



ZARJA - THE DAWN

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SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION OF AMERICA

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SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, 1994

VOLUME 66

THE IMPORTANCE OF MY HERITAGE

I would like to wish everyone in the Slovenian Women's Union a thank-you for awarding me a scholarship. It will help my family and I greatly. SWU has been a source of fun and learning since I was a little girl. I have had a chance to learn about my background and my family.

There are many other parts of my background I have learned from in my life, but my ethnic background is one of the major sources of learning for me. My heritage is important because it is who I am and what I stand for.

My heritage has formed my beliefs, my morals and my judgement. It is my family and my life. Thank you once again for the wonderful opportunity for a great future.

Katrina Michelle Nemeth
Br. 73, Warrensville Hts., Ohio

SWU Scholarship winners are our pride and joy. Their essays portray how much family and heritage mean to them, and we hope that they will always keep these values as a part of their lives.

Three other winners' essays are on page 15 of this issue.



ZARJA - THE DAWN

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DATES TO REMEMBER

- Sep 11 ANNUAL PICNIC, Br. 22, Bradley, IL at Leo's Acres
Sep 17 STYLE SHOW & LUNCHEON, Br. 43, Milwaukee,
WI at Klemers, 11:30 a.m.
Sep 25 GRAPE HARVEST DANCE, Br. 20, Joliet, IL at St.
Joe's Park, 4 to 8 p.m.
Oct 8-9 COMMEMORATIVE MASS FOR DECEASED MEM-
BERS, Br. 5, Indianapolis, IN, Holy Trinity Church,
5:30 p.m. (Saturday evening)
MASS FOR MEMBERS & FAMILIES, Br. 5, In-
dianapolis, IN, Holy Trinity Church, 9:00 a.m. (Sunday
morning)
Oct 17 COMMEMORATIVE MASS, Br. 32, Euclid, OH at
St. Christine's Church
Oct 19 ANNUAL PICNIC, Br. 50, Cleveland, OH at Euclid
Club House
Nov 13 ANNUAL POULTRY CARD PARTY, Br. 43, Mil-
waukee, WI
Nov 16 CHRISTMAS PARTY, Br. 10, Cleveland, OH

WELCOME!
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STATE CONVENTION
October 16, 1994
Detroit, Michigan



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THE 1994 Regional CONVENTIONS

SEPTEMBER

Sep. 11 - MINNESOTA Br. 56, Hibbing

OCTOBER

Oct. 2 - ILLINOIS-INDIANA Br. 89, Oglesby
Oct. 2 - WISCONSIN Br. 102, Willard
Oct. 16 - OHIO-MICHIGAN Br. 105, Detroit

HAPPY BIRTHDAY SEPTEMBER

National Officer:

Sep. 22 - Rosemary Mlakar, Regional President,
Western States

Presidents:

Sep. 5 - Ann Kapel, Br. 100, Fontana, CA
Sep. 10 - Agnes Widina, Br. 26, Pittsburgh, PA
Sep. 17 - Stavia Dobersek, Br. 12, Milwaukee, WI
Sep. 24 - Mildred Lipnos, Br. 42, Maple Hgts., OH
Sep. 27 - Florence Holland, Br. 35, Aurora, MN

Secretaries:

Sep. 2 - Joanne Ponikvar, Br. 54, Warren, OH
Sep. 9 - Helen Sebastiani, Br. 22, Bradley, IL
Sep. 10 - Mary Dezman, Br. 12, Milwaukee, WI
Sep. 28 - Patricia Adamic, Br. 105, Detroit, MI

HAPPY BIRTHDAY OCTOBER

National Officers:

Oct. 9 - Corinne Leskovar, Editor, Chicago, IL

Presidents:

Oct. 5 - Rose Ann Prey, Br. 89, Oglesby, IL
Oct. 10 - Mary E. Roso, Br. 45, Portland, OR
Oct. 12 - Edna Winters, Br. 16, So. Chicago, IL
Oct. 13 - Olga Dorchak, Br. 47, Garfield Hts., OH
Oct. 15 - Rose Bradach, Br. 68, Fairport Harbor, OH
Oct. 15 - Mildred James, Br. 95, So. Chicago, IL
Oct. 17 - Charlene Kobe, Br. 20, Joliet, IL
Oct. 23 - Mary Tekavec, Br. 3, Pueblo, CO
Oct. 23 - Nancy Satkovich, Br. 97, Cairnbrook, PA
Oct. 28 - Mary Bratovich, Br. 79, Enumclaw, WA

Secretaries:

Oct. 11 - Mary Jermenc, Br. 85, Depue, IL
Oct. 14 - Frances Simonich, Br. 3, Pueblo, CO
Oct. 22 - Mary F. Mohr, Br. 5, Indianapolis, IN
Oct. 31 - Mary Taucher, Br. 47, Garfield Hgts., OH

WELCOME, BRANCH #108!

by Irene M. Odorizzi, Heritage Director

It gives me great pleasure to announce and to welcome the newest branch of the Slovenian Women's Union!

On Sunday afternoon, April 17, 1994, in Virginia Beach, Virginia, a group of Slovenes held their first SWU meeting at St. Gregory's Church. Local organizer was Alan "Boe" Bostjancic, a Virginia Beach police officer.

In March 1993, the Bostjancic's, Alan, Gigi and son Casey, were enrolled as members of SWU Branch 30. Alan's enthusiasm about his Slovenian heritage brought him into contact with other Slovenes and the rest is history.

The Washington, DC-Maryland-Virginia branch was the last to be organized and that was in 1965, twenty-nine years ago. It was my privilege to have organized Branch 103 with the encouragement of Nika Kovacic. I am thrilled to have co-organized Branch 108 and acted as Alan's mentor.

The first meeting was chaired by Alan Bostjancic who is to be commended for assuming the expenses, like postage, printing, phone calls etc. associated with forming a new group. Alan also advertised in the Virginia Beach newspaper for "Slovenes." He received responses from that advertisement, the first being Angela Batchelor, a native of Maribor, Slovenia, and a resident of Virginia Beach for 15 years. Also responding was Joe Perotta, a retired naval officer and his wife, Theresa. The third response came from Mary Ann Braeckel.

As a policeman, Alan became acquainted with Larry and Marylou Mathews, who own a local business. Marylou Mathews and her daughter were already members of Branch 14 and transferred to 108. Marylou introduced her sister, Linda Kusar-Fischer and brother-in-law, Darrell to the SWU.

During the course of the meeting it was decided that each member would donate a nominal amount to build up Branch 108 treasury for any future expenses.

Sixteen charter members comprise Branch 108:

Alan Bostjancic, Gigi Bostjancic, Mary Ann Braeckel, Angela Batchelor, Linda Kusar-Fischer, Darrell Fischer, Marylou Mathews, Larry Mathews, Joseph Perotta, Theresa Perotta.

Junior charter members are: Casey Bostjancic, Guy Fischer, Helene Fischer, Eric Mathews and Sarah Mathews.

The officers elected at the first meeting are: President, Linda Kusar-Fischer; Vice President, Mary Ann Braeckel; Sec.-Treasurer, Marylou Mathews; Rec. Secretary, Theresa Perotta; Auditor, Gigi Bostjancic; Historian, Joseph Perotta; Reporter, Alan Bostjancic.

Following the meeting, refreshments were served, compliments of the Bostjancic family. Everyone expressed delight that the group was formed and looked forward to accepting Joe and Theresa Perotta's invitation to hold the second meeting at the Perotta home.

At the second meeting, the members were eager to find out about each other's genealogical background. The group

decided to discuss their Slovenian roots and to place a marker on the Slovenian map showing the birthplaces of their ancestors. A very clever idea!

Recorded Slovenian music provided the right atmosphere for the enjoyment of beverages and sweets. Not to be outdone by other branches, the group held a raffle to support their very small treasury. That was really getting into the swing of things!

Angela Batchelor invited the group to hold their third meeting in combination, with a barbeque welcoming the guests she was expecting from Slovenia. Results of that meeting will be reported in the ZARJA in a later issue.

Once again, congratulations to organizer, Alan Bostjancic, and welcome to every member of the Virginia Beach branch!

And, now...?

The enthusiasm of the Virginia Beach group is to be commended. Long-time members of the SWU have a tendency to take their heritage and social benefits for granted. It takes a group like Virginia Beach to re-vitalize the organization and make us recall what it was like years ago when many branches were formed annually with hundreds of members and many activities. Let's look within ourselves and to our branches for that "youthful enthusiasm" which this group is presently displaying. Accept the challenge to re-vitalize your branch with new members and new activities.

The formation of this new branch should remind us that there are individuals awaiting your invitation. Individuals that are interested in becoming part of our very select group but must be asked. Years ago, people were contacted personally, or through churches, meetings, newspapers etc. Let's try those same devices now.

The Virginia Beach group also reminds us that we should not take our heritage for granted because it has been so convenient. In years to come, the Slovene heritage will be a prominent reason to select membership in a fraternal organization. The SWU will provide assistance to members in tracing their "roots" and in providing information about their heritage. Where will people turn if a fraternal organization such as the SWU ceases to exist?

It is important for an organization to have active members but it is just as vital to have an "army of members" supporting the efforts of those who lead in the foreground. The strength of the membership is displayed in numbers. Let's get our SWU troops ready for the important march into the 21st century.

It is our responsibility NOW -- to make sure we have resources available for future needs and a significant membership. Don't let your heritage down. Don't let our posterity down! Accept the challenge!

All the best to our National President Tory Bobence for a very speedy recovery from her recent hand surgery. Her column will resume in the next issue.

GENEALOGY RESEARCH LEADS TO FORMATION OF NEW SWU BRANCH

Around February 1993, I started looking into my family's history. What makes a 37-year old man decide to do this is beyond me. What follows makes one wonder why I didn't do this sooner, like when my grandparents were still alive.

I started looking into my family's history on my father's side. All I knew about his background was that he and his brother and sister were born in a town called Rockdale, Illinois, which is adjacent to Joliet. I lived there for almost 19 years before leaving for the Marine Corps. I also knew that my grandparents, Josef and Johanna Bostjancic, came from Slovenia. I began my research by contacting the Latter Day Saints who put me in the right direction by using their social security death index file. I also asked two of my three brothers, who still live in Joliet, to get information from St. Joseph's Church in Joliet which showed that my grandfather came from a small town or village in Slovenia called Trnovo.

I now live in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Since I was only three hours away from Washington, DC and the National Archives building, I decided to make the trip, so off to Washington, DC I went. To my surprise, after a very long day, I finally found the ship's arrival passenger records, and the names of both my grandparents; they came here on March 19, 1909, on the Red Star Line; the ship's name was the Vanderland. My eyes filled with tears as I ran right to a pay phone to call my brothers about what I discovered, only to now remember that I was only one of 500 that day who jumped up in the big room and yelled, "Yes, I got it".

A few days later, I called the Slovenian Embassy in Washington, DC and received much helpful information. I was told that a lady in Reston, Virginia would be a perfect person who could help me. So I called Irene Odorizzi and left a message on her answering machine. I told her my name was Alan Bostjancic from Rockdale, Illinois and asked her to please return my call. Well, when I talked with Irene, she was not only helpful, but I learned that her brother and his family lived about four or five blocks from my grandparents back in Joliet. In fact, I went to school and was good friends with her nephews. We seemed to have a lot more in common than our Slovenian roots, so we were off and running. Irene was, and still is, most helpful in my life; I am very lucky to have her to turn to and, believe me, it is quite often.

Before I go any further, I would like to say thanks to Irene, and my thoughts and prayers are always with her. The first thing Irene asked me to do was to sign up myself, my wife Gigi, and my son Casey, as members of the Slovenian Women's Union. She recalled a story she had written. The story mentioned that my aunt, Helen Strojcin, and my grandmother came from Harije, Slovenia. I am hoping to find more information about my relatives, both here and back in Slovenia.

While living here in the Tidewater area of Virginia, I came across some Slovenians who were unaware that there

were other Slovenians in this vicinity. Again, I called Irene; she encouraged me to start a branch of the SWU in Virginia Beach!

Shortly after the start of this year (1994), we decided to try to organize a branch in Virginia Beach. I ran an article in our local newspaper. On March 1, 1994, I received my first phone call from Angela Batchelor who had lived here for almost 15 years and had only met one other Slovenian during that time. Angela comes from Maribor, Slovenia. After receiving several other calls, we scheduled a meeting for April 17, 1994, at St. Gregory's in Virginia Beach. What a fantastic turnout! We had potica, punch, and doughnuts -- perfect since I am a police officer.

There are three men in our branch; they are Darrell Fischer, Joe Perrota (historian), and myself. We elected board members as follows:

President, Linda Kusar-Fischer; Vice President, Mary Ann Braeckel; Secretary-Treasurer, Mary Lou Matthews; Recording Secretary, Theresa Perotta; Historian, Joseph Perotta; Reporter, Alan Bostjancic; Auditor, Gigi Bostjancic.

We had a ball, and our next meeting is scheduled to be at the Perrota's home. Linda Kusar-Fischer made a great suggestion that we bring a map of Slovenia indicating where our heritage begins. We will keep you posted on how we are coming along, and hope to bring some new spirit to the SWU, through our heritage search!

ALAN (BOE) BOSTJANCIC
Reporter



TOP WINNER AND TOP LADY!

It's amazing how much one can do with the "right attitude"! Irene Odorizzi, our Culture & Heritage Director was the top winner in our last Membership Campaign, dedicated to "Slovenian Wisdom Unsurpassed" that concluded in April. It was the third phase of our post-convention campaign, the last phase of which (IV) will conclude before the next convention in May, 1995.

Irene used her effort to enroll 16 new members because she believes in the SWU! I'm sure she got this from her association with so many wonderful people who are our members! She's sees that there is something in the SWU for everyone. When you read about our new branch in Virginia Beach, VA you will see Irene's name as co-organizer with Alan Bostjancic. She is anxious to pass on the opportunity for good association to others!

So, Irene, out hats off to you! This is the example for us to follow, because... "we can't find any new members in our area" ... "no one wants to join" ... "the young ones aren't interested" ... are just excuses! Talk to Irene! Talk to Jonita Ruth, our past winner of several campaigns! They'll tell you it just takes a sincere belief in the SWU and an invitation to join!

Editor

A Letter from Marie Prisland

Hello to all members of Slovenian Women's Union!

I just had to write to express to you my love, appreciation and admiration for all the wonderful things you are doing in the name of our beloved organization. I know that in your parishes and communities, you are continuing to nurture my dream – and the dream of your foremothers, to instill the highest values of life to the generations coming.

One of the main purposes of the Slovenian Women's Union is still the strong motivator for our future. We are determined to do good work, raise our families in the American-Slovenian tradition, to be good people in our communities, to believe in all the highest Christian principles, and to conduct programs that will enrich our lives. I personally knew so many of your mothers and grandmothers, and I am well aware of your efforts. You are the blessing that we worked for during our lives. You are the miracle of our dreams!

Exciting to live in this Century!

I was born at the beginning of this century when it was a long horse and buggy ride wherever you wanted to go. When I came to America, and began living my exciting new life in the "new world," we enjoyed what we called "modern" living because we had the city conveniences that brought milk to our doors, ice to our "ice boxes," daily mail delivery to the home, cars that went 20 miles an hour! Your great grandmothers could tell you how great it was in the 1920's when we could gad about in a Model T car, or go quickly across town on the street car! When we listened to the newly-invented radio, did we imagine a time when we could see pictures televised into our homes or talk to someone thousands of miles away by satellite?

I'm glad I lived for more than 80 years during this time when I witnessed more changes in history and living styles than any other century before. I even lived to see a man walk on the moon and my great grandchildren may use the space around our planet as a stepping stone to other galaxies!

Time to say thanks!

These are the blessings I lived and that many of you have lived through! I say thank God for them! Thank God for giving us good husbands, children that became good American citizens and made us proud, grandchildren that are bright jewels to be treasured!

And thank God for the members of Slovenian Women's Union who are so positive and so confident

in our work and purpose that they have organized a new branch in a city far away from the cities of our past charters, among young Americans of Slovenian descent who are showing so much pride and love for their heritage that they want to stand together and continue our dream! These are young Americans who are driven to show they are Slovenian, too! We are able to give them the organization by which they can succeed.

They are calling on all of us, **we** who are the pioneers whose words and works remain for them to read and learn from – **we** who are the present officers who have the ability to lead and guide and **we** who are members that want to be together and do something new that **we** can be proud of!

So, I congratulate you, members of the new Branch 108 in Virginia Beach, Virginia! Congratulations to your organizers, Irene Odorizzi and Alan Bostjancic! Congratulations to you, new officers of the new branch! To you, new members of the new branch!

In all these 68 years I have never been happier! Every new branch that has come along was a wonder! And, you are a phenomenon! No words can say how we, your foremothers, hope for your success and accomplishment! Indeed, you are a bright inspiration as we come to the end of this wonderful century!

The scope of the future is wide and stretches far. What we could not imagine is already a reality! The reality of Slovenian Women's Union is that we have the ability of accepting change and new challenges and are going forward. Our circle has one new link we have accepted and it makes us stronger.

What I wish for the future!

I have only one more wish... a wish directed to every member of Slovenian Women's Union. Today you are the blessed. You are the children of my generation as are your own children mirrors of yourselves. What you do will be a part of the future. Will you remember me and your grandmothers' wishes when you think of the future? And, will you join me in sending a message of support to the new, beautiful Br. 108 and welcome them? (You'll find an address in this ZARJA.) Tell them that we stand together and that we, together, can make a big difference in this world!

Most sincerely yours,

Marie Prisland

(The letter was received in the Editor's office.)



*Irene M. Odorizzi,
Heritage Director*

HISTORY OF S.W.U. BRANCHES

Looking Back

to the Future

BR. #89, OGLESBY, ILLINOIS

In the beginning...

On May 9th, 1938, Mrs. Mary Meglich Yazbec organized the Slovenian ladies in Oglesby, Illinois, and founded Branch 89.

Back in 1938, dues was assessed at 25 cents per member. The ladies were very enthusiastic and active with two fund raisers every year. They ranged from Ice Cream Socials, Bake Sales, Silent Auctions, Card Parties, Turkey and Ham Raffles. Mary Kernz made many afghans which were raffled and brought in a good deal of money.

Emma Shimkus of Branch 24 was instrumental in assisting the Oglesby Branch in getting started on the right foot. The ladies were very grateful for her help and that of the officers who were always held in high esteem and remembered for their loyalty to their branch and to their heritage.

TRADITIONAL SLOVENE ACTIVITIES USED AS FUND RAISERS

A special and popular activity held in the fall of the year was the "Vinska Trgatev" (Grape Festival Dance). When the grapes were ripe, members would bring their grapes to hang in the hall, making grape arbors. Then in the evening, during the festivities, certain individuals were selected to assume the role of policemen. If anyone in the crowd was caught eating the grapes he or she was put in "jail" and had to pay a "fine" to the branch to get out. This turned out to be an evening full of fun.

Another money-maker was the annual Masquerade Dance enjoyed by all. Coffee and beer was sold and prizes were awarded for the best costumes. Mrs. Anna Siolz and

Josephine Livek

Josephine Livek was originally a member of Branch 24 in LaSalle and transferred to Branch 89 with 19 other members. She became a very active member and held the position of ZARJA reporter for some time.



Mrs. Livek was elected National President of the SWU in 1952, and held that position for nine years until 1961.

During her presidency, the SWU underwent a change in location, from Joliet to Chicago (1952). The SWU purchased its first property on Cermak Rd. for the Home Office where it remained until 1976.

She was a member of Holy Family Catholic Church and the Oglesby Women's Club. She is remembered fondly by the ladies of the branch as a faithful member and a wonderful friend. She went to her eternal reward on June 27, 1976.

Mrs. Antonette Muhich were frequent winners of the best costume award.

Two other Slovenian traditional activities which were used to raise funds for the treasury were the Broom Dance and the Pillow Dance.

Four Presidents of Br. 89 were present for the branch's 25th Anniversary in 1963. Frances Nemeth, Josephine Livek, Mary Meglich Yazbec and Anna Stor were hailed as the officers who kept those 25 years very active and successful! Mrs. Meglich was also their ZARJA reporter for many of the first years.



Mother-Daughter Banquets have always been pleasant times for Br. 89 members. Here, the Oldest Mother attending the party in 1978 is Sophie Frank, Mary Dittle is the Most Years Married and Marlene Zamin is the Mother with Most Children, all being presented gifts by the Youngest Mother present, Lorene Manson.



Mary Ann Samuelson was chairman of the event and served as the branch reporter for many years. She is seen at the right of this photo with loyal members Eunice Komater, Anne Komater and Catherine Golick. Eunice has been Br. 89's reporter for the past 9 years and contributed most of the pictures and material for this history.

MEETINGS

In May, the Branch continues the tradition of "Mother of the Year," along with the "You Are Special" honor. In the month of May, a mother is selected, and in the months of June and November a member is honored for her endeavors on behalf of the branch.

The Branch also enjoys guest speakers at the meetings

to show slides of foreign countries or talk about topics of interest and they continue to have bake sales for fund raisers.

DONATIONS

Records show that the Branch was very helpful to the Holy Family Catholic Church in Oglesby, donating a total of \$850.00 during 1953, and 1959 and 1961.

A WALK THROUGH HISTORY WITH BR. 89! by Eunice Komater

Five charter members of Br. 89 were special guests at the 20th anniversary party in 1958. They are, standing: Mary Cenkar and Frances Nemeth; seated, Mary Ambrose, Mary Meglich Yazbec and Mary Kernz.



Let's walk down memory lane and stop to see our town of Oglesby, Illinois. It began when the Kenosha Coal Co. started its coal mines. The town was called Kenosha and a portion of it was called Portland. As the city progressed, by 1913, we were re-named Oglesby after the Honorable Illinois Civil War Governor of Illinois, Richard Oglesby.

During the 1880's, immigrants began to come into the community. There were people from Poland, Italy, Lithuania and our own Slovenians and Croatians. Work was plentiful at the coal mines. After 53 years of mining, the company shut down and the men went to work at the Marquette Cement Co. (1902) and the Lehigh Cement Mill (1916-1963).

As the town was growing, the S.W.U. and Br. 89 made its appearance in 1938. Emma Shimkus of Br. 24 in LaSalle, Illinois was instrumental in getting the ladies together. Mary Meglich Yazbec was the organizer and founder of our branch. The first president was Frances Nemeth who served 8 years. She was followed by Josephine Livek who served 14 years, Anna Stor, for 2 years and Mary Meglich Yazbec for a year.

Josephine Livek also served as the S.W.U. National President from 1952 until 1961.

In 1938 there were 10 new members and 13 transfers from Br. 24. By 1963, 25 years later, we had a total of 160 members.

The first meeting was held at the home of Mary Ambrose on a Sunday afternoon. Later, when the branch grew, the meetings were held in a hall. (It was unable to get the first minutes of the meeting. I wish we could have them to share together!)

The financial reports and minutes dating from 1941 until 1953 were all written in Slovenian.

Our branch was very happy to be able to donate money towards a windows in the church, also a plaque which is

seen in the church vestibule. We gave showers for the nuns and help in many ways for the benefit of our church and community. Our means of raising money was by having bake sales and white elephant auction sales. Since 1986 we have selected two members a year as deserving of the tribute entitled, "You are Special!" Our Mother of the Year and Woman of the Year are also picked by the membership and we enjoy an evening out to honor them.

Our bowling team was one of a kind! Lena Dawson took the helm of this activity for many years. On the team we had Mary Kernz, Jo Argubright, Helen Komater, Ann Rodgers and Mitzi Komater. They won many trophies. We were very proud of their achievements.

Through the years our anniversaries were celebrated. In 1958, for our 20th, we had a festive dinner when president Katherine Rieth presented Josephine Livek with a lovely bouquet. The 25th anniversary was celebrated in 1963 at which time Albina Novak, Supreme Secretary, was a special guest, bringing greetings from the national office. Frances Meglich was president then.

In 1988 we were happy to celebrate our 50th year! A dinner was held at the Hotel Kaskaskia in LaSalle. Yours truly received a 50 year pin as the only surviving charter member that year. Rose Ann Prey, president, gave a short history of our branch and mentioned the work of our organizer, the first president, the National President from our branch. She acknowledged the State President, Angela Nico, who represented Illinois and Indiana from 1979 to 1988. Angie now serves as our liaison officer. We feel fortunate in having her with our organization. She has helped us in so many ways so we can keep up with all of the latest. Most of all, she gives us the benefit of her enthusiasm for our S.W.U. and Slovenian heritage.

In 1979 we co-hosted the Ill.-Ind. State Convention, attended by 131 members with Br. 85, DePue. Corinne



**Neighbors and friends
working together**

Illinois-Indiana Regional Convention in 1986 was hosted by a combined committee from Branches 85 DePue and 89, Oglesby, Illinois. Their 48th anniversary was celebrated by, standing: Josephine Argubright, Emma Foly, Mary Kernz of Br. 89 with Corinne Leskovar of Chicago; seated, Mary O'Berch, Mildred Laurin and Mary Jermenc of Br. 85.

Leskovar and Mary Ann Samuelson led the procession into church dressed in Slovenian national costumes. Fr. Bernard Horzen concelebrated the mass with our Fr. Denis Mackessy and guests, Fr. David Stalzer and Fr. Tom Badovsky. It was a wonderful event.

Our State Convention in 1986 was attended by 150 members and again, we co-hosted the day with br. 85. We always enjoyed working alongside the DePue ladies. No task was too big for them to undertake. We of Br. 89 thank Br. 85 for the gift of their friendship!

It is 56 years since we became a part of this organization and through the years we all worked as a team to accomplish and obtain our goals. I am certain that Mary Meglich Yazbec, founder, Frances Nemeth, 1st president and the charter members would be very proud to see how we have carried on. Our current president, Rose Ann Prey, elected in 1986, has been very active since 1963. The other officers on the roster are, Jo Argubright, financial secretary since 1987, Emma Foly, treasurer since 1986, Angie Nico, liaison officer since 1991, Eunice Komater, reporter since 1985, Marilyn Argubright, Sunshine Committee and chaplain since 1993, Anne Batty, Vice President since 1991, and Auditors, Marilyn Argubright, Darlene Wasielewski and Alice Piecha.

Besides these officers, active members include Helen Komater, Mitzi Banich, Catherine Golick, Frances Kirbach, Mary Stubler, Jo Schmidt, Frances Rolando, Rose Kellett, Betty Hamilton and Emma Casserly.

Just a run-down on our Senior Citizens! Jo Morrison is an octogenarian – her last birthday in August listed her as 87! Honorene Corpus just turned 83! Barbara Sitar is 92! Elsa Zabavnik is 94! Mary Dittle is 94! What amazes us all is that they are all very active at their homes! What a blessing are these octo- and nona-generians!

On a personal note... during my nine years as reporter I have enjoyed the help and cooperation of all the officers and members. To compile the necessary report every month



And for the 50th Anniversary, another grand milestone in Br. 89's history, this committee took the reins and arranged a beautiful event at the Hotel Kaskaskia, June 5, 1988. The officers at the time were as pictured, front: Rose Ann Prey (current president) and Mitzi Banich; second row: Jo Argubright (current secretary) and Eunice Komater (current reporter); back row: Emma Foly, Helen Komater, Ann Batty, and Josephine Morrison.

Special Members



Angeline "Angie" Nico

From 1979 to 1988, Angie Nico held the position of Regional State President and was a very active Officer involved in the State Conventions and keeping in touch with all the Illinois and Indiana branches.

Angie has always accepted the responsibility of being the branch delegate to the State Conventions.

The ladies are indebted to her for her active participation in the branch and for the manner in which she kept the branch informed on all important aspects of the society. She attends many functions of other branches in the area and writes occasionally for ZARJA.

Angie retired from teaching but not from the SWU. Despite some setbacks in health on occasion she still manages to spring back and to be attentive to her branch and ZVEZA.

Mary Jasbec

Mary Jasbec is remembered for her excellent work securing new members for the branch. She was recognized in 1976 on the 50th Anniversary Membership Honor Roll, Third Degree for enrolling 77 members during the first 50 years of the organization. She is recognized for building up the branch and her dedicated and loyal participation in branch activities.

means that all of you have had to take part. I thank you very much.

It really has felt great to reminisce – go back in time – and see what we have done in the past years. The Good Lord has been kind to all of us. Happiness consists in forgetting what one gives and remembering what one receives.

Branch 89 members are looking forward to the next Illinois-Indiana Regional Convention to be held here in our city on October 2, 1994. We hope to see you all here.

Thank you for coming along with us on our trip through time. It's been very enlightening to me. A special remembrance thank-you to our First Lady of Zveza, Marie Prislund, who did so much to keep the Slovenian culture and language alive by her hard work and perseverance. Let's follow in her footsteps!

Rose Ann Prey

Rose Ann has been elected to the office of President currently and has shown herself to be a great leader, organizer and maintains a good atmosphere in the branch.

Lena Dawson

Branch 89 formed bowling teams in 1957. They remained active until 1984. Lena Dawson led the bowlers to many victories and they accumulated numerous trophies.

She will be remembered fondly as a wonderful member and a very good friend to all. She was instrumental in raising funds to defray the expenses of the bowling teams. It was not unusual to find her involved in promoting large amounts of candy, holding all types of raffles so that the ladies would be able to continue bowling. The teams continued for 27 years.

She was a terrific bowler and led the Oglesby teams to many victories as they competed with other SWU teams in the midwest.



Lena Dawson was president of Br. 89 in 1978. She is seen here (right) with Frances Gorisek, Chancellor, Emma Foly, Treasurer, Mary Kernz, Secretary, and Jo Argubright, Vice President.

.....
Many thanks to Eunice Komater and all the members of the branch who were so helpful in compiling information for the history. Eunice mentioned that they will continue recording the branch activities so that future members will be able to know more about the past activities. Good idea!

Irene M. Odorizzi

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION OF AMERICA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Home Office, Joliet, Illinois, March 20-22, 1994

Continued

HERITAGE DIRECTOR

Greetings to the National Board and Members of the SWU!

My position of Heritage Director has been a busy one this year. My report covers many categories of work. One of the highlights of the year was the Heritage Doll Raffle. As of Feb. 1, 1994, the raffle grossed \$1,660 less \$169.00 printing and postage costs, netting the Heritage Fund, \$1,491.00. It was less than expected for participation from the entire organization comprised of 58 branches.

Olga Ancel, National Secretary, who handled the ticket returns, mentioned that sales activity came from the following branches:

Branch 13, sold \$157; Branch 103 sold \$90; Branch 20, sold \$122; Branch 16 sold \$98. Miscellaneous \$96.

As you can see, there were very few branches represented for this project which could have netted the Heritage Fund a much larger profit. Hopefully, the non-participating branches will realize their omission and conduct a raffle this year for failing to participate in this major heritage project by selling the tickets they received.

We are indebted, first, to Corinne Leskovar for donating the lovely two-foot doll and of course to Vice President, Beverly Jackson for providing the materials, time and energy to sew the three lovely outfits for "Maria," and to Olga Ancel for handling the tickets. The raffle winner was Josephine Jacobs, President of Branch 106, who purchased all the tickets sent to her branch.

Another area of my work is in the field of genealogy. It takes hours each day corresponding with individuals who write or phone for assistance with genealogical research. This includes correspondence, research, xeroxing, and sending information that can assist them with finding out about their family tree. Even though this work has turned out to be very time consuming. I have met some very interesting America-Slovenes throughout the U.S. In the process I have also discovered that the Slovene immigrants documented very little about themselves and their past for future generations. Some researchers are really being challenged.

The task assigned to me at the '93 Board Meeting by National President, Tory Bobence, was to up-date the flyer about the SWU. With the input of Corinne Leskovar I have prepared a flyer for discussion by the Board. After final editing it will be printed.

While researching information about our organization, it occurred to me that the SWU Ritual Book appeared to be out-dated as well, so I took time to edit that manual and hopefully we can discuss its contents at the '94 Board Meeting and produce an up-dated version of the SWU Ritual.

In regards to on-going membership recruitment, I have enrolled a total of 17 members during 1993. One of the highlights of my year is the possible establishment of a new branch in Virginia Beach, Virginia, along with Alan Bostjancic and his wife, Gigi. It has been 29 years since I established Branch 103, the last branch to enter the SWU in 1965, and

I am happy to see that we can take another step forward with new generation of American-Slovenes. The second possibility is Atlanta, Georgia. I am working with Mary Pavlic to establish a second branch in time for the summer Olympics which will be held in Atlanta.

Over 135 SWU members are scattered throughout the U.S. and are part of Branch 30, Home Office. We really don't know much about them nor are they represented in a ZARJA column. After conferring with Corinne, we decided that a column for Branch 30 would be very interesting and we do have a reporter that would be willing to take on the duties of "roving reporter." Mary Pavlic of Chamblee, Georgia, will contact these members by letter and request information on their activities for her article in ZARJA. I wrote the first article for the March issue which introduces the reporter.

I have ordered two new books added for sale in the Museum Store: The **Slovenian Atlas** and a **Grammar Reference** book. We have also re-ordered the two dictionaries: **Slovene to English** and **English to Slovene**. The customary tee shirts, aprons, caps, key chain, tapes, records and books are still available and orders are handled by Jonita Ruth.

Al Peterlin contacted me about donating a collection of the **Ave Maria** magazine for the Museum library. We are very grateful to him for the collection. The volunteers will process these magazines as well as future books to be received from the collection of former U.S. Congressman, John Blatnik. Many thanks to the museum volunteers for services during 1993: **Molly Gregorich, Ann Dragovan, Mildred Pucel, Helen Plut, Margaret Dusa, Olga and Ed Ancel**. If anyone was omitted, we thank you for your participation. Please let me know.

My monthly articles in the ZARJA this year have been HERITAGE NEWS AND VIEWS which presents assorted heritage subjects and LOOKING BACK TO THE FUTURE, a series of monthly articles, which features the history of SWU Branches. Since the column was started in 1992, the following branches are completed: Numbers 16, 23, 34, 35, 38, 47, 50, 67, 92, 95, 96, and 102. Corinne supplemented the features with photos from the yearly ZARJAs.

I decided to write a new column entitled, FIRST LADY, in celebration of the 65th Anniversary of the founding of the SWU. After sending out letters to a number of individuals for information a number of members have responded to my request for memories about our founder, Mrs. Prislant, and there will be enough for the remainder of 1994. Hopefully, we will be able to collect them into a small pamphlet in her honor for posterity's sake.

Kathy Dicke Gorton sent a very nice video she and her husband prepared from movies about her grandmother, Mrs. Prislant. I'm hoping to find the time to write some commentary which will then be added to the video by the Gorton's. We are grateful to Kathy and her husband for applying their expertise in preparing a very good video about Mrs. Prislant.

In July-August the Austrian Choral Group, Peca, from Globasnica presented a number of concerts in Indianapolis,

Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Toronto, Washington, D.C. and New York City. I participated in those events held in New York and Washington, D.C. working in conjunction with Paul Barbarich, Stane Kuhar, Violet Ruparcich and Rev. Krizlog Cimmerman.

There have been some heritage donations this year, which are itemized in the report prepared by Olga Ancel and submitted with this report. We thank all donors and ask them to check the report for inclusion in our list of generous donors that accompanies that report. Commendations to all branches that continue to present heritage activities in their locale. They are encouraged to continue and keep our Slovenian heritage alive!

Irene M. Odorizzi

The Heritage Director suggested that a handicapped entry be placed in the near of the Museum as required by law and brought to the attention of the Board by Ann Dragan. The Board, in recognizing the legal regulations, will take action on this matter.

EDITOR'S REPORT

Greetings and many good wishes to one and all.

This year, I would like to focus my report on the positive things that we can say were accomplished this past year. First of all, the 65th Anniversary of our beloved publication ZARJA was celebrated by the participation of the officers of Zveza and members in a wide-spread project. Widespread in that we employed the artistry of our members from all parts of the S.W.U. and compiled information that would be of benefit to every member throughout the year – thereby combining both the art and the facts that would be up-lifting and helpful to our organization.

The gratitude of all of us to those who participated. Special thanks to the Board of Directors who supported this project with their good writing and promotion. If one reads the comments of our members who received the 65th ANNIVERSARY CALENDAR as a remembrance of this anniversary, we know that it was indeed a success. The result of our six month work was gratifying, but, I must admit, disappointing in that only 17% of the membership responded with contributions that would be for the benefit of our publication. We were hoping for more, and perhaps it was unrealistic to expect that at least 50% would respond. Perhaps we can discuss the reasons for this low response.

This histories of our branches are an excellent piece of work that has brought a sense of belonging and pride to all the branches, those whose histories were published and those who are still anticipating their own coverage. It has been a pleasure to arrange these pages and to work with such a dedicated officer as Irene Odorizzi, our Heritage Director who is always positive and helpful and who is willing to share her ideas and expertise with us.

The past year can be assessed as a year of progress, we have stepped up our activities and are by no means at a "status quo" situation. How to further increase activities and interest in the organization will be discussed at this meeting,

including the preparations for our forthcoming National Convention in 1995.

My hopes are for a productive meeting where we can find more ways to tap the resources of our membership, that we can share more of the common interests, and to give our members a closer touch to the Slovenian values and culture that has been our legacy. In this way, we may find that the future of our unique organization is assured.

Corinne Leskovar

HERITAGE MUSEUM FINANCIAL REPORT – Year of 1993

Income:

Memoriams:

Luba Troha, Chicago, IL	\$410.00
Family	400.00
Corinne Leskovar	20.00

Msgr. M.J. Butala, Joliet, IL

Avsec Printers	100.00
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Carol Piccerello, Cleveland, OH 50.00 |

Ann Tercek, mother	25.00
Corinne Leskovar	10.00
Lucille Smith	10.00
Irene Odorizzi	5.00

Mary Panovich, San Francisco, CA

Branch No. 13	10.00
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Zorka Vukajevich, San Francisco, CA

Family	10.00
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Bernice Kostecl, Joliet, IL

Mildred and Rudolph Pucel	10.00
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Joseph and Mary Vidmar, Joliet, IL

Josephine, daughter and Walter Lustik	10.00
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Milton F.K. Pavlic, Chamblee, GA

Mary Pavlic	10.00
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Mary Szabo, Warrensville Hts., OH 10.00 |

Alouise Epley	5.00
Evelyn Majercik	5.00

Rose Zbasnik, Warrensville Hts., OH

Dorothy Dorothy Godfrey	10.00
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Christine Caselli, Washington, D.C.

Irene and Ken Odorizzi	5.00
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John Bartol, McLean, VA

Ken and Irene Odorizzi	5.00
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\$640.00

Donations:

Raymond Adamic, Joliet, IL	\$100.00
John and Sabina Bartol, McLean, VA	100.00
Victoria and John Bobence, Ely, MN	100.00
Beverly Jackson, San Francisco, CA	100.00
Josephine Mistic, Cleveland, OH (Br. 50)	100.00
St. Joseph, No. 2, KSKJ Joliet, IL	100.00
St. Francis de Sales No. 29,	
KSKJ Joliet, IL	100.00
Minnesota State Convention	133.25
Branch No. 33, Duluth, MN	66.15
Living and deceased members No. 47	
Garfield Heights, OH	25.00
Branch No. 50, Cleveland, OH	25.00
Branch No. 39, Biwabik, MN	20.00

WISCONSIN

Josephine Lustik, Joliet, IL	20.00
Delores Mueller, Warrensville, OH	15.00
Cirila Kermavner, Cleveland, OH	10.00
Sylvia Onusic, Ljubljana, Slovenia	10.00
Branch No. 103, Washington, D.C.	10.00
Betty Puchnick, Park Forest, IL	7.00
Otilla Kurnick, San Francisco, CA	2.00
	\$1,043.40

Doll Raffle	\$1,660.00
Less expenses -- printing and postage	169.00
	1,491.00

Sold articles (Christmas and Easter cards, tee-shirts, sweatshirts, aprons, cassettes, Slovenian flags, dictionaries)	1,911.04
Greetings from Slovenia books	1,758.50
Slovenija ATLAS	975.00
Slovenija pins	530.00
Checking account interest	54.56
	\$8,403.50

Expenses:

Memberships:	
Illinois Historical Society	30.00
Slovenian American Heritage Foundation	25.00
PA State Slavic Folk Festival	20.00
Assn for the Study of Nationalities	18.00
Illinois Heritage Museum	25.00
Joliet Chamber of Commerce	15.00
Polka Hall of Fame	12.00
	145.00

Ad-65th Anniversary branch No. 20	25.00
Director Irene Odorizzi expenses	349.23
Plaque inscriptions	53.50
Telephone, printing, postage	416.22
Ave Maria collection (postage)	49.39
Camera film	37.12
Two-year SLOVENIJA subscription	50.00
Remote answering system (one-half cost)	40.00
Window decoration needs	34.28

Purchase of items for sale:	
Greetings from Slovenia	1,926.80
Dictionaries	30.00
Slovenija ATLAS	665.00
Aprons	394.90
Tee-shirts and sweatshirts	484.00
Slovenija pins	529.00
Cassettes-tapes	308.62
Slovenian flags	88.00
	4,426.22

Books for library	26.95
	5,652.91

Gain for year

Balance January 1, 1993	1,516.09
Balance December 31, 1993 (checking account)	\$4,266.68

Money Market January 1, 1993	\$6,883.23
Interest earned	174.83

7,058.06

Total net worth December 31, 1993

Olga Ancel, Nat'l Secy.

This report will be quite different as our Branches in Wisconsin did not have a State Convention in 1993. Branch 17 was designated to have the Convention, however, due to so many difficulties, it was decided there would be none in 1993.

However, I am happy to say that Branch 102 (Willard, WI) has accepted to host the 1994 State Convention. The date that has been chosen is Sept. 25th. (Changed to Oct. 2).

Throughout the year, I have tried to keep in touch with the Wisconsin Branches by letter and phone. Since we had no State Convention, I did send a questionnaire to be filled out nonetheless and the results are as follows:

Branch 1 - An apple strudel-making seminar was held in April in Fr. Cherne Hall with a terrific turnout. The Sheboygan Press covered the event beautifully which showed the community our ethnic flair in the kitchen. We were pleased to have Hermine Dicke in our midst that evening. In May, a breakfast was held to celebrate Mother's Day, preceded by a Mass in Church. Aggie Gruenke was chosen as the Branch's Mother of the Year. In late November, the Sheboygan County Museum invited us to participate in their ethnic -- Christmas Around the World -- displaying the various countries, exhibiting memorabilia from members of our immigrant homes. It turned out to be a beautiful way to display the various cultures which settled in the Sheboygan Area. I, Janet Maurin, organized the Slovenian display and the responsibility of gathering items for the Slovenian display. Members of our society, as well as other Slovenian non-members were gracious in making this holiday event a success. Members of S.W.U. helped act as greeters at the museum during the time of the exhibition which lasted ten days. Some also donated potica to hand-out to visitors. In December, the society had their annual Christmas get together at a lovely restaurant for an evening outing. It concluded with a Christmas Sing-Along led by Janet Maurin. The Branch was disappointed in not having a State Convention in 1993.

Branch 12 - This Milwaukee Branch continued to visit nursing homes, had a successful sausage demonstration, hosted the Mother of the Year Dinner, and had a Mass for Living & Deceased Members. This Branch also is concerned for the lack of young members joining.

Branch 17 - No report.

Branch 43 - This Branch continues to host its card party in November, visits members in nursing homes and has a mass for living and deceased members. They hosted their Mother of the Year luncheon in June before vacation and then enjoy the social party of their Christmas party. This branch also wishes more new members would join.

Branch 102 - This branch still has their strudel day in October and their Hunter bake sale, a Christmas party, Valentine party and Palm Sunday bake sale. They also honor a Mother of the Year - a day spent with Slovenian Družba. Again, branch 102 will host the 1994 Wisconsin State Convention on Sunday, September 25th, 1994. (Changed to Oct. 2).

Hopefully, with a State Convention this year, we will be able to air differences and hear what each Branch approves of, also.

Sometimes, it can be very discouraging when plans do not materialize, such as, not having a State Convention,

however, I have tried to keep the Slovenian culture alive in my home community, accepting to play a role in many ethnic affairs.

Best wishes to everyone in attendance at the Board of Directors meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Maurin, State President

WESTERN STATES

Greetings to our National Officers. In spite of the shaking, burning and flooding our state has endured, we here in Fontana were spared the brunt of these disasters.

Branch 79 in Washington reports the same officers as the previous year. Joint picnics and holiday celebrations with other Slovene lodges spur the interest and attendance. Thank you to Mary Bradovich for the report.

I contacted Beverly Jackson about the San Francisco Branch 13 and their activities. They enjoy their holiday parties and bus trips. I didn't get up to see them this year, but according to Beverly, the plans for the national convention are in full swing and that means we will be seeing you next year.

Our Branch 100 enjoys the meetings at member's homes and the social comraderie. Our Mother of the Year dinner and Communion Brunch were well attended. We celebrated Christmas at the Candlelight Theater and a Palechinke Brunch last spring was fun and profitable. My greatest concern is the decline in membership. We lost a few members this past year and hope to be able to enroll new ones. Our last meeting was attended by eight members and a plan for a state convention was not decided.

I will notify the National President when we do make the decision.

Best wishes to all at the National Board meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Mlakar

Regional President, Fontana, CA

MINNESOTA

The regional officers for **Minnesota** met two times during the year for the purpose of socializing and also to go over the finances of the organization. Vice President Ann Orazem, Sec. Dorothy Jamnik and President Jean Korsman also talked about some future projects and the issues pertinent to the S.W.U.

The Branch Presidents all met on June 11, 1993 for a general meeting to bring up any problems within the Branches and to offer help to Br. 19 for their upcoming Sept. Convention. The group had lunch and were advised that Eveleth Br. 19 was well prepared for the event. It turned out to be a most successful event on Sept. 13th. Br. 19 hosted it at Virginia.

President Jean Korsman was invited in 1993 to visit three different branches. In May she was invited to attend the "Mother of the Year" dinner at Tower-Soudan. Good to see National President Tory Bobence there, too.

Br. 23, Ely hosted the Mother of the Year dinner in May. Present were Vice President Ann Orazem, Sec. Dorothy Jamnik and Jean Korsman.

Also in May, the three officers and National President Tory were invited to Duluth Branch 33 to attend their Mother

of the Year Dinner. This was my first invitation to Duluth, and it was a well-organized event, and a delightful time was had by us all. I think the branches benefit from a visit by the State President and officers, as it makes the Branch realize and appreciate the over-all picture of the S.W.U. I have not been invited to any other of the branches except Aurora, MN for the past two years.

Generally, I feel I have been less effective this past year than in 1992. Possibly because I was personally not as enthusiastic or encouraging to the various branches. My own disappointment in the flagging interest of the younger members, even in my own branch, and the lack of new members introduced into the branches has been acute.

I am deeply concerned about the lack of enthusiasm for the proposal by the Board of Directors and expressed by Corinne Leskovar dealing with the subject of parenting and children. Many felt that in our area there are already many workshops and organizations dealing with the struggling young families in the 90's. It may be that it's difficult to get our age women enthused about a subject more suited to their daughters and grandchildren.

Comments about the Calendar seem to be that they liked it, but thought \$10.00 was too much to pay! I tried to impress upon them that it was mainly a donation to ZARJA for which they received a beautiful calendar. Hopefully most of them did send the money. They all love the ZARJA but don't seem to realize how precarious is the situation concerning cost of publication.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Korsman, State President

OHIO-MICHIGAN

According to the articles in ZARJA, it appears that the Ohio-Michigan Branches of Slovenian Women's Union are surviving. My only information comes from the articles.

If/when opportunity presents itself, and I speak to any members of sister-branches, there do not seem to be any problems they cannot solve from within.

The biggest change for our region was moving the convention site yearly. This year, Branch 105 (Detroit, Michigan) will host the State Convention on Sunday, October 16th. They are anxious to welcome us, we are equally as anxious to share the day with them. We hope to have 75-80 traveling with us to Detroit. A request for the 1995 convention has already been presented.

Branches are sent quarterly correspondence (copy attached). This is the best way to keep in touch. There is never any feedback and, although my time is very, very limited, I might add there are *no* invitations to attend meetings, gatherings, special events. I rather resent the fact that branch presidents do not take the time to take care of these small details. I wonder where our leadership is headed? Branch presidents/officers (with few exceptions) choose not to attend state conventions, and yet, year after year they are "re-elected", thanked for their efforts and praised for their accomplishments.

I must agree with Corinne Leskovar -- that we have become a social club. We boast of our attendance at picnics, parties, other functions, but do not promote more solid, important goals.

I hope to address these matters at the next state convention, along with matters such as choosing a delegate for the

1995 National Convention, helping with expenses, etc.

On a personal note: Last year I submitted a detailed report to the National Board along with an item for consideration regarding checking accounts, etc. for branches using their personal accounts for branch transactions. I spent time writing, rewriting the material. I had it edited, professionally typed (Cost: \$18.00), mailed it far ahead of the set deadline. In the minutes of the meeting as printed in ZARJA, I saw no mention of the report being received, read, discussed, considered, tabled. If reports and suggestions need to be submitted, they should be acknowledged either by a letter from the board or a mention in the minutes. Otherwise, in due time, reports (such as this) will become short and to the point.

Respectfully submitted,

*Evelyn A. Majercik,
Regional President*

OHIO-MICHIGAN

RECOMMENDATION FOR CONSIDERATION

It came to mind that, just as for America in 1993, S.W.U. is ready for change. Please bear with me as I explain.

In resolving the membership of Branch 15, attention was brought to many aspects of our way of keeping records. The most evident was the lack of communication. A better way of phrasing that would be the way we communicate.

I was amazed at some of the information given to me as I contacted members. Moves that had been made, changes of names, deceased members, apt. numbers, etc.

It was evident that records in the Home Office are not current. Although branch secretaries notify ZARJA of address changes, this information is not given to the Home Office. It probably works the other way, too. *Both* should be advised of any changes.

The most disturbing item brought to my attention was the manner in which dues are collected, recorded, and forwarded. I present to you this scenario.

Mary is a loyal, active member of S.W.U. At the beginning of each year, she pays her dues in full. Sophie is an inactive member and she waits until each December to "settle up." Anna is an in-between member. She attends a couple of meetings a year, pays her dues quarterly, and sometimes needs a reminder from the secretary that money is due. Theresa is secretary for the Branch.

At the beginning of each month, Theresa faithfully sends in her dues for the *entire* branch, including Mary, Sophie, Anna, etc. She uses Mary's money to keep everyone else up-to-date, until Sophie contributes to the "pool," and she eagerly awaits for the till to be strengthened by Anna's quarterly payment.

Fate enters in! Sophie dies six months before she has paid her dues for the year. Theresa, again the faithful secretary, sends in the death certificate. The death benefit is paid to Sophie's beneficiary.

One secretary told me this has happened within her branch and the unpaid dues are not recovered.

A second scenario is for branches where the secretaries/ treasurers utilize their personal checking accounts for depositing dues and for paying Home Office. If a secretary should be unable to handle her own affairs, where are our funds?

At the 20/20 convention in Joliet, 1987, the idea of S.W.U. starting computerized billing was discussed at length. The records will show that I was totally against the suggestion, contending that the elderly would not understand the process and we would lose members.

Now the time has come!

It was also brought to my attention that, if need be, I could not obtain the status of any *one* member from Home Office, i.e., all of Branch 000 is paid up for Jan., 1993, including good ol' Sophie (God rest her soul) and Anna. Fact-of-the-matter is, there is every chance that perhaps only half of the membership has paid anything at all.

My suggestions/recommendations:

1. Secretaries should notify *both* Home Office and ZARJA of any changes in name or address. Changes submitted to one should be forwarded to the other.

2. A computerized printout is sent to each secretary at the beginning of each year. This instrument should be used to its fullest potential. Mail it monthly. The secretary will notate payments for each individual member and forward dues to Home Office accordingly – not for the entire branch. One beneficial result would be that Home Office would immediately deduct any unpaid dues from the death benefit.

3. Start computerized billing!

I would further suggest that, in an upcoming issue of ZARJA (CL's choice), a simple form be included for the purpose of updating our records, names, addresses, zip codes, phone numbers, and *beneficiaries*. In the case of Branch 15, beneficiaries were already deceased, relationships have changed, "haven't spoken to them for year," or "I've remarried," etc.

Many times I was asked, "How much do I owe?" I had no way of checking that information from the records I was given.

Please understand, I am not questioning the honesty or accuracy of *any* secretary. The method itself is antiquated and needs to be modernized.

In speaking to secretaries, each of them has her own way of collecting, depositing, and paying dues. I feel that *all* branches should be operating the same way. If handwritten records are submitted, they should list member-by-member status, and *all* branches should be *required* to have a checking account.

This is the one aspect that I feel requires immediate attention and consideration.

Thank you for your attention to this letter and for listening to my concern regarding this situation.

Respectfully submitted,

*Evelyn A. Majercik
Regional President, S.W.U.*

This concludes the Minutes of the Meeting.

LET'S GO! SAN FRANCISCO WELCOMES US!

WE WANT YOUR OPINION AND COMMENTS!

We have over 6,000 members – where are 5,988 of you?

We are waiting for your answers to the SWU Opinion Poll asked in the last issue of ZARJA (July-August issue). Please take a moment to read the proposal and send your comments. We need to have your opinion on this matter that will be discussed at the forthcoming National Convention.

Nat'l Secretary, Olga Ancel has received 12 replies as of August 1st. All answered YES to the question of yearly dues payments. One of the most interesting comments came in a letter from former National Officer, Anna Hodnik. Her thoughts are worth a second reading; here are some excerpts:

People who pay monthly should take the office of secretary/treasurer and they would soon find out how tedious a job it is. It is difficult enough to find members to take any office but by paying yearly it certainly makes the job easier. I don't think we are being considerate of the office. The least anyone can do as a member of our organization is to pay their dues yearly.

I always admired our older generation of Slovenes for being very conscientious and prompt in paying their dues. At least those in our area are that way. Most were knocking on my door the beginning of January to pay their dues and now with most people having a checking account they can mail them in at the cost of 29 cents. A secretary or treasurer should not have to go door to door to collect dues.

Please read and consider your opinion on the matter of Yearly Dues Payments, that is, paying your assessment (dues) one time per year. The S.W.U. wishes to know what you think about it. Please read the proposal below and fill out the form – send it to the Home Office. Thank you.

The matter will be brought up for decision at the forthcoming National Convention in May, 1995.

OPINION POLL FOR YEARLY PAYMENT OF DUES SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION

- _____ I think it is a good idea and would like to make my yearly dues payment once a year, January or February (circle one)
- _____ No, I do not wish to make my yearly dues payment once a year.

MY COMMENT:

Name: _____ Branch No. _____

Please mail to the S.W.U. Home Office, 431 N. Chicago St., Joliet, IL 60432 by October 1, 1994.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION

SCHOLARSHIP STUDENTS WRITE:

"THE IMPORTANCE OF MY HERITAGE AND CULTURE"

I would like to thank the Slovenian Women's Union, especially Branch 50, for awarding me a 1994 scholarship. In the world that we live in today, heritage and culture are almost forgotten. Children rarely know the story behind their heritage, if they even know their background at all. Traditions are not passed down and the relatives that may still practice them are seen as old and "sentimental". This is not true in my family.

My grandmother, Frances Sietz, was born in Brooklyn, New York, of Slovenian and German descent. My grandfather was born in Slovenia of full Slovenian descent. I was not able to know my grandfather as he passed away before I was born. My grandmother passed away when I was six but I still remember some of the many things she did to keep alive her culture and heritage. She used to make the best farina dumplings and potica, which she taught my mother to make and in turn I will learn from my mother. My grandmother also made dolls in the traditional Slovenian costume. What I did not know about my grandparents, I hear in fantastic stories my great aunt, Carole Traven tells. I especially like the fact that my grandmother was such a strong and liberated woman considering the time that she lived in.

To me the importance of my heritage and culture is that I am able to keep the traditions and memories of my grandparents alive and in my heart.

*Kimberly Anne Bischof
Br. 50, Cleveland, Ohio*

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Slovenian Women's Union and all those who donate to it's scholarship fund. The scholarship I received is not only a great help but also an honor. My Slovenian heritage and culture has been an important part of my life since I was young. I have always looked forward to attending picnics, parties and other events because everyone there is like one big family. Even staying at home or going to my grandparents' house reveals many Slovenian traditions. My whole family looks forward to the holidays when my mother makes potica and strudel, and my grandmother has a pot of smokies and a loaf of bread waiting for us to arrive. Our family has many parties and it wouldn't be a party without the button box and some polkas. My Slovenian heritage and culture has helped me learn the importance of family and has rooted in me some wonderful traditions.

*Amy Elizabeth Tezak
Br. 20, Joliet, Illinois*

My nationality is mainly Polish. My father is a Polish immigrant. My mother's grandparents both emigrated from Poland to the United States. To help learn about my heritage, I have traveled to Poland four times. I have been able to learn the Polish language as a result of my travels with my family to Poland. While there I have been able to speak and interact with my father's family. My father also speaks to us in Polish at home. This has also helped me to learn the language.

By traveling to Poland I have learned more about my culture. While visiting the country, I have been able to see how the Polish people live, their customs, and the different foods they eat. One benefit of traveling there is that I can see the differences in the way that we live in the United States as compared to how they live. My heritage has been an important and instructive part of my life.

*Thomas Rzatkowski
Br. 33, Duluth, Minnesota*

AND, THE IMPORTANCE OF AN EDUCATION

On June 25th Robert and Hermine Dicke with daughter, Kathy Gorton, attended the graduation ceremony in San Francisco, CA of their daughter, Mary Dicke. She received her Ph.D. Degree in Psychology from the Professional School of Psychology-San Francisco. The title of her dissertation is: "The Psychological Adaptation to Trauma of the Battered Woman."

Dr. Mary Dicke is a psychotherapist for Sonoma County, CA. She is also in private practice.

Mary received her bachelor's degree in art from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and master's degree in Psychology from Sonoma State University. She resides in Sebastopol, CA.

Mary is the granddaughter of SWU Founder, Marie Priland who was a great advocate of higher education and for this reason instituted the SWU Scholarship Fund over 40 years ago.

Needless to say, we are all proud of Mary's achievements.



Mary Dicke, Ph.D.

"SAN FRANCISCO WELCOMES US!

Membership Campaign, April-July Results

Four-month campaign results show a gain of 46 new members plus eight Junior transfers:

20, Joliet, IL	11	Individual workers are:	
108, Virginia Beach, VA	11		
43, Milwaukee, WI	6	Alan Bostjancic (108)	5
73, Warrensville Hts., OH	4	Patricia Figuirowski (20)	4
2, Chicago, IL	3	Jonita Ruth (20)	4
12, Milwaukee, WI	3	Alouise Epley (73)	4
13, San Francisco, CA	3	Linda Fischer (108)	3
34, Soudan-Tower, MN	2	Mary Lou Mathews (108)	3
47, Garfield Hts., OH	2	June Patrick (13)	2
50, Cleveland, OH	2	Rosalie Dovnik (43)	2
95, South Chicago, IL	2	Matilda Simeic (43)	2
1, Sheboygan, WI	1	Amelia Cuzella (95)	2
5, Indianapolis, IN	1	Individual workers total	23
35, Aurora, MN	1		
101, Bedford Hts., OH	1		
103, Washington, D.C.	1		

Will we see your name and branch in the future listing?

Olga Ancel, Nat'l Secy.

HAPPY WEDDING DAY! to our Youth Director!

August 27th, 1994 was the wedding day of our S.W.U. Youth Director, Bernadette Kovacic! She is now Mrs. Timothy James Fitzsimmons! Bernadette and Timothy were married at the Notre Dame Chapel at Trinity College in Washington, D.C. at an afternoon ceremony.

Her mother, Mrs. Nika Kovacic, the vice president of our Br. 103 and many members attended the wedding day celebration. Our love and wishes to the newlyweds for many happy years together and God's very special blessing on their union!



FROM THE EDITOR

This issue of ZARJA-The Dawn is unusually interesting and full of ideas and news. Hope you will all enjoy each and every page!

The next ZARJA you will receive will be in November, 1994. Reporters are asked to combine their September and October news and other reports for the November issue by sending them in by October 1st. In this way we shall be sure to cover all the events taking place before Christmas. **So, remember, no October ZARJA.** Reporters especially, take note! Thank you.

Also, another reminder! Consider the Opinion Poll reprinted in this issue. This Opinion Poll is your opportunity to express how you feel about the proposal to mandate Yearly Dues Collection, instead of the monthly collection that has been in force for 68 years! Many members already pay their dues one time per year and all the secretaries of these branches are able to regulate their bank and other financial responsibilities in a better manner. Please send in your comments on the Poll that is repeated in this issue.

Meet Franci and Katica!

They are on the back cover of this issue of ZARJA-The Dawn waiting for someone to take them home and share them with family and friends.

What grandma wouldn't love to have them for her grandchildren? What mom would not love to have them to put into her curio cabinet and show off to all visitors? What American-Slovenian would not like to have them to bring a perfect touch of Slovenia into her home?

Our energetic and enthusiastic Vice President, Beverly Jackson, of Br. 13, San Francisco is always ready to promote the SWU and her Slove-

nian heritage. As San Francisco gets ready to greet us next May at the 22nd National Convention, she is getting ready with this very special Heritage Museum Prize. Beverly has named the Couple after her grandparents and you can be sure every stitch was made with love and pride!

The raffle tickets are only \$1 each and you can have more tickets by copying the back cover coupon or ask for some from your Branch Officers or Home Office. Send each coupon with your name and address and \$1 to: 431 N. Chicago St., Joliet, IL 60432, by March 15, 1995!

ADVERTISING IS A BONUS IN ZARJA

Most of the advertising you see in ZARJA has been with us for many years. We seldom lose any because it is so reasonable (Business people DO need some adv. deductions for business purposes), and secondly, it reaches over 6,000 homes, nationwide, which provides a powerful message.

If you are looking for that slight edge to make your business perk up - or know of someone who is, please get in touch with us and we will be happy to include them in our special family of advertisers!



Barbara Chiodo

I would like very much to introduce the Chairman of the 22nd National Convention, Barbara Chiodo. She is most capable as for the last 15 years she has booked conventions and Board Meetings for a large political organization throughout the State of California. She knows very well how to show you the beauty of our state and San Francisco. Barbara is the former Deputy Director of California Department of Parks and Recreation and has traveled the State extensively. Her enthusiasm and personality will "rub off"



CONVENTION '95 – IN BEAUTIFUL SAN FRANCISCO!

Remember the song, "I left my heart in San Francisco"? You will have a chance to do just that if you are planning to attend the National Convention in May of 1995. I promise if you come to San Francisco, you will leave your heart here. As a second generation native San Franciscan, I believe it is the most beautiful and charming city in the world. We truly have something for everybody!

We have selected the lovely Canterbury Hotel and Whitehall Inn as the convention site. It is in the heart of San Francisco. We have been working with the hotel staff for almost one year now and can report they have given us outstanding room rates of \$74.00 single and \$79.00 double. This is almost unheard of! They also have several suites for \$125.00 per night, if you are planning to bring your family. The hotel is home to world famous Lehr's Greenhouse Restaurant where you dine in a magnificent garden in full bloom, with towering ficus trees complementing the white wicker gazebos. Our meetings will be held in the beautiful English Room which features a skylight, allowing natural lighting for daylight functions.

The hotel is conveniently located in fashionable Sutter Street in downtown San Francisco, where you are just a short walk to Chinatown and the Financial District. Many of the City's theaters and finest restaurants are just steps away. Within 3 blocks you'll find Nob Hill, the famous Powell Street Cable Car line, and Union Square, the City's finest shopping area, which includes I. Magnin, Neiman Marcus, Saks Fifth Avenue and Macy's.

Besides all of the attractions within walking distance, I know you will want to see Fisherman's Wharf, Golden Gate Park, the Golden Gate Bridge, the Pacific Ocean, Pier 39, and the list goes on and on. The committee is planning tours, so you won't miss anything. We are very fortunate to have one of our Branch 13 members, Michele Twers, who is a tour company executive, on the convention committee. She is planning some great tours for you!

On behalf of National Vice President Beverly Jackson, Branch 13 President Josephine Aiuto and the committee, we are looking forward to seeing all of you in May of next year. We promise you the time of your life!

Barbara Chiodo, Convention Chairman

on you immediately. She will be working closely with Michelle Twers, our Branch Treasurer, who works for El Camino Bus Lines. It will be a Convention and a vacation to remember.

Professionally, Barbara is a marketing and public relations director. How do I know so much about her? Barbara is my sister and I am so pleased and proud she has taken on this tremendous job for our Branch!

Beverly Jackson, National Vice President

22ND NATIONAL CONVENTION SCHEDULE May 18-21, 1995

Thursday, May 18, 7 p.m.	Registration at Hotel
Friday, May 19, 8 a.m.	Opening ceremony, followed by Keynote Speaker
May 19, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.	Session I
Break from 10:30-:45	Free afternoon and evening
Saturday, May 20, 8 a.m.	Convention Photo
8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.	Session II
Break from 10:30-:45	Free afternoon and evening
Sunday, May 21, 8:30 a.m.	Session III
Break at 10:00 a.m.	
10:30 a.m.	Newly elected Board of Directors meets
2 p.m.	Holy Mass followed by Banquet and Adjournment of the Convention

FORMER U.S. CONGRESSMAN JOHN BLATNIK BOOK DONATION

Many items were donated to the Heritage Museum Library from the private collection of former U.S. Congressman, John Blatnik of Minnesota and donated to the Slovenian Heritage Museum Library through the courtesy of his widow, Evelyn Blatnik.

We send appreciation to Evelyn Blatnik for the lovely books and the record album which will add to our very fine collection.

Appreciation is also extended to John C. Rucigay for packing and sending the books and to Mary Pavlic for referring Mr. Rucigay to the Slovenian Heritage Museum Library. Appreciation to Kathy Dicke for transferring the records to cassettes.

It's amazing how much networking exists among Slovenians and its because of this amazing network that a good deal of the heritage work is accomplished. Many thanks to all the individuals who were involved in this donation and to the Museum Volunteers who are faithfully cataloging the books.

CHANUTE FIELD EXHIBIT

An exhibit entitled "American Airmen Rescued by the Slovene Partisans During WW II" will be permanently displayed at the Octave Chanute Aerosciences Museum Foundation's facility at Chanute Field in Rantoul, Illinois. The exhibit was donated by the Slovene Veterans Organization. John C. Rucigay of Ballston Lake, New York, alerted me to this information. The exhibit will be open by September 1994.

HEADLINES FROM SLOVENIA WEEKLY

SLOVENIAN EMBASSY OPENS

Slovenia opened the official Embassy at Dupont Circle in Washington, D.C. with the unfurling of the Slovenian tricolor with Triglav shield in front of the Richardsonian brownstone, at 1524 New Hampshire Ave. N.W.

Prominent American-Slovenes, government officials and members of the diplomatic corps were guests for this special occasion.

GYMNAST RECEIVES GOLD MEDAL

Slovenian gymnast, Aljaz Pegan scored 9.762 on the high bar at the European Gymnastics Championships in Prague. The Slovenian national anthem should have been played as he received the gold medal but it was unavailable, so the Slovenian fans who were in attendance sang it for Aljaz.

GENEALOGY

WANTS INFO

Dear Editor,

I am writing to tell you that I was excited to read in ZARJA about the Slovenian Genealogy Day put on by the Slovenian Art Guild. I would love to read information on genealogy in ZARJA. I am working very hard on learning more about my genealogy. My grandparents Joseph Kochevar (Josef Hocevar) and Louise (Alojzija) Puh came to America in 1902 and 1907.

I am also learning all I can to get ready for my first trip to Slovenia this year. I am very excited about visiting Slovenia and the villages where my grandparents were born.

I am very proud of my Slovenian heritage and enjoy my subscription to ZARJA. I don't live near an organized branch and do appreciate Br. 30 news. I will look forward to possibly seeing genealogy information in ZARJA.

Sincerely,

Joann Kochevar Hanson
8588 Woodpecker Avenue
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Encyclopedia Americana on Slovenia

Mary Pavlic, SWU #30 member, sent me a xerox copy of the entry on Slovenia in the Encyclopedia Americana, Vol. 25, April 1993. You may wish to consult this reference book in your local library, if you are not familiar with the information dealing with these categories:

History, People, Land & Resources, Government, Economy, Agriculture, Transportation, Mining & Manufacturing and Foreign Trade.

The informative article was written by SWU member, Carole Rogel, Professor at the Ohio State University, History Dept. We are proud of Carole's intellectual and educational achievements and congratulate her on the article and on being chosen to contribute to this reference book. Kudos, Carole!

MAKING THE MUSEUM ACCESSIBLE TO THE HANDICAPPED

My appreciation to Ann Dragovan and Helen Plut for attending the workshop on "Providing Programmatic Accessibility for Interpretation" on Feb. 22-24 at the Morris Holiday Inn. Their attendance at this workshop brought to my attention the fact that the Slovenian Museum must meet the demands of the law regarding accessibility for the handicapped. We are very appreciative to the ladies for attending this meeting and keeping the SWU current on the law regarding the handicapped.

Continued thanks to all the Museum Volunteers for the hours that they have donated to the upkeep of the Museum.



Tony Petkovsek, Lojze Slak and wife, Ivanka, with our reporter (Br. 14) Alice Kuhar at a cocktail party following the Lojze Slak Ensemble 30th Anniversary Concert at Cankarjev Dom. An audience of about 2,000 attended the concert.

PEACEFUL SLOVENIA IN 1994

Once again, I was delighted during my recent visit to Slovenia to find that this peaceful country nestled among the picturesque mountains was as inviting and friendly as ever. First of all, let me say that the hustle and bustle of the city of Ljubljana is a sure sign of the safety in the Republic of Slovenia.

Sidewalk cafes are set up wherever there is room to set up a few tables and chairs and were well-patronized by the locals. An American type Disco Club in back of Union Hotel saw streams of cars pulling up and young folks pouring into the disco to enjoy an evening of fun and dancing.

Prices at restaurants were comparable to our prices here in the States. A double capuccino was about 90c, and my favorite refresher, *ledena kava*, which is iced coffee with a dip of ice cream and topped with whipped cream, was about \$1.40.

Once again, I noticed that while visiting friends and relatives, we were first served desserts consisting of cookies "*piškote*", *potica* and *flancate*. Then came a full course meal of soup with homemade noodles, roasted pork roast "*svinjska pečenka*" with roasted potatoes and home grown lettuce or "*radič*", followed by desserts. Everyone has a garden, raising their own vegetables, berries and fruit and of course, flowers. If they live in an apartment, they either own or rent property on which they work their gardens.

Exchange rate for the Slovenian "*tolar*" ranged from

124 to 130 tolar to one U.S. dollar. Credit cards are also accepted almost everywhere, and they even have ATM machines available in Ljubljana now!

A large variety of clothing on display for sale in the department stores shows much more color than in the past, both for men and women. Vests were displayed with many of the men's suits. Does this mean vests are making a comeback? Materials seemed to be more of the natural blends of cottons and linens.

Just about everything we have in our stores is also available in the supermarkets or large department stores such as Nama and Maxi Mart. There were also many more imported items from the U.S.A. for sale. With the onset of privatized businesses, it seems that store clerks are much more available and helpful to customers.

Silk flowers have found their way to Slovenia. Large colorful, silk flower arrangements are seen everywhere, in department stores, hotels and in florist shops. There even is a silk flower stand among the fresh flower stands in the Ljubljana outdoor market. Recently a demonstration was given on television on the art of silk flower-making. But the real thing, fresh blooming roses in vibrant colors, were at their colorful best in gardens.

There are still plenty of cars on the road during rush hour with gasoline costing about \$2 per gallon. Buses, too, are packed with passengers.

Union Hotel restaurant has undergone further renovation. Our breakfast buffet was arranged with a wide variety of foods... steam tables with scrambled eggs, boiled eggs, bacon, ham and hot dogs, along with the famous *žemlje* and various hard rolls. Cereals, lunch meat, cheese, and various desserts were also served along with juices and beverages.

I would like to include an interesting thing I saw while there. On a quick shopping spree at Ljubljana's Maxi-Mart grocery store, I was delightfully surprised to see that alongside the row of shopping carts there was another row of identical miniature shopping carts for the kiddies!

We were able to keep in touch with news back home. Twenty-four hours of D-Day events were televised while we were there.

Excellent travel arrangements made by Kollander World Travel flew us into Ljubljana's Brnik airport on the very efficient Delta airlines via the brand new computerized airport in Atlanta then to Munich and a short jaunt by the friendly Slovene Adria Airlines.

Slovenia is well-regarded by other European countries and there is no doubt that the Slovenians are anticipating and looking forward to a bright future.

Alice Kuhar
Br. 14, Euclid, OH

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Stane Kuhar:

Marija Pomagaj

Shrine

Blessed at St. Vitus



The new Marija Pomagaj Chapel

A packed gathering of 800 to 900 persons came to St. Vitus Church in Cleveland, Ohio on the feastday of Marija Pomagaj, May 24, 1994 and experienced a once-in-a-lifetime event, the blessing and transferring of the Marija Pomagaj icon into the newly completed chapel of "Our Lady, Help of Christians". It was a warm spring evening, filled with praying and singing to Our Lady.

Veneration of Mary, the Mother of Christ, as stated in the brochure provided for attendees, "under the title of (the) Marija Pomagaj icon came late in the history of the Slovenian people."

The brochure continued to state that "in 1800, Urban Ažbe, pastor of Mosnje, (approximately) 25 miles north of Ljubljana (capital city of the Republic of Slovenia), built a chapel alongside the church of St. Vitus in the village of Brezje – in the parish of Mosnje, and therein installed the image of the Blessed Mother."

The series of paraliturgical services at St. Vitus in Cleveland began at 7:00 p.m. as a continuous stream of people overflowed into the renovated and restored pews and kneelers while listening to the perfect pitch and singing of the LIRA choir. Marian hymns in both the English and Slovenian languages were sung for 30 minutes prior to the start of the entrance hymn.

Auxiliary Bishop of Cleveland, A. Edward Pevec warmly greeted the filled church with words that "tonight we come to honor Mary, the Mother of God."

This was followed by the Word of God (Božja beseda) with readings of Gallicians 4, 4-7 and Luke 11, 27-28.

Father John Kumše read the Gospel in English and Slovenian.

The homilies were by Father Joseph Cvelbar (Slovenian) and Father Joseph Yelenc, TOR, (English), the National Spiritual director of KSKJ.

Father Cvelbar's homily focused on the meaning of Mary and praying for Christians during a period of trials and tribulations, as was the case for many of the Slovenian people during the 1940s and 50s, while Father Yelenc's homily focused on the relevance and meaning of Mary in today's society; and the importance of "being of service--and not to be here on earth to be served. Service to one another as Mary accepted the will" of God's call to Her.

Prayers for the faithful followed the homilies proceeded by the Blessing and Transferring of the Icon of Marija Pomagaj from the sanctuary to the Marian Shrine.

The gold domed shrine contains four unique candle holders engulfed by imported marble from the Republic of Slovenia.

The shrine contains three (3) distinct murals: the west wall has the minor basilica and faithful at Brežje, Slovenia, the north wall mural, entitled "Hope of Refugees" (Upanje Beguncev)," focuses on the thousands of displaced Slovenian refugees who experienced the horrors of war and deprivation during the 1940s and 1950s, while the north wall mural is entitled "Queen of Martyrs (Kraljica Mučencev)." This last mural depicts the killing of the faithful for their religious beliefs in Slovenia but at the same time portrays hope in God's salvation through the Way of the Cross.

After the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament the gathering sang the Litanies in honor of Mary in the Slovenian language, lead by Bishop Pevec, Father Joseph Božnar, Father Richard Evans, and members of Fantje Na Vasi.

Mollie Gregorich

AWARD OF MERIT presented to Lillian Brulc

The Slovenian Arts Council of the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee presented Lillian Brulc with the 1994 Award of Merit in recognition of her distinguished career. The Council sponsored, beginning on June 17th, a month-long Art Exhibit "War, Peace & Bread," showing the works of Ms. Brulc.

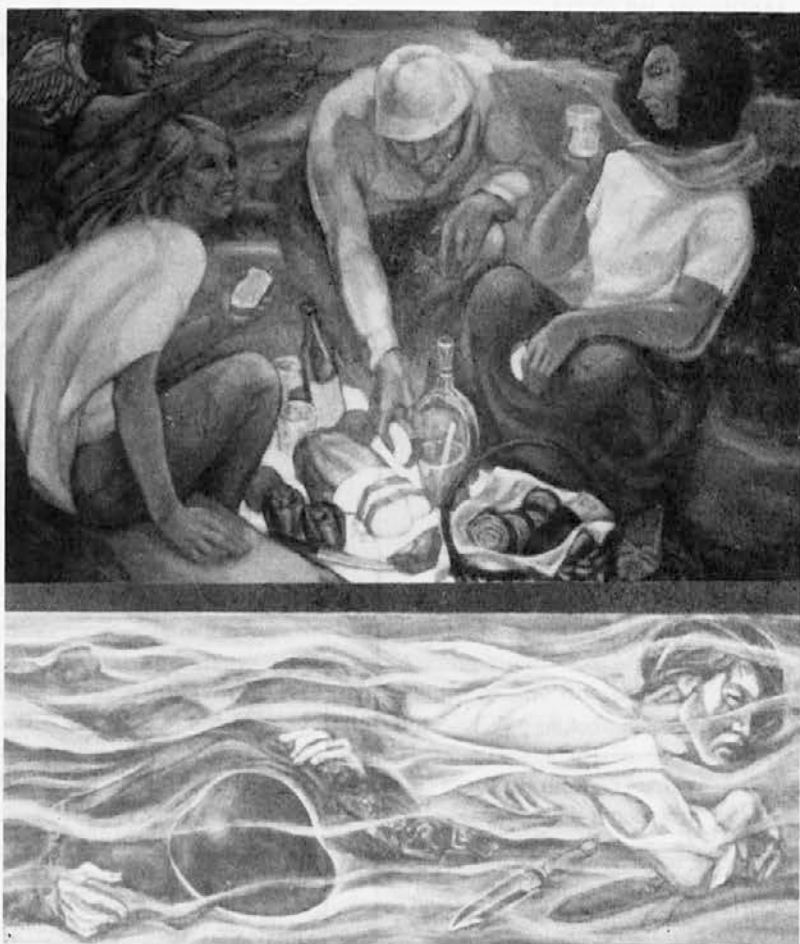
Making the presentation in the Fine Arts Recital Hall was Karl Dovnik, Jr., President of the Slovenian Arts Council. Mr. Dovnik spoke of Ms. Brulc's education and extensive travel, of her exhibits in Ljubljana, Slovenia; Panama City, Panama; and Chicago; of her studies at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, the University of Chicago and with noted Slovenian Sculptor, Franc Gorše in Austria, and Mastafa Nagib in Egypt. He noted her works at the Interpretative Center at Ironworld in Chisholm, Minnesota, the Archdiocese of Chicago, the Jewish Congregation Temple in Joliet and at San Miguelito Center in Panama.

Mr. Dovnik further noted that Ms. Brulc's parents were Slovenian, migrating from Old Austria while still in their teens. Her father, Louis, came from a little village near Novo Mesto; her mother, Mary Pušnik, had lived in the north near Maribor. They met and married in Joliet, settling there to raise a family of eight children, of which Lillian was the seventh.

From her father, Lillian learned a love of nature and a respect for tools and sturdy craftsmanship. It was her mother who encouraged the arts; her mother's brother, Carl, was a trained artist, and her grandfather, Josef Pušnik, was a cabinet maker and decorative woodcarver, a trade later carried on by her mother's youngest brother, Franz, in Austria.

In accepting the award, Lillian thanked the Council and the University of Wisconsin Foundation and gave a commentary on her exhibit.

She spoke of why she chose the theme "War, Peace & Bread", of how current events had influenced the content of her works. In addition to works from her exhibit called "Storms of War, Dreams of Peace" (ZARJA, December, 1993 issue) at the Gallery Genesis, Chicago, Illinois, last fall, were new works centered around the symbolic significance of bread. Among the paintings was a large piece



Picnic on the Karst (above) and Karst Underground

entitled "Food for the Very Poor," an homage to Mary Pušnik Brulc, the artist's mother. In the painting, depicting a bright sunlit kitchen, a child observes her mother giving a freshly baked loaf of bread to a poor man and his daughter on baking day; the man, filled with gratitude, kneels to kiss the bread. There were also two still life paintings of bread, painted in preparation for the larger painting.

Because of its subject specifically relating to Slovenia, her Painting "Picnic on the Karst" is of very special interest. Three friends are gathered around a picnic feast spread out on the ground. Just behind the group is a child beginning to get his kite, formed like a dove of peace, into the air. Their joy of peace is ironically reversed in a predella painting just below called "Karst Underground", depicting two dead soldiers in the flow of underground water.

Music composed by Regina Harris Baiocchi, which was inspired by Lillian's "Storms of War, Dreams of Peace" exhibit last Fall, was performed by the Milwaukee Brass Quintet. The performance was highly praised by those attending for the quality of composition as well as the rendition of the work by the Milwaukee Brass Quintet.


At the reception held at the University Art Museum, music was provided by strolling musician, Tony Gorenc.

Slovenian artifacts from the Slovenian Women's Union Heritage Museum and Slovenian Arts Council were on display.

Don't wait to try these
prize-winning recipes!

And, Meet a Baker-Extraordinaire!

Pots and Pans



Congratulations are extended to Faye C. Starman of Newbury, OH, vice president of Br. 32, who during the BAKE-OFF sponsored by the United Slovenian Society (U.S.S.) last January, in Cleveland, OH, was awarded three first prizes. They were for: RAISIN-NUT REFRIGERATOR DOUGH POTICA, OVEN BAKED FLANCATE and POTICA CAKE; second prize, CHERRY NUT PARTY POTICA and third, CHOC-CHIP NUT BREAD. The potica and nut bread recipes will appear in the October issue.



Faye and her husband Charles Starman

POTICA CAKE

- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup butter, room temperature
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups sugar
- 4 eggs
- 3 cups flour
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons baking powder
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons baking soda
- 1 pint sour cream
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons vanilla

Cream butter and sugar. Add eggs, one at a time. Add dry ingredients, sifted 3 times; add slowly to creamed mixture. Add sour cream and vanilla.

Filling:

- 1 cup ground nuts
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups dark brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon

Mix mixture and swirl through batter. Pour in greased and floured angel food pan. Bake 55 minutes to 1 hour and 10 minutes at 350° until toothpick inserted in cake comes out clean. "Very good."

OVEN BAKED FLANCATE

- $\frac{1}{2}$ pound margarine (2 sticks)
- 2 cups flour
- 2 egg yolks, unbeaten
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sour cream
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

In bowl mix margarine and flour as for pie crust; add egg yolks, sour cream and vanilla; mix with a fork, then with fingers to form a pliable dough. Cover bowl; set overnight in refrigerator. Next day cut dough into 4 equal pieces. On floured cloth or board, roll each piece into an 8-inch square;

divide into 2-inch squares; cut slits in centers. Either place squares on ungreased cookie sheet or over cupcake tins, upside down. Bake in 350° oven for 10-12 minutes until lightly browned. When cool sprinkle with powdered sugar. Yield: 64 flancate. Note: For more flancate, roll dough thinner and prepare as above.

CHERRY NUT PARTY POTICA

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 4 cups sifted flour | $\frac{1}{2}$ pound butter or margarine |
| $\frac{3}{4}$ teaspoon baking soda | 3 egg yolks |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt | $\frac{1}{2}$ pint sour cream |
| 1 package dry yeast | Confectioners' sugar |

Combine flour, baking soda, salt and dry yeast. Cut in butter or margarine. Add yolks and sour cream; blend well with spoon or fork. Mix with fingers to form dough. Cut dough into 3 parts; wrap each part in waxed paper and refrigerate overnight or at least 4 hours.

Next day, sift confectioners' sugar on a cloth or board. Cut each package of dough in half; roll out thin to 12 x 15 inches and spread with filling to about 1-inch from edges. On 15-inch side, start rolling up dough by folding over a small portion, then, if using a cloth, raise it to continue the rolling. Place 3 rolls on a greased cookie sheet. Bake at 375° for 20 minutes. Sprinkle with confectioner's sugar while still warm.

Filling:

- | | |
|--|---|
| $1\frac{1}{2}$ pounds ground nuts | 1 teaspoon vanilla extract |
| 1 cup sugar | 14-16 maraschino cherries,
drained well; dried in
towel; chopped fine |
| 2 tablespoons honey | 5 egg whites, beaten stiff |
| $\frac{3}{4}$ cup to 1 cup milk to
make a paste, not too thin | |

Mix everything together except the egg whites. Fold in the beaten egg whites.

Note: Makes 6 rolls, 15 inches long, 2 inches in diameter. Will keep in refrigerator 2 weeks, or may be frozen. Cut in slices. "Very tasty and good. Other fillings may be used."

Try to remember the kind of September
when life was slow and, Oh, so mellow.
Affectionately,

Hermine



ACTIVITIES

NO. 1, SHEBOYGAN, WI

It has been a busy and warm summer, now we are having our regular meetings each 3rd Tuesday of the month, starting with the Sept. meeting on the 20th. We will be discussing the State Convention in Willard on Oct. 2nd. We have a 15 passenger bus reserved. It sounds like a busy day with an early business meeting, Holy Mass at 11:30 and dinner (chicken - family style) at 1 p.m. all interested members should call Ruth Sheck or Dorothy B.

Get well wishes to Mary Germ who is temporarily at the Heritage Nursing Home in Sheboygan and Janet Maurin, now at her home recuperating from a stroke. Janet had a birthday on July 21st - happy belated birthday, Janet! And, speedy recovery to you! Our prayers and wishes to all our members who are in nursing homes or confined to their homes. God bless you all.

Congratulations to Aggie and Tom Gruenke, grandma and grandpa! A new baby for son, Dan and wife, Linda is little Cody Daniel. Congratulations. The same to Doris and Frank Spender! They are grandma and grandpa to a new baby boy, Jacob Randall, born to son, Jim and wife, Jessica. I know the new grandsons will keep these grandparents busy. We hope that won't prevent you from attending meetings, Aggie and Doris! You can tell us all about them, and bring pictures!

Hope to have a good turn out at the meeting and trip to Willard.

DOROTHY BREZONIK

NO. 2, CHICAGO, IL

September is the start of the new year for many things, our backyard buddies are returning to their winter home, we wish them a safety trip and will be waiting for their return next spring.

Our picnic - July 17, was a great success. Thanks to the Lord for giving us a beautiful day; the Fathers for the lovely Mass; Fran, Percy, Terry and Phyllis for putting in many hours to get the event rolling; to all the workers who worked all day; to all the members (also from other branches) and friends



LEMONT ZVEZA DAY was celebrated in July at the beautiful grounds of the Slovenian Franciscan Fathers in Lemont, IL. Present that day were a number of National and Branch officers. Among them was Mary Muller, past National President, who greeted this group as she does all her many friends in the S.W.U. From left, seated: Mary Muller, Angie Nico (Br. 89) and Editor, Corinne Leskovar; standing, Mary Kozar (Br. 2), Helen Plut (Br. 20) and Nat'l Secretary, Olga Ancel. Read more about Br. 2's successful event in their report.

that attended; to our star "seller" De-
lores Puhek who sold over 145 chance
books - she always makes SWU a win-
ner. We were happy to see so many
people from out of town and state -
thanks for coming.

Raffle prize winners were: 1) Brunch
for 2 on the Spirit of Chicago - Peggy
Pisarczyk; 2) Boom Box - Millie
Paisoli; 3) 3 Speed Box Fan - Barbara
Kosi; 4) Sand Picture - JR's Restau-
rant; 5) 100 ft. outdoor Utility Cord -
Josephine Barc; 6) 35 mm camera -
Mary Jagar; 7) Black and Decker Iron
- Julia Petrich; 8) Intercom System -
Frank Kremesec; 9) Corningware Cas-
serole - Johanna Oblak; 10) 21 Pc. Soc-
ket Tool Set - Mary Muller; 14) Lava
Lamp - Roberta Czeusniak; CERTIFI-
CATES: 15) Hursts Jewelers \$25.00 -
Olga Ancel; 16) MaryAnn Shoppe
\$15.00 - Mary Baugh; 17) European
Village \$15.00 - Steven Podder; 18)
Phillips Shoes \$10.00 - Irene Trinko;
19) Rosicky's Cleaners \$15.00 -
MaryAnn Rabaza; Wagner's Bakery
\$15.00 - Gloria Schiffler; 21) Burdeen
Shoes \$10.00 - Joan Donahue; 22)
Rosicky's Cleaners \$10.00 - Fran Re-
bout; 23) Burdeen Shoes - \$5.00 -
Elsie Wojdula.

The IL/IN State Convention will be
hosted by Branch 89 - Oglesby on Oc-
tober 2, 1994. Please plan to attend.

Congratulations to KSKJ celebrating
100 Years.

Please remember our sick members
in your prayers. Over the summer we
were saddened to hear of the passing
of families of our members. Our con-
dolences to Ray and Tom Nusko and their
families on the loss of their mother,
Mrs. Leona Nusko. Mary Foys
Lauretig lost her sister-in-law and God
also called our member, Erna Lesza to
her Eternal Home; she was Clara
Lesza's sister and Rick Rakovec's aunt.

Congratulations to Ronnie Zefran
who was honored recently by an ap-
pointment to a position on the "Illinois
Funeral Directors Disciplinary Board."

Meeting will resume September 8,
what surprises will be in store for us
by Ray, Terry and company? It will be
great to see everyone! Don't forget that
the Masses for the Beatification of
Bishop Baraga are held every last
Saturday of each month, 5:00 p.m. St.
Mary's Seminary, Lemont.

Love,

DAISY

NO. 3, PUEBLO, CO

Summer is gone and it is time to resume our fall activities. Our first meeting will be at St. Mary's Church Hall September 7 at 1:00 p.m. Please make every effort to attend!

Hope everyone had a good summer and were able to do all the good things we usually plan for summer.

A farewell reception was held at St. Mary's Church Hall for Father Michael DeSciore, who after four years with us, has a new assignment at St. Pius X, Sacred Heart Cathedral, St. Paul the Apostle Church, Pueblo West, and part-time Chaplain at the Colorado Mental Health Center. He will be greatly missed.

On Sunday, June 10, a dual ceremony was held at St. Mary's Church for Rev. Louis Kirby, O.S.B., our new pastor -- he was installed by Rev. Roger Dorsy, Dean of the Pueblo Deanery -- and a Blessing by Father Alan of a new cornerstone replacing the old one because of deterioration. A reception was then held in the Church Hall honoring Rev. Louis Kirby and also for Father Alan who is now at the Abbey in Canon City.

Instead of our Family Fun Day will be a Harvest Soup Festival which will be held Sunday, October 9. All types of soups will be available and there will also be a bake sale and Chinese auction.

Congratulations are in order for two of our Benedictine Sisters, Sr. Olivia Schaefer and Sr. Gregory Rohar, who celebrated their Diamond Jubilee on August 6 at St. Scholastica Priory in Chicago, Illinois. They have been blessed with 60 years of God's service and may the blessings continue all the days of their lives.

We were all saddened by the death of Sister Laurentia Simila who turned 94 in February. May she rest in peace.

Get well wishes go out to all who are ill. Those who are homebound or in nursing homes are remembered in our prayers.

Will be looking forward to seeing you at our meeting in September.

PAULINE PAUCHICK



NO. 5, INDIANAPOLIS, IN

The Slovenian Women's Union, Branch 5, will be celebrating mass on Sunday, October 9, 1994, for its members. All members are invited to attend. The mass will be held at 9:00 a.m. at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. The members and their families will meet after mass downstairs in Bockhold Hall, Holy Trinity's parish hall.

Please plan to attend and bring your family. There are many of you that we do not get to see through the year and this provides the perfect opportunity. We hope to see you there.

On October 8, 1994, the 5:30 p.m. mass at Holy Trinity Catholic Church will be in honor of the deceased members of the Slovenian Women's Union, Branch 5. We are thankful to Holy Trinity in helping us to have a SWU mass weekend.

Thank you to all who have sent in their dues. Your cooperation is appreciated.

I hope everyone had a good summer, but soon it will be time for our raffle. Please watch your mail in the near future for your tickets.

Love from Texas,

BARBARA MOHR

NO. 6, BARBERTON, OH

Summer has come and gone. Hope everyone had an enjoyable summer. Thanks again for all the cards and letters. Keep them coming.

Over the summer some members had birthdays and we would like to wish a happy birthday especially to Christine Stopar who had 74 on July 27th. She has had a stroke and is unable to walk. All our prayers go out to her for a speedy recovery.

In closing, remember the only true happiness comes from squandering ourselves for a purpose.

God bless.

LINDA K. LAMBRIGHT

NO. 12, MILWAUKEE, WI

Our indoor picnic was a huge success, no rain, no mosquitos, no heat! Thanks to Phylis we had our picnic lunch, brats, beans, etc. We enjoyed

our famous game afterwards. Now that Dolores Kodrich is retired we expect to see her at all the meetings. She recovered nicely from the auto accident. Alma Hoelzer still needs our prayers.

We extend sympathy to Bernice Blazek on the loss of her brother and Tony Starich and Steffie Bashell, their nephew, Edward Kastelic.

Remember all of them and their families in your prayers.

We welcomed Albert Jelinek as a member. He always participated in everything. We called him our "auxiliary" member, he always gave a helping hand. So, now he decided to join!

We will have a bus going to Willard on Oct. 2nd for the State Convention. We had 23 members sign up so the bus will be filling up. All money should be paid by Sept. 1st, so I'll start calling the names I have.

On Oct. 20th our group will sponsor a luncheon and style show at St. Peter's Episcopal Church Hall. All members, please attend the Sept. 15th meeting so we can make final details and distribute tickets. 100 tickets and no more will be available. No tickets will be sold on the day of the luncheon.

Hope you all had an enjoyable summer. Stay healthy and see you at the meeting.

MARY KIEL

NO. 13, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

On June 2, we had a beautiful luncheon honoring our 50 year members. The tables had flowers and each honoree received an orchid corsage and her zveza pin. Our special ladies were: Josephine Aiuto, our president, Mary Coppinger, Marie Heath, Lois Stanfel Jensen, Virginia Sustarich, and Mary Yerman who was unable to attend because of illness. We were so pleased to have Eddie Mahar join the festivities and receive the pin for his beloved, Kathryn who recently passed away. Other members who have already received pins are: Sophie Ostroska, 52 years, Tillie Kurnick, 58 years, Mary Lesser, 62 years, Mary Ansel, 62 years, and Anna Fabian 54 years. God Bless You Ladies and Congratulations!

Everyone wishes our past President and Past State President, Rose Scoff, a very Happy Birthday in July. She is 95 years young. We received a thank you note from Joe Nanut, husband of

NO. 14, EUCLID, OH

September is when we begin to look forward to a fall season with its riot of colored leaves... but we also realize that winter is just around the corner.

Pres. Martha Koren and husband Ed have just returned from a delightful trip to Slovenia. They were on tour with Jadran Singing Society and also had time to visit with relatives of Ed, and even discovered more relatives than they realized they had. They were shown pictures and letters from years back which they had received from Ed's parents and had saved all this time. Marty and Ed are eagerly planning another trip in the future to spend more time in Slovenia.

Speedy recovery wishes to Anne Cekada in Euclid Meridia Hospital. Wishing good health to all our ailing members.

Condolences to the family of deceased member Sylvia Pevec who resided in Rock Creek and was the cousin of Rose Rodgers, Stana Grill and niece of Mary Strazisar (Arrowhead). Also sympathy to Lillian Delsanter and her family on the death of her husband Charles "Chuck" after a lengthy illness.

We send along sympathy to Ileene Collins on the loss of her dear husband, Jay, who died suddenly of a heart attack. Jay had received numerous honors and achievements including a listing in Who's Who in 1960 and 1984 and was named Euclid's Man of the Year in 1959 by the American Legion; and the Cleveland Press designated him Outstanding Citizen of the Year. After retiring, Jay and Ileene traveled throughout the world and had spent their honeymoon on a combined honeymoon/hospital administrators' tour which included a visit through Moscow. This was on the monumental day of July 21, 1969 when our two American astronauts landed on the moon. Ileene and Jay had brought home with them Russian newspapers detailing the moon mission. Ileene was interviewed in our Cleveland Plain Dealer recently describing the excitement of that trip 25 years ago. As Ileene stated she has had 25 years of beautiful memories.

Wishes to all for a restful Labor Day holiday!

ALICE KUHAR

NO. 16, CHICAGO, IL

Condolences to our members and families: Olga Kolokowski and Marge Price are grieving over the deaths of their brothers during the summer.

Mary Krznic has been hospitalized since last April - please remember her in your prayers.

Gladys Buck, Mary Ann Skibbie and Vida Kumse returned from an enjoyable tour of Europe with the KSKJ group for their 100th Anniversary. They stayed at the Radenci Health Spa where every day there was another tour, St. Višarje in Italy, Bohinj, Austria, they took the cable car to Mt. Vogel and went over the mountain pass Predil, thru the Soča Valley to Portorož. They also went to Venice and saw the Lipizaner horses at Lipica and the Postojna Caves. After 41 years Gladys couldn't believe the changes that have taken place. They met the Bishop of Maribor and the Archbishop of Ljubljana and were greeted by officials of Mayor's Office and at Villa Podrožnik were given official greetings by the government of Slovenia by Dr. Vencelj.

Please try to attend the Sept. 10th meeting where lunch will be served at 1 p.m. and we can discuss the Oct. 2nd and May, 1995 conventions; also, elect delegates if we are to attend. If you haven't paid your 1994 dues yet, Gladys will accept them at the Sept. 10th meeting.

Hope everyone had an enjoyable summer.

E.W.

NO. 17, WEST ALLIS, WI

As the summer winds down and our fun-filled days of picnics, festivals, vacations are now just pleasant memories, we once again turn our attention to the beautiful fall season and our lodge obligations.

Our first meeting after the summer vacation will be held on Sunday, Sept. 18th at 2 p.m. at president Mary Marolt's home, 1512 S. 53rd St. Am happy to state that our president, Marion, is at home now and will conduct the meeting as usual - she will also take dues payments at this time.

member, Ann Nanut. He is very happy with our cards and good wishes. We welcomed new social member, Evelyn Rauh Brandi.

This reporter was very sorry to miss the special luncheon in June as I was in Snowbird, Utah for a week at a doll seminar. It was a fascinating and fun week. We took classes from some of the best teachers in the country and made some marvelous dolls. We were 83 hundred feet in the mountains covered with snow, but temperatures were in the 90s.

We did have our wonderful Brunch at the Slovenian Hall. It was the 2nd annual and truly a success. We had 66 people present and I have heard only raves, thanks to that marvelous "kitchen crew". The raffle was a great success and a BIG thank you to all who participated and supported this fundraiser for our convention.

We all send love and best wishes to Mary Ansel who is in a convalescent home and also to Tillie Kambic, Ann Vercelli, and Mae Batko. These ladies gave so much to SWU and we are grateful.

I had the honor and pleasure of attending the wedding of our member, Joži Jakša and Frank Plut. An absolutely beautiful and emotional day, as it was the last wedding in our Church of the Nativity. The attendants were in royal blue, flower girl in white with blue iris and Joži looked absolutely gorgeous. This young woman is as lovely a person as she is to look at and may they have a lifetime of love and happiness. God bless you, Joži and Frank.

There is much sadness in the closing of our Church of the Nativity. All the suppressed churches are due to be closed July 1.

They are all awaiting for an answer to the appeals but nothing so far. Very hard to understand the entire situation and a true test of one's faith.

Hope to see everyone back at the September meeting and that President Josephine Aiuto will be back with us.

Get well wishes to all our members on the sick list

Please tell me about your wonderful vacations. I would love to hear from you.

BEVERLY JACKSON



When Branch 20, Joliet, IL celebrated their 66th anniversary on June 6th, 1994, four of their presidents were in attendance at the Anniversary Mass. From left to right they are: President Charlene Kobe (1993-), Deanie Gudac (1992), Mildred Pucel (1985-1988), Judy Derlinga (1982-1984) and Joyce Vicich (1989-1991).

Mary Marolt is also at home now – she spent a little time in a nursing home and is very glad to be home under the care and watchful eye of her husband, Fred.

My niece, Beth Arthur, her husband, Michael and son, Michael, Jr. were here from Slidell, Louisiana to visit her mom, Helen Pizar (and me, too). It was just one short week in June, but they managed to squeeze in a few short visits to friends and relatives, even to go to Great America in Gurnee, IL for a fun-filled day. Hope the next time their visit will be a bit longer.

Just received word that Cecelia Zore had a short stay in the hospital and is now recuperating at home.

Our member, Antonia Bruno passed away on June 7th. Sincere condolences are extended to the Bruno and Kastelic families. May she have eternal peace.

Reminders! Members, please make sure your dues are paid and up to date. If you are in arrears, please contact our secretary, Robin Marolt and make your payments.

Enjoy what's left of the warm summer-like days and the beginning of the fall season – and stay healthy!

FRANCES PIWONI

NO. 20, JOLIET, IL

Hi! I can't believe summer is almost gone. In July, my husband, Bob and daughters, Jill 19 and Debbie 17 drove out West. Went down to New Mexico, Arizona, the Grand Canyon, Petrified Forest and Painted Desert. Then on to Colorado to the Royal Gorge and Pikes Peak. We were gone for 13 days. Can you imagine 13 days in a car and one hotel room with 2 teenage daughters? My husband is a video nut. We have 2 hours of film of mountains we have no names for and cactus, cactus and more cactus. Even though it sounds like the vacation from H--- we had a very nice time and glad to be home.

Branch 2, Chicago, held ZVEZA day in Lemont on July 17. I was unable to attend but I understand everyone had a nice time.

Carrying boxes and bags filled with Slovenian artifacts while boarding the Metra train headed for Chicago were Heritage Museum volunteers Helen Plut, Marie Scheidt, Mildred Pucel, Josephine Lustik and Olga Ancel. They went to participate in the Ethnic Museum and Permanent Cultural Display Day at the State of Illinois building on July 21, 1994. Elizabeth Edgar,

daughter of the governor, visited the booth and paused for pictures as she honored the ethnic museums and displays in the lobby of the James R. Thompson Center in Chicago.

Two couples currently celebrating anniversaries are Jack and Linda (Carnett) Hotuyec. They were married 40 years ago on July 3. Jack and Linda have 4 sons, 3 daughter-in-laws and 6 grandchildren. Rudy and Millie (Erjavec) Pucel will celebrate 45 years on Sept. 3. Rudy and Millie have 4 sons, 2 daughter-in-laws and 3 grandchildren. Congratulations! I hope you all have many more happy years together.

Deanne Gudac, past president (1992) of Br. 20 and her family is moving to Port Charlotte, Florida. It probably won't be long before she starts a branch of SWU there. Branch 20's loss is Port Charlotte's gain.

Stan and Mary Marolt of Bradenton, Florida formerly of Joliet were here attending the KSKJ convention in August. Mary is the past National Treasurer of SWU and past Br. 20 treasurer.

A baby girl was born on June 14 (Flag Day). Lureen Elizabeth Anzelc is the daughter of Michael and Kathy Anzelc and granddaughter of John and Mary Anzelc. John and Mary are very active SWU members. They attend all functions and volunteer at many. The new baby and her parents live a block from Wrigley field. I hope they aren't SOX fans.

Our member, Rosetta Corp is the new 11th district president of the American Legion Auxiliary. Rosetta and daughter Rachel have both served as 1080 Auxiliary presidents. Rosetta's husband, Gordon was also a past president. They donate much of their time to hospital veterans. Congratulations, Rosetta on your new position!

We all pray that Jennie Gore, Marcia Judnik, Donna Cepon, Eleanor Smrekar, and Loretta Fuchs are getting back to feeling like their old selves again. Hope that you are all doing much better.

We extend our deepest sympathy to: Helen Walsh on the death of her father, Matt Verbiscer. To the family of our member Mary Haggerty. To Mary Kay Demick and her daughter, Mary Lee on the death of their mother and grandmother, Mary Spelich, who was also a member of Br. 20.

Don't forget our Grape Harvest dance on Sunday, September 25 from

4 - 8 in the evening at St. Joseph's Park. The Mayor of the dance to be announced at a later date.

News from our Junior Members:

Eric, Zachary and Nicholas, sons of Chris and Judy Pucel, have had a busy summer. Eric, a graduate of Joliet Catholic Academy spent his spring break skiing in Alta Utah and Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Zachary had a busy summer learning the fine plays of basketball. He attended 3 basketball camps -- Minooka High School, Western Ill. University in Macomb and at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. Nick is a member of the trumpet section in the Minooka Junior High band and attended the Philadelphia/Washington DC Spring Concert tour. The junior high performed at 3 concerts and toured Washington D.C. and Philadelphia. In the midst of all this they still found time to go fishing with grandparents Millie and Rudy Pucel.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, Sept. 20 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Joseph's Park. See you all then, take care and may God bless.

JOYCE VICICH

NO. 22, BRADLEY, IL

You may have held your nose or held your breath! What was that nasty mildew odor and taste to the water? You didn't look forward to that morning coffee. The problem lasted for two to three weeks, more obnoxious on some days than on others. People complained to the company, some suggesting a rebate for the bottled variety they bought.

Looking back, we see what an ultraminor inconvenience it was, for on the other side of the world, people are paying with their lives for bad water. Makes one feel like a flea for having uttered a single complaint, even privately, for this itty-bitty assault on our senses!

And we didn't even express our gratitude for the ideal summer day in June (brought us out in shorts!) when Marge Planton and Ann Richards treated Br. 22 to the kind of hospitality that matched the brightness of the sun and the warmth of the breeze. A great afternoon, ladies. Thank you!

We should have sung Happy Birth-

day at that June meeting in anticipation of the July and August birthdays coming up for Ann Richards, Anne Kinder and Mollie McIntyre. So, right here is a BIG BELATED HAPPY BIRTHDAY wish that every day in every way life will be better and better!

For Chicagoland and Indiana listeners, you might tune in to WMBZ-AM 750 for the daily Rosary. It is aired Monday through Friday at 11:15 a.m. Saturday at 4 p.m. and 6:45 a.m. on Sunday. Also, Moments of Reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary immediately follows at 11:30 a.m. Monday through Friday. Use a plug-in radio and raise the volume to bring in the station. This Rosary discovery was a mini-miracle. I was slowly dialing for another Saturday afternoon football game last fall (short season compared to other sports) when I heard Hail Marys. What's this? Listening to the end of the program, I learned it was on daily programming. God-send for the homebound, for any reason. Our ailing relatives and friends could benefit from your remembrance in these moments and this sick, sick

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world surely needs these prayers. Try it!

Our Slovenian picnic is set for Sept. 11 at Leo's Acres. Hope to have a good turn-out and good weather! See you there!

EMMA LUSTIG

NO. 24, LASALLE, IL

There were ten members at our June meeting--a hot summer evening. We agreed to have the "Bakeless Bake Sale" project again as our annual fall fund-raiser. Betty Stack, our Financial Secretary, was elected to represent Branch 24 at the State Convention.

Anne Matthews husband, William, had heart surgery in June in Peoria and Paula Illman's husband, Stan, also had heart surgery in Peoria in July. We pray that Bill and Stan are making good recoveries and will soon be as active as we're used to seeing them.

There doesn't seem to be much news since we haven't had meetings in July and August. Belated birthday greetings to our August birthday celebrants, Dorothy Parola and Junior member, Julie Wangler. We hope you had a great day. The September birthday honorees are Justine Anglavar, Wanita Helmer and our Vice-President, Minnie Carter. We wish them a Happy Day and many more birthdays!

Our fall meeting season will begin with a meeting on Thursday, September 15th at 7:00 p.m. in La Salle Catholic School Library. We will be discussing the coming Illinois-Indiana State Convention on Sunday, October 2. It will be held in Oglesby and we hope to have a nice representation of our members there.

ANNE M. WANGLER,
Reporter

NO. 25, CLEVELAND, OH

It is still time to sit on the porch, reminisce, watch the sky lighting millions of silver lanterns with the friendly moon sailing among them, enjoying quiet moments with the family. Now, by this time of year, you need a light sweater close by, on the back of the rocker or swing!

Our meeting on June 26th was not a complete fiasco! Some members did come. We decided on another Sunday,

in the fall, to have a meeting. Date is not yet available. Please do call to tell us which Sunday would be good, so we can all come and discuss plans for the trip to San Francisco next year for the National Convention. We need suggestions and most of all, we need new members. Bring somebody with you. I'll be waiting for your call. My number is 881-4798.

Ladies, may the day come soon when you'll be able to go to church, to a visit, to the store or anywhere. This wish to those not in the best of health who must stay home. A little late, but our wishes are with Olga Horvath, Frances Tavcar, Josie Mohorcic, Ivanka Stupica, Frances Kosch, Iva Stransky, Vickie Kmet, Dorothy Kirk, Marica Yonke. Those are just a few of the ladies who we know have been in the hospital -- some had replacements -- or for something else.

Gene Drobnic's energy is still going strong, she must have brought it with her from Florida. She's into 1000 things at a time, for charities, doing this and that. It's no wonder everyone wants her on their "wagon"!

Talking of Florida, congratulations to Susan Rae Zak. She just became grandmother to two beautiful twin boys.

To all with birthdays, ladies and men, too, may your world be filled with love and blessings. Happy birthday, John Kermavner, my son!

A lot of friendly smiles to you and you, and you...

CIRILA KERMAVNER

NO. 30, HOME OFFICE

As I write today, I look out the window at my garden and see only a plot of earth where my herb garden should be. My beautiful pink petunias have disappeared -- roots rotted from the 22 days of rain we've had. But, we are surely blessed. Georgia is just recovering from the worst flooding in her history. Let's take a moment, dear members, to say a prayer for all those in Georgia, Florida and Alabama who have withstood so much this summer, losing loved ones, homes and businesses.

I received a lovely letter from Joyce Ostanek Inga of Little Falls, New Jersey. She is a Certified Public Accountant and has been a member of SWU

for five years. In January, she and her husband, Al were blessed with their first child, a son. They named him David Frank Ostanek Inga to share Joyce's Slovenian heritage with him and, since Joyce has only a sister and no brothers, to continue the Ostanek name as a loving tribute to her parents. We join her and her sister, Arlene in wishing her parents, Henry and Helen Ostanek, formerly of Forest City, Pennsylvania, now of West Paterson, New Jersey, much happiness on their 40th wedding anniversary on September 25.

Happy Birthday wishes to Emma Donckers of Phoenix, Arizona (September 18) and Mary Pavlic of Chamblee, Georgia (September 30).

Gina Shavor Varani of Winter Springs, Florida writes that she reads ZARJA avidly to find out the "who's, what's, and where's" of the rest of the branches. She is originally from Eveleth, Minnesota and has a sister-in-law who lives in Ely. Her aunt is Ann Saari who is active in Branch 23. Gina and her sister-in-law joke sometimes on the phone when she calls to ask about her aunt's activities which Gina has just read in ZARJA, and she hears, "How did YOU know that?" As a small child, Gina lived in Ely for five years with her parents, Josephine and John Shavor. Her father worked as a butcher at Zupancich's Grocery store.

Gina says, "I especially love the articles describing the immigrants' struggles to assimilate themselves into the American culture. All of my grandparents came to this country from Slovenia at the turn of the century and settled in a new life on Minnesota's Iron Range to find work, establish homes and raise families. That spirit of fraternal love welded together peoples from five or six different nations with different languages and customs. Recently, my octogenarian father-in-law, Elio Varani, participated in a PBS special about the Iron Range and it's people in those early days. With misty eyes, he spoke of the brotherhood and fraternity which these diverse people formed, uniting together in work and community, and how "you loved him like a brother, yes, he was your brother."

Several years ago, Gina was going through some of her grandmother's papers and found four names and addresses of relatives in Slovenia. She wrote

to all of them and had two replies. Her youngest son was in England at the time on a semester of study, and after contacting the Slovenian Embassy, he was soon on a train to Grosuplje. He found the person or descendants of each person on the list. Last summer, her third cousin, Tadeja Zavirsek from Grosuplje came to visit for two months, bringing klobase for the whole family! They toured Disney Parks and various attractions in Orlando. Then they flew to Minnesota to show Eveleth and the Range to Tadeja. She loved it there best. She spent July 4th "up North" at a cabin on Sand Lake. Gina was amazed to recognize certain family traits, even the way she walked and talked. One of the things they enjoyed together was decorative painting. Tadeja's parents sent a folk art painting from the Podpecan shop in Ljubljana which was featured earlier in ZARJA.

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer. It's back-to-school time and before you know it - Thanksgiving and Christmas! Oh, boy!!

MARY PAVLIC

SWU Crest indicates the
65th Anniversary of this
branch in 1994.

Congratulations!



About the Author

Many ladies have experienced similar feelings as described in Mary's poem, when they celebrated their 50th birthday. Let's hope that they also experienced a miracle in themselves and renewed joy as a member of God's creation.

It was a privilege that Mary dedicated this lovely poem to me and that I've had the opportunity to make her acquaintance over the phone and through her letters.

Mary Pavlic, ZARJA reporter for Branch 30, has been an enthusiastic member of the SWU since her enrollment and that of her daughter, Beth, in May 1993. It has been great fun the past year receiving Mary's phone calls and letters about all her many activities which include genealogy, poetry and the SWU.

POETRY CORNER

Irene M. Odorizzi,
Heritage Director

Poetry

- * reveals to us the loveliness of nature,
- * brings back the freshness of youthful feeling,
- * revives the relish of simple pleasures,
- * keeps unquenched the enthusiasm which warmed the springtime of our being,
- * refines youthful love,
- * strengthens our interest in human nature, by vivid delineations of its tenderest and softest feelings,
- * and through the brightness of its prophetic visions, helps faith to lay hold on the future life.

William Ellery Channing (1780-1842)

There are many poets out there in ZARJA-LAND, and with Channing's encouraging thoughts in mind, all SWU poet-members are encouraged to send in their best poem for consideration. The poem should be 20 lines or less.

To Irene

The day I turned fifty, I cried.

So many things I missed or just neglected. Countless words unspoken.

"Too much time has passed. Not enough time is left."

No gray hairs yet, but look at these wrinkles! "I don't feel fifty!"

How has it happened so soon? Before I'm ready!"

I laughed at my birthday party. I blew out the candles.

Secretly, I hated the day. Privately, I shed tears.

Four months has passed since September. Something has been slowly happening.

I wasn't aware of it. It occurred without knowledge or will. I grew wings.

One day last week I emerged from a cocoon. I didn't burst forth.

I felt the sunshine a little at a time.

It started in my mind. It warmed my body. It seeped into my spirit.

It settled in my soul.

Today, I saw beauty. Inside me. Inside others.

I heard laughter, too. A couple of times I was alone.

I talked to God and He talked to me.

I'm not going to soar yet. I'll glide for awhile.

I'll come down to earth and rest. There's enough time.

What changed? Someone gave me a purple T-shirt on my fiftieth birthday.

On the front is an angel and the words "Expect a Miracle."

I guess I did.

Mary Pavlic

The impression one receives speaking with Mary is that she is an avid Slovenian. On the contrary, Mary's husband, Michael, is the Slovenian but she has become immersed in his nationality since she started tracing his family tree.

Mary is also attempting to find other Slovenians in the Atlanta, Georgia area

so that another Branch of the SWU can be organized prior to the Olympics in 1996. Should you know of any, please contact her.

Writing poetry has been Mary's ongoing avocation for many years and ZARJA readers will be fortunate to read many others in future issues. I.O.

FIVE GENERATIONS HONOR THEIR MOTHER

A happy reunion happened this summer when 94 year young Mary Vidich Ogoreuc of Homer City, PA greeted many family members, most of whom live in Euclid, OH. About 75 people attended the reunion. On this picture she is seen seated with her son, Frank behind her and granddaughter Charlotte Perdan and great granddaughter Pamela Perdan, left and right. Little great great granddaughter Alexandria is at grandma's right. They all look great, don't they?



32, EUCLID, OH

June was a very hot, humid month as the temperature was in the high 80's and 90's. Meeting and picnic was not well attended as expected. The weather must have been too hot for the older people. The picnic food was delicious which was roasted chicken and all the trimmings. Sept. meeting we will have a blind auction; something usable, worth \$2 and up, should be donated. Put it in a brown paper bag and write its value on the bag – also where or how it can be used.

On Oct. 17th we will have mass at St. Christine's church at 7 p.m. for our deceased and living members. After mass we will have our meeting as usual. Members, please try to attend. Sign up to go on the bus for our Ohio-Michigan State conference on Oct. 16th. It will be a one-day trip and not too expensive. Give Pres. Ann Cooke your name for the bus trip. It will be a very enjoyable day, I'm sure!

Members who did some traveling were Jean McNulty to Las Vegas, where she was not a big winner but had a good time – even tho the heat affected her feet; and Marge Kovacevich went to Kentucky with a church group to visit the Cathedral Basilica.

St. Christine's church gave a farewell reception for Fr. James Roach as he was transferred to St. Rita's church in Solon, Ohio. Members, Mary Zakrajsek and Helen Kovacevic attended the dinner at Patrician Party Center.

Emilia Kersman went to Schaumburg, IL to visit son, Tony Drobnik

who retired from a gov't job which he held for 34 years. Congratulations on your retirement, Tony! His twin grandsons, Chris and Michael are nuclear chemists. Chris was in Japan for two months on a job. He said that in Japan twins are referred to as "giant white man". Michael will soon be going to England to work. Good luck to the twins in their professions.

Helen and Frank Kovacevich had their daughter, Connie Smith, grandchildren Neiole and Derek, home for a very nice vacation.

Surprise birthday party was given to our president, Ann Cooke by her children in July.

Grandparents Dorothy and Bob Lamm are proud of their Kneisley girls who did so well in their sports this season. Stephanie came in first place in her swim meet at the YMCA where she swims the butterfly in the 9-10 medley relay. Lisa's baseball team came in first place and Kressiy's baseball team came in second. Congratulations to the girls for a job well done.

Two of our members were in a balina tournament at the Slovene Society Home. Dorothy Lamm, Louise Fabec, with their partners, Bob Lamm and Bob Cigoj came in third place for a prize. Congratulations to all.

After a two month vacation from meetings, we will meet on Sept. 21st. Hope to see our members at that time.

Thanks to Charlotte Perdan, our Financial Sec'y and Helen Kovacevic, Sgt. at Arms, for taking notes at the meeting and gathering the news for me for ZARJA while I was on vacation.

Happy birthday and anniversary to all members who are having a big day this month of Sept. Hope everyone had a great summer.

FRANCES OGOREUC

NO. 39, BIWABIK, MN

I was sorry I couldn't get a report in after our May "Woman of the Year" banquet meeting! We all enjoy reading about the ladies honored in such fine ways, and our honoree, Molly Zamlen, deserves no less a tribute.

Branch 39 of Biwabik, MN met at the Four Seasons Restaurant on May 15. Pastel flowers decorated the long tables, and a yellow-colored program was at each plate. President Korsman welcomed the thirty-two ladies present and they all enjoyed a great dinner.

Molly Zamlen (with her granddaughter as her guest) was presented a gift certificate. President Korsman read the ZARJA article, and Margaret Setnikar read a poem and made a toast to her long-time friend. Molly graciously acknowledged the honor and thanked the S.W.U. for making the day so special.

A short meeting was held to remind the ladies of our State Convention in Sept. Raffle tickets were distributed and sold on the spot. We adjourned for the summer, but decided to hold a meeting in Aug. for a social gathering and to enable all to register for the Convention in Hibbing. We will also be able to hear more information about our dear member, Fran Sherek, who was recently hospitalized for surgery on a

brain tumor. We are all praying for her complete and swift recovery.

I finally got a card off to National President Tory Bobence. She had surgery on her hand ten days after my husband had surgery for prostate cancer. He has made a slow but good recovery, and we all hope the same for Tory. It's difficult to be "laid up" when you are used to working every day. We had to rely on our grandson for heavy field work, and I have to say my husband is more of a do-er than an instructor!! Thank God he is now just about back to "work as usual."

We are looking forward to a great Convention in Sept. The branch presidents met in June and had a luncheon meeting (with National President Tory in attendance). The ladies of branch 56, Hibbing, MN have worked very hard and seem to have all in readiness. What a great group!!

JEAN KORSMAN

NO. 40, LORAIN, OH

We welcomed 18 members at our June 8th meeting. Agatha lead us in prayer after which a delicious dessert was served by Jean Balogh. Mary Janezic and Alice Rutar. Thanks, girls, for the luncheon and many prizes brought in for our money-making project.

The door prize winner was Annette Septaric.

We received a letter from Regional President, Evelyn Majercik in regards to our Ohio-Michigan State Convention to be held in Detroit, Mich. on Sunday, Oct. 16th, 1994. Buses will be reserved. Deadline for reservations is Oct. 1st. It will cost each member between \$8 and \$10 depending on how many of us there are. The more that come, the less will be per person cost. We leave home at 8 a.m. and return about 8 p.m. Br. 105 will inform us as to the cost of the dinner there.

We closed our meeting by praying for our deceased members and Irene Kokinda sang beautifully, the "Our Father". She has such a wonderful voice and we look forward to listening to her each time. Thanks, Irene!

We were glad to have our president, Agnes Tomazine back with us at our July 13th meeting. There were 16 members present and a delicious dessert was served by Agnes Drstvensek, Angie



In Loving Memory

- 2 - Erna Lesza (77)
41-yr member
- 5 - Frances Mitchell (84)
38-yr member
- 10 - Kristina Cebon (99)
67-yr member
- 12 - Mary Trader (99)
52-yr member
- 14 - Sylvia Pevec (80)
30-yr member
- Jennie Stopar (90)
58-yr member
- 19 - Frances Sterle LaDu (85)
24-yr member
- 20 - Mary Haggerty (84)
27-yr member
- Mary Spelich (87)
57-yr member
- 23 - Louise Petrich (74)
33-yr member
- 25 - Josephine Zorman (89)
4-yr member
- 28 - Anna Novak (82)
36-yr member
- 32 - Eleanor Zevnik (58)
170-yr member
- 34 - Helen Chiabotti (86)
38-yr member
- Rose Pecha (82)
42-yr member
- 40 - Mary Kurjan (88)
47-yr member -- Charter
- 56 - Emma Petrick (83)
60-yr member
- 57 - Adela Sabatta (90)
50-yr member
- 88 - Rose Hribar (91)
55-yr member

Grayson and Olga Love. Francine Pavlovic was the door prize winner. We missed our treasurer, Agatha Dongas and hope to see her at the next meeting.

Some of our members suggested that we recess for the summer but the majority of members thought since summer is almost over, we should continue meeting as before, the same goes for the winter months. If the weather is too bad, the faithful members will be notified of the cancellation. So, do plan on coming each month on the second Wednesday at 1 p.m.

I became a Great grandma for the sixth time! Baby girl, Arianna Christina was born to Jeffrey and Tina Matos in new Mexico. I now have three great granddaughters and three great grandsons! Two granddaughters and 10 grandsons complete my growing family! My grandson, Michael is back at his Air Force base in Louisiana after spending 10 days at home and Tony left for Mt. Union College where he will be playing football again. He hopes to graduate at the end of the year, God willing.

Hope to see you at the Sept. 14th meeting. Pray for our sick members.

MARY MATOS

NO. 42, MAPLE HTS., OH

Greetings from Maple Heights. We are happy to report that Millie Lipnos' grandson James Lipnos was wed to Laurel Lieb on July 23rd. Millie also is a proud great grandmother for the third time to Halley Jeanine Rasner, born July 19th. Lil Sadowski was in Saugus, Cal. visiting her daughter Lynn Kossakowski and family. Mel Blazey had her family from Canada, as visitors. Vida and Eugene Vereck also had their daughter Caroline and her family from South Carolina visiting them and all their relatives.

The July 26th Shrine Trip, Mass, luncheon, and Benediction in Bedford Heights was fairly attended. Representing Lodge 42 was Millie Lipnos and Ann Perko. As this was the first time all branches were invited to attend, we think that there will be a better turn out next year.

Kelly Gaines recently transferred from our junior to adult membership and we send special congratulations on her graduation from Bedford High on June 9th. We wish her much happiness

and success in her future endeavors. Kelly had a special treat by having her pen pal visit from Kitchener, Ontario, Canada on June 10th. They went to a few baseball games at the new ball park (Jacobs Field) and met a few of the Toronto Blue Jays. Kelly is the granddaughter of Josie Gruden. Another special occasion was for Josie Gruden who celebrated a milestone birthday with a picnic in her honor. She was surprised by over 75 relatives and friends. It was a great day for her.

Rehabilitating at Maple Care Center in Maple Heights is Frances Stavec. Drop her a note or card as she would love to hear from you, as would all our other members who aren't well and the ones who are shut-ins. Please pray for all.

Our next meeting will be held Sept. 6, 1994, Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. at the SNH in Maple Heights. Please plan to attend as this is an important meeting.

Happy Birthday for our members with September birthdates: Ann Marie Buehner, Mary Polantz, Theresa Filips, Mary Tomc, Elizabeth A. Harr, Mildred Lipnos, Patricia Wolf and Mary Prhne.

DOROTHY MEHOSKY

NO. 43, MILWAUKEE, WI

Fall is here again! Our meetings begin with a busy schedule. First, Br. 43 is sponsoring a "Style Show and Luncheon" at Klemer's, 10401 W. Oklahoma Ave., in Milwaukee on Saturday, Sept. 17th at 11:30 a.m. "Cara Carolina" store located at 785 N. Jefferson St., and Heim's Bridal Shop at West Mitchell St., Milwaukee, will be showing their latest fashions from many designers. I am sure we will all

How To Make Yourself Feel Better

Gout is often associated with the well-to-do. This was not my case. The heavy dose of niacin to reduce my LDL cholesterol, and aspirin to relieve my arthritis caused an elevated level in uric acid. The tendency to take more aspirin to ease the pain only aggravated the situation. Once I stopped taking niacin and aspirin, the redness, swelling and pain was greatly reduced in my foot.

Diet often increases the uric acid in some people. Avoid foods such as anchovies, mackerel, sardines, herring, Brewer's yeast or bakers yeast, shellfish, other fish, poultry, meats, especially organ meats, mushrooms, asparagus, spinach, or dried legumes.

Cherries are often recommended for gout. Long ago a doctor confined to his wheelchair with the gout noticed improvement every time he ate cherries. All types of cherries are favorable, sweet, sour, fresh, or canned. Some recommend eating three, or six or a half a pound of cherries daily. (The few cherry trees grown today on private property are often stripped bare by the birds.) The blueberries, red or blackberries, and pie fillings also help. Drink plenty of water and ask your doctor to prescribe his choice of drug to make you more comfortable.

Keep Healthy!

*Angela Kuhar Nico
115 Portland Ave.
Oglesby, Ill. 61348*

enjoy them. Tickets are \$15 for luncheon and show. You can purchase them ahead of time by calling president, Josephine Janezic at 545-0691 or Mary Kiel at 481-8586. It should be a wonderful event!

Remember the State Convention is in Willard, Wisconsin on Sunday, Oct. 2nd, 1994.

Br. 43's Annual Poultry Card Party takes place on November 13th at John's Hall, So. 35th and W. Lincoln Ave. at 1 p.m. Tickets are available, call yours truly at 421-1243. Again we will have a beautiful Afghan Raffle and many other prizes, a food basket, bakery, sandwiches, etc. like every other year. Members are asked to donate items. More about this at the Sept. meeting. Let's work together and make it another

success. This is the only fund-raiser for our treasury.

We want to thank the sponsor who supplied the tickets for the "Style Show and Luncheon" and also for the "Card Party". Thanks a million.

Theresa Kotar had surgery and is recuperating at home. We wish you a complete and speedy recovery, Theresa. Rosalie Dvornik had some tests at St. Mary's hospital. Thank God everything will be o.k. Her daughter, Liz Gordon had foot surgery. Liz, get well soon. You have to keep up with your dancing!

Jennie Kouchich was visiting her son in Red Wing, MN. She broke her leg there and also has an arm in a cast. We wish her a speedy recovery. She is worried about her aunt, Mary Tutin of

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A Birthday Tribute to Ann J. Tercek July 23, 1914

Pittsburgh, PA who had heart surgery. We hope that her health will improve soon. Jennie's sister, Anne Rebernisek is also in ill health. Let's remember these fine ladies in our prayers. Speedy recovery to you all.

Mary Bushnik was transferred to Marion Catholic Home on 33rd and Highland Ave. in Milwaukee. Mary, we wish you all the best. You are missed at the meetings. Greetings from all of us who know and love you.

Attention Br. 43 members! If you are moving or change your name, please let your secretary know. I will forward the changes to the Home Office in Joliet and to the Editor of ZARJA. The secretary must know your correct address. Thank you.

Mary Musich, her brother and wife, Josie Strukel and Mary Strukel were attending a relative's wedding in the state of Washington. Hope you had a good time. Eleanor Rozek visited her sister in Oklahoma - she is a resident in a nursing home there. You are a good sister, Eleanor.

Welcome new member Terezija Vugrinec to our Branch. She is a very nice Slovenian lady who makes the best dessert pastry called "kremšnite"! Dobrodošla med nas, Terezija! Smo vesele, da si se nam pridružila! Her sister-in-law, Jožica is also our member.

Warm welcome also to our newlywed Manuel Zelaya, husband of Kyle Zelaya (Kraemer). Six of us from Br. 43 attended their lovely wedding in June. It was beautiful in every way. Manuel's mother came from Honduras for the wedding. To Kyle and Manuel, our best wishes. May you have a long and happy life together. Welcome Again, Manuel.

Happy birthday to Josephine Durand, Lucille Ganzel, Katherine Holmberg, Anne Rebernisek, Anne Zakrajsek, Tim Bailey, Kathleen Champa, Beverly Davis, Kenn Delopst, Mary Cay Freiberg, Dawn M. Malmarowski and Lyndy Sery. We wish you all many more years in the best of health.

To sick and shut-in members, speedy recovery! Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Next meeting is Sept. 28th at noon. See you at the Style Show and Luncheon on Sept. 17th at Klemer's.

Greetings! Lep pozdrav!

MATILDA SIMCIC
421-1243

Dear Gram,

We wanted to express the love we have for you by sharing a few sentimental thoughts.

You have been through so much grief and sorrow because of the loss of your daughter, Carol and no one will ever know the pain that lingers in your heart. You have been so strong throughout this crisis and we wanted to thank you for being there for us and for being such a loving Grandmother during our time of sorrow. We are very fortunate to have you in our lives.

It's hard to believe that you are "80" years old. You haven't aged a bit since we were little girls. We think the world of you, Gram! We will

never forget the many things that you have done for Mom and for us over the years. Not to mention how you faithfully took us swimming in the Summers, Girl Scouts in the Winters, doctors appointments, dentist appointments etc. and still found the time to cook us dinner and help us with our homework after school while Mom was at work. You also have always been the most generous on Birthdays and at Christmas.

You are so precious to us and we wanted to write you this letter and share with the readers how special a Grandmother you are.

You're One in a million!

We love you,

Your granddaughters,
Debbie and Denise

NO. 50, CLEVELAND, OH

Dober Dan! Now that our annual ethnic festivals are more or less over, and we are approaching our beautiful autumn season, we can settle down to more routine type lodge meetings and activities, among other things. One will take place on September 21, our first meeting day of the new schedule when we will be assigned the details of our next special activity on October 19th which will be our annual "Picnic" at the usual Euclid Club House overlooking Lake Erie. Autumn at that time should be at Euclid's peak. However, shortly before our picnic, on Oct. 16th, the Ohio/Michigan State Convention in Detroit will take place and is sponsored this year by Branch 105 which will have a bus available for all participating branches. Ladies, please keep this event in mind. More details will be available at the Sept. 21st meeting.

Reverting a bit to the recent past, our St. Ann's luncheon at Dubrovnik Restaurant in Eastlake, OH was its usual success. Thirty eight ANN's participated. (I wish I was named Anna after my mom!) The restaurant is part of the Croatian Hall and Museum where the exhibit of folk textiles, "Work of Woman's Hands, Folk Dress and Folk Textiles" has been extended to Sept. 30th. It can be viewed on Fridays and

Saturdays from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

It is regrettable to announce the passing of some of our men folk. Josephine Molle's husband, Erwin left us for his reward, and Josephine Gilak's and Hermine Prezesk's brother, Joseph Tomic did the same. Sincere consolation is extended from all members to those who are left behind.

And the sick list is just getting too large. We have to insist on "Get well ASAP" wishes to the following. Marie Mihalic, who had open heart surgery for a valve replacement on June 29th. The good news is that Marie is on the road back, but it will take awhile. Anne (Slapnik) Petkovsek suffered a stroke recently. Stella Baum, Ann Kristoff, Frances Milavec, and Honey Vegel hit the list, also.

Then there are our members who reside at the Slovenian Home for the Aged. Mary Cesnic, Mary Winter, Anna Jersen, Fanny Kaltenback, Helen Levstick and last but not least our first President of Lodge 50, Sophie Posch. Aw, c'mon gals, see how many of you can get out of this predicament!

To change the subject, we all welcome the return of Anne Doles and her husband to Cleveland. They have been living in Havasu, AZ for quite a few years. Havasu is a heluva place from

RECENT GRADUATE



Sherri L. Bencin Duncan and her mother, Diane are seen on this photo at Sherri's recent graduation. Following completion of her courses in December, 1993, Sherri officially received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Interior Design from Ursuline College, Pepper Pike, Ohio. The ceremony took place at Severance Hall in Cleveland on May 16th, 1994.

Good luck, Sherri, in all of your future endeavors!

Both Sherri and her mother, Diane, have been members of Br. 50, Cleveland, for many years, and everyone loves them!

which to come. Welcome back to the 4 season paradise.

We are so proud and happy to have Kimberly Bischof selected as a scholarship winner. She is the granddaughter of our great and dedicated officer, the late Fran Sietz; and not only that, but Fran's daughter, Donna Bischof was also a scholarship winner! Can you imagine that, mother and daughter both SWU Scholars! It makes our branch extra special, too!

We received a more than generous donation of \$20 to the scholarship fund from Josephine Petrovic. We thank you Jo, ever so much.

Under the same note, Rose Roesch donated a sum of \$10 to our Lodge as a "thank you" for the many members who sent best wishes for her and her husband's 50th anniversary celebration. Also, we send the same wishes to Jane and Adolph Somrack for their 50th. Just keep having more.

Passing of summer always brings the travelers out of the closet and one of them is our President, Anne Tercek. She and her husband, Charles returned recently from a joyful trip to Slovenia and Austria where they visited relatives and experienced many changes for the good and reviewed old and interesting extras. Slovenia seemed to them to have adopted a very American way of life. The stores are loaded with products made in the U.S.A. Our cars especially are more popular than ever and nearly everyone owns one. To learn the "American Way" seems to be the most significant habit. (Let's hope they will adopt only the good habits.)

Anne and Charlie also took a two hour bus trip into Austria thru the Slovenian and Austrian alpine area onto Salzburg where they discovered the old aristocratic past of the Austrian Empire. Welcome back, Anne, tell us more.

Time to close but I'll leave you with something to think about: People are like stained glass windows; they sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in, their beauty is revealed only if there is a light within. Be kind and love one another!

Na svidenje!

VI MORAVCHEK

NO. 54, WARREN, OH

Our meetings will resume on Sept. 21st at noon at the Elks Clubroom on Rt. 422. Hope you all had a nice summer – it certainly was a hot one! We're getting ready to go to Slovenia this week and can't wait! It seems that we've been hoping for this day for so long!

Happy 80th birthday to our member, Mary Zuga. She was pleasantly surprised with a family party and her family traveled from all over to wish her well. Mary is in reasonably good health but hasn't been coming to our meetings. Make an effort to come, Mary! We miss you!

Recuperating from cataract surgery is Isabelle Rek. She had some minor complications but is doing better now.

Jo Kassan's older son, Jim and fam-

In Memory of MOTHER AND GRANDMOTHER



Molly M. Mauer
Born, May 13, 1916
Died, August 16, 1992

So many memories of you still fill our minds and hearts –
The smell of your good cooking... (especially your cookies and cakes)...
The beautiful garden you took such pride in...
Your delicious red, ripe tomatoes and green lettuce,
Your lovely freshly cut green lawn...
Your pride in receiving your trophies at the end of your bowling season...
Your joy in attending all your clubs and dances...
But, most of all, mom, your beautiful smile, giving heart...
and the sound of your voice calling to all of your loved ones.

It's two years now since God took you from us and yet the pain feels deeper. And, though you lay alone now, we can really never be apart because you will always remain in our hearts.

*Remembered every day
and sadly missed by us both,
Your daughter, Diane
and Granddaughter, Sherri
Branch 50, Cleveland, Ohio*

ily were here from Florence, SC for the July 4th holiday and enjoyed a family picnic at Jo Kassan's home.

To those ailing, get well and a special happy birthday wish to Mayme Sporich – and a Happy Anniversary to Martin and Anne Savor. God's blessings to all.

JOANNE PONIQUAR

So much news has passed over my desk. I hope we can cover it all without using up too much space.

When I wrote the last column, I had to anticipate many things, among them our "birthday-bash" at Karlin Hall. It was the success I prematurely wrote about, with one exception. Two people failed to show, but, as always we were sure that something unexpected had come up to prevent Marge and Paul Kozelka from attending. Before dinner, in his welcoming speech, the host for the evening announced that a long-standing member of the Karlin Club, and a steady Wednesday night visitor would not be present -- that Paul Kozelka had been killed in an automobile accident the previous night. We were all aware of a tragic accident on I-271, with a compact car striking a semi and the TV photos were still vividly in our minds. At that time, the victim of the fatality had not been identified. Marge, our hearts and prayers go out to you and your family. A sudden death is always hard to deal with, a tragic sudden death is another matter. You have our prayerful support. Paul has our prayers, too.

GET WELL WISHES: Josephine Globokar (No. 15) has been in the hospital; we trust she is on her way to recovery. Kay Yuratovac had hand surgery, and an eye problem resolved. Adeline Trazaska had foot surgery, and Josephine Novak (Fla.) spent a month in the hospital undergoing tests, etc.. Victor Sray (husband of Olga) had serious/complicated surgery. Please keep all of them in your prayers, as well as the rest of our shut-ins.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: To Mary and Louis Perko on the occasion of their Sixtieth wedding anniversary. May good health and happiness remain at your side for many, many more years.

NUPTIALS UNITE TWO MEMBERS!



William Jones and Lauri Christiansen were married on March 19, 1994 at Sts. Cosmas and Damian Church, Twinsburg, Ohio. William (Bill) is a scholarship recipient of S.W.U.; he and his new bride are both members of Branch No. 73, as is his mother (Kathy, nee Vorisek). Grandma Antoinette was also a member before her demise.

Bill's parents now look forward to a September, 1995 wedding of their daughter, Kim to Jeff Sluzala.

Branch 73 extends their best wishes to the newlyweds and the newly engaged!

E.

WELCOME: We greet new members Julie Ann Shisila, daughter of Christine Zbaznik and Roberta Fortuna, daughter-in-law of Jeanne Fortuna. We'd like to meet you personally, please join us when time permits.

GRADUATES: Congratulations to Leo William Epley and Anthony Kurinic. Both boys have left the bounds of elementary/junior high education, both will enter Chanel High School this month. Bring home A's!! Our oldest grandchild received her B.S. in nursing and passed her state boards. That gives us three nurses in the family. Yes, we are proud.

CONGRATULATIONS: To Morgan Hummel, great granddaughter of Catherine Papez, who made her First Communion. Stay close to the Lord always, just as you were on your special day.

We are half-way through the year of 1994. If you have not as yet paid your dues (completely) for the year, please make every effort to do so at this time. It would be nice to have everyone paid in full before the start of 1995.

CONVENTION: If you are interested in traveling to Detroit, Michigan with us for our State Convention on October 16th, please contact Alouise or myself. Cost is minimal, limited seating. Let us hear from you as soon as possible. We will leave at approximately 8 a.m., return by 8 p.m.

Kids, it's back to school and to studies. Make it a productive year. Set a goal for yourself, attain it or at least give it your all-out effort. There's a big world out there, gain your place in it. Good luck to all of you. College students, travel safety!

Respectfully submitted,
EVELYN A. MAJERCIK

Ermenc-McLeod Funeral Home

5325 W. Greenfield Ave. Phone: 327-4500
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

HOMES IN THE JOLIET AREA

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HONIG
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ROSANNE RUTH
REALTOR

Member of Branch 20, S.W.U.

A CRAFTY IDEA!

Are you rested and ready to start all the projects you need to have ready for Christmas? I have completed many various items, from doilies to afghans to cross-stitching. There is literally something for everyone.

One of the mystery patterns I sent out was for a lattice-work knitted afghan. I felt guilty because I had not tried the pattern. I now have two afghans completed in that pattern. One is off-white, with an added fringe. They are beautiful. One will go to a new bride, the other to a dear, dear friend. I must add that the pattern might be difficult for a beginner, but if you would like to try your hand, please send \$1.00 (checks payable to ZARJA) and a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

**Evelyn A. Majercik
31 Eldred Avenue
Bedford, OH 44146**

NO. 85, DEPUE, IL

Another month has gone by and it is time to greet you again. First of all we have some sick members. Mary Kuhar had surgery and is at home doing very well. Connie Benkse is in Methodist Hospital in Peroria with an infection. Her daughter, Jackie had surgery, too, about a month ago and is doing well, now, at home. Jackie's daughter also had her tonsils out and Connie's husband has been ill for a long time following a stroke. The family has had more than their share of illness and we send them our best wishes. Connie has always tried to attend our meetings as does Mary Kuhar and we understand that Jackie's schedule usually keeps her from joining us.

Now for some good news. Linda Widmar, daughter of Caroline and the late John Widmar graduated from the U. of Illinois and was on the Dean's List. She has a degree in accounting and has accepted a position in Davenport, Iowa. Our congratulations and wishes for much success in the future.

Hope my cousin, Joe has a great trip!

Our prayers with all our sick and God bless everyone.

MARY JERMENC

NO. 102, WILLARD, WI

Greetings from Greenwood! After several weeks of very hot weather, we are now having comfortable cool days to enjoy the growing season. The field crops look super and the gardens are producing nicely.

By now I must have you ladies all confused as to when the Wisconsin SWU State Convention will actually take place because of the different dates printed in the last ZARJA. Sept. 25th was the first date chosen but immediately cancelled due to other activity conflicts in Milwaukee and Sheboygan. Much credit to the other Wisconsin branch reporters for reporting the correct date which is Oct. 2nd! The beautiful fall colors should be at their best, so welcome, ladies and friends, and enjoy your trip to our beautiful central Wisconsin on Oct. 2nd! Hopefully, you will have an experienced tour guide on your bus from Milwaukee; Mary Kiel will surely take care of this and introduce her.

Again, a very delayed statement. We did honor our Mother of the Year, Dorothy Gregorich on April 24th with a nice Pot Luck Dinner at the parish center. It was well attended and it is

always nice to honor a faithful member. I was unable to attend due to a family commitment that day. Sorry, Dorothy.

Frank and Rose Pakiz attended the graduation of their grandson, Mike, from the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado. They extended their early summer trip to include Calgary, Canada and various parts of the west where Rose will always find a relative!

Recently, on a weekend trip to Milwaukee, my husband and I were fortunate to attend the large Mission Picnic at Triglav Park. The Slovenian mass was concelebrated by Rev. Joseph Gole and a young Slovenian priest whose name I didn't get. Slovenian songs were sung by the choir and all those attending. A delicious dinner was available, refreshments and lots of Slovenian bakery. It was a perfectly enjoyable day, meeting many friends. A lovely, large Slovenian doll, made by Mrs. Sophie Rifelj brought a nice donation for the missions.

Three Franciscan Sisters from Lemont made their annual visit to Willard the first week in June. They are so welcome, always.

Soon it will be time to plan for the SWU National Convention in San Francisco, but first we must get through this fall and winter with all the activities planned. These were listed in the last ZARJA. Never a dull moment around this area.

Condolences to the Plautz family on the death of their sister, Helen Albright, who died in Wausau, Wis.

Our next meeting will be Sept. 12th with many plans finalized for the event on Oct. 2nd in Willard. See you then!

Have a good summer-fall, everyone!

MARY STAUT



San Francisco Welcomes Us! Membership Campaign is our drive for new members. It will conclude on March 31, 1995 and prizes will be awarded at the National Convention in San Francisco

Brezje

na Gorenjskem

(Nadaljevanje)

Kmalu po odhodu Francozov so se razšli vesti, da se na Brezjah dogajajo čudeži. Vse več ljudi je romalo iz vseh kraje v Slovenije in zamejstva k sv. Vidu, peš ali z vozovi.

Leta 1863 se je 18 letno hromo dekle, Marija Tavčar iz sosednjih Begunj, na vsem lepem odločilo, da pojde iskat zdravja k Mariji Pomagaj na Brezje. Med mašo je nenadoma začutila, da s hromo nogo lahko giblje. Odložila je bergle in brez njih odšla domov. Bilo je 26. sept. 1963. Po desetih dneh je sledilo drugo podobno zdravljenje. Mariji Zane, 22 letnemu dekletu iz Zgoš pri Begunjah, se je pohabljen noga med molitvijo pred Marijo Pomagaj zravnila. Tudi ona je pustila

tam bergle. Tako prva pričevanja. Poročila govore o nadaljnih ozdravljenjih, o uslišanih prošnjah, o čudežni pomoči v telesnih in duševnih težavah.

Romarjev je bilo čedalje več. Cerkvica je kmalu postala pretesna. Ko je graški škof Zweger ob svojem obisku na Brezjah videl množico romarjev, je predlagal naj bi se nad Marijino kapelo pozidala nova, večja cerkev. Leta 1889 so začeli z gradnjo nove, sedanje cerkve. Gradnja se je nekoliko zavlekla, vendar je bila končno le dokončana leta 1900. Posvetil jo je tedanji goriški nadškof Missia. Istočasno so gradili tudi frančiškanski samostan. Ta red je še danes oskrbnik romarske cerkve.

Stene nove cerkve so kmalu začele pokrivati zahvalne podobe. Sloves brezjanske Marije Pomagaj je segel do skrajnih meja slovenskega ozemlja. Brezje so postale narodna božja pot Slovencev in Marija Pomagaj njih Mati in Kraljica.

Leta 1907 je knezoškof Jeglič vpričo 30.000 romarjev z zlatima kronama ovenčal Marijo Pomagaj in Dete na milostni podobi.

Tudi vojne vihre niso prizanesle cerkvi in milostni podobi. Tako je prva svetovna vojna pobrala 3 od 4 bronastih zvonov. V drugi svetovni vojni je Marija Pomagaj morala porovati v ljubljansko stolnico, da ni padla v roke nemškemu okupatorjem.

Domov se je vrnila šele leta 1947 in kot simbol cerkve ter romarske poti še danes ostaja najdragocenejši zaklad slovenskih romarjev.

Skozi leta je cerkev doživela mnogo popravil in sprememb, vendar je novo-renesančna stavba ohranila vso lepoto in privlačnost, ki priteguje ljudi-romarje iz vseh krajev.



Gospod župnik Jože Božnar ob prenosu Marijine slike v novo kapelo Marije Pomagaj v Clevelandu.

Blagoslovitev Kapele pri sv. Vidu

Zvonovi so slovesno vabili na večer 24. maja 1994 v cerkev sv. Vida, k blagoslovitvi nove kapele Marije Pomagaj z Brezij.

Ob vstopu v cerkev te je prevzelo. S kora je donela veličastna Marijina pesem, cerkev se je blesketala v prijazni novi razsvetljavi, kapela pa je brstela v slovenskih "pušeljcih" – nagelnjih, roženkravtu – za sprejem slike Marije Pomagaj.

V prvih klopeh narodne noše, duhovniki, za njimi polno ljudstva. Vsi smo prihiteli pozdraviti Marijo Pomagaj.

V cerkvi si občutil vseskozi, ob prenosu slike Marije Pomagaj v Njen novi dom š poleg glavnega oltarja, ob petju litanij tisto pravo ponosno slovensko vzdušje, ki ti šeze prav v dno srca in ti orosi oko in tisto pobožnost in zaupanje slovenskega človeka k Mariji Pomagaj, ki nas je že tolikokrat rešila in upajmo, da nas bo še v naprej varovala in vodila.

C.K.

BARAGA



Začetki Katoliške Cerkve v Ameriki

FRANC JAKLIČ

VII. BARAGA V L'ANSU

LA POINTE PRIVZAME O. ŠKOLA (Oktober leta 1845)

Baraga ga je sprva hotel imeti za pomočnika v L'Ansu. Ko pa je videl, da bo stanovanje za oba pretesno, mu je dobil sprejemnico za v milwaukeejsko škofijo in ga 3. oktobra 1845 peljal v La Póinte. Tudi Škola je moral sprva pridigati in spovedovati po tolmaču.

Do Školinega prihoda je Baraga krstil v La Póintu nič manj ko 753 Indijancev. Škola piše o njih: "Tukaj sem neizrečeno zadovoljen. Zmerom se zahvaljujem ljubemu Bogu. Naselbina šteje okrog sto hiš, ki stojijo ob obali. O svojih vernikih moram reči, da so mirnega in krotkega značaja. Dostopni so za vse dobro in blago. Preproščina srca in poslušnost do njihovega dušnega pastirja so njihove najlepše lastnosti." Pravi, da se svojih grehov spovedujejo z veliko žalostjo, večkrat tudi s solzami in jokom.

Naslednjo pomlad leta 1846 se je o. Škola peljal s tolmačem in nekaterimi pol Indijanci v Superior. Tam je videl, da je spreobrnjenec še malo, poganov pa mnogo. Prav takrat so imeli v plesnem vigvamu svoje več dni trajajoče vražarske plesne, pri katerih so skakali in tekali kakor iz uma, klicali brezsmiselne vzklike in tolki na boben. – Škola je ostal v Superiorju cel mesec in krstil 15 Indijancev, odrastlih in otrok.

Vozil se je tudi v Grand Portage. Indijanci so si naredili zasilno cerkvico.

V La Póintu je tudi on nadaljeval Baragovo borbo zoper žganje. Risal jim je slike, kako alkohol upropašča telesa in duše in kako imajo družine že zaradi enega pijanca cel pekel. Leta 1850 je lahko poročal: "Le poredkoma se zgodi, da se kdo pregreši zoper obljubo treznosti, in še takrat takoj pride k duhovniku, se obtoži svojega pregreška in na novo obljubi zmernost. Navadno ga pošljem v cerkev, da se tam izroči božjemu varstvu."

Večino prostega časa je o. Škola premolil v cerkvi.

Baraga ga je včasih obiskal, n. pr. poleti leta 1847 s Pircem in z jezuitom o. Chonéjem (Šonéjem). Vsi trije so ostali pri njem skoraj poldrugi mesec. Ko so prišle množice Indijancev po letno plačo, so imeli mašo z leviti, pri kateri je o. Choné pridigal. Indijanci so gledali in strmeli, ker treh duhovnikov skupaj še svoj živi dan niso videli, še manj pa tri hkrati pri oltarju.

V La Póintu je o. Škola ostal osem let. Krstil je okoli 440 Indijancev, ki so prihajali iz raznih naselij. Ker je kazalo, da bo vlada po pogodbi preselila tamkajšnje Indijance v Minnesoto, je prosil škofa Hennija, naj ga pošlje kam drugam med Indijance. Dne 9. oktobra 1853 je odšel iz La Póinta. Indijanci so zelo žalovali za njim. Preko Saulta se je peljal na zahodni breg Michiganskega jezera k indijanskemu rodu Menominejcev, ki jih je bilo še kakšnih 4000. V pol leta jih je krstil 150. Potem je šel z njimi v rezervacijo 50 km proti zahodu, kjer jim je država plačevala vsako

leto 10 dolarjev na osebo, jim postavila mlin in žago, poslala nekaj rokodelcev in jih brezplačno zalagala s semeni, drevesnimi sadikami in orodjem. Indijanci so mu zgradili ubožno cerkvico in še bolj ubožno stanovanjsko kočo, ki še lesenih tal ni imela. V treh letih je v rezervaciji krstil 302 Menominejca. Tudi tukaj jih je z besedo in slikami odvrčal od pijančevanja.

Delo v trdem podnebj Gorenjega jezera, naporna potovanja, revščina in pomanjkanje so mu zrahljali zdravje. Praznovorni Indijanci so si napačno razlagali nekatere njegove navade in ga obrekli, da je v zvezi z zlimi duhovi. Jeseni leta 1857 se je po 16-letnem misijonskem delovanju poslovil od Amerike in se vrnil v Evropo. V Assisiju, rojstnem mestu njegovega duhovnega očeta sv. Frančiška, je bil štiri leta spovednik za Slovane in Nemce. Potem se je vrnil d domovino, nazaj v Názarje v Savinjski dolini. Hodil je pridigat in spovedovat tudi v sosednje župnije. Leta 1865 se je preselil na Trsat pri Reki, kjer ga je spomin vedno bolj zapuščal. Umrl je leta 1879.

V oktobru 1845 je prišel v Krivo drevo Pircu pomagat Ignacij Mrak, ki je po Baragovi smrti postal škof. Rodil se je leta 1810, torej 13 let pozneje ko Baraga, v Hotavljah v Poljanski dolini. Bil je nadarjen, železne volje, dosleden in natačen. Po mašniškem posvečenju 1. 1837 je bil pol leta za vzgojitelja pri nekem avstrijskem maršalu bligu Verone, kjer se je naučil italijanščine. Potem je bil šest let kaplan. Baragov zgled in Baragova pisma so ga navdušila za severnoameriške misijone. Odpeljal se je proti Ameriki z Andrejem Skobcem, kuratom v Lomu pri Tržiču, ki je pa rajši ostal med Nemci v zvezni državi Ohio. Mraka je na Baragovo priporočilo sprejel detroitski škof Lefèvre in ga poslal v Krivo drevo. Že po desetih dneh je prosto povedal kratko otavsko pridigo, ki mu jo je sestavil Pirc. Naučil se je razen otavščine tudi angleščine in francoščine. Dve leti sta s Pircem delovala v prijateljski slogi, kakor je bil Pirc sploh zelo ljubezniv in ustrežljiv do vseh svojih mladih sodelavcev; bil jim je kakor dober oče. Potem sta si delo razdelila. Pirc je ostal v Krivem drevesu, Mrak je pa prevzel sedem ur oddaljeno Križno vas (Cross Village). Pozneje se je preselil v ostavsko naselje Eagle Town (Igl Taun, Orlje mesto). Tako so takrat imenovali nekdanjo misijonsko podružnico Grand Traverse. Tam je ostal do svojega imenovanja za škofa. Oskrboval je tudi nič manj ko 10 otavskih selišč, od katerih so bila nekatera zelo daleč. Tudi on se je moral, kakor Baraga, mnogo voziti po Michiganskem jezeru, mnogo potovati peš, pozimi tudi na krpljah, in užiti mnogo osamelosti in pomanjkanja.

Pirc je ostal v Krivem drevesu do leta 1852. V nekem pismu pravi, da večina njegovih kristjanov ostane do smrti v krstni nedolžnosti. Tudi fantje živijo čisto, brez mladostnih zablod. K maši vsi redno hodijo; pridejo tudi iz lovišč, včasih 12 ur daleč. – Pirc jih je učil umnega poljedelstva in sadjarstva in jim iz Ljubljane dobival raznih semen, z juga pa dobre pasme domačih živali in perutnine. Uspeha pa najbrž ni imel velikega, ker Indijanca tako delo ne veseli. V vasi so postavili mlin in žago. Mlade fante je pošiljal v razne kraje učiti se obrti. Indijance je cepil zoper koze, ki so



se tu pa tam še zmerom pojavljale. Krivo drevo je veljalo kot kulturno naselje, zato jim je vlada dala državljske pravice. Poganski Otavani so se pa še vedno priseljevali v vas, zato so Pirc in pozneje Lavtižar in Mrak še vedno imeli krste odrastlih. Pod Pirčevim vodstvom so si postavili novo cerkev. Dne 25. maja 1851 jo je blagoslovil v čast Jezusu dečku v templju. Pircu so poslali iz Ljubljane sliko Jezusa, sedečega v templju med učeniki postave, ki je nekdanj visela v gimnazijski kapeli. Ko jo je Lavtižar. 1. 1855 zagledal, se mu je ob mladostnih spominih inako storilo. Pozneje je Baraga kot škof zapisal v krstno knjigo: "Ta misijon se naj torej imenuje "Misijon presvete Jezusove mladosti". Se dandanes se imenuje indijanski mladinski zavod v Little Traverse "Sveta Mladost". Je to največji katoliški indijanski zavod v Michiganu.

V LETIH 1846 IN 1847

Okrog novega leta 1846 je poslal poganski poglavar naselja Lac Vieux Déserts (Lek Vjé Desér) k Baragi sla, da jih naj pride poučiti in krstit. Takoj si je navezal krplje in se vzdignil na daljno pot proti jugu. Tam je pa brž videl, da misijonsko delo ne bo rodilo sadu, ker so jim potujoči trgovci preveč vsiljevali žganje. Na vaškem zborovanju je predlagal, naj se vsi preselijo v L'Anse. Povabilu se jih je pa malo odzvalo. Se dandanes jih je med tamkajšnjimi Indijanci nekaj, ki so pogani.

Potovanje proti Lac Vieux Déserts je opisal 24. januarja 1846 v pismu na Dunaj. V pismu pove, kako

PATER AŠIČ SVETUJE

Sivka – (lavender)

Nabiramo ali samo cvetje, ali vso cvetočo rastlino. Trgamo, tik preden se cvet odpre.

Sivka vpliva v prvi vrsti na osrednje živčevje in na dihala. Sivka kot čaj čisti zlasti glavo, posebno pri boleznih oči, ušes, zdravi nahod, migreno. Čaj preprečuje kap in nagnjenje k njej. Od kapi zadete, je vsaj od začetka treba masirati s cvetom sirke, ki mu dodamo še žajblja (sage) in brinovih jagod (juniper berry). Vse to skuhamo z belim vinom in z njim večkrat nateremo ohromele ude.

Kis kuhan s sivko, držimo v ustih zoper zobobol.

Obloge s sivko v vrečkah lajšajo živčni glavobol, ako sta sicer želodec in prebava v redu.

Čaj ustavlja hude driske, ki jih povzročajo vrenja v prebavilih.

Sivke čaj čisti jetra. Priporočajo ga tudi pri vodeni. Treba mu je dodati nekaj janeža (anise) in ščepec cimeta (cinnamon).

Nadaljevanje sledi.

Pa Boga se priporočite!

CIRILA

se na takih potovanjih prenočuje pod milim nebom, ko pritiska strupen mraz. "Še tako velik ogenj kmalu dogori, ker indijanski spremljevalec vso noč spi, kakor bi ležal v postelji na pernici. Posebno težavno je prenočevanje v burji in metežu, ko je zjutraj človek ves pokrit s snegom." Na drugem mestu pojasni, zakaj ga je ob takih prenočevanjih še posebno zeblo: čez dan postane obleka od potu ali vsaj od izhlapevanja telesa vlažna, ponoči pa zmrzuje na telesu in postane trda kakor lub.

V juliju 1846 je detroitski škof Peter Pavel Lefèvre prvič prišel birmat v L'Anse. Mnogo otrok in odrastlih je birmal. Baraga je bil tudi v L'Ansu ustanovil Družbo treznosti, kakršnih je bilo v Severni Ameriki že kakšnih 500. Nastale so po zgledu irskih in angleških treznostnih družb, ki jih je od leta 1836 ustanovljal kapucin o. Mathew (Métju). Res da se je moral vsak Indijanec že pri krstu odpovedati hudiču in žganju; treznostna društva bi naj pa odpor do alkohola organizirala in krepila. V L'Ansu so se po Baragovem dveletnem prizadevanju priglasili vsi, kar jih je bilo že dovolj starih. Da bi jim bila sprejemna slovesnost še bolj sveta, jo je prepustil škofu. Po slovesni maši je škof stopil pred obhajilno mizo. V roki je imel očipvejske priglasnice, ki jih je bil dal po Baragovem navodilu in besedilu natisniti v Detroitu. Vsak priglašeneц je pokleknil k obhajilni mizi, prejel škofov blagoslov in s priglasnice, ki jo je bil že prej podpisal, bral obljubo: "Jaz N. N. se popolnoma in za vselej odpovedujem uživanju opojnih pijač in prosim Boga za milost, da bi mogel izpolnjevati to obljubo." Obljubili so torej ne

samo treznost, ampak popolno in dosmrtno vzdržnost od alkohola.

Baraga ni bil edini, ki je širil treznost med Indijanci. Malo jih je pa bilo, ki bi bili imeli tako velike uspehe. K temu je posebno pomagal njegov neprestani junaški zgled popolne vzdržnosti od vsakega alkohola. Indijanci v L'Ansu so bili prej razvpiti kot pijanci, zdaj so pa zasloveli po svojem sovraštvu do žganja. Baraga sam piše o starem možu, ki je bil pred ustanovitvijo misijona zmerom pijan. "Po svojem spreobrnjenju je pa postal cel apostol treznosti. Večkrat je zbral Indijance iz misijona in jim z veliko vnemo prigovarjal, da naj nikoli ne pijó žganja, ki povzroča na svetu toliko hudega."

Po povratku iz L'Ansa je škof Lefèvre 4. avgusta v poročilu o tamkajšnjih Indijancih zapisal: "Vzvišena zadeva treznosti se med njimi lepo razvija. Ta sveta čednost je globoko vkoreninjena v njihovih srcih. Breznačelni belokožci so nekatere izmed njih postavili pred hude preskušnje. Ponujali so jim denar in druge darove, če pokusijo vsaj malo žganja. Indijanci so pa, čeravno so ubogi, rajši zavrnili darove, kakor da bi užili eno samo kapljo žganja, ki jih je prej na duši in telesu ubijalo. Druge so hoteli prisiliti z grožnjami, da bi ga vsaj malo pokusili. Pa bi se bili rajši dali pretepsti, kakor pa se izpostavili nevarnosti, da polagoma padejo nazaj v pijansko strast. Poboljšanje teh Indijancev je res čudovito, zlasti kar zadeva zmernost." – V drugem uradnem poročilu o Indijancih v L'Ansu z dne 15. junarja 1848 piše škof: "Postali so popolnoma trezni. Vsi so zvesti člani Družbe treznosti. Ne dovolijo, da bi kdo kapljico žganja prinesel v vas. Trgovec, ki živi med njimi, je moral dati pismeno izjavo, da ne bo nikoli imel niti kapljice žganja v svoji hiši ali prodajalni, drugače ga ne bodo trpeli v svoji vasi." Splošno je znano, da ni varno, žganje že samo nesti ali peljati skozi vas. Če bi (Baragovi) Indijanci koga takih zasačili, bi mu steklenice in sodčke na drobnce kosce razbili."

Samo katoliška vera je reševala Indijance iz pijančevanja. Samo ona jim je dajala moč, da so zdrobili težke verige, v katere jih je bil vkoval ta narodni sovražnik. Zato so tisti Indijanci, ki so imeli nekoliko širši pogled, katoliško vero in katoliške misijonarje tem bolj cenili in ljubili. Borba za treznost je tudi iz tega razloga mnogo pripomogla k procvitu katoliških misijonov med Indijanci.

Baraga je spremil škofa skozi do Detroita. Spet je nesel tiskati tri indijanske knjige: 1. zelo predelano in pomnoženo izdajo očipvejskega molitvenika, natisnjeneга 1. 1837 v Parizu; 2. drugo izdajo nedeljskih listov in evangelijev, ki so mu jih bili pred tremi leti natisnili v Ljubljani; 3. mali očipvejski katekizem. Dva meseca je moral v Detroitu pregledovati tisk. Vseh 3800 izvodov teh knjig je stalo 680 dolarjev, ki jih je takoj plačal, ker je bil pred kratkim dobil z Dunaja večjo vsoto.

V pismu, ki ga je pisal iz Detroita na Dunaj, tudi pravi: "Želim si spet biti med svojimi dragimi otroki (verniki). Kako veseli bodo, ko bodo spet videli svojega očeta, ki ga že dva meseca niso videli." O Školi poroča, da je izvrsten misijonar in da se pridno uči očipvejščine. *Nadaljevanje sledi.*

"FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART"

Labor Day

The first Monday of September is known as Labor Day. It was started by a New York Labor Union leader, Peter J. Maguere, who suggested a celebration for the American working man. Acting on his idea 10,000 workers paraded in New York, followed by political speeches, fireworks and picnics. Today, this is how most of us celebrate and what comes to mind at the mention of Labor Day.

However, to the Portuguese-Americans of West Warwick, RI, Labor Day is a religious holiday. It's the feast of the Holy Spirit. (literally).

Originally the celebration began 500 years ago by Queen Isabel of Portugal. In honor of the Holy Spirit, as a devotion of Charity, she threw a giant feast for the poor peasants. During the feast,

she removed her crown and placed it on the head of a child.

It's believed that this feast in honor of the Holy Spirit was revived in Gloucester, MA by fisherman who wanted to express their gratitude for their safe return from particularly stormy seas.

DAVY'S COLUMN

By 1911 the tradition had spread to the Portuguese community of Rhode Island. The celebration begins on Sunday morning with a parade to St. Anthony's Church. There a coronation Mass is celebrated. Afterwards comes the "Feast of Charity". The Holy Spirit Society serves a banquet featuring a

soup they call the Soup of the Holy Spirit. The meal is followed by rides, games and bands.

Monday, Labor Day, during the day a collection of various food articles is taken for the auction to be held that night. Proceeds from the auction go to defray costs of the festival. Finally, a special ceremony is held and lots are drawn to see which six families will have custody of the Crown of the Holy Spirit during the upcoming year.

(The crown is silver with a gold dove representing the Holy Spirit.)

During the Feast of the Holy Spirit, toward the end of the meal, the crown is placed on the head of child.

'Til Next Month

DAVY

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of the Board of Directors next March.

* * * * *

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