



ZARJA

- THE DAWN II 54788

URADNO GLASILO
SLOVENSKE ŽENSKÉ ZVEZE V AMERIKI

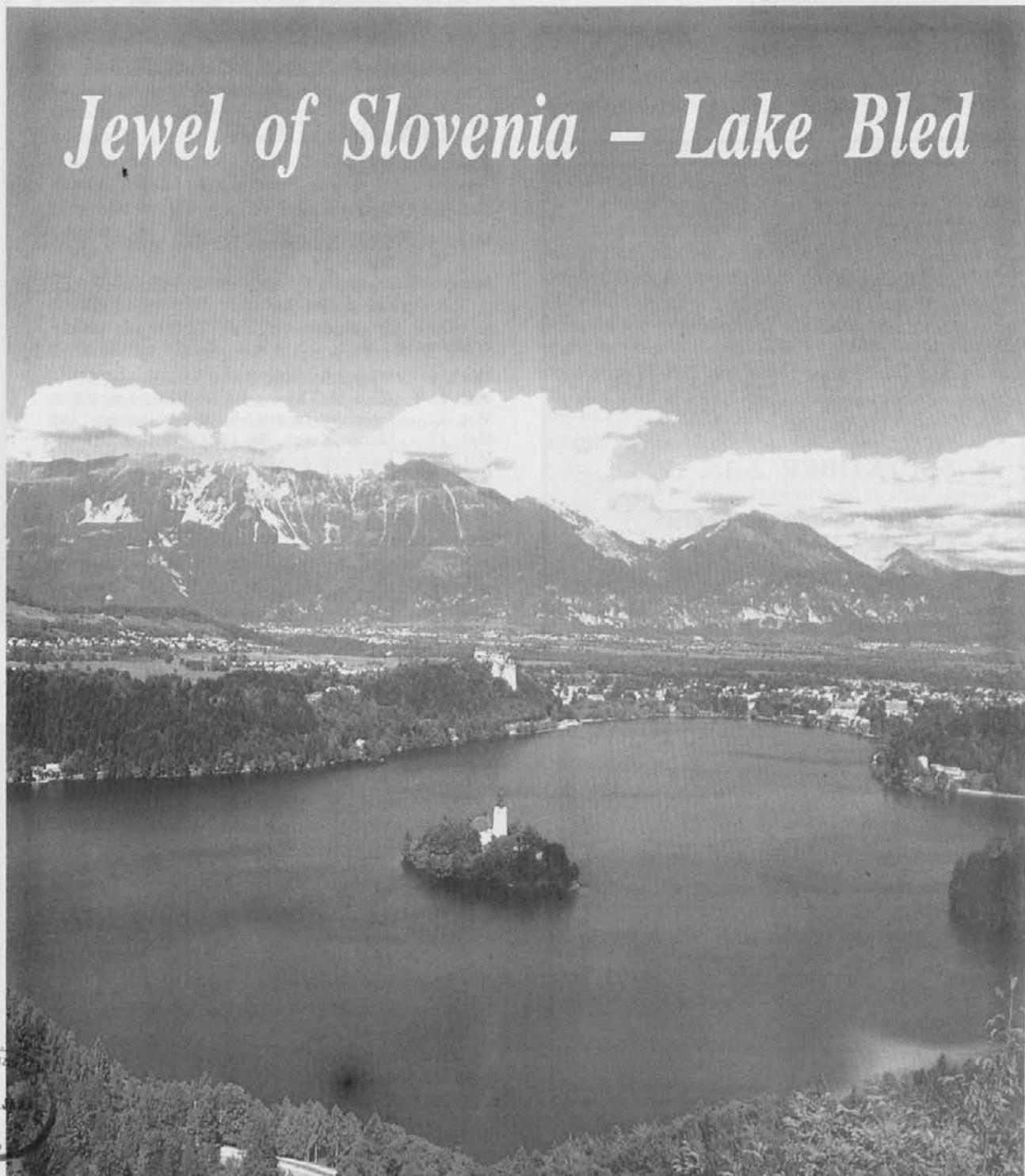
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Jewel of Slovenia – Lake Bled



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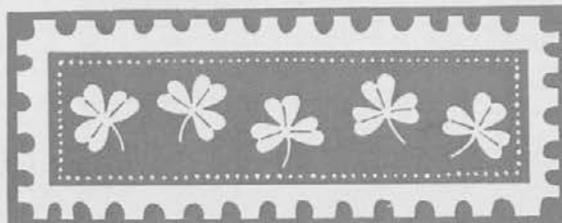
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Editor, CORINNE LESKOVAR

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Telephone: (312) 548-8878

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Mar. 19** GAMES PARTY, ST. Joseph's, Br. 20, Joliet, IL
Apr. 14 ANNIVERSARY MASS, Br. 73, Warrensville, OH, at St. Jude's Church, 10:30 a.m.
Apr. 17 SPAGHETTI DINNER, Br. 33, Duluth, MN
May 7 ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY DINNER, Br. 14, Euclid, OH
May 9 ANNUAL SPRING LUNCHEON-COVERED DISH, Br. 5, Indianapolis, IN, 11 a.m.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN MARCH

National Officers:

- Mar. 1 - Cirila Kermavner, National Auditor, Cleveland, OH
Mar. 8 - Josephine Muster, Past Nat'l Treasurer, 93rd Birthday, Joliet, IL

Presidents:

- Mar. 8 - Mary Zakrajsek, Br. 86, Nashwauk, MN
Mar. 11 - Anna Mae Melle, Br. 91, Oakmont, PA
Mar. 12 - Josephine Janezic, Br. 43, Milwaukee, WI
Mar. 13 - Martha Koren, Br. 14, Cleveland, OH
Mar. 13 - Josephine Artac, Br. 102, Willard, WI
Mar. 17 - Dorothy Maurin, Br. 28, Calumet, MI
Mar. 31 - Adeline Mustonen, Br. 34, Soudan, MN

Secretaries:

- Mar. 3 - Jennie Flisek, Br. 91, Oakmont, PA
Mar. 8 - Mary Podgornik, Br. 99, Elmhurst, IL
Mar. 22 - Jane Purkat, Br. 39, Biwabik, MN
Mar. 26 - Elsie Gallun, Br. 43, Milwaukee, WI

MANY HAPPY RETURNS OF THE DAY!

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1-1/2 inches by 6 inches, \$25.00; 3 inches x 6 inches
(or 1/3 page, \$50.00; Half Page, \$75.00 and
Full Page, \$150.00.

ZARJA is published eight times per year and yearly contracts are desirable.

THANK YOU - THANK YOU - THANK YOU!

ON THE COVER...

SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION
70TH ANNIVERSARY

TRIP TO SLOVENIA

2 WEEK TOUR
SEPTEMBER 2-16, 1996

Call or Write Kathleen Emerson
for details & watch ZARJA for more!

Kathleen Emerson, 41 Sparrow Hill, Orion, MI 48359
Tel. (810) 370-0015



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Member of Branch 20, S.W.U.

WE'LL VISIT THE LAND OF OUR ANCESTRY!

I've always enjoyed hearing about the "Old Country", whether it be from my father's entertaining stories, or from friends and relatives who have visited there! But lately I have been reading about Slovenia with the hopes of visiting there myself.

When I go to Joliet on February 16-19 for the ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING I hope to get more information for a trip to SLOVENIA that our Women's Activities Director, Kathleen Emerson has been exploring. Such a trip was discussed at our National Convention and at the First Board Meeting in July, and would be very appropriate at this time, as it will be the 70th anniversary of our Slovenian Women's Union in 1996. If this works out and a large enough group is interested in taking a trip there it will certainly be a dream come true for me. Both of my husband's parents were born in Finland and immigrated to the U.S. (Minnesota) in 1911. He has visited there twice and we plan one last visit to his seventy-plus relatives this year, so I am hoping to be able to combine the Finland-Slovenia trip onto one.

In the meantime, my interest is peaked by the articles I have read, including a story in the S.N.P.J. weekly paper (PROSVETA) extolling the beauty of the landscape, forests, mountains and the River Sava. The tourist business is in great shape in spite of the problems faced by the citizens because of "Privitization" taking over from the Socialist Government system. My nephew visited one of my mother's cousins (Dr. Mladin Est) in Ljubljana four years ago, and mother used to correspond with others there, so I know I will be made welcome. Now I just have to keep informed by more extensive reading and research, get my passport renewed, and hope for a "healthy" market for our seed potatoes, come spring. A trip to Slovenia

Jean Korsman
National President



would certainly educate me, enlighten me and make me more qualified to hold the office of the NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF THE SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION OF AMERICA!!!

By the time this article appears in ZARJA, your NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS, SWU OF AMERICA will have held their 1996 annual meeting at the Home Office in Joliet. We hope to have resolved some of the problems and answered your concerns about our new billing system. PLEASE, READ the articles and instructions pertaining to these problems; do your part as an informed member of SWU, and BE PATIENT! We have made every effort to insure a timely and smooth transition to the NEW SYSTEM.

My Lenten thought is taken from St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians, Chapter 13.

"By this shall all know that you are my disciples; if you LOVE ONE ANOTHER."

Start With Us!

That's the name and that's the message for the current SWU Membership Campaign, now going on!

Sign up a new member today! Use the SWU Brochures that tell the story of our "Zveza" – get your friends interested in the heritage work and women's activities promoted these many years by the Slovenian Women's Union.

Membership Applications are available through the branch secretaries or write to the Home Office, 431 No. Chicago St., Joliet, IL 60432.

FOUR \$1,000 SWU SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 1996!

Now, it is easier than ever to apply for one of the four \$1,000 Slovenian Women's Union Scholarships to be awarded in 1996. If you meet the following eligibility requirements, just detach, complete, and mail in the application form below, along with the additional requested material, by March 20, 1996.

To be eligible, 1) you must be a high school senior intending to be a full time student at an accredited university or college after graduation, and 2) you must have been a member of the SWU for at least three years prior to graduation. One scholarship can be awarded ever to any one family and only one scholarship can be awarded each year to any one branch.

The applications are evaluated by the SWU Scholarship Committee based equally on scholastic achievement; school, church, and community activities; SWU participation; and financial need. To avoid partiality, all identifying information is deleted from the material given to the committee members and each applicant is identified by a randomly assigned letter of the alphabet.

All applicants are notified by mail of the final decision. If you are awarded a scholarship, one half of the award is paid to you when you submit proof of first semester enrollment at an accredited university or college. The remainder is paid when you submit proof of second semester enrollment.

APPLICATION FOR SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION SCHOLARSHIP

Name _____ Sex M _____ F _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name of Parent(s) _____

High School _____ Principal _____

School Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Graduation Date _____ Class Rank _____ GPA _____

College Considered _____ Major _____

SWU Branch Number _____ Years of SWU Membership _____

Signature _____

Include the following additional material with the application form:

- _____ One recent 2-1/2" x 3-1/2" photo, black and white or color.
- _____ Official transcript of high school grades to date.
- _____ Brief autobiography including school, church, community, SWU activities and personal goals.
- _____ Statement of financial need.
- _____ Recommendation from high school principal/teacher/counselor.
- _____ Recommendation from SWU Branch president/secretary.

Send the completed application form and all the requested material to:

*Marge Church, SWU Scholarship Director
1028 Skyland Drive
Macedonia, Ohio 44056*

Completed applications must be postmarked no later than March 20, 1996.

A TRIP TO SLOVENIA

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September 2 through September 16, 1996

Minimum: 30 passengers

Tour Features:

Roundtrip Airfare from Detroit, Pittsburgh, Chicago, and Cleveland to Venice, Italy and return, on board KLM Airlines

**Price: \$2,717.00 for members and
\$2,767.00 for non-members**

Reasonable airfare will be given for connecting flights from any other city to Detroit, i.e., Milwaukee-Detroit only \$60.00

Single Supplement: \$185.00

All accommodations including first class hotels and same at Slovenia's Spas

Breakfast & Dinner daily, many at Slovenia's finest gostilnas

All sightseeing and admissions per itinerary in all Slovenia's Seven Regions!

Airport transfers and Deluxe Kompas Motorcoach on tour
Special wine tasting and parties planned just for you!

Deadline for reservations: MAY 1, 1996

Final payment due, JULY 1, 1996.

A \$300.00 deposit per person must accompany all reservations.

You will be visiting the seven regions of Slovenia:
Štajerska, Koroška, Dolenjska, Gorenjska,
Prekmurje, Primorska and Bela Krajina.

The trip begins with your arrival in Venice. You will be meeting your coach and tour director.

For more information or a brochure contact me:

Kathleen Emerson

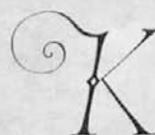
Women's Activities Director

41 Sparrow Hill

Orion, MI 48359

(810) 370-0015

 **athleen's**

 **onnection**

On my way home on Friday, February 2nd, I stopped at my mail box to see what "goodies" the postman left me. To my delight and surprise I found five notes from my sister members requesting information regarding the SWU sponsored trip to Slovenia in celebration of our 70th Anniversary. On Saturday I found three more! Since I had just received my copy of ZARJA on Tuesday, January 30th, it truly amazed me that responses were coming that quickly. To all that sent me notes or called, watch your mailbox since I sent a flyer to you with all the details.

I hope everyone is promoting this trip in their respective cities and states. Promotion is the key to our success.

Our secretary forwarded a letter to me sent by Branch 33 member, Leona Erickson. She read an article in ZARJA regarding my Branch's Vice President, Fran Adamic. Fran's maiden name was familiar to her and she wanted to get in touch with her. I shared addresses with both of them so hopefully they were able to connect and find out if they are related! This is just one way the ZARJA becomes so important to it's members!

I received a wonderful letter from past National Youth Director, Anna Hodnik. Thank you for your encouraging words. While we do have an aging membership, I have high hopes that with the new changes taking place within the organization we will see a renewed interest in signing up new members who are active and have the vision to see us through to the 21st Century. As you said, I will do the best I can.

I received the following from Mamie Pugel...

ATTITUDE

"The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important that the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than success, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company...a church...a home... (a branch). The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past. We cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and this is our attitude. I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you... we are in charge of our attitudes." →

Meet our National Treasurer



BEVERLY MENART

With the convention still fresh in my mind and the honor I received there of being elected National Treasurer, I will tell you a little about myself.

I was born in a small Southern Minnesota town called Farmington, and lived in a smaller town called Hampton until I was twelve. My family moved to Duluth where I have lived ever since. I am a member of Br. 33 since 1979.

I graduated from Hermantown High School and received my higher education in Duluth.

My first "real" job was at the telephone company, formerly Northwestern Bell. While our children were very young, I worked at home doing typing for businesses and doing alterations for three stores. My next job was my present one -- The Magnolia Shoppe, where I have been for twenty-six years! Oh, my! My duties there consist of being a bridal consultant, bookkeeper, and general whatever. I also work as a part-time bookkeeper for our local Senior Apartment Complex.

Tony and I have been married for thirty-eight years. We have two sons and a daughter who all live close to us. Also, we have two grandsons and 2 step-grandsons, and 2 step-grand daughters. We see our grandsons every day because PaPa babysits!

I'm somewhat of a collector, too! I love Victorian Santas, angels, recipe books, paper dolls and antique sewing gadgets.

My hobbies include sewing, cross stitch, embroidery (crewel and silk ribbon) thread crochet and if I find the time, I enjoy reading Victorian novels.

Last fall, I had the opportunity to design and make a bridal gown for my nephew's fiancée. It was very time consuming as I beaded smocking and appliques for it. She was thrilled with it, especially by the fact that there is no other like it anywhere! I still want to learn bobbin-lace making, but there is no one in this area to teach me!

With the hectic holiday season over, I have been looking forward to seeing many of my sister national officers at the meeting in Joliet, and many more of you as we move forward with our beloved Zveza. **Beverly**

KATHLEEN'S KONNECTION:

I have to agree that it applies to everything we do in life. I would like all of you to take a minute and apply it to your "attitude" about the Slovenian Women's Union. The next time you attend your branch meeting or choose not to, for whatever reason, remember that we need a positive attitude as well as participation to keep us going! Thank you, Mamie, for sharing these wise words.

I want to thank Anna, Mamie, Leona, Mildred, Matilda, Helen, Patricia, Virginia, Roxann, Jane, and Barbara for your interest in the trip to Slovenia. I hope to see my mailbox full of more requests for information, comments on activities, and little anecdotes I can share with all of you. Till next time...

Kathleen Emerson
Women's Activities Director

P.S. Don't forget to let me know how your branch is going to celebrate our 70th anniversary. Your ideas may help another branch realize theirs!

Start With Us
on the current membership drive!

SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATIONS JANUARY, 1996

*Submitted by Marge Church,
Acting Director, SWU Scholarship Fund*

Donor:	In memory of:	
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Winters	Martin Shifrer	\$10.00
Gladys Buck	Martin Shifrer	\$10.00
Marjorie Church	Fred Ruth	\$10.00
Barbara Urick	Elizabeth Orazem	\$ 5.00
Anne Orazem	Ann "Anka" Novakovich	\$ 5.00
Anne Orazem	Marvin L. Lehnhoff	\$ 5.00
SWU-Br. 47 Garfield Hts., OH	Jennie Praznik	\$ 5.00
SWU-Br. 20, Joliet, IL	Ann Dehm	\$ 5.00
SWU-Br. 20, Joliet, IL	Mary Shepick	\$ 5.00
SWU-Br. 20, Joliet, IL	Jennie Konopek	\$ 5.00
SWU-Br. 20, Joliet, IL	Anna Kunich	\$ 5.00
SWU-Br. 20, Joliet, IL	Edith Kunstek	\$ 5.00
SWU-Br. 20, Joliet, IL	Alma Munich	\$ 5.00

Thanks to all of you for your generosity and thoughtfulness. SZZ and the Scholarship Fund Committee appreciates your support.



To Branch Officers and Members:

Let's talk. Find a comfy spot, relax and take in all that this brief note will tell you.

Direct Billing. You've heard those words before and some of you may have disagreed with the decision reached at the 1995 National Convention, but, this was a "must" for us. Many secretaries have held their positions for years and the job of collecting dues, preparing reports, keeping up with changes has become overwhelming as these ladies reach into their late seventies and early eighties. And, even recognizing the problem does not prompt any younger members to accept the position.

At the convention we decided to start direct billing in January, 1996. The word "start" is all important. No one said it would be finished in January. For those who do not understand a computer, it is a fabulous tool that will allow us to put on record items that at any given time can be viewed, corrected and refiled in proper order. But, the computer will only give back to you what you have put it. Our task now is to give the computer 5,000 names, addresses and the amount of dues each one owes.

Thus far (January 30th), six hundred members have received their invoices. This means the invoice has been printed, folded, placed in an envelope with a return envelope, sealed and stamped. As one day's work is completed they are mailed and another group is started, not branch by branch, but the work continues until the branch is completed. You must remember, some branches have as little as four members, while others have 100, 200, 300. Depending on the way the information has been submitted, the work can go one of two ways, very slow or very quick!

I ask that you please bear with me on this project. Patience! Your statement will arrive. You will not be cancelled if you have not received a statement asking for your dues. If you have any questions on the statement you receive, may be money you have paid, etc., please contact your secretary. She will clear the matter with me.

For those of you, and there are many, who have sent in money and have now received a statement without credit being shown, please wait until you receive another statement before sending in any more money. The backlog of money to be receipted (your checks have been deposited) grows with each day's mail. Our prime goal now is to get the billing done, all the details will be taken care of later.

I do want to thank each of you for your cooperation, especially the secretaries who have put in a lot of time on their membership lists and are very understanding about the process of direct billing. You are to be commended!

Thank you for understanding what we are trying to accomplish and thanks for allowing me to carry on with my personal life on the way to reaching our goal.

Respectfully,

Evelyn A. Majercik, National Secretary

HERITAGE HEROES

Donations have arrived for the Heritage Fund and Museum. We wish to acknowledge and thank Beverly Jackson of Branch 13, San Francisco. Beverly is remembered for her position as National Vice President of the SWU and for her outstanding work as Co-Chairperson for the SWU San Francisco Convention in May of 1975.

Beverly has been a consistent supporter of Heritage ever since I have known her. She recently sent a letter and \$30.00 for memoriams which I will acknowledge at this time.

"I am enclosing a check in memory of Tony Orazem and Fred Ruth. I was truly sorry to hear about both of them but how fortunate both ladies have good memories of a wonderful vacation (in San Francisco). Fred was a delight. He just loved everything! Ann is a beautiful lady and Tony a quiet gentleman. I have also enclosed a check in memory of Kenneth's dad, Leo Odorizzi. You have both been in my prayers."

Thank you for remembering heritage with your donation, Beverly.

OTHER HEROES

Wonderful things happen every day and in the first part of January, Mrs. Mary H. Palcic from Ridgewood, NY sent a box of lovely needlepoint items which she made and which could be used in a lady's purse. These accessories will make wonderful raffle gifts or items for a craft sale.

Thank you Mary for your interest in Heritage, for the time required to make these lovely articles and your donation of them to Heritage. When they are sold, the money will be turned over to the Heritage Fund.

Condolences to Jonita Ruth and daughters, Janice, Rose and Lorraine of Branch 20 on the unfortunate death of Fred Ruth, a loving husband and father. Fred was always available when Jonita requested his assistance on some heritage project. Fred is one of the SWU's "unsung heroes" who as a husband put the Slovenian Women's Union at the top of his list whenever Jonita needed assistance. Every branch has a number of these wonderful husbands, who in their dependable way, stand by their wives whenever the occasion demands. Our prayers for Fred.

* * * * *

CHURCH BULLETIN BOARD TALK:

"Never do people stand so tall as when they are on their knees to God."

Words of Wisdom

Abraham Lincoln was to have said the following and I'm sure many of us can say the same:

"I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go."

"OUR ORGANIZATION"

This next comment is in reference to my article which appeared in the Jan.-Feb. issue of ZARJA, page 5. Please re-read the article and you will understand why I have printed the following note received from Josephine Lustik, former National Auditor, of Branch 20.

"Yes, I have on a number of occasions referred to S.W.U. as "our organization." I have heard others using the term also. My opinion on why I do this is probably a combination of reasons, such as being a longtime member and involved in many of the activities, but mostly because I feel a sense of unity with other members of the organization, and that we share a common bond in our dedication and pride in Slovenian Women's Union and our Slovenian heritage. I am most anxious to see what thoughts others will have on this subject. Best wishes, Jo Lustik."

Thank you ever so much for responding to my request, Jo. I hope, as you do, that other members will write and tell us how they feel.

SLOVENIJA MAGAZINE

If you do not already have a subscription to this wonderful magazine, printed in English, with topics of interest to American-Slovenes, don't hesitate another day. Send for a subscription immediately. Slovenija is published 4 times a year, in color, on quality paper with varied topics, suited to varied interests.

The subscription price of \$25.00 (USD) per year is a nominal amount for the information and beauty that lies between these pages. Send your personal check to:

**SLOVENIJA C/O SIM
Cankarjeva 1/11. p.p. 169
61001 Ljubljana, Slovenia**

CALLING ALL COMPUTER BUFFS

The world is now a global village and INTERNET is the first global forum and the first global library in the history of humanity. Anyone can participate at any time because Internet never closes its doors -- not even for holidays.

INTERNET has been present in Slovenia for some time and this information should cause computer buffs who haven't discovered this fact to stand up and cheer. Internet's greatest recent hit has been **World Wide Web (WWW)** and although only about three years old, has been adopted by Slovenia.

Information as detailed as the Slovenian telephone directory or the information systems in libraries can be gained by gaining access on WWW. If you would like more information about this method, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) to me at this address: Irene Odorizzi, 2362 Paddock Ln., Reston, VA 22091.

Irene M. Odorizzi

GENEALOGY NOTEBOOK

This month we are happy to share with ZARJA readers the genealogical adventure of member, Cynthia Groom Jensen of Corpus Christi, Texas. Cynthia has consented to share the interesting experiences she realized as she searched for her long lost half-brother as well as ancestral roots in Slovenia.

Cynthia mentioned that she never regrets having taken the time, burnt the midnight oil, or absorbed a financial expense to realize this goal -- discovering her Heritage.

Hopefully, the results of her persistence and her dedication, which we will relate in two parts, will stimulate others to search for their family roots.

Discovering My Lost Heritage

by

CYNTHIA GROOM JENSEN

PART I

My parents moved from Ohio and Pennsylvania to South Texas in 1933-34 where Slavic communities and churches were non-existent. This meant that my brother, John and I would lack the opportunity and exposure to our heritage. Mother spoke little of her past, except for her mother and how she missed her. She knew nothing about her mother's heritage and rarely spoke of her father. Mother didn't even know what religion her parents belonged to. Even so, Mama practiced her ethnic roots through her cooking and baking of Slavic foods. By the time I was a teenager, I lost interest in what my heritage might have been all about.

POST CARD

My life took a dramatic change in 1967 upon the premature death of my mother. Grief-stricken, I packed all her personal papers and recipes into a box, storing them away. In 1969, while in the process of moving, I came across the sealed box. Little did Mama know the legacy she would be leaving. I soon came across another treasure in this box of memories -- an old post card which launched me into 25 years of genealogical research, and I'm still counting. The "un-posted" card was in a blank envelope along with three pictures. The name, Nenad Vracaric, Sombor, Yugoslavia meant nothing to me, but the spelling was similar to Mama's maiden name, Vracarich. I was curious; why hadn't Mama ever mentioned her having a family in Europe. I suppose because it was her father's family and she wasn't interested. Her fondest wish was to have known more about her mother and from where she came.

At the insistence of my neighbor who said, "The post card may be 23 years old, but someone will remember him," I wrote a letter, in the hopes of finding my maternal grandmother's relatives. I mailed the letter to the American Ambassador in Yugoslavia and they forwarded the letter.

Within a month, June of 1970, a registered letter came from Nenad Vracaric, written in beautiful (English) script with two snapshots of my brother John and I when we were

about 10-12 years of age. What an astonishment! Nenad no longer resided at the old address, but my letter found him nonetheless. Nenad was Mama's first cousin, and he had not heard from America since 1947. I was told Mama's father was Serbian and Hungarian, but no one knew anything about Mama's mother or where she came from. Learning nothing concerning my grandmother, only spurred me more to proceed with what seemed an impossibility.

FINDING GRANDMOTHER BY ACCIDENT

While attending my aunt's funeral in Ohio in 1979, I interviewed an elderly Serbian lady, Mrs. Povlov. It was thought she had known my mother's godparents. It turned out that Mama's father had been her Kume (best-man) at her wedding in 1924. She produced her 55-year old marriage document for proof. Sure enough, my grandfather's signature matched my sample of his handwriting. The lady remembered Mama to be about twelve and that her hair was light in color. I thought she was mistaken, but I wouldn't



Cynthia Groom Jensen with her grandson, John (7), is surrounded by her daughters, Delene left and Tracy right and granddaughter Delanie (17) center.

have known, since a fire had destroyed my mother's family photographs. The only picture of my grandmother showed her laid out during her wake in 1923. I remember the picture was disturbing to me because Mama strongly favored her mother in appearance.

The little Serbian lady invited me to visit the Serbian Home where pictures of the early emigrants hung on the walls. With a shrug of her shoulders, she said: "Who knows, you may find your relatives there!" It was highly doubtful, but I went along, taking Mama's cousin who had known my grandparents.

THE GROUP PICTURE OF 1914

Upon arriving at the Serbian Home, I found the place filled with people who had come to see me, a Texan, who was seeking her grandparents. Many crowded around as I examined a large photo, about 6x4 feet. The picture hadn't been taken down from the wall in 46 years, but the keeper of the Home said it could come down just for me. You can imagine the slim chance I had of finding relatives among some 700 Serbian faces pictured. I carefully scanned this mass of people with their faces void of smiles. The men were copies of one another in dark coats, still white collars with dark ties, and most with long-handled mustaches. The women were equally matched in their female attire, except for a group of the Serbian Women's Society dressed in their long white dresses with matching hats and gloves.

As I viewed the front-row center of this picture, Mama's cousin blurted out: "My God, that's your grandmother, Kata." I was absolutely stunned. There stood my grandmother holding two-year old Mama in her arms. My Uncle Vasa was standing in front of grandmother. Mrs. Povlov was right, Mama's hair was blonde. As for my grandfather, I never found him. But it seems only appropriate to my mother and grandmother's memory that he was not in the picture.

An extraordinary thing caught my eye, all the children in the picture were sitting on the grass, except for Mama and my uncle. I had been told my grandmother was tall, about 5 ft. 8 in., and I could see a lady behind grandmother peeking over her shoulder. You could see mama had been fretting, because she had a frown on her face. My calculated guess was that grandmother stepped forward to pick up her little girl just as the picture was snapped. To this day I often wonder if mama had not misbehaved that day, would I have ever found them? I flew back home two days later with five enlarged photographs of three very important people in my life. The experience was bitter-sweet, since Mama couldn't be there to share this moment. Perhaps she and grandmother were there, in spirit. I would like to believe so.

Well, at last I could put a face to my grandmother and the time when she was living. My next step was to find her real name.

END OF PART I

Looking For A Soldier?

There were a number of Slovenian immigrants who had served in the Austrian Army and may have fought in WWI prior to their emigration to America. If you know that your grandfather served his expected military time, there is a possibility of obtaining his military records from the Austrian government.

To obtain the Austrian military records of a soldier send a letter to the address listed below requesting these records. The letter will be forwarded to the Archives of Austria. Please include as much information as you can, clearly printed or preferably typed:

- * Name
- * Place of birth
- * Year of birth
- * His parents
- * Any other information you have regarding your grandfather.

Forward your request to:

Brigadier General Clausen

Austrian Embassy

3524 International Court N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20008-3035

The response to your letter may take up to six or seven months but remember that old adage, "*Patience is a virtue that carries WAIT*". Good Luck and let me know if you were successful.

Genealogist Looking for Leads

Member of branch 30, Roxann Berge, recently wrote to me of research into her parents' ancestry. It has been a difficult task and she is requesting information from any of our members regarding people with the following surnames:

GAZVODA and KOSTANOVIC

Roxann mentioned that her grandfather's name was Frank Gazvoda, Sr. and her grandmother's name was Anna Kostanovic. They had lived in Indianapolis, Indiana, but came from the Novo Mesto area in a village called Brusnica. Information about the village would also be appreciated.

If anyone has any leads to these people or their relatives in Slovenia or in America please write to Roxann at this address:

Roxann Berge

1362 University Blvd.

Denver, CO 80210

Members write to me from various parts of the U.S. and tell me that they are interested in this column and in helping other researchers find their relatives. It won't be long before we will have an "unofficial genealogy club," comprised of members who are climbing that family tree.

Good Luck to all!

Irene O.

MAKING CHANGES IS DIFFICULT...

I hope that the changes at the Convention will work well and bring new energy and vitality. Changes are always difficult but I think sorely needed in any organization if we want to exist. I am enclosing an article from our newspaper which calls attention to why so many of our organizations and the Church are losing membership. Doing things "ponavadi" (which is a term you read alot in letters we get from Slovenia), say life is "as usual" or could mean life is "boring".

Our president, Jean Korsman, is a very vibrant and enthusiastic person and I am sure with help from all of us, she will lead us through these difficult times.

May God's peace and love be with you.

Anna Hodnik (39)

Reprinted:

— TODAY'S RELIGION —

Pews emptying as people become more insular

Clark Morphew

It may be of some comfort to know that organized religion in this country is not the only institution that is declining.

A recent report in the Chicago Tribune noted we are becoming a nation of strangers. Membership in fraternal organizations has declined dramatically. The Jaycees organization is down 44 percent. The Masons, Shriners, Lions, Rotary, Moose and Elks all report an aging and declining population.

And we can see it in all kinds of other ways. When I pull into my gas station, I run a credit card through a machine, pump my gas and drive off. I don't have to go inside and make small talk with the clerk. The same thing happens when I need cash. I push a plastic card into a machine and, bingo, I've got money.

I don't think anyone has come to our front door uninvited after dark in 15 years, and, for that, I'm glad. I've met some of my neighbors, but not all of them.

I don't hear as much talk about women and their bridge clubs, or poker get-togethers for men. Now everyone does their gaming at casinos, sitting on small stools next to strangers who do not want to start a relationship. If casino patrons do talk, it is only after someone has just hit a big jackpot.

We're isolated and insulated, and that's exactly the way we want it. We once said people were more comfortable cocooning in their homes. Now the experts are saying we have burrowed even deeper into our own, sometimes meager, existences.

Experts say part of this has to do with the fact that we aren't very trusting of people. The question truly is: Who can we trust as the culture spirals out of control with record crime rates?

The second thing that prevents us from belonging to society is our lack of time. We are too busy and tired, and we are determined simply to take care of our own even if the entire world collapses.

What will happen if the Boy Scouts cannot recruit adult leaders? And, by the way, that is exactly what is happening in Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops across the nation.

I suppose we will see private organizations being created for the purpose of taking children camping — for a fee. And we will enroll children in health clubs, where their lives will become even more structured and regimented. We already send children off to sports camps where they learn from professionals, rather than simply letting them spend time with their friends.

When it comes to religion, people just aren't willing to spend a couple of

hours a week sitting in a vacuous, unappealing, unattractive worship service. They strive for quality in every aspect of their lives, taking their pleasure at the best restaurants, theaters and arenas. Why would they settle for less in their worship lives?

I've been hearing from clergy the two great voids in their worship populations are people from age 12 to 30 and those from 50 to 65. We know why the young are avoiding religion. They do not withstand boredom gladly. But the 50-year-olds are a puzzle. Have we burned them out? Are they tired of serving on committees and getting nothing in return but grief?

What will religion look like if the organized enclaves of piety crumble? It will be like everything else: If you've got enough money, you can have it.

People with money will hire their own spiritual directors who will sit with them for an hour a week and guide them into a deeper faith. Religion will become a Lord and Lady Bountiful enterprise.

So it is imperative, with all these volunteer organizations being diminished, that religious institutions hang on with a fierce determination to have an impact on the culture.

People want two things from their religion: choices and service. They want to choose what worship service they attend — traditional, family or contemporary, for instance. And they want people there who will serve their family with support groups, religion classes, outings, sports and group learning experiences.

Only the mega-churches can provide all of that and do it well. But almost any church can pick one or two of those needs and focus on them until they get them right. The culture is changing and religion must change with it. The alternative is not acceptable.

Morphew is a writer for the Saint Paul Pioneer Press and a former Lutheran minister.

ACTIVITIES

NO. 2, CHICAGO, IL

"Ring in the New Year" was our theme for January meeting, and dear Mother Nature helped us prepare for the night. Chicago area was blanketed with snow (but it was a small snowfall compared to the northeast where our members live), however, many of our members could not make the meeting. We had a very busy meeting; Fran read a beautiful poem about the New Year; Ray had the hall decorated very festive to set the mood for the evening. We had the installation of the officers for 1996 by Father Blase, namely President - Fran Morison; V.P. - Mary Foy Lauretig; Sec./Treas. - Delores Puhek; Recording Sec. - Jean Hrstar; Sentinel - Elsie Cizek; Auditor - Jean Zeleznikar (other auditors are Mary Ann Oblak and Helen Fitzgerald).

Ray Nusko was surprised when Fran asked if he could come out of the kitchen, and there was Rick Rakovic with a big birthday cake loaded with candles. We all sang "Happy Birthday" to this very talented member. Thank you, Ray, for making our meetings special.

Our hall was draped again! The Lord has called to rest Mrs. Frances Kozel, a member for 58 years. She was the last of our 90's ladies who never missed a meeting and were always there to give support for any project Br. 2 had planned. We miss their laughter and jokes during the meeting. Our condolences to her daughters, Josephine Barc and Frances Kuca and her grandchildren. Please remember Mrs. Kozel in your prayers, that she will rest in peace.

Our condolences also to Anne Hozzian who lost her brother-in-law, Edward and to Peggy Pisarczyk and family on the loss of their dad, Mr. Frank Rowinski, please remember them in your prayers.

It was reported that we have had many members on our sick list: Ann Bunetta, Jennie Worth, Helen Storcz, Barbara Jakubowski, Mary Slabe, Josephine Squok, Catherine Srabarnek, Josephine Vavpotic, Evelyn Tome, Ray Nusko, Mary Dolman, Mary Foy

Lauretig. Please remember them in your prayers, and keep in touch with a card or phone call. Thanks to our members who participate in the Rosary Tree.

70TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OCTOBER 6, 1996

We will need the help of every member of Branch 2, so that we can make this a reality. If you or any member of your family has any pictures or info. regarding Br. 2 activity that happened over the years, please send this to: Fran Morison, 3736 Maple, Brookfield, Illinois 60513 or Jean Zeleznikar, 121 W. 75th Street, Burr Ridge, Illinois 60521 (everything will be returned to you). Time will go by so quickly; please look around your house for any pictures, articles, etc., and thank you for your help.

Plan to attend the next meeting on March 14, it's the St. Joe Table.



March 24th - ALTAR SOCIETY BUNCO - ST. STEPHEN'S GYM HALL. Doors will open at 12:00 noon - coffee and sandwiches can be purchased.

Father Blase kept us in a high spirit before we were to go in the cold air by telling us some very funny stories. He also told us that January 11th was the birthday of St. Pavlin who was the Patriarch of Slovenija during the year 500, B.C.

Remember the **Cheer Basket**, try to bring at least one item. Let's try to keep this charity alive; there are so many families that really need help.

Just Heard: CONGRATULATIONS to Laurie and Paul Stamezak and to the Squok/Zibert/Schultz families. December 19, 1995 was a big day for them as they received a Christmas present early! Arriving was Emily (6 lbs 2 oz.) and Kimberly (5 lbs. 13 oz.). God bless the little babies. Take care everyone, and keep well.

Love,

DAISY

NO. 3, PUEBLO, CO

Our meeting in January was well-attended. A beautiful tribute was given in memory of Ilene Boitz. Ilene's mother Ann was not able to attend due to being homebound. Helen Kaplan donated the mystery gift which was won by Angela Meglen. Hostesses were Helen Kaplan and Helen Galich.

Reported ill and in the hospital were Mary Gorshe and Mary Yanks. They are both recuperating at home.

Frances Simonich had surgery and after a five-month stay in a nursing home she is now at home. She gives her thanks to all her friends, family and neighbors for their prayers and to those who sent get well cards, visits and goodies while in the hospital and nursing home.

On a happy note, congratulations are extended to Jim and Lena Perse on their 50th wedding anniversary January 19 and Mike and Mary Hiza on their 70th wedding anniversary January 26.

On a sad note, condolences are extended to the families of John J. Zaletel, Nick J. Scherbak, Pat Caporicci, Deanna Lee Dutcher and Catherine Glavich Ahner.

I would like to rectify an error made in my October report when extending a welcome to a new member, Shirley Kochevar Cook. Shirley's maiden name was Kochevar and not Zupancic as written in my article.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, March 5, at 1:00 p.m. Try to attend if possible.

PAULINE PAUCHICK

NO. 5, INDIANAPOLIS, IN

The Annual Spring meeting and luncheon will be held May 9, 1996. We will meet at the Slovenian National Home at 11:00 a.m. Please bring a covered dish to share, Branch 5 will provide the meat.

At the annual Christmas meeting and luncheon, a good time was had by all. Election of officers took place, re-elected were Rose Ivancic, Mary Fr-

ances Mohr and Dolores Konechnik. It was decided that we would have another raffle to be held in December of 1996.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to President Rose Ivancic on the loss of her husband, Joe, who passed away on December 28, 1995. Joe was a very active member of the Slovenian community and will be missed by everyone.

As I write this report at the end of January (I am one of only two people at work), there is ice and snow on the ground. People in Dallas do not know how to drive in this type of weather and there are no snowplows or sand trucks to be seen. I know Indianapolis has been inundated with snow all winter (I was there for Christmas and experienced some), so I wanted you all to know that it freezes in Dallas, too!

A special "Hello" to all of those who have been shut-in this winter.

Love from Texas,

BARBARA MOHR

NO. 6, BARBERTON, OH

Hope everyone has survived the winter snow. Spring should be right around the corner. We had floods from the Ohio River but everyone is fine.

Birthdays in March are: Josephine Maver (7th) and our only Junior member, Bobby Winland (4th). Many happy returns.

Also, still at the Nursing Care Center in Doylestown, Ohio is Mary Kovacic. All our blessings and prayers are with you, Mary. If anyone would like to send her a note, send c/o 95 Black St., Doylestown, OH 44230., Room 29. Paul Petrich, Mary Kovacic's brother, is in Barberton Hospital. Wishes for a speedy recovery to him.

You will be getting your invoices to pay the 1996 assessment. Please respond in the enclosed envelope to our Nat'l Secretary, Evelyn Majercik. Remember that the dues schedule is changed as follows: Adult Class A \$12 per year -- over 75 years of age \$8; Adult Class B \$15 per year -- over 75 years of age \$10; All Social \$15 and Juniors \$4.

God bless.

LINDA LAMBRIGHT

NO. 10, CLEVELAND, OH

The first meeting of the year 1996 was held on Jan. 24th and was called to order by president, Steffie Segulin. We met at the Collinwood Slovenian Home on Holmes Ave. After reports we discussed donations for 1996. Elected as our representative to the Collinwood Slovenian Homes annual stockholders' meeting was Sylvia Jansa. Fr. Kumse, our Spiritual Advisor, will be honored by the SND as "Man of the Year, 1996". Congratulations from all of us at Br. 10.

Get well wishes to our sick members. And, deepest condolences to the family of Dorothy Ferra, a long-time member; to the Mary Kazar family and to the Mary Pekol family.

March 27th is our next meeting -- at 1 p.m. Please try to attend. Discussed will be how to raise money for our branch.

We enjoyed refreshments and a raffle after the meeting. Thanks to all the ladies who baked, helped and all who attended. Prayers were said for our sick and deceased. We wish good health to all members.

ANN STEFANCIC

NO. 12, MILWAUKEE, WI

Everyone was ready for a get-together. The day was not bad, but they were predicting threatening weather, so we hurried things along, so that everyone could beat the storm. We had 38 members present which is good for January.

Sylvia Kotze will be honored as our Mother of the Year. She is well-deserving as she brings bakery every month and is a big help to us at each meeting.

Jo Wilhelm spent time in the hospital and Mary Dezman had surgery the day of our meeting. We all signed get well cards for them and we wish them good health.

Our new secretary is Theresa Fedran. Please do not send any 1996 dues to her as you will get a bill in the mail from the National Secretary's office and you will be directed to mail your check back in the enclosed envelope. Remember, I had mentioned this new system in a previous article. This is called Direct Billing and will start this

year. If you owe back dues, please straighten this out with our secretary so that the books are up to date for our branch.

Leona Zigman is basking in Florida. We missed her at the meeting. Lydia Jenich went gambling and missed our meeting, too. Hope the one-arm bandits were good to you, Lydia.

Happy St. Joseph's Day and Happy St. Patrick's Day to all.

Stay warm and healthy.

MARY KIEL

NO. 14, EUCLID, OH

The start of 1996 has been somewhat uneventful for most of our members since the snow and frigid cold has kept most of us in our warm homes. Luckily, we were by-passed by some of the terrible snows which hit the East Coast but we've had our share of knee-high snows and bitter cold winds bringing our wind chill temperatures way below 0°. At least we've had time now to plan for warming spring weather and the joy of working outdoors in our vegetable and flower gardens. Soon the trees and shrubs will be bursting in bloom!

Remember our meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at Slovenian Society Home on Recher Avenue. For the convenience of members meetings are not held in January, July and August. Hope to see you at our next meeting!

Circle your calendars for May 7 when we have another of our popular annual dinner events for members and guests. That's when we'll honor Mary Strazisar (Arrowhead) for her many years of faithful dedication to No. 14 and all of us members. Hope you and your guests will join us Tuesday, May 7 at 6:00. Call Pres. Marty Koren at 585-4227 for your reservations.

Celebrate march 17 among the shamrocks... Happy St. Patrick's Day!

ALICE KUCHAR



Hi everyone! Can spring be far behind? At this writing we are in the throes of a very bitter cold spell-brrrr! Hang in there! If all goes well we should be thinking spring and gardening very soon.

We have not had a meeting since November, therefore I had to rely on a few members for some news for our column. My phone number is still (312) 646-0705 – please call. I will accommodate.

Gladys received a letter from our member and friend, Mary Pelozo who has made her home in Montrose, Colo. with her daughter for some time now. Mary was packing for a visit to her son in Florida. She sends her regards to all. Nice to hear from you, Mary.

Olga Castaglia was here to visit her family during the Christmas holidays. She recently became a great grandmother – congratulations, Olga. Olga has enjoyed the beauty of New Mexico (her home) for a few years.

Our friends, Mary Rago and Sylvia Spretnjak celebrated their “39th” birthdays – again!

I am sure there were more celebrants – so all good wishes for the year to each one. Let me know when and what you celebrate.

I received a call from Stephanie Golob – it was so nice to hear from her. (We miss you at meetings, Steph!) She and her Joe became great grandparents for the third time – congratulations.

By the way the same slate of officers was retained to serve our branch – it was a unanimous vote.

We have a few members who are ill and would appreciate your prayers – namely – Madeline Jerich, Ana Lustig, Dolores O’Brien, and Alvina Sreboth.

All of our members extend their condolences to the family of our member, Margaret Liptak who passed away very suddenly on January 22. Margaret was a loyal member for 54 years.

Our sympathies and prayers also go to the following members on their losses:

To Mary Gorenz on the loss of her son in law;

To Stephanie Golob on the loss of her brother, Stanley;

To Tini Martin on the loss of her sister, Frances. May they rest in peace.

Just as I finished this column, I re-

OUR 70TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR!

SWU WAS ORGANIZED IN 1926!

The years have gone by fast – and as we are celebrating the 70th Anniversary this year, it seems an appropriate time to say thanks to our longest-duration members.

Do you know that there are 39 members who joined in the years between 1927 and 1929, with membership from 67 to 69 years!

Sadly there are none who have lived the full 70 years!

THEREFORE, OUR SINCERE THANKS TO THE MOST LOYAL MEMBERS OF S.W.U.!

Branch 1, Sheboygan, Wisconsin

Elsie Bragar	1929	67 years!
Hermine Dicke	1928	68 years!
Margaret Fischer	1927	69 years!

Branch 2, Chicago, Illinois

Frances Silko	1929	67 years!
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Branch 3, Pueblo, Colorado

Mary Miklich	1929	67 years!
<i>Mrs. Miklich is 100 years old!</i>		

Branch 5, Indianapolis, Indiana

Mary Kranovsek	1927	69 years!
Angela Moos	1929	67 years!

Branch 6, Barberton, OH

Mildred Videgar	1929	67 years!
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Branch 7, Forest City, Pennsylvania

Mary Puchnik	1929	67 years!
Anna Pavelic	1929	67 years!

Branch 10, Cleveland, Ohio

Mary Gliha	1928	68 years!
Louise Kastelic	1929	67 years!
Marcia Lokar	1929	67 years!
Alice Opalich	1929	67 years!
Jennie Russ	1927	69 years!
Alice Struna	1927	69 years!

ceived a phone call from a friend notifying me that our dear friend and member, Dorothy Perko passed away in her sleep last night, February 1. She now joins her Matt who died on June 15. Rest easy, dear friend.

Our next meeting is on Saturday, March 9th at 1 p.m. Come and join us for lunch and a nice sociable afternoon.

My best to you!

MARGE

(Note: Hope Andrea Kral will forgive the faux pas – also known as the printer's gremlin that changed her name to Andrew in last month's Br. 16 article. We all know she is the beautiful lady named Andrea, a long-standing and active member. Editor)

90th Anniversary Cookbook Now On Sale

Celebrating 90 years of service in the Joliet, Illinois community, St. Mary Nativity's cookbook contains 726 different recipes, from ethnic specialties, breads and breakfasts, appetizers and beverages, soups, salads and dressings, main dishes, side dishes and vegetables, desserts, candy to garden specialty and miscellaneous. The cookbook is bound in a vinyl 3-ring easel, allowing you to read the recipe without having to hold or turn pages while preparing these delicious recipes.

Each book costs \$12.00 plus a \$3.00 shipping and handling fee. All proceeds benefit St. Mary Nativity School. To order, just send a check or money order for \$15.00 for each book, made payable to St. Mary Nativity Parents' Association, c/o Lavon Picco, 1423 Frederick Street, Joliet, Illinois 60435. We will be happy to mail your cookbooks to you today!

(P.S. Some St. Mary's parishioners are active S.W.U. members!)

Fr. David J. Stalzer

Pastor, St. Mary Nativity
#20, Joliet, Illinois

Submitted by Pat Figurowski:

Why do the mothers on soap operas look only a year older than their daughters?

A conscience is something that hurts us when everything else feels great.

One good turn gets most of the blanket.



Branch 12, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Mary Goll	1928	68 years!
Veronica Visek	1927	69 years!

Branch 14, Euclid, Ohio

Mary Bradas	1928	68 years!
Anna Cesnik	1928	68 years!
Mary Fakult	1929	67 years!
Anna Gacnik	1929	67 years!
Christine Kebe	1928	68 years!
Amalia Laurin	1928	68 years!
Mary Mersnik	1928	68 years!
Dorothy Simenc	1929	67 years!
Marie Hosta	1928	68 years!

Branch 19, Eveleth, Minnesota

Julia Ellersich	1928	68 years!
Mary Joganich	1929	67 years!

Branch 20, Joliet, Illinois

Anna Horvat	1929	67 years!
Josephine Muster	1928	68 years!
Mary Rozich	1928	68 years!

Branch 22, Bradley, Illinois

Mollie McIntyre	1928	68 years!
Mary Rittmanic	1928	68 years!

Branch 33, Ely, Minnesota

Rose Kozar	1929	67 years!
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Branch 25, Cleveland, Ohio

Ella Zupancich	1928	68 years!
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Branch 28, Calumet, Michigan

Ann Heineman	1929	67 years!
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Branch 39, Biwabik, Minnesota

Jennie Ahlin	1929	67 years!
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Branch 42, Maple Hts., Ohio

Theresa Ferfolia	1928	68 years!
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We hope the lucky branches who have you as their distinguished members will celebrate with you in this anniversary year!

NEW MEMBERS OF BR. 20, JOLIET, IL ENROLLED IN 1995!

Marcus Cambic, Christopher Cambic, Eileen Kochevar, Robert Fabek, Caitlin Wilkins, Jennifer Norton, Jane Norton, Robert Judnick, Bernadine Gauthier, June Hasser, Geri Thayer, Jozefa Zokal, Krista Zobel, Kayla Nelson, Judy Merzlock;

Also, Gabrielle Demick, Mary Ann Stukel, Janet Cernugel, Julia Fordonski, Rhonda Policondriotes, Margaret Cukale, Jack Barney, Bernadette Borruso, Amy Koncar, Joseph Babich, Barbara Hesterman, Marie Muster, James Urbas, Fred Mirentic and Rosalie D'Andrea.

Welcome to you all! Congratulations to Br. 20 and their diligent campaigners!

Pots and Pans



It is our pleasure to introduce another of our guest food columnists this month and she is our former National President, Tory Bobence. Thanks, Tory, for the fine contribution that we know will delight our homemakers!

So far in this series we have enjoyed the recipes of National Officers, Rosemary Mlakar, Pat Figurowski, and Kathy Emerson and waiting in the wings are wonderful dishes from Beverly Menart and Jo Lustik. Thanks to all for your great work!

We hope to announce our new Food Columnist in the month of May!

Although fresh strawberries are available all year long, the prices are usually more reasonable in the spring.

MILE HIGH STRAWBERRY PIE

Cook until thick and clear:

- 1 cup sugar
- 3 1/2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 3 tablespoons white Karo syrup
- 1 cup water

Add 3 tablespoons wild strawberry jello. Mix well and cool. Fold 1 quart of halved strawberries into cooled glaze. Pour into prepared crust. Chill several hours. Serve with whipped cream.

*Dearest Lord,
Teach us to be generous;
To serve as You deserve;
To give and not to count the cost;
To fight and not to heed the wound;
To toil and not to seek for rest;
To labor and not to seek reward,
Save that of feeling that we do Thy will.
AMEN.*

This is an "easy to make" Lenten casserole which requires very little time to prepare.

MUSHROOM-SALMON CASSEROLE

- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 large can flaked red salmon, drained
- 1/2 cup grated cheddar cheese
- 1/4 cup chopped green pepper
- 2 cups of noodles (dry) or macaroni
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup

Saute onion and green pepper in butter until soft. Cook and drain noodles. Combine onions, green pepper, salmon, soup and noodles; top with cheddar cheese. Bake at 400 degrees for 30 minutes. Makes 6 servings.

FRESH SPINACH SALAD

- 1/2 cup oil
- 2 tablespoons sour cream
- 1/4 teaspoon dry mustard
- 1 teaspoon chopped fresh parsley
- black pepper
- 2 hard boiled eggs, quartered
- 4 strips bacon, crispy fried and crumbled
- 2 1/2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 clove garlic, crushed
- 1 10 oz. package fresh spinach, washed and dried

Mix dressing at least 6 hours; toss spinach with dressing and top with eggs and bacon just before serving.

This is an old recipe which requires NO EGGS.

APPLE SPICE CAKE

- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt (NO EGGS)
- 1/2 cup shortening
- 2 cups apples, cut the size of your little finger.
- 1 1/4 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 1/2 teaspoons soda dissolved in 1 cup buttermilk

Mix all the dry ingredients, shortening and soda, buttermilk in a mixing bowl. Add diced apples last. Sprinkle with topping.

TOPPING:

- 1/4 cup white sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 cup brown sugar

Bake at 350 degrees for 35 to 40 minutes in a 9 x 13 inch pan. Make a delicious dessert when served warm with a dollop of whipped cream.



**Emma Planinsek
1899 - 1990**

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

*Lovingly remembered,
IRENE*

*Mrs. Planinsek was the President
of Branch #20, Joliet, Illinois for 47 years.*

NO. 20, JOLIET, IL

Can you believe this is March already? At our January meeting we had the installation of officers. Everyone who was in last year will be again for 1996. Just in case you don't remember, they are: President, Char Kobe; Vice President, Agnes Dobczyk; Financial Secretary, Pat Figurowski; Treasurer, Jo Lustik; Recording Secretary, Joyce Vicich; Auditors, Mary Kay Demick, Marcia Judnik and Ann Dragovan and Sgt. at Arms, Marie Scheidt.

On March 19th we will have a county election here in Will County. Two of our Branch 20 members will be on the ballot. Mary Ann Stukel will be running for re-election as the Will County Recorder of Deeds. And William Ferguson will be running for the Will County Coroner. I hope that they can count on our support. We wish you both all the best.

Ann Kobe is still feeling poorly and our prayers for a speedy recovery are

with you. We miss your friendly smile at our meetings.

Branch 20 extends deepest sympathy to Jonita Ruth and daughters on the recent death of her husband and their father, Fred. Fred was well-liked by all who knew him. He will be sadly missed. We also extend our sympathy to Virginia and Sharyn DuVal on the death of their mother-in-law.

Meet the Pope in Slovenia, visit famous Slovenian shrines and tour the Slovenian countryside. This is a 15-day all-inclusive tour May 16th to the 31st, 1996. This is sponsored thru the Slovenian Catholic Mission in Lemont. For more information call Fr. David Srumpf at (708) 257-2068 or Mrs. Rudy Crnekovic at (312) 782-7340.

Our next meeting will be March 19th at 7 p.m. at St. Joseph's Park. Our 1996 Woman of the Year will be announced. We will also pay bingo for cash prizes and a special remembrance of St. Joseph will be given to all who attend. Come and help us celebrate.

Till then, take care and may God bless.

JOYCE VICICH

† **Stephen Majercik**

The family of Stephen Majercik of Bedford, Ohio, mourn his passing after a long illness. Funeral services were held on February 10, 1996 at St. Pius X Parish in Bedford. Father Ed Estok, godchild of the departed Stephen and his wife, Evelyn, was the celebrant. Burial was at All Saints Cemetery in Northfield, Ohio.

It is always difficult to put into words what the human heart feels. His loss to his family and relatives is intense and everyone can identify with this fact. But, losing someone that has been married for 49 years and with his wife has reared five sons, is not just a simple loss. It is history, it is love and it is nobility. Everyone who lives a full life deserves to be deeply mourned - and Stephen Majercik will indeed be mourned by many.

He was the husband of our National Secretary, Evelyn and father of sons Stephen, Ph.D., Michael, Gerald, Thomas and Mark. A daughter, Mary Lax died in 1989. There are ten grandchildren, the youngest arriving five days before his death.

He lived a life of diligence and dedication, to his family, his church and his community. After honorable discharge from the Army after WW II, he worked in the Cleveland steel mills until 1960, then at the Chanel High School and finally, at the Bedford Post Office from where he retired in 1961.

Our deepest condolences to the Majercik family and prayers for the peace and eternal happiness God will surely grant him.



I just have to mention our weather -- the number one topic of conversation. A year ago I wrote "we are enjoying a beautiful sunny day with a 40 degree temperature," so different from today when we are enjoying a bright sunny day but an overnite low of 14 degrees below zero with a high of only 8 degrees. We won't even talk about the wind-chill factor! It's cold but we are so fortunate that we haven't experienced the heavy snows and blizzards and also the floods which have devastated other parts of our country.

We have a lot of flu and bad colds in our area, but more seriously ill members are Rose Furlan who has been a patient in the Methodist Hospital in Peoria since shortly after Christmas and is expected home this week, Anna Lushina who spent eight days in Illinois Valley Community Hospital in Peru and is now back in Care Inn Convalescent Center, and our Vice-president, Minnie Carter is at home recuperating from major surgery. We pray for good recoveries for all of them and also for our shut-in members and those not in the best of health.

Our March birthday celebrants are: Josephine Pohar Brady who will celebrate her second birthday, Terese Kinzewski, Mary Gertrude Piletic, Mary Hewitt and Trese Hollerich. We wish all of you a very Happy Birthday and may you have many more.

Our first meeting of the year will be held on Thursday, March 21st at 7:00 p.m. in the La Salle Catholic School Library. Betty Stack and Anne Wangler will serve on the Hospitality Committee. We missed not seeing you through the cold months and we look forward to our monthly meetings to resume. We hope to have a nice attendance and a successful SWU year.

ANNE WANGLER
Reporter

NO. 33, DULUTH, MN

We had our Christmas party/meeting on Sunday afternoon Dec. 3, instead of our usual Wed. evening meeting time. It was very well-attended. Many of our Senior members do not want to go out at night in the winter, so they

FIFTY YEAR MEMBER AT BR. 33



Bev Menart presenting carnations to 50-year member, Emily Skull right.

Emily Skull was honored at the Christmas party for being a fifty year member. She was presented with carnations by Pres. Bev Menart.

Emily joined Slovenian Women's Union in April 1945. In that time she has served as Branch 33 President, Branch Auditor, and for four years she was MN Regional President. She was instrumental in many lodge activities such as dinners, bake sales, etc. and also planned many enjoyable trips and outings.

We love you, Em, and thank you for your hard work and dedication!

greatly appreciated the daytime meeting. It also enabled some out-of-town members to attend.

Our junior members in attendance were fabulous. Denise Bucar played some selections on the piano before the meeting. Under the guidance of our youth director, Sharon Bucar, they put on a "Live Nativity", minus the animals! Lucy Olaf played her button-box and led us in song.

Beverly Menart, Nat'l Treasurer, attended board meeting in Joliet in February.

Spaghetti dinner and bake sale is scheduled for Wednesday, Apr. 17.

Barb Savari is a new member.

Two members of our branch are religious education directors: Ann Menart is at St. Elizabeth's and Cheryl (Tuerberg) Foldes is at St. James.

Congratulations to the grandson of Dolores Turchi on his marriage.

Happy springtime to everyone!

LOIS PELANDER,
Reporter



Pictured are back row: Brianna Donald, Denise Bucar, Andrea Sorvari, and Elizabeth Spehar.

Front row: Amanda Saari, Ryan Rukavina, held by his father, Mark Rukavina and Tony McDonell holding onto his brother, Andrew and Tom Spehar.

"Happy Birthday to You - Happy Birthday to You!"



Over 100 people attended an Open House for Mary Gornick, charter member of Branch #34, Soudan, MN, for her 90th birthday on January 20, 1996. Mary will be honored as our Mother of the Year in May. Mary and Angela Tekautz have been auditors of Br. 34 for many years. The right picture was taken of them on the occasion of Mary's birthday celebration.

NO. 34, SOUDAN, MN

We met at the church hall on January 17, 1996, the day before we had our second big snowstorm of the winter (so far) which almost paralyzed our region, closing the highway between Soudan and Ely, closing schools for two days; all of us were glad we had our meeting in the afternoon.

Our meeting started with installation of officers, with Helen Adkisson as installing officer. Installed were: Pres. Adeline Mustonen, Vice Pres. Agnes Mattson, Sec. Treas. Victoria Bobence, Rec. Sec. Emma Betourne, Auditors, Mary Gornick & Angela Tekautz. Our books were audited and the auditors reported our books were neat and well done, thanks to Agnes Mesojedec.

We sent in a donation to MN Citizens Concerned for Life, in support of what they are doing to combat abortion.

Our next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 20 with Agnes Mattson and Margaret Mesojedec as hostesses, the door prize brought by Agnes Mattson.

One of our good members, Ann "Inky" Stefanich, died on January 14; her funeral was on January 18, when we had the big snowstorm. Inky joined the SWU in 1957, she was honored as our Mother of the Year in 1974. She did not hold office but enjoyed coming to our meetings when she could. Her health in her last years wasn't the best but she always had a good attitude. She was the grandmother of Jill Wiermaa whom I have mentioned in past articles. Inky was a super cook and baker, her krofe were the best and she made them especially for us when we had our celebrations, she made sweet rolls for one of our Founder's Day breakfasts. She was the last Gold Star Mother in Tower-Soudan, her son, Nicholas, was killed in Vietnam on August 31, 1970. Her husband, Joe, died in 1983. She is survived by four sons, Joseph of Eveleth, Raymond of Soudan, Gregory of Cedar Falls, Iowa and Ted of Tower; three daughters, Carol of Tucson, AZ, Dorothy Vesel of Soudan, and Mary Jo Wiermaa of Tower; three brothers, Rudy Grahek of Soudan, Albert Grahek of Ely, and Ted Grahek of Ventura, CA, a sister, Marcella Gardiepy of Ely, 15 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

The slate of officers and Mother of the Year for 1996:

Pres. Adeline Mustonen
Box 304
Soudan, MN 55782
Phone: (218) 753-5733
Birthdate: 3-31-32

Vice Pres. Agnes Mattson
Box 5
Soudan, MN 55782

Sec. Treas. Victoria Bobence
3587 Hwy 169
Ely, MN 55731
Phone: (218) 365-4180

Rec. Sec. Emma Betourne
1252 Walsh Road
Ely, MN 55731

Auditors: Mary Gornick
Box 454
Tower, MN 55790

Angela Tekautz
Box 311
Soudan, MN 55782

Mother of the Year: Mary Gornick
- To be honored in May.

All of us at our meeting had intended to attend and participate in some way at her funeral and luncheon afterward, but due to the snow, it was impossible. In fact, two of Inky's sons came to Soudan with a truck, our roads still unplowed, and shoveled a path to my doorstep so I could go to the funeral in Tower--they also brought me home, and again they had to shovel from the street to my door--I gave the readings during Mass and also did the eulogy from the SWU ritual book. We extend our sympathy to her family.

Those of us who live in northern Minnesota will never forget the winter of 1995-1996 -- we have had enough snow and bitter cold!

ADELINE MUSTONEN,
Reporter

NO. 35, AURORA, MN

The January blizzard brought a lot of packed snow drifts, a sight to see, but a difficult job to "dig out"! Thanks to all the snow clean-up crews who worked around the clock to open roads and haul the snow away. Then, the deep freeze came! Now the sunny days are making us feel better. Thanks to the mail carriers who trudged through the snow and cold to deliver our mail -- they didn't miss a day!

Fifteen members met on Jan. 24th to begin planning the SWU State Convention to take place on Sept. 8th, hosted by our branch. Mark your calendars early. It is the 7th Anniversary of the SWU this year and our Minnesota event will be a special time for all of us.

Once again, we are reminded to respond to the information you read in ZARJA. If you can, please check your Certificate and see if there are any updates you require. Let our secretary know. Particularly, it seems there are many changes needed in beneficiaries, and of course, any address changes should be sent in well in advance of your move. Evelyn has been sending out the 1996 dues notices which you may expect any time in the mail. You may also mark changes on the return portion when you respond with your check in the mail to Evelyn.

Congratulations and best wishes to Kevin and Carrie Ann McGauley who were married on Feb. 2nd in Minneapolis. Kevin and his sister, Karin,

a 1987 SWU Scholarship Winner, and mom, Theresa are members of our branch. Grandmother Marion Potocnik was our 1987 Mother of the Year.

Happy Easter to everyone!

ANNE ORAZEM

NO. 39, BIWABIK, MN

Greetings to all from Branch 39. We started the New Year with a Post Christmas Party on Jan. 7th at St. John's Church. Our special guests were Father Perkovich, our new pastor, and members of the Virginia-Eveleth Branch. They have been considering transferring to our branch and we give them a big welcome and we hope they enjoy being here with us.

We began the year with the same officers again. Jean Korsman, also our Nat'l President, is President, Kathy Siskar is Vice President, Jane Purkat is Treasurer and Angie Hietala is Recording Secretary.

Our meeting was short as we had our dinner that day and also played dice. I believe that everyone had a "stealing" good time as we rolled doubles and had our choice of taking whatever gift we chose from the prize table. We brought canned goods in lieu of exchanging gifts and donated them to the Gilbert Food Shelf.

Our goals this year are to try to increase our membership and work hard for the welfare of the Slovenian Women's Union.

We also named our Mother of the Year and she is Kathy Riordan, daughter of President, Jean. Congratulations.

We would like to wish all our members of SWU a very prosperous New Year and may God bless you all.

ANGIE HIETALA,
Rec. Secretary

NO. 40, LORAIN, OH

It's March 1996 already! Our Jan. meeting was cancelled due to the weather. We sure are having our share of snow and freezing temperatures. Thank goodness spring is not too far away.

Our grandmoms, Mary Ferlic and Rose Jancar are beaming with pride because of what their granddaughters are doing in college sports.

Tennessee Tech freshman, Meredith won the 1995 Impact Award for the Golden Eagles in volleyball.

Lisa Nickoloff, who excels in basketball at Mount Union College in Alliance, Ohio, ripped the nets for 53 points and grabbed 33 rebounds in three wins. Lisa's 15 boards against Heidelberg is the fourth highest total in the Ohio Athletic Conference. Congratulations to all!

There's not much else to write about except a few reminders.

Hope you all mailed in the questionnaire found in back of your ZARJA.

Our meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m. in the school hall. Try to come to our March 13th meeting and enjoy a delicious dessert and the company of a bunch of lovely ladies! Hope you all have a happy St. Patrick's Day.

Love,

MARY MATOS

NO. 42, MAPLE HTS., OH

Greetings to all our Branch 42 members!

We have survived two blizzards so far this winter and the Spring thaw is just around the corner, so find a comfortable seat and sit down and enjoy this March issue of the ZARJA! Our February 10th meeting was very interesting and enjoyable. We discussed important business matters concerning our branch and had a delicious luncheon.

Our secretary, Marge Church, has sent a survey to all Branch 42 members to obtain more information about scheduling our meetings, the type of activities the members are interested in, and if we should engage in craft activities, community service projects or have guest speakers. Please be sure to mail back your questionnaire to Marge Church because your input is very valuable in which way we plan the group's new schedule.

Members are encouraged to send news concerning themselves or family members to Diane M. Balach, 19605 Nitra Ave., Maple Hts., Ohio 44137. It is always interesting to hear about the accomplishments of our members and their relatives.

March birthday greetings are sent to: Anne McCaslin, Ann Zupancic, Marie

A. Vercek, Albina H. Mroczka, Tina M. Buehner, Vida Vercek, Katie Kosakoski, and Kimberly Ann Balach.

DIANE BALACH

NO. 43, MILWAUKEE, WI

I do hope that everyone had a very enjoyable holiday. Our Christmas luncheon at the Meyers Family restaurant was enjoyed by all who attended. The food was very good and as a special treat the board decided to treat every member with a scratch-off lottery ticket. A few of the members did win a few dollars.

At our January meeting we were treated to a luncheon by our Birthday girls, Shirley Schulta and Mary Musich. Our officers for 1996 were installed. Josephine Janezic, Pres. - Mary Martino, V. Pres. - Elizabeth Gallun, Sec'y.-Treas. - Shirley Schulta, Rec. Sec'y. Mary Martino and Arlene Fritz are our Auditors, and Jo Zahn is our Sgt. at Arms. I am still your reporter.

Matilda Simcic spent a few days at the hospital, but she is now at home feeling better. Our jovial Jo Zahn hasn't been feeling quite her same chipper self. Wishing both of you good health.

Lorraine Johnson and Helen Hajicek transferred to our group. We wish to extend to you a hearty welcome.

Now on a very sad note. We lost two of our members, who were called by the Big Boss upstairs. Marion Royten and Marie Wiher. We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to their family and many friends. Marie attended our meetings regularly and helped with all of our activities. We will miss all of this help, and Marie's pleasant smile.

March 30th at 7:00 p.m. The U.W.M. Slovenian Arts Council will have a concert in the ballroom featuring Joseph Petric a world-known classical accordionist. Mr. Petric is of Slovenian ancestry. A bus will be available for transportation to this event from St. John Evangelist church parking lot. For additional information please call Josephine Janezic at 545-0691. Our Feb. meeting was on the 28th.

Let us keep in our prayers all of our sick and deceased members.

Hoping to see you at our March meeting.

ANNE E. KONCZAL

NO. 47, GARFIELD HTS., OH

The first meeting of year 1996 will be on Sunday, March 10th at 1 o'clock at S.N.H., Maple Hts.

Lent and Easter will be early this year. We are now in the lenten season, a time for prayer and penance.

Christmas pot luck party was well-attended. The spread was, as always, too much to mention. Dessert table was loaded with delicious bakery. Tables were covered with white table cloths, beautiful red poinsettias and potpourri XMas place settings were for each member made by Kathy Dorchak. This added to the holiday spirit. Olga Dorchak donated the poinsettias, which were raffled as door prizes with many other prizes. Winner of our basket of cheer was Mary J. Chesnik.

Congratulations to John Kocevar who was reelected second term as Mayor of South Euclid.

Officers for the coming year are as follows: President Olga Dorchak - Vice President Kathy Dorchak - Recording Secretary Elsie Spellacy - Sec.-Treas. Mary Taucher - Auditors Ann Harsh and Elsie Lovrencic. Representative for S.N.H. is Mary Taucher.

Happy birthday to March ladies: Antonia Davies, Jo Lea, Diane Fanaro, Mary Terfolia, Mary Sholar, Mary Mundson, Jessie Pigot, Cheryl Pinter, Helen Jerman, Darlene Zagar, Pauline Mocnik and Mary Vlcek.

Our distant members, Antonia Brne (Buffalo, N.Y.) Jo Godec (Carson City) Mary Sholar (Florida) send well wishes and best of health to all.

Our thoughts and prayers to all our ailing members on sick list. Mary Sholar has been bedridden for quite some time Mary Mundson is fighting her brochitis. Dorthy Cabot had surgery and was at the clinic. Mary Culkar also had surgery. Helen Yerman's husband was also in and out of the clinic having had surgery. To all a speedy recovery and best of health.

Will discuss at the coming meeting as to when and where we will honor Mothers for Mother's Day.

Happy Saint Patrick's (The wearing of the green), happy Saint Joseph and Josephine's Day. Happy and Blessed Easter to all. See you at the meeting, March 10, 1 o'clock SNH.

MARY TAUCHER

In Loving Memory



Carol Piccirillo

Born May 23, 1943
Died March 20, 1993

It is three years since you have left us, dear Carol, but we can still see your beautiful smile that was always filled with love and caring.

Our hearts were broken when you left us, and there is still deep pain. But, God took you to His home where you have no grief or pain.

Your beautiful memories will stay with us forever, until we meet again.

Merciful Lord, grant our Carol eternal rest and peace.

She is remembered and sadly missed by all of us.

Mother, Ann Tercek
Daughters, Debra and Denise
Sisters, Nancy Mramor and
Joan Podmore

Euclid, Ohio
Branch 50

SWU Crest indicates the 65th Anniversary of this branch in 1996.

Congratulations!





Dober Dan! Last month we were to wear RED to our meeting in honor of St. Valentine. This month we are requested to wear something GREEN at our March 20th meeting to celebrate St. Patrick. Legend has it that he brought Christianity and freedom to Ireland. He used the three leafed shamrock to illustrate the Trinity to an Irish king and then drove the snakes out of Ireland into the sea.



Lodge 50 is celebrating its 65th Anniversary this year in which we still have 397 members. Ten of our beloved members moved to greener pastures last year. We recall their memory and hope they guide us well in their absence. We are proud to announce we made donations last year to ZARJA, 'Heritage, and Scholarship programs. We hope to continue doing so in the future. Now that we are in our 65th year, we should be eligible for Social Security! Don't count on it!

STUDENTS PLEASE NOTE: On page 3 of the Jan.-Feb. ZARJA-The Dawn publication, and page 2 of this month's issue, there is a scholarship application form for you to peruse and fill out. Review your desires with our President, Ann Tercek before sending anything to the Scholarship Director. Remember, the deadline is March 20, 1996, the first day of Spring. May the new season bring you the best of luck concerning this honor.

It is a sad time when we have to manage farewells to our spouses. Elizabeth (Betsy) Zaller's husband, Stanley and Olga Samsa's husband, Jacob departed to their reward recently. Also, Jacob was Mary Reshete's brother. Marie Beck's husband, Ray passed away on Feb. 3rd. We also lost two dear members, Mary Kalan on the 27th of December and Dolores Cetinsky on the 7th of January. We are missing them so very much. To all who have departed this life in recent days, we will remember. Our sincere sympathy is extended to the members of the bereaved families.

At this time we wish to thank Louis

A Crafty Idea

Have you ever thumbed through the craft magazines and noticed the pineapple afghan (Hospitality Afghan)? It is usually pictured in white and is crocheted. I made one back in 1987, tucked the pattern away. Last week while searching for another project, the pineapple afghan surfaced from amid all the other patterns I have accumulated. I am sure any crocheter would enjoy making this afghan. You can have the pattern for \$2.00 and a self-addressed stamped envelope. A matching pillow pattern is included.

Send requests to:

Evelyn A. Majercik

31 Eldred Avenue

Bedford, Ohio 44146

Make checks payable to ZARJA

Winter for all his assistance to our Lodge in so many ways when he was kind enough to relieve us of duties pertaining to separating ourselves from our members during the wakes and funerals when our hearts were breaking. Thanks so much, Louis.

The following members are unable to be in our midst because of being homebound more or less: Josephine Trunk, Jean Kastelic, Ann Slapnick Petkovsek, Agnes Bradek, Elinor Karlinger, Mamie Maren, Stella Baum, Vi Zak, Jean Tomsic, and Sophie Posch. Any communication from the rest of us would be greatly appreciated by them.

We do have a few Florida travelers among our flock commonly known as Snowbirds. They are Ann Orlikosky, Stella Kostick, Mickey Mausser, etc., to whoever didn't notify us. Have fun in the sun.

Did you notice what I noticed in the "Sunday" magazine of the January 26th Plain Dealer? There was a wonderful article written by columnist Jill Sell all about "A Meeting of the Anns" held in honor of St. Anne on July 26th each year. This article was written as a result of a very informative interview with our President, Ann Tercek. All Anns are invited to attend a luncheon this day to celebrate their birthdays. St. Anne, Virgin Mary's mother, has been the patron saint of cabinet-makers and the symbol of perfect motherhood. It was a beautifully written article.

Welcome, spring!

Nasvidenje!

VI MORAVCHEK

NO. 73, WARRENSVILLE, OH

Everytime the sunshine appears, we all breathe a sigh of relief and think that spring is just around the corner. The very next weather forecast reminds us that there is still a lot of winter round. But it is March, and it won't be long before the tulips and daffodils start pushing through the ground, then we will know that truly spring is arriving.

We have had quite a few members who have not been feeling well. We do hope that by now they have recovered from their ills and are on the mend. Sally Kunka has had back problems, even the thought of spurs on the vertebrae makes one say "ouch". Rose Repasky had carotid artery surgery. Virginia Nemeth battled with bout of pneumonia. Louise Majercik is back at Little Sisters of the Poor after a hospital stay resulting from a stroke. Sylvia Kocjan had orthopedic surgery, but it did not interfere (too much) when she and John celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary. To all of you, and to the rest of our members who are facing daily problems, we wish all of you the best each day can offer. We think of you often and wish we could do more for you. Our prayers with you. (Best wishes to the Kojcans', may they have many, many more happy years).

And we have travelers. Kay and Pete Yuratovac will head south for their annual Florida vacation. We hope the weather is in their favor. Bernie Blatnik had visitors from out-of-state, we trust they enjoyed their visit with you.

Angie Vlk sent a short note to let us know she is enjoying her retirement, and spending time with her grandchildren. Thanks for keeping in touch, Angie.

We extend our sympathy to Leona Mandich and her husband on the passing of his mother.

Our anniversary mass will be on Sunday, April 14th, 10:30 a.m., St. Jude's Church in Warrensville Heights. And the Knights of Columbus have already counted on us being at the pancake breakfast that follows. Please join us at the mass and for the breakfast.

After you have celebrated St. Patrick's Day, and honored St. Joseph on his special day, have yourselves a beautiful Easter holiday. Wish I could visit each and every kitchen just to get a whiff of all the baking that will be done. I count on "Auntie Entemann" for my favorites!!

Respectfully submitted,

EVELYN A. MAJERCIK

NO. 85, DEPUE, IL

Brr! It's really cold outside, as I write this column for March! We held our January meeting on the 9th and missed Mary Suarez and Mary Oberch who are still on the sick list.

Our congratulations to the two sons of Jackie Barto who were married. Jason is in the Navy and stationed on a U.S. submarine in Italy. He was married on June 28th there in Italy and his wife, Carol is living there with him now. Jackie's other son, Jim got married on July 1st at Holy Cross Church in Mendota. He and his wife, Nicole teach in DePue. Our best wishes to both couples for many years of happiness. Jackie's daughter, Jana is an honor student at St. Bede's and very active in volleyball, basketball and softball!

Two of Gen Grile's grandchildren also attend St. Bede's and are also on the honor roll. Joshua Kimble received two awards. He was the best putter and also the most valuable player in golf. Theresa is involved in volleyball.

Ann DeBord has five grandchildren on the honor roll - (also Muriel's and my nieces and nephews). Barry is involved in football and basketball. Emily is in soccer and volleyball and Allison is involved in gymnastics. Jordan and Jonathan are also involved in baseball and soccer.



Everyone celebrating something "70 Years" is invited to send us the name and event for our special column beginning this month, to honor all who are celebrating 70 years - as our organization observes its 70th in 1996!

Branch 2, Chicago will be holding a very special event this fall on October 6th, as the branch counts 70 years since the founding.

70 happy years of marriage are worthy and auspicious! Congratulations to **Mike and Mary Hiza** (Br. 3, Pueblo, CO) on their anniversary January 26th!

Muriel Jermenc's granddaughter, Bally just started kindergarten in August and Ryan is only 20 months old. We are very proud of these fine young people.

Our Feb. meeting was on the 13th and we were hoping to see Mary Suarez and Mary Oberch back with us again. Incidentally, of the 7 or 8 members who regularly attend our meetings 5 of them are named "Mary".

Stay warm and keep well. God bless.

MARY JERMENC

NO. 102, WILLARD, WI

January brought us a variety of weather. The 18th and 19th were bitterly cold with winds and a snow storm. I, for one, was snowbound for two days before I got plowed out. It's so encouraging to see the days getting noticeably longer!

Our former pastor, Fr. Dickman was transferred to Alma and Waumondee parishes. A farewell lunch was held in his honor on Jan. 7th. It was gratifying to see such a good turnout. The SWU Br. 102 gave him a gift of money.

Fr. Joe Follmar was assigned as our new pastor. He assumed duties on Jan. 10th. A welcome brunch was held at the Parish Center on Jan. 21st.

Marie Amundson and daughter, Kay recently returned from Florida where they spent three weeks visiting relatives.

Our condolences and prayers to the family of David Baltus.

Chrissy Trunkel, a member, the daughter of Bob and Joanne Trunkel will graduate from the University of Green Bay, Wisconsin on May 18th, with a degree in English. After graduation she and Zane Stillings will run a Japanese restaurant in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Andrea Plautz, granddaughter of Mary Djubenski, returned to Ithaca, New York on Jan. 21st to resume her studies. She will graduate on May 19th with a degree in biology with minor studies in French.

Marie Amundson's daughter, Kay Hazuga will graduate this May also, from the University of Wisconsin at Eau Claire. She earned a master's degree in history with a minor in English.

Several young couples from our area drove to Myrtle Beach, SC for a golfing and swimming vacation. What a great way to chase away the winter blahs!

Our prayers go to the sick of our area and for those in Nursing homes.

Respectfully submitted,

FRIEDA KLANCHER

N. 9166 Gorman Ave.,

Willard, WI 54493

NO. 105, DETROIT, MI

Our first meeting of 1996 was held on January 20th. Our first order of business was the election of officers. Kathleen Emerson will again serve as our President, as will Frances Adamic, Vice President, and Patricia Adamic as our Secretary/Treasurer. Anna Klanchnik is our new Recording Secretary. Auditors remain, Yola Roel, Mary Filo and Evelyn Sunich. Our Co-chairwomen for Entertainment are Frances Desmond and Pat Hostnik. Our thanks to all of our officers for accepting these positions.

The next order of business was to select our Mother/Member of the Year. After the ballots were counted, Valeria Jacklich was elected to be honored as our Mother of the Year for 1996. A luncheon in her honor will be held in May; date and details to be announced later.

MY SPECIAL EXPERIENCE DURING THE "SNOW OF THE CENTURY"

On Sunday, January 7th, when I was shovelling snow from the sidewalk in front of our house, I noticed that a jeep with two men in it, stopping near me. One of the men got out and greeted me. He had a big camera in his hands and said he was a reporter from channel 4 television news. He told me that I was the only person in the vicinity to be outside in such bad weather. It was still heavily snowing at that time. I told him I very much enjoyed being outside. He took a few pictures of me with my shovel, then thanked me for my cooperation and drove off.

When I finished my "job", I told my family about my adventure. Later, we all watched the special reports that were going on all day on the TV – all about the "Storm of the Century". Sure enough, we all saw our street, our house and the interview with me. My son even video-taped it! That event caused a lot of excitement in the family that day. Everyone was calling!

Two days later, I went to work – at the National Institute of Health, a research hospital in Bethesda – and while crossing Rockville Pike, the main street in Rockville, I was stopped by another TV crew from channel 4. They told me that they would like to interview me, asked where I was going, what I was doing during the two-day storm, etc. I told them that I was shoveling snow and that I was already interviewed on their channel two days before!

I could not believe it when I heard later from my co-workers that they saw me on TV channel 4 at 6:30 that morning on the interview they made on my way to work! I was excited all over again!

Ana Skopec
Member of Br. 103,
Rockville, MD

Much discussion followed about what Branch 105 would do to celebrate the 70th Anniversary this year. We finally decided to hold a dance on October 12th at the Slovene American Club in Melvindale. The Eddie Adamic Orchestra will provide the music. We will celebrate our own heritage and invite our guests to do the same. Many members and guests have ethnic costumes and we will encourage all of our guests to wear them for this celebration. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend.

We also decided to continue to hold our annual picnic in June, inviting members to bring their children and/or grandchildren to join us. More details on the picnic will appear in future articles.

Please note that the March meeting will be held at the home of our Vice-president, Frances Adamic, 29814 Ohmer Drive in Warren. If you need directions, you can contact Frances at (810) 751-7726.

With our love and prayers to those members on the sick list and our best wishes to those who are unable to attend our regular meetings.

PATRICIA ADAMIC

Oljčna vejica večne pomladi



*Kjerkoli Jezus hodi,
naj bo to Berlin ali Jeruzalem,
naj bo to Ljubljana ali Chicago,
povsod oljčne vejice v naših rokah ozelenijo,
povsod se srebrno zeleni lističi v srcih zablestijo.*

*Kjerkoli Jezus hodi,
obiskuje žrtve nasilja in trpljenja,
povsod drži nežno oljčno vejico v roki,
izpričuje nebeško veselje zveličanih,
oznanja večno pomlad odrešenja.*

*Jezus trosi oljčne lističe med nas
in vsi, ki ga ljubimo, jih trosimo z njim.
Po oljčni vejici v naših rokah
nas bo svet spoznal:
spoznal bo, da nas je Bog sam
za poslanca miru izbral.*

m l a d i k a

ŠT. 10, CLEVELAND, OH

Drage članice: Začelo se je zopet Novo leto, kot vedno. Že 1 mesec skoraj smo preživeli in marsikaj doživela novega. Pred Božičem se je začela zgodaj huda zima, sedaj je malo bolj mila. Ponekot v drugih državah Amerike, so ljudje doživela velike nesreče, poplave, snežne viharje, kot že dolgo let ljudje ne pomnijo kaj takega. Ubogi tisti, ko ga doleti kaj takšnega, posebno stvari, ljudje in otroci veliko trpe. Še posebej je hudo za delavce na cesti, ali tisti, ko mora iti na delo v fabriko. Upajmo, da se bo sedaj obrnilo na bolje kmalu, še dva meseca pa bo spet se prismejala lepa zelena pomlad. Ptičke se bojo vrnile iz južnih krajev, da nam bodo spet prepevale svoje lepe melodije.

Prišel je čas, da poravnamo pri društvu našo vsakoletno članarino. Kakor sem že od več članic slišala, so zelo, zelo proti novi uredbi, da bi se članarina pošiljala po pošti. Eno je treba iti na banko čak ali mani order napraviti (po naše), denarno polaznico, za katera mi stare 65 let mora plačati 3 dol. zato, potem še odnesti na pošto in znamko (stamps) 32 centov, skupaj 3.32 dol. Toliko let je bilo po starem in druge organizacije imajo kot naše društvo sekretarke in blagajničarke, potem zakaj nam jih je potrebno? In zato pa še posebno povzdigniti članarino od \$13.60 kar na skoraj \$20 dol z pošiljanje kovert. Društvu pa ostane par centov od vsake članice.

Veliko starih članic je pomrlo, nove se ne zanimajo, da bi pristopile.

V preteklem letu smo izgubili veliko članic, katere so bile že od časa, ko je bilo društvo ustanovljeno. Zato pa so se začele poslavljati od nas ena za drugo. Ravno na starega leta je umrla g. Ferra, stara preko 92 let. Mož je umrl pa poprej, kakih 7 let. Tako zdaj počivata skupaj v miru božjem. Njeni družini v imenu naše

podružnice, naše globoko sožalje, enako vsem ostalim družinam, ko so izgubili svoje drage. Vsem bolanim članicam želimo pa čim-prejšnjega zdravja.

Vsem slavljenkam, ki praznujete rojstne dneve, pa želim še mnogo srečnih in zdravih let še v naprej.

Lep pozdrav vsem članicam ter srečno in veslo Novo leto 1996.

TEREZIJA FERRACCIOLI

Le malo še za smeh!

Tonček kaj imas pa v žepu?
Mama, veš kaj – luknjo!

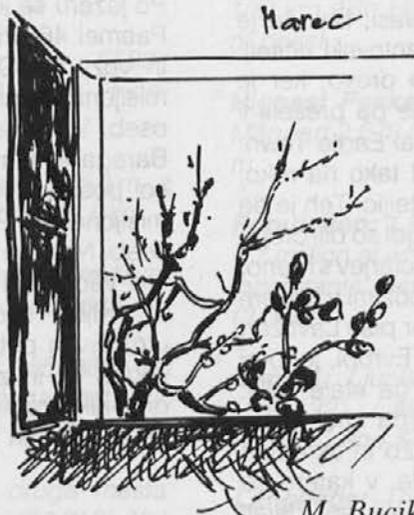
* * *

Janezek je šel v šolo pa učitelj razlaga v šoli od elektrike. Pa vpraša učence, kateri mu ve povedati od kot dobivamo elektriko. Pa se Janezek oglasi. "Gospod učitelj, iz svinjakov."

Učitelj pravi, "Janezek, kako pa ti to ves?"

"Zato kadar ugasne elektrika doma pa reče moj oče te svinje so nam uzele zopet elektriko!"

T.F.



M. Bucik

ŠT. 39, BIWABIK, MN

Naša podružnica je začela novo leto s prijetnim srečanjem na sicer zelo mrzlim nedeljskim popoldnevom, ko smo se zbrale v lepem številu za 'pobožičnico', 7 januarja v cerkveni dvorani na Biwabiku. Z veseljem smo pozdravile odličnega gosta, g. Franka Perkovicha, ki je zdaj že od poletja naš novi župnik na Biwabiku. Potem pa tudi članice navzoče od Eveleth-Virginia podružnice, št. 19, ki bodo z novim letom pristopile v našo podružnico. Vesele smo jih, saj pove stari pregovor: "V slogi je moč!"

Po zelo okusnem kosilu, je bil kratek sestanek, da smo vedno na tekočem o našem skupnem delu za dobrobit celotne Slovenske Ženske Zveze. Za poslovanje je ostal še vedno stari odbor in sicer: Preds. Jean Korsman, ki je tudi naša gl. predsednica SZZ, Popr. je Kathy Siskar, Blag. je Jane Purkat, Zapis. je Angie Hietala. Naši načrti za bodoče leto so v glavnem za pridobitev novih članic in sodelovanje z glavnim odborom za napredek celotne SZZ.

Ob tej priliki smo se spomnile tudi tistih, ki v tem času nimajo tople hrane in obleke, zato smo prinesle več darov v ta namen in bo te razdelila: "Food Shelf" na Gilbertu.

Za "Mater leta" je bila soglasno izbrana, Kathy Riordan, hčerka naše Gl. Preds. Jean Korsman. Iskrene čestitke, Kathy!

Po tem kratkem sporedu, se je potem vršila druga stran našega popoldneva, ko smo se veselo zabavale in vrtele kocke... pa potem "kradle" ena drugi darila, ki so bila na mizi razstavljeni. Veliko smeha in dobre volje, da potem gremo domov v boljšem pocutju za težave, ki se znjimi srečujemo vsak dan.

Ob tej priliki Vam drage sestre Slovenke po širni Ameriki želimo blagoslovljeno novo leto z najlepšimi uspehi in vednim božjim varstvom.

ANNE TUSHAR

BARAGA



Začetki Katoliške Cerkve v Ameriki

FRANCO JAKIČ

VIII. BARAGA APOSTOLSKI VIKAR V SAULTU SAINTE MARIE

DELO V LETIH 1855 IN 1856

Tretjerednice so postavile v cerkev svoj velik melodeon (prvotna oblika harmonija) in pele. Tudi ob desetih je bila slovesna škofovska maša z leviti; med njo jih je 18 prejelo prvo sv. obhajilo. Spet je bila cerkev nabitopolna. Po maši je Baraga birmal 22 oseb. Popoldne je imel večernice; Indijanci in sestre tretjega reda so peli božične pesmi v otavskem jeziku.

Na starega leta dan je šel Baraga v Cheboygan, kjer je ostal en teden in učil otroke in odrastle Ottavane.

Po dveh mesecih misijonskega dela je odšel iz Krivega drevesa. V Križni vaši je pri Lavtižarju ostal en teden in imel 27. januarja slovesno škofovsko mašo. Peljal se je na saneh preko leda v Mackinac, od tam je pa spet hodil peš po snegu in ledu do Saulta. Lavtižar pripominja: "Da bi Indijanci še stanovitneje hodili po potu pobožnost, je škof ustanovil v Krivem drevesu in tukaj škapulirsko bratovščino Matere božje. Tukaj pri nas se jih je na prvo škofovo vabilo zapisalo 32, moških in žensk. Škof je po maši blagoslovil škapulirje in jih udom dal okoli vratu."

Lavtižar in Indijanci so Weikampa in tretjerednike pregovoril, da so se naselili v Križni vasi; bati se je bilo, da bi se ne vsilil kakšen protestantovski učitelj. Lavtižarja je Baraga prestavil v Krivo drevo, ker je Steinhäuser odšel iz škofije. Mrak se je pa preselil v Grand Traverse, ki se je takrat imenoval Eagle Town. Baraga je tem tretjerednikom zato šel tako na roko, ker je potreboval dobrih učiteljev in učiteljic. Teh je pa za svoje zapuščene kraje težko dobil. Tudi so bili dragi: 400 dolarjev na leto brez hrane, ali 200 dolarjev s hrano. Baraga je pa bil brez denarja. Ko je bil pozimi v Krivem drevesu, ni imel niti enega dolarja, kakor piše Lavtižar. Vse velike zneske, ki jih je bil nabral v Evropi, je torej porabil v poldrugem letu. Največ so ga stale šole: poslopja, učila in učitelji. Dohodka je pa imel samo dva: darove evropskih misijonskih družb in skromno in neredno podporo vlade za tiste šole, v katere so hodili indijanski otroci. Nekateri učitelji so dajali vernikom slab zgled; nekoč je Baraga rekel, da bi bilo skoraj bolje imeti protestante. Zato ni čudno, da je

skušal dobiti za misijonske šole redovnike in redovnice; stavili so manjše zahteve, službo so vestno vršili in pomagali misijonarjem.

Otavani so bili sprva zelo zadovoljni, da se je v njihovih šolah učilo vse v otavščini. Zdaj so pa hoteli, naj se poučuje v angleščini, da bi otroci čimprej postali celi Amerikanci. Da bi ne silili v protestantovske šole, jim je moral Baraga preskrbeti angleške (irske) katoliške učitelje.

Denarja ni imel, za šole ga je pa nekje moral dobiti. Potoval je torej v Detroit in Cincinnati in tam nabiral prispevke. Ta prosjaška hoja po obeh mestih pač ni bila prijetna zanj, a jo je opravil iz ljubezni do mladine. Na binkoštni ponedeljek 12. maja je tudi sosednjim škofom, ki jim je upravljal indijanska ozemlja, oskrbovali redemptoristi. Na nedeljo sv. Trojice je na prošnjo nadškofa Purcella v Cincinnati slovesno posvetil tri zvonove in imel o tem obredu nemško pridigo.

V Cincinnatiju je dal tiskati latinska Statúta za svoje duhovnike, to je navodila, kako naj živijo in delujejo. Poslal jih je tudi sesednjim škofom, ki jim je upravljal indijanska ozemlja.

V Cincinnatiju ga je srečal Smolnikar, ki je na pol zmešan hodil okoli, trosil svoje zmotne verske nauke in prodajal svoje krivoverske knjige. Takoj je začel Baraga razkladati svoje nazore. Baraga ga je na kratko zavrnil, za kar ga je Smolnikar prostaško ozmerjal.

Na povratku iz Cincinnatija je Baraga v Detroitu slovesno posvetil novo cerkev sv. Jožefa.

Ko se je vrnil v Sault, je 20. junija posvetil za mašnika Serafina Zorna, gorečega misijonarja, ki je vse svoje duhovniško življenje žrtvoval Otavanom.

26. junija se je pa spet odpeljal po Gorenjem jezeru. Dne 11. julija ga vidimo daleč gori na severnem bregu, v Fort Williamu, kjer je jezuit o. Choné postavil majhno, a lično cerkev. Indijanci so ga z veseljem poslušali, ko jim je pridigal po očipvejsko. Dne 13. julija jih je 77 birmal. V Grand Portageu je ostal več dni in jih birmal 53. Nato se je peljal s čolnom v Superior; 27. julija je imel kar pet pridig, dopoldne tri in popoldne dve. Birmal ni, kjer jih Van Paemel ni mogel poučiti. Po jezeru se je peljal nazaj v La Pointe, kjer jih je Van Paemel 46 pripravil za birmo. Potem se je spet vozil in vozil do Ontonagona. Čudil se je, kako lepo je misijonar Dunne opremil cerkev. Birmal je pa samo 12 oseb. V Minnesota Mine je Fox gradil veliko cerkev. Baraga je tam birmal 27 otkov. V Norwichu (Nórviču) so postavili lepo cerkvico. Posvetil jo je velikemu misijonarju sv. Frančišku Ksaverju in v njej birmal 33 oseb. Nato se je vrnil v Sault. Prepotoval je več ko 800 km, večinoma v odprtem čolniču iz brezovega lubja.

Kljub svojim pogostim, dolgotrajnim in silno utrudljivim potovanjem po suhem in po jezerih je bil vedno čil in zdrav. Na vse svete leta 1856 je pa v dnevniku zapisal, da je na tej tako dolgi vožnji zbolel na želodcu in prebavi.

— Nadaljevanje —

"FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART"

Days are Marching By

I'm always glad to see the calendar flip to March. Especially after experiencing the subzero temperatures we had this past January and February. (At least, in my corner of the nation there were subzero temps.)

Ah, March! Spring is just around the corner (March 20th). Spring -- robins, tulips, daffodils and if by chance those of us in the northern states do receive some snow, we know it won't last.

The highlights of March are:

March 15th -- Buzzard Day, as the buzzards routinely and traditionally return to Hinckley, OH.

March 17th -- St. Patrick's Day.

March 19th -- St. Joseph's Day, and when the Sparrows return to Capistrano, CA. (Did you know they only missed one year during World War II?)

DAVY'S COLUMN



However, with all the tourists flocking to the mission to witness their return, they don't return in the massive numbers they once did.)

March 31st -- Palm Sunday.

March is said to be one of the windiest months. According to the saying, if March comes in like a lamb it will go out like a lion and vice-versa. However, I've gotten various opinions on what is considered the time period for entering and leaving.

Some people are strict and say it refers to the first and last days of the month. Others are more flexible and say it refers to the first and last weeks of the month. I've yet to find the time allotted in stone. However, I'll keep looking.

'til next month,
DAVY

"Slovenia" FACTS!

Nekaj podatkov o Republiki Sloveniji

Velikost: 20.256 km² (10.124 km² gozdov, 5593 km² travnikov, 2471 km² polj in vrtov, 216 km² vinogradov)

Dolžina meja: z Avstrijo 324 km, z Italijo 235 km, z Madžarsko 102 km, s Hrvaško 546 km, obala 46,6 km.

Najvišji vrhovi: Triglav 2864 m, Škrlatica 2740 m, Mangart 2679 m, Visoki Rokav 2646 m, Jalovec 2645.

Prebivalstvo: ob popisu leta 1991 1.965 986. Od tega je 1,7 milijona Slovencev, poleg tega prebivajo še avtohtono Madžari (8503) in Italijani (3064).

Glavno mesto: Ljubljana (276.153); druga mesta: Maribor (108.122), Celje (41.279), Kranj (37.318), Velenje (27.665) in Koper (25.272).

Jezik: Uradni jezik je slovenščina, v mešano naseljenih področjih pa še madžarščina in italijanščina.

Some Data on the Republic of Slovenia

Size: 20,256 km² (10,124 km² of forests, 5,593 km² of meadows, 2,571 km² of fields and gardens, 216 km² of vineyards)

Border length: 324 km with Austria, 235 km with Italy, 102 km with Hungary, 546 km with Croatia, 46.6 km of coast.

Highest Peaks: Triglav 2,864 m, Škrlatica 2,740 m, Mangart 2,679 m, Visoki Rokav 2,646 m, Jalovec 2,645 m.

Population: 1,965,986 according to the 1991 census, 1.7 million of whom are Slovenes, other autochthonous inhabitants being Hungarians (8,503) and Italians (3,064).

Capital: Ljubljana (275,153); other cities: Maribor (108,122), Celje (41,279), Kranj (37,318), Velenje (27,665) and Koper (25,272).

Language: The official language is Slovene, while areas of mixed population also Hungarian and Italian.

Excerpt from KATOLIŠKA CERKEV V SLOVENIJI, Ljubljana, 1995

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