gladly share any of our members' activities. Call me on my cell 330.730.8951 or e-mail me at kjferrante@gmail.com and I will include it in the next Branch report. I look forward to seeing you all very soon!

KATHLEEN FERRANTE

BRANCH 50 - Euclid, Ohio

Contact Information: 440.655.6735 ricktomsick@gmail.com

Greetings from the "5-0" on America's North Coast, Cleveland, Ohio. Just a brief report for you as we anxiously await the coming of spring! As I write this, our new Holy Father Francis is being installed on the Feast of St. Joseph. Our fond best wishes for a happy and blessed Mother's Day to all of our beloved mothers in the SUA, and warm memories as we pray for the souls of our departed mothers.

Get well wishes to Ivanka Matic who is currently recovering from her ailments and getting better every day. We hope to have her back in action very soon!

It is hard to believe that Holy Week and time for preparing traditional food for the Easter blessing on Holy Saturday at Church is already over for this year. By the time you read this, we will have had our first meeting of the New Year at Euclid Public Library on April 17, 2013.

As a reminder, please let me know about any news or accomplishments that you have so I can include them in our next article.

RICK TOMSICK

BRANCH 55 - Girard, Ohio

Hello from Girard! How quickly the year is passing by! I can hardly believe that it is summertime already. There is nothing quite like that first hot day of summer, a dip in the pool, or cold lemonade.

On a sad note, Branch 55 recently lost one of its longtime members. Milka Kregar passed away at the end of January. She was loved very much by her family and friends and will be greatly missed.

As always, members are encouraged to attend monthly meetings. That's all the news for now.

In closing, a brief summer quote:

by Robert Louise Stevenson
"In winter I get up at night
And dress by yellow candlelight.
In summer quite the other way
I have to go to bed by day."

MONICA SELAK

BRANCH 89 - Oglesby, Illinois

Contact Information: Jim Ebner 815.883.3268 deadendbluff@yahoo.com

Branch 89 opened 2013 with our 2nd Annual "Slovenian Heritage Event" Saturday evening, March 9, at Claudette's

in Oglesby. Smoked sausage, horseradish, potica, strudel. cheese, crackers. bread, and fruit filled the food-tasting trays as we welcomed a crowd that filled both rooms at Claudette's to the point of "bursting at the seams." Displays included a large Slovenian flag, map and pictures of Slovenia. red carnations, "Grandma's Apron," personal printed stories of memories of Grandma's Apron, Bailey Falls, wedding pictures, and large family pictures of past generations. Smiles came to the faces of many of our guests as they recalled names, acquaintances, and stories of many years ago. Raffle items for the evening included 5 lbs. of smoked sausage, hand-made Slovenian doll, an apple strudel, two



Junior Member Mary Argubright

honey-walnut poticas, and a 50/50 jackpot. The evening was rounded out with background Slovenian music, cash bar, visiting with long-lost Slovenian friends, and most



encouraging, requests for membership applications to join SUA!

Our first membership meeting of 2013 was held Monday evening, March 11, at the Dickinson House with 17 members present.



Junior member Ava Novack, members Rebecca Bray Novack, Betsy Bray Wroblewski, and Mark Wroblewski

The idea of having a "fun day" this summer for our junior members was considered, with more details to be worked out as scheduling permits. Branch President Barbara Bruch made available seeds from her plum and apricot trees, the trees being grown from ancient, authentic, Slovenian stock. Barbara Beer gave a demonstration of the making of delicious crepes (palacinke-pancakes), filling them with cherry jam and fresh blueberries, and serving our entire group!

Upcoming event: Enjoy a fantastic buffet meal Sunday, May 5 at 1:30 p.m. at Starved Rock Lodge. As always, to our members far away, dober dan!

JIM EBNER

BRANCH 93 - New York, New York

Contact Information: 718.335.8459 lgross@tstnyc.org

Members and friends gathered at Café Marlene in Sunnyside on March 9th to get updates on an internet-based Slovenian language class and to watch "Od groba do groba" (Grave Hopping), a 2005 Slovenian film by Jana Cvitkovica, where the principal character's profession is a preparer and deliverer of funeral eulogies. A spirited discussion followed - Was this a comedy that turned into a horror story or purely an example of Slovenian black humor? Later that same evening, many Slovenians went to the Barclay Center in Brooklyn to cheer on Dejan Zavec, Slovenian welterweight fighter, in his match against Keith Thurman. While judges made a shutout decision against him, Zavec's tight defense forced the younger boxer to go the full 12 rounds (he never before had gone more than eight) and didn't allow him to score one of his signature knockouts; Dejan staying on his feet the entire fight.

For the second year, Branch members held a "Butarice" workshop at St. Cyril's church on March 17th. Some of the people who had stayed after Mass for the "Prosvetna Ura" (Cultural Hour) decided to try their hand in making the traditional bundles of twigs, sprigs of greenery, and pussy willows bound up with bright ribbons. The long winter we've had in NY this year, combined with an early Palm Sunday, made the gathering of the greens a real challenge. Many thanks to Ria Whitmire and Tanja Vajk for once again going the extra mile to make this project a success.

It was such a pleasure to hear people reminiscing about butare they recalled from their part of Slovenia. Reminder to visitors: If a September through May trip to New York City includes the 3rd Sunday of the month, be sure to schedule coming to Mass (in Slovenian) at St. Cyril's (10:15 a.m.) and staying for the Cultural Hour - there's always an interesting talk (in English) and a klobase lunch.

Perpetuum Jazzile had the Gramercy Theatre wildly applauding and dancing the polka! This group of talented, Slovenian, young men and women sang songs from different countries, in various languages, and genres from pop, country, and classical. They weren't going west of the Mississippi this tour - California and other west coast branch's should file a complaint - or convince them to get out there the next time they're in the U.S.!

ELIZABETH GROSS

BRANCH 99 - Lemont, Illinois

Contact Information: jmhlade@hotmail.com

Happy Spring! We wish all of you a wonderful new season! It's great to be back outdoors enjoying the sunshine and warmer weather.

In March, our Branch held a butara-making and Slovenian egg decorating demonstration. Thank you to Paula Mavec for hosting the event and showing us these Slovenian Easter traditions. In April we held a Mass for deceased members and also our Member Celebration event honoring all the members of Branch 99. Thank you to Sonja DePratt for hosting this event. Great food and fun!

Come join us for a strudel and struklji culinary class on May 18th at 9 a.m. in the SCC kitchen. Cost is \$20 per person and includes all supplies. Contact Paula Mavec at pmavec@live.com or 815.729.9787 to register. Space is limited.



Seated (left to right): Linda Schultz and Paula Mavec Back row: Jana Hlade, Monica Morrissette, and Julie LaJoie

We have no events scheduled for June but come out for some summer social fun on July 28th at 12 p.m., up on the

hill of the SCC. Branch 99 will be hosting another "meet and greet!" Then, on August 31st at 9 a.m. you can learn how to make sarma and Slovenian rižota in the SCC kitchen. Cost is \$20, which includes supplies, but space is limited. Contact Paula Mavec to register.

We have begun to plan the 2015 National Convention and hope for the support of all our members. Watch future *Zarja* issues for more details.

Meet our Board: President - Julie LaJoie; Vice-President - Paula Mavec; Secretary - Linda Schultz; Treasurer - Monica Morrissette; Auditors - Mary Mavec and Ann Nowak, and *Zarja* Reporter - Jana Hlade.

Happy Mother's Day and Father's Day to all our parents! Bless you always!

JANA HLADE

BRANCH 100 - Southern California

Contact Information: ajkoci@cox.net

Saturday, March 2nd was an enjoyable day as we gathered together at the home of Bonnie Zupan in Banning. Bonnie, once again, offered her beautiful kitchen for a cooking class for our group. We have been doing this each year for several years now and the classes have always been a huge success. This year we demonstrated cooking corn meal zgance. Mary Lou Jensen brought a delicious goulash for a tasty addition to make this a full meal, along with salad. Almost 20 members and friends attended and many traveled 80 miles or more, one way, to attend. Some of the ladies brought appetizers and desserts, even a mouthwatering lemon strudel by Kathleen Urich! Rosemary Mlakar and I each made our own version of the zgance, and although the methods were different, they were both tasty.

In my family, zgance is an all time favorite served for breakfast, lunch, or dinner, with different toppings or sides depending on the time of day. Prior to the cooking portion of the day, Jean Koci brought some of her memoirs of letters, photos, and paintings that she collected through almost 50 years from her cousin, Fr. Joze Cukale, s.j. Since





the article appeared in the January-February *Zarja - The Dawn*, more interest was aroused about this amazing missionary who served so many years in India with Mother Teresa. Bonnie provided a wonderful place to display these treasured items, including an easel for the paintings.

Thank you, Bonnie and Terry, for your wonderful hospitality! We already have an offer from a fairly new

member, Lina Kerwick, to have the next cooking/baking class at her home in San Juan Capistrano!

On a sad note, I must report on the death of our dear member, Pauline Buzan, who passed away on January 30th. Pauline had been a SWUA charter member of Branch 93 in New York many years ago. After many years in California, serving in the Women's Marine Corp Reserve and in the Peace Corp at the age of 79-81, this amazing woman passed away at the age of 92. She left three wonderful children and their spouses, as well as four

grandchildren. A very touching Memorial Service was held on February 25th in Laguna Beach, her home of many years. Her artist husband passed away a number of years ago and had been a great contributor to the famous Laguna Beach Festival of Arts. Pauline had a host of friends from many walks of life and will be sorely missed by all.

JEAN KOCI

BRANCH 102 - Willard, Wisconsin

Contact Information: kleespires@comcast.net

Greetings from Willard! Our Branch Officers, Bonnie, Sue, and Theresa hosted a lovely meeting at Holy Family on February 16th. After a wonderful potluck lunch, a short meeting was held followed by Valentine - theme door prizes. Junior member, Sandy Brierton, delivered the presents and gave a speech about the history of St. Valentine.

Member of the Year, Ruth Zwieg, was honored with a lovely wine basket. She shared her Slovenian heritage with us, along with the highlights in her Member of the Year article found in this issue of the *Zarja*.

Member Pat Sixel passed away peacefully on February 11th. Her memorial was held on February 15th and attended by several Branch members. Our condolences to her family and friends. Candy Johnson brought several picture posters to the meeting and everyone shared memories of Pat. It was clear that Pat lived a joyful life.

New member, Sarah Trunkel, attended our meeting and was welcomed. Megan Johnson was also present and displayed many pictures she took on her recent trip to Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands.

Our March meeting was followed by the traditional Palm Sunday bake sale. Several members volunteered to bake and sell resulting in a great fund-raising activity and a lot of fun. Thanks to everyone in and around Willard for all that you do for the Branch. Branch meetings will resume on Saturday, August 10th at the church. Hope to see many Branch members there.

KAREN HRIBAR SPIRES



BRANCH 108 - Olney, Maryland

Contact Information: Bettekfitz@verizon.net

We met for a luncheon meeting in January for the Branch installation of officers, and planning events for the new year. Just before Easter we gathered to make butarice and to create pisanice (Slovenian colored eggs). This was a Branch family event that was enjoyed by all who were able to attend. Thanks to all our Branch members for assisting with supplies and delicious refreshments to be shared by all.



Branch 108 Installation of Officers

Our member, Marie Robinson, has moved to Springfield, VA, to be closer to her daughter, Barbara. We will miss seeing Marie regularly at meetings, and hope she is able to come on occasion to join us for special events. Sympathy and prayers are extended to Marie as she mourns the passing of her twin brother, Daniel Cacic.

Cestitke (Congratulations) to Ayla Roda and Matthew Fitzsimmons, our junior members who will be graduating from high school in June. We wish them best wishes and success in college, and in all their future endeavors.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 5, 2013; the 10 Year Anniversary Celebration of Branch 108 will be held at the Embassy of Slovenia in Washington, D.C., highlighting our members, events, and history, plus Slovenian-style fare, and a special program by the Slovenian musical group, "Megaron." We are grateful to Nuska Zakrajsek for her assistance in coordinating the details, and look forward to meeting again soon to plan our milestone event.

A tribute to all our mothers, fathers, grandmothers, grandfathers, aunts and uncles, and others for their hard work, inspiration, and legacies that have shaped who we have become as unique individuals. Happy Mother's Day and Happy Father's Day wishes in May and June to all our members and friends of SUA.

BERNADETTE K. FITZSIMMONS

BRANCH 109 - Twin Cities of Minnesota

February, Slovenian culture month, featured presentations by Dr. Seth Hawkins on France Prešeren, and by Yul Yost. Yul talked about the poetry of the Rev. Franc Pirc, the Minnesota-Slovenian priest, as he crossed the Atlantic in 1835, and highlighted a couple of stanzas illustrating the

style of Pirc. Yul concluded his remarks by showing Bishop Baraga's linguistic genius - a short acrostic poem to his sister, Amalia. It consisted of seven lines with each line written in a different language - Slovenian, German, Latin, French, Italian, English, and Indian (Ojibwe).

Our regular meeting in February opened with Mary Ann Palmer (vocal) and Rich Samec (accordian) leading the membership in singing the Happy Birthday Song in Slovenian, followed by another Slovenian drinking song, "Klobase." In memory of Karl Grahek, our membership chairman who passed away this past January, the members joined in singing "Oznanil je angel." We went from tears to laughter with Rick Pisa entertaining us with a creative slide show (Slovenian music included) of his recent trip to Slovenia. Rick not only highlighted the "touristy" parts of Slovenia, but focused on the Slovenian cuisine. Some laughed at the thought that Rick may have eaten too much "Slovenian cuisine!" Excellent presentation, Rick! Maybe the Twin Cities Slovenians should sponsor a trip to Slovenia!

Our March meeting consisted of a Slovenian genealogy workshop headed by Chuck Podominick. Members brought documents such as birth certificates, death certificates, citizenship papers, marriage certificates, and letters from relatives in Slovenia. Five laptop computers connected to a wireless network allowed the participants to tap the domestic (U.S.) genealogy sources along with connections to the Slovenian genealogy expert, Peter Hawlina, in Ljubljana. Our Slovenian language teachers, Joe Kuznik and President John Zakelj, helped with translation questions. Members Jean Rolstad and Betty Poferl were available to answer questions regarding their "Kucler" genealogy history. For some it was a first step... and a big step! Thanks to Chuck and his wife, Jean, for organizing this exciting workshop.

April's meeting focused on the Festival of Nations (FON) theme - Children, Our Past and Future. Chairperson, Sue Rademacher, and Mike Koski outlined the details of our exhibit and the various duties that our membership will carry out. The Festival was held on May 2 - 5. Details and pictures will be in the next issue of the *Zarja*.

In addition to Jean Rolstad as the 2013 Member of the Year, special presentations of "Lectovo Srce" (Gingerbread Hearts) were made to past Members of the Year and to the Karl Grahek family in memory of Karl. Each heart was embossed as Member of the Year and encased in a gold colored box. The vendor was from Slovenj Gradec, Slovenia.

Our prayers go out to the Karl Grahek family and Jenny Meyer family on the passing of Mary Lou Grahek's husband and Jenny Meyer's mother. Prayers also for the full recovery of Frank Medved, who had heart surgery in January.

Keep smiling "z obdrzanim smehlajem."

NORM SETNICKER "Born in USA with Slovenian Parts"

Calendar of Events

THURSDAY THRU SUNDAY, MAY 2-5, 2013

Branch 109 of Twin Cities, MN to participate in Festival of Nations, theme - "Children, Our Past and Future" at St. Paul River Center.

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2013

Branch 47 of Garfield Heights, OH to host Member's Luncheon at 1:00 p.m. at Burntwood Tavern in Solon.

SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2013

Branch 13 of San Francisco, CA to host Member of the Year Luncheon at Val's Restaurant in Daly City, CA.

SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2013

Branch 35 of Aurora, MN to host Member of the Year Dinner at the Aurora Community Center at noon.

SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2013

Branch 89 of Oglesby, IL to host a buffet meal at 1:30 p.m. at Starved Rock Lodge.

Call 815.883.3268 to reserve your spot.

FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2013

Branch 5 of Indianapolis, IN to host Member of the Year event at the Slovenian National Home at 6:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2013

Branch 43 of Milwaukee, WI to host Member of the Year luncheon at 12:30 p.m. at Alioto's Restaurant in Wauwatosa. Invocation by special guest-Fr. Peter Rožič, J.S. from Washington D.C.

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2013

Branch 99 of Lemont, IL to host a Strudel and Struklji Culinary Class at 9:00 a.m. in the SCC kitchen. Cost is \$20 per person to attend.

Contact <u>pmavec@live.com</u> or 815.729.9787 to register. Space is limited.

TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2013

Branch 20 of Joliet, IL to host Very Important Members of the Year special banquet.

SUNDAY, JULY 21, 2013

Branch 2 of Chicago, IL to host the Annual Zveza Day Picnic at St. Mary's in Lemont. All are encouraged to attend.

SUNDAY, JULY 28, 2013

Branch 99 of Lemont, IL to host "Meet and Greet" up on the hill of the Slovenian Catholic Center at 12:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 2013

Branch 99 of Lemont, IL to host a Sarma and Slovenian Rizoto Culinary Class at 9:00 a.m. in the SCC Kitchen. Cost is \$20 per person to attend.

Contact <u>pmavec@live.com</u> or 815.729.9787 to register. Space is limited.

SEPTEMBER, 2013

Minnesota Regional Convention hosted by Branch 35 - Aurora, MN. More information in the next *Zarja*.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2013

Branch 108 of Olney, MD to host their 10th Anniversary Celebration at the Embassy of Slovenia in Washington, D.C.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2013

Ohio Regional Convention - Starts with Mass at 10:30 a.m. at St. Vitus, followed by lunch.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2013

Illinois/Indiana Regional Convention hosted by Branch 20 - Joliet, IL. Branch 20 is also planning their 85th Anniversary Celebration. More information in the next *Zarja*.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2013

Wisconsin Regional Convention hosted by Branch 1 - Sheboygan, WI. More information in the next *Zarja*.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2013

Branch 47 - Garfield Heights, OH to host Christmas Luncheon at the Valley View Community Center at 12:30 p.m.

Membership Application and Renewal

Slovenian Union of America

(Formerly known as Slovenian Women's Union of America) slovenianunion.org sua@slovenianunion.org 815.727.1926

For RENEWALS use form at BOTTOM of this page

L	Adult Dues \$25.00 Ad	ult Dues (International Address) \$35.00	unior Dues (Birth to 18) \$5.00	
If	this is a gift and you agree to continu	ne paying for this membership next year, please ac	lvise us of billing address:	
	If you join after August 31	are for January through December you will not be billed in January of the ne	•	
		nation below and send this application form with rica, 431 North Chicago Street, Joliet	2 2	
Last Name_		First Name	MF	
Street Addr	ess	City/State/Zip		
Phone		E-Mail		
Date of Birt	hBrancl	h Affiliation Number (if known)/Location	on/	
Maiden Na	me	Do you speak Slovenian?		
Please descr	ribe your Slovenian ancestry a	and provide SLOVENIAN SURNAMES	S	
How did yo	ou hear about us? SUA Memb	per Newspaper Website Oth	er	
I would like	e to volunteer for the SUA. M	y area of interest or expertise is		
Applicant's	Signature	Date	e	
Tell a Friend! If you wish SUA to send information to a friend or relative, please provide us with their name and address:				
Address _				
 	N	IEMBERSHIP RENEWAL		
Name		Member ID No	(located on back cover)	
Address				
Phone	E-mail	Dues Amount	Donation	
 -	Mail to: SUA/	SWUA, 431 N. Chicago Street, Joliet, IL 60432-1	1703	

27th National Convention - 2015 - Lemont, Illinois

SLOVENIAN "SPRING FLING" DRAWING

March 2013 Fund-Raiser Results

Thank You For Your Support!

The SUA's National Convention fund-raiser for the month of March 2013 was a huge success. Your entry was very much appreciated! The profit of over \$4,500 will enhance all aspects of the activities for SUA delegates and members. Information will be given in future issues of *Zarja - The Dawn* about SUA's 27th National Convention in Lemont, IL in 2015. We hope to see you there. **Thank you for your support!**

Winner's List

1st Place Seller (17 Sold) Frances Pavlovcic, Branch 40, Lorain, Ohio \$110 Convention Credit

2nd Place Seller (15 Sold) Debbie Duris, Branch 47, Garfield Heights, Ohio \$70 Convention Credit

3rd Place Seller (13 Sold) Karen Goodman, Branch 43, Milwaukee, Wisconsin \$40 Convention Credit



Jan & Tom Gehm choosing March 1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 4th winners **Both members of Branch 43 - Milwaukee, WI**

Top Branch Support

87 Sellers: Branch 20, Joliet, IL

32 Sellers: Branch 50, Euclid, OH

29 Sellers: Branch 43, Milwaukee, WI

28 Sellers: Branch 2, Chicago, IL

23 Sellers: Branch 30, Home Office

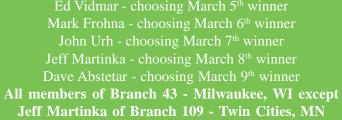
21 Sellers: Branch 16, South Chicago, IL

18 Sellers: Branch 99, Lemont, IL

17 Sellers: Branch 24, LaSalle, IL

16 Sellers: Branch 3, Pueblo, CO







Paula Mavec - choosing March 14th winner Jana Hlade - choosing March 15th winner Julie La Joie - choosing March 16th winner Linda Schultz - choosing March 17th winner All members of Branch 99 - Lemont, IL

	2013 Winners	
March 1	SNPJ Badger Lodge # 584 - Milwaukee, WI	\$110.00
March 2	Glenn Latronico - Oak Lawn, IL	\$55.00
March 3	Jennie Priyatel - Joliet, IL	\$55.00
March 4	Ivanka Markun - Joliet, IL	\$55.00
March 5	Corinne Leskovar- Chicago, IL	\$55.00
March 6	Theresa Berg - Rockford, IL	\$55.00
March 7	Lydia Kamnikar - Oglesby, IL	\$55.00
March 8	Maureen Podlogar - Mentor, OH	\$55.00
March 9	Mariko Kakiuchi - Seattle, WA	\$55.00
March 10	Arlene Sunkel - Evanston, IL	\$55.00
March 11	Kathleen Starcevich - Pueblo, CO	\$55.00
March 12	Charlene Kobe - Joliet, IL	\$55.00
March 13	Jerry Zakosek - Maple Park, IL	\$55.00
March 14	Tom Kobilarcik - Palatine, IL	\$55.00
March 15	Clarice Pawlicki - Shelby Township, MI	\$55.00
March 16	Olga Seehafer - Milwaukee, WI	\$55.00
March 17	Pavlovcic Grandchildren - Lorain, OH	\$110.00
March 18	Bob Ficek - St. Charles, IL	\$55.00
March 19	Karen Janezic - Milwaukee, WI	\$55.00
March 20	Anne Stratton - Bethesda, MD	\$220.00
March 21	Karen Bjorgo - Wayzata, MN	\$55.00
March 22	Kevin Wadycki - Milwaukee, WI	\$55.00
March 23	Barb Pyszka - LaSalle, IL	\$55.00
March 24	Denise Maloy - Homer Glen, IL	\$55.00
March 25	Evelyn Driscoll - Chicago, IL	\$55.00
March 26	Judy Machek - Chicago, IL	\$55.00
March 27	Erin Burke - New Bedford, MA	\$55.00
March 28	Braxton Williams - Caledonia, MI	\$55.00
March 29	Terry Shullick - Lorain, OH	\$55.00
March 30	Elaine Taylor - Wauconda, IL	\$55.00
March 31	Jill Breneman - Coal City, IL	\$220.00

Blooming Hellebores, also known as a Lenten Rose



Yul Yost, Branch 109, sent this picture taken on March 9 at his backyard garden in Roseville, Minnesota. According to Yul, Slovenia is the epicenter of the hellebores. A book (written in Slovenian and English) entitled, "Heleborus in Slovenia," authored by Joze Bavcon, Klemen Eler, and Andrej Susek is being sold in the U.S. for \$25. If interested - Call Felix Gaser at 216.381.2602 or e-mail him at felixjgaser@roadrunner.com.

EXCITING NEWS COMING OUR WAY!

The Slovenian Union of America will be creating a new cookbook that will be available by Christmas 2014.

If you have a favorite Slovenian-American recipe that you think would be a great addition to our cookbook, please submit to:

Bonnie Prokup 3119 Carrie Street Peru, IL 61354



Confused? What's with those initials?

SUA Slovenian Union of America

(New name of our organization)

SWUA Slovenian Women's Union of America

(Former name of our organization)

SWU Slovenian Women's Union Scholarship Foundation

(Name is not changed)

WANT TO GET MORE INVOLVED?

Looking for volunteers who love their heritage.

We need help in our Museum in Joliet, Illinois, with scanning, sorting, cleaning, and creating exhibits.

WANTED

Heritage Museum Director Membership Director Online Newsletter Editor Heritage Museum Librarian Heritage Museum Window Dressers Heritage Museum Cleaners Zarja - The Dawn Writers

Great Card for Mother's Day Order Now

Front



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Call

Slovenian Union of America

815.727.1926

Inside

Marija Pomagaj z Brezij prosi za nas Mary of Brezje, Help of Christians, pray for us

The painting of the Madonna and Child in the Slovenian Chapel of Our Lady of Grezze is a duplicate of the original at the Shrine of Mary, Help of Christians, at Brezze in Slovenia. It dates from 1800 when a chapel was added to St. Vitus Church at Brezze in the Blessed Mother's honor.

Our Lady of Breze is honored as the Patroness and Queen of Peace of Slovenia and numerous miracles have been attributed to devotional prayers to Mary. May the Blessed Mother continue to inspire all mothers to graciously accept the gift of children, and their call to unconditional love.

Through the efforts of Slovenes worldwide, the Chapel was made possible and dedicated on August 15, 1971. Slovenian mass is celebrated monthly in this exemplary place of worship that depicts Slovenian religious culture and heritage. A commemorative mass is celebrated on The Feast of the Assumption, the anniversary of the Chapel's dedication.

Vesel materinski dan! Happy Mother's Day!

"The merciful eyes of our Mother of Brezze will look upon you and you will be consoled" Ivan Cankar

Or Send a Check for \$3 (includes shipping and handling) to 431 N. Chicago St., Joliet, IL 60432-1703 Ely, Minnesota Friday, July 12, 2013

Ely's history is steep in Slovenian spirit.

Ely's history is steep in Slovenian spirit.

Come for the day, enjoy the sites and rie camaraderie and experience the camarad is sounds, and experience. The program is of old acquaintances. the public.

free and open to the public.

PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID LASALLE, IL

Join Us In Ely, Minnesota as we

Salute...

The Cultural Expressions of Slovenia

- Hear the voices of Ely's youth, the local heirs, as they orate events in Slovenian history and recite the poetry of Slovenian national poets.
- · Hear the melodious expressions of the button box and singing voices.
- · Reflect on the Baraga exhibit, a man whose entire life was a personal expression of faith.
- · View the exhibits of local artistic creations.
- Travel the scenic routes of Slovenia via a travelogue and take in the aromas of Slovenia's unique gastronomy.

Vermilion Community College (VCC) Friday, July 12, 2013

9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. Exhibits

10:00 a.m. - Noon Presentations

Lunch and Exhibits: Noon - 1:20 p.m.

1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Presentations

For accommodations contact Ely Chamber of Commerce www.ely.org 800.777.728

Directions: Take US 169 through Ely. Go one block past the Super 8, turn left at the

Vermilion Community College sign. Go one block further. 1900 East Camp Street.

Information: Mary Lou Deyak Voelk 251.968.4364

It's a Slovenske Miza at Creek Ridge Lodge

Friday, July 12, 2013

Social Hour: 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Slovenske Miza buffet: 6:30 p.m. Entertainment will follow.

Cost is \$25 - Reservations required Call: 218.365.7314

Directions: Leave Ely on HWY 1 at the East end of town (by the Chamber of Commerce)
Drive 3.5 miles; Take a left at the South White Iron Rd (County RD 655)
Drive 1/4 mile and take a right on Creek Ridge Trail. Follow the signs along the driveway.