

# Zarja — The Dawn

URADO GLASILO  
SLOVENSKE ŽENSKÉ ZVEZE

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Mary of Medjugorje



# ZARJA - THE DAWN

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Telephone: (312) 548-8878

## ON THE COVER...

The Blessed Mother as she appears to the visionaries at Medjugorje. See page 9 for more on Medjugorje.

## SLOVENSKA PESEM

Chorus of Lemont-Chicago-Joliet, IL

under the direction of Dr. Fr. Vendelin Spendov, OFM  
presents their annual Concert

Saturday, May 5, 1990, 7:30 p.m.

St. Stephen's Center, Chicago

Featuring excerpts from "Prodana Nevesta"

Refreshments after the concert

Donation, \$5

\* \* \* \* \*

Attend their picnic at St. Joe's Park,

Joliet, IL, Sunday, July 8, 1990. Music

by the Ensemble Heritage. Welcome to all!

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN MAY & JUNE

### National Officer:

May 12 - Barbara Spritzer, Regional President of Colorado-Kansas-Missouri, Gunnison, CO

### Presidents:

May 11 - Christine Konte, Br. 66, Canon City, CO

May 25 - Frances Yerman, Br. 57, Niles, OH

June 4 - Ann Heinemann, Br. 28, Calumet, MN

June 24 - Genevieve Safran, Br. 27, Braddock, PA

### Secretaries:

May 3 - Anna Anderson, Br. 79, Enumclaw, WA

May 6 - Gladys Buck, Br. 16, So. Chicago, IL

May 7 - Josephine Argubright, Br. 89, Oglesby, IL

May 13 - Helen McFarland, Br. 66, Canon City, CO

May 13 - Mary Mejac, Br. 103, Washington, D.C.

May 14 - Mary Pabijan, Br. 15, Cleveland, OH

May 27 - Anka Kregar, Br. 55, Girard, OH

May 28 - Linda Lambright, Br. 6, Barberton, OH

June 1 - Ann Pavelic, Br. 8, Steelton, PA

June 3 - Jane Hudak, Br. 74, Ambridge, PA

June 11 - Betty Stack, Br. 24, LaSalle, IL

June 19 - Dorothy Brezonik, Br. 1, Sheboygan, WI

June 29 - Elizabeth Spolar, Br. 56, Hibbing, MN

June 30 - Rosemary Susel, Br. 10, Cleveland, OH

### MANY HAPPY RETURNS OF THE DAY!

## DATES TO REMEMBER

May 1 - MOTHER OF THE YEAR, Br. 14, Euclid, OH, Slovenian Societies Home, Recher Ave., 6 p.m. Reservations to Vice President, Vera Bajec, 481-7473

May 2 - MOTHER OF THE YEAR and PENNY SOCIAL, Br. 33, Duluth, MN

May 3 - DINNER MEETING, Br. 35, Aurora, MN at Rustic Rock Restaurant, Eveleth, 5:00 p.m.

May 3 - DINNER HONORING MOTHER OF THE YEAR, Br. 100, Fontana, CA at Mediterranean Restaurant, San Bernardino

May 6 - WOMAN OF THE YEAR, Br. 13, San Francisco, CA, Mass at 9:30 a.m., Brunch at Lehr's Greenhouse. Call Jo Aiuto, 863-8632

May 6 - WOMAN OF THE YEAR PARTY, Br. 19, Eveleth, MN 1 p.m.

"Dates" are continued on page 13.

# INDEPENDENT SAVINGS BANK

1515 E. 260th, Euclid, Ohio 44132 731-8865

920 E. 185th, Cleveland, Ohio 44119 486-4100

2765 SOM Center Rd., Willoughby Hills, Ohio 44094 944-3400

27100 Chardon Road, Richmnd Hts., Ohio 44143 944-5500

6650 Pearl Road, Parma Hts., Ohio 44130 845-8200



# National President's Message

## HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

|| 54788

At the time of this writing, my right hand remains in a cast. I have learned to print with my left hand since typing is impossible.

Viewing the brilliant reds of the dogwoods, the pussy willows swaying in the wind, the crisp white birches along with the majestic evergreens, our Creator has given us this colorful and picturesque landscape. Virtually all around us, we can see nature unfolding. Surely spring has arrived; let us rejoice and be glad!

Happy Mother's Day to all mothers! Congratulations to the women who were selected to be their branch "Mother/Women of the Year." It is an honor which you will cherish with fond memories.

May and June are always busy months with First Communions, graduations, weddings and other celebrations. Try to remember those in your respective branches with a card; it means we care!

Our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to Bernadette Kovacic on the untimely death of her father and to Irene Odorizzi on the death of her mother, Mrs. Emma Planinsek. May the good Lord in His compassion grant them eternal peace.

At our March Board of Directors' meeting important matters were discussed. Our 1991 Convention Chairman,

Evelyn Majercik was invited to attend this meeting which proved to be productive in-as-much as the preliminary convention plans were made and future plans were discussed. You will be receiving detailed information in forthcoming articles.

**I received an invitation to attend the PA-NY-DC Regional Convention hosted by Br. 103, Washington, D.C.**

**I'm delighted to have this opportunity to meet with the fine members from the Eastern States. This will be a pleasureable and exciting experience for me.**

**The Convention opens on Saturday, May 5, 1990 at 7:30 p.m. with a Slovenian Heritage Evening and continues Sunday, May 6th, 1990 with a full day's program planned.**

**You'll be hearing all about my visit in the next issue of ZARJA.**

Now is the time to think about attending the National Convention of the S.W.U. of America. Wouldn't be great to have chartered buses going to Cleveland? Think about it. Guests are encouraged to attend; they give us their support, a deep sense of S.W.U. sisterhood and love.

May your summer be relaxing and enjoyable. God love you!

*Victoria "Tory" Bobence*

## 1991 CONVENTION NEWS

Dear Members of Slovenian Women's Union of America,

Our countdown to our 1991 Convention has begun in earnest. As the year progresses, you will be kept informed of many details pertaining to the convention and functions associated with it. We ask that you take the time NOW to mark your calendars and set aside the dates of the convention. Let nothing interfere with your participation in the meetings and social events.

The Convention will begin on Thursday, May 16th, 1991 and will conclude on Sunday, May 19th, 1991. The Convention will be headquartered at the Day's Hotel in North Randall, Ohio with Branch No. 73 the host branch. This is not to say that ALL branches are not needed to make the convention a success, and we ask your full cooperation in that respect.

Information and other details will be forwarded to local branches, and we ask that you act quickly on any materials sent to you. Above all, your delegate should be selected

early in the year, 1991. It is imperative that this particular task be accomplished in order that publicity regarding the convention can be directed to the proper person.

I look forward to serving as Chairman of the Convention, and will try my best to assist you in anyway possible to make the convention a rewarding, entertaining and informative weekend for each of you.

The ZARJA will be a valuable source of Convention information. Be sure to check each issue and keep yourself updated.

Take time out in your busy days to pray for the selection of delegates, the nominations that will be held and for the overall success of the Convention.

Respectfully submitted,

*Evelyn A. Majercik,  
Chairman, National Convention of 1991*

# TORY'S GREENHOUSE CAMPAIGN

April 1, 1989 to March 31, 1990

Of the 67 Branches of Zveza 32 were a part of Tory's Greenhouse. And from these branches 73 members enrolled **28 Class A** including 11 Junior Transferees, **74 Class B** including 16 Junior transferees and **41 Juniors** for a total of **143 new members**. Award checks amounting to \$195.50 will be sent to the concerned member-workers. A "crystal vase" as top prize, will also be presented to the top worker Jonita Ruth of the Joliet Branch 20.

With the annual letter sent to every branch president last November about 285 packages of seeds were sent. Each package of floral seeds was to represent one new member. The campaign gave us only one-half of the hoped-for goal.

To the campaign workers a very special thank you. In our next campaign, entitled "TILL TORY'S GARDEN!" may others join you in enriching our membership, as well as our organization - ZVEZA.

*Olga Ancel, Nat'l Secretary*

## Branch Standings

|                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| 20, Joliet, IL            | 40 |
| 50, Cleveland, OH         | 10 |
| 43, Milwaukee, WI         | 9  |
| 2, Chicago, IL            | 8  |
| 42, Maple Heights, OH     | 8  |
| 25, Cleveland, OH         | 7  |
| 30, Home Office           | 7  |
| 33, Duluth, MN            | 7  |
| 73, Warrensville Hts., OH | 6  |
| 105, Detroit, MI          | 5  |
| 38, Chisholm, MN          | 3  |
| 1, Sheboygan, WI          | 3  |
| 17, West Allis, WI        | 3  |
| 3, Pueblo, CO             | 2  |
| 14, Cleveland, OH         | 2  |
| 23, Ely, MN               | 2  |
| 35, Aurora, MN            | 2  |
| 56, Hibbing, MN           | 2  |
| 68, Fairport Harbor, OH   | 2  |
| 71, Warrensville Hts., OH | 2  |
| 5, Indianapolis, IN       | 1  |
| 6, Barberton, OH          | 1  |
| 10, Cleveland, OH         | 1  |
| 13, San Francisco, CA     | 1  |
| 22, Bradley, IL           | 1  |
| 28, Calumet, MI           | 1  |
| 32, Euclid, OH            | 1  |
| 47, Garfield Hts., OH     | 1  |
| 59, Burgettstown, PA      | 1  |
| 79, Enumclaw, WA          | 1  |
| 91, Oakmont, PA           | 1  |
| 100, Fontana, CA          | 1  |
| 103, Washington, D.C.     | 1  |

## Individuals

|                       |    |
|-----------------------|----|
| Jonita Ruth (20)      | 20 |
| Olga Ancel (20)       | 9  |
| Marjorie Church (42)  | 8  |
| Rose Kraemer (43)     | 7  |
| Ardis Gregorash (20)  | 6  |
| Cirila Kermavner (25) | 4  |
| Ann Tercek (50)       | 4  |
| Irene Odorizzi (103)  | 4  |

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Josephine Mohorcic (25) | 3 |
| Alouise Epley (73)      | 3 |
| Evelyn Majercik (73)    | 3 |
| Patricia Adamic (105)   | 3 |
| Dorothy Brezonik (1)    | 3 |
| Marion Marolt (17)      | 2 |
| Lillian Cepon (20)      | 2 |
| Louise Caffrey (33)     | 2 |
| Rosemary Benson (38)    | 2 |
| Mary Blatnik (50)       | 2 |
| Evelyn Pipoly (50)      | 2 |
| Rose Maras (56)         | 2 |
| Kathleen Emerson (105)  | 2 |
| Mary Vertacic (1)       | 1 |
| Anna Bunetta (2)        | 1 |
| Elsie Ciszek (2)        | 1 |
| Gloria Nusko (2)        | 1 |
| Louis Pasderetz (2)     | 1 |
| Christine Podder (2)    | 1 |
| Dolores Puhek (2)       | 1 |
| Mary Reich (2)          | 1 |
| Theresa Schultz (2)     | 1 |
| Frances Simonich (3)    | 1 |
| Mary Techavec (3)       | 1 |
| Josephine Turk (5)      | 1 |
| Linda Lambright (6)     | 1 |
| Steffie Segulin (10)    | 1 |
| Sonja Stimach (13)      | 1 |
| Martha Koren (14)       | 1 |
| Donna Tome (14)         | 1 |
| Shirley Wilms (17)      | 1 |
| Judy Doszak (20)        | 1 |
| Helen Plut (20)         | 1 |
| Mildred Pucel (20)      | 1 |
| Mary Rozman (20)        | 1 |
| Josephine Tezak (20)    | 1 |
| Joyce Vicich (20)       | 1 |
| Elizabeth Kinder (22)   | 1 |
| Jean Polyner (23)       | 1 |
| Pauline Polyner (23)    | 1 |
| Mary Jakovich (28)      | 1 |
| Dorothy Lamm (32)       | 1 |
| Sharon Baker (33)       | 1 |

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Patricia Borich (33)    | 1 |
| Beverly Menart (33)     | 1 |
| Suntina Spehar (33)     | 1 |
| Kristina Zupancic (33)  | 1 |
| Anna Hodnik (35)        | 1 |
| Anna Rose Smolich (35)  | 1 |
| Kathryn Knuth (38)      | 1 |
| Mary Bregant (43)       | 1 |
| Connie Lewandowski (43) | 1 |
| Mary Taucher (47)       | 1 |
| Theresa Komat (50)      | 1 |
| Mildred Petrovic (50)   | 1 |
| Margaret Yenko (59)     | 1 |
| Mary Miklavcic (68)     | 1 |
| Velma Zalar (68)        | 1 |
| Dorothy Bruce (71)      | 1 |
| Margaret Striner (71)   | 1 |
| Mary Cooks (79)         | 1 |
| Betty Ann Murphy (91)   | 1 |
| Rosemary Mlaker (100)   | 1 |
| Nika Kovacic (103)      | 1 |

## TILL TORY'S GARDEN! Membership Campaign

April 1, 1990 to March 31, 1991

Our current membership campaign will be in preparation for the forthcoming National Convention in May of 1991, in Cleveland, Ohio.

The Board of Directors met last March to set the goals of this campaign and a good suggestion was made to increase activity and involvement of our membership. It is as follows:

Why not get a "prospective member list" started with the names and addresses of people we know? Every member should bring in her list of friends - perhaps a Christmas card list - and add it to the lists of other members. A letter of invitation can be sent to these "prospective" people from your branch!

A letter with some guidelines and/or a sample letter will be prepared by our SWU Home Office for each branch that wishes to comply with this idea.

All it will cost is postage and to make copies of the letter your branch will send!

Join us in inviting others to be members of SWU!

Let's make this phase of our Pre-Convention campaign truly a big success!

# ACTIVITIES

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## NO. 2, CHICAGO, IL

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We had a nice turn-out for our March meeting. Thanks to our committee for getting everything ready. Ray Nusko had the hall decorated in red/green for both St. Joseph and St. Patrick, Mary Foys Lauretig made pretty centerpieces; Jo Lukas and Helen Fitzgerald made the favors. It was good to see so many members, Sisters of St. Stephen's, Father Kalist and guest. Our President, Fran Morrison began the meeting with a beautiful prayer.

Issues discussed were:

1) Branch 2 picnic - JULY 15, Lemont, Illinois... Booklets will be mailed. Prizes are needed (may be dropped off at the St. Stephen's Rectory - please mark - SWU PICNIC). Everyone, please plan to attend. Mass 11:00 a.m. at the Grotto (weather permitting). Refreshments and musical entertainment following Mass. Music by: Heritage Ensemble.

2) Cheer Basket - The St. Stephen's parishioners were invited by Br. 2 to participate in a special Easter Cheer Basket drive of canned goods during the week of April 1-8. An important note to remember. Please bring something for the Cheer Basket to our June meeting, it will be our last opportunity to help the poor of our parish before our summer break.

After the meeting, we were invited to a delicious dinner and an unbelievable sweet table, such tasty goodies. Thanks to Ann Mladic, chairperson and her committee. We all had a real nice time.

Mass for Bishop Baraga at Lemont was well-attended. Mary Ann Oblak had a very interesting talk. For those who would like to attend, Mass is 5:30 p.m. the last Saturday of the month, Marija Pomagaj Chapel, St. Mary's Seminary.

The Baraga Association is very busy getting all the particulars together for the Labor day week-end in Chicago.

St. Mary's K.S.K.J. will be celebrating their 85th Anniversary on June 3 - Mass - St. Stephen's 11:30 a.m.

Please pray for our sick: Mitzi

Krapenc, Henry Krapenc, Frances Kozel, Stella Gorka, Lil Seibert, Mary Del Russo, Jennie Puhek. We are glad that Catie Srabarnek is back home; let's pray that all our members will be able to be with us soon.

Our condolences go out to our members and their families who lost loved ones over the past few months: Jo Lukas and Helen Fitzgerald lost their sister and brother; Tony and Josie Squok for his brother; Mary Pecharich on the loss of daughter, Martina Hintz; Elizabeth Kolenko on the loss of grand-daughter, Kimberly; Kay and Frank Turner and Agnes Wroblewski on the loss of brother, Joe; and to the families of Hilda Thoren and Alma Helder. Please pray that they may rest in piece. *Molite za naše drage pokojne, naj počivajo v miru.*

Irene Smid was treated by daughter Jackie to a visit to Hawaii. Irene Kalina and Agnes Wroblewski were off to Vegas. Hope "lady luck" went with them. Rose Mary Litwin spent a month in Florida. A few went on a Caribbean Cruise, Wilma and Joe Sinkovic, Tina Stanek, Lil and John Asan; Corinne Leskovar visited Tonči's family in New Hampshire.

The Altar Society wishes to thank everyone for making their games party a success.

Hope everyone had a nice Easter. Please send cards or a phone call to the shut-ins. "The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer somebody else up." Mark Twain...

Congratulations to all our Sisters of other branches who are the "Women of the Year."

Love,

DAISY

---

## NO. 3, PUEBLO, CO

---

Easter is almost here and we are enjoying the delicious soup served after the 12 o'clock mass every Wednesday and donations for the poor have been great.

After enjoying the soup we had our meeting and I'm happy to report there were 24 present.

Meeting was opened with prayers and reports were given and approved.

Mildred Lesar is our new member. We welcome her to our group and

hope she will be able to attend our meetings.

Mary Guzol had hip surgery. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Mrs. Anna Pachak, who is in the Pavilion at the Villa Towers, was very happy when some of our members visited her. It means so much to our people in rest homes to be thought of and especially to have visitors. They get very lonely.

Steffie Barnett donated the surprise gift and it was won by Katherine Sefcovic.

Refreshments were served by Jennie Mishmash, Mary Drobnick and Adeline Kochevar and then "B" was played.

PAULINE PAUCHICK

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## NO. 10, CLEVELAND, OH

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On Wed., March 21st the meeting was called to order by Vice-Pres., Danielle Susel. Prayers were said for our sick and deceased members. Minutes were read, correspondence and treasurer's report was given.

A poem was read in Slovenian by Mary Princ entitled, "Slovenian Pesem" by Ivan Zupan; and in English a poem was read by Danielle Susel.

We have a wonderful member, Millie Novak, who always is generous to us. Millie makes noodles, sells them and gives the proceeds to br. 10! Thanks, Millie for everything!

Congratulations to Joyce and Matt Le Nassi on their 50th Anniversary. Also, congratulations to our councilman, Mike Polensek, who was chosen as "Man of the Year" of the Collinwood Slovenian Home on Holmes.

Sylvia Jansa will be our Woman of the Year for 1990.

We will honor Sylvia on Wed. May 16th at Alexander's Restaurant on Lake Shore Blvd. at 1 p.m. Reservations must be made in advance. Deadline is May 9th. Guests are welcome. Please try to attend. Call 531-5108 or 631-7635.

Deepest sympathy to the families of Mary Novak, Mary Hraster and Mary Kokal who passed away.

Have a happy Mother's Day.

ANN STEFANCIC



## In Loving Memory

Southeast Side residents, who then have their picture hung in the local bank. She also received the Erv Orel Award which is presented to an outstanding citizen at the Labor Day Celebration held annually in Calumet park.

Jean was a charter member and pianist for the Ladies Auxiliary of the William Franko VFW Post 8827 on the East Side. The post was organized and named after her brother, William, who was killed in World War II. After getting involved in the Post, she became an active volunteer at the West Side Veterans Association Hospital in Chicago.

Jean was an active and loyal member of branch No. 16 and always supported all branch sponsored events and attended meetings regularly. In 1978 when the Kitchen Band was organized for the celebration of our 50th Anniversary, Jean played the piano for our group which appeared in National costume.

Jean was the organist at St. George Church for 5 years. She was also a member of the Confraternity of Christian Mothers and St. Mary No. 80 of the KSKJ.

Many members of Branch No. 16 and the Confraternity of Christian Mothers prayed the Rosary at her wake at the Kompare Funeral Home on Friday afternoon. Mass of the Resurrection was said at St. George Church by Rev. Raphael Seseck on Saturday March 31 with burial at St. Mary's Cemetery. Honorary Pallbearers were: Catherine Anderson, Stephanie Golob, Marge Prebil, Mary Putzell, Mary Rago, Violet Somin and Marie Vidovich.

She is survived by one brother, Anthony J. "Tee" Franko and three sisters, Josephine Camerano of Walnut, Calif., Frances Chartrand of Chicago and Helen Battista of the East Side.

We have many beautiful memories of Jean's accomplishments in our church, in our branch and in our community and we are honored to have been touched by her good deeds in one way or another. May she rest in Peace!

*Gladys K. Buck*

It is with deep sadness that I report the death of our beloved member, Jean (Jennie) Franko on March 27, 1990. Jean has left a distinguished record of accomplishments in the East Side community through her volunteer work.

In 1974, Jean was named Woman of the Day by Chicago Radio Station WBBM for her outstanding work in the community. In 1979 she received the Academy of Humanitarians Award which is presented periodically to

## "MY FIRST STAY IN THE U.S.A."

After a long study of economics and a bad life experience I decided to visit the U.S.A. As a born European I had never been away before. They say: "Traveling broadens your mind" and they are right. You come back with some new experiences and a point of view that is able to accept a different way of living, of thinking.

While staying in the U.S.A. I was a guest of my dad's cousin, Tony Jagodnik and his wife, Irene, and all their children and friends and relatives. Irene and Tony welcomed me very warmly. They had been the best hosts I ever had. They did their best to make me feel like "at home!" Words aren't enough to express my gratefulness to them. They took me everywhere, even to my Godmother, Mrs. Tončka Rapaic in Milford, New York State. By the way, while talking about traveling there's one thing that is normal to Americans and a great experience for Europeans - Slovenians -: long, no, enormous distances between different places. I needed a while to get used to it and to enjoy it. American roads are excellent, traffic signs everywhere and you just can't miss it.

I also had a chance to experience a University life - in Cleveland and in Toronto, Canada with my friend, Ann Marie Pavlovec. I truly enjoyed it. People of all ages are nice with foreigners and very helpful too.

And, I got some experience in churches of different nationalities - American, Italian, Slovenian. Especially



**Tony Jagodnik with Bernarda**

Christmas in a New York church is unforgettable. And shopping was another thing that I loved. Women are just born to shop and spend money.

At the end I'd like to thank everyone that I met even briefly. All my love goes to Irene and Tony and their family that made my dream come true. Thank you and so long.

*Bernarda Baša  
of Knežak, Slovenia*

**(P.S. Bernarda wrote this herself. Isn't her English super? Thanks to Irene Jagodnik for sharing this letter with us. Editor)**

What a beautiful day for a meeting but very windy. It didn't keep our members home; only Cathy Kranig decided to stay home. But, Mary Dezman did some convincing because Mary was in on the scheme. It happened to be Cathy's birthday (only one in March) and we decided to make it special for her.

Ann Jelinek brought a big roast of chicken legs and potato salad, Sophie Rozman pasta salad, Phylis Pruschick, cold slaw and of course, on the serving and clean up crew. Alma Hoelzer, appetizers, Julie Pesec, roll and butter. There were plenty of cakes by our famous bakers who removed all the calories. Gertie Schunk gave \$5.00 toward coffee. Thank you all for your donations and presence at our meetings. Our "B" fund stays intact.

Ann Paulin gave a Happy Birthday helium balloon and the officers and members gave Cathy a card with a few dimes plus her \$5.00 donation.

Cathy was surprised and wants to thank every one.

We welcomed a new member, Molly Macht, originally from Eveleth, Minn. Hope to see you at many meetings.

Our candy maker, Agnes Morrow gave each of us a chocolate Easter candy on a lace daily on each plate. What a friend! Yours truly gave each an Easter basket stitched on plastic in Easter colors with little straw jelly beans and a chocolate bunny. The candy was not home-made. The people in nursing homes also will each get a basket.

The reports of all officers were accepted. A letter from Branch 43 on their upcoming Regional Convention was read with further discussions.

Congratulations from all of us to Louis and Stephanie Bashell, on their 50th Wedding Anniversary that was April 20th. Stephanie is our social member. We hope their celebration was a good beginning for the next 50 years!

A Happy, Blessed Easter, Mother's Day and good health to all.

MARY KIEL



Our March meeting was our annual Buffet Luncheon. It was a beautiful day and we had 43 people present. Food and desserts were fabulous. We played "B" and Mary Lesser won the hand-crocheted afghan. Congratulations!

We are all looking forward to the Mother's Day Brunch on May 6th, 1990 at the Greenhouse Restaurant. Our chosen Woman of the Year is Michele Twers, daughter of our president, Jo Aiuto. This is a much deserved honor for Michele who has been treasurer for 17 years. Michele and her lovely smile are always present when there is a job to be done. Congratulations to Michele and Josephine.

I am sorry to report that Dragica Tomich passed away on January 24th, 1990. She had been a member for 46 years. Our prayers and sympathy go out to her family.

The Reunion of Patrick Henry Grammer School on March 11th was magnificent day. It was a reunion of all "Potrero Hill!" We had 450 people, students, from 1912 to 1978. It took one year of planning, but to see so many people hugging and smiling was worth all the time and work. Some people hadn't seen each other for 40 or 50 years!

May I wish you all a blessed and beautiful Mother's Day!

BEVERLY JACKSON

## WE MISS POLDICA -

I am Ann Judnich, a cousin to Poldica Podgornik who passed away Nov. 28, 1989 in San Francisco and would like to thank you very much for the beautiful article about her in ZARJA, March issue. I appreciate it very much and do know how much she would have liked it, too. Poldica was in the hospital and convalescent home from January, 1989, until she passed away. She left a son, Milton, who is being taken care of by a kind lady who has moved into their home and I take care of his personal things. We thank all those who have helped us and pray for God's blessings to you all.

Sincerely,

Anna Judnich  
San Francisco, California

Beautiful Spring! The gardens are awash with the brilliant colors of tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, crocuses and now the Easter lily! This cool spring weather is prolonging the gorgeous awakening of rebirth.

Get well wishes to President Martha Koren who underwent surgery and is now on the mend at her home. Best wishes for a speedy recovery to you Martha, and all of our ill members.

In the event you receive this edition before May 1, you still have time to call in your reservations for our annual Mother of the Year dinner at which we honor Mary Gerl. This all takes place on Tuesday, May 1 at 6:00 p.m. at Slovenian Society Home on Recher Ave. Call in your reservations to Vera Bajec at 481-7473. We look forward to seeing all our members!

Congratulations to Matthew Fitzthum, son of Marilyn and Jim and also grandson of long-time member, Jennie Fitzthum who is now attending the College of Mortuary Science in Cincinnati. Best of luck to you, Matthew, in your chosen career!

Once again we stress that members who have not caught up with their dues should do so immediately. Send payment to Diane Varney, 1155 Easton Dr., Akron, Ohio 44130, or call Diane at 1-923-4034. If paying for someone other than yourself, please indicate the name of the member for whom you are making payment.

Hope the start of this summer season brings you happy, sunshine filled days.

ALICE KUCHAR

## NO. 16, SO. CHICAGO, IL

Meeting of March 8, 1990 at 8:00 p.m. was opened with a prayer for Mary Sasek and all deceased and living members of Branch 16. Attendance was great considering the wind that was blowing at an unbelievable speed. Marge Prebil thanked us all for coming out on such a bad night.

Minutes were read by Phyllis Perko. We were reminded of our April 1st party plus Mother of the Year party on May 10th.

Minutes of 2-12-70 were also read. Mrs. Skul was Mother of the Year at that time. Mary Krznarich and Sylvia Spretnjak were in charge of the refreshments--as they are today. They



EMMA MATKO PLANINSEK retired co-owner of "Martin Planinsek Grocery & Meat Market" on Elizabeth St., Joliet and Honorary President of Br. 20 died at her home on Monday, March 26, 1990. She and her husband operated the store from 1925 to 1955. Following the death of her husband, she continued operating the business for six additional years. The specialty item of the market was the Slovenian klobase (smoked sausage) which were popular in the Joliet area.

The business flourished in the latter 20s but the depression in the 30s affected their business. Sympathetic with the needs of their customers, they extended credit to many people some of whom never honored their financial commitment. Others remained customers until the door closed in 1961 with the retirement of Emma.

Emma served as President of the Slovenian Women's Union, Joliet Branch 20 for 47 years. She was a leader and hard worker dedicated to the goals of the ethnic organization and her sister members. Love of her Slovenian Heritage made her a loyal and dedicated servant and president.

She gained recognition throughout the various SWU branches and brought prestige to the Joliet branch, one of the largest and most active in the national organization, a position maintained to this day. Emma also served as National First Vice-President and presided as the convention president in Indianapolis.

She co-founded and promoted the SWU senior and junior drill teams which competed nationally and also participated in Joliet parades annually. The SWU bowling league, another of her projects, still bowls at Rivals Park. She also formed other groups, among them a choral group, sewing circle and the children's ethnic dance group in the 40s. There were countless successful projects and activities for the members, their relatives and friends.

During WWII she promoted war bond drives and was instrumental in organizing food and clothing relief to the needy Slovenian people after the war.



## *In Remembrance*

# EMMA PLANINSEK

Emma's love for her Slovenian heritage prompted her to initiate the Slovenian Heritage Festival at St. Joseph's Park in 1978.

The story of her immigrant years has been featured in the book, FOOTSTEPS THROUGH TIME and she was a featured character in the Slovenian book, PRIDI MOJ ARIEL, by Mira Mihelic. Emma was governess to Mira as a young girl in Slovenia.

After 47 years as president of Branch 20, she was honored at a retirement testimonial dinner and given the title of honorary president.

Emma and her husband, Martin were two of the founders and charter members of the American Slovenian Home in Joliet. Many of the early meetings establishing the group and formulating plans for the purchase of the property on Clement St. were held at their home.

Emma was born April 2, 1909 in Trbovlje, Slovenia, the 4th daughter of John and Helen Matko. She had 6 sisters and one brother. Emma arrived in the U.S. on April 14, 1921.

In Feb. of 1922, Emma married Frank Planinsek in Auburn, IL, but following a mine accident was widowed the same year on Nov. 11 the same day she gave birth to her daughter, Bertha. Later she married Martin Planinsek and a son, Theodore (deceased) and a daughter, Irene were born of the marriage.

She is survived by one sister, Berta Romih of Trbovlje, Slovenia; two loving daughters, Bertha\* (Mrs. Fred Hofer) and Irene\* (Mrs. Kenneth Odorizzi); nine grandchildren: Karen Allbert\*, Judy Gronwald\*, Rick\* (Sue Hofer), Victoria Boyle\*, Sharon Planinsek\*, Theodore Planinsek\* (Mary), John Planinsek (Rose), Jim Planinsek (Connie), and Lynn (Greg) Kurtyak; also seventeen great-grandchildren (Megan\* and Katlynn Hofer) and one great-great granddaughter. There are numerous nieces and nephews in Slovenia and the U.S.

Emma has passed to her eternal reward after a fruitful life, one that was unselfishly dedicated to her family, her friends, and her heritage.

May she rest in Peace!

Her family sends sincere appreciation for the masses, prayers, beautiful flowers, food and donations to the SWU Scholarship Fund and the SWU Heritage Fund.

We are also grateful to Sister Mary Agnes Radetski, FSPA, for the loving care she gave to our mother during the past 2-1/2 years.

*Family of Emma Planinsek  
Joliet, Illinois and Reston, Virginia*

\*Denotes SWU members.

This article is the most difficult that I have had to write.

Tears come to my eyes as I search for words to report the passing of my dear mother, Emma Planinsek. She was my inspiration, the reason why I undertook many Heritage Projects, like the slide show, "Golden Times" and the book, "Footsteps Through Time" and why I continue to write the "Immigrant" series in the ZARJA.

The dear inspiration of my life has journeyed to her eternal reward, but her footsteps have left an indelible mark on my heart.

Therefore, I would like to re-dedicate my book "Footsteps Through Time," to her memory. The dedication appears below:

## Dedication

*To my dear mother, who has inspired me to write about my Slovenian Heritage.*

*She wouldn't let me forget her country and its customs:*

*She taught me her language and told me stories of how it used to be in Slovenia.*

*She made good things to eat like potica, strudel, home-made soup and klobase.*

*She sang Slovenian melodies and showed me how to polka.*

*She taught me my prayers and to love God; to look out for the future by saving and being thrifty.*

*She taught me to be sensible, disciplined, unselfish and to work hard.*

*She taught me to respect things and people; to treasure and appreciate even the little things in life.*

*She passed on to me the ideals, strengths, and hospitality of the Slovenian people.*

*Together we visited Slovenia and I walked in her footsteps as she did in her youth.*

*I feel so much a part of her - more and more as each day passes.*

*She is my link to the past and my footsteps into the future.*

*She will remain with me closely and lovingly until I die.*

*She is a great woman!*



Sincere appreciation is sent to the many individuals who contributed to the SWU Scholarship Fund, Masses and the Heritage Fund in my mother's memory. The donations to the SWU Heritage Fund are printed here.

Many thanks to Mary Taucher and the members of Br. 47 in Garfield Hts., Ohio for their generous donation of \$25 which was sent to the Heritage Fund. The amount was incorrectly stated in the March issue of Heritage News. This is their second donation in recent months and much appreciated.

## SWU HERITAGE FUND CONTRIBUTIONS

### *In Memory of Emma Planinsek*

|                                     |         |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Jonita & Fred Ruth                  | \$25.00 |
| Jo Goron                            | 5.00    |
| John & Bernadine Ukovich            | 10.00   |
| Justine Kastelec & Josephine Malone | 30.00   |
| Tezak Florist                       | 5.00    |
| Molly Gregorich                     | 5.00    |
| Lillian Stefanich                   | 20.00   |
| Clare Yaggy                         | 10.00   |
| Theresa Marentich                   | 3.00    |
| Helen Horwath                       | 10.00   |
| Angela Nico                         | 10.00   |
| Nika Kovacic                        | 25.00   |
| Mark & Lorri Ferbend                | 30.00   |
| Rudy & Mildred Pucel                | 15.00   |
| SWU Board of Directors              | 25.00   |
| Wayne Odorizzi                      | 10.00   |
| Christina Caselli                   | 25.00   |
| Milt & Molly Johnson                | 25.00   |
| Matilda Ausich                      | 50.00   |
| Friends from South Lakes            | 50.00   |

## Summer School for Slovenian Language July 1-26, 1990

The Slovenska Izselsjenska Matica is sponsoring for the third consecutive summer, a Summer School for the study of the Slovenian Language, open to high school students over 16 years of age. Complete information is available and elaborates on this fantastic educational and cultural program. Please write to me for further details. (Irene Odorizzi, 26 Paddock Lane, Reston, VA 22091)

It has been brought to our attention that in the past and at the present, the IMMIGRANT and the NEXT GENERATION articles have been xeroxed and distributed freely among SWU members and non-members. Let us remind our readers that these articles are copyrighted. It is against the law to reproduce them in anyway without the author's permission. We request that you either purchase a subscription to the ZARJA or purchase a specific issue at the SWU Home Office at 431 N. Chicago St., Joliet, IL 60432.

You can show your support of this fraternal Slovenian ethnic organization and the continuation of the articles by being a member of the SWU or by purchasing a subscription or copies of the ZARJA.

never fail us. Thank you and God bless you.

Our next meeting was to be on Holy Thursday.

We are sorry to report that our dear member Jean Franko passed away and was buried Saturday, March 31st. She was well known among the Veterans' organizations for her years of volunteer service. Honorary Pall Bearers were Catherine Anderson, Stephanie Golob, Mary Putzell, Mary Rago, Violet Somin and Marie Vidovich. Our sympathies are with her dear family.

A donation of \$50 was approved for Easter to St. George Church.

Goodies were made by Mary Puterko and Julie Vrlich the birthday girls. "B" was played and all received a gift.

My April ZARJA came early this month of April. Each article I read seemed to be more and more interesting and full of Slovenian tradition. To me it is the best publication printed. Thank all for such wonderful people, inspirations and traditions.

Our Sunday party was a huge success. Next issue will carry particulars.

Please try to make our meetings because we are going to be hostesses to the Indiana-Illinois Convention in October. Much work has to be done to make our Annual meeting successful. See you all there.

FRAN B. ZUPANCIC

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### NO. 17, WEST ALLIS, WI

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Hello Spring! A wonderful time of the year as we dedicate the beautiful Month of May to our Blessed Mother and also pay special tribute to all our mothers, grandmothers and great grandmothers on their special day. This brings a reminder. We will honor our Mother of the Year, Vida Yakos, on Wed. May 16th at 1 p.m. Luncheon at Kegel's Inn on 59th and National Ave., West Allis. Please notify our secretary, Joan Yaklich at 281-3871 if you are planning to attend so that reservations can be made. Make this a great day for Vida, one she will long remember. We will hold a very short meeting before the festivities begin. No meetings will be held in June, July and August; time for a bit of vacation. We will resume the regular schedule of meetings on Sunday, Sept. 23rd at 2 p.m. at St. Mary's Baraga Hall.

Members, if you have a change of address or zipcode correction, please notify our secretary, Joan Yaklich so

## IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL BRANCHES!

It is very important that officers and members of our branches refer to the By-laws and regulations of S.W.U. in regard to our 1991 National Convention AT THIS TIME!

Please study By-law 4.10 which reads as follows:

**A convention year shall be considered the 12 month period ending on the last day of June immediately preceding the Convention. (That is June 30, 1990!)**

**Each subordinate branch which has paid its members' assessments to the Home Office on or before the last day of June preceding the convention year is to be represented at the National Convention as follows:**

a) Each branch in the adult department shall be entitled to one delegate;

b) Branches with 201 to 400 members in the adult department shall be entitled to two (2) delegates;

c) Branches with more than 401 members in the adult department shall be entitled to three (3) delegates.

Also, please study articles dealing with the election of the delegates, #4.12, 4.13, 4.14 and,

the article on Branch meetings, #13.02.

**Summary:** In order to qualify for delegate election for the 1991 National Convention, the branch must be in good standing with all dues paid up to date to the Home Office by June 30, 1990!

Delegate-election meetings must be attended by a quorum of members.

she can make the necessary reports. Also check your policies if you have the correct beneficiary. This can be very confusing and can delay payments of death claims. Also, are your dues paid up to date? This helps expedite the necessary paper work. Take note - all members who still have not paid 1990 dues, please remit as soon as possible so that books are up to date.

Please keep in mind the Regional Wisconsin Convention will be hosted by Br. 43, Milwaukee on Sunday, Sept. 16th. Circle this date on your calendar.

Have you any thoughts about giving our ever popular Pots and Pans Cookbook or our poetry book as a shower or wedding gift...or anytime a gift is needed. Think about it. Isn't that the best gift for your friend?

Booster sheets will be mailed to you in August.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer season. Have fun and enjoy.

FRAN PIWONI

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### NO. 19, EVELETH, MN

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The first Sunday in December of '89 brought us to a close of another year. Some of the members were able to attend the special mass said for the deceased members at the Resurrection Church. We held an annual Christmas party with delicious catered dinner and a meeting following. Our attendance wasn't as good because of health reasons of many of our members. As in previous years we brought gifts and this year's gifts were given to our member shut-ins. We used a nominal amount from our treasury for door prizes.

The December meeting is also designated for the election of officers. A motion was made to keep the same officers. The proposal had unanimous approval and the officers were agreeable to the decision. Our President is Olga Kluser, Vice-President, Mary Vranikar, Secretary, Vida Lanari and Treasurer, Maria Ferkul. If you are paying your dues by mail, please send them to Maria Ferkul, Box 327, Biwabik, MN 55708.

In the earlier part of the '89 year we had a bakeless sale. For the Mother

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## S.W.U. INVITES YOU

**Membership open to all**

# "Medjugorje – A Portfolio of Images"

The facts are already known and all the world has been informed that since June 24, 1981 at Medjugorje, a little village in the Province of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Yugoslavia, the Madonna is said to have been appearing to six young teenagers. Well over a thousand of these apparitions, beginning initially on Podbrdo hill, then on Mt. Krizevać, followed successively by appearances in the sacristy of the parish church, in the homes of the seers, in several parts of the country and, finally, in whatever place the visionaries might have found themselves at the hour established for these encounters (6:00–6:15 p.m.)

Through these youngsters, the Blessed Virgin is bringing her message of conversion and peace to the world, saying that these will be her last apparitions on earth. And she has invited all men and women of good will to fast and pray, to frequent the sacrament of the Eucharist and that of Reconciliation, far too long neglected: "Take my message seriously, for God is not joking with mankind."

She is said to have promised that she would entrust to the six seers ten secrets and that she would leave a tangible and visible sign on the hill of the first apparitions for atheists, that they, too, might come to believe. She has likewise assured the children that humanity will be freed from the power of evil when the contents of all the secrets have been fulfilled. Then a new era of peace and a faith-filled return to God will be initiated on the earth. The people of the valley of Medjugorje, a people of ancient and lively faith, have taken the message of the Madonna to heart and put it into practice with a great sense of responsibility, witnessing their interior transformation by their changed lives. These people, which for 400 years defended their faith against all contamination, often at the cost of their own blood, love to call themselves, "Roman Catholics, faithful to the Pope and to the Apostolic Church."

The Blessed Virgin specifically chose to appear in the parish of Medjugorje in order that the Croatian people, renewed in the faith, might be a sign and an invitation to conversion for all peoples, and that the teenage prayer group, led by her through two children gifted with "interior locution," might become a stimulus for others to live an intense spiritual life, allowing themselves to be led towards the summits of prayer.

At Medjugorje the visionaries and the inhabitants of that little village are not just watching in wonder at what has been happening, but everyone close to those prophetic voices are equally vigilant regarding their practice of the faith and their adherence to the Gospel.

How long will these apparitions continue? No one can know God's plan. We do know that the Madonna is said to have repeated insistently: "Thank God the Father that He has granted me the possibility of remaining in your midst for so long. Thank Him, too, that the first part of the plan of salvation has been realized. Now you must help me with your prayer and fasting so that the second might be brought to a successful conclusion."

She asks us to:

*"Pray! Pray! Pray! Only in prayer will you understand my love and the love of the Lord for you.*

*Pray with all your heart. I am your Mother and I want to teach you something very important; how to love. Jesus was able to pray without ceasing because He had such a great thirst for God and a fathomless desire for the salvation of souls.*

*Prayer is a colloquy with God...It enables you to understand God...It makes it possible for you to enter into the fullness of joy...*

*Prayer is life!"*

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of the Year we decided to honor all the members. To celebrate this occasion seventeen members were able to attend a catered dinner on May 7th, 1989 at the church hall.

The past winter has been difficult for some members because of illness. In December and January we lost Lillian Primozich, Angeline Sterle, and Frances Sarno. Our prayers are with them and their families.

At the first meeting of the year on January 7th we set the dates for the meetings for the rest of the year. The March 4th meeting's main topic was to select the Mother of the Year and make dinner arrangements. Mary Fugina was selected as the Woman of the Year. Mary has been a member of Slovenian Women's Union for 49 years. She had transferred from the Chicago Branch 16 to Eveleth Branch 19 a few years ago when she moved back to Eveleth. She has been a regular attendant to our meetings.

May 6th will be the day of honoring Mary Fugina as the Woman of the Year. We will have dinner at the Four Seasons Restaurant at 1:00 o'clock and each member attending will be responsible for the cost of their dinner. We hope to see many of you there.

Tentative dates have been set for the meetings for the rest of the year as May 6, October 7, and December 2.

VIDA LANARI, Secretary

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## NO. 20, JOLIET, IL

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Our St. Joseph's Table was well attended. The food display was spectacular, it was a feast fit for a King. Our branch certainly has a lot of wonderful cooks.

We were honored with the presence of our National Officers: President Victoria (Tory) Bobence, Ely, Minn.; Vice-President Cirila Kermavner, Cleveland, Ohio; Frances Morison

and her husband Percy, Chicago, Ill.; Editor, Corinne Leskovar, Chicago, Ill.; Editor, "Pots & Pans" and Scholarship Chairperson, Hermine Dicke and her husband Bob, Madison, Wis., and Evelyn Majercik of Warrensville Hts., Ohio, chairperson, 1991 SWU Convention. They were all introduced by Nat'l Secretary, Olga Anceľ.

It was a very enjoyable evening feasting and visiting with our National Officers.

Congratulations to the following:

Vickie Bernickus and Doris Papesh, members who competed in the city tournament at Rival Bowling Alleys. They were the scratch victors in couples with a total score of 1120 pins.

The National Board visited the Rival Bowling Alleys and observed the tournament. Joliet alone has a bowling league, the only one now in the entire organization. It's that great!

## ST. JOSEPH'S HOMECOMING FAIR

The seventh annual St. Joseph's Homecoming weekend will be at St. Joseph Park, Raynor and Theodore Sts. A spaghetti dinner at 5 p.m. on June 22 will kick off the events which include rides for children on Saturday and Sunday, a variety of foods including Slovenian sausage, games, various booths, a bake sale including potica, strudel and other Slovenian pastry and continuous live entertainment -- both polka and modern music. A Polka Mass is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. on June 24 followed by a chicken dinner. Fireworks will close the fair. Hours are 5-11 p.m. June 22 and 23 and 1-11 p.m. June 24.

This year's fair will be an important part of St. Joseph's parish 100th anniversary to be celebrated May 12, 1991. Jean Govednik and Mollie Gregorich are in charge of the special booth for the church's 1991 Lottery Calendar. Said calendar is available to all of ZARJA readers for \$25.00 each.

Do come and join us for our very special weekend. And with this calendar you may be a lucky winner, too.

Ann Mae Lukancic, a well-known soloist and director of St. Joseph's Church's Glory and Praise Choir, was recognized for her many hours as a volunteer at St. Joseph's Hospital in Joliet.

David Markun, a Jr. at Joliet Catholic High was recently inducted into the National Honor Society. Membership in the National Honor Society is one of the highest academic honors. David is also a graduate of our St. Joseph's School. S.W.U. takes great pride in his success.

Bart Hrvatin, a Junior at Joliet West H.S., is a member of the winning team at the Third Annual Invitational Scholastic Bowl. 59 teams and 600

students participated in the competition. We are proud of you, Bart.

Members who were ill are Christine Nemanich, Catherine Suhadulc, Ann Vonesch, and Jan Caponi. We all wish you a speedy recovery.

Our sincere sympathy to: Mary Tomacic, and Mary and Stan Marolt on the loss of their sister Margaret Polniazek; Albert Bayuk on the loss of his wife Elenore; Mary Jane Vergo and Mr. & Mrs. Benny Papesh on the loss of his sister, Margaret Papesh; the Tomac family and Frank Terlep on the loss of Katherine Tomac.

Also to Virginia Fran Kovich and Dorothy Smith on the loss of their uncle, Rev. Fr. George J. Kuzma, of Wilmington, IL. He passed away suddenly. Fr. Kuzma was born in Dragatus, Slovenia and graduated from St. Bede's College, Peru, Ill. and St. Mary's Seminary in Mundelein, Ill. He was past Pastor and Pastor Emeritus of St. Rose's Catholic Church for 37 years. Father was an Assistant Pastor of St. Joseph's Church, Joliet, and past Pastor of St. Patrick's of Wilton Center. He also donated heritage items to the S.W.U. Museum, and was a very gentle person and loved by all. We know he was an avid tennis player! Fr. Kuzma will be missed by all.

Bertha Hofer and Irene Odorizzi and families on the loss of their mother, Emma Planinsek, age 90. She was the President of our Branch 20 for 47 years! In 1946 she was named First National Vice President and also was the Convention President for the 1st National Convention. She founded the S.W.U. Bowling League which is still active at the Joliet Rival Alleys, and the Senior and Junior Drill Teams; she helped form the S.W.U. Choral Group.

Mrs. Planinsek was honored at a Testimonial Dinner in 1982 when she retired. In 1940 she was very instrumental in setting up the 1st "Zveza Day" in Lemont and was its first Chairperson.

In 1951, Mrs. Planinsek was chosen "Most Worthy Mother of Br. 20. She is a model to all of us in preserving the Slovenian heritage.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and friends of all our deceased members.

All members of S.W.U. are cordially invited to celebrate with St. Joseph's Lodge 2 their 100 years of fraternal service on May 5, 1990. Call 723-7307 for reservations.

St. Joseph's Church Altar & Rosary Society is having a Games and Card Party on May 20th beginning at 1 p.m. at the Park. A warm welcome is extended by the members.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday May 15th at St. Joseph's Park 6:30 p.m. Buffet dinner. We will honor "Our Lady of Brezje" and "Our Woman of the Year." See you then.

ANN DRAGOVAN

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### NO. 23, ELY, MN

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President Ann Saari opened the meeting on March 5, 1990 with a prayer.

The subject about our SWU sponsoring a Polka Mass during the church centennial celebration was discussed and all agreed this would be very worthwhile. It will be brought to the attention of St. Anthony's Centennial Committee.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved with a few additions.

Mary Folio will be the new Treasurer - her report was read and approved.

Ann Saari read, "Good Morning, God," a short, appropriate way to start the day and Angie Godec read a short poem: "Never got what I wanted" - a lesson for the day. Appreciate each day as it is or you'll never get what you want. Mary Petritz brought a newspaper published in Ljubljana,



MaryWorld Tours

## MEDJUGORJE — A RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE

*Pilgrimage from Chicago to Medjugorje, Croatia, Yugo. — Local clergy guide*

June 11-18 — July 9-16 — August 13-20 — \$1195  
September 3-10 — October 1-8 — \$1095

Complete package price includes Round trip airfare from Chicago to Medjugorje, 5 days stay with 2 meals per day.

Transfer from airport to host family home in Medjugorje; 6th Day - Transfer to Dubrovnik airport for returning to Chicago - accommodation at Hotel - Dinner; 7th Day A.M. Breakfast - Return to Chicago

MARYWORLD TOURS, 4851 South Drexel Blvd., Chicago, IL 60615, USA - (312) 373-0500

Slovenia and members all reviewed it.

Sick members are: Ann Skradski, Molly Tkalcich, Katherine Merhar and "thank you's" were read from Kris Garni, Mary Berrini, Tina Boomer, and from Hermine Dicke, SWU Scholarship for our donation.

Cookbooks are available from Ann Saari and cards for Memorial donations were given to several members.

April lunch committee members were: Linda Kangas, Rose Ferderber, Cecelia ("Chotsée") Harri, Mary DeBeltz and Mary Smuk.

The Mother of the Year Banquet will be May 14, 1990 (second Monday in May). Committee members for May are: Mary Jamnick, Mary Petritz, Katherine Tome, Amelia (Red) Rozman, Helen Kotchevar, Micki Kring, Mary Niemi, Ann Levar, and Mary Gotchnik. The committee will have plans for approval at the April meeting.

There were 42 members present. Door prize was won by Mary "Starkie" Starkovich. Lunch of jello salads and crackers was delicious. Julie Fink and Mary Folio were on the lunch committee - some lunch committee members couldn't make it so there were several members who volunteered to help in the kitchen and all went so nicely - (teamwork is the secret). Thanks, gals! "B" was played and "yours truly" even won!

\* \* \*

#### Dawn Club

President Angela Mobilia opened the March 12th meeting with a prayer for deceased members Molly Tkalcich and Helen Strukel.

A reading "Life in a Small town" was read - very fitting for us who live in Ely.

Minutes of the last meeting were read by Sec. Dorothy Popesh, and approved. "Thank you's" from Marge Skubitz, Kris Garni, Strukel family, Mary Berrini and the Kochevar family were read.

Plans are still uncertain about a polka mass being held during our church centennial celebration.

Thirty five members were present. Marge Skubitz won the door prize. Lunch committee were: Angie Skola, Helen Kochevar, Mary Pucel, Mary McNeal and Caroline Deyak. Coffee and ' was served then "B" was played.

\* \* \*

#### April Notes

President, Ann Saari opened the April meeting with prayers.

Minutes by Sec. Kris Garni were read and approved.

A very thorough Treasurer report by Mary Folio was read and approved.

Members were reminded to call or let Angela Skala, Courtesy Chairman, know if anyone is sick or in need.

Plans were finalized for the "Mother of the Year" banquet - May 14, 1990. Mary Gotchnik and Mary Petritz have things will in order. Calling Committee will be notified to start getting reservations in before May 12. There will be a social hour from 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - then dinner at 6:00 p.m. - it will be held in the Church Hall and catered. Choices will be stuffed pork chop or baked chicken for the main entree. Invitations will be sent to National Pres. Tory Bobence, Regional President, Emily Skull, Father Hoffman, and Sister Cabrini. A motion was made and approved to give the committees for the May and December meetings \$10 to be used for prizes when "B" is played.

Again, May 14, 1990, Second Tuesday - "Mother of the Year" banquet honoring Angela Mobilia. Let's all be there to give her a "Big Hand". If some one doesn't reach you, call Kris Garni or Mary Folio to get your reservation in.

Ann Lunka was the winner of the door prize.

Thanks to Mary DeBeltz and Rose Ferderber for the nice lunch; the table looked so nice with an Easter theme. Coffee was delicious and the assortment of donuts, cookies and quick bread - so good. And the chocolate-filled Easter eggs were "yummy"! "B" was played with many happy winners.

Forty two members were present on this cold, slippery evening - great turn-out.

JANE YADLOSKY

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#### NO. 24, LA SALLE, IL

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Ten members were in attendance at our March meeting--a nice start for the new season. The Financial Secretary's books were audited before the meeting and Auditors Jo Foley and Terese Kinczewski reported finding the books in good order. Betty Stack, our Financial Secretary, does an excellent job and reported only 5 members with unpaid 1990 dues at the time of the meeting. We have a new Recording Secretary. Adele Gensler has accepted the office. The members thank you, Adele, for your goodness

in doing this for us. Donations were made to Lighted Way Developmental School, to Resurrection Parish for the use of the meeting room at La Salle Catholic School and a branch membership in the Bishop Baraga Association.

There will be no special Mother of the Year this year but we will have our May Dinner honoring all members on Thursday, May 17th at noon at the Maples Supper Club in Peru. Betty Stack will serve as general chairman and reservations will have to be made in advance with her.

Announcement was made that Father Bernard Horzen will again celebrate the Slovenian Litany to the Blessed Mother on Sunday, May 20th. All of our neighboring Slovenes are encouraged to attend.

Rose Furlan is still on the sick list. We pray that Rose will be much better by the time she reads this.

Congratulations to Anna Lushina on the birth of two new great-grandchildren, a girl to Sally and Martin Lustig in Hillsboro, OR and a boy to Tim and Karrie Stevenson in Hancock, WI. Anna now has 27 great-grandchildren!

The next business meeting will be held on Thursday, June 21 at 7:00 p.m. in La Salle Catholic School-Resurrection Bldg. We hope to see more of you then as the weather should be nice and warm and the evenings brighter.

A Happy Mother's Day to all our Mothers--may God grant them good health and much happiness.

ANNE M. WANGLER,  
Reporter

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#### NO. 25, CLEVELAND, OH

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Happy, long retirement (from Kerr Lakeside) to Marion Rebol, husband of Metka and father of Margie and Michael. Metka and Margie are both our members.

A nice hello to John and Nettie Zarnick who are now living at Cardinal Village, telephone 261-6447. Call them sometime. Wish you a lot of luck and God's blessings. Thank you to Marie Bond for informing us about Zarnik's new home.

Rose Kosko, past president of branch 21 is not feeling too well, so we wish her a speedy recovery.

Happy belated 70th birthday to Gene Drobic, who was stunned at a big surprise party the family and

friends concocted for her at Sterle's. We wish you, Gene, many, many more good ones! Happy birthday also to all members!

See you May 8th for our Mother's Day luncheon in honor of our Mother of the Year, Josephine Ambrosic. It's at Sterle's at 1:15 p.m.

May all the mothers and grandmothers have a wonderful Mother's Day for sharing their LOVE with us. Thank you!

CIRILA KERMAVNER

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### NO. 32, EUCLID, OH

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We had a very nice attendance for our March meeting. Pres. Dorothy Lamm introduced the new financial sec'y. Charlotte Perdan, daughter of this reporter and my husband, Frank.

Pres. Lamm thanked Josephine Comenshek for her loyal service of 24 years with the branch.

All officers were present except our historian, Mary Drobnick. Veronica Dalton, read a poem "Day's End."

Alma Eppich, installed the officers for 1990. Thanks, Alma, for a job well done. Vice-Pres., Ceal Znidar gave her report on the get well and birthday cards that she sent to the members.

Discussion on our Mother's Day dinner which will be on May 16th at 6 o'clock. Tickets will be \$9.00. You can call our Treas. Ann Cooke, 481-4194 for tickets. Our Mother that will be honored is Elanor Latkovic. She is very deserving of this honor. Our faithful cook, Mary Ster and her crew will prepare the dinner. Menu will be soup, salad, breaded pork chops, chicken, vegetables and strudel. It will be a very delicious meal. Come and join us to celebrate Mother's Day.

Lavona Avitt, lead the group in saying the rosary for Lent. Meditation followed with the Lord's prayer playing softly in the background. Very touching moments.

We welcome back Ann Chinchar, after a long illness. Hermine Strainer broke her right wrist in a fall. She has her arm in a cast. Hope all our sick members are on the mend soon. With Spring here now we surely all should feel better.

Group of our ladies were on the bus going to the Carousl Dinner Theatre to see "Hello, Dolly." Dorothy Lamm, Molly Sodja, Ann Rossman, Mary Drobnick, Rose Brancley, Mary Zifko and myself. We all had a great time.

Visiting here and attending our meeting from Johnstown, Pa. was our member, Zora Krasovic, cousin of Pres. Dorothy Lamm and Josephine Koss. Hope Zora, enjoyed her visit. We enjoyed having her at the meeting.

Helen Kovacevic and husband, Frank, traveled to Tough Kanamon, PA. to see their daughter and grandchildren for the Easter holiday.

Mary Frank and husband, Bill spent a month in Florida. They visited Epcot and spent some time in Spring Hill for a golf tournament.

Hermine Siden and daughter Samantha, of Coconut Grove, Florida are visiting mother, Jean Drenser.

Hostesses Esther Garbincus and Josephine Gornik served birthday cake and refreshments, Esther had the birthday cake made special. It was decorated green for St. Patrick's Day. Esther and Josephine are sisters. They always do such a nice job with the refreshments. Thanks, ladies.

Happy birthday to all our members that had a birthday in March, Dorothy Lamm, Hermine Strainer, Josephine Koss, Ann Urban, and Thelma Lisching. Many more with good health and happiness.

Members, please check if your dues are paid up to date. New sec'y. address is: Charlotte Perdan, 343 E. 248 St., Euclid, Ohio 44123, Phone: (216) 289-6316.

Happy Mother's Day to all members.

June we will have our pot luck picnic.

Hope to see that our members attend the Mother's Day dinner and make it a big success on May 16.

FRANCES OGORENC

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### NO. 33, DULUTH, MN

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New member, June Walters joined our group as we were treated to a Scandinavian ethnic night on Mar. 7th. Our hostesses were Thyra Rukavina, Ruth Boben, Jackie Rukavina, Beverly Menart and Doris Skull. A variety of luscious Scandinavian specialties were enjoyed by all.

Mary Chepelnik won the \$5.00 attendance prize. New Babies: for Carol Jacobson, a grandson; Great Grandmothers: Dorothy Jacobson, Mary Hinnenkamp and Clem Spehar.

Trips to "South" for Dorothy Jacobson, Renee Doble, Cyrilla Collard and Toni Panyan.

Lucy Somin had guests: son, Larry

and wife from Maryland; daughter, Barbara Fletcher from St. Louis, MO; her son, Captain Lawrence Somin recently retired from the Secret Service, White House detail, Washington, D.C. Daughter, Denise Somin Kaneski was on Honor's List at St. Thomas College, St. Paul, MN.

We pray for all our sick members including Rose Burger and Peggy Collard.

Prayers of Sympathy to the family of Helen (Collard) Ellena, 75, a 31 year member of Br. 33, and former "Mother of the Year."

Sympathy also to Chris Carr and Doris Skull; we pray for the souls of their husbands.

LOIS PELANDER,  
Reporter

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### NO. 34, SOUDAN, MN

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A Games Party was held when Branch 34 met for their regular meeting on February 21 during the social hour. We do this as a little money-making project two times a year and it has been very successful. For our next meeting we will play for prizes, which is always fun to see what each one wins.

We were fortunate to receive a reply from a Foreign Exchange Student who is living in Eveleth and attending the Virginia High School for the current school year. Nina Pavcnik, of Nova Gorica, Slovenia, has agreed to be our speaker at our Mother of the Year celebration on May 16. This should be very interesting and we are looking forward to meeting Nina and her host mother, Margie Miller. Angeline Morin is our Mother of the Year.

Members returning from trips are Mary Vollendorf, who was visiting in North Carolina and Emma Betourne, who spent the winter months with her children in San Francisco. Helen and Charles Adkisson, joined by her sister, Betty Murphy of Duluth who winters in Texas, visited their sister, Aggie Taylor, in Scottsdale. My sister, Aggie Yapel, of St. Paul and I visited our sisters, Angela Tate, Helen Matson, and Lucille Pavlich in San Diego, for a week the end of March and beginning of April. Ann Stefanich was gone for six weeks at Christmastime when she visited her daughter, Carol, in Reno for four weeks and her sister and brother in California for two weeks. Lucille Svatos and son, Ron, traveled to

## DATES TO REMEMBER (cont'd)

- May 16** - MOTHER OF THE YEAR, Br. 17, West Allis, WI. Luncheon at Kegel's Inn, 59th and National, West Allis. Reserve through Joan Yaklich, 281-8983
- May 16** - MOTHERS DAY DINNER, Br. 32, Euclid, OH, 6 p.m.
- May 6** - MOTHER'S DAY BANQUET, Br. 39, Biwabik, MN at Four Seasons Restaurant
- May 6** - MOTHER OF THE YEAR DINNER, Br. 47, Garfield Hts., OH at Demetrie's Restaurant
- May 6** - PLANT SALE, Br. 102, Willard, WI, 1 p.m.
- May 8** - MOTHER OF THE YEAR, Br. 42, Maple Hts., OH, Mass, 7 p.m., St. Wenceslaus Church, and refreshments at SNH
- May 8** - MOTHER'S DAY PARTY, Br. 57, Niles, OH at Applewood Gardens, 1 p.m.
- May 9** - MOTHER OF THE YEAR PARTY, Br. 40, Lorain, OH at Amber Oaks Restaurant, 1 p.m. Call the president at 245-3919
- May 10** - MOTHER OF THE YEAR, Br. 2, Chicago, IL. Mass at St. Stephen's Church 7 p.m. followed by party
- May 10** - MOTHER OF THE YEAR, Br. 16, So. Chicago, IL
- May 10** - MOTHER OF THE YEAR LUNCHEON, Br. 50, Euclid, OH at Sterle's Country House, 1 p.m.
- May 14** - MOTHER OF THE YEAR PARTY, Br. 23, Ely, MN, Church Hall, Social Hour at 5 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m.
- May 14** - MOTHER OF THE YEAR DINNER, Br. 89, Oglesby, IL at Bek's Steak and Stein, 2102 4th St., Peru
- May 15** - 60TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER, Br. 42, Maple Hts., OH, at SNH. Reservations by May 7
- May 16** - MOTHER OF THE YEAR PARTY, Br. 10, Cleveland, OH at Alexander's Restaurant, Lake Shore Blvd., 1 p.m. Make reservations by May 9. Call 531-5108 or 531-7635
- May 16** - MOTHER OF THE YEAR PARTY, Br. 34, Soudan, MN
- May 16** - MOTHER-DAUGHTER LUNCHEON, Br. 54, Warren, OH, Elks Club, 1 p.m.
- May 17** - MAY DINNER, Br. 24, LaSalle, IL, Maples Supper Club, Peru, Noon
- May 19** - WOMAN OF THE YEAR PARTY, Br. 105, Detroit, MN, Chciago Road House. Contact Pat Adamic, 751-0513, preceded by a tour of Fairlane Mansion at 11:30 a.m.
- May 20** - 60TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET, Br. 38, Chisholm, MN at SNH, 1:30 p.m.
- May 20** - WOMAN OF THE YEAR DINNER, Br. 79, Enumclaw, WA at the Loading Dock Restaurant
- May 20** - MOTHER'S DAY DINNER, Br. 92, Gunnison, CO, 12:30 p.m.
- May 22** - BUS TRIP, Br. 50, Euclid, OH - Call Ann Ryavec for reservations
- May 23** - MOTHER OF THE YEAR PARTY, Br. 43, Milwaukee, WI, Club 76
- May 26** - MOTHER'S DAY BANQUET, Br. 55, Girard, OH, Dinner at Fior's on Rt. 422, 12 noon. Call Anka, 545-6193 or Rosemary, 545-2156
- June 16** - CRUISE & BRUNCH ABOARD "STAR OF DETROIT," Br. 105, Detroit, MI, 11 a.m.
- July 15** - ZVEZA DAY, Lemont, IL, Br. 2, Chicago, IL
- Aug. 26** - REGIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE WESTERN STATES, Br. 79, Enumclaw, WA
- Sept. 16** - 60th ANNIVERSARY - WISCONSIN STATE DAY, Br. 43, Milwaukee, WI
- Oct. 7** - IL-IN STATE CONVENTION, Br. 16, So. Chicago, IL
- Oct. 7** - GRAPE FESTIVAL, Br. 42, Maple Hgts., OH
- Oct. 21** - COMMEMORATIVE MASS, Br. 43, Milwaukee, WI
- Nov. 4** - CARD PARTY, Br. 43, Milwaukee, WI

Kagoshima, Japan, for two weeks, where they visited Lucille's sister-in-law, Sr. Bernadette Svatos, at the Immaculate Heart College there. Molly Wilson and her sister, Rose Novak, of Ely visited Rose's son, Dennis in Riverside, CA.

Theresa Berg, our member from Rockford, IL became a grandma again on March 2nd. Samantha was born to Mitch & Nancy Berg. Congratulations! Hostesses for our February meeting were Ann Stefanich and Frances Tanko, the door prize was brought by Marge Skala and won by Agnes Tekautz. For our meeting on March 21, being Lent, we did not have hostesses but the door prize was brought by Sophie Spollar.

\* \* \*

Our second meeting during Lent

was held on Wednesday, March 21, after we attended the Stations of the Cross. Again, we discussed items for MN Day. Julie Vogt reported that her husband, Ed had helped us by his expertise in woodworking for our plans on decorations. We thank Ed for his help.

Used Christmas cards were sent to St. Jude's Ranch in Nevada, thanks to all members and others who contributed to this cause.

Julie Vogt and Angela Tekautz, within weeks of one another, became ill and received pacemakers. Julie happened to be visiting relatives in Milwaukee when she became ill and received prompt attention. Angela became ill and was sent from the Ely Hospital to St. Mary's in Duluth. Both

of them are doing well, they were both at our meeting and shared their experiences with us.

Hostesses for April were Victoria Bobence and Agnes Mesojedec. Tory had not been able to attend our meetings and we hoped she would be recovered by then. The door prize was to be brought by Ann Stefanich.

After our meeting, we played "B", each member brought a gift for prizes and it was fun to see what each one won--some gifts were clever, some were handmade items. We use these games as a money-making project and they have been successful. The door prize for the evening was brought by Sophie Spollar and won by Angela Jamnick.

Enjoy spring!

ADELINE MUSTONEN

# Pots and Pans



In the CATHOLIC UNIVERSE BULLETIN published in Ohio, Ann Tercek and her husband, Charles, were written up in an article featuring their many activities. "Ann has been president of the Slovenian Women's Union of America, Branch 50, for the past 19 years and is Ohio-Michigan Regional President. She has a reputation as an excellent baker and cook. Singing also brings her much pleasure as when singing in her church choir and at the Saturday afternoon Mass celebrated at the Slovenian Home for the Aged and at its monthly birthday sing-a-longs."

Some of Ann's favorite recipes include: COTTAGE CHEESE DUMPLINGS, for meatless meals or sprinkled with sugar for dessert;



Ann and Charlie Tercek in their pleasant kitchen.

HAMBURGER CHOWDER which she has on hand in her freezer all the time; and VEGETABLE SALAD. The article also mentioned that, "On a recent Saturday morning Ann and three friends made more than 500 Slovenian doughnuts called KROFE

for an afternoon bake sale, selling out quickly." That recipe also follows. Congratulations, Ann, on the nice promotion of our heritage foods.

Happy Mother's Day!

*Hermine*

## COTTAGE CHEESE DUMPLINGS

- 1 carton (16 ounces) cream style cottage cheese
- 2 eggs
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon salt
- $1\frac{2}{3}$  cups flour
- Buttered bread crumbs

Combine cheese, eggs, sugar and salt; mix well. Add flour and beat with wooden spoon. (Add more flour if mixture seems too thin). Drop by rounded tablespoons into a large pot of boiling water. Cook uncovered for 30 minutes. Drain and top with buttered bread crumbs, or sprinkle with sugar for a dessert.

## KROFE (Doughnuts)

- |               |                            |               |                                     |
|---------------|----------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2             | ounces compressed yeast    | 3             | ounces butter (6 tablespoons)       |
|               | or 3 packages dry yeast    | 3             | ounces oleo (6 tablespoons)         |
| $\frac{1}{4}$ | cup lukewarm water         | 6             | large eggs                          |
| 1             | teaspoon sugar             | $\frac{3}{4}$ | cup sugar                           |
| 2             | tablespoons flour          | 1             | teaspoon salt                       |
| 8             | ounces milk (1 cup)        | 8             | ounces sour cream (1 cup)           |
| 8             | ounces half & half (1 cup) | $\frac{1}{2}$ | lemon, rind and juice               |
|               |                            | 3             | pounds flour ( $9\frac{1}{2}$ cups) |

Crumble yeast in water; stir in sugar and 2 tablespoons flour. Set aside to rise, about 10 minutes. Meanwhile, heat milk, half & half, butter and oleo until shortening melts; cool to lukewarm. In large bowl, beat eggs, sugar, salt and sour cream together. Add milk mixture to egg mixture. Stir in yeast, lemon rind, juice and 2 cups flour. Beat until smooth. Mix in enough remaining flour until dough is easy to handle, about 7 cups. Place on floured board and knead about 10 minutes to a soft non-sticking dough adding more remaining flour on board, as needed. Place in greased bowl, turn to grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled, about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 hours. On lightly floured cloth, place dough and stretch (no rolling) to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch thickness. Reaching underneath dough and pulling outward helps. Cut rounds (no holes in krofe) with top of a glass or doughnut cutter (removing inner cutting circle). Place rounds on floured cloth; cover with a cloth to rise about 30 minutes or until light. Use scraps of dough to make additional rounds. Fry in deep fat (3 inches of oil) until golden brown on both sides, turning once. Place on brown paper (cut bags flat) to absorb fat. Dust with powdered sugar when krofe are cooled. Makes 65 doughnuts.

## HAMBURGER CHOWDER

- |   |  |     |                     |
|---|--|-----|---------------------|
| 1 | pound ground round                             | 1   | cup chopped celery  |
| 2 | tablespoons oil                                | 2   | cups cubed potatoes |
| 2 | cups finely chopped onion                      | 1/2 | cup barley          |
| 2 | cups canned or fresh tomatoes, cut into pieces |     | Salt, to taste      |
| 1 | cup thinly sliced carrots                      | 1   | teaspoon pepper     |
|   |  | 5   | cups water          |

Lightly brown meat in cooking oil. Add chopped onion and cook until onion is tender, about 5 minutes. Drain. Add remaining ingredients; cover and simmer for 2 hours, stirring occasionally. Additional water may be added if soup becomes too thin upon standing. About 8 servings.

## VEGETABLE SALAD

- |   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| 1 | can (15 or 16 ounces) white whole kernel corn, drained         | 1 | can (8 1/2 ounces) small peas, drained |
| 1 | can (16 1/2 ounces) green or French-style green beans, drained | 1 | cup chopped celery                     |
|   |  | 1 | cup chopped green pepper               |
|   |  | 1 | cup chopped onion                      |

### Dressing:

- |            |             |     |                   |
|------------|-------------|-----|-------------------|
| 3/4        | cup sugar   | 2   | tablespoons water |
| 1/3        | cup oil     | 1   | teaspoon salt     |
| 1/2 to 3/4 | cup vinegar | 1/4 | teaspoon pepper   |

Bring to boil; cool. Mix with vegetables. Make dressing at least one day ahead. Keep refrigerated.

Box Accordionists and members of the Polka Chimes Orchestra from Biwabik. They were selected by the Minnesota Historical Society and Minnesota State Arts Board to record an LP album and cassette featuring our Button Box Music. A book featuring the orchestra is being written by James P. Leary and will feature individual talents of each musician for the Historical Society, too. The album, cassettes and book will be released in the fall. Matt's wife, Mary, named this orchestra. She is a member of the SWU, too.

Our sympathy is with Rose Antilla and family who lost her sister, Theresa. May she rest in peace.

Happy to report that Rose Syring, and Josephine Trast's husband, Stanley, are home recuperating from surgery. Take care!

If you know of a mother who will be alone this Mother's Day, call or stop in to see her. It will mean so much.

Happy Mother's Day to all our mothers!

ANNE ORAZEM

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### NO. 38, CHISHOLM, MN

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Our second meeting of 1990 was on March 7th. The attendance was disappointing, but much was accomplished.

Our first report dealt with the Feb. 28th card party which was a tremendous success. There are so many to thank - Frank Verant, Charlotte Laurich, and Jennie Briski who set the tables. Thanks to Jennie Samsa, Jo Zupancich, Fran Zalec, Florence Fryckman, Rose Niemi, Anne Polichnik, Rosemary Tanko, and Anne Walach and to the members who contributed to the basket of groceries which was raffled off. Thanks to Jo Zupancich for her beautiful strudel, also for the prize. We were gratified to hear the compliments from the crowd who enjoyed the card playing and the lunch. Yes, Branch 38 has a great group of individuals, and cooperation is the key.

And, now, Mark Sunday, May 20th on your calendars with the notation "Branch 38 celebrates its 60th anniversary with a turkey dinner beginning at 1:30 p.m. at the Slovenian Nat'l Home", and it's open to the public. A program is in its planning stages and it's looking good! With such notables as Father Frank Perkovich of Eveleth, Veda Ponikvar, Chisholm;

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### NO. 35, AURORA, MN

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I know that many of you look for a report from our branch in each issue of the ZARJA. I appreciate your interest in our activities.

Lojze Slak and his Ansambel will be appearing at Ironworld this year on June 10th and 11th. They appeared in Aurora five years ago and wanted to come back to visit their friends here. We will honor them at a dinner on June 11th, a Monday evening, and are looking forward to their visit.

Update on the Madisonville, Kentucky High School Global Issues class. A few years ago they had two young exchange students from Yugoslavia but have lost contact with them...changes of address etc. The school was very impressed by these two students and this year decided to learn more about their homeland, thus, they researched places to see where they would find a midwestern

town or city with Slovenians. Aurora was one of the towns they selected from a brochure listing social and fraternal organizations with the Slovenian Women's Union and American Yugoslav Club here listed. We also put them in touch with Croatians and Serbians in the area. They chose to write to us. Interesting? We have sent them many things, among them copies of the ZARJA, Pots & Pans cookbook, video on Slovenia and tapes of our music and much more. They called to tell us how much they appreciated it and are enjoying everything, especially the Easter traditions such as Blessing of Food, and the Grape Festival. Also, they told us how much they admired our organization for preserving our heritage and culture. When their study of Yugoslavia is completed, they will send us a report on how their "celebration" went and I will report this to you, too.

Congratulations to Matt and John Anzele and Ron Setnikar, all Button

# CONGRATULATIONS ON 60 YEARS TO BRANCH 38



**Mary Smoltz Lenich**  
pioneer organizer

the Barich Brothers, Ely; Victoria Bobence, Nat'l President and Emily Skul, State President, plus a surprise or two, it can't miss!! Jennie Samsa and her crew have a reputation for making the best dinners, so you'll be delighted if you come.

Because of this big celebration Br. 38 cannot have a separate Mother's Day event so will honor all women of SWU Br. 38, living and deceased, at this 60th anniversary celebration. We have one charter member still living, Mrs. Mayme Pahule. Hopefully, she can attend our party. Our founder, Mrs. Mary Smoltz Lenich, is deceased but will be represented by two daughters and a son who reside in Chisholm.

At the close of our meeting, Jennie Briski was given a birthday salute, being born on March 14. Fran Zalec won the travelling prize. Other prize winners were Anne Polichnik, Mildred Bashel and Jennie Briski. Lunch committee for next month are: Jennie Samsa, Louise Puhk, Mildred Bashel, Ann Walach.

Fran Zalec crocheted miniature Easter baskets for those present at this meeting, She and Jo Zupancich, and Florence Fryckman provided the lovely dessert.

Members who have been hospitalized this past month are: Frances Ponikvar, Johana Bevka, and Frances Komidor. Our prayers are for their rapid recovery. *Zelimo vam hitrega okrevanja!*

Please attend Mass on Sunday, May 20th, at St. Joseph's for our deceased and living members.

Submitted by,

ANN NUSICH

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## NO. 38, CHISHOLM, MN

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We met on Wednesday, April 4th at the Slovenian Home, with fifteen members in attendance. Our main topic of discussion was the forthcoming 60th Anniversary Banquet in honor of the founding of the Zveza in Chisholm on May 20th at 1:30 p.m. Our National President Tory Bobence called to say that she will be able to attend. Emily Skul, our State President will not be able to make it, as she recently had eye surgery - (we wish you a speedy recovery, Emily).

President Briski outlined the agenda for the dinner. Father Frank Perkovich (a native Chisholmite) will give the Benediction, Veda Ponikvar (publisher of the Free Press) will be the Toastmistress and Main Speaker, while Rose Niemi is the decorations chairman. With all of this it seems our program is falling into shape. We are combining our Annual Mother's Day dinner with the 60th Anniversary Banquet. What a nice way to say "Happy Mother's Day!"

A touch of sad news - Jennie Samsa's husband, Albert has had a stroke. We're all praying that he'll soon be well enough to come home. Jennie is a former long-time president of Br. 38 and a very active member.

A fantastic lunch was served by Anne Nikovich, Louise Puhk, Olga Sartori and Mildred Bashel. Thanks.

Greetings and our best to you all!

FRAN VERANT

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## NO. 39, BIWABIK, MN

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At the March 4th meeting, our newly-elected president, Jean Korsman, once again demonstrated her efficiency by taking care of numerous important business items in record time so that members could get on to the ever-popular 'socializing over coffee and dessert'.

Our Mother's Day Banquet, at which we will honor our Woman-of-the-Year for 1990, Lucille Starken, was set for Sunday, May 6, at the Four Seasons Restaurant. Branch 39 always has a good turn out for this event as it is very special to honor one of our beloved members.

Members voted to send generous donations to Mesabi East High School's Prom/Post prom event and to the Mesabi East High School band to help with expenses of their trip to Florida in May. While in Florida, the band will be competing at the Heritage Festival with bands from all over the United States.

A note thanking members for their thoughts and prayers during her illness was received from Josephine Reishus. Member Ann Jeppeson wrote to ask members to correspond with her at Room 117, Eveleth Convalescent Home, Eveleth, MN.

Welcomed into the flock was new junior member Leah Suhadolc, daughter of member Mary Suhadolc. She is a welcome addition to our growing membership.

A very enjoyable jello salad/dessert combination was served by Beverly Goldsworthy and Mary Suhadolc using a St. Patrick's Day theme. The table decorations were very colorful and festive. Angie Karish won the door prize.

MARY STRUKEL,  
Reporter

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## NO. 40, LORAIN, OH

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Our March 14th meeting commenced with prayer.

Being we didn't have a meeting in Feb., 18 members seemed glad that they came. With so much chattering, it took awhile before the Pres. could bring our meeting to order.

We welcomed Katherine Evanish and Mary Hocevar and hoped they would come back more often.

We missed our Molly Glavan who was ill. Hope she recovers soon.

The door prize was given to Sophie Pogacher.

After we read our reports we got down to business to make plans to honor our Mother of the Year Alice Rutar.

We asked Alice to suggest where she would like to go for the dinner we usually have when we honor our mothers.

She suggested we go to Amber Oaks Restaurant on Lake Rd. and have our celebration at 1 p.m. to be held on May 9th which is the second Wednesday of the month. The majority were in favor. Reservations will be necessary. Call our Pres. at 245-3919 for more details.

Our birthday girls who entertained

# Learn Slovenian

## ZA MAMI

By A. Rapuc

1. Rože dehteče najlepših cvetov  
natrgali zate smo, Mami.  
Od blizu in daleč prišli smo domov  
da skupaj bi spet praznovali.  
Slika na steni še danes pove,  
da lepa bila si nevesta.  
Še dražja si danes, ko v letih si že,  
krasijo te beli lasje.
2. Ponosni smo nate in dragi naš dom,  
na svetu le ena je mati.  
Vsak rad se vrača pod rodni svoj krov,  
dokler tam ljubeča je mati.  
Zato Ti želimo, da dolgo bi se  
v prisih utripalo zlato srce.  
Da zdrava živela še mnogo bi dni  
v hišici sredi vasi.

### A. Vovk:

1. The nicest smelling flower blossoms  
we picked for you, mother.  
From near and far we came home,  
that again together we would celebrate.  
The picture on the wall today still tells,  
that you were a beautiful bride.  
You are still dearer today as you were in the years  
past,
2. We are proud of you and of our home,  
there is only one mother in the world.  
Everyone likes to come back under his birth roof,  
as long as a loving mother is there.  
Therefore we wish you, that for a long time,  
still in your bosom will beat a golden heart.  
That you would live yet many healthy days  
in the little house in the middle of the village.

Note: These are lyrics for a Slak melody.

## VOCABULARY "ZA MAMI"

rože...flowers  
dehteče...smell, aroma  
najlepših...the nicest,  
most beautiful  
cvetov...blossoms  
natrgali smo...we picked,  
gathered  
zate...for you  
mami...mother  
od...from  
blizu...near  
in...and  
daleč...far  
smo prišli...we came,  
(past tense "priti", to  
come  
da...that  
skupaj...together  
bi praznovali...we would  
celebrate (conditional  
form, praznovati, to  
celebrate)  
spet...again  
slika...(the) picture  
na...on  
steni...(the) wall  
še...still  
danes...today  
pove...(it) tells,  
(povedati, to tell)  
si bila...you were  
lepa...(a) beautiful  
nevesta...bride  
dražja...dearer, more dear  
si...you are  
ko...as  
v...in  
letih...(the) years  
že...already, past, gone by  
krasijo...(they) adorn,  
(krasiti, to adorn)  
te...these  
beli...white  
lasje...hairs

ponosni...proud  
smo...we are  
nate...of you  
dragi...dear  
naš...our  
dom...home  
na...in  
svetu...(the) world  
le...only, merely  
ena...one  
je...(there) is  
mati...mother  
vsak...each, every  
rad...likes  
se vrača...to come back,  
(se vračati, to come  
back. "A" verb)  
pod...under, beneath  
rodni...birth  
svoj...their  
krov...roof  
dokler...as long as, while  
tam...there  
ljubeča...(a) loving)  
je...is (she, he, it)  
zato...for this, therefore  
ti...to you  
želimo...(we) wish  
dolgo...long...  
bi...(you) would be  
prsih...bosom, breast,  
chest  
utripalo...(it) beats, (ut-  
ripati, to beat, to pulse)  
zlato...golden  
srce...heart  
bi živela...(you) would  
live, (conditional form,  
"živetiti", to live  
mного...many  
zdrava...healthy  
dni...days  
v hišici...in (the little)  
house  
sredi...(in the) middle  
vasi...(of the) village

and brought prizes for our money making project were Angie Voytko, Angie Zgonc and Agnes Tomazin.

Prizes were also donated by the following: Annette Russ, Sophie Pogacher, Alice Rutar, Mary Hocevar.

Mary Mehelick, Annette Terlic and Mary Brehany made monetary donations to our treasury. Thanks to all of you for being so generous.

Mary Evanish celebrated her 100th birthday on March 22.

Jason Fuqua had a birthday on March 11th. He is the grandson of our Agatha Donges. His mom, Laurene is also a member. My husband Joe celebrated his 78th birthday on Mar. 26.

Our Joyce Ferlic Arrendondo had one on March 25th.

Our great grandson was christened in North Carolina on March 25th. Congratulations to all!

Slovenians honored retired newsman Jack La Vriha on March 25th as the Slovenian Man of the Year 1990. He is the brother of our Mary Ploszaj. He is very active in community work and is deserving of the honor. We offer our best wishes.

We sent a get well card to Kathy Russ, who had surgery recently. We hear that she is coming along fine. We hope to see her at our meetings soon.

We made a donation to St. Cyril &

Methodius Church for Easter. Mary Hocevar gave us a generous donation to give to the church also.

Most of you probably know by now that our meetings are on the second Wednesday of the month at 12:30 p.m. in the St. Cyril & Methodius school hall.

We hope that more of our members would try to come to our meetings now that we have made some changes.

We hope that all the Mothers enjoyed their day and especially our Mother of the Year, Alice Rutar. God Bless her.

Enjoy your Memorial day festivities.

MARY MATOS

## Recycling

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When I was visiting relatives near Ljubljana in 1974, I discovered they were very good at conserving resources. My discovery began with a candy wrapper. In their house there was no garbage can in which to throw my candy wrapper. They didn't need a garbage can because all paper waste went into their wood-burning kitchen stove and all vegetable matter waste was fed to the chickens. There were no plastics, and milk came in a refillable glass bottle.

So you don't have chickens out back, and you don't have a wood-burning stove. And everything you buy comes packaged in plastic, tin, or aluminum. But that doesn't mean that you can't do anything to recycle and reuse materials in order to conserve resources and prevent our landfills from filling up so quickly.

Recycling can save energy, resources, and landfill space. And in doing so it can reduce air and water pollution and their effects. For example, making new paper from recycled paper uses 30% to 55% less energy than making paper from trees, and reduces related air pollution by 95%. Glass produced from recycled glass instead of raw material uses 32% less energy while reducing related air pollution by 20% and water pollution by 50%. Making aluminum from recycled aluminum uses 90% less energy than making aluminum from scratch and cuts related air pollution by 95%. Recycling and reusing the material in "tin" cans reduces related energy use by 74%, air pollution by 85%, solid waste by 95%, and water pollution by 76%. Every year we throw away 24 million tons of leaves and grass. Sounds like a lot of big numbers that add up to a lot of garbage, energy, and pollution. But, through a little effort, these numbers can be reduced.

One item that can be recycled is newspapers. Products made from reprocessed newspaper include tissues, newspaper, chipboard, paper bags, plant pots, roofing felt, home insulation, and animal bedding. Some places will also accept corrugated paper, kraft paper, and stationary. However, magazines with their slick paper and coated covers cannot be recycled. Therefore, you should write to the editor of your favorite magazine and ask that they print it on paper that can be recycled.

Recycling aluminum cans is easy and it pays. Aluminum cans can be reprocessed into several products, including sheet metal, cans, and doors.

Glass can be recycled or reused. Pickle jars, peanut jars, and jelly and jam jars can be reused for canning or for storing small items like nuts and bolts. Returnable soda and beer bottles can be rinsed, put back in their original carrying containers, and returned to the store. These bottles are then sterilized and refilled. Glass jars and bottles you can't reuse can be recycled. All metal caps and rings should be removed. You usually don't have to soak off labels, but make sure the glass has been washed to prevent odor problems. Glass also needs to be sorted by color: brown, green, and clear. Recycled glass is crushed into cullet, melted, and remade into glass containers.

Recycling of plastic is in its early stages, but the

number of new products made from recycled plastic is growing. Plastic soda and milk bottles can be shredded and made into lumber substitutes, fabrics, and chemicals.

Used motor oil can also be recycled. If you change the oil in your car, save the used oil in a leak-proof container.

To start your home recycling center find a convenient location and then get some containers for each item. At our house we use laundry baskets on shelves in the garage. Each basket is labeled – aluminum cans, tin cans, paper, glass, and plastic. Also, I save my used motor oil in plastic milk jugs.

The next thing to do is find a place to take all of this material that you have collected. Aluminum is the easiest to get rid of. In most areas you can find a recycling machine called "Golden Goat" that will accept aluminum cans and give you money. The rest of the materials can be taken to a community recycling center. For the location of recycling centers, ask local officials or check with your state environmental agency. Newspapers can also be donated to a local newspaper recycling drive, and used oil can be taken to the nearest oil collection facility. If your area doesn't have a recycling program yet and if you are ambitious, you may want to set up a recycling program. A good guide is a book called *Coming Full Circle* by the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF). It can be obtained by sending \$10 to EDF at 1616 P St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.

Wait! We're not done yet. How about food and yard waste. Nearly all kitchen scraps – coffee grounds, potato peelings, egg shells, and melon rinds – make good compost. Add these kitchen scraps to leaves, grass clippings, sawdust, wood ash and water and watch your plant and kitchen waste become a valuable soil conditioner for your lawn and garden. In my compost pile I add cow manure from a neighboring dairy farm, and the resulting compost is used on my garden. Be careful when composting kitchen scraps not to compost meat, bones and fatty foods such as cheese, salad dressing, and cooking oil because these foods attract pests and slow decomposition. To make sure you do it right, check with your university extension office or get one of the following books: *The Rodale Book to Composting* by J. Minnich or *Worms Eat My Garbage* by M. Applehoff.

You can also recycle your grass clippings by leaving them on the lawn. Contrary to popular belief, this will not cause excessive thatch build-up and kill your lawn. Thatch is not made up of grass, but of roots, dead leaf sheaths, and rhizomes which decompose slowly. Grass clippings decompose rapidly and can help make your lawn more vigorous and durable. According to turf experts, grass clippings reduce water evaporation from the lawn, reduce lawn wear by creating a cushioning layer, and facilitate better growth by providing nutrients and keeping the soil temperature cooler.

So, let's carry on the example of our Slovenian ancestry and start conserving our resources by recycling!

Hello Ladies!

May is the month of Our Blessed Mother. Congratulations to our two new members--Dorothy Mehosky and Clara Hrovat! You've joined a great organization!

A summer Bus Trip to Falling Waters, Penn. and lunch at Seven Springs Resort is scheduled for Wednesday, June 20th, and includes a stop on the way back home to a linen outlet. The bus will leave the parking lot of the Maple Hts. Slovenian National Home at 6:45 a.m. and return at 8 p.m. Please remember to make reservations by calling Marge at 467-0696 or Millie at 662-2252. Cost is \$31.00.

Congratulations to Eric Piechowski, great grandson of Donna Stubljer. Eric received his First Holy Communion on his birthday, March 11th. God bless you, Eric. You'll always remember your special day.

Congratulations to the Chosen 1990 Man of the Year, John Taucher, representing the Maple Hts. Slovenian Home. John is very active in the Slovenian communities and President of the Newburgh and Maple Hts. Pensioners Club. Mr. Taucher is the husband of Mary Taucher, officer of our Sister Branch 47 of Garfield Heights.

Our travelers, Ann & Marge Zupanic, Marie & Vida Vercek, Mary Tomc, Eleanor Charvat, Dorothy Mehosky and Josie Gruden, enjoyed the stage play, The Unsinkable Molly Brown. Of course, they enjoyed the fun on the bus as well!

Vickie Schaidler is coming in from Arizona to spend a few weeks with her sister, Millie Lipnos.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Dolores Lipnos on the loss of her husband, John, father of James and Patricia, grandfather of four. John is brother-in-law of Millie Lipnos and Margaret Lipnos. May our Heavenly Mother provide comfort and courage to the families.

We ask God's blessings for Terry Anzo and all ill members for a speedy recovery.

Happy Birthday to our May celebrants: Mitzi Champa, Mary Filips, Kathleen Hrovat, Dorothy Ponikvar, Melinda Prhne, Vida Shega, Gretchen Wilk, Donna Wilk, Angela Zupanc, Dorothy Mehosky and Clara Hrovat. May all your days be blessed with good health and happiness.

Thanks to all the ladies for donating door prizes and excellent pastry at our meetings. Keep up the good attendance ladies! Please join us at our meetings which are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. Please check your dues books.



*The Name of Mother brings to me  
Many a precious memory  
Of the one whose loving smile  
Cheers and makes each day worth  
while;  
One who comforts me and cares,  
And in my gladness always shares.  
Truest friend I've ever known  
The mother that I call my own.*

Heavenly Blessings--Your Reporter,

OLGA PONIKVAR

NO. 43, MILWAUKEE, WI

The March meeting was very well attended; hoping this keeps up. Meeting opened with prayer, followed by the minutes that were read and approved. The secretary's and treasurer's reports were also read. The Mother of the Year luncheon is being held at Club 76, 304 No. 76th St. on Wednesday, May 23rd at 12:30 p.m.

in the Garden Room. Call in your reservation as soon as possible.

The 60th Anniversary and Wisconsin State Convention were also on the agenda. We have a few members who are traveling early this year. Olga Schafer is en route to Germany to meet her son and daughter-in-law, (who are stationed in Germany), spend a few days in Germany and then all will go to Slovenia. Olga has relatives and friends whom she will visit. Leon and Fran Sagadin are visiting their son, daughter-in-law and 3 grandsons in Arizona. They will be gone for a month visiting and sight-seeing. Fran Widemsek and her husband, Louie are leaving for Ohio. Their grandson is graduating from Miami of Ohio College and shortly afterwards is leaving for Germany for 1 year working.

Our birthday gals, Josie Verbick, Mary Martino, Mary Zortz, Mary Leskosek, Josephine Janezic, Elsie Gallun and Mary Strazisher treated us to a delicious luncheon.

Following the lunch we played our favorite game.

To all our sick and shut-ins a speedy recovery. Antonette Swirkowski had knee surgery and is slowly recuperating.

We are welcoming two new members, namely, Lilly Gorenc and Mary Martha.

Happy Mother's Day!

R.K.

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March being our first meeting of the New Year was well attended. Meeting was opened with prayer for our living and deceased members by President, Mary Mundson. Secretary, Mary Taucher gave her yearly financial report and it was found to be in order.

On Sunday, May 6th, we will honor our Mother of the Year, Elsie Spellacy, with a dinner at Dimetrie's Restaurant at 1 o'clock. The restaurant is on Snow Rd. in Parma. For reservations call secretary at 663-6957.

Congratulations are in order to Timothy J. Walsh. He received his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of the Pacific, Stockton, California on May 14th. Walsh is a member of Phi Delta Chi fraternity which presented him with an award for involvement and work with the fraternity and maintaining a high grade point average. He has accepted a position with Longs Drugs in San Luis Obispo, Cal. as a pharmacist. He is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph C. Walsh of El Cajon and the grandson of Mary Prosen of Cleveland.

Congratulations to John Taucher, husband of yours truly, who was selected as the Man of the Year for the Maple Hts., Slovenian National Home. Also, to Tom and Ethel Praznik who on Feb. 20th became great grandparents for the first time to a bouncing baby girl named Tana Marie Zimmer.

Happy birthday to all ladies celebrating in April and May, namely: Esther Boncser, Rose Kocevar, Jennie Praznik, Katherine Gasperic, Elenor Strazisar, Antoinette Janders, Helen Culkar, Delores Hrovat, Kathy Wallace.

To our ailing members who are on the sick list: Frances Persin, back at the Sisters of the Poor after having knee surgery at the Clinic, Mary Vlcek at Deaconess Hospital, Anna Jesenko, recuperating at home after being in Parma Hospital for 5 days, Jennie Gerk spending just about 2 weeks in Marymount Hospital with a blood clot in her arm and now on the mend at her daughter, Elsie Spellacy's home and Jennie Zupancic, after spending some time at Bedford Hospital, under her daughter, Milly's care. May our Dear Lord keep you all in His loving care.

Our sincere sympathy to the Cer-



Timothy J. Walsh

melj and Unik families on the loss of their mother and grandmother, Jennie Cermelj who passed away on Feb. 22nd at the age of 95. Rest in peace.

To all, a Happy Mother's Day. See you on May 6th.

MARY TAUCHER

*Thought for the day:*

*It takes both rain and sun to make a beautiful rainbow.*

NO. 50, EUCLID, OH

Our March meeting would have made St. Patrick very happy as many of our ladies wore GREEN to celebrate this Irish Saint's birthday. Even some of our goodies had green frosting. We had a nice attendance for the new afternoon meeting time. Many ladies that we haven't seen ever or in a long time were able to attend the new 3rd Wednesday (1:00 p.m.) afternoon session. One was Frances Jerse who came from Canton and will attend oftener as her husband, John will visit his brother-in-law while she enjoys our meeting. We wish the Jerses a happy 50th Anniversary (belated, April 20th) and I'm sure their celebration with the immediate family was a joyous occasion and hopefully will have many more happy, healthy ones.

A 28th anniversary was celebrated March 31st by William and Mary Miller and they will treat themselves to a trip to Hawaii with the Frank Yanovich tour. Do enjoy the exotic flowers and bring the fresh pineapples home, too!

Congratulations to all and many more.

Another one heading for Hawaii will be Mary Rudolph's daughter, Cindy, who became engaged to a Navy man stationed in Hawaii and expects to make the island home for a while anyway. Best wishes, Cindy. Rosemary Toth and her mother, Albina Mrsnik were visiting an uncle and brother in California and will stop in Vegas to leave their quarters. (Just kidding, I hope, Albina! But it's fun!)

Rose and Patrick McHugh travelled to Chicago with their son to see their granddaughter get married. I'm glad you were both well enough to travel after your recent illness. Congratulations to your growing family. Also, Jane Vidic's granddaughter, Laura is now living and working as a Manager of Produce that is imported into Anchorage, Alaska. She loves it there - it's natural beauty - although produce is expensive. She enjoyed the recent well-publicized dog races and has an itinerary planned for her parents and grandparents that will take a month to fulfill. Couldn't get a better guide, Jane!

Albina and Frank Kocisko traveled to California to visit Grandma Kocisko, age 94, and also daughter, Mary Ann and Kevin Driscoll who live there. Mary Blatnik enjoyed a March birthday in Florida's warm and sunny climate while we were having gloomy and dismal days here. Hope this report comes before May 10th as that is the occasion we plan to honor Mary as our Mother of the Year at Sterle's Country House a 1:00 p.m. Come, honor and celebrate. We do have fun. Birdie Jarc, Rose Zelnerratis and Frances Kajfez also made the Florida trip.

Our sick people are: Loretta Hlabse, surgery, Sophie Volcansek, Carole Traven, on the mend, Gertrude Laurich, a leg problem (bruise) and thanks to everyone for cards, calls and prayers while hospitalized. Jean Brodnik's husband had open heart surgery. Ruth Kolenc's husband has had surgery, too. Ann Orlikowski's elbow is in a cast and sling and she is home after staying with her sister while Rose Zaller is staying with her daughter. Take care; hopefully all on the mend now.

Sorry to hear our National Youth Director Bernadette Kovacic's father, Eric Kovacic passed away in Washington, D.C. just a few years after retiring from a position he held

in the Library of Congress. Lillian Chase's brother, Fred Tisovec died and also Mary Hraster, sister of Amy Gad. Also, Joseph Zak, husband of Vi Zak died after a long illness. Condolences to all and our prayers.

Student artists and polished professionals had a varied 35th annual Newman Religious Art Show and an awards ceremony on the Case Western Reserve Univ. campus in which Ann Kristoff's talented daughter, Sister Donna received the Joseph Mazzolini Memorial Award for her plaster pigment "Pantocrator Wall Fragment" painting in oil. Sister Donna has been honored for her creativity often and hopefully receives many more. Good luck.

Congratulations for their dedication and hard work to all honorees of Slovenian Homes, Lodges, Societies, Halls and their Man of the Year and Woman of the Year selections. A hearty THANK YOU to the American Home Publishing for its fine editorials and coverage of these honorees and of our Slovenian Heritage and Homes. Trials and tribulations of our ancestors that have finally been successes to the next generations made wonderful reading and makes me proud to be a Slovenian. It was hard work and sacrifice and dedication that paid off for our children and their children. Whenever we travel in the U.S., and we criss-crossed all states except Alaska, we found Slovenians we could be proud of - their achievements are many in their chosen communities because they have cared and shared.

Hope you, as I am, are glad to be counted in the census of 1990 as a Slovenian.

The Slak Ensemble of Slovenia will have a concert at the Society Home on Recher Ave., on Wed. May 30th for the pensioners of Cleveland and will also have performances at AMLA and other halls at different times that week. Their singing and fine selections will leave a lump in your throat.

Ann Ryavec, our Vice-Pres. and tour guide will have a bus trip to Falling Waters and a visit to Frank Lloyd Wright's house and we will stop at 7 Springs resort for lunch and at a linen mall and other stops. Always a good time on the bus, too. On Tuesday, May 22nd. Interested? Call if seats are still available.

Jo Smith, our historian, read some of the minutes from our branch of the year 1973 - they postponed a Christmas Party to March because of a big

snowfall, had a free raffle, had hot spiced wine for a St. Patrick's celebration, purchased a new banner and installed 55 new members that year, not bad, eh?

Please send your dues and change of address to Evelyn Pipoly, 23330 Williams Ave., Euclid, OH 44123, our new membership secretary. Please jot down this address NOW.

Enjoy spring weather and watch the parade on Memorial Day in Euclid. It seems everybody does this - or is in the parade! See you May 10th at Sterle's and on the bus trip May 22nd, departure 6:30 p.m.

*For what it's worth:*

*A gallon of gasoline and a pack of cigarettes cost about the same, tax included.*

*In April, it's not just politicians who must make full financial disclosure.*

*If the computer is to blame for all they say it is, you're better off balancing your checkbook by hand.*

VERA SEBENIK

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#### NO. 52, KITZVILLE, MN

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Our meeting was held on the 1st Wednesday of March. It was nice to see the ladies again as we didn't meet since our Christmas party in December.

Our president, Rose Trombly opened the meeting with a prayer followed by our business meeting.

We sold tickets for the door prize to raise a little money for expenses. Celia Politano was the lucky winner.

Lunch committee for March was: Ann Roberts, Ann Mansfield,

Dorothy Russo and Julia Mancuso. The women all enjoyed a lovely lunch.

Cards were played and winners were Alice Baratto, Celia Politano, Terry Oberstar and Jennie Crea.

Hope to report a nice April turn-out.

JENNIE CREA,  
Treasurer

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#### NO. 54, WARREN, OH

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Our meeting was well attended and our plans are under way for our Card Party to be held on Sept. 30th at St. James Hall. All members will be asked to buy an admission ticket, donate a door prize and sell prize tickets. We don't feel this is asking too much of any member. Please cooperate with us and those of you in arrears for dues, please pay up!

A special Birthday wish is sent out to our longtime member, Angela Kaferle of Madison, Ohio. A card was signed by all and sent to Angela. She has had many problems and is healing slowly. She is a "wonderful person" and we all send our love and best wishes to her on her "75th" birthday.

Our plans are all made for our Mother Daughter Luncheon on May 16th at 1 p.m. at the Elks on Rt. 422. Hope to see you all there for an afternoon of sisterly love, fun and good food, too.

Our next meeting, after the May luncheon, will be on June 20th at 12 noon at the Elks.

Happy Mother's Day to all and may your year be filled with love and God's blessings.

JOANNE PONIKVAR

### TODAY IS THE DAY

by Joseph Mateyka

Member of Br. 50, Cleveland, Ohio

Perhaps you blundered yesterday,  
And things didn't go just right,  
Perhaps you didn't do your share  
And work with all your might.

Perhaps you tried but not real hard  
Your daily bread to earn  
But yesterday is gone from you  
Nevermore to return.

Today is now before you  
So do the best you can  
And then you won't be sorry  
When tomorrow comes again

Submitted by Vera Sebenik

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**NO. 55, GIRARD, OH**

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Our March 8th meeting was opened with a prayer and the pledge to the flag; there were 9 members present. We made arrangements to have our Mother's Day banquet at Fior's on Route 422. The day will be Saturday, May 26th, the time is 12 o'clock, noon. If you haven't been contacted you can make reservations by calling Anka Kregar at 545-6193 or Rosemary Gordon at 545-2156 both after 5 p.m.

We were very sorry to hear that member, Mary Salajko has passed on. Mary was 66 years old and she died of a brain tumor on Feb. 25 at Omni Manor Nursing Home. She was born May 20, 1923 in Girard, a daughter of Joseph and Anna Dezman Leskovec. She worked for 30 years at Rostan's Grocery Store as cashier and then at Dee's Hobby Store in Youngstown for 5 years. She was a member of St. Rose Church. She leaves her husband, Steve whom she married July 2, 1949, a son, Stephen of Tucson, Ariz., a daughter, Mary Alice Schnarrs of Girard, two brothers, Joseph Jr. and David Leskovec, both of Girard, and three grandchildren. A brother, Henry Leskovec is deceased.

We were also sorry to hear that Gayla Jhoss' sister, Frances Banish, has passed on. Frances was 80 years old; She died Feb. 25. Mrs. Banish was born Jan. 31, 1910, a daughter of John and Gertrude Zimmerman. She formerly owned and operated the Banish Book Store. She was a member of St. Rose Church.

I'm also sorry to say that my mother, May Selak had a stroke on Jan. 24th. She is now in Glen View Manor Nursing Home undergoing extensive therapy. We hope to have her home in a few weeks.

Now that spring is here and summer is on the way I wish everyone would say a prayer for our sick and the souls of our departed.

Matilda Cigolle made our refreshments for the evening; a pineapple cake with crushed pineapple and whipped cream topping, and boy! was it good!

Members having birthdays in Jan., were Danny Gordon, Anna Caton, Dolores DePietro, Mary Kristen and Jessica Gordon; in Feb., they were Jason Catterlin, Matilda Cigolle, Sophie Kren and Rosemary Gordon;

in March, our president, Louise Catterlin; in April, Virginia Bestic and Lena Modic and in May, our secretary-treasurer, Anka Kregar, Dori Kregar, Virginia Rostan and Andrea Selak. Happy Birthday to everyone.

Love,

ROSEMARY

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**NO. 56, HIBBING, MN**

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Our March meeting was held on Mar. 13th with 16 members present.

Our Pres. was not too happy as she had had dental work done that day. However, the meeting went well.

Liz Spolar commended Rose Vukich for a job well done as Sunshine Chairman.

A thank you was read from Mary Martinick, a letter and thank you from Emma Petrick. Fritzie Furlong sent in her Mother's dues plus a \$2.00 donation.

Anne Satovich reported that on a recent trip to International Falls, she talked to Mary Babich's daughter who stated that Mary is doing fine even though lonesome for home and friends in Hibbing.

Ann Pintar reported that Dorothy Anderson was back in the hospital. Dorothy, we hope all is now well.

Mary Sikich was appointed to make arrangements for our yearly Memorial Mass for our deceased members.

Milena Koehler was appointed Chairman of Woman of Year doings. She hopes those who are called upon to help will do so graciously.

Jackpot winner was Edith Jones. Sophie Garmaker entertained us at the piano.

Hostesses for next meeting will be Sylvia Latick, Dorothy Oberstar and Mary Micheletti.

Lunch was served by Liz Spolar and Sophie Garmaker. What a beautiful lunch. We all went home stuffed, but content.

Winner at 500 was Mary Magajna, Canasta-Anne Satovich and Rose Vukich in "B".

\* \* \*

April meeting opened with prayers led by Treas. Valeria Carlson who presided in absence of Pres. Selvo and V.P. Marter. 19 members were present.

Sunshine Chairman Rose Vukich reported that she sent out 22 Happy Easter cards to shut-in members and others. We applauded Rose for her enthusiasm and willingness as Sunshine Chairman.

Mary Sikich has already arranged for our Memorial Mass in November. It will be held on Sunday, Nov. 4, at 11 a.m. Mass at the Blessed Sacrament Church.

Milena Koehler, Chairman of the Mother of the Year party stated all plans are made and she hopes all members will be present to honor Valeria Carlson, our 1990 Mother of the Year.

We sang a hearty birthday song to all April birthday celebrants.

Ann Voioovich was our lucky jackpot winner.

Meeting closed with a prayer after which a delicious lunch was served by Mary Micheletti, Dorothy Oberstar and Sylvia Latick.

Games winners were Rose Vukich - "B", Sophie Garmaker - 500, Ann Satovich - canasta.

We hope all SWU members enjoyed a Happy and Blessed Easter. With warm weather approaching, your Recording Secretary is looking forward to - guess what? GOLF!

MILENA KOEHLER

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**NO. 57, NILES, OH**

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On March 13th we met at the home of our president, Frances Yerman for lunch and our meeting with 18 members present. Our lunch committee was Elizabeth Havaich and Helen Misel. I think after some of these lunches we have we will have to start exercising, although it gives us a lot of energy to go on with our meeting. We do have some of the best cooks in our group.

After lunch, our meeting was opened with a prayer. The minutes of our previous meeting were read. Our secretary and treasurer's reports were given and approved. We continued our plans for our "Mother's Day Luncheon" which will be held at Applewood Gardens at 1 p.m. on May 8th. Please call Ann Pease for your reservations. We are looking forward to having a good turnout. We had no birthday members present so we dispensed with our singing.

Elizabeth Havaich and her husband spent a couple of weeks in Florida stopping in Charlotte, N.C. to visit her sister and brother-in-law. Helen Misel left the day after club to go to Massachusetts with her son and daughter-in-law. I am sure other members have been on the go, too, but if you don't let me know about them I am sorry I cannot report.

As we had no other business, we

## Happy 90th Birthday to our member!

closed our meeting and enjoyed the rest of the afternoon playing games. Our lunch committee for April was Esther Logar and Catherine Graffius, hoping to enjoy an afternoon of fun.

Get well wishes to all our sick members and may you all have a Happy Mother's Day.

Pleasant times are never gone – they're always fun to look back on!

FRANCES STANEC,  
Reporter

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### NO. 73, WARRENSVILLE HTS., OH

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Happy Mother's Day. All of you have earned a day of rest and relaxation for all the time, effort and love you have put forth thru the years. Enjoy your day.

Congratulations to "Aunt Anna" Harvot who was chosen as our member of the year. A long-time, faithful member, she well deserves the honor. Look for our tribute to her in this issue of ZARJA.

It is always difficult to report on the demise of anyone, be it a member, a friend, or a mere acquaintance. We have two deaths to acknowledge this month. To the family of Al Chesnik, our deepest sympathies. Al passed away early March, after a long illness stemming from a stroke. He was the brother of our members, Louise Majercik and Mary Schneider, and brother-in-law to Mary Chesnik. This same family lost a sister and a brother earlier in the year, Louise also lost a niece. Our prayers for a special strength and courage go out to each of you.

Sudden death is especially tragic, and our hearts go out to our long time member and officer, Frances Travnik. Her husband, Joe (known to many of us as "Pudgy") suffered an aneurysm. He was taken to surgery immediately, but did not survive. Joe was always in attendance at our summer functions, he was always at Frances' side in church and he will be missed by everyone. We extend our deepest sympathy, and shall keep all of you in our prayers. Several of Joe's relatives are members of Branch 73.

I was privileged to attend the annual Board Meeting of S.W.U. in Chicago in March. We should all be very proud of what our officers are doing in a fervent effort to keep S.W.U. alive. Your interests were of prime concern to them, and building for the future is their main goal. They will share their

We have a celebration coming soon! It is the birthday of Antonia Ziberna Sumarak. Not just a birthday, but her 90th! This special lady was born in Prem, Austria on May 27, 1900. From this little village, she came to America at the age of 20. Soon after coming to Ambridge, she met Joseph and they were married at the Divine Redeemer Church on April 1921. Their children, Joe Jr., Mary, and the twins, Frances and Frank, grew up in a typical Slovenian household. It is still a typical household, in that there is always love and loyalty that holds them close, even though the 13 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren live in Arizona, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania.

"Mom" still lives in the same house and Mary is still home, Frank and his wife Betty live upstairs so they can look after their mother, whose health is not always 100%. Frances lives in West Virginia.

Most of her memories are happy, but the sad ones include the death of her son, Joey, in 1955 and her husband, Joe, in 1961. A charter member of Branch No. 74, she has always been

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ideas with you at the 1991 Convention.

We are heading home (to Ohio) shortly. I hope to see many of you sometime during the summer months. Take care of yourselves until I get there.

Respectfully submitted,  
EVELYN A. MAJERCIK

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### NO. 79, ENUMCLAW, WA

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At our meeting on March 18th the members discussed our Mother's Day celebration at which we will honor our Mother of the Year, Mary Christianity. This will be held on May 20th, pre-function at the home of Mary Kell and dinner at the Loading Dock in Enumclaw. It is hoped that all of our people will be in attendance – it is always a fun time.

We also are looking forward to hosting the Western States Convention on the 26th of August. Any (and all) members of the other branches (Portland, San Francisco and Fontana) would be greatly welcomed at this event. We are in the planning process



ready to lend a helping hand, to listen to your troubles and to smile when you need encouragement.

So on this very special occasion, your family and sisters of Branch 74 wish you a

BLESSED  
and  
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Jane Hudak,  
Secretary

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and hope our own members, delegates and other guests will have a memorable time with us. We are holding this in conjunction with a local arts & crafts fair, a polka dance and other events. More information as plans are in place.

Member Anna Laush had recent knee surgery, hope your recovery is speedy, Anna.

Flyers will be sent to our members regarding the Mother's Day celebration giving details. See you all then.

MARY BRATOVICH,  
President

(Reports continue on page 40.)



"Till Tory's Garden"  
Membership Campaign  
Now til next March

*We ask ourselves  
why have we been  
blessed with  
mothers-members  
so understanding  
and so caring...*

*Perhaps it's because  
we really appreciate you  
Or maybe it's because  
God knew we need you  
so much.*



*Jean (Eugenia) Hrastar*



*Mary Brozovich*



*Eleanor Jean Lathovich*



*Helen Galich*



*Michele Twers*



*Mary Gerl*



*Helen Plut*



*Angela Mobilia*



*Josephine Ambrosio*



*Angeline Morin*



*Josephine Rebrovich*



*Alice A. Rutar*

# A TRIBUTE TO SWU MOTHERS AND MEMBERS OF 1990

2, Chicago, IL

## Jean (Eugenia) Hrastar

Efficiency and organization are two words that come to mind when we think of Jean Hrastar, our active member and "community lady." Jean came to us about three years ago and has participated in every function of Br. 2, from holiday-theme monthly meetings to banquets at St. Stephen's. Come Valentine's day, Jean's hair has turned "red" – for St. Pat's you'll see Jean with a green outfit – or snow-ball earrings for Christmas – and on Halloween – well, you can hardly imagine what she'll wear! She really makes a special occasion fun! And, she's an actress, too! Portraying Julia Child at one of our meeting programs was an unforgettable experience for all! We know that she delights her family and friends with her thoughtful ideas to make holidays bright – such as the million and one lights she places in her home for the Christmas holidays. Isn't she a treasure? Surely every branch should have a member like Jean Hrastar!

Jean was born on February 10, 1932 in Chicago to the family of Vincent and Helen Struglinski. She grew up with three brothers, William, Robert (deceased) and Leonard. She stayed right in the neighborhood and in 1964 married Sylvester Hrastar. They were blessed with a beautiful daughter, Laura, on July 5, 1965. Laura was married last year at a lovely ceremony at St. Stephen's church where the Hrastars are very well known.

For the past 14 years, Jean has been the parish secretary at St. Stephen's and so she manages a most important role there, running the office smoothly and being very helpful to all the organizations even though it's a hectic schedule to say the least!

Besides this, Jean is secretary to the Parish Council and has served as Vice-President, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer of Our Lady's Guild. You can imagine how many times she has had to squeeze in "extras" such as typing and making copies for these organizations, or ordering supplies that only she knows where to order for the best price! We certainly say "thank you" to her for all the special time and effort she shows to all!

The St. Stephen's Holy Name selected her as the parish Mother of

the Year a few years ago, showing just how well thought of she is.

Jean has earned another title – that of our own "Betty Crocker" for her delicious and beautiful cakes! She loves to decorate them artistically and colorfully, such as an open book in white and gold made for Fr. Kalist's 50 Jubilee, or the double wedding ring cake she makes for bridal showers.

There's hardly anything Jean can't do – what a gal! We don't know how we could ever thank her enough or show her how much we care, but we hope that on Mother's Day our Jean will celebrate a most wonderful time and forever hold in her thoughts this message: we love you and appreciate all you have done for us!

12, Milwaukee, WI

## Agnes Gornik

Agnes came to America as a young married woman and settled in Milwaukee. She and her husband, Louis, reared three children, 2 sons and a daughter, and still live close to all of them. Louis retired from life-long employment in the auto industry in 1962 and passed away in 1986 after 64 years of married life.

The history of Agnes is like that of many immigrants. From necessity she left her homeland – Gori pri Ribnici, in the Dolenjska region of Slovenia – where she was born and raised. She was the youngest in the family of three brothers and four sisters and lived on a farm. Used to hard work Agnes sought employment as soon as she could manage it in her new homeland and went to work for the School Board in Milwaukee. She retired in 1963.

Agnes is very proud of her grandchildren – she has five of them. One is studying to be a professor in Slavic Languages, including Slovenian!

She is a very good cook and expert in making poticas and apple strudels. She also likes to crochet and knit. She's not as active because of her elderly age but she comes to meetings and is a very nice person.

Agnes fondly remembers her mother and admires many things she did as a woman and the mother of a large family. These memories will never be forgotten.

The honor of being chosen as Mother of the Year is very dear to her. We extend our heartfelt wishes, love and gratitude.

3, Pueblo, CO

## Helen Galich

Our Mother of the Year, Helen Galich, is a life-long resident of Pueblo and has been a member for 26 years.

Helen is a high school graduate, having worked for various firms, the last being the Southern Colorado Power Co. After her marriage, she devoted her time to her family putting to use her talents of baking, cooking and sewing.

She was married to Alfred Galich for 24 years and has been a widow for 16 years. They had three children. Janice, the oldest, has a degree in psychology and works with retarded teenagers. Rebecca, the other daughter, does secretarial work for the government and is very proficient in French, having had 10 years of it. Her son, Michael, is very handy at most any kind of work from cars to installing furnaces and airconditioners. Helen is very proud of her children and of her four grandchildren, two of whom live in Pueblo and the others out of state.

Helen's parents were born in Austria-Hungary and were of Slovak descent. They were an inspiration to their six children four of whom are still living, and sacrificed to see that their children received a good Catholic education. They were very conscious of their beliefs in the Catholic church and this was reflected in their loyalty and examples at home.

It is with pride we honor Helen as Mother of the Year. Our congratulations to you, Helen.

*Reporter*

13, San Francisco, CA

## Michele Twers

It is with much pride that Br. 13 honors our "Woman of the Year," Michele Aiuto Twers. This is an honor long overdue. She has been a member for 30 years, brought in by her late grandmother, Katherine Judnich, who was a very active member. Many in the family are selfless members, most of all, her mother, our president for 13 years, Jo Aiuto. For the last 17 years, Michele has been the branch treasurer.

It's very hard to believe Michele has such a long history with us because she certainly doesn't look a day over 30! I have never seen her without a smile and a pleasant greeting!

She and her husband, Dennis, just celebrated their 10th anniversary. He is from Philadelphia and they were married at the Slovenian Church of the Nativity in SF. They share many interests including animals and gardening. They have a large dog and two cats – and Michele dreams of an ideal life taking care of animals – that's how much she loves them! As for gardening, roses and orchids are her specialties. Their garden is something spectacular!

Michele worked for the Greyhound Bus lines for 10 years, then worked for a travel agency and presently is at El Camino Charters, setting up many tours/trips for groups, primarily seniors. She and Dennis, who is the head dispatcher for the West Coast Greyline Transportation Company, have a lot in common in their professions, too. They make all the lodge's bustrips an "absolute joy" with their bubbling personalities and kindness toward people.

On the celebration day we are planning for Michele, it will be an exceptional day! Not only because she is the daughter of our president and related to so many of our officers and members with whom she makes a very cooperative "team", but, because we are proud of her and want to show her – at least in this way – how much we love her.

## 14, Euclid, OH

### Mary Gerl

Mary Gerl of Euclid, Ohio has been elected "Mother of the Year" by SWU Branch 14.

Mary is mother of Marie Kebe, Maxine Douglas and Councilman of Willoughby, Michael Gerl. She has 17 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

A member of Branch 14 for 60 years, she resides at 923 E. 222nd St. She attended Notre Dame High School and worked at Richman Brothers Co. until she married Max Gerl in 1933; Mr. Gerl was a Euclid Councilman for 14 years.

Mary was an organist at St. Christine's Church for 47 years and still plays at St. Paul's on E. 40th St. for special events. She has been a member

of the Dawn Choral group, St. Christine Ladies' Guild, and President of the Altar Society for 15 years. She is also a member of Meridia Euclid Hospital Association, Slovenian Pensioners of Euclid, Chriseniors of St. Christine, and bowls twice a week with her senior groups.

*Ileene Collins*

## 16, So. Chicago, IL

### Mary Brozovich

With pride I submit the following story describing our lovely member, Mary (Peterlich) Brozovich who is our 1990 Mother of the Year. Mary was born in Lika, Croatia on January 10, 1916. She emigrated to the United States in 1937 and was employed at the University of Chicago Cafeteria. In 1942 she married Joseph Brozovich and they were blessed with two sons, Joseph and John. Her husband passed away on March 4, 1974.

Her son, Joseph is Staff Senior Member, Software Engineering at AT&T located at the Hickory Ridge Training Center in Lisle, Illinois. Joseph and his wife, Mary Ann were blessed with five children, Joanne, Joseph and Joyce, twins, Amy and Michael. His wife passed away on September 9, 1988. Joseph and his children reside in Woodridge, Ill.

Her son, John is President and Chief Executive Officer of Bon Secours Health Care System in Marriottsville, Maryland. John and his wife, Aurelia were blessed with three children, Lauren, Faith and John. They reside in Illicott City, Maryland.

Boredom does not exist in Mary's life for she is a very talented lady with many hobbies to occupy her time. She is an outstanding baker and in this field she was awarded 3 first prizes for her apple strudel, cheese strudel and nut bread (potica) in the 1989 Bake-O-Rama sponsored by the Chicago Park District.

Mary is an excellent seamstress making most of her wardrobe. She participates in the sewing program also sponsored by the Chicago Park District. Her other hobbies are knitting, crocheting, gardening and traveling. With all of her family and relatives living in many faraway places such as Yugoslavia, Florida, California, Maryland, and other states, Mary is always packing her bags and flying somewhere.

Mary joined Branch No. 95 of the

S.W.U. in October of 1953 and transferred to Branch No. 16 in January of 1974. Though she has never held an office, Mary attends meetings regularly, and donates her delicious pastries for many of our events.

She is also a member of the Confraternity of Christian Mothers at St. George Church, DeSales Senior Center, St. Florian No. 44 of the K.S.K.J. and the Croatian Fraternal Union No. 229.

We look forward to the evening of Thursday, May 10th when Mary will be crowned our 1990 Mother of the Year by our 1989 Mother of the Year, Helen Milanovich, with her family, members and friends in attendance. Immediately following the crowning there will be a dinner and short program.

We love you Mary and may God bless you with good health so that you will be the busy and vivacious lady that you are for many, many years to come. Congratulations!

*Gladys K. Buck*

## 17, West Allis, WI

### Vida Yakos

She's a quite person, with a generous heart and a loving nature. That's our Mother of the Year for 1990!

Vida comes to our meetings and usually brings along some thing delicious she has made as a treat – or, at the very least, she donates her time and efforts to all our many events. She is a really true sister to all of us.

Vida comes from Slovenia, was born to Johann and Ivana Krusich in 1922 near the capital city of Ljubljana and attended school there. She learned to be a seamstress and worked for four years before coming to America. In Milwaukee, she went to work at the Allis Chalmers Mfg. Co. and retired after 31 years in 1982.

She is a very good baker and cook, but enjoys sewing the most which she does only for pleasure now.

Vida was married in 1947 in Austria to a shoemaker, John Yakos. They had a son, Frank who came with them to America and three more children were born afterward: sons John and Edward and a daughter, Vida Doherty, all married. Frank and his family live in Washington, D.C., John resides in Detroit and Edward and Vida have remained in the Milwaukee area. There are three grandchildren namely, Katlin Doherty and Natalie and Francine Yakos. The family tries to get

together as often as possible, at least for Christmas or Easter and many summers they have traveled together on vacation.

She has a generous heart, a sweet nature and is nice to be with!

## 19, Eveleth, MN

### Mary Fugina

Our heartiest wishes to Mary Fugina, our Woman of the Year! She is a Chisholm native, and attended school in Eveleth. She loves to read and walk in the beautiful Minnesota countryside. She worked in Chicago for nine years at the Superior Match Company.

She was married to her husband, Peter for 25 years before being widowed.

Mary attends every meeting of Br. 19 and takes part in our activities. God bless her and keep her well and happy!

## 20, Joliet, IL

### Helen Plut

We are happy to present our "Mother of the Year" Helen Plut. An active and dedicated member she was elected as the Branch's recording secretary and reporter for the organization's monthly magazine ZARJA "The Dawn" which post she held for 7 years. In 1987 was appointed recording Secretary for the National Convention held in Joliet, IL. Her involvement in the Branch's activities were the Heritage Days, 7 Grape Festival Dances and the Statue of Liberty Restoration Dinner-Dance.

She represented Slovenian Women's Union at the *National Conference on Historic Canals*, along with Helen Horwath and Angelo Nico. Coincidentally had the opportunity to cruise the historic Cape Cod Canal within weeks of attending the conference.

Helen presently serves on the funeral committee and is a weekly Heritage Museum volunteer.

A product of the Lockport Township High School, "The Times," school paper launched Helen on to being one of the most colorful reporters of our Branch can recall.

Her association with the Slovenian Women's Union began in the early 1940's as a member of the National Championship Cadet Drill Team where many lifelong friendships materialized during the drill team era.

She attended both Chaney and St. Joseph Grade School.

During her career days, Helen was employed by a plumbing contractor and Justice of the Peace. Gerlach-Barklow Co., a card and calender company kept Helen busy for 10 years and during the war years she was busy packing K-rations and sewing army coats.

Helen lovingly relates the experiences of her vacations with husband Albin (deceased 1986). They celebrated their 25th Wedding Anniversary in Hawaii and in 1981 on the Love Boat cruised the inside passage of Alaska with stopovers in Juneau and Sitka, disembarking in Vancouver, British Columbia before flying back to Chicago. Just to do something different, they enjoyed the peace and quiet in a hot air balloon for one whole hour, overlooking familiar landmarks, in their neighborhood.

She is a member of St. Anne Church and serves as membership chairman and is also a member of St. Genevieve Lodge 108, KSKJ.

She is a proud mother of: Mary Anne (Dan) Campbell of Peking, IL; Christine (Mike) Letts of Hallendale, FL; Tom and (Rafael) Plut of Albuquerque, NM; Bill and (Lynn) Plut of Crest Hill, IL; Grandchildren: Katrina Lynne and Joseph Augustine Campbell; William Christopher Plut, Crest Hill, IL.

Congratulations and God's blessings to you Helen for a long and adventurous life.

Mildred Pucel



## 23, Ely, MN

### Angela Mobilia

Our chosen Mother of the Year for 1990 is Angela Mobilia, a member of Br. 23 in Ely. She has been a member of the S.W.U. for 17 years.

She was born in 1917 to Angela and Frank Miklaucic and is the oldest of six children, having three brothers and 2 sisters. Her sisters, Rose Perushek of Ely and Emma Ronkainen of Virginia, are also members of Br. 23.

Angela attended the Ely schools and graduated from high school in 1934. She married Angelo in 1938 and they will be celebrating their 52nd wedding anniversary this summer. They are

blessed with five children, Dan, 51, married and living in Virginia, Dick, 49, married and living in Ely, Carol Camaich, 46, married and living in Hoyt Lakes, Sue Roberts, 40, married, and Dave, 32, married, both of Ely.

Angela is so lucky to have her children living so close. Coffee time can be anytime.

She has 9 granddaughters, 4 grandsons and 1 great granddaughter. The greatest joy in her life is attending all the activities of the grandchildren, such as sports, dances, music, anything they belong to. She gets a lot of attention from the "kids", because they love seeing grandma at the games and programs!

Angela was employed at the Ely Shopper for over 35 years. Since her retirement she has traveled extensively, namely through organized tours. She also enjoys baking and cooking, especially making poticas for her family. She also sews expertly and loves tending her huge garden in the summer.

Angela has held office with the SWU for the past 14 years as secretary, treasurer, vice-president, recording secretary and is at present, the president of the Dawn Club of Br. 23.

She has now joined the group of fine members that Br. 23 has honored in the past and we are very proud to add her name to this list.

## 25, Cleveland, OH

### Josephine Ambrosic

Woman/Mother of the Year...is a well-known lady in our community as well as in a lot of other communities. Her name is Josephine D. Ambrosic. Her family and friends call her Josie.

Let us say something about Josie...Of course it has to be nice...

She was born July 8, 1910 as a third child and the third girl of Oražem family; yet another girl followed Josie, so there were four girls in the Oražem family. Josie was baptized at St. Vitus Church where she is still a faithful and helpful parishioner.

At "sweet 16" in 1926 she went to work for Richman Bros. and stayed there for 20 years.

Then, once upon a time, she met a handsome guy...Joseph Ambrosic. He swept her off her feet. But lo, and behold...they had to wait five years to get married. Joseph was in the U.S. military service and the Second World War was raging thru Europe and in

the Pacific, dividing people, nations and our two lovers. Finally came the day when love was triumphant. On July 3rd, 1946, they were married.

Two sons were born to the happy couple. Joseph, who attended and graduated from St. Vitus, St. Ignatius High School and Notre Dame University and John, who also attended and graduated from St. Vitus, Benedictine High, Gannon College...on scholarship and John Carroll University. Both were always the pride and joy of their parents. Joseph is now living in Beaver Creek, Ohio, but John, lost his young life at 29 to the merciless cancer. He left a three year old baby, John Jason. Grandmother Josie and grandfather Joseph are watching over him as the light of their eyes.

Josie is also an accomplished organ player. Her teacher was a very well-known Slovenian organist, Mathais Homer, who was also an organist at St. Vitus, 70 years ago as Josie was attending the school there. Later he returned to his native land, Slovenia. Josie was also a singer with the Mothers' Club Choir.

Joseph and John surprised Josie for her 60th birthday; they bought her a new organ which she treasures as it was the gift from her own flesh and blood.

Josie is very active in a lot of organizations, St. Vitus Church and wherever and whenever help is needed, she is there to help.

Josie is a SWU branch 25 member for almost 30 years, as was her mother and are her sisters, Frances Novak, Ann Zak and Marie Orazem. Josie was also foundress of Branch 50 in Euclid.

AMLA is very dear to Josie so you can imagine how honored she felt to receive a special salute from this organization recently. She is the first woman to have a scholarship named for her, for \$1,000.00 annually in the high school category! The first "Josephine Ambrosic Scholarship" will be awarded this year. AMLA gave her this honor for her many years of service, being top campaigner for a lot of years, Supreme board member, lodge officer and a dedicated member.

We also SALUTE you, Josephine! on your being named as our Woman...Mother of the Year! We, your friends, wish you a lot of years of happiness and joy among your family and all of us. Congratulations and God bless you Josie! Bog Vas živi!

We will honor Josie at a get together

at Sterle's Slovenian Country restaurant, Tuesday May 8th, 1:15 p.m. Come; join us; all of us will be celebrating this wonderful day for our Josie.

C.K.

## 28, Calumet, MI

### Rose Shegina

On May 9th we will honor Rose Shegina, our member for over 40 years. At this dinner, we hope to bring out the beautiful traits of our member who has been so generous to us and kind in many ways.

Rose is a widow and has a large family, all living out of town. She has 4 children, 10 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren but sees them only a few times a year.

She especially has enjoyed attending meetings where we can socialize a little.

Rose is 87 years "young" and still does a little crocheting. She has been involved with other fraternal organizations, too, and has many friends.

We wish her a wonderful Mother's Day and many blessings!

## 32, Euclid, OH

### Eleanor Jean Latkovich

Eleanor will be a 50 year member of SWU next month...she joined on June 18, 1940. During this time, she has always been an asset to Br. 32. When she was younger, she belonged to the Drill Team and this was for many years! Her mother was a member as is her sister, Faye Clapacs Starman, well known to many Cleveland members.

Eleanor was born in Euclid when it was a village in 1923 and her maiden name was Debenjak. She was the youngest in the family. She also has a brother - another is deceased. She attended school on Cleveland's east side and after high school she worked at the A&P grocery store as a cashier and during the war at Leece Neville factory. It was right after the war in 1945 that she and Sgt. Peter Latkovich married at St. Nicholas church. They have always enjoyed being together, in work and at play, all these years. They are the proud parents of Diane (Frank) LeMay, Peter (Melanie), Michael (Peggy) and twins Mary and Richard. They all are employed and there are eight grandchildren in all. Eleanor admits that she spoils them all!

Pete plays the button box accordion and every week he comes to the Slovene Home for the Aged to entertain the old folks there. Eleanor collects bells and figurines and is an expert seamstress. She does quilting (made 5 quits in 1989) and crocheting (60 afghans from baby crib size to queen size!) and she also sings in the church choir!

Eleanor is really a special person, with a beautiful smile for everyone and never says a cross word. We really do admire and love her! Many blessings, Eleanor and Pete!

## 33, Duluth, MN

### Antonia (Toni) Panyan

Antonia "Toni" (Auman) Panyon, 73, a 26 year member of Branch 33, Duluth, MN, will be honored May 2 as our "Mother of the Year".

Toni was born in Willard, WI. Her Slovenian parents immigrated from Slovenia in the late 1800's to farm. She was a member of Holy Family Parish along with her family. She attended school through the 9th grade. Three of her sisters still live in Willard and one in Nevada; her three brothers are deceased.

In 1932, at age 14, she moved to Duluth and went to work for the Frank Burger family and joined St. Elizabeth's parish.

Toni and John Panyan were married at St. Elizabeth's Church by Fr. John Sholar. In September, 1990 they will celebrate their 50th Anniversary. They have lived in their present home at 1115 105th Ave. West for 38 years. Toni did housework for various families and John worked at American Steel and Wire (U.S. Steel), now is retired. A true Slovenian cook and baker, Toni enjoys craftwork, embroidery and has collected antiques. A sweet, loveable, warm-hearted, friendly person, she is a joy to know.

She had two sons, Joseph (deceased) and Eugene. She enjoys cooking and baking and spending time with Cherrie Lynn and Terri Jo, Joe's daughters, and with Eugene and his wife Patsy, who all live in Duluth. She had been involved in skiing and scouting and had fun fishing and camping with her family.

Toni has always worked at various functions of our branch, helping at dinners, funerals, and church bazaars. She enjoys travel including a trip to Hawaii. She and her husband have been enjoying a winter vacation in

Arizona for the past nine years and are members of Gary-New Duluth Senior Citizens.

*Lois Pelander,  
Reporter*

## 34, Soudan, MN

### Angeline Morin

Sixty years ago, our Mother of the Year for 1990, became a resident of Tower. Her name is Angeline Marie Morin.

Angeline Marie, daughter of Frank and Helen (Mihelic) Zidar of Eveleth, was born on September 15, 1906, the youngest in a family of twelve brothers and sisters, and is the only surviving family member. She remembers only four of the surviving children--John, Louis, Frances and Anna. The others died in infancy. Her parents were born in Slovenia, or Austria, what it was known as at that time. Angeline's father died in 1912 of pneumonia, when she was five years old. Her mother, who lived with her over a period of seven years, died in 1952.

Angeline was one of the fortunate women of her time, she graduated from Eveleth High School and went on to graduate from the Duluth State Teachers College. She was an elementary teacher in Greaney and Gilbert before her marriage. Because married women were not allowed on faculties at that time, Angeline did not teach again until her family was grown and she taught at Embarrass, MN for the St. Louis County School System and also taught in Tower.

John Morin and Angeline Zidar were married in Eveleth on June 30, 1930, by Fr. Leskovic. They had a small family wedding, as was the custom at that time, with Ann Masnik of Tower and George Nemanich of Soudan being their attendants. Ann was the sister of John, and later, Ann and George were also married. John and Angeline went on a trip to Fort William and Port Arthur, Canada, for their honeymoon and Angeline remembered, laughingly, how their car broke down on their trip! In Tower, they first made their home upstairs of Sovde's Store and then in a duplex owned by the Lackie family. They purchased the Stonich home in Tower and this is where Angeline lives today, a warm, comfortable home. Years back, the sisters who came from Duluth to teach catechism in the summer used the Morin home. John and Angeline also enjoyed their cabin on

Lake Vermilion, now their children and grandchildren enjoy it.

They became parents of two children, Janet and John Jr. Janet became a registered nurse and worked at hospitals in Virginia, Duluth and Ely, and makes her home in Tower. John Jr. has worked for many years for MN Power out of Tower as Lineman in Charge, and he also lives in Tower. Angeline has eleven grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren, and keeps up-to-date with all of them, a loving grandmother.

On January 27, 1977, Angeline's husband, John, died very unexpectedly, of a heart attack. John worked at the Soudan Mine as a Driller for over forty years and worked there until the mine closed.

On March 6, 1977, weeks after the death of her husband, Angeline suffered another loss, along with the rest of her family. Her granddaughter, Sheila Morin, was killed in a snow-machine accident. This was a very sad time for Angeline.



Angeline will be 84 years old in September, but you would never believe it. She has a warm smile, a beautiful complexion (hardly any wrinkles, ladies!) and dresses up-to-date, in jeans or "sweats" and looks darling in both!

She has traveled to Hawaii and Mexico and has visited the states of California, Washington, Idaho, Florida, and Wisconsin and has also been to Washington, D.C. She loves to read and attends daily Mass, and is always there when help is needed in the church kitchen and also preparing banners, etc. for the church.

Her hobbies include knitting, crocheting, and embroidery, and has made afghans and quilts. She likes to bake and cook and when I was interviewing her, her house smelled delicious from a boiled dinner cooking on the stove! Pasties are her specialty when she wants to treat her family and says she makes thirty pasties at a time for them to enjoy.

Angeline is vice president of the St. Martin's Council of Catholic Women, (her granddaughter, Cathy Anderson,

is treasurer!); vice president of Branch 34; is a member of the Tower Civic Improvement Club; and belongs to the Prayer Group at St. Martin's; a birthday Club and also a breakfast club, and, as she put it, "I enjoy going."

Another thing that she is always willing to do--she "sits" her son and daughter-in-law's dog, Gypsy, whenever they want her to!

We are proud to have you as our Mother of the Year, Angeline, you are one who will never say no to helping out in our parish. We wish you many more years when you can just keep "going." God Bless You!

*A.M.*

## 35, Aurora, MN

### Josephine Rebrovich

Br. 35 of Aurora, MN will honor Josephine Mehle Rebrovich of Babbitt, MN as our Mother of the Year. She has been a member for 43 years.

Josephine was born of parents of Slovenian descent on Oct. 27, 1909. She and her 2 sisters were raised by their mother, Frances, and step father, Tony Markovich. After attending school in Aurora, she was employed as a houseworker in other homes.

On April 24, 1937, she married Steve Rebrovich, in Biwabik, with Rev. Patrick S. Flynn performing the rite. Steve worked for the Reserve Mining Co., retiring as a pit foreman in Babbitt.

Josephine and Steve have a family of three, Randy, now deceased, Steve, an electrician in California and a daughter, Charlotte (Norum), a hotel supervisor in San Francisco. Also, in her family are 5 grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Josephine loves to cook and keep in touch with her family. She and Steve make occasional trips to California to spend extended vacations and visits with them.

On April 24, 1987, they all had a grand get-together to celebrate the 50th anniversary of their wedding day. Josephine says it was a beautiful affair and is her fondest memory.

Josephine will be presented with a gift and be the honored guest at a banquet given by Br. 35 members. Her comment about this honor was, "Now I will have another wonderful memory!"

Congratulations, Josephine!

*F. Holland,  
President. Br. 35*

## 39, Biwabik, MN

### Lucille Starken

For the past 45 years, Lucille and Paul Starken have celebrated their wedding anniversary on Sept. 25th. They met and married when he was a farmer and after 11 years of farming, they moved to the Range where he worked as a mechanic at the Mine. Since retirement they have enjoyed spending winters in Arizona and camping and fishing with their grandchildren in the summers.

Lucille is sometimes called Lu, or Lucy, or Ceil, and has a great relationship with her sister members at Br. 39. She is very faithful and helps them when the occasion arises, baking, serving, etc. Otherwise, her family takes up much of her time.

The Starkens have a daughter and a son, both married and living nearby. There are seven grandchildren. All of them have been a part of grandma and grandpa's life, celebrating family birthdays, anniversaries, holidays and many happy occasions.

To her, the fondest memory is of her own wedding day, and then the birth of her two children and their weddings, daughter, Paulette and Bob Greshowiak in 1966 and son, Darrel and Carla in 1974.

She says, "This honor means much to me and I thank God for having my family and friends!"

Members of Br. 39 are happy and proud of their Mother of the Year, too.



*Elsie M. Spellacy*



*Mary Blatnik*



*Rose Mary Juvancic*



*Valeria Carlson*

## 40, Lorain, OH

### Alice A. Rutar

It is with great pleasure that I write about our Mother of the Year, Alice A. Rutar.

Alice was born in Lorain, Ohio on May 30, 1923. She is one of the four children of Frank and Johanna Debevec, both deceased now. They were born in Begunje, Slovenia and immigrated to Lorain. She and her brother, Harry, who lives in Elyria, are surviving children - a brother and sister are deceased. Alice's mother was a charter member of Br. 40. She enrolled Alice when she was a young girl and Alice also was a member of the Frances Bresak Drill Team.

For some reason or another, Alice dropped out of our lodge, but thanks to our champion recruiter, Angie Kozjan, again rejoined us in 1979 and we are glad ever since! She very seldom misses a meeting and is always ready



*Frances Skrabec*



*Anna Harvot*

to give a helping hand where necessary.

Alice says that she looks forward to our meetings because she knows she will be in good company. In her estimation, we are a group of super ladies and she loves us all; and we feel the same about her!

Alice attended Sts. Cyril and Methodius school from the first to 8th grades and then graduated from Lorain High School. She worked at the O'Neil - May Co. for 21-1/2 years after which she retired. Her reason, "to keep the home fires burning for her family!" She is married to Michael Rutar for 43 years. They have two sons, Michael and Dale, both living at home. Home is at 726 N. Ridge Rd. in East Lorain where the welcome mat is always out.

Their sons both graduated from Ashland University; Michael has a degree in Education but now is in banking and Dale has his degree in Accounting and Business Management. They all belong to Sts. Cyril & Methodius church and son, Michael is on the parish council.

Alice is a charter member of the Ladies Guild of the church and past president of the Slovenian Home Ladies' Auxiliary. She also finds time for her hobby, collecting Hummels. Her greatest thrill was visiting her parents' homeland, Slovenia, in 1983, especially the village of Begunje where she met her dad's sister, "teta Fanika" and several cousins with whom she still corresponds.

Her greatest inspiration in life was her mother. She says her mother always took time for her and was always there when she needed her. She taught her the values of religion, respect for others and love for her neighbors. She also has high esteem for her mother-in-law, Mary Rutar.

Alice has had several serious illnesses and major surgery was performed. Thanks to her mother-in-law who was always there to help, Alice has been enjoying better health. They have a truly beautiful relationship.

I'm glad I got to know this lovely lady.

Have a Happy Mother's Day, Alice. May God bless you and keep you!

Love,

*Mary Matos*

## 43, Milwaukee, WI

### Mary (Mitzi) Bregant

"My dad always said: 'Our family eats, drinks, prays and sings together' and this is really true of the Bregant and Gorenc families!

"Perhaps that is why I feel so proud of my parents and my husband Ed's parents who brought into our lives the traditions, love and respect that they lived by. We are trying to convey this sense to our own children and it's brought into our lives a special closeness that means everything to us."

These are some of the comments of Mitzi Bregant, our Mother of the Year, and we can say that this is really true if one looks at the lives of this fine couple. Our Mitzi is a special woman, full of life and goodness. Her beautiful smile is very appealing and sort of opens up her soul to everyone. She is a person who has given the joy of life not only to her own immediate family, but to the parish of St. John's and the singers of the choir she directs, as well as to all her fraternal friends in the Milwaukee area. One could say that with her music, Mitzi has wrapped us all in a beautiful song of faith and life.

She is the church organist and for many years has directed the choir. She is a singer herself, actively participating in the concerts of the USPEH chorus and Gallus of the Univ. of Wisconsin at Milwaukee that specializes in the presentation of the best in Slovenian classical, semi-classical and folk songs. So, music plays a major part in her life.

Mitzi has an outstanding personality and is in every sense a leader! She is always ready and willing to do the best she can, and is a very vivacious lady whose energy never seems to give out.

It is interesting in reading the details of her life, that Mary and Ed met on the choir loft of St. John's church almost 30 years ago. He was just discharged from the service and "I was not too interested, but his persistence won me over," she says. They were married right there at St. John the Evangelist church and had a huge wedding reception at the South Side Turn Hall.

Ed worked at the Union Carbide Corp. until his retirement. They reside in West Allis and do many things together, such as, ethnic, church and fraternal events, and they enjoy each other's company on the golf course,

even tho Mary claims her golf is not too good.

They are the parents of five beautiful children, Mary, Terri, Paul, Pat and Bill. Except for Pat who is a music therapist and lives in San Francisco, they all live close together with their families in the Milwaukee area. She says, "we are a very close family and get together as a family often."

Their grandchildren are Chad (11) and Andrea (9) Fischer, Andrew (4) and Elizabeth (2) Becker, and Stacey (10) and Tracey (8) Bregant. They see each other often and a special treat is apple cake, chocolate pudding and chocolate milk. If the grandchildren are over for supper they ask for "grandma's lettuce" (vinegar and oil). They have all benefitted from Mary's talent at knitting with gifts of hats, mittens, sweaters, afghans. And with all the school-age children active in their respective schools, this means that Mary and Ed usually participate.

Mary herself is the oldest of six children and was born in Milwaukee to Ignatius and Mary Gorenc. She studied music and found her niche in playing Slovenian music, especially pieces for choir singing, the organ or piano.

"Having been selected for his honor, the SWU will have a special place in my heart and I will forever be grateful for this honor and to the membership that selected me," she says.

With her sister, Joan, also a member, Mitzi will be ever more and more a welcome sister at Br. 43.

## 47, Garfield Hts., OH

### Elsie M. Spellacy

It's truly amazing how our Chosen Mothers/Women often refer to the inspiration and influence their mothers had on their lives. We are truly an organization of Mothers and Daughters!

Elsie's mother, Jennie Gerck, was president of Br. 47 for many years and it was her interest and involvement in the SWU that Elsie says has motivated her. "I particularly remember things she told me about our heritage of which I am very proud, and have tried to instill in the rest of the family."

What a beautiful legacy our mothers have left us!

Elsie's daughters, Katherine Wallace and Theresa Turner and granddaughters, Elizabeth Wallace, Sarah

Spellacy and Samantha Spellacy are members of Br. 47, so there is no doubt that the family loyalty to SWU will continue into the next generation.

Family events are the times when our chosen Mother has the most fun. It happens every few years that Joseph, who is a Staff Sergeant in the Air Force and his family come home from England, a real cause for celebration. Otherwise, she says, the major holidays are family related events that they celebrate together.

The Spellacy's have three "Janes" Their eldest daughter is Jane, aka Sr. Theresine, currently working for the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth as Director of Development. The second Jane is son, George's wife. He is an X-Ray technician at the Cleveland Clinic and presently Assistant Director of Radiology at Marymount Hospital. The third Jane is Joseph's wife. Other Spellacy children are Katherine (Bruce) Wallace, the mother of three, and Theresa (Tracy) Turner now working in a Nursing Home as a social worker.

Elsie and George are married 48 years and he has retired from the Illuminating Co. after 31 years of service. Elsie spent many years working, first at the May Company, then the Navy Finance Center, Jim Brown Stores and at St. Ignatius High School. She started as a file clerk at Women's Federal Savings Bank and progressed to Branch Manager before retirement in March of 1989 after 23 years of service. She is involved in the Little Flower Mission Association, supports of Catholic Indian Missions, the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, volunteers help at Holy Family Institute of Emsworth, PA and to the annual Festival at the Mother House of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth. Volunteer activities have greatly diminished since husband, George's retirement - they like to be together.

She attends all the meetings, works at the annual Vinska Trgatev and Bake Sale. "There's something about Elsie - you can't help but like her, her lovely personality and big smile for everyone." These are some of the reasons she was chosen as Mother of the Year - a truly wonderful choice!



## 50, Cleveland, OH

### Mary Blatnik

This year Branch 50 is happy to pay tribute to a very deserving member of our branch, Mary Blatnik (nee Homar).

Mary was born in the Collinwood - E. 140th St. area. She has one brother and three sisters. She attended Longfellow Elementary School, Collinwood High, and also attended St. Mary's Slovenian School.

She worked at Richmond Bros. Co. and Thompson Products in Euclid, OH.

In 1944 she and husband, Harry were married at St. Mary's Church in Collinwood. Of their marriage they have two lovely daughters, Bonnie and Cathy.

In 1972 her husband Harry was named "Man of the Year" for the Slovenian Workman's Home on Waterloo Rd. In 1976 he was selected by the Federation of Slovenian Homes as its "Man of the Year." Unfortunately, Harry passed away in 1982.

In March, 1989 Mary was selected as the "Woman of the Year," this being the first time that such an honor was bestowed upon husband and wife. In order to receive these honors one has to be a dedicated person, and Mary and her husband were always willing and ready to work at the Slovenian halls and other different Slovenian organizations.

Mary's love is food, as she is well known as an excellent caterer. Her tables are something to be looked upon - beautiful, done up in colored skirts, silver candlelabras, centerpieces, fresh flowers, etc.

Any grand buffet, dinner party or cocktail reception that Mary handles is long talked about as it will be simply gorgeous to behold. Mary puts that "extra touch" in everything she touches.

Mary is a long time member of S.W.U. but the last 10 years - is a member of Branch 50. She has enrolled 6 Class B members and was a delegate to the last National Convention in Joliet, Ill. Mary attends all meetings and brings beautiful pastries in. She is a very warm, friendly, person - always smiling and ready to lend a helping hand in any way.

In February 1989, Mary was chosen to be our "Valentine Queen." She was so very happy and quite surprised.

Our Mother of the Year takes care

of the kitchen every meeting along with her hostess helpers. In February, seeing that we observed Valentine's Day, the tables were all decked out in red and white. In March for St. Patrick's - all in green and white. Her pastries are so dainty, and delicious -- to pretty to eat sometimes. Yes, Mary surely is very talented and our members are proud of her.

Despite her busy schedule, her hobbies are playing cards, travelling, and of course, cooking, baking and decorating for different occasions.

"Congratulations Mary" - Branch 50 loves you! We will help her celebrate her "special" day on Thurs. May 10th with over 100 members attending.

"God bless and take good care of you" for many years to come.

*Ann J. Tercek,  
Br. 50 President*

## 52, Kitzville, MN

### Terri Lee Oberstar

To be chosen as Mother of the Year is many things to many people, but to Terri Lee it is an honor because she loves her daughter so much. Being a mother has meant pride, joy, satisfaction and honor in just having a talented and intelligent daughter, and that's what life is all about, isn't it!

Terri Lee and her husband of 22 years, Frank Edward, were blessed with their daughter, Glori, who is 21. She is a recent graduate of Hamline University with a major in Political Science and is a prospective Law School candidate. She resides in Minneapolis and is unmarried.

"My daughter is my greatest inspiration because her ambition and faith in the future keeps me on my toes," says Terri.

Terri is a registered nurse and vocational school instructor in Hibbing. She also enjoys cooking and reading. She is a native of Duluth.

The meetings of Br. 52 are very enjoyable, says Terri. "As the youngest member there, I am very willing to help in any way." All the members are neighbors, too, making it a very close community. She's been a member for about 10 years.

It will be a very nice Mother's Day this year for Br. 52 and their Mother of the Year.

## 54, Warren, OH

### Margaret (Marge) Patrick

Marge is a very lovely lady. She enjoys coming to meetings and participating in the activities of Br. 54 and is always more than willing to help out in any way she can. She is very family-oriented having a son and a daughter and four grandchildren. She cooks their favorite foods, takes her only granddaughter on many one day tours to different places and makes many sweaters, hats, afghans for them. Of course, she is always ready to baby sit! The Patrick's enjoy attending the soccer - football games and the activities related to their grandchildren's schools and she belongs to the Niles Football Mothers club.

Marge has lovely blonde hair and is light complected, is very friendly and generous to the branch. She is a member for 6 years.

She and her husband, Regis, have one of the most beautifully kept lawns in the area. Just driving by, one can enjoy the sight, spring summer and fall. They are usually out there busily weeding and nurturing their garden. Marge also loves to do quilts. Since retiring from G.M. in 1979 after 15 years (before that at G.E. for 14 years), Marge has done 11 quilts.

Br. 54 is happy to honor Marge as Mother of the Year and "we hope we can enjoy her friendship for many years to come!"



## 55, Girard, OH

### Rose Mary Juvancic

Hear the words of a daughter about her mother:

"She is the kindest, most generous person I know. I have never heard her say anything against anyone. She is very talkative. My mother is a kind, loving person. She will do anything for anyone. She always has a smile on her face and a kind word to say. She always can make you feel better when things are bothering you. Her sense of humor is priceless; she can make the most mundane chores around the house a fun thing to do. She is a very amiable person. I wish I could be at least half the mom my mom is to me and if so, I'll be an excellent mother!"

Rose Mary Juvancic, hearing this from your daughter is probably the greatest part of being chosen as Mother of the Year. We are proud of you, too.

Br. 55 in Girard selected Rose Mary Juvancic in appreciation for the kind things she has done as a member. As a 29 year member, she is an example of the finest attributes of sisterhood as well as motherhood.

Rose Mary was born in Youngstown, Ohio, one of 8 children on Dec. 27, 1920. Her parents, Peter and Mary Zlogar Volk came from Radovnica, Slovenia. There were 7 sisters, among them a set of twins and a set of triplets. They especially grieved for their only son, killed in action in WW II.

Rose Mary attended schools in the Youngstown area and graduated from a two year course in business school. She was employed in the bookkeeping dept. of the Standard Swag Co. for 13 years. She married Dr. Richard Juvancic in 1952. He is also a native of Youngstown and was educated there. His medical degree is from the Univ. of Pennsylvania, dated just four days after their wedding, in other words, during their honeymoon. Rose Mary says they have had a marvelous marriage, always enjoying doing things. They do spend more time together now with church activities, doing some traveling and visiting their children and grandchildren.

She is a collector of bells including limited edition Norman Rockwell bells, also Rockwell figurines, books, calendars, and any Rockwell Memorabilia. She says they are "so reminiscent of days of tranquil living."

There are four living Juvancic children - one child died at five months. They are all well-educated. Judith (Steve) Forde, Richard (Denise Cappy), Janet (Toby) Mirto and Joyce (Roger) Heslop. They have three grandchildren and by the time this article is printed, there may be a fourth born expected by daughter, Janet. The births of her children and grandchildren are special memories.

She adds, "both my parents were an inspiration to me. They always said not to give up, even when life seemed gloomy and to always keep my faith in God and to have "stick-to-it-iveness" to reach goals or achievements."

A wish for many special blessings to Rose Mary and her family.

## 56, Hibbing, MN

### Valeria Carlson

When many of our Mothers of the Year have finished rearing their families, they begin to raise flowers. It's as if the need for nurturing is never over. Valeria has reared three lovely daughters and says that planting and growing flowers in a good-sized garden gives her a lot of satisfaction and happiness now. What a blessing for everyone around her!

Branch members of No. 56 in Hibbing agree that "Val" is precious to have. She is a lovely woman, with twinkling eyes, beautiful, naturally curly hair and is always neatly dressed. She is very involved in church work and social clubs and is a leader - elected to office in every club she belongs to. She is a very generous, loveable, friendly person and seeks out friendship among her sister members. She has been our treasurer for 8 years and chairman for special events numerous times. Her sister, Milena Koehler is our reporter and their mother, Marie Valeria, deceased, was a long-time member.

On her 75th birthday, her daughters had a special party for her. Valeria never realized how many friends she had. The Algonquin Club where it was held was filled to capacity and then some, all coming to honor her and wish her many more years of health and happiness.

Let's go back to learn more about Val's earlier years. She was born in No. Hibbing in 1912 and graduated from Hibbing schools and the Minn. School of Business. She worked at Sears, was a teller at the First Nat'l Bank, at the First Federal Bank and then for 10 years was office manager at Irathane Systems. She was widowed in 1982 after 46 years of marriage. Her girls are Valeria Jean Ahmed, and twins Rita Joan Lindahl and Anita Jane Golfis. Val has 9 grandchildren, 1 step grandson, 5 great grandchildren and 3 step great grandchildren.

Val comments that she has many fond memories in her lifetime, too numerous to mention, but that among them, the honor of being chosen as Mother of the Year is special indeed. Everyone wishes Val much happiness, that her eyes will twinkle brighter than ever and her smile will bring a sunny light to everyone she meets.

57, Niles, OH

### Margaret Mollica

A very special greeting to our Mother of the Year, Margaret, our member for 47 years. Her mother and two sisters were early members – she and one sister remain and are greatly loved by all.

Margie is tall, slender, well groomed and quiet and is a real leader. If you need something done, Margie gets it done! Her long years of membership are in example for all.

Margie was born in Niles in 1915. This month on the 17th she will be 75! She had two sisters and three brothers in the family. In her young adult life she was employed as business manager for the Niles Daily Times – for 33 years – retiring in 1988. Her son, Pete has followed in the newspaper business. He is a sports writer for the "Youngstown Vindicator" and lives in Niles. A daughter, Marian lives in Cleveland and works at the Justice Center.

In 1961 Marge became a widow, after 25 years of marriage to Pete Mollica. Four grandchildren and two great grandchildren complete the family.

As we come to Mother's Day in 1990, a special, warm thought goes out to Margie, for a happy day, a life of fulfillment and contentment.



*Helen Demsher*



*Henriette Bledsoe*



*Betty Matjasic*



*Anne Collier*

68, Fairport Hrbr., OH

### Frances Skrabec

She is loved and treasured! We know that because every word written about Frances Skrabec by her daughter, Frances Ulle, is filled with admiration and respect. Frances tells us that her mother was born on Nov. 5th, 1895 at Vrhnika, Slovenia, one of five children. Her father, Joseph Avsec left their homeland for America in 1911 and took with him a son, John. Later, he sent money for passage for the rest of the family and they all met in Barberton, later moving to Fairport.

Frances was married at age 18 to Michael Skrabec, just two years after coming to the U.S.

Her whole life has been devoted to her family. She felt her home was her primary concern and a "career" never entered her mind. When she could, mother loved to do hand work and she was an expert in all homemaking skills, especially cooking. She has lived all her married life in Fairport. Her husband died in 1966, after 52 years of life together.

The Skrabecs had three children,

all daughters: Frances Ulle, (secretary and treasurer of Br. 68 for 20 years), Mary Crawford and Anne Veverka. She has 7 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren! Among them are many with higher education and working as professionals in their chosen fields.

Frances never held an office with the branch or aspired to any position. She was, since the time we were first organized, a wonderful, helpful member, helping to make sausages, serve dinners, bake and donate. Anything to help build up our treasury. She is a woman with a warm personality who loves to be doing something for others.

Generosity should be her middle name. Altho age is creeping up on her, she is still willing to take time to listen to anyone. She likes to recall good times she has had with the branch

whenever we got together. She has always looked forward to coming to meetings because that way she could keep in touch with all her friends.

Frances appreciates the life she had – coming as an immigrant to America and always lived with the idea that the opportunities here were worth any sacrifice. "In America, good things would come your way, if you were honest and industrious.

"We recall a special event in our family. It was the 50th anniversary of mother and father's wedding. It was held at my home and was a lawn party. This was a perfect setting and everyone enjoyed it, on a sunny, bright day. It is an unforgettable memory for all of us," says Frances Ulle.

Dear mother, Frances, God bless you and keep you with us for many more years to come! We love you.

73, Warrensville Hts., OH

### Anna Harvot

She is ninety years old, a fifty-year (plus) member of Branch No. 73, and our member of the year. Her name is Anna Harvot, and she is known to everyone as "Aunt Anna". She is small in stature but strong in character. It was years before people realized her name was Aunt Anna and not "Ann Tanna".

Having never married, Anna's family consists of numerous nieces and nephews. The family tree has given her titles of Aunt, Great Aunt, Great, Great Aunt, and recently another Great was added to the title.

She made her home for many years with her older sister, Mary Walters. After Mary's death in 1951 Anna shifted residences until she found her present "roosting" place with a niece in Broadview Heights where she has lived for thirty-odd years.

There are probably few women today who have dusted as many tables and shelves, who have washed as many dishes, who have vacuumed as many thousands of miles or who have folded/ironed as many clothes as has Anna. She found a certain delight in each of these chores.

In the early 30's and 40's Anna was a store clerk for the Boston Chain Department Store in the Broadway-Harvard area. Her Jewish employer found her trustworthy, dependable and courteous. Later on, after retirement, she worked for other department stores to fill in a few idle hours. Anna has traveled and has visited family members as far away as Montana.

Aunt Anna is like so many of our older members, although she cannot attend our meetings and functions, she remains loyal to the branch. We thank her for that loyalty.

It was a privilege for me to write this article. She happens to be my Aunt Anna and there is not enough space in this entire issue to convey all the memories I have of her. Congratulations, Aunt Anna, for being selected as our member of the year. May God bless you with good health and continued happiness.

*E.M.*

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The Years Teach Much Which The Days Never Know.

Cheerfulness Is The Atmosphere In Which All Things Thrive.

79, Enumclaw, WA

### Mary Christiancy

Mary was born in Denver, Colo. on June 26, 1913 to John and Mary Mihelich. Her father was a coal miner at Oak Creek, Colorado. They moved to Enumclaw later. She has just lost her brother, John in Feb., 1990 and a sister died previously, but surviving is a brother, Joe. She graduated from high school and technical school as a Practical nurse and for 25 years specialized in nursing care. Later, in 1975, she assumed complete care of her sick husband, Paul, who died in 1982. Mary was previously married to Leslie Julian for 7 years and to Sidney Ganes for 13 years. She has three children, sons, Leslie C. Julian, Sidney Robert Ganes and daughter, Mary Catherine. She had to work hard to raise her children alone. Now two of them live in Alaska.

Mary is very proud of her 7 grandchildren all boys, and one step granddaughter. One of the boys is married and in the military.

She took her beloved mother, Mary Michelich, to Rome to see the Pope and to visit her homeland in Slovenia. They also traveled to other parts of Europe. She accompanied her mother to Washington, D.C. for the Convention and to see Kennedy's grave. In fact, she spent much time with her mother, our fine president of Br. 79, before her death in 1989.

The members say Mary is a quiet, unassuming hard working person, active in many things. She was her mother's right arm for many years.

She dreamed of becoming a nurse, but it wasn't until after she raised all her children that she received her license as a Practical Nurse, then on to college to get her RN diploma, her greatest achievement. We salute you, Mary, with all best wishes!

81, Keewatin, MN

### Helen Demsher

Our chosen Mother was born on April 4, 1911 at Meadowlands, PA one of five daughters born to parents of Slovenian descent. There were also two half sisters and three half brothers in this large family.

She and Louis Demsher were married in 1930 Louis died in 1979, and were blessed with two sons and two daughters. Son, Robert lives in Tampa, FL and mother, Helen enjoys flying down to visit. Her other three

children, Richard, Shelby and Rosalie all live within two miles of her and one or all generally stop by every day. Her six grandchildren each have an afghan crocheted by grandma and those that live close by spend lots of time at her home. Baby sitting is one of Helen's chief pleasures.

Helen also enjoys her friends. She has many of them, and when it's time for SWU meetings, she comes and visits. She is an extremely active person, cuts her own grass, hedges, makes a beautiful garden that is known around Strabane for the lovely flowers. For the past 9 years she has helped a blind neighbor, Mary Flowers, with general cleaning and tending to personal things.

Helen is an example of motherhood that we are proud to honor this year!

89, Oglesby, IL

### Mary (Mitzi) Banich

No job is ever left undone when Mitzi heads a committee. Her efficiency in all her endeavors for a better SWU is commendable. Her kind and loving ways cannot go unnoticed by all her friends, neighbors, family members and all her sisters of Br. 89. She adds the right touch to complete the project, whether it be a dinner, lecture, meeting, convention!

Mitzi is a tall, attractive blonde, a very neatly groomed person, and a joy to be with. She has green eyes and a winning smile. She and her husband, William, an attorney, have two sons, Christopher, (C.J.) age 7 and Adam, only 4.

Both attend LaSalle Catholic and Mitzi is head room mother for Chris' first grade and Adam's pre-school. She spends lots of times as a teacher's helper, going on field trips and working for the school fund raisers. Both boys are sheer enjoyments for both the Banich and Komater families.

Her mother, Helen Komater is a member and grandmother, Frances Komater is a charter member. Aunt Eunice Komater is also a charter member of Br. 89.

Mitzi's parents, celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary last June. Mitzi, her sister, Ona and brother, Jay hosted a very special party for them that everyone enjoyed. She says her mother has been a great inspiration in her life, showing qualities such as kind heartedness, vitality for life and high energy. These are very much evident in Mitzi herself.

But she is such an exceptional member, that Br. 89 is proud to have selected her as Mother of 1990. They extend their congratulations and add: "We love you!"

100, Fontana, CA

### Henriette Bledsoe

She's "Yetta" to her friends, a sweet, peppy, talkative person, a leader, generous and hospitable. She has a very strong faith and has been a member of St. Joseph's church since 1946. She works with the St. Joe's Human Resources for 14 years.

It is appropriate that Br. 100 has

selected such a member for this special honor. Henrietta exemplifies so many of the finest qualities of motherhood. First of all, she is a member of a large family herself where she learned a spirit of giving. Her parents came from Slovenia and raised 7 children. Henrietta was schooled in Wisconsin where the family made their home, then, later in California, received a degree at the Univ. of Redlands in child development. Subsequently, she worked for the San Bernardino Public Health Dept., for the public school system, the Head Start program and traveled to children's homes. She enjoys family life and appreciates the

wonder of little children.

As a collector, (we have many mothers who do this!) Henrietta has many music boxes that delight her. She enjoys bowling, crossword puzzles and traveling. Vegas is one of her favorite places. She and her husband of 42 years reside in the same home they built 36 years ago. Paul is now retired as a carpenter.

They are the parents of 6 children, two boys and four girls, among them Joan and Jan are twins. They have 14 grandchildren! Her oldest daughter seems to enjoy baking and gardening and excels in it - Henrietta thinks that's a direct inheritance from her grandmother who was an original member of SWU. Henrietta is an active member as was her mother, and has accepted two jobs, auditor and reporter.

She says her Slovenian Heritage has really become stronger in the last few years since a visit to Slovenia in 1987 with her sister and two brothers. Also, their family get togethers are very dear to her with the enjoyment of holiday traditions, eating Slovenian foods and congregating with laughter and love. "There are now over 60 members when we all get together", she says. She enjoys the SWU because "we all have common interests and backgrounds"!

The members are grateful and happy to have Henrietta as their member - an important member and much loved by all!

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## Departed Members

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|--|--|
| 6 - Josephine Praznik (86)<br>59-yr member | 26 - Barbara Staresinic (91)<br>61-yr member |
| 15 - Marie Rose Kavec (73)<br>47-yr member | 35 - Dorothy Ceglar (59)<br>10-yr member     |
| 20 - Eleanor Bayuk (69)<br>47-yr member    | 47 - Jennie Cermelj (97)<br>49-yr member     |
| Emma Planinsek (91)<br>58-yr member        | 50 - Theresa Petrich (84)<br>54-yr member    |
| 23 - Mollie Tkalich (76)<br>54-yr member   | Frances Poulin (66)<br>28-yr member          |
| 25 - Mary Gorenc (90)<br>46-yr member      | 55 - Mary Ann Salajko (67)<br>26-yr member   |
| Josephine Jeraj (83)<br>32-yr member       |  |

## Mother

*Bury me my Blessed Mother  
in your heart and soul  
Teach me to love your Son.*

*Bury me my Blessed Mother  
in your heart of love.  
Teach me to unfold like a  
blossom in the sun, with  
fragrance before I die.*

*Bury me my Blessed Mother  
in your arms of care.  
Teach me to follow your Son  
When I cannot reason why.*

*Love me gently, Mary dear,  
teach me how to cry.*

*From all the foolishness  
I have begun, teach me  
how to fly.*

*Listen, listen my Sweet Mother,  
turn your ear to me.  
Teach me to be beautiful,  
so you can be proud of me.*

*What you have taught me my  
Little Mother, will forever  
stay.*

*Kiss me softly my Sweet  
Mother  
until another day.*

by CHARLES GOERING

101, Bedford Hts., OH  
**Betty Matjasic**

This May as we celebrate our Mother of the Year it is with great pleasure that we would like to congratulate Mrs. Betty Mirtel Matjasic as the recipient of this special honor. Betty was born in Bedford, Ohio in August of 1919 and is the baby of the Mirtel clan. She is of Slovenian descent on both sides of her parentage. Betty is able to speak and read Slovenian. Betty and her late husband, Victor Matjasic, who passed away five years ago, were the proud parents of two children Dorothy Szumski and Vickie Matjasic. Both Dorothy and Vickie are active members of the club. Dorothy and her husband Joseph are the proud parents of Laurie and Joey (J.J.) and Dorothy is currently the Membership Chairman. Both Laurie

and Joey are also members of the Junior Branch. Betty and her daughter Vickie reside in her Bedford Heights, Ohio home that she was raised in. She spent her growing up years helping on her parents farm and learned one of her specialties of cooking while preparing meals for the farm hands. After her marriage to Victor, she was quite active in the business world and is now retired. Although retired from working, Betty is still a very busy person. She has been the President of the Slovenian Women's Union of America, Branch 101, for 26 years. She has been the backbone of the club and has held it together thru thick and thin with the minimum amount of help considering the low membership numbers. Betty is also very involved in the Senior Citizens Club of Bedford Heights, and the Slovenian Senior Citizens Club.

Betty and her best friend for over fifty years, Virginia Shartle have a lifelong friendship. Betty's cousin and close friend, Mary Bradac who is a member of the Slovenian Women's Branch 101 and Mary's husband Joe enjoy a daily game or two of pinochle. Betty also enjoys playing other card games as well. When Betty isn't in the middle of a card game she can be found in her kitchen preparing Potica and Strudel. If you are 2 or 102 and you are lucky enough to be in the Mirtel family you have had the enjoyment of tasting these specialties as well as her other great meals.

As a 1989 Christmas present for several family members Betty hand crocheted afghans for these lucky recipients who we are sure will treasure them always as they are a gift from her very generous heart and very nimble hands. Betty managed to do this with only her two daughters knowing about it, so it could be a surprise gift.

As we celebrate the Mother's Day mass at Holy Trinity Church this year our prayers will be for Betty and many more blessed years to come.

Once again we would like to congratulate Betty Mirtel Matjasic on this wonderful honor as being selected as The Mother of the Year 1990.

*Reporter*

## 102, Willard, WI

### Anne Collier

The Rovtars settled in Willard, on a farm right next to Holy Family Church. The community was built of farms, and was, at that time 100%

Slovenian. They worked the land and made a future for their families. Anne was the oldest with two sisters and a brother. She attended grade school and graduated from correspondence school in Chicago, then the Vocational School for Nursing in Niagara Falls, NY, licensed as an L.P.N. in 1960. Anne always helped out by working; she worked in the village store, did baby sitting, and in the hospital. For 14 years she worked at Clark County Health Care Center in Owen, but due to illness, she retired in 1988 and is taking care of herself with treatments for Lymphoma. She takes care of her husband, too, Milton who got hurt in 1969 and is now disabled.

Milton and Anne were married in 1942 and his job as a welder took him to foreign places.

They have always done things together, including raising their only daughter, Marie. Marie is a certified Nursing Assistant, enjoys taking care of older people, and lives about 140 miles away. She visits often and brings much joy to her parents. They like to sing together. In fact, it's a singing family, especially when the five grandchildren are near. Granddaughter, Theresa plays the guitar for their sing-a-longs! Anne enjoys all of her grandchildren and loves to sew things for them to wear!

"Anne is everything we love. She is sweet, generous, unselfish and an example of courage in her battle against illness for over 1-1/2 years. She is a great lady."

Anne had always dreamed of visiting the birthplace of her parents in Slovenia and did just that, making a "pilgrimage" in 1977 with her sister, Jenny. They also visited other places in Europe such as Salzburg (Mozart's birthplace) and Klagenfurt, before heading for Žirovnica where her mother's cousin lives, to Bled, and then to Žali Log, her mother's birthplace and Skrilje, where her father was born. They visited other interesting places in Slovenia such as Postojnska jama (the Caves), then to Trieste, Venice and at last to Rome which was "awesome" and toured the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican. Now she is hoping to visit Slovenia again, when her health improves.

Meanwhile, Anne enjoys collecting plates and saucers, pink depression glass and antiques. She refinishes furniture, too. Cooking, especially the old Slovenian recipes, is of great interest, and making strudels and

poticas. She loves ZARJA and uses recipes from Pots & Pans.

"Anne is an inspiration to all of us. We add our prayers to those of her family and community and hopes for a wonderful Mother's Day for a wonderful lady."

## 103, Washington, D.C.

### Freda Michelitch

Freda is a real treasure for Br. 103. She has been their president for the past 17 years and has that certain knack at making people feel good. She is a born leader, tactful and pleasant to everyone, so that things run smoothly. Under Freda's leadership, the members have sponsored yearly events that bring in other Slovenians and Washingtonians from nearby. They work so well together, it's like having an extended family - much like her own family of 12, of whom Freda is proud to tell, there are nine living. One of the beautiful parts of her nature is that she is open and caring, so that everyone wants to reunite as a family many, many times in the year. One can tell from her picture that Freda loves to be with the children. Little girl with Freda is Molly Arlene Mueller, a relative.

Freda is a professional nurse who retired from the U.S. Public Health Service, Outpatient clinic in 1986. At that time she was feted at a large party by her co-workers and received a beautiful Lunt silverplate tray engraved with words of appreciation. Her schooling was at the University of Maryland in Baltimore, the Nursing School founded 100 years ago now by Louisa Parsons, a co-worker of Florence Nightingale. Freda's mother, Mrs. Mary Z. Michelitch lived with Freda for many years, until her passing in 1980. Mother, Freda and others in the family have all had a long and distinguished membership in SWU.

Since retirement, Freda keeps in touch with her friends, loves to visit them and members of her family, loves to make Panoramic Easter Eggs, arrange flowers, embroider and read. Exercising in the open air and bird watching bring Freda out into nature which she loves, in the Virginia countryside.

We know that Freda is an example for not only her family but everyone who knows her and we all try to emulate her wonderful qualities. She has made a mark on the world as a very special person, indeed.



*Toni and John Panyan*



*Mitzi and William Banich*



*Mary Christianey and mother*



*Freda Michelitch and Molly*

**Vera Sebenik:**

## *What Is A Grandmother*

*Dedicated to all our SWU grandmothers!*

What is a grandmother? A grandmother is a lady who has no children of her own, so she likes other people's little girls. A grandfather is a man grandmother. He goes for walks with the boys, and they talk about fishing and tractors and things like that.

Grandmas don't have to do anything except be there. They're old, so they shouldn't play hard or run. It is enough if they drive us to the market where the pretend horse is and have lots of quarters ready.

Or, if they take us for walks, they should slow down past things like pretty leaves or caterpillars. They should never, ever say, "Hurry up."

Usually they are fat, but not too fat to tie kids' shoes. They wear glasses and funny underwear. They can take their teeth and gums off.

It is better if they don't typewrite, or play cards except with us. They don't have to be smart, only answer questions like why dogs hate cats and how come God isn't married. They don't talk baby talk like visitors do, because it is hard to understand. When they read to us, they don't skip or mind if it is the same story again.

Everybody should try to have one, especially if you don't have television, because grandmas are the only grown-ups who have got time.

*Catholic Digest*

## BRANCH REPORTS Continued

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### NO. 81, KEEWATIN, MN

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We met in Father Frederick Hall, Wednesday, March 21. President Josephine Kapla opened our meeting with prayers for our deceased members and especially for Anne Dickovich, our faithful treasurer, who died on February 5, 1990. Anne had been a member of the Slovenian Women's Union for many years. She had been an active member as well as treasurer for many years.

President Josie Kapla thanked the members and guards for attending the Wake, reciting the Rosary and Wake prayers and the funeral. Our deepest sympathy to the Dickovich family and their friends. Anne will be sadly missed.

The main item of business was the discussion of electing treasurer. It was decided that the election be postponed until the treasurer's books are brought up to date.

Dues for 1990 were collected. It was suggested that each member pay for the entire year at one time.

Mother's Day Breakfast was discussed. A tentative date for the breakfast has been set for April 29, 1990 after Mass, to be catered by the senior citizens at the Senior Citizen Center.

The meeting was adjourned after prayers led by president Josie Kapla.

Hostess for the evening was Josie Kapla. Michelichs donated the prize won by Charlotte Gentile.

Respectfully submitted,

MARY MICHELICH

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### NO. 85, DEPUE, IL

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Now that Easter and April are over, it is hard to believe that one third of the year is gone. How the time does fly!

We are hoping to have a meeting in May as it is a good time for the ladies to get together.

Our famous sausage and potica and strudel makers, Mary and Al Planton announce the engagement of their daughter, Mary Kay, to David Jaleel. They will be married in September in Chicago. Our congratulations, best wishes and God's blessing to the young couple.

Mary Oberch was in the hospital recently for tests. We hope everything turns out well for her.

No other news for now. It is a

gloomy, cold and rainy day as I write, but April showers bring May flowers.

So we are all looking forward to that. We hope everyone stays well so we can all get together in May. God bless.

MARY JERMENC

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### NO. 89, OGLESBY, IL

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Meeting on March 12th was presided by Rose Ann Prey, president. Frances Gorisek led the ladies in prayer and a Pledge of Allegiance was also recited. Roll call of officers was taken and one was absent.

Jose Argubright was very happy at the response to the bakeless bake sale held. All of the members were thanked for their generous giving to make it a success.

Helen Komater, Sunshine Chairwoman celebrated an April birthday. Happy birthday, "Skip".

Branch 89 extends their sympathy to Anne Batty on the death of her brother, Joe Minarcik.

Betty Hamilton has been chosen as our "You Are Special for June" and Marilyn Argubright will be our "You are Special" for November. Mitzi Banich "Our Mother of the Year" will be honored at Bek's Steak and Stein Restaurant 2102 - 4th St., Peru, IL on May 14th.

Members are asked to bring guests. Marilyn Argubright and Eunice Komater will have charge of arrangements. Members will be contacted by committee. The local paper will carry the necessary information.

No other business was taken up at this time. Josie Argubright and committee decorated the table with a St. Patrick theme with leprechauns and shamrocks. It was very lovely as always and the delicious cake was also enjoyed.

Respectfully submitted,

EUNICE KOMATER

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### NO. 92, GUNNISON, CO

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Sally Duck was hostess for a business meeting with eight members present. Bunny Spritzer called the meeting to order. Betty Stefanic announced that Canasta was played at our social meeting in February at her home.

Sally gave us some guidelines that would help the courtesy chairman. Each member is responsible in keeping the chairman informed about birthdays, illnesses, anniversaries and deaths.

Other good ideas she contributed were: a yearly calendar, funeral dinners, games, cards for absent members, and the use of video tapes.

A charitable event could be a focus for us as well as cookie exchanges, handmade ornaments, compliments for each other, congratulations, and dwelling on the good things that happen to each one of us.

One good suggestion was to play "B" at the Elks on a Tuesday night and donate winnings to the club.

At our April meeting Kathy Adamich promised us lessons on playing Bunco.

The Mother's Day dinner is scheduled for May 20 at 12:30 p.m. Place is to be announced later. Kathy Adamich will make the corsages.

Kathy Adamich won the mystery box donated by Bunny Spritzer.

A birthday cake, flowers, and balloons were presented to Frances Guerrieri in honor of her 75th birthday. We were a bit late because Frances was gone for several months. She also received a glass hummingbird from the group.

Word from Rose Carricato is that she is doing well and is living with her son, Joe in Platteville, CO. We wish her the best.

Linda Mikus is enjoying life in Canon City and is looking forward to a new house.

Margaret Depew is doing great after knee surgery. Get well wishes go to Pauline Stajduhar of Golden, CO who had eye surgery lately.

Sad news from Pueblo reached us this week. A dear friend Mary (Tezak) Guzzol died. She was originally a member of this lodge. Our sympathy goes to the family.

We are looking forward to spring and summer. This always means seeing old friends again. Maybe Frieda Forcier will be back for a while!

Happy Birthday to Rita Bartelli, Margaret Depew and Betty Stefanic.

See you in May.

FRANCES SOMRAK,  
Reporter

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### NO. 95, SO. CHICAGO, IL

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Highlight of the March meeting was the installation of our new officers.

In a moving ceremony, Mary Toporis installed the following: Mildred James, president; Anne Yosue, vice-president; Marge Krmptic, treasurer; Frances Benkovic, secretary and Dolores Hannelley, financial secretary.

Retiring officers, Mary Brozynski, Sylvia Vukodinovich, Helen Alb and Helen Golich were applauded for their untiring efforts for the Branch.

The meeting progressed with all reports read. Sick members reported are Aunt Anne Loncar and Virginia Kwiatkowski, eye surgery. Marge O'Connor's husband is also on the sick list.

Bernice Morrison and Mary Toporis were the lucky "Split the Pot" winners.

Refreshments were ably served by hostesses Anne Granich, Manda Dosen, Mary M. Perkovich, Anne Yosue and Helen Ciechowski.

Other game winners were Bernice Bubel, Manda Dosen, Eleanor Bandara, Marge Simonic, Mary Nuzda, Helen Jerbic, Charlotte Fryza and Mary Perkovich.

We started the meeting a little later than usual, since the Stations of the Cross preceded. All were in a festive mood and we really enjoyed this meeting of old friends.

MARIE MARAS

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#### NO. 100, FONTANA, CA

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At our February meeting, Henrietta Bledsoe was chosen as our 1990 Mother of the Year. We plan to honor her at a dinner on May 3 at the Mediterranean Restaurant in San Bernardino. Plans were also made for annual communion on April 22 at 9:00 Mass, followed with a brunch at Marie Callendar's Restaurant in Fontana.

At the February meeting, Mary Muller, Past National President was a guest. She talked about her new life of retirement now in Oakbrook, Illinois. It was nice to have her visit.

Our recording secretary, Carol Harley was unable to attend this meeting as she had to take her mother to the hospital Emergency Room that night. Her mother is Dorothy Petrich, a member also. We were happy to see her at our March meeting, recuperating from surgery done the night after the February meeting.

We had a letter from Mary Bratovich, President of Enumclaw, Washington Branch, that they will be hosting the Regional Convention on August 26. I understand that the Frank Vidergar band will be playing in Enumclaw that weekend also.

On April 29, we planned to have a "palachinka" breakfast. Our main chef was to be Frank Vidergar, assisted by

his wife, Mary Lou Vidergar. They have done this before, and they always do a great job. I hope everyone attended.

We plan to have a Cakewalk with members bringing a cake or other goodies for the cakewalk. There will also be a basket as a prize for the breakfast. It will be a main fundraiser, and we hope to have raised a good amount from this. We are also having a "bakeless bake sale," with a \$5 donation from all members as a donation. Send your donations to Ann Arledge, our Treasurer. May will be another busy month. By the time you read this Easter will have come and gone. Belated wishes for a joyous Easter season... Happy Mother's Day.

LINDA COSTELL

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#### NO. 105, DETROIT, MI

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At our March meeting Branch 105 welcomed two new members, Mary Fillo and Mary Volpe. We are happy to have you join us!

We missed member Evelyn Sunich who is ill with a pinched nerve and arthritis. We hope her therapy helps and she is soon up and about. Ann Pobanz has been recuperating nicely after a fall.

Congratulations are extended to Aileen Wysocky who was chosen as Mother of the Year for our branch. Aileen will be honored at a banquet on May 19th at the Chicago Road House. Members and guests who will be attending should please contact Pat-

ricia Adamic, 751-0513 regarding menu choices. Prior to the banquet, we will be gathering for a tour of the Fairlane Mansion at 11:30 a.m. Also, let Patricia know if you will be participating in the tour or just attending the banquet.

After our March meeting, a Mary Kay representative, Donna McKenzie gave a demonstration on skin care and make up. Her "subjects" were Patricia Adamic, Theresa Bolus, Kathleen Emerson and Sharon Wysocky. I must say, they did look lovely.

June 16th, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. we have a Cruise and Brunch scheduled aboard the "Star of Detroit". Yolu Roel is collecting a \$27 per person fee from those who plan to sail.

In September we are planning a trip to Frankenmuth so our meeting that Saturday will be at Kathleen Emerson's home at 11:00 a.m. Kathleen lives right off I 75 which is on the way to Frankenmuth so it will be much more convenient. She will be distributing directions at the next few meetings or you can call her at 370-0015.

Plans are in the making for October also. Tea at the Ritz Carlton. Sounds very elegant and it should be fun. Ladies, if you have not been very active in the branch you are missing out on a lot of good times.

Hopefully, we'll be seeing more of you soon.

VICTORIA MATIEVICH

### **BARAGA DAYS 1990 IN CHICAGO!**

**Baragans from near and far are cordially invited to come to Chicago for Baraga Days 1990 taking place on Sept. 1-2 - the Labor Day weekend!**

**This spiritual experience is one of the most beautiful you will ever have! Highlights include a Slovenian vernacular mass with choirs from the midwest participating on Saturday evening at St. Stephen's Church to be followed by the singing Litany of the Blessed Virgin. On Sunday, the Solemn High mass will be offered at Holy Name Cathedral. Again, music will be a special feature of the service. A Banquet will be served on Sunday and at the Baraga Association meeting in the evening, latest reports will be made on the progress being made for the Canonization of Frederic Baraga, the Apostle of the Chippewas and the first Bishop of Marquette, Michigan.**

**The Chicago community is extending a special invitation to all individuals, families, and groups! Perhaps our SWU branches will organize in each locality and come to Chicago together!**

**For information and advance arrangements, write to:**

**BARAGA DAYS 1990 COMMITTEE, c/o St. Stephen's Church, 1852 W. 22nd Place, Chicago, IL 60608.**



Damjan Kreze, 1990

*Tri stvari so  
nam ostale iz raja:  
zvezde, cvetlice in otroci*

(Dante Alighieri).

## Desetica

Dvanajst ali trinajst let mi je bilo. Hodil sem v tretji razred realke. Nekega jesenskega jutra sem se rano vzdramil. Danilo se je komaj, v izbi je bil somrak. Velika je bila izba, ali vendar se mi je zdela tisto jutro ozka in tesna, vsa natlačena in nametana kakor ob selitvi. Štiri postelje so stale ob stenah, med njimi police za knjige, veliki leseni kovčegi, skrinjam podobni, omare za obleko, na sredi ogromna miza, s knjigami in zvezki pokrita. Vse to je dobilo v somraku čudne, popačene, nekako sovražne oblike in je napravilo vtis nepopisne revščine in žalosti. Na ostalih posteljah so ležali moji tovariši. Vsi so še spali trdno jutranje spanje, lica vroča, puhteča, usta napol odprta. Starejši so bili od mene. Že drugo leto smo stanovali in spali v isti sobi, pa jim nisem bil pravi tovariš. Gledali so me po strani, sam ne vem zakaj. Kmečki sinovi so bili, krepki, glasni, veseli. V meni pa je bilo čisto na dnu nekaj grenkega in pustega, kar se je morda ponevedoma razodevalo tudi v besedi in očeh.

Na okna je potrkaval dež čisto potihoma, kakor z mehкими prsti. Lilo je že teden dni v dolgih, tenkih curkih. Tisti dež, ki napravi človeka otožnega, topega, mu zastre vse vesele podobe in mu pokaže druge, neznane, v sive halje zavite. V izbi je bil vzduh težak in zatohel. Ležal sem čisto mirno, oči široko uprte v somrak. Srce me je tiščalo z neusmiljeno silo.

Gospodinja je stopila v izbo.

"Fantje, kvišku!"

Zeblo me je, ko sem se oblačil, in lačen sem bil. Zajtrka nisem imel, drugi trije so ga imeli. Iz kuhinje je prijetno dišalo po kavi. Doma sem pravil, da mi dajejo jutranjo kavo tam nekje na šentpeterski cesti, pa ni bilo res. Grenko in čudno se mi je storilo, ko sem ugledal na mizi velike in polne skodelice, iz katerih se je sladko in toplo kadilo. Poleg vsake skodelice je bil kos belega kruha, skorja rumena, lepo zapečena, da bi zahrustala med zobmi.

"Kaj bi zdaj in kam bi?" sem pomislil. Doma nisem mogel ostati in bi tudi ne maral; rajši v mrtvašnico opolnoči... Na okno je tiho potrkaval dež. Če bi hodil po ulicah le pol ure, bi bil premočen do kože in vsi bi vedeli, kako in kaj. Šole pa me je bilo strah. Učenje mi ni delalo skrbi, ali vse mi je bilo tuje, neprijazno. Stal sem pred učiteljem kakor razbojnik pred sodnikom.

S knjigami pod pazduho sem stopil na ulico. Koj mi je stopila vlaga v čevlje in stresel me je mrz. Dež mi je pršil v lice, knjige sem skril pod suknjič. Ulice so bile žalostne, sive; vse sivo; hiše, ljudje, misli, ves svet. Tlak je bil spolzek, po cestah so se nabirale in prelivalle velike luže. Če je šel voz mimo, je škropilo na obe strani in ljudje so se umikali. Neba ni bilo. Siva megla je visela do mokrih streh.

Nisem šel naravnost proti šoli. Bilo je še prezgodaj. Hodil sem po ulicah, gledal pa nisem nikamor, ničesar nisem iskal. Včasih je zadišalo iz odprte pekarnice po gorkih, svežih žemljah, po tistih zlatorumenih. Zahrustaš enkrat, pa je ni. Dežilo je tiho. Iz cevi ob ogljih je curjalo, luže so rastle, prepregale so ceste od tlaka do tlaka. Kakor sem stopil, je zažmečilo in voda mi je brizgala v čevljih že iznad prstov.

Šolsko poslopje je bilo zelo visoko in zelo gosposko. Bil sem pred njim kakor berač pred gradom. Okna so gledala mrko in strogo kakor učitelji. Ko sem stopil v vežo, sem povsili glavo in hudo mi je bilo.

V šolski sobi je bilo zelo toplo, ali dišalo je tuje neprijetno. Ko je človek ugledal te redno in skrbno zrviščene klopi, ni bil več človek, temveč učenec in številka v razredni knjigi.

Nič nisem vedel, kateri učitelj je bil in kaj je govoril. Ves čas je bila v meni ena sama misel: "Bodi konec, saj ni nič. Nehaj!" Poleg mene je sedel moj debeli tovariš, sin ljubljanskega krčmarja, in je neprestano jedel. Skrival se je za široki hrbet svojega prednika in je jedel. Okrogel, zalit obraz je imel in hudobne, skope oči. Tolste roke so bile zmerom mastne, ker je jedel, jedel. Meni je bilo v prsih suho in prazno, jezik mi je bil trd.

Ob desetih, ob uri počitka so vstali vsi, da bi šli kupit klobasic k vratarju ali prebegat se po dvorišču. Jaz nisem vedel kam. Grabilo me je za srce, da sem sam, čisto sam. Najrajši bi zaklical, kakor sem bil otrok: "Bog daj mi umreti!"

Prišel je sošolec in je rekel: "Ti, zate je pismo!"

Res je bilo na deski napisano moje ime. Šel sem, starec, s težkimi, trudnimi koraki k vratarju.

Ko sem pismo dobil, so se mi roke tresle in skril sem se k oknu, da bi ne videlo tega svetega pisma nobeno nevredno oko. Črke velike, ljube, neokretne so razodevale materino roko. Odpiral sem počasi in čisto čudno, veselo in težko mi je bilo pri srcu. Tam so bile spet tiste velike, težke, neokretne črke: "Ljubi sin!" Zakaj mati se je bila od nas otrok naučila pisati, zato da bi je ne bilo sram. Ko sem razgrnil pismo, je zaklenketalo na tleh. Sklonil sem se in pobral. Bila je desetica.

Tista tenka, oguljena srebrna desetica, ki jih že zdavnaj ni več. Ko sem jo vzel v roko, me je obšlo kakor milost božja. Vse je vztrepetal, vzplapolalo v meni, vzdignilo me kvišku kakor v plamenu ljubezni. Videl sem tisto ljubo, velo, trepetajočo roko, ki je držala med prsti poslednjo desetico ter jo naposled spustila v pismo. Zakaj desetica je bila poslednja, to sem videl, kakor da je bilo na nji zapisano.

Skril sem se čisto v kot, da bi me nihče ne videl. Iz srca, iz prsi, iz vsega telesa mi je planil jok in me stresal kakor v vročici. Ali ko sem se vračal po stopnicah v šolsko sobo, je bilo v meni svetlo, svetlo. Iz daljave je videla mati mojo boleost in se je smehljaje ozrla name, kakor se ozre samo ljubo sonce. In glej, čudo nebeško – res so se bili razmeknili oblaki in veselo sonce je zasijalo skozi okno.

Matere ni več, tistih starih desetih tudi ne in dnevi so sedaj mračni in pusti vse do noči.



Ko je Bog obrnil v knjigi mojega življenja list na dan 13. marca, 1990 je bil to najžalostnejši dan – list, kar sem si jih lahko kdaj mogla popreje predstavljati. Vsi nešteti prejšnji dnevi – listi v najinem dolgoletnem skupnem življenju so bili listani v tihem, zadovoljstvu.

Zdrav in poln načrtov si se podal iz predmestja kjer živimo v mesto Washington, prišel do cilja, napravil dva koraka in se zgrudil. V trenutku sekunde Te je Bog vzel k sebi v nebeško kraljestvo. Tako smo se ločili od Tebe. Bolečina v duši in srcu je kameneče težka.

Tvoja karijera v ameriškem svetu je bila vzorna, toda ostal si "MOŽAK" v prvem slovenskem pomenu besede. Ponosen Slovenec, vedno zavedajoč svojega se poslanstva: ohranjevati slovenstvo, živeti

## "ERIKU V SLOVO"

Odšel si in si pri Bogu. Zdaj si bogatejši, kot mi vsi, mi pa tem revnejši, ker nisi več med nami. Vsi se sprašujemo: zakaj? Odgovora pa ne vemo. Vemo le to, da si v večnosti kjer časa ni. Nič ni nikoli bilo, nič nikoli ne bo, ker vse kar je, samo je. Zdaj si resnično med nami.

Težko je najti besed, da bi se primerno poslovil od Tebe in opisal Tvoje delo in kar si nam pomenil in kar si ljubil v življenju. Pomagal si bom rajši s primerjavo o teh lepih barvnih oknih.

Okna nam posredujejo sončno luč, dajejo nam toploto in prijetna so očesu, ki gleda nanje. Če gledamo pozorneje pa vidimo, da so sestavljena iz mnogih delcev, da je vsak delček okna nekaj posebnega, celota v malem, ki ima svoje posebne značilnosti v barvnih odtenkih svetlobe ki se skozi preliva. Prav tako se nam odsevata tudi Tvoje življenje in delo: vera v Boga in njegovo stvarstvo, poezijo in slovensko besedo, ki si jo tako častil, strast do dognavanja resnice in Tvoja Studia Slovenica. – Ljubezen do družine. – Sočutje in podpora

samo za slovenstvo in delati samo za slovenstvo.

Ljubi Erik, v spominu boš ohranjen in moja ljubezen bo za Tebe živela naprej.

*Tvoja žalujoča žena Nika*

*Spominski darovi se lahko pošljejo na Studia Slovenica, P.O. Box 232, New York, NY 10032, kjer je bil pokojni tako vnet sodelovec svojih zadnjih 35 let. Nadaljujmo slovensko poslanstvo. Pišimo knjige o Slovenčih v angleškem jeziku. Materijala je dovolj. Prižgimo svečo v temi, kjer je najbolj potrebna!*

**Priložen je govor g. Bogomira Chokela, predsednika KSKJ društva škofa Barage iz Washingtona, katerega je tako lepo podal ob pogrebni maši za Erika Kovačiča. Naj Bog povrne naklonjenost.**

**Hvaležni in žalujoči: žena Nika  
in hčerka Bernardka Kovačič**

slovenskim misijonarjem, glasilcem resnice v tujih krajih. Zlasti pa še vera v svetniškega škofa Barago, zavetnika našega društva v katerega imenu se zdaj poslavljam in v čigar deželo na daljnem severu si tolikokrat verno poromal, – pomoč pri gradnji slovenske kapele tu v Washingtonu...

Delci se množe in okno se veča in ni časa, da bi opisal vse Tvoje delo. To prepuščam drugim.

Pesnik, jezikoslovec in živa enciklopedija slovenskih žitnosti v preteklih in sedanjih časih!

Ko pa bo večerno sonce posijalo se bodo vsi delci okna v vseh svojih osebnih barvnih odtenkih spojili v veličastno mavrico, razpeto iz tujine preko morja do domovine, ki si jo tako ljubil z dušo in telesom, zdaj pa zadovoljno gledaš in na njem do nedavna nepričakovan prepород nove svobode.

Počivaj v miru dragi sošolec, prijatelj in rojak!

Vama, draga Nika in Bernardka, pa iskreno sožalje v imenu vseh, ki smo zbrani v tej cerkvi. Z Vama bodo naše molitve in tople želje dokler se ne snidemo v božjem kraljestvu.

*Bogomir Chokel*

V cerkvi Svete Bernardke, 17. marca, 1990

Mamica moja, povej mi,  
kaj imaš vlažni oči –  
kaj si res plakala zame  
dni in noči?

Mamica moja, povej mi,  
kaj imaš zguban obraz –  
ali te gube izklesal  
res sem le jaz?

Mamica moja, srebro že  
imaš vpleteno v laseh –  
ali si bila res zame  
v vednih skrbeh?

Mamica moja udano  
v križ se na steni ozre –  
novo si solzo z očesa otre.

## MAJ – MESEC MATER

Najvišji poklic žene je materinstvo, pa najsibo telesno ali duhovno. To je tako vzvišen poklic, ki se ne more menjati z nobenim doktorskim naslovom, z nobenim kupom denarja. Nobeden moški ne more nadomestiti žene in matere pri rojevanju otrok in njihov vzgoji in negi v detinski dobi. Da bi se vse žene tega zavedale in svoje prvenstvo upoštevale in bile ponosne!

V današnjih razmerah po vsem svetu, ki se tako boji otrok, so krščanska dekleta in žene še posebej poklicane, da znova obude veselje do otroka, do novega življenja in sreče. Če žene nočejo otrok, propadejo narodi!

# Materinski dan

Kaj vse se poraja v naših mislih in naših glavah ob materinskem dnevu, ob dnevu naših nepozabnih mam, ki so že v večnosti in seveda ob srečanju z našimi mamami, ki jim veselo stiskamo roko v pozdrav. Ko si kličem v spomin podobe iz moje mladosti, pred mano vstaja živa slika moje stare mame, ki se sključena pomika po polju in prepeva – Spet kliče nas venčani maj. V rokah je držala rožni venec in ko sem jo nekoč vprašal kaj pomeni ta dolga veriga jagod, se mi je samo nasmehnila, potem pa odgovorila, da je vsaka jagoda predstavnica nekoga v naših družini in kadarkoli moli, vedno je ob njej preko rožnega venca zbrana vsa družina, vsi prijatelji, sorodniki. Ker ne more vseh zbrati na en sam rožni venec, jih mora zmoliti več. Seveda sem bil radoveden, če je tudi zame kaj prostora.....pokazala mi je zadnjo jagodo na dolgi verigi in rekla, da, ker sem najmlajši pač pridem zadnji na vrsto, sem pa zato najpomembnejši. Nikoli ne bom tega pozabil.

In vi mame, kakšni so vaši rožni venci, vem, da je vsak vaš otrok, vsak vaš vnuk jagoda na rožnem vencu, ki ga pletete ve same. Nekateri jagode so vse preveč obremenjene, polne so trpljenja ob spominu na sina ali hčer, ki gre svojo pot, na nakaterih jagodah je vse polno solza, ker vašega sina ni več, pokopala ga je vojna vihra, ali prometna nesreča. Koliko solza je bilo potočenih, ker se dolgo ni oglasil, ker nihče ni vedel kako se mu dogaja v tujini, je srečen, še misli na dom, vero. Tu pa so tudi bolj

vesele jagode, jagode rožnega venca, ki ga sestavljajo veseli otroci, ki so ljubeznivi, prijazni, otroci, ki so jim starši velika skrb, ki se znajo za njih žrtvovati.

Pred vami mame so sedaj vnuki, o Bog daj, da bili zdravi in srečni, se tolikokrat izvije iz vaših prsi, koliko gorečih molitev pošiljate vsak dan v nebo in lahko trdimo, da so vaši vnuki zares vaš ponos, na nek način vaši sadovi. Kdor ima staro mamo ima zaklad iz katerega vedno vre novo življenje za bodoče rodove. Vem, stare mame, vaši rožni venci življenja so z leti vse bolj obloženi, vse več skrbi se nabira, vse več vnukov in vsakemu bi rade pokonile del sebe, vse bi rade spremljale na njihovih poteh življenja, naj bo torej dan mater vaš praznik, praznik vseh vas, ki vas imamo radi in smo vam hvaležni.



MAKSIM GASPARI: NA PEČI

# Niša Slovenska Dediščina

Vsem našim mamam  
iskrene častitke!

## ZIBELKA

Nekaj dni po tistem večeru, ko je mlada žena vsa zardela objela moža ter mu zaupala veliko skrivnost, je na podu zapela žaga.

Ves dan je pela in spremljal jo je globok moški glas, ki se je zdaj pa zdaj prelil v žvižganje. Človekovo srce je bilo prepolno, da bi moglo molčati...Potem se je oglasilo kladivo, petje je za čas potihnilo.

In glej: iz belih jesenovih desk, še polnih tistega divjega, živega duha po rasti, je nastala zibelka, ne prevelika ne premajhna – ravno pravšna za živega otročiča.

V gori ob studencu je umrlo staro drevo, da je dalo svoj zdravi les za zibelko, ki bo objemala življenje človeškega otroka.

Potem je stari Matevž, ki je poslikoval panjiče, naslikal na zibelko angelčkovo glavico in rože in Marijino ime...Pomakal je čopič v barvo iz jajčnega rumenjaka, češminovih jagod in krhlike ter iz živih zidarskih barv in slikal. Spredaj je na tečaj pod končnico začrtal še trotamoro zvezdo, ki naj varuje otroka pred uroki zlih pogledov. Ne, tako lepo zibelko si še v pravljici težko misliš!

Potem so jo spravili v kaščo na podstrešje, kjer je dišalo po žitu in suhih rožah.

Sredi poletja pa so jo prinesli v hišo, jo lepo umili in napolnili s pšenično slamo ter s polno vrečo mehkih ovsenih plev. Vse to so pregnili z belo rjuhico iz najtanjšega platna in nekega nedeljskega jutra položili vanjo fantka, ki je komaj jokati znal in je bil ves rdeč kakor prsi ptička pogorelčka. Storili so nad njim sveti križ, da bi nobena huda sila ne imela moči nad njim, ga pregnili z odejo, rdečo ko gartroža, ter jo prevezali s trakom, ki je tekal navzkriž od gumba do gumba na stranicah zibelke...Pa so zazibali in stara mati je zapela:

"Bog Oče je v nebesih,  
Marija je med nam',  
Svet' Jožef na desni je stran'..."

+ + +

Zdaj je okno zagrnjeno z rdečim zastorom – to je stara ruta, ki jo je Tončka nosila nekoč ob žetvi. V poltemi čudno lepo žarijo angelske glavice na končnicah zibelke. Med njimi so srčki in iz njih rastejo velike, žive rože, da kar zadišijo kakor žeravec pod oknom.

Tiha in mirna čaka zibelka, da se bo dete prebudilo. Zdi se mi, da je polna ljubezni in skrb. V njenem lesu še počiva resnost starega drevesa, ki je prezibalo tisoče mladih ptic na svojih vejah.

Na belem platnu cvete fantkova glavica. Na lahno je otrok našobil usteca in spi. Skozi lica mu proseva kri in prstki so mu kakor klobasice. Ves diši po mleku in vijolicah.

Počasi diha.

Muha jezno pobrenčava za zastorom.

Pravkar sem prišel iz gozda. Oči so mi še polne življenja dreves in temnozelenih mahov; v ustih imam še okus po jagodah in v nosnicah vonj divjega bezga na poseki. Sedim na pručici ob zibelki in gledam zdaj zibelko, zdaj široko posteljo ob njej, zdaj Marijo na steni, ki ujčka Dete Jezusa ter prisluškujem krvi, kako mi bije v žile, kakor bi se še v srcu takala majčkena zibelka: "tok-tok..."

Ne, jaz nisem nikoli okusil dobrohotnega zibanja v zibelki. Položili so me v poleteno košaro s čipkastimi zastorci in z veliko modro pentljo na vrhu. V vsaki gubi se je skrivala sled velike ljubezni.

Toda v zibelki je nekaj, kar je prvinsko zvezano z zemljo!

Otrok spi.

Kadar je lačen, zajoka. Joka tudi, če mu je treba suhih plen. Včasih poje v kratkih, odrezanih glaskih. Smeje se, kot bi prebrenkal najviše pojoče strune na citrah, ki počivajo na omari; igra se z nitkami ter svojimi prstki in nikogar se ne boji.



MAKSIM GASPARI: MATI OB ZIBELKI

## Medjugorje

Medjugorska kraljica že zdavnaj ni več skrivnost samo skupine mladih ljudi, ki je nekega poletnega dne srečala Marijo. Marijino sporočilo se je med tem že razširilo po vsem svetu, ves svet je odkril majhno vasico Medjugorje v Hercegovini in odslej budno spremlja vse kar se tam dogaja. Pa ne samo to, Medjugorje je postalo eno najbolj obiskanih središč sveta. Milijoni se zgrinjajo ob oltarju in prosijo pomoči, milijoni se vračajo domov poteseni, ker so zadobili dušni mir. Srečali so sočloveka in preko sočloveka so srečali Boga. Prepotovali so milje in milje, obiskali kraj kjer se prikazuje Marija. Na videz torej nič posebnega, vsako potovanje je združeno z napani in kronano z lepimi doživetji. Vendar ko gre za Medjugorje je tu nekaj bistveno drugačnega, romarji, popotniki se vračajo domov z doživetji, ki so ne le nepopisna, ampak so spremenila njihov tok življenja, preokrenila smernice njihovih hrepenenj, jim začrtala nove cilje življenja in jim podarila notranji mir, ki so tako dolgo iskali. Med njimi so tudi ljudje, ki se vračajo čudežno ozdravljeni, ki svetu prinašajo sporočilo o čudežnem, nadnaravnem. Vse samo zato, ker so slišali klic očividca, da naj začno življenje jemati bolj resno, da naj obnovijo vero v Boga, da naj molijo. Čudno? Da prav zares, vse preveč preprosto se sliši in vse potrjuje, da se Bog odkriva preprostim in malim, ter preko njih prinaša svetu nova sporočila. Kaj ni to največji izziv za nas, iziziv, ki prihaja iz Medjugorja!!!!!!

### ŠT. 17, WEST ALLIS, WI

Naše društvene seje od septembra naprej so bile dobro obiskane, čeprav nam je nagajal mraz in sneg. Težko čakamo, da bo prišla pomlad.

Naša predsednica Marion Marvet je bila operirana in se sedaj počuti veliko boljše. Upamo, da bo kmalu spet prišla na sejo, ker pogrešamo njeno vodstvo.

Naša aktivna članica Jackie Nimmer je na počitnicah v Palm Desert v Kaliforniji in bo obiskala tudi družino hčerke Nancy v Scotsdale v Arizoni. Jackie je pripravila svoji materi Josephine Schlosar slavje za njen 99-ti rojstni dan. Josephine je ustanoviteljica našega odseka Branch 17. Slavje je bilo v Clement Manor Health Care Center in se ga je udeležilo več kot 200 gostov. Za zabavo je igral poskočne The Fun-o-Leers Polka ensemble, zbor Uspeh pa je pod vodstvom Delores Ivancich zapel več slovenskih pesmi. Gdč. Delores je bila oblečena v slovensko narodno nošo in je tudi

sama zapela nekaj slovenskih pesmi za slavljenko. Vsi smo bili postreženi z odličnim domačim pecivom in kavo.

Za mater leta za 1. 1990 je bila izbrana naša članica Vida Yakos. Udeleži se vsake društvene seje, je zelo aktivna in nam postreže s sladkimi dobrotami iz svoje kuhinje. Slavnostno kosilo bo 15. maja 1990 pri Kegel's Inn ob enih popoldne. Zaznamujte si ta dan na svojem koledarju.

Naši bivši slovenski poročevalki Mary Murn želimo dobro zdravje in upamo, da jo bomo videli na vseh naših prireditvah in snidenjih.

Seveda ne smemo pozabiti naše poročevalke za angleški del Fran Piwoni. Z veseljem beremo njena zanimiva poročila in bi jih zelo pogrešali, če bi kdaj izostala.

Naša tajnica Joan Yaklich naroča, da priložite kuverto z znamko in vašim naslovom, kadar ji pošljete članarino (dues). Tudi jo obvestite, če spremenite ime dediča (beneficiary).

Blagoslovljeno Veliko noč! Naj vsem vstali Zveličar podeli zdravje in veliko veselja v novi pomladi!

JOSEPHINE IMPERL

Najprej zahvala, Franku in Vidi Rupnik in Franku in Danici Chemas za lep sprehod ob reki Kolpi in kosu Bele Krajine in, da so delili z nami njihove velikonočne običaje.

Čestitke naši zaslužni ženi-materi leta Josephine Ambrosic. Družina in prijatelji jo kar na kratko kličejo Josie. Josie ve kaj je življenje in trpljenje, zato rada ponudi sama sebe drugim v pomoč.

Torej, želimo Josie in vsem mamicam, starim mamicam lep materinski dan poln sreče in blagoslova.

CIRILA KERMAVNER

### ŠT. 68, FAIRPORT HRB., OH

Zimski meseci so nam spet minuli. Zunaj je sončno jutro, obeta se nam lep sončen dan. Po vrtu izgleda na travi, ki je že ozelenela, da je bila ponoči slana. Ampak pomladanske čebulice, ki so tudi že polne zelenih listov, nič ne porajtajo, če jih pomladanska slana malo pobeli. Seveda po koledarju je še vedno zima. Pregovor pravi; kar v marcu zeleni, se rado posuši. Če sušec prah pometa, dobro letino obeta. Bomo videli: en mesec je še časa, ko boste to Zarjo čitale. Čas hiti, kar hitro bomo v mesecu maju. In spet kliče nas venčani maj! Leta tečejo, nič ne rečejo.

Rada bi obudila slovenske dopise v Zarji. Zelo pogrešamo gospo Poldico Podgornnik; šele v Zarji sem izvedela, da je ni več med nami. Menda se je do zadnjih dni trudila in oglašala v Zarji z njenimi lepimi dopisi in s pesmicami, ki jih je sama spesnila. Ona nas je res vedno razveselila potom našega mesečnika. Bog ji bodi milostljiv in dober plačnik za njena dobra dela. So še članice katere obvladajo slovensščino. Kako prijetno je dobiti nepričakovano pisemce iz daljnih južnih krajev s pohvalnimi pokloni. Posebno od prijateljev in znancev.

Na tretjo sredo v mesecu marcu smo imele sestanek v našem slovenskem klubu v Fairportu ob 6.30 ti uri zvečer. V tem letu 1990 prva seja, ker radi zime opustimo seja. Seja je "odprla" z molitvijo

## PRILJUBLJENA PESMICA



**GASPARI:** Portret žene, 1943

*Adijo pa zdrava ostani.  
Podaj mi še enkrat roko,  
pa name nikar ne pozabi  
če tudi drug ženin tvoj bo.*

*Ne bodem ljubezni te prosil  
ne bodem te prosil roke,  
a v srcu jaz bodem te nosil  
in s tabo ločitve gorje.*

*Spominjaj se, da sva goreče  
ljubila se tudi midva,  
spominjaj se najine sreče  
če moreš, brez tihih solza.*

*Oh kol'krat poljubovala  
si ti me, preljubo dekle.*

*Nikdar se pa nisva vprašala,  
ljubiti se smeva al'ne.*

*Le kadar boš sama sedela,  
naj stopim ti jaz pred oči,  
le kadar boš sama slonela,  
spominjaj preteklih se dni.*

*Ločiva se, zdrava ostani,  
podaj mi še enkrat roko,  
spomin pa mi v srcu ohrani,  
če tudi drug ženin tvoj bo.*

*Jaz nate ne bom pozabila,  
zapisan si v sredi srca  
in v srcu te bodem nosila  
do konca življenja svoj'ga.*

predsednica Rozi Bradack, nato je tajnica Fany Ulle, prečitala zapisnik od lanske decemberske seje in prav tako zapisnikarčca Welma Zalar. Vse v redu odobreno. Za prigrizek je postregla Fany Ulle z odlično torto in kavo. Tako smo po dveh mesecih zopet malo pokramljale. Volitve smo imele še decembra 1989. Vse po starem. Ker smo članico Kristino Ludvik lansko leto izgubile, je njeno odgovornost prevzela Julka Klammer. Sem pa jaz dobila to vlogo.

Enajstega marca smo imeli družinsko sveto obhajilo pri naši cerkvi St. Mary v Painesvillu H.N. Society, in ob enem tudi Bake Sale. Sem tudi jaz prispevala; Lemonšifon Cake. Neverjetno, koliko so pridne faranke napekle peciva. Je bil lep pogled na to rastavo raznovrstnega peciva; po dolgih mizah v novi stavbi pri cerkvi. Že po dveh mašah je bilo vse razprodano. Čisti dobiček je bil namenjen za potrebne in upokojene sestre in duhovnike.

Še malo od naših slov. upokojencih v Slov. Clubu v Fairportu. Tudi ti naši najmlajši naredijo pravi živ-žav, ko se zberemo v restavrantu, to pot v Elk's Clubu v Painesville na kosilu; 81 članov se je udeležilo teh zelencev na 14. marec. To kosilo smo imele le par dni pred dnevom praznika St. Patrick, katerega Irci zelo častijo. Tako si morate misliti; da je v Restavrantu velika soba kar naenkrat

spomladansko ozelenela, pa ne z Irci, ampak s Slovenci. Za kosilo so nam postregli z corn-beefom in kar spada zraven. Zato preskbijo naši voditelji; predsednik F. Shumy in drugi. Za to kosilo pa ni bilo slišati nič kaj zadovoljstva; menda je kuharice malo vznemirila ta pre zgodnja ozelenela pomladanska barva; bo pa drugič boljše.

Tudi ženitovanje bomo imeli v našem mestu. Mr. in Mrs. John Kovach, poročata, da si bosta obljubila zvestobo do groba, njena hčerka Lisa Kovack in njen zaročenec Mr. Robert Wisen pa v soboto 21. aprila 1990 v Painesville. Nevesta je vnučinja Mr. in Mrs. John in Josephine Drobnick, – oba že pokojna –. Josephina Drobnick, je bila ustanovna članica št. 68. S.Ž.Z. Fairport.

Naše častitke Mr. in Mrs. John in Irine Kovach, od S.Ž.Z. št. 68. John in Irin sta tudi trikrat stara mama in stari oče svojim vnukom.

Rojstne dneve so praznovale v mesecu aprilu; Julia Gabrovsek, Rozy Svigel in Julka Klammer. V mesecu maju pa Idith Hrvarin, Mary Kapel, Adeline Kutie, Mary Modic in Josephine Ulle.

### MAMICI

*Bratci zapojmo  
pesem veselja,  
pesem želja!  
Mamica draga,  
bodi nam zdrava  
iz vsega srca.*

*Bog te ohrani,  
sredi med nami  
v cvetu moči!  
Mamica ljuba,  
mnoga še leta  
naj Bog te živi!*

Vse najboljše Vašim rojstnim dnevom in praznovanju Vam želijo vse članice ženske zveze. Da bi še mnogo let se veselile rojstnih dni.

Tukaj je pa pesmica, ki jo je spesnil slov. pesnik. Opisuje svojo prvo nesrečno ljubezen, ki so mu jo razdrli starši. Moja pokojna mama mi je vso nesrečno, ljubezen Maksima Gasparija znala povedati. Je bil rojen v Selščku fara Begunje na Menišiji; postal slaven slikar in dočakal visoka leta. Imam knjigo, ki je opis njegovega življenja z mnogimi njegovimi slikami in rizbami. Ta pesem pove Gasparijevo razočaranje.

Do prihodnič pa lepo pozdravljeni in dobro se imejte! Bolnim pa želim ljubljenega zdravja.

JULKA KLAMMER

### ŠT. 99, ELMHURST, IL

Sporočamo žalostno vest, da je 26. februarja umrla Lillian Volk, hči naše predsednice Viktorije Volk. Naše iskreno sožalje izrekamo vsem njenim, zlasti pa mami.

MARY PODGORNİK

# "FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART"

## DAVY'S COLUMN

### Mother, Confidant, Friend

When you have a problem, or just need a second opinion, who do you consult? I go to my mom. She's more than my mother, she's my friend.

No matter what endeavor I've taken on, despite her natural motherly instinct to worry, she's always been supportive, giving encouragement and/or information that may be the difference in succeeding or failing.

I remember when I was a sophomore in high school. Along with a few of my friends, I signed up to work on the set construction crew for the school play. When I presented my permission slip to my mother and told her my intention, she said, "Set construction? That's with saws, and hammers and nails, isn't it?"

"Well, yeah. How else would we build them?"

Mom knew that like most adolescents who didn't have the benefit of childhood dancing lessons, I was a tad awkward. (All right! I was a lot awkward.) Despite this knowledge, mom picked up her pen and signed her name.

"O.k., I guess it's all right. Just remember when you're using one of those saws, if you happen to cut your thumb or finger off, you have one hour to get it reattached before your body rejects it as its own."

She was just as supportive when I announced that I was going to sign up to be a lector with the church.

"If you send that volunteer notice in, they'll call you," mom said.

"Isn't that the idea?" I asked.

Knowing music wasn't God's gift to me, mom wrinkled her nose, the way she usually does when she doesn't care for any idea, and spoke.

"Well, o.k. If you must, you must. Just don't sing into the mike."

Of all the advice she has given me, the one I treasure the most was what she told me when I was a senior in high school. I confided that I was afraid my dreams would stay dreams.

She stopped putting the groceries away just long enough to speak.

"When you go out that door, I want you to knock this world upside down on it's asterisk!\* After you've done that, do it again."

I've taken those words with me, and every time I find myself at one of life's little impasses, I remember that little piece of advice ... and you know what? I find a solution.

So, my confidant, my friend, my mom and all you other moms...

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

DAVY

(\*exact word changed due to family nature of publication)

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Junior Member, Alyssa L. Hodnik of Br. 35, Aurora, MN uses her Slovenian Tote bag for lots of things!

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## GOOD-BYE, DUSK RAIN

The rain ceased but a moment ago,  
Giving the Sun courage to reappear.

Its sudden rays were headlights,  
Piercing through the evening mist.

Its streaks of glowing topaz,  
Etched sienna-gray tracks through the sky.

It challenged the clouds to hide It again,  
But they were cowards, and moved aside.

Amy Free  
5201 S. 20th St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53221

Officer: "Judge, this man leads a double life. He's a lawyer in the daytime and a burglar at night."

Judge: "Which was he arrested for?"

\* \* \*

Doctor: "Well, you're certainly better off than I thought you would be!"

Patient: "That's because I followed the directions on the bottle of medicine you gave me."

Doctor: "No doubt. What were they?"

Patient: "Keep bottle lightly closed."

Life is what happens to us while we are making other plans.

—Allen Saunders

\* \* \*

Keep your face to the sunshine and you cannot see the shadow.

—Helen Keller

\* \* \*

Teacher: "An abstract noun is something you can think of, but you can't touch it. Can you give me an example of one?"

Johnny: "Sure. My father's new car."

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