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ZARJA THE DAWN

URADNO GLASILO
SLOVENSKE ŽENSKE ZVEZE



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SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION

NUMBER 12

DECEMBER, 1982

VOLUME 54

MERRY
CHRISTMAS

VESEL
BOŽIČ



ZARJA - THE DAWN

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ANNUAL MEETINGS & CHRISTMAS PARTIES

- Dec. 1 - DINNER-THEATRE, Br. 95, So. Chicago at the Martinique in Evergreen Park, \$15.00 per person. For reservations call Evelyn Driscoll, 731-5088 by Nov. 25th.
- Dec. 2 - CHRISTMAS DINNER, Br. 23, Ely, MN, Vertin's 6 p.m.
- Dec. 4 - CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR JUNIORS, Br. 2, Chicago, IL, St. Stephen's Lower Hall, 1 p.m.
- Dec. 4 - CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR JUNIORS, Br. 42, Maple Hgts., OH, SNH 6 p.m.
- Dec. 5 - DINNER MEETING, Br. 35, Aurora, MN with junior members as guests. Election of officers. \$2 gift exchange. Reservations by Nov. 29th.
- Dec. 5 - ANNUAL MEETING & CHRISTMAS PARTY, Br. 47, Garfield Hgts., OH, SND Stanley Ave., 1 p.m.
- Dec. 5 - CHRISTMAS PARTY, Br. 79, Enumclaw, WA, Krain Hall
- Dec. 6 - CHRISTMAS PARTY at the home of Evelyn Majersic, Br. 73, Warrensville Hgts., OH
- Dec. 8 - COVERED DISH DINNER, 6 p.m. Br. 40, Lorain, OH
- Dec. 8 - CHRISTMAS PARTY, Br. 25, Cleveland, OH
- Dec. 9 - ANNIVERSARY MASS & CHRISTMAS DINNER, Br. 2, Chicago, IL, St. Stephen's church and hall, beginning at 7 p.m. \$3 for member \$5 for non-members, call for reservations 243-4738
- Dec. 9 - ANNUAL MEETING & CHRISTMAS PARTY, Br. 71, Strabane, PA, 7:30 p.m.
- Dec. 11 - CHRISTMAS BUFFET, Br. 45, Portland, OR, at home of Mrs. Knez
- Dec. 12 - CHRISTMAS DINNER, Br. 50, Cleveland, OH, 1:30 p.m. for reservations call Irene Jagodnik
- Dec. 13 - ANNUAL MEETING & CHRISTMAS DINNER, Br. 43, Milwaukee, WI, John's Hall, 6 p.m.
- Dec. 13 - CHRISTMAS PARTY, Br. 89, Oglesby, IL
- Dec. 14 - CHRISTMAS PARTY AT "Bonanza", Br. 56, Hibbing, MN
- Dec. 14 - CHRISTMAS PARTY for adult members. Br. 42, Maple Hgts., OH
- Dec. 14 - ANNUAL MEETING & CHRISTMAS PARTY, Br. 91, Oakmont, PA
- Dec. 15 - DINNER, Br. 105, Detroit, MI, 7:30 p.m. at Mountain Jack Restaurant. Call Pauline or Patricia Adamic for reservations. Guests welcome.
- Dec. 15 - LUNCHEON at home of Josie Kassin, 12:30 p.m. Br. 54, Warren, OH
- Dec. 19 - Br. 17, West Allis, WI, 2:00 p.m.; after meeting, exchange of gifts value \$2 and lunch. Jr. members will be feted. Desserts requested.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN DECEMBER

National Officer:

Dec. 6 — Albina Uehlein, National Women's Activities Director, Lakewood, OH

Presidents:

Dec. 5 — Rose Marie Steckel, Br. 26, Pittsburgh, PA

Dec. 6 — Stella Ciccioni, Br. 70, W. Aliquippa, PA

Dec. 15 — Victoria Volk, Br. 99, Elmhurst, IL

Dec. 21 — Mary Mihelich, Br. 79, Enumclaw, WA

Dec. 26 — Dorothy Lausche, Br. 15, Cleveland, OH

Dec. 30 — Jennie Gerk, Br. 47, Garfield Hgts., OH

Dec. 31 — Frances Vidmar, Br. 83, Crosby, MN

Secretaries:

Dec. 23 — Mary Meadows, Br. 56, Hibbing, MN

Dec. 29 — Elizabeth Birk, Br. 84, New York, N.Y.

Dec. 30 — Mary Jermenc, Br. 85, Depue, IL

Many happy returns of the day!

*May this peaceful season
bring you happiness.*



INDEPENDENT SAVINGS

1515 E. 260th, Euclid, Ohio 44132 731- 8865
920 E. 185th, Cleveland, Ohio 44119 486- 4100

ADVENT

On our liturgical calendar these days we are greeted in Capitol letters with this word: Advent! At the Sunday liturgy we see the priest wearing purple vestments. We enter into a time of preparation. Preparation time for whom? For Christ! In the readings at Mass we listen to the prophets of the Old Testament, especially the prophet Isaiah. The Jewish nation went through many hardships, even exile into a strange land. But the men sent by God kept alive the hope of One, who will come and redeem Israel, and not only Israel, but all the peoples. They call him by different names: Wisdom, Key of David, King, yes, they call Him Emmanuel, which means: God is with us. Because the promised One is coming, all peoples should get ready.

Any expectation is mysterious; we really do not know the outcome. If we are waiting for somebody whom we do not know, we wonder what kind of person he or she will be when we start a new project, we are curious how it will come out. We witness a wedding and wonder: will this union last or not. The Jewish people wondered too, what kind of person will this Messiah be?! The Heavenly Father was describing the future Redeemer through the prophets; even the circumstances and the

place of his birth were foretold: "And you, Bethlehem...." "This was a time of waiting and expectation for the whole world. But in spite of all the preparation through the prophets, only a few were prepared when at last Christ came.

We are in the Advent season. This time reminds us of the many things we used to do at this time of the year as children to get ready for Christmas. We are still children, God's children and He would like to see us prepared for His coming. First, He is coming with His grace as we celebrate His birth. The more we are prepared for His grace, the better off we will be at His second coming. Yes, Advent is mysterious; we do not know the outcome of his second coming. But He Himself is telling us: "Blessed is the servant whom his master finds prepared! Today we do not have the prophets of the Old Testament to prepare us; we have the Church, our teacher, who would like to excite us to that holy expectation, that will make this Advent meaningful and joyous; the Church would like to prepare us for God who is coming with His grace, so that when our life-long advent ends, we will be happy to embrace our Redeemer.

MOURN OUR VICE-PRESIDENT



† ANNE M. KOMPARE

No one expected to hear the news Nov. 6th that our beloved National Vice-President, Anne M. Kompore had passed on. She succumbed to congestive heart failure which had dibilitated her for the past few months. Altho she was hospitalized at the time, no one expected her passing so quickly.

Her husband, Edward, sons Dr. Edward of Tuba City, Arizona and SWU Attorney, Bernard of Chicago, their wives and children are deeply bereaved. Her sister-in-law Polly Klobucar and her husband, Ferd and their family were very close to Anne, and also grieve.

Anne had a service record of many years with the Slovenian Women's Union, an organization she loved very much and seriously administered as a National Auditor for six years and Vice-President for 3-1/2 years. Her business accumen was a great asset to the S.W.U.

She presented concise and thoughtful reports to Board meetings and Conventions. Delegates will remember her very competent chairmanship of the committees dealing with our finances.

She always looked forward to our meetings and spoke of the next convention with hopes that she will again be there to help along with the important decisions.

Anne was 73 years old when she passed away, too soon, much too soon for these times. She enjoyed good health until about a year ago. She loved her beautiful home and was an exceptional hostess. Many of her treats were shared by us at meetings and various parties, and she was quite an expert contributor to "Pots and Pans" in ZARJA.

She loved her Croatian heritage and accepted her husband's Slovenian ancestry with full dedication. The numerous organizations to which she belonged participated in her funeral rite.

As her eulogist, Father Matt reminded us, Anne will live in us for a long time as we remember the way she touched our lives. Each of us has a pleasant memory of some little thing, perhaps her greeting, or an expression, her gestures and smile.

Not only will we miss her presence, we will miss her spirit. God has welcomed her into His kingdom where we know she is with her beloved parents, sister, relatives and friends.

A pink rose will always remind me of Anne. She was surrounded by them when we parted.

CORINNE LESKOVAR



NINETEENTH QUADRENNIAL NATIONAL CONVENTION

May 22—25, 1983,
at Chisholm, Minnesota

Hostess Branch 38 of Chisholm, Minnesota has announced that the 19th National Convention of the Slovenian Women's Union will be held in their fair city from May 22 thru 25, 1983. The preliminary program calls for a celebration on Sunday including Mass at St. Joseph's Church and Grand Convention Banquet. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday are convention meetings at the St. Joseph's church hall. A local motel will house the delegates and visitors and package arrangement for each will be available to include lunches and dinners. The motel will supply continental breakfast.

In future issues of ZARJA we will bring you interesting places along the Minnesota Mesabi Iron Range area which you and your families and friends may wish to visit in connection with your trip to Minnesota for the Convention.

Altho plans are not final, it is hoped that the SWU will sponsor the dedication of the Slovenian Miner's and Laborer's Monument and hold a parade in Chisholm on May 22nd.



SLOVENIAN AWARDEE MARY TURK

Mary Turk of Sheboygan, Wisconsin was honored at the annual Slovenian Heritage Day program in Sheboygan Falls October 23, 1982, co-sponsored by Society Sloga, and Liberty Lodge 18. She was cited for her contributions to the life of Slovenians in the community. She is a member of the SWU for many years, also the societies Družina, KSKJ and Sts. Cyril and Methodius parish. She served as chairman of the Christian Women's Society of her church and the Mission Society. She is the mother of two sons and has four grandchildren.

For the past 50 years, Mary has been in charge of almost all food services in the Slovenian community. She is not only a good cook, she also excels in baking the best Slovenian pastries including potica, strudel and noodles. She loves social occasions and enjoys bowling, all these activities belie her 80 young years!

Her sister members at Br. 1 are very proud of Mary and hope that there will be many wonderful years ahead for her doing all the things she enjoys so much. She is a great asset to our branch.

M.



CONVENTION PLANNING

Altho it was ten months before the National Convention, members of Chisholm met in August to report on preliminary plans for the event to be held in their city in May, 1983. At a special meeting and luncheon held at the home of Fran Kelly, guests from Illinois, Mary Marolt, Nat'l Treasurer Editor, Corinne Leskovar and Br. 20 Vice-President, Mildred Pucel enjoyed hearing how things are progressing. Also discussed were the SWU's current project, the sale of the cookbook POTS & PANS and the standing of the Slovenian Miners & Laborer's Fund.

Above we see some of the ladies from left, seated: Valeria Carlson, and Mary Meadows, Hibbing, Ann Dickovich, Keewatin, Millie and Corinne; standing, Mary, Rose Maras of Hibbing Frances Samsa, Pres. of Br. 38, Josephine Zupancich, Chisholm and Ann Mansfield, Kitzville.

Luncheon guests included, Fran Biral of Chisholm, State President Tory Bobence, Youth Director, Anna L. Hodnik, Rose Niemi, and Fran Kelly, Chisholm. In front is Br. 38, secretary, Kathy Knuth.

YEAR END RECOLLECTIONS

This is the month we all seem to look forward to, because there are so many things to do, completing a business year, preparing for holiday festivities, renewing old acquaintances, visiting with relatives, and planning for the coming year. Seems like a lot to do in one month, but we do it all somehow and wonder how we get everything done!

When we look back over the year, we see how successful it has been and plan the new year accordingly, hoping it will be better than before. Great changes have taken place the past few years, so we have to cope with them as best as we can. In just a few months we will meet for our convention, so now we can all concentrate on it and bring out ideas at the monthly meetings in the forthcoming months. Let's all have this uppermost in our minds so we can have a successful convention by planning for it.

Now, let me take this opportunity to wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year! Vesele Božične Praznike in Srečno Novo Leto 1983!

Albina Uehlein

Women's Activities Director

OHIO-MICHIGAN STATE CONVENTION

Our meeting held on October 10th was a success. The weather was good. The Memoriam Mass for deceased Albina Novak with Father Vic Tomc officiating at St. Mary's Church was just beautiful and the singing was enjoyed by everyone.

The Marie Prislend Cadets of Branch No. 50, as well as some Cadets of Branch No. 32, were in full uniform. They led the procession carrying the Banner. It was a good feeling to see so many of the Branches attending. Preceding the Mass, luncheon was had at the Euclid Park Club House in Euclid.

The Dawn Choral Group opened the meeting with our "Zvezina Hymna" plus two other songs. All of this added color to our Slovenian Women's Union Organization. Our sincerest "Thank You" to both of these groups.

Twenty-one letters were sent for this meeting and most of the Branches were present. Sorry we had no one from Michigan, but Niles, Warren, Girard and Lorain, Ohio did attend. Thank you, ladies.

All the reports were given by the officers, most of them good. We hope that some of the branches got some new good ideas for their meetings and betterment of their group. Our two deceased, dedicated members Frances Sietz and Sophie Magayna were memorialized. Two vigil lights were burning in their memory. May they receive their reward and rest in peace.

At this time we also honored two very deserving members from Branch No. 21, who are from West 130th St. Stella Dancull is their Secretary for 30 years and Combined Branch Secretary for 8 years. She comes to all of the Combined Branch meetings which are held every 2-3 months at the Ed Kovacic Recreation Center on St. Clair Ave. Rose Kosko is their president for six years. She is the chauffeur and without her none of the ladies could come to the meetings. A short story of "This is Your Life" was given with a gift and corsage. They both said that they never were so beautifully surprised. So, ladies, keep up your good work, next year it could be you.

Meeting was adjourned with prayer for all sick and deceased members.

Everyone seemed relaxed and filled with much enthusiasm to increase the membership, or at least to replace those who have passed away, and to help make our Slovenian Women's Union a bigger, better and stronger organization.

Thanks to Marie Beck for taking the minutes of this meeting, and to all of the ladies who did the kitchen work and to the ticket chairladies.

On December 2 a Christmas Luncheon will be held at the Hofbrau Haus on E. 55th St., followed by our Combined Branch meeting at our regular place. Please try to be there.

Wishing all of you "Blessed Holidays" with good health, happiness and peace.

Ann J. Tercek
Ohio-Michigan State President

President's Message



With the approaching holidays, we are filled with happy thoughts and plans for celebrating with family and friends. May the Christ Child bring the fulfillment of hopes, dreams and inspiration to help the less fortunate.

Many branches have parties and get-togethers for the holidays; this brings the members closer and forms friendships, which enhance the activities.

Some groups have elected officers for 1983. To those remaining in office, I salute you for your efforts; to the newly-elected — take heart. I am sure you will have the help and cooperation of your sister-members.

I hope you are still making an effort to bring in new members to help your branch in sending delegates to the National Convention in May. Remember, the more members you have, the better representation. Because this is our first convention in 4 years, we should have much to discuss. If you have any suggestions or questions — send them to me or to the National Office and we will save convention time by incorporating them in our agenda.

I read the ZARJA completely and find our reporters make a supreme effort in their reports. Please help them by passing on news bits we would all be interested in. Sometimes we look for subjects to write about as I well know. Let me give a big hand to all you who send in your articles.

My best wishes to all celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this month. May God give you many more.

Our prayers for our deceased members and friends are constant. This year brought a loss of many SWU members. Let us ask the Lord's blessing on all for whom we mourn.

May God Walk With You.

Mary Muller

CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS OF SLOVENIA

TEPEŽKANJE - It was the privilege of the children on New Year's Day to strike a parent or adult member of the family with a stick or tree branch. If he was thwarted or he missed, he would accept a treat instead. In some places, the young men took to this custom and chased the young girls; oftentimes they, too, were bribed with some favors.



M. GASPARI

NO. 1, SHEBOYGAN, WI

Greetings! At the October meeting our president, Ruth Sheck, installed a new member, being: Agnes Gruenke. Her daughter Julie also joined our branch but was unable to be present; she is a student at Whitewater College and we wish her continued success in her academic effort. We welcome them both in our organization.

Numerous discussions were held in the interest of the branch.

A detailed report of our card party was given with thanks to all the generous donors of door prizes, bakers and workers by the Chairman Dorothy Brezonik. We also expressed our gratitude to her.

We will hold our annual meeting with election of officers in the St. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall on December 19th preceded by a pot luck supper at six o'clock. All members are cordially invited.

Get well wishes to all the sick and shut-in members.

We will dispense with the January and February meetings.

A special Christmas greeting and a Blessed New Year to all the branches and National Officers.

Happy Birthday Zveza!
(December 19th) 56 years old!

MARGARET FISHER

NO. 2, CHICAGO, IL

Our October meeting opened with a prayer with a large group of members present. Plans for the Christmas holidays were the main business at hand. Children's Christmas party is to be held on Dec. 4th, a Saturday, at 1:00 p.m. There will be no mailing of gifts to those not attending the party. Junior members ages 10 and under will be presented gifts and all members over that age welcome to join in the fun. Also, dues for these juniors must be paid up before the party — in order for them to be eligible for the gifts. The Nusko family is in charge of the children's party.

Christmas party for adult members will be on Thursday, Dec. 9th beginning with mass at 7 p.m. with a party to follow in the lower church hall. The dinner will be catered and the price of the tickets is \$3.00 for members and \$5 for non members. All your families are invited. There will be an optional grab-bag gift exchange with price of gifts set at \$3, no less! It is asked that

Attention Sheboygan Members!

Our annual Mass in commemoration of the 56th Anniversary of the S.W.U. and Br. 1 is Tuesday evening, Dec. 21st at 6 p.m. at the Church Hall of Sts. Cyril & Methodius. It will be followed by a pot-luck dinner and annual meeting.

Please bring an item of food for the pot-luck - anything you bring is fine with us! Also, we would ask each member to bring a door prize so that everyone goes home with something. No other gift exchange, just the door prizes! See you Dec. 21st!

M.F.

you write your name on the package. Ann Hozzian, Mae Persa and Helen Fitzgerald will co-chair the party.

Mass for the health of our ailing members will be Dec. 10th a Friday at 8:00 a.m. On the sick list we have the following members, Mary Poppish, Frances Brencic, Frances Kerzisknik and Angela Jeras. Pray for their recovery and for those confined in their homes.

In your prayers also remember Barbara Frank, mother of Rose Garcia, who passed away last month. Our condolences to the family.

Anniversary celebrants are Lawrence and Albie Rasp, 46 years, Frank and Lil Otrin, 37 years, Frank and Kay Turner, 36 years, Percy and Fran Morison, 31 years, Jean and "Bo" Zubek, 29 years. Congratulations to all.

Birthdays at the meeting were celebrated by Gloria Nusko, Mae Persa, Corinne Leskovar, Liz Zefran and Mr. Morison. Happy birthday to all!

New members! Catherine Mary Hujbar was 3 days old when secretary Jean Zubek signed her in as a new member. We also have Chris Vanik, Joan Hubatch and son, Joseph and Junior member, Cathleen Dyszczakowsky. Welcome to the new members. Our youngest member, Catherine Hujbar and oldest member, Anna Ahacich were at the October meeting and we were pleased to celebrate Anna's 95th birthday with her that evening! (photo)

Marilyn, Liz and Ronald Zefran will be delegates to the National Funeral Directors convention in

Detroit, the first time 3 from one family were selected.

Kathy Vucko was the Gospodična at the Slovenian Day Festival held by the Slovenian American Radio Club at St. Stephen's Oct. 30th. Congratulations. She is also engaged to be married to Tony Glavach and they have set a July wedding date.

Our officers for 1983 were elected in October as follows:

President, Fran Morison, Vice-President, Mary Lauretig, Secretary, Jean Zubek, Treasurer, Lil Putzel, Recording Secretary, Gloria Nusko. National President, Mayme Muller was with us that evening and wished the new officers well for the coming year.

A reminder from the secretary. Please pay your 1982 dues immediately as we wish to have our books closed for the year.

Wishes to all for a Blessed Christmas and a joyous New Year. See you at the parties.

ANN SCIESZKA

NO. 12, MILWAUKEE, WI

Our October meeting was well attended with all officers present. Frances Plesko led us in Slovenian prayer to start the meeting.

Reports were all read and approved. Magdaline Levar was reported in the hospital. Hope she has a quick and good recovery. Prayers were also said for Mary Ruge who passed away.

It was proposed that this year for Christmas our December meeting will take place at a dining place, the Crystal Palace on So. 20th and W. National Ave. (The old K.P. Hall). So, please remember the date Dec. 16th. More on the subject to be discussed at the Nov. meeting.

The meeting closed with Stavia leading us in prayer in English.

Happy birthday was sung for Evelyn Laurich, Julia Pesec and Pauline Schwengel who treated us with a lot of goodies for lunch as well as Mary Kiel.

Prizes were also donated by Jennie Ahcin and friend, Max, Sophie Stampfel, Mary Skusek, Chris Bojance, Marion Feldts, Stavia Dobersek, Evelyn Laurich, Julia Pesec, Sophie Rozman, Ann Grambow, Betty Stark, Frances Udovich, Jennie Zelesnikar, Ann Jelinek, Veronica Visek, Gertrude Schunk and Mary Kiel. Thank you also for making our meetings so much more enjoyable!

THE OLDEST — THE YOUNGEST!

Honored for their unique membership standing were two members of Br. 2 Chicago at the October meeting. The 95th birthday of member Anna Ahacich was celebrated with a special decorated cake that read: *Veseli rojstni dan!* Youngest member, Catherine Mary Hujbar was introduced by her mom and sisters. On the photo is sister Margie holding the 5 week old baby while Anna looks on.

Photo, John Hozzian



Our State Convention held on Oct. 10th was blessed with beautiful weather and was attended by all branches except Sheboygan. Rose Schubert from Br. 17 officiated at the meeting and a super job she did of it.

Reports were all read by Christine Bojance who took over for Br. 1, last year's hosts. She took the notes at this meeting. Hope we all gained some knowledge from the meeting.

We attended the 11:15 mass in a body and later we found a place to sit with friends or in our own groups to enjoy the dinner. Anton Gorenc, Jr., played favorite songs, mostly Slovenian, for our pleasure.

Fr. Lawrence Grom led us in prayer before dinner and afterward, our branch president, Stavia Dobersek welcomed everyone. Introduced were National Secretary, Olga Anceel of Joliet, Pres. of the Scholarship Fund, Hermine Dicke of Madison and National Auditor Marion Marolt of West Allis, then the mike was turned over to the emcee, Jean Jelenc who is always leery about this position but we know she can do it and she does a good job making us proud of her!

The USPEH Chorus under the direction of Leo Muskatev sang a lot of the native Slovenian songs for our pleasure. Their first song was sung while the candles were being lighted in honor of our deceased members of this year as well as our past State President, Anna Modic who passed away in July and who is missed very much. The song title is **Vigred se povrene.**

Tony Gorenc also played his accordion while we joined in singing a few songs together.

We hope that you who attended enjoyed it all. Next year the State Convention will be in West Allis, Br. 17 in charge. We wish them luck.

Thank you to all who attended! Our humble thanks also to all the hard workers who helped in many ways, even the husbands and wives who assisted with table settings the

night before, Frank and Jo Wilhelm, John and Tillie Russ, Mary and Tony Starich, Stavia and Matt Dobersek. Matt also took care of the bar, Olga Fredericks, Evelyn Laurich, Sophie Stampfel, Christine Boyance and anyone else who pitched in to help things along.

Thank you: for all those who contributed to the prizes, namely, Ann Grambow, Tillie Russ, Sophie Rozman, Leona Hoelzer, Julia Pesec, Sophie Grambow, Evelyn Laurich, Gertrude Schunk, Frances Plesko, Mary Starich, Jennie Zelesnikar, Leona Zigman, Jo Wilhelm and Stavia Dobersek.

Mary and Ed Kiel were off to a trip to Pennsylvania but before they left she donated two beautiful yellow mums for the altar for that day. Thank you both also for all the other help you took part in!

Angeline Pipan says thanks to the SWU for her 50 year membership gift.

My sincere gratitude to all of you for the help!

MARY DEZMAN

NO. 13, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

President Jo Aiuto once again Chaired a most successful Pot Luck Luncheon for our branch. Jo works so diligently to make each function a happy time for all so it is so nice of all the ladies to co-operate so willingly. Thanks, Ladies, for all the delicious donations of delightful food. I was lucky; after a five year diabetic diet I was able to enjoy Bernice Lucchesi's delightful Chocolate cake with mint frosting. Such good food and such a good time. Thanks, Jo!

Get well wishes are extended to all our sick members: Olga Kastellie, Katie Plut, Katie Radovich, Mary Ansel, Tillie Kambic and any other I do not know about. Our prayers are for our sick at each and every meeting so you are not forgotten.

Christmas will soon be upon us. How happily we await a visit from

Santa! This season always brings out the best in people, smiles come so readily it is just a pity we can't keep the holiday spirit alive for the entire year. The beauty of all the decorations, the warmth of Christmas trees, fully lighted naturally add to the warmth and happiness of Christmas time. Be happy and enjoy each day fully and do all have a happy holiday season. Call our sick members with a short phone call and bring cheer to their confinement.

Attend meetings and become an active part of all our pleasant hours with good food, in good company, having good times! See you soon.

FRAN E. CHiodo, Reporter

NO. 14, EUCLID, OH

As I write this article we're enjoying our lovely fall weather with its colorful foliage and autumn flowers... but as you read this we should be heading into a winter which has been predicted to be one of the coldest ever. I certainly hope not!

A last minute reminder to those of you wishing to attend our Christmas party on Dec. 7, to give Vera Bajec a call at 481-7473. You may also wish to bring your books to pay up your membership dues for the year that evening.

We were very fortunate in Cleveland to be able to attend the exclusive performance of the Koleda Folk Dancers and Musicians from Velenje, Slovenia who were returning from a successful one-week performance at the Disney World Epcot Center in Florida. The sponsors are to be commended for arranging this appearance which was for the benefit of the Slovene Home for the Aged.

We've just heard that Frances Klein had surgery a few months ago and we're glad to hear she's well on the road to recovery. Mrs. Mollie Legat had an accident in her home and hurt her shoulder and is recuperating after a stay in the hospital.

Sect. Vera Bajec's husband, Joe, is in the hospital. Their daughter Marsha is visiting here for a week from California and we're sure her visit will speed his recovery. Wishing all of our ill members and their families a hasty return to good health.

Our sympathy is extended to hard-working Rec. Sect. Addie Humphreys who recently lost her brother, Emil Kozely. Unfortunately Addie is also recovering from a broken wrist. Member Mary Pugel has lost her husband and also the husband of Mary Novine has passed away. We pray for their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed.

Christmas is just around the corner and the officers of Branch No. 14 would like to send their wishes for the Blessed Christmas to all of our members and each of our sister lodges. Merry Christmas!

ALICE KUHAR

NO. 16, SO. CHICAGO, IL.

On October 3rd our Branch hosted the Illinois-Indiana State Convention. The ladies met in the church hall and were each presented with a beautiful carnation made by Ann Lustig. Coffee and rolls were served by Mary Priesol, Mary Ann Starcevic, Catherine Cerby and Elsie Starcevic. Chairlady Ann Lustig apologize for omitting to thank them at the convention.

Mass was celebrated by Father Raphael Sesek at St. George's Church. Taking part in the readings at Mass were President Marge Prebil and Secretary Gladys Buck. Father Raphael also joined us for dinner at the Villa Cosenza where he said Grace and gave a short talk.

Ann Lustig introduced Father David Stalzer and various National and Branch Officers who were present. Angela Nico, State



M. GASPARI

President, then conducted the meeting. Corinne Leskovar read the minutes of the last convention and Phyllis Perko was Recording Secretary for 1982. Gladys Buck read a note from Ann Kompare who is still on the sick list. It was noted that Gladys has been Secretary of Br. 16 for over forty years. Congratulations! Our delegate was Dolores O'Brien who gave a fine report on Branch 16.

Ann Lustig and her helpers, Anita Quilici, Violet Somin, Mary Ann Sambol, Martina Saindon, Marge Prebil, Gladys Buck and Phyllis Perko, worked hard to make the event a success. All members are thanked for their generosity in donating prizes and home baked pastries.

At our October meeting dates were set for the Christmas parties. The children's party will be at St. George's Hall on Sunday afternoon, December 5th. The adult's party is at the Villa Cosenza on Thursday, December 9th at 6:30 P.M.

Our new Spiritual Advisor, Father Raphael, was invited to address the ladies at the October meeting. We hope to see him come back often.

Gladys Buck brought two guests, Barbara and Tom Ireland from Minnesota. Barb is Gladys' niece and surprised us with a pan of Pumpkin Bars made from a recipe in Pots and Pans.

Sunshine prizes went to Helen Gornick and Dorothy Novakovich.

Birthdays were celebrated by Andrea Kral, Dolores O'Brien, Millie Skul, Dorothy Perko, Edna Winters, Phyllis Perko and Fran Zupancic.

Get well greetings go to Ann Delsimunovich, Elaine Tinsley and Ann Kompare.

We welcome new member Mary Ann Dandurand, daughter of Jennie Glusak, former president of Br. 72.

There will be no meeting in January and the Secretary requests that your dues be brought up to date by the end of the year.

Happy holidays to all.

MARY SPRETNJAK, Reporter

NO. 17, WEST ALLIS, WI

REMINDER: All members are urged to attend the annual meeting on Sunday, December 19, 1982 at 2:30 P.M. There will be distribution of the children's Christmas gifts, an

exchange of a \$2.00 gift (optional) among the members. After the business meeting, a delicious lunch will be served with all the trimmings. Members who love to bake, won't you please bring your favorite dessert to brighten our table for the party? At this time we will also present gifts to the 50 year members namely: Mary Benesch, Emily Imperl, Josephine Imperl, Emily Jeray, Frances Piwoni, Sophie Turck, and Mary Zore. Circle December 19th on your calendar now, as a reminder to attend the meeting.

At our October meeting we had a lovely turnout, considering there were so many commitments going on that weekend. Congratulations are extended to the winners of our annual fall booster sheets. The main prize, a beautiful hand crocheted afghan, went to John Pekrun. 2 — Towel Set Mike Hartmann, 3 — Kitchen Kit — Vera Kemetz, 4 — Pillow cases — Marie Floryan, 5 — Wallet — Frances Potocar, 6 — 4 glasses — Mike Hartmann, 7 — Brandy — Emilie Imperl, 8 — Trivet — Ed Omahne, 9 — Blanket — Marge Gawlik, 10 — Basic cleaner — Mary Adrian, 11 — Cologne — Linda Marolt, 12 — Pillow cases — Rose Schubert, 13 — Quilt — Norma Koppin, 14 — Knick-nack — Angelyn Johnson, 15 — Men's cologne — Rev. M. J. Setnicar, 16 — Shower curtain — Pauline Chutich, 17 — Soap — Vickie Kastelic, 18 — Utility rack — Rose Schubert, 19 — Kitchen clock — Alexandra Marcic, 20 — Hand mixer — Oliver Fennig, 21 — Wine glasses — Eugene Fierst, 22 — Crochet vest — Mary Skender, 23 — Stein — Lil Foloron, 24 — Wine glasses — Eugene Imperl, 25 — Corn popper — John Bolskar.

The prizes were donated by the following members in order given: Anna Kegel, Marie Floryan, Marion Marolt, Br. No. 17, Rose Schubert, Mary Marolt, Josephine Imperl, Jackie Nimmer, Frances Piwoni, Josephine Imperl, Rose Schubert, Br. No. 17, Anonymous, Eleanor Coppersmith, Frances Piwoni, Mary Petrich, Robin Marolt, Vickie Kastelic, Mary Murn, Josephine Imperl, Jackie Nimmer, Vickie Kastelic.

Many thanks to all the members who donated the beautiful prizes, cash, the delicious desserts, worked

CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS OF SLOVENIA

TRIJE KRALJE - On the feastday of the Three Kings, the father marked the initials of the three wise men over the doorway of the main entrance to the home, G for Gaspar, M for Miha (Michael) and B for Boltezar. These markings were not erased during the course of the year and re-written afresh annually.

and helped in any way to make the affair a huge success. We, the officers appreciate it very much and it shows we have splendid co-operation among us.

Congratulations are extended to: Mr. and Mrs. Walter (Wendy) Kettner on the birth of a girl — Elizabeth Joy; Mr. and Mrs. Don (Lori) Tracy of Aurora, Colorado, on the birth of a girl — Jessica Marie. Mrs. Julia Tacl, is the great-great-grandmother, Vickie Kastelic (our branch vice-president) the great-grandmother, and Janet Stephan, the grandmother. All are members of our branch. They are the 2nd set of a 5 generation family in our branch.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael (Beth) Arthur, on the birth of a son, Michael. Mrs. Arthur is the daughter of Helen Pizar and niece of our treasurer, Fran Piwoni.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gasperic on the arrival of a girl — Lindsey Rae. She is the granddaughter of Ann and Frank Gasperic.

To the shut-ins and sick members we extend our best wishes.

*As Christmas bells ring out again
proclaiming love and peace,
May kindness grow in every heart,
may brotherhood increase
May understanding and concern
begin worldwide rebirth,
And may we all know, once again,
the joy of peace on earth.*

(Lesley Grayson)

MARIE A. FLORYAN

NO. 19, EVELETH, MN

To bring everyone up to date on activities of our branch since our last report, we had our Mother of the Year dinner, a picnic, and a meeting.

On April 25, a very pleasant spring day, thirty-three members met at Rustic Rock Inn for our Mother of the Year dinner to honor Mrs. Jennie Bezek. She was hospitalized earlier in the week but managed to attend the banquet.

Our annual picnic was held on August 8. The weather for that day was typical of our summer, no sunshine but cool and windy day. Compared to other years it was well attended as nineteen members spent the afternoon visiting with one another. Naturally as in any gathering of Slovenian women you expect good food and this was no exception.

This last summer, two of our members past away, Frances Moriarity and Katherine Thomas. We extend our sympathy to their families and will remember them in our prayers. We urge all members to continue to attend the rosary for our members.

On our October 3 meeting we discussed plans for our December 5 Christmas party and the recruiting of new members. To encourage new members we are asking present members to bring serious candidates to the Christmas party. This year invitations are also extended to our junior members. All those planning to attend should, if possible, bring a gift of nominal expense suitable for nursing home patients either man or woman. Some door prizes will be given away after dinner. The menu consists of turkey and ham and the other dishes will be pot luck.

Remember to mark December 5 on your calendar. The 11:15 a.m. mass at the Resurrection Church will be said in memory of our deceased members, and the dinner will be served at 1:30 downstairs in the hall.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all members!

VIDA LANARI, Sec'y

NO. 20, JOLIET, IL

As this issue arrives in the mail, I'm sure you are all very deeply involved in preparations for the Christmas Holidays. All the "behind the scenes" work that takes place for this special season unfolds Christmas Eve or Christmas Day and the warmth of family and friends fulfills the goal of the holiday, love.

Do you still celebrate the feast of St. Nicholas on December 6th? I remember putting out a bowl the night before and worrying what I would find the next morning, coal or goodies.

St. Joseph Church in Joliet has a Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve, at which the Christmas Carols are sung in Slovenian. This practice brings much more feeling into the singing of the carols, a few tears too, to those who remember the "old days."

Thirty members of Branch No. 20 attended the State Convention in So. Chicago in October. We travelled by bus, arriving in time to enjoy coffee and donuts before 11:30 Mass, at St. George's Church, which was celebrated by pastor Fr. Raphael A. Sesek. We met at the Villa Cozenza for dinner at 1:00 p.m. After a delicious meal, the convention was called to order. In attendance were several of our National Officers. Mary Muller, president, Olga Ancel, Secretary and Corinne Leskovar, Editor. Angela Nico, State President, presided. We congratulate Ann Lustig, chairman and her committee for a job well done in planning the schedule for the day. Many topics were brought up and discussed, among which were the decrease of membership in the last year, working toward a Com-

memorative Bishop Baraga Stamp, the successful sale of our Cookbook, the possibility of a Debutante Cotillion, changing or removing the word "Union" from our name, upgrading bowling tournament result procedures, updating the ritual we follow at funerals, and planning for the National Convention in May, 1983 in Chisholm, Minn. Father Stalzer, Br. 20 Spiritual Director, gave a report on the Miners' Project. He has hopes that the blessing of the Iron Range Memorial can take place at the time of Convention. The \$10,000.00 goal was reached in May, we are now working toward \$15,000.00 (because of inflation, our estimated expenses have grown.). Also, the drive for the canonization of Bishop Baraga is progressing rapidly.

The 1983 State Convention will be hosted by Branch No. 20, who will also be celebrating their 55th anniversary at that time.

The convention adjourned at 5 p.m. Branch No. 16, hostesses, had many doorprizes to distribute. There were many sounds of glee when names and numbers were called. Several of our members were among the winners, and with our treasures and the experience of a day well spent, we headed for home. We enjoyed the beautiful sunshine, even saw a couple hot air balloons gracefully floating through the air, listened to tapes of polka music while we rode and looked forward to getting home. Within one mile from home for some, five for others, our bus decided it had it!! We pulled over and evacuated at Joliet Catholic High School.

Picture that, a busload of women stranded at the boys' Catholic High School on a Sunday evening! Our driver made a phone call and within a half hour another bus came to our rescue. Some who were ambitious, started to walk, others who weren't too sure how long we would have to wait for rescue, called their own drivers. While waiting for the bus, we just turned up the tape player and enjoyed the polka music!!

We have a few members who are celebrating anniversaries. We extend our best wishes to Rose and John Pasdertz who are celebrating 62 years, Josephine and Frank Zelko celebrating 60 years, Lorraine and Richard Rothlisberger, 35 years, and Mary and John Anzele, 35 years.

Several of our members are on the sick list and we would like to send them get well wishes. Mae Rief, Dorothy Jursinic, Lill Anderson, Theresa Juricic and again to Dorothy Chepuran. Mrs. Chepuran also celebrated her 104th birthday in the hospital.

Bowling News

A fourth generation member of the SWU is being heralded in this issue. She is Kelsey Beth Singletary, daughter of Janice Singletary, daughter of Jonita Ruth, daughter of Josephine Erjavec. This is the first great-granddaughter of Josephine and Joe Erjavec; they have three great-grandsons. Kelsey Beth was born in St. Louis on Sept. 8th. Congratulations.

Our junior member, Anita Kraus, has another award to her credit. She was elected Miss Illinois Pompon First Runner Up. Congratulations to her and her proud parents.

Two of our members spent their vacations outside the State of Illinois this year. Evonne Haller spent time in London and Dorothy Koncar went East.

A little reminder to those who have not paid their dues, please do so. Bring a prospective member with you next time you attend a meeting; maybe we can help them to decide to join.

Mary Ivanich can surely keep a secret. She engineered the visit of her cousin, Frank Malnaric, from Slovenia without anyone of her family knowing about it until he arrived. Franc was able to spend several weeks visiting and meeting all the relatives -- numbering 78 the last count. Franc retired to farming after being a church-painter for many years. He was fascinated by the abundance here in America. He commented that some of our stores are bigger than a whole village in Yugoslavia. Mary and her sister, Helen Terdich, were able to teach him a few words in English, which made him very proud. Visiting Joliet had been a lifelong dream of Franc, who lives near Ljubljana, Slovenia. He was 70 years old when his dream came true.

Our December meeting on the 19th will be our Christmas Party Brunch at the Colonial Steak House. Call Judy Derlinga, president, for reservations. Those who can, will attend the 11:00 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph's Church and proceed from there in a group. There will be a \$3.00 gift exchange.

The Home Office has many Slovene articles suitable for Christmas giving, from Record Albums, to cards, decorations and books. Be different this year, promote your heritage!

May the Christmas season bring peace, happiness and fulfilled dreams; the New Year many dreams to be fulfilled as each of us has something special that only we can do.

Merry Christmas
HELEN PLUT

Happy holidays! As of Nov. 1, 1982 our top team is Slovenian Home with a 17-7 record. Our top four bowlers are Vick Bernickas 159, Marj Wajchert 157, Betty Fassiotio 154 and Carol Kroviak 150. Split-getters are: 3-10 Judy Kozol, Diana Fothergill, Rose Castelli, Ann Kobe, Ann Sternisha and Dorothy Horvat; 2-7 Louise Hedrick, Ann Kobe and Mary Lou Kroviak; 45-7 Mary Lou Kroviak and 3-5-10 Betty Fassiotio; 6-7 Marj Wajchert.

On October 25 we held a Halloween party in the Rivals Club room after bowling, with a majority of the bowlers in attendance. Games and "trick or treat ghosts" were played with everyone winning either prizes, tricks or treats. Door prizes were won by Ann Sternisha and Marian Jakovich. Refreshments were served with donations of bakery, punch or prizes by Judy Kozol, Agnes Lovati, Betty Fassiotio, Mary Kay Demick, Mary Cleveland, Dorothy Horvat, Diana Fothergill and Sherry Phelan.

As of October 25, Slovenian Home was in first place and Merichka's Restaurant was in last place. Therefore, Merichka's is in charge, of our Christmas party and Slovenian Home our Spring Banquet.

Get well wishes are sent to Betty Fassiotio and former bowler, Lil Anderson.

JUDY KOZOL, secretary

NO. 21, WEST ALLIS, WI

To: Ohio-Michigan Combined Branches of S.W.U.! We wish to express our sincere appreciation for the honor you bestowed on us by selecting us as the honorees at the State Convention Oct. 10th. Thank you for the kindness you showed and all your thoughtful gifts.

*Rose Kosko, President,
Stella Dancull, Secretary.*

Our former reporter, Anna Jesenko became a great grandmother for the 4th time to great granddaughter, Cynthia Lynn. Proud parents are Terry and Bruce Abbot. Congratulations to all.

Please pay up your dues before the end of the year.

Wishes to all members for a very Happy Christmas and good health.

STELLA DANCULL

She rode on her broom in the night, this stormy October 19 night, landing at Mary Rittmanic's and saying nary a word -- until time to pay her dues. All the while there was much bantering with this eerie presence among us. Who was she? Ann Richards in the witch's perfect get-up! Our hostesses, Mary and Marge Planton, were not outdone in the spirit of Halloween, from the first sip of cider to the luscious dessert!

Fun had to make way for serious work, however. Toni Legris reminded us of the State Convention recommendation that we write to our Senator Percy, urging him to use his influence on behalf of a Bishop Baraga postal stamp so that our good Bishop may be made known and honored nationally.

Suggestions were elicited for the change in name of our association. How does Slovenian Women's Organization sound to you?

Approved to receive donations were the Slovenian Miners' Memorial Fund and the Bishop Baraga Association.

The date of December 12 and the place, the restaurant at the Kankakee Motor Inn, were set for the Christmas dinner, with the meeting to follow at the home of Toni Legris.

Marge Planton was the happy winner of the beautifully crocheted scarf donated by Mrs. Anna Jamnik. Thank you, Mrs. Jamnik; your gift certainly helped our treasury.

I am grateful to Mary for the tour of the "gallery" of her paintings; among them a seascape that won a Gold Medal at the Olivet College Art Exhibit, entitling her an entry to State competition. Unfortunately, she lost to an abstract! Mary enjoys this artful pastime, a pleasure we can share in. And the Hero's Room? It holds all the plaques honoring Leo for his life-saving deed of last January. The latest, a Certificate of Merit from Congressman George O'Brien of Joliet, was recently awarded at a special gathering of four honorees.

Last but not least, our special thanks to Branch No. 16 for the well-organized State meet and for the warm welcome accorded our Slovenian guest, Mela Malnar. It pleased her so very much.

Happy Thanksgiving and Joyous Christmas to all.

EMMA LUSTIG, Reporter

Wishing you a beautiful Christmas!

OHIO-MICHIGAN STATE CONVENTION REPORT

Elected Ann Tereck who is also president of Br. 50. She replaces previous State President, Sophie Magayna who suddenly passed away in January, 1982. At the Combined Branches meeting in August, 1982, it was decided to have the State Convention on Oct. 10, 1982.

Branch members all came and joined in prayers at the yearly mass at St. Mary's Church on Holmes Ave., for the organizer of Br. 50 and long-time National Officer, Albina Novak.

Marie Prislund Cadets and members of Br. 32 in uniform led the rest of the members in the procession. The sound of the organ was beautiful and the choir with Slovenian songs was heart-warming.

After mass, the members drove to Euclid Park Club house on 222nd St., and Lake Shore Blvd., where some of the members of Br. 50 prepared a light lunch.

The meeting opened with prayers. The Dawn Choral Club sang, Venček, Gozdič je že Zelen and Zvezina Himna.

Pauline Krall talked about the concert of the Dawn Choral Group on Nov. 28th at 4 p.m. at Rechar Hall and hoped that all will attend and help make it a success.

The president welcomed and congratulated the large attendance. She introduced herself, Irene Jagodnik, Albina Uehlein and reporter, Marie Beck. A prayer was offered for past national president, Mary Bostian who is ill and for the souls of Frances Sietz and Sophie Magayna, departed officers of our state.

The Minutes of the last convention in 1981 were read

and approved. Then followed reports of branches. There was no correspondence.

The Cadets brought up two members, Rose Kosko and Stella Dancull, officers of Br. 21 to the front. These were the special members to be honored. They are long-time officers of Br. 21. For their help and encouragement and bringing success to their branches for many years, they were given a grand round of applause. Stella is secretary for the Combined Branches for many years also.

Reports of all branches was satisfactory. At this time President Ann stated, "If at any time help is needed, please call on me! And remember, enroll new members, your relatives, friends! We must replace our losses and must grow to succeed."

Br. 10 is considering starting a scholarship fund drive in memory of departed secretary and State President, Sophie Magayna.

The meeting adjourned at 4.30 p.m. with prayer for the 39 departed members of the branches in 1981 with the Cadets holding lighted candles.

The president asked for unity among all branches for the success of each and all together, for the continuity of the S.W.U.

May the Lord keep you in health and happiness until the next convention.

Warm wishes to all.

MARIE BECK, Recording Secretary

NO. 23, ELY, MN

The regular October meeting was opened with prayer by Mary Zgonc. Mary Skufca, the 1st. Vice President conducted in the absence of our President, Mary Petritz.

Plans for our Christmas dinner were set for December 2, Thursday, at 6 p.m. at Vertin's Cafe.

Members on the sick list are; Mary Vidmar, Mayme Kotchevar, Louise Petrich, and Beatrice Masnari. We hope to see them soon at our meetings.

The lunch committee for the November meeting was, Jennie Zaverl, Margaret Tome, Frances Marolt, Frances Mulek, Mary J. Elioff and Frances Zupaneich. The door prize was won by Angela Godec.

Our November meeting was opened by a beautiful reading by Mary Palcher. The President, Mary Petritz, welcomed three new members, Jennie Zaverl, Katherine Klabe, and Mary Loisel. The Treasurer was given permission to purchase new work books for herself and the secretary.

The following members will be in charge of the Christmas meeting; Frances Grahek, Margaret Shuster, Rose Starkovich, Mary Ravnikar, and Mary Ann Pulis. 47 members were present.

I am very sorry to report that Margie Presherin, one of our

faithful members passed away on November 1st. She served as our President in 1981 during our Minnesota Day. Margie was 62 and died in her home. She leaves one daughter, Darlene Nemanich, who is also a member and a son, Franklin Preshiren, also five sisters. Our sympathy goes to the family. May she rest in peace.

MARY Z. PALCHER

NO. 24, LA SALLE, IL

Our last meeting was well-attended. Our new meeting place, the Resurrection Church Rectory is very comfortable. Our pastor, Rev. Richard Fitzsimmons has made us most welcome and we do appreciate his kindness in letting us meet in his home.

Geraldine Rogowski had surgery recently but is now up and around. Perhaps you can get to our next meeting Gerry; we look forward to having you with us. Our sick and shut-in members are remembered at each meeting during our opening prayer. Winter must seem especially long for shut-ins not only because they can't get out, but because others can't get out to visit during bad weather. A phone call or card would be a nice substitute for a visit.

Plans for our Christmas Party will be completed at the November meeting. If you can't attend the meeting watch the church bulletin

and local newspaper for details. We hope you can join us -- we always have a good time.

Remember! There will be no meetings in January or February. Our next meeting will be on March 17, 1983.

Best wishes to all for a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed and Happy New Year.

ANNE M. WANGLER,
Reporter

NO. 32, EUCLID, OH

We had our annual anniversary pass at St. Christine's church for the deceased members of our branch on Oct. 20th. From there we adjourned to the hall for our monthly meeting. I know there will be other reports on the State Convention held in Euclid on Oct. 10th. I just want to say the mass at St. Mary's Church in Collinwood was inspiring as usual with the beautiful choir singing and the thoughtful words of Fr. Tome who paid tribute to Albina Novak and Frances Sietz for whom the mass was offered. President Ann Tereck conducted the meeting in a professional way and together with the company of all the members from the other branches we enjoyed the delightful day.

On a sad note, we report that Anna Rossman lost a brother in October; Cecelia McLean lost her father; Myra Novak grieves for her

NO. 33, DULUTH, MN

mother; Mollie Gregorc also lost a brother and Louise Fabec's husband, Louis passed away. He was also the brother of Caroline Lokar and Chris Vrch. May they all rest in peace.

We had an unusual number of members on the sick list since September. They are Mary Bostian, Alice Cercek, Ann Deptola, Tinca Kanalec, Jo Baron, Frances Wedemire, Josephine Comensek, Emily Kerzman, Angela Zust, Jennie Jagodnik, Barb Strumbly, Eva Debevec and Mary Znidarsic. We pray that they are all on the mend by now.

We sang Happy Birthday to nine members and we also had five members over the age of 75 years.

We want to extend very belated congratulations to Alma and Ed Eppich on their 50th wedding anniversary! Katherine Zalac and her husband have 55! Rose and Bob Hahn celebrated their 35th!

Jo Jevic became a first time grandmother when her granddaughter Jamie Elizabeth made her debut on Oct. 19th, parents are daughter Janet and son-in-law Jim Short. Ditto to Ann Cooke whose grandson, Ryan Joseph made his appearance on Sept. 28th, parents being daughter Carole and son-in-law Bob Kozan.

Ann Chinchar and husband, John are on their way to Florida for six months and Carmella Cartenuto is in California visiting her brother and sister-in-law. Margaret Sas and three friends went to Lake George, Quebec, St. Ann's, then to St. Joseph's Shrine and the Thousand Islands. She asks us to pray for her brother who is in Cleveland Clinic for possible heart surgery.

We all want to thank Hermine for the beautiful plaques of the Virgin Mary and Infant Jesus that she brought back with her from Brezje, Slovenia on her last trip there.

After the meeting we had an Avon representative, Virginia Schmidt, with a large assortment of cosmetics and jewelry to show. A good way to start Christmas shopping.

At our November meeting we were to have election of officers and Karen Mancini to instruct us on the making of a centerpiece with dried flowers. We hope to see our usual number of members plus many more.

Your reporter,

ESTHER GARBINCUS

Sixty (60) members of our branch enjoyed a delicious buffet supper at Elde's Supper Club, Oct. 6.

Several new members were sworn into our branch: Evelyn Minogue, Helen Streeter, Mary Nagorski, Helen Stocton, Mary Giacomini, Marie Garafalo and Helene Abbott.

Marie Garafalo had her name drawn for \$5.00 attendance prize also.

Bake Sale for Nov. 2 election was discussed.

Watkins brochures were distributed by Thyra Rukavina, Ruth Boben and Jackie Rukavina, who will be in charge of this money-making event which will go on during the month of October and turned in Nov. 3 meeting. Our branch gets a good percentage on all sales made, as well as parties held or booked.

Most sincere congratulations to Oreste and Betty Picconatto on honor of having grandson, Paul John Schwermer, ordained a priest Oct. 30 in Lansing, Mich. His parents Ted and Virginia were members of St. Elizabeth's parish when living in Duluth and were married there.

Anniversary wishes to Dorothy Brula — 60 years. Happy to be new grandmothers are Rene Doble and Verna Thoreson.

Our prayers for any members on the sick list: Jane Purdy and Delores Heski.

It is hard to believe as I sit enjoying the last white Clematis on my kitchen table (picked to save it from "frost") that with my Crysanthemums still in full bloom that by the time you will be reading this it will be time to say "MERRY CHRISTMAS" and wish each and everyone a most Happy Holiday Season. Know that from every member of our branch to all members everywhere the wish for "Peace" throughout the world is our hope for the New Year and always.

LOIS PELANDER, Reporter

NO. 34, SOUDAN, MN

Branch No. 34, Soudan is in full swing again this year -- we had another wonderful turnout of 21 members at our meeting on October 20. We initiated our new member, Lucille Svatos, and welcomed Julie, Anita and Ann Adkisson, junior members, who were enrolled by their grandmother, Helen Adkisson -- welcome to all!

The Pots & Pans Cookbook has been selling well, we are promised a shipment in December -- a good idea for a Christmas gift to someone. We

received The Baraga Bulletin and it might be of interest to some of you that our member, Agnes Skala Tekautz, is a first cousin to Monsignor Scheringer, who will be honored in September 1983 in Manistique, Michigan, on his 50th anniversary of his ordination and also the 150th anniversary of Baraga's dedication of his first church in America. Agnes' mother and Monsignor's father were brother and sister. Agnes explained this to us at our meeting and it was most interesting. Msgr. Scheringer was president of the Baraga Association for many years and also began a biography of Bishop Baraga but poor health forced him to give these up. Our branch has contributed toward the Baraga Assn. for many years.

On October 27 we had a memorial mass said for our deceased members and 13 ladies attended mass, Fr. Krysipin lead the Rosary after mass, it being the month of the Rosary. It was good to see so many out. The weather has been beautiful and it was pleasant to be out early in the morning.

We are making plans to honor a long-time member, Mayme Musich, who is residing at the Nursing Home in Ely, on her birthday November 28. Happy birthday, Mayme!

My mother-in-law, Frances Mustonen, who also resided at the Ely Nursing Home, passed away on October 16 -- I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who were so good to her in life -- those in our communities and also the many volunteers in Ely -- many times we recognized each other from gatherings of SWU -- also a thank you to Mary Hutar, who does a tremendous job bringing music to all the lives of the nursing home residents.

Our hostesses for the meeting were Angie Grahek & Ann Stefanich, who served the Apricot-Pineapple-Banana Salad, a recipe from the Pots & Pans column -- delicious! Winners during our meeting were Sophie Spollar, Tory Bobence, Angie Jannick & Louise Chiabotti, the attendance prize was brought by Angela Tekautz and won by Angie Grahek. Let's keep up the good attendance -- our new members have been most faithful in coming to our meetings -- we are looking for more members also! Encourage other to come to our meetings -- we have a good time! I wish you all a very happy holiday season -- with many blessings in the New Year!

ADELIN MUSTONEN, Reporter

ZARJA—THE DAWN

"THE OLD, OLD WISHES, EVER NEW
BRING ALL THE SEASON'S JOYS TO YOU."

Thoughts on the 56th anniversary of the Slovenian Women's Union on December 19th!

There have been many milestones in the 55 years. These were at first obstacles, but became significant stepping stones to future progress and now - as we look back - the milestones of our organization.

There have been 18 milestones - 18 National Conventions, each held with serious decisions that affected the future decades. The first National Convention was held in Chicago in 1927. The largest was in Washington D.C. in 1967 when there were over 400 delegates and visitors from all over the U.S. At that milestone convention, the proposal for the Slovenian Chapel in the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception was accepted and the rest is history. In 1971 we attended the Dedication of the Chapel and in 1981 the 10th anniversary. It is a crowning jewel in the history of the Slovenian Women's Union and the late National Secretary, Albina Novak, who spearheaded the fund drive.

Establishment of annual Zveza Days in Lemont, Illinois in 1940 was a milestone. Branches 2 and 20 co-hosted the event which is still held each year, now under the sole responsibility of Br. 2. Sports became popular and the first Bowling Tournament was held in 1937.

The years 1933 through 1940 were milestone years for Zveza as it was during this period that the Drill Teams were organized. In 1940, a gigantic Field Day was held at Euclid Beach Park in Cleveland with 14 teams representing many states and branches and 8 Junior Circles, all participating in a demonstration of drill techniques.

These teams are worth naming - it will recall the part you may have played in this great recreational effort!

Marie Prislant Cadets, Br. 50, organized 1933; St. Vitus Cadets, Br. 25 (1936);

The following in 1937: Frances Rupert Cadets, Br. 14; Frances Bresak Cadets, Br. 40. Joliet Championship Cadets, Br. 20; St. Lawrence Cadets, Br. 15; Mary Loushin Cadets, Br. 41; Frances Susel Cadets, Br. 10. Little Flower Cadets, Br. 47; then in 1938, Barberton Cadets, Br. 6.

In 1939 there were the St. Mary's Cadets of Br. 3, (the largest drill team in number); Mary Smoltz (Lenich) Cadets, Br. 19; St. Christine Cadets, Br. 32 and West Park Cadets, Br. 21.

The Junior Circles were all established in 1940 at Branches, 10, 14, 15, 19, 25, 32, 40 and 41 in Ohio.

Zveza's largest membership was 13,953 in 1943. Our assets hit the half million mark in 1966.

We have owned two buildings as our headquarters; in 1952, in Chicago, Illinois and in 1977 we bought the present Home Office building in Joliet, Illinois.

The Scholarship and Benefit Fund was established in 1944. Mother of the Year celebrations began in 1951. Yet more milestone years were 1977, 1978 and 1980 when we held our Slovenian Heritage Days in Joliet under the sponsorship of Br. 20.

The 1958 National Convention established the offices of our seven State or Regional Presidents and in 1960 the State Conventions were begun in Minnesota.

Numerous public events can be considered milestones: concerts, operettas, dramatic programs; excursions all over the U.S. and abroad, many at first by boat and then by that new invention, the long distance airplane.

Books have an important part in our milestone count. Before Zarja there was published a book called "Ameriška Slovenka", edited by Founder, Marie Prislant in 1928. The Pocket Songbook, "Zapojmo - Let's Sing" in 1942 and reprinted in 1952, the book of Slovenian Melodies hand-written by poet and composer Ivan Zorman in 1951;

in 1951, the first edition of the popular cookbook, "Woman's Glory-The Kitchen" was printed, then reprinted twice in 1958 and 1971. The cookbook "Pots and Pans" follows its illustrious forerunner in 1982. Prislant's "From Slovenia to America" was printed in 1968 and reprinted in 1978 and Odorizzi's "Footsteps Through Time" reached our book shelves in 1978.

Milestone after milestone. That we can tell you about them in this media, we finally count the year of the establishment of ZARJA-THE DAWN, July, 1929.

Nice to reflect on some of these things. Your memories are probably awakened to many more which this writer would like to add, if you will remind her, in another column.

So, Happy Anniversary Slovenian Women's Union. May you have many more!

Now, please turn to page 25.

Illinois Officers at State Convention

Oct. 3rd was the date Br. 16, South Chicago, Illinois sponsored the annual State Convention. Committee members prepared a delightful day. On this photo are chairlady, Ann Lustig of Br. 16, President of Br. 89, Oglesby, Mary Ann Samuelson Br. 16 secretary and president, Gladys Buck and Marge Prebil and National President, Mary Muller. At the grand gathering they discussed events of the past year and made plans for the next state meeting in October of 1983 in Joliet.



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
ILLINOIS-INDIANA STATE CONVENTION
South Chicago, Illinois, Oct. 3, 1982

Illinois-Indiana State Convention was held on Sunday, October 3, 1982, hosted by branch No. 16 of South Chicago, Illinois.

Schedule for the day was as follows.

Coffee and rolls were served in church hall before Mass; MASS — 11:30 a.m. at St. George Church — 96th and Ewing Avenue — celebrated by Father Raphael Sesek, pastor.

Dinner — 1:00 p.m. — Villa Cosenza Restaurant, 10468 Indianapolis Blvd., Chicago, Illinois.

Reservations were handled by Ann Lustig, at a cost of \$8.00.

Convention meeting took place after dinner.

Father Raphael Sesek had the invocation before dinner. Mrs. Lustig introduced the national officers. Angela Nico, regional state president, welcomed all in English and Slovenian. Read were by-laws regarding purpose of Slovenian Women's Union. Mrs. Nico also asked for cooperation in limiting reports to positive subjects. Minutes of last convention were read by Corinne Leskovar and approved. She received quite an ovation for completion of same. Mrs. Nico thanked recording secretary of Branch No. 2, for last year's Minutes.

Mayme Muller, National President, greeted all with her usual warm welcome. She stressed that getting new members is the most important task of each and every present member. Hints and suggestions from everyone are necessary in order to improve conditions of every branch. She also asked for prayers for Anne Kompare, National Vice President recovering from illness at this time and unable to be present. A letter came from Anne Kompare expressing her regrets. Olga Ancel, National Secretary, announced our membership has decreased 214, since last October. 4,465 Slovenian Women's Union cookbooks have been sold to date. \$2.75 is realized from sales of each.

Mary Marolt, National Treasurer, no report available. Corinne Leskovar, Editor, commended Anne Lustig, for her cooperation in all endeavors for the Union. Also thanked Marge Prebil and Gladys Buck, for their untiring efforts for branch No. 16, especially Gladys Buck, for her 41 years of service.

Corinne urged support for a BISHOP BARAGA stamp. Submitted names of local representatives to whom we could write for support. They are as follows: Illinois Senators—Charles Percy and Alan Dixon; Illinois Congressmen; Frank Annunzio and Daniel Rostenkowski, Colorado Congressman; Ray Kogovsek, and Minnesota Congressman; James Oberstar.

Her second proposal was to revive a Cotillion Ball for young members.

She announced National Convention will be held in Chisholm, Minnesota the third week-end in May, 1983.

Highlight of the Convention will be Blessing of Slovenian Miners and Labors' Memorial. Memorial plans are fantastic. Branch No. 2 is selling tickets for memorial benefit today.

Convention delegates will be entitled to per diem. Last convention delegates were aided with prize book receipts.

Slovenian Women's Union membership is 6800.

Last issue of ZARJA carried article on early settlement of Slovenes in Southeastern Chicago. Polly Klobucar, member of No. 16, called attention in ZARJA, pertaining to Marge Krmpotich's (No. 95) visit with Mother Theresa in Arkansas.

Father David Stalzer stated that about 12,000.00 on hand for Slovenian Miner's Memorial. If a branch wishes to donate towards this project, it will be appreciated. Marge Prebil, president of No. 16, contributed \$50.00 to the fund in memory of her father-in-law, Louis Prebil. Father also informed us of the canonization of MAXIMILLIAN KOLBE, in Rome on October 10, 1982. Also expressed his feelings that if pressure from local bishops and priests was exercised, possibly BISHOP BARAGA would be elevated to sainthood sooner.

Angela Nico resumed the podium with advice on delegates' expenses. All delegates' expenses, should be defrayed by respective branches.

Branch Reports

Branch No. 2, Chicago - MARY FOYS LAURETIC — First-time delegate and their vice president reported that they have a membership of 191 adults. 45 attended monthly meetings. Monthly Mass for sick. 2 Reporters for ZARJA. St. Joseph's Table is observed. Hosted bowling tournament. Crowning of Blessed Mother in May. Participated in Slavic Day in Joliet in June. July-Zveza Day in Lemont. July & August - no meetings. October - Election of officers. November - Penny Social. December - Juniors and adults Christmas parties. 28 members were present at this convention.

Branch No. 5 - Indianapolis, Indiana — Report mailed in by Secretary JOSEPHINE TURK. Branch pays dues for members 80 years and older. Sends to Lemont for Masses. Plan to participate in next year's bowling tournament. This year's convention was to be hosted by their branch, but due to circumstances they were unable to do so.

Branch No. 16 - South Chicago - DOLORES O'BRIEN - First-time delegate - 205 members in our union. Christmas party, next affair. Members enjoy social at meetings. No complaints.

Our branch can boast of many diligent workers. We consider attending wakes and funerals, an important obligation of each member. At age 75 - \$3.00 is paid by our branch. Card & Bunco parties are our annual fundraiser. Mother of the Year or Member of the Year is honored at our regular meeting in Mary. 57 members present at this convention.

Branch No. 24, La Salle — ANNE MARIE WANGLER — 121 members. 12 attend meetings. 25 attend Christmas Party. No complaints at this time. Enjoy ZARJA.

Branch No. 20 - Joliet - AGNES LOVATI - Secretary - membership of 591. 29 members present today. (Plus bus driver). Drawing for year's dues affected by attendance at monthly meetings. Emma Planinsek and Josephine Erjavec were commended for their many years of service, having retired in 1982. Mary Marolt, National Treasurer is campaigning for public office and sends greetings. Mother of the Year honored in May. Branch took a trip to Nashville. Co-sponsored 1st Slavic Day in Joliet.

Civic project - Purchased a chair for Rialto Theater in Joliet, Ill. at a cost of \$100.00, with engraving on same. Grape Festival Dance last week a huge success. Bowling teams always entered for tournament. Thanked Corinne Leskovar for compiling ZARJA. All members feel she is deserving of recognition. Joliet Branch would appreciate if another branch would assume respon-

sibility of HERITAGE DAYS. They would give their undivided cooperation and attention for same.

Branch No. 22 - Bradley - ANTOINETTE "TONI" LEGRIS - Average attendance at monthly meeting is 12 to 15 members. 12 members present at this convention! Mass annually for deceased members. Interested in keeping up Slovenian heritage. Visitor from Slovenia was introduced.... Enjoy ZARJA very much.

Branch No. 85, De Pue, MARY JERMENC - secretary. No comments or complaints.

Branch No. 89 - Oglesby - MARY KERNZ - secretary. 52 members. 14 to 20 attend meetings. Visit Nursing Homes. Sold many cook-books. Members like a chance to exchange ethnic recipes. Disapprove of belated distribution of bowling trophies.

Branch No. 95, So. Chicago, MILDRED JAMES - President - 18 members present. 37 to 50 attend monthly meetings. Enrollment of new members is a big goal in their branch. Evelyn Driscoll was thanked for all her cooperation in all undertakings. Evelyn Driscoll and Mary Perkovich, are chairing "WOMAN OF THE YEAR" honoring Julia Hansen this year.

Christmas Party to be held on December 1, 1982, at the Martinique. Last but not least, her roster of officers are the best anyone could have. Mary Dosen, member of the branch is mother of newly ordained priest, Father Dosen.

Branch No. 99 - Elmhurst - No report.

Mildred Pucel of Br. 20 appealed to attending members regarding Heritage Days. Also asking for articles to be used to display at the Home Office Heritage room. If no articles of ethnic pageantry are available, monetary gifts will be accepted.

Angela Nico expressed thanks and gratitude to all interested in submitting reports. She then gave her report. Would like to put on a Slovenian Play. Contacted Tony's Polka Village for assistance. Material is available from S.W.U.

Angela Nico called on Corinne Leskovar, to state a motion for the issuance of commemorative stamp in honor of BISHOP BARAGA. Agnes Lovati seconded this motion.

Change of organization's name brought up. Mary Muller suggested individual branches should send requests for change of name. Father Stalzer thought the word UNION could be eliminated from Slovenian Women's Union. Angela Nico recommended that this be brought up at National Convention and delegate of Branch No. 22 so moved. Branch No. 16 seconded the motion.

Lemont Zveza Days according to Fran Morrison, president of Branch No. 2, are very successful. Activities for young and old throughout the day.

No suggestions for improving Zveza Days come from assembly. Cotillion Ball again proposed by Corinne, furthered by Jeanne Zubeck of Branch No. 2, asking help from branches, No. 20, No. 16 and No. 95.

Next convention - Branch No. 20 - Joliet, Illinois. First Sunday of October - 1983. Branch will be observing their 55th anniversary.

Angela Nico enumerated the officers, thanking all! Acknowledged Anne Lustig for her cooperation. Recognized Liz Zefran, Past National Treasurer, Mildred James No. 95 - Past State President, Anne Lustig No. 16 - Past State President.

Roll call followed: No. 2 - 28 members present; No. 5 - Absent; No. 16 - 57; No. 20 - 30; No. 22 - 12; No. 24 - 3; No. 85 - 1; No. 89 - 5; No. 99 - No report; No. 95 - 18.

Meeting adjourned with prayer and wishes all return home safely.

ANGELA NICO,
Regional President

PHYLLIS PERKO,
Recording Secretary (Br. 16)

FOR THE HOLIDAYS, GIVE A GIFT CERTIFICATE!

Due to the energetic sales by our members, the supply of our new Slovenian Women's Union cookbook, pots & PANS, is gone from the Home Office distribution center. Check if your branch secretary still has some, for your Christmas giving. If not, you may order a Gift Certificate from the Home Office. The second printing of the new cookbook has been ordered and will be completed sometime after the holidays. Gift Certificates will be honored promptly upon receipt of the new printing.

Send \$9.00 per book. (includes postage) to S.W.U. Home Office, 431 N. Chicago, St., Joliet, IL 60432



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As I write, it's warm and raining with some thunder and lightning; more like a Spring day than late Autumn; but, all that will change soon.

Our meeting on October 13 was well-attended - 18 members - and a dessert lunch was served by Olga Love, Rose Knezetic, Johanna Tomazic, Theresa Rajher and Jean Yelenc. Happy Birthday to all.

Thank you to Molly Glavan and Agatha Donges for donations.

Theresa Rajher won the door prize donated by Genevieve Wenzel.

Little pieces of news - Binnie Uehlein attended the Ohio Regional Convention and spoke on the highlights of an interesting meeting.

Rose Knezetic on a recent trip to California saw and conversed with Fr. Paul Rugar, the retired pastor of St. Cyril and Methodius; he's looking and feeling well.

Frances Tilosanec recently returned from Tulsa, Oklahoma after attending the wedding of her granddaughter, Lori Ann Stem, to Kennan Nesvold - it was a beautiful affair and a nice reunion for the family - Congratulations!

To our sick: Mary Yug, Carolyn Pandey, Ann Bobrowski and Francis Krumpek, hurry and get well.

Back to our Christmas party, 6 p.m. sharp on December 8th, we'll have the Slovenian Folk Dancers as our guest performers.

I must write of my personal loss; my brother, Anthony LaVriha passed away on October 9th, after a long illness - I will always miss him. Tony is survived by his wife, Loretta, son William and grandson Greg and a brother, Jack LaVriha.

To Tony, my Benediction:

*The Lord bless thee and keep thee:
The Lord make his face shine upon thee,*

And be gracious unto thee:

*The Lord lift up his
countenance upon thee,
And give thee peace.*

To all my lodge sisters who were so kind to me during this time, a simple "Thank you" will never do, but, each and every one will be remembered in my heart.

MARY PLOSZAJ



NO. 42, MAPLE HGTS., OH

Hello, ladies! Want to wish a happy birthday to our ladies, Mary Yemec, Donna Stubljer, Frances Zakrajsek, Marge Church, Yong Hui Shega, Frances Wenckus, born on Christmas Day and also to Susan Shega, another Christmas baby!

Thank you wonderful ladies for the delicious bakery donated at our Grape Festival. It was a success.

Thinking of our sick members - we send get well wishes. To our Junior Amy Buehner - sorry to hear of your accident, being hit in your eye. Hope the surgery will correct it all. Good luck.

At our last meeting in Oct. we had a nice crowd. Delicious apple Strudel was made by Mrs. Simoncic and delicious tiny cream puffs made by Jeanne Offuit, the birthday ladies. Jeanne also gave Mrs. Simoncic a beautiful red carnation corsage for her 91st birthday and a flower for me. So nice of all of you for donating the nice door prizes at each meeting. We appreciate it.

Member Betty Ann Harr and family moved from Illinois to Summerfield N.C. We wish them happiness and good luck in their new home.

Mary Prhne (Aurora) and Camille Lao went to Washington. Mary Fink went to the New England states. Frances, Ann and Tom Tomsic and their boys went to Seven Springs up in the mountains of Champion, Pa for a long weekend; stopped at Story Book Park which was enjoyed by the boys very much.

Our Christmas Parties are Dec. 4th for the juniors at SNH at 2 p.m. adult party is Dec. 14th. Let us know if you are coming.

Wishes to all for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Vesele Božične Praznike in Srečno Novo Leto!

MARY LOU PRHNE

The evenings are getting colder and it won't be long that the snow will be falling. I hardly believe anyone is glad to welcome that kind of weather. This means that some of our members will be heading for the warm climate down south. Mr. & Mrs. Henry Dybul are visiting their brother and brother-in-law in California.

At the October meeting the details for the Fall Poultry Card Party were finalized. The Christmas dinner to be held on Monday, December 13th at John's Hall, 35th and Lincoln Ave. This event will conclude our 1982 activities. The meeting will start at 6 p.m. sharp, with election of officers and then the dinner. Call in your reservation at your earliest convenience.* Each month the birthday members bring a treat. Some of the most delicious tortes and cakes are served with coffee. A big thank you for the treat.* The U.S.P.E.H. chorus is having their concert on Wednesday, December 15th at U.W.M. For further details, please contact a member in the chorus. To our sick and shut-ins a speedy recovery, and to all a Merry Christmas and a Happy 1983 New Year.

R.K.

NO. 45, PORTLAND, OR

Dec. 11th will be the Christmas Party at the home of Mrs. Knez. We will have a buffet with members attending bringing a favorite dish. 6 p.m. is the time. Please come and enjoy this festive time with us.

Usual exchange of gifts for those wishing to participate. Members will be contacted.

Anna Mikolovich, a long time member, passed on this last June.

Ursula Lulich, a charter member, has been ill and had surgery. We wish her a return to good health. Members, please pay for any outstanding dues you may owe by sending to Mrs. Mary Roso. So, looking forward to seeing many of you on Dec. 11th.

ALICE VIDAN, Reporter

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50 YEAR MEMBERS - Br. 42



Left: Niki Lerchbacher and Tonka Kastelic
Center: Josephine Stavec at age 95 is their oldest member.
Theresa Filips, left, and Frances Stavec right.



NO. 47, GARFIELD HGTS., OH

Meeting for September was held on Sunday, the 1st at one o'clock. It was well attended. Now that summer vacations are over, we are ready to get into our fall activities. The State Ohio-Michigan convention was held on Oct. 10th beginning with a 12:00 o'clock mass at St. Mary's in Collinwood followed by lunch at the Euclid Club House, E. 222nd St. Br. 47 from Garfield Hgts., would like to congratulate Stella Dancul and Rose Kosko who were recognized as most deserving at the convention. Stella and Rose come from the far west side of town and rain or shine, they both faithfully make it their business to attend the S.W.U. Combined Branch meetings. Stella also has been the recording secretary of the Combined Branches for the past 25 years or more. She is secretary of Br. 21, West Park. A better choice could not have been made.

Diane Dorchak, daughter of Al and Olga Dorchak, graduated from Ohio State University with high honors in Business, Accounting and Finance. She is the granddaughter of our president, Jennie Gerk, sister of Kathy Dorchak, all Br. 47 members. Congratulations, Diane!

Rose Kochevar and husband celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary

on Sept. 18th, in South Carolina with daughter, son-in-law and family. Pat Harsh, daughter, of Ann and Andy Harsh, was united in marriage on Sept. 11th at St. Michael's church to Tony Malay. Debbie Mareda, granddaughter of Ann Mareda was united in marriage to Jim Weist on Sept. 25th at 2 o'clock at St. Albert the Great church in No. Royalton. To both young couples, may you share many happy years together.

Sister of Ann Mareda and Rose Kochevar came from Oregon to attend the wedding. Mary and Casey Mundson celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary on Sept. 13th with a surprise party for their many friends at their son Jeffrey's home. They also became grandparents for the second time to a granddaughter, Allison, born on Oct. 15th.

To our convalescing members, Mary Vidakovic, Mary Sholar, Mary Vuleck, Mary Prosen, Val Mervar, may the dear Lord bless you and keep you in His care. We will remember you all in our prayers.

Our deepest sympathy to Ann Christofer and family on the recent loss of her son, Richard of Florida. May the perpetual light shine upon him and all our deceased members.

Happy Birthday!

To all our ladies that have birthdays in October, November, and

December. Special wishes to Jennie Zupancic who will be 90 years old on Dec. 3rd. Jennie was secretary for many years for Br. 15.

Ladies, I have on hand copies of the new cookbook, POTS & PANS. They make lovely gifts. Call me at 663-6957. Don't forget to try getting a new member.

Also, ladies, please check your dues books. There are some members who are not paid up for this year. Don't make it hard for their secretary. Officers are hard to get, so please be kind and make their work easier.

Our Christmas meeting and potluck lunch will be on Sunday, Dec. 5th at one o'clock at the Slovene National Home on Stanley Ave. Don't forget door prizes and canned goods.

Happy Holiday season to all and a prosperous New Year.

MARY TAUCHER, Secretary

NO. 50, CLEVELAND, OH

Thanksgiving dinner reunions are in the past and Christmas shopping and celebrating awaiting us all. Our Christmas party will be on Holmes Ave. with Julie Zalar cooking for us on Dec. 12 at 1:30 p.m. Always a good time, so don't miss it. Call Irene Jagodnik for reservations.

October meeting was well-

attended and our auction sale of brown bags was successful again. Volunteer bakers did themselves proud as usual. We even had the new green tomato jam on ritz crackers to sample plus strudel and cakes and wine tasting.

Had 13 birthdays and 4 anniversaries and 3 guests, Molly Watts, Marie Jarc and Rose Medved who then all joined.

Our deepest sympathy to Maureen Ross and family on the loss of her husband, Tom, also to her mother, Rose Ziherl and aunt Mary Chesnik who are all members. Two daughters were SWU debutantes.

Ohio-Michigan State Convention was well-attended with members coming from Girard, Niles, Warren and Lorain. They had some very interesting reports on the activities of the year. Also, on the same day at St. Mary's church, prior to the meeting, a special Mass for Albina Novak was held with our Guards officiating. It was a good turnout and everyone commented on the beautiful singing by the choir. Would appreciate if more Cleveland members and Br. 50 members would attend this convention and mass next year.

A full bus from Br. 50 went to Kuhar's in Geneva for a smorgasbord dinner and an enjoyable evening of dancing and singing to Bob Freeman's music to complete the ladies' night out. Our members can really do the birdie dance, hokey pokey, broom dance and the pork-chops the best of any! And, have a good time, too!

On our sick list are Frances Hrovat, Helen Hraster, Ann Petkovsek and Ann Muhic. May you all get well soon as we miss you.

Our travelers: Ann and Jim Kelly at the "Smokies" for two weeks, enjoying the scenery; Chris and Adolph Leskovec on a Bermuda Cruise - good eating, eh? Jean Tomsic and son to Tampa, Florida to visit a brother-in-law she hadn't seen in 38 years. Came home with oranges and home-grown pecans from his trees. Pauline Klemenc's son Michael was married to Susan in Warren, Pa., with a great number of guests from Cleveland who stayed for the weekend at Penn Laurel Motor Inn.

Our Young Achievers: Suzanne Radcliffe, daughter of Josephine Smith was promoted to Vice-President of Rainoldi Bowles Co., in San Francisco, a health care advertisers and public relations specialists firm. Jo's granddaughter, Adrienne, was here for 5 weeks this summer visiting grandma and aunts. Justine Zakrajsek's daughter-in-law attended a seminar in Arlington, VA

and spoke on sports medication. She also speaks here on the radio. Nice going, gals! Keep it up!

Want to wish Marie and Willard Hearn a happy 47th anniversary and a happy 75th birthday to Martin Tomc. May you all have many more. In closing, wishes to all for a Merry Christmas and may Santa be good to you. See you at the Christmas party Dec. 12th.

VERA SEBENIK

NO. 57, NILES, OH

Our October meeting was held at the home of our president Frances Yerman. We were happy to see our Wyoming member, Frances Mollis in attendance. She and her husband, Mike, are vacationing in Ohio and we enjoyed having them with us.

Plans were completed for our Christmas party, which is to be held on our regular meeting night Dec. 14th, and will be held at the Coachhouse at 5:30.

Jane Logar's husband is now home from the hospital. They planned on a trip to Las Vegas but John made it to the hospital instead. Not a pleasant change of plans but there is always a next time for Las Vegas. Nancy Segreto is still on the sick list and we wish her full recovery soon.

Lunch was served by Viola Logar and Mary Molar and the door prizes were won by Julia Yakup, Josephine Perusek, and Mary Strah.

Find the Star

by Joe A. Harris

If I could find the star that shone
The Night the Christ was born.
Would its bright light reflect a
path
To banish hate and scorn?
If I could call the shepherds back
That heard the angel's voice
Would they in some unusual way
Help mankind all rejoice?
If I could locate wise men three,
That traveled from the east,
Would they explain with hearts
aglow,
Why the best of us are the least?
If I could hear the heavenly hosts
That sang so long ago.
Would they express a praise in
song,
Of love we all could know?
Of course these thoughts are
fantasy,
Or at least a task too hard;
But there is a bright and shining
star,
We call Him Christ, our Lord.

ANN PEASE, Reporter



Our branch will have a Christmas Covered Dish luncheon on Dec. 15 a Wednesday, at 1 p.m. at our president's home, Josie Kassin, 361 Howland-Wilson Rd. You are to bring a covered dish and your own tableware, also a door prize and food for our annual project. Please come. It will be an important meeting.

We are to celebrate our 50th anniversary soon. We have decided to have a function in the spring. Most likely it will be a dinner-dance and we need a large group at the meeting to finalize our plans. This will involve a lot of effort and planning and we wish to have all the help we can get!

At the Oct. meeting, our new member, Margaret Patrick was sworn in and we are happy to welcome her in the group. It was very hard for us to get a new member and we are very proud of her. She was good enough to donate a goodly amount to our treasury and we thank her for it.

My mom, Rose Racher has been ailing. She fell and was badly bruised and it really took a lot out of her. Get well soon, Ma!

Vacationing in West Virginia was Anne Savor. We missed you at the meeting, Ann! Our president, Josie, is getting company from Slovenia and is so excited. Her aunt is bringing them and she lives in Washington. I know Josie will show them a good time!

We won't have a meeting in January. The weather is usually against us.

Merry Christmas and a Blessed and Properous Healthy New Year to you all. Hopefully our economy will be on the upgrade.

JOANNE PONIKVAR
Secretary-treasurer

NO. 56, HIBBING, MN

Our October meeting was opened with prayer by president, Rose Maras. Reports were read and accepted. Frances Bernard was reported sick. We had a mass for our deceased members on Nov. 14th at Blessed Sacrament church followed by breakfast. We invited a speaker from the either the telephone or railroad company for after the first of the year.

Our Christmas party will be at the Bonanza on our monthly meeting night, Dec. 14. The cost will be \$5 per person.

We were saddened by the death of Cathran Marolt. She was a loyal member and good worker for the lodge. She was a friend of many and

"CHRISTMAS"

by Carole Traven,
member of Br. 50, Cleveland, Ohio

A song to sing at your Christmas Party! She says the members of Br. 50 enjoyed singing it together at their party last year and suggests that more members might want to try this. It is sung to the tune of "M is for the million things she gave me".

C is for a Child born Christmas morning

H is for His Halo made of gold

R is for the Righteousness He taught us

I is for His Image to behold

S is for our Sins, He came to save us

T is for the Truth, we now all know

MAS

just means that it is Christmas

The Christ Child came to say "hello!"



M. GASPARI

CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS OF SLOVENIA

BOŽIČNO KAJENJE IN KROPLJENJE - During the holidays and oftentimes just after the new year, but before the feast of the Three Kings, the family would gather to bless the house. The father carried burning incense to give a heavenlike presence in the house as every room was visited indoors and outdoors including all sheds, stables, etc. Mother did the blessing with a sprig of "pušpan" (or some handy branch) and holy water. As the family proceeded, they prayed the Rosary. In this picture we see them near the corner family altar known as "Bogov Kot" which for Christmas was used for the creche (jaslice).

we all admired her for all she did with her handicap. Her suffering was never known to us. She will be greatly missed. To her family we extend our deepest sympathy and may she rest in peace. The charter was draped in her memory.

Special prize winner was Milena Koehler. Lunch was served by hostesses Mary Meadows, Anne Satkovich and Ann Selvo. Cards were played and winners were Lena Pepruner, Hilda Pogorlec and Agnes Barkis. A speedy recovery to all who are sick and best wishes to all. God bless you.

ANNE B. SATOVICH, Reporter

NO. 59, BURGETTSTOWN, PA

Hello! It's an Indian Summer day as I write this in October. But, I'm sure when this gets printed for December, we'll have our snow shovels in hand.

We are sending our thoughts and get well wishes for a speedy recovery to Mrs. Caroline Papesh who fell at her home. Hopefully, she is on the mend. Mary Vukasanovich was in the hospital for tests but is at home now recuperating. Also, I received a phone call from Hanna Lawrence of Utica, Michigan. She had a slight stroke but is coming along fine. Mary Serrini, Hilda Vavazzi and Tommy Paskutius will celebrate a Dec. birthday. Many happy returns of the day.

Is everyone participating in the hustle and bustle of Christmas holiday? It's later than you think. With the work stoppage, gifts don't mean everything. Get together with family and friends and enjoy a Blessed Christmas in each other's company. Ho! Ho! Ho! Merry Christmas to all! From Santa's helper - the "elf!"

NO. 67, BESSEMER, PA

Meeting was called to order by Vice-President Ann Markovich. Mildred Hulina read the Minutes of the last meeting which was poorly attended as was this one.

We lost another member, Mary (Katic) Bryan who passed away July 5th. She was 84 years old, born Dec. 7 at Istria, Slovenia to Anton and Katherine Percic Katic. She was preceded in death by her husband, Rudolph who died in 1969. She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Martin (Joan) Lagan of Poland, Ohio and Mrs. Edward (Olga) Kursil of Bulter, Pa. A son, Rudy, Jr. of Bessemer, sister Anna Ruzic, two brothers, Peter and Frank all three in Slovenia, nine grandchildren and nine great grandchildren also survive. Service was conducted at the Funeral Home and interment at the Yugoslav Cemetery in Bessemer. Our sincere condolences to the family.

We also would like to extend our

deepest sympathy to Mildred Yargas whose brother, Frank, passed away quite suddenly Oct. 4th. May they rest in peace.

We have a few members on the sick list. Ljubi Vlah, Mary Sepic, Helen Pelozo are in the Hospital. Sauvi Vlah is getting along well after her surgery. Mary Marotti is still in the hospital. Ladies, don't forget the sick - visit or send a card.

We would like to express our sympathy to Katie Hubolich on the loss of brother, Frank Danicic of Canada.

Come to the meeting, visit and pay your dues for the year. Christmas is here so Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all! How quickly this year went by! God bless everyone.

MARY PERCIC, Sec'y-Rep.

NO. 71, STRABANE, PA

Season's greetings to all our members! Looking back on this past year, our lodge has really taken on new life, thanks to the participation of everyone! It seems that at each meeting our members get more enthusiastic and our turnout is larger. If you haven't been to our branch meetings lately, please make a point to come and join us in the companionship and fun.

Our first bus trip sponsored by the lodge was indeed a success. Fifteen eager members and guests boarded a bus to Pittsburgh to have lunch and



VESELE BOŽIČNE PRAZNIKE IN SREČNO NOVO LETO
vsem članicam naše S.Ž.Z. posebno podružnice katere obhajate 50 letnico v tem letu.

ANNA PACHAK

Častna državna predsednica
PUEBLO, COLORADO

see the Broadway show "A Chorus Line". It was a pleasure to meet and have Stella Borsa, Felicia Papakie, Sadie Mazotta and Tessie Radosi join us. Many members are anticipating another trip in the spring.

The ghosts and goblins of Halloween came early this year as our members had their first Halloween party on Oct. 14th. We had a wonderful turnout of 25 members in costume who came to the hall that had been decorated to appear "haunted". Dorthy Bruce, Marge Striner, Julie Cushma and Sharon Bostjancic used some great imagination in creating the "spooky" atmosphere and seasonal table settings. Prizes went to Agnes Bostjancic, Denise Swihart, Marge Striner, JoAnn Mals and yours truly for best costumes. Several games were played and everyone got a treat.

Get well greetings go out to Josephine Cushma, Sophie Getzik, Mary Sedmak and Mary Flowers. Sharon Bostjancic had the only October birthday of those present.

Fund raising prizes went to Lucy Koklich for the "Lucky Guess" jar. Beanie Engott won a Thanksgiving turkey and Jo Ann Mals won a fall door decoration.

A delicious Halloween luncheon was served by Cheryl Striner, Denise Swihart and Dorthy Bruce and special thanks go out to Sharon, Beanie, Marlene, Lucy, Aggie and Julia for all the extra treats that made the party so successful.

We have two important dates to remember in December. Members will Christmas Carol in Strabane on Dec. 17th to spread Christmas cheer and our special Christmas meeting and party will be held on Dec. 9th, snowdate Dec. 10th, at 7:30 p.m. Please try to attend to share in the spirit of this Christmas season.

PEG GRICAR

NO. 73, WARRENSVILLE HTS., OH

Congratulations are in order to Ann Tercek voted in as the new State President of Ohio-Michigan. We pray that the dear Lord gives her the

strength to carry out her duties as she is a very dedicated woman. Representatives of our branch at this convention were: Ann Yoger, Louise Epley, Margarita Franchini and Josephine Nowak, and all were pleased with the good reports and the convention as a whole.

Ann Fike and husband while in Cleveland this summer from their home in Sarasota, Florida, visited their daughter in California. Our President Kay Yuratovac and husband Pete, spent two months this summer visiting Kay's sister and family in California.

We want to thank the following for cancelled stamps, and they are: Mary Pelc, Adeline Trazaska, Gloria Dusek, Ann Yoger, Leona Mandich, and Ann McGee, Branch No. 105 of Detroit, Michigan.

MILDRED D. ROBERTS,
Reporter

NO. 79, ENUMCLAW, WA

Thirteen members were present at the home of Mary Bratovich for the Oct. 31 meeting. Plans for the annual Christmas party were made. Dec. 5 is the date beginning at 1 p.m. at the Krain Hall in Enumclaw.

Helen Chacata was chosen as our Mother of the Year 1983.

Election of officers was held. The same slate of officers was retained for 1983. This marks the 25th year Mary Mihelich has faithfully served as our president.

The next business meeting will be Feb. 27, 1983 at the home of Jennie Taskars.

REPORTER

NO. 89, OGLESBY, IL

Hello members!

SEPTEMBER NEWS

Sick list: Francis Mozina and Magadelni Skoporc.

Happy Birthday to: Francis Rolando - 6th, Mary Dittle - 8th, Mary Ann Samuelson - 14th, Josephine Schmidt - 23rd, and Molly Borovac - 29th.

Our delegate to the Illinois-Indiana S.W.U. Convention October 3rd at South Chicago, IL, hosted by Branch No. 16 was Mary Kernz, the alternate, Lena Dawson.

Congratulations, Lena!

Member of Br. 89, Oglesby, Illinois, Caroline Dawson was recently suprised at a special event held at the Dickinson House in town. She was cited for her many years of help at their bowling alley and presented a bronze plaque. Lena is a very active member of the branch and excels in the sport. Our members bowl regularly at the Olgesby community center. Best wishes for many more years of happy recreation!

OCTOBER NEWS

Mary Kernz gave us a report of the Convention. Attending were Angela Nico, our Illinois State President of S.W.U. and Mary Ann Samuelson. I wore my Slovenian dress. We want to thank Branch No. 16 for everything. I enjoyed the meeting and having my picture taken with the lady from Slovenia who was there as a guest with a member from Bradley, IL. Thanks to Mrs. Bob (Mary) Perkovich for the ride from church to Villa Conzenza for the dinner. Also thanks to Angie for our safe trip to Chicago and home.

Mary Kernz gave a report on our successful bake sale on October 9th. Thanks, ladies, for your apple strudels and other baked goods. She also reported that we have sold 162 "Pots and Pans" cookbooks thus far.

October Birthdays: Roseanne Prey - 4th and Emma Foltz - 13th.

Mrs. Cecelia Hobneck, one of our members is very delighted to read ZARJA again as she has had her cataracts removed and is wearing her new glasses now. Both she and Mrs. Ann Vogrich, another of our members, are residing at the Heritage Manor Nursing Home in Peru, IL now.

Our Helen Komater won first place singles in Class C in the Senior Ladies National Bowling Tournament and the All Events second place.

Helen Komater also took the responsibility for seeing Father Dennis Mackessy to order our Mass on Saturday, February 26th at 4:30 p.m. for all S.W.U. members.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Mrs. Anna Sterle

Born July 24, 1888, died December 17, 1981

In loving memory of our very dear mother, grandmother, great grandmother and great, great grandmother, Anna Sterle of Strabane, Pa., who passed away on December 17, 1981 at the age of 93 years.

Though you've been gone a year now. That God chose to take you away. And every day that passes by, you're in our hearts and in our minds. And sometimes, a thought will make us cry, remembering days gone by. The tears we shed we can wipe away, but the ache in our hearts will always stay. No one knows the grief we bear. You left so suddenly, your thoughts unknown. But you left us memories we are proud to own and keep. We miss you very much and always will. May you rest in peace, dear Mother.

*Loved and sadly missed by Daughter, Sons,
Grandchildren, Great Grandchildren
and Great Great Grandchildren
Strabane, Pennsylvania*



NOVEMBER NEWS

A thank you letter was read from Manager Dorothy Urbanowski for the clock we donated to the Dickinson House Dining Room.

Monday, December 13 is our Christmas Party at Sy's Place at 6:30 p.m. There will be a \$2.00 gift exchange for those who want to participate. Santa will be there to greet you. Reservations must be in by November 30th. Please call Irene Peterlin at 883-8864 or Georgia Bima at 223-0837. The December Committee will be: Irene Peterlin, Chairman, Terri Essl, Georgia Bima, and Angie Nico.

Mrs. Mary (Harvey) Dittle, our member, grieves for her husband who died October 18th at age of 82. We send our condolences to the family.

On the sick list is Sophie Frank and Magadalen Skoporc. Happy November birthday to Barbara Sitar, 80 years young!

We extend our sympathy to the Edward Kompare Family and said a prayer for our beloved Anne at our November meeting.

Catherine Golick just returned from a trip to New Orleans and Mary Kernz is home from a visit to Mexico.

It was exciting to attend our Jr. College Football conference title game which we won. Games now are for the State title.

The newly elected officers are: Mary Ann Samuelson, President, Terri Essel, Vice-President, Mary Kernz, Financial Secretary, Frances Meglich, Recording Secretary, Darlene Wasielski, Sunshine Chairman, Lean Dawson, Rosanne Prey and Georgia Bima, Auditors, M. Samuelson, Reporter for Zarja

and local newspaper, Father Dennis Mackessey, Spiritual Advisor. Installation will be at the March meeting. There are no meetings in January and February.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU
ALL!

MARY ANN SAMUELSON



NO. 91, OAKMONT, PA

Ladies, first thing I want to say is that I hope you all had a wonderful summer and then, a belated Happy Thanksgiving.

Next agenda is a meeting on Dec. 14th, the second Tuesday. Try and attend. That is also our Christmas party and we will elect new officers.

Some of you ladies that haven't been to meetings are urged to come, you don't know what you are missing! We exchange gifts, have a little snack and then play our favorite games. Ladies, we have a three dollar limit on the gift that you buy. Now, remember, the meeting is the second Tuesday which is the 14th of December.

Jennie, our secretary, called me and told me that she sold all the cookbooks she received. Thank you all for buying!

I hope everyone is in good health and able to get out and enjoy the nice weather we had had.

Hope to see you at the meeting next month. I do hope this news will reach you in time.

I will be getting in touch with all the members around the first of the

month because Jennie will be away attending her son's wedding and then going on to visit her mother in California. Hope your trip will be fun! Oh, we'll be back in time for the meeting, so it will still be held at her house.

Running out of space - so till I see you all, best of everything.

ANNA MAE MELLE, President

NO. 92, GUNNISON, CO

October meeting on the 26th at the home of Frances Guerrieri with Rose Carricato co-hosting. The evening started with dinner. Suffed pork chops and all the trimmings were served. Delicious, ladies! All members arrived early to surprise Betty Stefanie with a baby shower. The baby is due in March. Congratulations, Betty and John. A prayer was said for the mother-to-be.

Minutes by Linda approved as read. 19 members were present. Treasurer's report was made by Loretta, approved as read. Correspondence received: a thank you from Garry Austin, husband of our member, Fran. So nice to know he is home from the hospital and doing nicely. A letter from the Nursing Home. We had Secret Pal name drawing for our Christmas party. Our party will be discussed at our next meeting, as to where and when.


Betty opened all her gifts after which we had a mystery box, donated by Loretta won by Sharon. We played a game and prizes were given to our mother-to-be.

Next meeting was to be Nov. 16th at the home of Rita Johnson.

Till next month,

FERN WHITE

Pots and Pans



During the last Wisconsin regional meeting in Milwaukee I asked the ladies to please help me with this Christmas column by suggesting a few of their holiday menus and recipes. Josephine Schlosar, organizer of Br. No. 17 who will be 92 on Feb. 12, 1983, recalled her Christmas menu: pork loin roast, baked potatoes, green beans, lettuce salad with vinegar and oil dressing, sauerkraut, raised doughnuts, potica and apple strudel. For Christmas dinner Shirley Schulta, vice pres. of Br. No. 43, Milwaukee, serves wine, standing rib roast, baked potatoes with sour cream and butter, lettuce salad or coleslaw, molded cranberry salad or Jello fruit mold, hot biscuits, green beans with butter, creamed corn, potica, Christmas cookies, coffee and milk. From Willard, Edith Backus of Br. No. 102, prepares breaded chicken, dressing, ham, mashed potatoes, lettuce or cabbage salad, peas and carrots, strawberry angel ring and, of course, potica.

* * * * *

Edith Backus and Elsie Perko of Br. No. 102 obtained the special recipes from members for Chicken Dressing, Wine sauce, Salad and Strawberry angel ring.

Wisconsin members wish you all a
Blessed and Merry Christmas,
Fondly,
Hermine



KD



PORK LOIN ROAST

4 to 6 pounds pork loin

Salt and pepper

Season roast and brown in 400° oven, uncovered. When browned reduce temperature to 350° and continue baking until tender, 35 to 40 minutes per pound. Add onion slices and unpeeled slices of apple during last 30 minutes of baking for additional flavor.

STANDING RIB ROAST

4 to 6-pound roast

Salt and pepper

Have meat at room temperature about 1 hour before baking. Rub salt and pepper into meat. Place in a shallow roasting pan fat side up. Bake in 325° oven. Do not add water; do not cover. Approximate cooking time depends on internal temperature (with meat thermometer):

140° (rare) 2-1/4 to 2-3/4 hours

160° (medium) 2-3/4 to 3-1/4 hours

170° (well done) 3-1/4 to 3-1/2 hours

WINE SAUCE (Vinska omaka)

From the Slovenian-American Cookbook (Slovensko-Ameriška Kuharica) edited by Ivanka Zakrajšek in 1945.

1 cup water	2 tablespoons butter
1 cup white wine	2 tablespoons sugar
1/2 lemon rind	2 tablespoons flour
1 small piece whole cinnamon	pinch of salt
	1 tablespoon bread crumbs

Bring to boil the water, wine, lemon rind and cinnamon. Meanwhile, melt the butter in a fry pan; add the sugar. When this begins to foam add the flour, salt and bread crumbs. Stir until slightly browned. Remove cinnamon from water/wine mixture. Slowly add mixture to roux, stirring all the while. Cook over low heat for 10 to 15 minutes. If desired, add a little more sugar. This sauce is good with cooked beef, potatoes or noodle-type foods.

STRAWBERRY ANGEL RING

1 package (3 ounces) strawberry Jello	1 package (10 ounces) frozen strawberries
Dash of salt	1 cup whipping cream or 8 oz. carton Cool Whip
1 1/4 cups boiling water	1 angel food cake

Dissolve Jello and salt in boiling water. Add berries and stir until thawed. Chill until partially set. Whip cream until fluffy. Fold into Jello. Break cake into 1-1/2 to 2-inch pieces. Arrange 1/2 of amount in 10-inch tube pan or 9 x 13-inch pan. Pour 1/2 Jello mixture over cake pieces; repeat layers. Chill until firm. Top with whipped cream.

CHICKEN DRESSING

This is the popular chicken dressing always served at Willard's annual festival in August. "We never seem to have enough", says Mary Pekol who makes the dressing.

Back, neck and gizzard of chicken	1	2 or 3-day old loaf of bread (1-1/2 pounds), cubed
4 cups water		and browned lightly in oven
1 stalk celery, cut up	3	eggs, slightly beaten
1 small onion, sliced	2	cups diced celery
1 teaspoon salt	2	large onions, diced or ground
1 bay leaf	1	teaspoon poultry seasoning
		Salt and pepper, to taste

Boil back, neck and gizzard of chicken in 4 cups water with one stalk of celery, a sliced onion, 1 teaspoon salt and a bay leaf. When meat is tender strain the broth, reserving broth. Remove skin and bone from meat. Grind the meat. Add enough broth to moisten all the bread cubes. Add the eggs, 2 cups celery, 2 onions, poultry seasoning, salt and pepper. With butter grease well a 2 or 3-quart casserole dish. Add dressing and bake at 350° for 1-1/2 hours, covered. Stir several times while baking. Uncover last 15 minutes. Serves 8 people.

CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS OF SLOVENIA



M. GASPARI

VLIVANJE SVINCA - On the night before Christmas, it was thought by the ladies in the family that the forms made by molten lead poured into cold water would show the shape for things to come, such as, the silhouette of a beau, something that foretold of events to come or some actual symbol of the future.

SALAD

Slice cabbage or tear lettuce into small pieces. At the last minute, just before serving, toss gently with equal parts of vinegar, oil and sugar and a little garlic salt.

NO. 93, BROOKLYN, NY

After reading all the reports from the many branches all over the United States, I decided it was time to start sending in a report from Brooklyn, New York.

Our branch consists of 36 members now. We have lost many members over the years, the most recent one was Antoinette Hoffer our oldest member age 91. Many are not able to come to the meetings.

Ten to thirteen members may be present at any given time and we do have such a pleasant, loving relationship. Personally, I look forward to every meeting. I was born here of Slovenian parents and enjoy listening to some of our older ladies speaking about our customs, also the Poticas and Strudels as well as stories of "The Immigrant".

We have our meetings on the 3rd Saturday of the month at 2 p.m. This Saturday past we visited our Social member, JoAnne Swetko, who is recovering from a stroke early this year. Her devoted daughter, Connie, made 2 trips to pick us up and again to take us home. We think that was very gracious of her. We enjoyed the dinner she prepared, pleasant conversation and as always, memories of Slovenia.

We all pray that the upcoming cruise JoAnne and Connie are taking

will help JoAnne regain her strength and that she will once again be able to join us at our meeting.

We have a Slovenian Church in New York City, St. Cyril's. Recently we had a Mass for the deceased members of our branch.

With all good wishes to all the branches for the upcoming Holidays.

AGNES ALBRO, Reporter

NO. 95, SO. CHICAGO, IL

Julia Hansen, our "Woman of the Year", was overwhelmed at the number of family, relatives, members and friends, who joined her to help mark a special evening. When I arrived, the party was well under way and our plucky Julie lead the entire membership in prayer, and introduced all the guests who attended. She provided everybody the opportunity of getting acquainted and in the party mood. The climax of the evening was the crowning of Julie Hansen by our outgoing Woman of the Year, Manda Dosen. A special tribute was paid by yours truly, also a special tribute to all of our deceased members by Sylvia Vukadinovich. An appropriate gift, a gold engraved china plate with pink carnations was presented to her, along with mementos of the occasion. She thanked everyone for the

many gifts, flowers, and cards, and expressed her sincere thanks for the honor bestowed upon her.

My gratitude to Evelyn Driscoll, Chairlady and Mary (Bob) Perkovich Co-Chairlady for their careful attention to all details, which was evident throughout the evening, and the following ladies who labored half the day in setting up the tables, Eileen Barone, Manda Dosen, Martha Stampar, Charollette Fryza, Anne Brkljacic, Helen Golich, Bernice Morrison, Mary Malcic, Harriet Isek, Mary (Matt) Perkovich, Virginia Kwiatkowski. Prize Committee, Sylvia Vukadinovich, Helen Price, Mary Taporis, Helen Alb and Matilda Martin.

Many thanks to Eileen Barone for her hand-made afghan, which was a labor of love for every stitch she put into it; to Hattie Isek for her ceramic Christmas Plate; to Minnie Pujdak for her hand made crocheted sleeveless ladies' vest; to Julie for the Electric Iron and Casserole, and to Evelyn Driscoll for the Clock radio, and to all of you who have donated prizes. I wish I could list everybody but as you know the space is limited.

Last but not least to the ladies who served the food, and took a serious approach in preparing a diversified menu. The common denominator to the successful party, was the table of

IN GOD'S SERVICE



Rev. Anthony Dosen

Rev. Anthony Dosen was born and raised in So. Chicago, Ill. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Dosen; his mother, Manda Dosen, is a loyal and dedicated member of Br. 95. He is a graduate of Sacred Heart Grammar School, and studied at St. Vincent De Paul High School Seminary in Lemont, Ill. Upon Graduation he entered the Vincentian Novitiate in Santa Barbara, Ca. He received his Bachelor of Arts in philosophy and psychology from Saint Mary's Seminary in Parryville, Mo. His major seminarian studies in theology where he received his Master's Degree of Divinity were at De Andreis Institute of Theology in Lemont. It was here at De Andreis that he was ordained into the ministry on June 5th. Following, he celebrated his first Mass of Thanksgiving on Sunday, June 6th at Sacred Heart Croatian Parish in So. Chicago, Ill. He is currently assigned to St. John's Seminary High School in Kansas City, Mo. as dean of students, and is presently involved with teaching History and Music.

Congratulations! This is just the beginning! We know you will dedicate yourself and that you will continue to find interesting and satisfying lifework using the many talents you possess. May the good Lord always guard over you, bring you and yours the joys, contentment, serenity and peace of mind that you have brought into your Mom and Dad's world.

mildred james

.....
delicacies prepared by Julie's friends; the desserts were well worth considering.

With renewed thanks, let me say, MY GRATITUDE TO ALL OF YOU!

Cash donated by: Mary Maras \$5,

Madeline Tivador \$3, and Sophie Barbich and Fran Seabloom \$2.

Our warmest congratulations to Marcia Maras, a graduate of De Paul University, who recently passed her bar examination. She is now a director of Tax Extention Dept. of Cook County. Your appointment deserves unreserved approval and congratulations, and I know that it's made Mom and Dad very proud of you.

In conclusion, if I might have one wish fulfilled for 1983, it would be that the loving spirit of Christmas would continue all through the year. With this thought, I would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas! Also a nod to Br. 16 and Ann Lustig for a time well spent at the Ill. State Convention.

MILDRED JAMES

NO. 100, FONTANA, CA

Honest to goodness, I'll be a good girl next month and submit a shorter report as is now requested to cut printing costs. But, please, dear Editor, don't put me off now as I have so many happy items to relate.

First of all, my dear brother from Illinois was giving us much pleasure with his annual visit. A visit that we looked forward to with a great deal of anticipation.

Then, a voice from the past called and informed me that she and her husband flew in from Chicago and were visiting a former Chicagoan, Joe Piber, who lives in Sun City, a beautiful retirement community a short drive away. The voice belonged to Stephanie (Pinter) Osterman, a member of Br. 2 whom I haven't seen in 45 years! Surely you are able to picture the beautiful commotion that took place when we all got together in my home! We talked and laughed and talked some more. Granted we were tired after our Slovenian session but that was to be expected as we all labored very hard putting "Robey St." and "Lincoln St." back to where they were in our youth. And, it was no light task moving people we had known years ago back into the old neighborhood centering around St. Stephen's church. Oh, yes! We had a glorious recall! Even dear Father Alexander was in our midst in spirit, listening and no doubt chuckling at our reminiscences. Stephanie, it was heart-warming seeing you again. You're as charming as ever and you're hubby is a real nice guy, too.

Mary Burnach has visitors from McKeesport, Penna. Her brother, Joe Bacon and wife, Trudy, joined in a family reunion. Then, they, along with Mary, her son, Steve and

MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Mary & Walter Muller

National President
and Husband



daughter Rosemary, drove up to San Jose to participate in the Yugoslavian extravaganza. Next year it will take place in Chicago. Knowing Mary, her love of flying and button-box music, I'll say in all probability she has already made plans for that event.

The Slovenian "Andrews Sisters" from Chicago placed a personal call to my daughter and sang "Happy Birthday to You". Of course, she was delighted. It's such a good feeling to be remembered so nicely. Thank you, Chris, Elsie, and Mary.

Happy birthday to our October celebrants and especially Rose Novak, mother of our secretary, Rosemary Mlaker.

The marriage of Fred Mlaker and Linda Ianni took place at the Sacred Heart Church in Etiwanda on Nov. 12th. The service was officiated by Father Snoj. Our wishes for a happy life together is hereby extended.

Speedy get-well wishes to all our ill members. God bless and keep you all in His care.

See, editor? This isn't too long if you read fast! Oh, you are going to be a good girl and print all I've written? You're the nicest Slovenian editor that I know. Keep up the good work! (Thanks, Edith! How could I refuse such a nice lady!)

My heartfelt and truly sincere prayers go forth to all for a very Merry Christmas and may God grant everyone a healthy and cheerful New Year. Respectfully submitted.

EDITH DRAWENEK,
Mary Reich's Godmother

**PRE-CONVENTION
CAMPAIGN
IS NOW ON!**

ZARJA—THE DAWN

SLOVENIAN HISTORY LESSON

Continuing the installments on Slovenian History taken from Prof. Edward Gobetz' book, **SLOVENIAN HERITAGE VOL. I**, we learn about the Installation of the Dukes of Carinthia. This ancient Slovenian practice has touched the history of our own United States. Dr. Joseph Felicijan's book, "The Genesis of the Contractual Theory," is recommended to those who wish to learn more on this subject which has fascinated historians for many decades. For a list of English language books on Slovenian history and related subjects, write to Studia Slovenica, P.O. Box 4531, Washington D.C. 20017.

For **SLOVENIAN HERITAGE VOL. I**, and Slovenian language manuals, I & II, also the "Anthology of Slovenian American Literature", and recently published "Dream Visions", (translations of Ivan Cankar), write to Slovenian Research Center, 29227 Eddy Rd., Willoughby Hills, OH 44092.

FROM CHAPTER I. SLOVENIA & SLOVENIANS

Unchampioned and unmentioned in current history textbooks which sing the praises of the Magna Carta, this early Slovenian democracy, with its symbolic picturesque ritual, was nevertheless admired and described by many famous early historians and philosophers, among them by the fifteenth century humanist, Aeneas Silvius Piccolomini (1405-1464) who later became Pope Pius II. Piccolomini pointed out in Chapter 20 (Capitulum XX) of his *Cosmographia Pii Papae* (Paris, 1509) that there was no other example of such a symbolic democratic ceremony anywhere else.¹⁶ Similarly, the French philosopher, Jean Bodin (1530-1596), who was the first to develop the idea of sovereignty, stated in his chapter "On Sovereignty" in *Les six livres de la republique* that this ancient democratic Carinthian ceremony "had no rival in the world." As pointed out by Joseph Felicijan, Thomas Jefferson read Bodin's description of the ancient Slovenian democracy and initialed it, which was his way of underscoring those passages that he considered to be of exceptional significance. Harvard historian Crane Brinton points out that "the picturesque Slovenian ceremony was well known to political philosophers, and indeed through Bodin known to Thomas Jefferson, . . . a variable that went into the making of modern Western democratic institutions."

Christianization and Loss of Independence

After 738 the pressure on the agricultural Slovenians from the warlike Avars and from the Bavarians increased. Seriously threatened by large armies of mounted Avars, the Slovenians, under Duke Borut, formed an alliance with the Bavarians. In 743 the two allied armies decisively defeated the Avars. Yet, the numerically superior Bavarians now refused to leave Slovenian lands and forced Slovenians into partial subjugation. Prince Gorazd, the son of Borut, was converted to Christianity by the Bavarians who, together with the Slovenians, were in turn subdued by the powerful Franks, around 745. The Slovenians in the Pannonian Plains had formed their own principality and enjoyed independence until 874 when their Prince Kocelj (pr. Cotsel) mysteriously disappeared and was replaced by the Frankish Count Gozvin. Thus, the years 743 and 874 A.D. mark the beginning of partial or complete political subjugation of Slovenians to Germanic overlords.

Although the picturesque ritual of the installation of the Slovenian dukes was continued in the Slovenian language up to 1414, the dukes were now no longer elected by Slovenians but appointed by their Germanic overlords. Yet, the Slovenians initially maintained the right of the approval of the German appointee before the latter could be installed as the Duke of Slovenian lands. With the exception of the Pannonian Slovenians (the inhabitants of present-day Eastern Styria, or Stajerska, Prlekija, Medjimurje, Prekmurje, and Porabje, up to the Balaton Lake), among whom the learned brothers St. Cyril and St. Methodius from Salonica preached the Christian religion in the old Slavonic language, introduced the Cyrillic alphabet, and established a Slovenian seminary in the late 860's, the process of Christianization was, in most instances, associated with Germaniza-

tion and economic expropriation. In the words of Joseph Clissold,

the Slovene lands were overrun by German missionaries, most of them poorly educated, zealous to make converts, not so much for the ideals of Christ as for the benefit of the German rulers and their coffers. Therefore the Christianization of the Slovenes became a long drawn, bloody process, the Slovenes fiercely resisting, not so much the cross, but the sword that invariably accompanied it. Yet, without allies, weak in number — as compared with the aggressors — they little by little came under German domination until under Charlemagne their lands became a part of the first Reich — "Das heilige Roemische Reich deutscher Nation" — The Holy Roman Empire of German Nationality.

The work of conversion to Christianity was carried on from the archbishopric of Salzburg in the north, with St. Modestus, who died in 763, having been its most famous early Carinthian missionary, and from the patriarchate of Aquileia (whose successor was the Diocese of Gorica or Gorizia) in the west. It was associated with German colonization and an increase of German influence in most Slovenian lands, and Italian influence in the Littoral. After the unsuccessful Slovenian participation in the joint Croatian-Slovenian Rebellion under Ljudevit Posavski against the Franks from 819 to 822, the ascendancy of the Slovenian nobles was greatly, but never completely, replaced by that of Germanic officials. The area of Slovenian speech, too, was gradually reduced to approximately one-third of the original Slovenian territory.

In 952, the Holy Roman Emperor Otto I consolidated the duchy of Carantania to protect his realm against Magyar raids. From this large duchy, Carniola broke off in the tenth century, and Styria a century later. In the thirteenth century, the Slovenians were once more briefly united with their Czech and Slovak brothers, when the Bohemian King Premysl Otokar (Ottocar) II won the duchy of Austria (1251), liberated the Pannonian Slovenians from the Hungarian rule of Bela IV by conquering Styria (1260), and acquired the Slovenian provinces of Carinthia, Carniola, and Istria (1269).

In the words of Harvard historian Francis Dvornik "Premysl II became the true creator of the modern Austrian Empire. . . . Yet, it was a Swabian, the impoverished Count Rudolf of Habsburg, now king of the Germans, who became the chief beneficiary of Premysl's labors in the Alpine lands and so brought Austria and the Habsburgs upon the European scene. Premysl II lost his cause and his life on the battlefield of the Marchfeld in Austria, in 1278."

As Otokar was defeated by a strong Germanic-Hungarian coalition in 1278, Styria (or Stajerska), with the Pannonian Slovenians, fell into the hands of the Habsburgs who, four years later, acquired Austria itself. Thus, except for a few short years under King Premysl Otokar II in the late 13th century, and under Napoleon Bonaparte in the early 19th century, the large majority of Slovenians were exposed to Germanization pressures from 743 to 1918 — or for a period of almost twelve centuries. Yet, in spite of their numerical smallness, they have survived as a nation — a historical phenomenon which has never ceased to puzzle historians and foreign observers and which was described by Bernard Newman as "a miracle of survival, almost without parallel."

(To be continued...)

THE IMMIGRANT

HELEN

From HARIJE PRI ILIRSKI BISTRICI

My mother and father, Marija and Anton Gerl owned their own farm in Harije close to Ilirska Bistrica. I was the last of twelve children, born on May 3, 1892. My brother and I were the only ones who eventually came to America; the others remained in Slovenia.

I went to school for eight years, all the while dreaming of coming to America, thinking that I would pick up money from the streets, and would send it back to Slovenia. Can you believe that this is truly what I thought?

My brother and I had a very good trip when we came to the United States in March 1912. I lacked two months from being twenty years old. We left Harije on March first, embarked on an American ship, the "St. Louis," and arrived in America on March 15th. A girl friend and I shared a cabin; we each had our own bed. My brother John shared a cabin with someone else.

When we arrived at Ellis Island, they gave us lunch, which consisted of salami, bread, cookies, and fruit. After passing the examinations, we were allowed to enter the United States and were put on a train bound for Chicago, then to Rockdale, Illinois where we found lodging on Meadow Avenue. In 1912, Rockdale was just a little village full of mud. I asked myself many times, "Why did I come here? My village in Slovenia was far nicer." In fact, I was ready to go back, even if there were twelve men to each girl here. That was not an advantage to me because there were so many pressures to marry. Many times I tearfully said, "I should have stayed in Slovenia."

We both went to work immediately. Then one day my brother said, "Helen, I want you to get married rather than work at a job. I heard that if a girl goes to work, she is spoiled."

This idea passed through my mind and worried me. "How would I be spoiled if I would work honestly?" But, I listened to him and followed his advice. Well, that is why I got married so quickly.

My husband, Ignatius Strojcin, who came from the same area as my mother, "Stajerska," and I, were married a couple of months after I had arrived in the United States. Our wedding was not one of love, but an "arrangement." I didn't love him, but married him because I was advised to do so by the relatives and friends I knew here.

When I had a son, Ignatius, and a daughter, Helen, I thought that I was the luckiest woman in the world!

The first job that I had in America was an unusual one for a woman. I was employed in Joliet at the Steel and Wire Mill, working with bolts, in the machine shop. It was a man's job, but some of the men were in the Service during World War I, and six women filled the vacated positions at the mill. Each worked in a different department for six days a week and ten hours a day. Each muscle and bone in my body ached at first. Later, I got used to it and just experienced the usual fatigue after a

day's work. We continued on with this work until 1924, when they put the women out. Many of the ladies were angry about losing their jobs. I felt that we had worked during the first World War when there was a shortage of men; wasn't it better now that the veterans work in the factory, and the ladies stay at home? Why take the jobs away from the men? I would get something else.

My next position was as a cook for the prisoners at the Will County Jail in Joliet. I counted the number of prisoners each day and cooked accordingly in the kitchen of the Sheriff's house which was next door to the jail. After I no longer worked there, two ladies who were inmates had to cook and then return to the jail after finishing the meal. I recall that one black lady, jailed for operating a road house, was a good cook and housekeeper.

Mr. Margruff, the Sheriff, used to like my goulash and when I made it for the prisoners, he would ask me to cook a little more so he could have some.

I usually prepared the main meal at noon, cleaned the very large kitchen, and was finished by 2:30 p.m. For supper, one-half loaf of bread and syrup was left on a large table for each of the inmates. The Sheriff directed me as to what food to prepare each day. Fresh bread from the bakery was delivered daily so there was no need to bake. In fact, Mrs. Margruff told me, "Take home a loaf of bread each day." Along with my salary, there were other benefits: my streetcar fare was paid, and I also ate dinner there.

This was an interesting place to work. I recall one incident that occurred while employed there; three men were fighting and shot the Sheriff through his hat. Two men were hanged right away but the third escaped. Later, the fugitive, a Mexican who worked at a garage, turned himself in. The County constructed a brand new gallows to hang this man because the old gallows had been torn down. The new directive for capital punishment was the use of an electric chair.

After the hanging, the hood and rope were on the kitchen table, and Sheriff asked me, "Do you want to take a piece of the rope for a souvenir?"

I replied, "Absolutely not, because I don't agree with this hanging business."

Seriously, he replied, "Well, then, take the rope and hood up to the attic."

Still I was determined not to have anything to do with the hanging, "That's one thing I will not do. No, not that. Anything but that. I won't touch that rope and take it to the attic for any money."

The sheriff laughed and said, "I was just joking, Helen. I know how you feel about this incident." Both the sheriff and his wife were very nice people.

My next job at St. Raymond's Rectory was as cook and housekeeper for the priests; later a third priest came. They were easy people for whom to work.

American people here were good to me. I learned how to speak English by working in places where there were no Slovenians. At the Mill we had the option of attending school two hours, and of working eight hours. My mistake was not taking advantage of this offer which would have helped promote me to better jobs. However, I did eventually learn to read and speak through my own efforts.

I also taught myself how to sew well enough to obtain a job at Kline's Department Store as an alterations lady. An incident occurred that perhaps shouldn't be told, but I'm going to tell it anyway. A heavy-set boy needed a suit enlarged by four inches for his First Communion. The manager of the store told me to come back at night to work on it. He said that another lady would also come. Well, I returned that evening, after

Helen Strojina (center) is pictured with two nieces and Mary and Frances Bostjancic on her visit to Slovenia in 1966.



store was closed, but the other alterations lady was not there. I realized after the manager made the advances to me that he wanted me there alone that night, not to work on the alteration, but for other reasons. I was so angry I could have scratched his eyes out. Never did I set foot in that store again — not to work, collect my salary, or even to buy merchandise.

From there the Boston Store hired me in the alterations department. A gall bladder problem forced me to quit, and then to retire.

After living in America a number of years, the thought of returning to Slovenia for a visit interested me; in fact, I made two trips because some of my relatives were still living there. We talked for hours exchanging information about life in America, and the changes which occurred in Slovenia during and after both World Wars. I was fortunate to have been in America during both of these conflicts. During World War II, partisans came to my birthplace in Slovenia and asked, "Give us bread." Then my relatives were sent out of their home and when they returned, it was completely empty, even the animals were gone. The partisans had taken everything.

Now, as a senior citizen, I'm still active. I knit, crochet, sew, and still work in the garden planting, weeding, and harvesting. Baking and cooking are now hobbies for me. At one time, I baked large round loaves

of bread that sold for \$7.00 for the yearly Rockdale Homecoming, but now I can't bake as much because of the weakness in my arm following my heart problem.

Looking back on my life, its joys and sorrows, I recall that my happiest moments were when my two children were born. Fortunately, both are now happily married, and look after me in my advanced years.

You ask what my plans are for the future? Well, when I am 91 years old, I'm going to get married, What do you think of that?

The End

NOTE: This story was video-taped in August 1979, at the home of Mrs. Helen Strojina a member of Branch No. 20 by Kenneth and Irene Odorizzi.

We were invited to enjoy a glass of wine and a slice of Helen's homemade apple pie, which was absolutely delicious. It's apparent why she enjoys baking when the results are so outstanding. The living room of her home displays the lovely crocheted and knitted pieces which prove her to be an artist with needles and yarn. We enjoyed our visit with this lady who has not lost her happy spirit and sense of humor, and who can still sing Slovenian melodies as well as she did years ago, when we heard her on the sightseeing excursion at the SWU Convention in Washington, D.C.

From the Editor

MILLSTONES

Not as many as mile-stones are the millstones that are there, holding us down! The loss of all those fine members through the years who participated in the many activities of our Union, the drill teams, sports teams, junior circles, choral clubs, sewing clubs, all of them.... where are many of these former members? Oh, how we wish we still had them with us!

The loss of members because of personal reasons is not so hard to take as the loss through misunderstanding when we have had to effect a raise in assessment. Small tho the financial increases may have been, we have lost members each time. We also lose them at the age of transfer from junior to adult when grandma refuses to pay any more and there is no interest in the young to keep her membership in the adult class.

Our millstones are our lost members.

Replacing them is OUR job.

CHISHOLM — BOUND MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN PHASE II

Your chance to do your bit for S.W.U.
Enroll a new member!

Find one in your own family! Ask
Secretary for application blanks! Be
counted!

NEW & OLD REPORTERS!

DEADLINE FOR JANUARY "ZARJA" IS DEC. 5,
1982.

ANA GABER:

ŠT. 2, Chicago, IL

NAŠA SLOVENSKA DEDIŠČINA

Sveti Večer

ZGODBA DANAŠNJIH DNI

Čprav je mraz že pošteno pritisnil, je Rekar pustil vežna vrata odprta in stopil na vogal hiše. Prisluhnil je v padajočo noč... Slišal je, da so pri sosedu zacvilila hlevna vrata, nekje na vasi je bevsnil pes, v domačem hlevu je zacvilil pujsek.

Vse sliši Rekar, le brnenja avtomobilskega motorja ne sliši. Zaradi tega je prišel prisluškovat. Za hip še postoji, potem se obrne in s počasnimi koraki gre mimo oken med odprta vrata. Še enkrat se ustavi, še enkrat prisluhne. Nič. Trdo zapre vrata.

"Kar greva, saj ga ne bo, "reče ženi, še prej preden je prav v kuhinji.

"Misliš. Pa bi le še malo počakala. Saj je rekel, da bo kmalu prišel!"

"Že celo uro to praviš. Dovolj sva čakala: kar pripravi zdaj." Da bi pokazal, da res ne misli več čakati, sam stopi k omari, vzame steklenico z blagoslovljeno vodo, poišče posodico in vanjo nalije vodo. Še v izbo stopi, odlomi od božičnega drevesca vejico.

"Si že pripravila?", trdo vpraša, ko se vrne v kuhinjo. Žena ne odgovori. Ve, da se za trdoto skriva skrb, ve, da se mu tako muči z blagoslavljanjem hiše, da bi pozabil skrb, ki ga mori. Zato molče nagrebe žerjavico v staro ponev. Stopi k mizi in nasuje na žerjavico kadilo. Sname s stene rožni venec in gresta. Tiho poje njen glas o skrivnosti Jezusovega spočetja in rojstva, trdo seka vmes njegov glas, ko odgovarja. Jezi ga, da fanta še vedno ni, še bolj ga pa skrbi, zakaj ga ni....?

Popoldne se je odpeljal z avtom in obljubil, da bo v mraku gotovo doma. Zatrdno je obljubil, da ne bo zamudil kajenja. Še nobeno leto ga ni in da ga tudi letos ne bo. Prav tako je rekel in zdaj ga ni.

Pred hlevom se za hip ustavi. Zapah tako rad primrzne na vrata, če je le malo moker. Ko odpre Rekar hlevna vrata, pozabi davečo skrb. Vsako leto je to zanj najlepša ura, ko na sveti večer stopi v hlev! Ko je pred davnimi leti prevzel gospodarstvo, je bil hlev prazen in napol podrt. Hleva se je najprej lotil takrat in največ veselja z njim doživel. Ko odgovarja ženi na njeno molitev, se mu zdi, da ne odgovarja sam, ampak da mu živina na svoj način pritegne s prošnjo, da bi božji blagoslov ostal v tej hiši in na vseh, ki v njej prebivajo.

Čprav prvi hodi med blagoslavljanjem, v hlevu pusti njo ženo naprej; na hlevnem pragu obstane, se še enkrat obrne in pogleda po živini, potem ugasne luč in tiho zapre vrata kot bi ne maral motiti božičnega miru. Pa tudi na vežnem pragu obstoji, ko se vračata v hišo. Oba prisluhmeta v noč. Ničesar ni slišati, le v ponvici zaprasketa suha vejica, ko njej ženi in materi omahne v skrbi roka. Vse sta že obšla, vse pokropila, povsod božjega blagoslova prosila; v kuhinji se ustavi. Rekarica odloži ponvico z žerjavico na ognjišče in gresta v izbo. V Rekarju se spet in še huje oglasi skrb. Drugekrat so svečke na drevescu že gorele; sin Peter jih je prižgal takoj, ko so prišli iz hleva. Letos jih ni Rekarica njemu namigne, da bi jih on. Pričneta moliti.

Med zadnjo desetko rožnega venca zaslišita brnenje motorja, odpiranje in zapiranje vrat Spogledata se in skrb je zdrknila z ramen.... Nadaljujeta z molitvijo in prav pri prošnji za srečno zadnjo uro vstopi Peter in poklekne ob peči. Kot bi se hotel izogniti očitajočemu očetovemu pogledu, je zakopal obraz v dlani in mrmraje odgovarjal.

"Pod sosedovim travnikom je bila nesreča, zato sem zamudil", se prvi oglasi Peter. Sam je previdno vozil navzgor, ko nenadno zasliši tresk in udarec tujega vozila v skalo. "Prav na tistem mestu, kjer se je lani ubil Matevž."

"Hitel je tudi ta voznik in kaj je dohitel", je pripomnila mati. "Da si le srečno doma, tako sva se oba že bala zate. Kdo neki je bil, da se je na sam sveti večer tako daleč peljal v našo samoto? In če ima družino in tudi otroke," je skrbno dodala.

"Nezavestnega so ga peljali v bolnico, pomagal sem", pove sin Peter.

"Danes bomo šli peš k polnočnici. Svoj avto sem že spravil pod streho", se zopet oglasi Peter. Oče ves srečen pogleda sina. Nesreča ga je spametovala. Ne bo več tako neprevidno vozil, ne bodo se več toliko bali zanj.

"Da, peš bomo šli k polnočnici, peš seveda, kakor smo včasih."



Blagoslovljene Božične Praznike

Čas pričakovanja.

V tem času leta dnevi se krajšajo, zemlja se nekako umira in gre "v počitek", da bo v spomladi lahko zbrstela v novo življenje. In prav v teh dnevih slišimo glas preroka stare zaveze: "Vi oblaki ga rosite ali zemlja naj ga da!" Stoletja so čakala in vzdihovala v temi, a v upanju, da bo prišel Obljubljeni. Ko gremo skozi staro zavezo vidimo, kako preroki gledajo v bodočnost in napovedujejo Odrešenika. To je bil tisti veliki Advent, ko je zemlja čakala na izpolnitev božje obljube.

Advent je tudi za nas čas pričakovanja, čas priprave, čas negotovosti. Preroki stare zaveze so pripravljali ljudstvo na prvi prihod Odrešenika. Danes, cerkev bi nas rada pripravila na dvojen prihod: Najprej Kristusov prihod v naša srca s svojo milostjo. Dandanes ko svet pozablja na vse kar je nadnaravno, nas Cerkev vzpodbuja in kliče nazaj k Kristusu. In s tem da sprejmemo Kristusa v svoje življenje, bomo pripravljani na njegov drugi prihod ob vesoljni sodbi. Kot smo rekli vsako pričakovanje prinaša neko negotovost, strah, kako se bo vse izteklo. Ako pričakuješ osebo, ki je ne poznaš, posebno še če je to važna osebnost, ti je nekako neprijetno, češ, kako se bo to prvo srečanje izteklo. Prav tako naše pričakovanje na Kristusov prihod nas navdaja z nekim strahom in to po pravici, kajti takrat bomo srečali Svojega Boga, ki nas je ustvaril in ki bi naj bil naš cilj v tem življenju na zemlji. A prav tukaj lahko spremenimo vso stvar; ali moramo res hoditi vso življenje v strahu? Zakaj nebi sedaj sprejeli Kristusa z odprtim srcem, z ljubeznijo kerkoli smo ali karkoli delamo, potem ne bo več strahu v našem srcu, ampak veselo hrepenenje po Njem, kateremu smo služili na zemlji. Potem se ne bomo toliko bali sodbe, kot pa pričakovali božje povabilo v Njegovo kraljestvo. S temi mislimi bo naš Advent pred Božičem postal nova spodbuda za naše življenje, ki bi naj bilo priprava za Kristusov drugi prihod.

POSLANICA GLAVNE PRED SEDNICE

Bližajo se nam prelepi božični prazniki, katere bomo slavili v krogu naših družin in prijateljev. Naj božje dete prinese srečo v vaša srca in izpolnitev vseh vaših upov in nad. Posebno se spomnimo manj srečnih.

Mnoge podružnice imajo svoje letne božičnice, kar zbliža naše članice, da se bolje poznajo med seboj.

Je tudi čas letnih sej ko volimo nove odbore. Vsem odbornicam ki so ostale v svojih odborih in novo-izvoljenim odbornicam velja moj pozdrav in želje za kar najbolj uspešno delovanje v letu 1983.

Upam, da se še vedno trudite pri pridobivanju novih članic, kar bo pomagalo podružnicam pri izvolitvi delegatinj za Zvezino konvencijo v maju. Več članic imate, boljše boste zastopane na konvenciji. To je naša prva 4 letna konvencija, zato bomo imele dovolj za razpravljanje. Če imate kake predloge za izboljšanje poslovanja organizacije, prosim, pošljite na glavni urad, da bomo predložile konvenciji.

V Zarji čitam z velikim zanimanjem vaša poročila in vaša delovanja. Izrazi pohvale veljajo vsem pridnim dopisovalkam.

Vse najboljše vsem, ki slavite svoje rojstne dneve ali obletnice v tem mesecu.

Naj ljubi Bog nakloni večni mir vsem sestram SZZ, ki so nas za vedno zapustile v tem letu.

Naj bo Bog z Vami!

MARY MULLER

Tik pred zaključkom tega pisanja, sem prejela žalostno vest, da je težki bolezni podlegla v enem letu, naša priljubljena in delavna gl. podpredsednica, ANNE KOMPARE. Zelo jo bomo pogrešale. Užaloščenemu možu Edwardu Kompare in sinovoma, moje globoko sožalje!

ŠT. 13, SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Pozdrav iz San Francisca. Tukaj imamo sedaj krasno jesensko vreme. Če tukaj živiš nekaj časa, si ne moreš predstavljati bolj udobnega kraja, ker ni nikjer lepše kot tu. Podzemeljska železnica je veliko izboljšala naval potnikov. Pod to podzemeljsko železnico, ki jo kličemo "muni", pa vozi tako zvani "Bart" v bližnja mesteca okoli našega mesta. Ker hitro pridete povsod čez teden, se zdi prav "fantastično".

Naša pridna dopisovalka ZARJE, Frances Chiodo, se je

čudovito hitro pozdravila, kar je nam vsem v veselje. Njena trdna volja in stanovitnost lepega značaja, ji je pomogla nazaj k zdravju.

Imeli smo krasno poročno slavnost. "Marjetica" ali Marge druga hči naše članske družine Šimenc, ki je tudi organist, je poročila Glen Smith. K poroki sta jo peljala oče Aleš Šimenc in mama Dora. Nevestina obleka je tudi vse očarala; prekrasna bela silhueta z robom prelepkih čipk. Pajčolan se je vjemal z daljim terenom. Mati Dora je imela sivo vijoličasto obleko z nagubanim ovratnikom, ki se je odražal. Vse

4 družice so imele obleke slične barve, vse so bile elegantne. Ta mala družica je bila tudi srčkana. Obleke te barve po novi modi sličijo kot sončni vzhod sivomodre odražane tenčice, ki se izvije iz nje sonce življenja in lepote. Poročil jih je nevestin stric, Rev. John Šustarsich, ki je župnik v St. Anthony Church v Ely, Minnesota. Drugi duhovniki so bili: naš župnik Rev. John Mihovilovich, Rev. Louis Dabovia in Rev. Albert Vukšinič. Peli smo jima prekrasno "Jubilate" in mala 10 letna Diana Firjim je zapela Shubertovo "Ave Maria".

Gostovanje je bilo v Sheraton Inn v Burlingame. Med odličnimi gosti so bili navozoč: Rose Skoff, naša častna članica Zveze in bivša državna predsednica Cal., Oregon in Wash. Sonja Gregorin vplivna in pridna delavka v naših narodnih in cerkvenih društvih. Njena rod-bina je zelo cenjena v San Franciscu. Navzoč je bil tudi Dr. Stephen Erlach z njegovo dražestno gospo. Dr. Anton Ravnik z gospo in družino. Dr. Ravnik ml. je nastanjen v Oaklandu. Ima srčkano ženo in 3 krasne otroke. Živijo v lepi vili na deželi. Poleg krasne neveste, je pa bila med "belle" večera naša alto solistka Jane Dabovich, ki je 2 tedna pred poroko priredila dekliški dan ali shower in vse žene in dekleta slovenskega zbora smo bile povabljene. Hvala Jane. Tvoje dobro srce se je res široko odprlo na ta lepi dan. Naša Anica Judnich, bivša operna pevka je tudi prisostvovala. Iskrene čestitke ženinu in nevesti od Zveze in Slovenskega zbora. Nevesta, mati in sestra vse spadajo v Zvezo.

Po težki bolezni se Dr. Držan počuti veliko boljše. Vsi mu želimo skorajšnjega popolnega okrevanja. Dr. Vogrič iz Oaklanda se tudi ne počuti dobro. Gospa je učila v višji dekliški šoli.

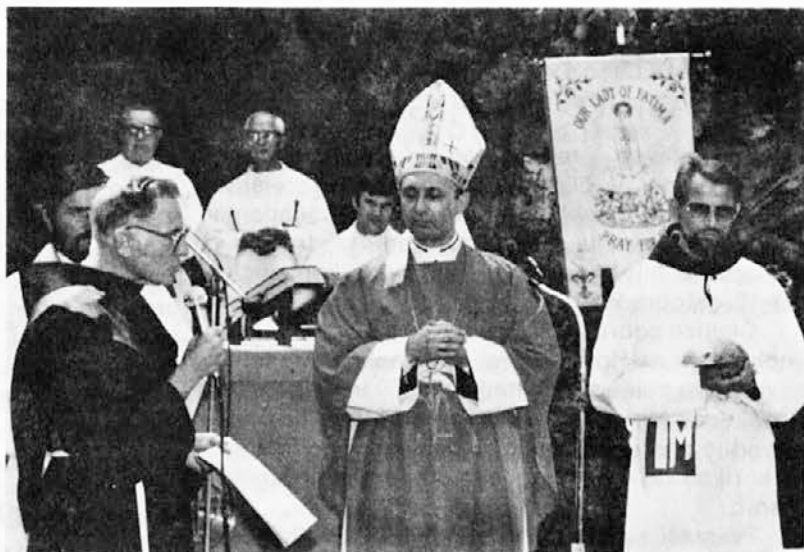
V nedeljo dne 10. oktobra je pel v naši cerkvi mladi operni pevec Frank Levor iz Minnesote. Na Bloomington univerzi je bil izbran, da nadaljuje svojo pevsko kariero. Ima lep, mili glas. Pred kratkim je bila tu Polonica Cesar (research worker) raziskovalska delavka med Slovenci v Ameriki. Gotovo veste, da je naš Slovenski dom krasno urejen in da ga krasijo umetniške slike slikarja Franc Babnik.

Posebne čestitke gredo našemu novemu škofu prevzišenemu Edwardu Pevec v Clevelandu. Tudi na Zapadu se spominjamo na Vašo visoko službo in prosimo blagoslova vsem Slovencem!

S kalifornijskimi pozdravi,
POLDICA PODGORNIK

ŠT. 64, KANSAS CITY, KS

Po dolgem času se zopet malo oglašam. Pri podružnici ni mnogo novega, ker nimamo



SLOMŠKOV NASLEDNIK V AMERIKI

Mariborski škof dr. Franc Kramberger, šesti naslednik svetniškega škofa Antona Martina Slomška, je v mesecu juliju obiskal ameriške Slovence. Na gornji sliki ga pozdravlja Zvezin duhovni svetovalec, Fr. Atanzij Lovrenčič pri lurski kapeli v Lemontu, Illinois. Na desni je misijonar p. Evgen Ketiš in somaševala sta g. Karel Pečovnik, župnik v Perham, Minn. in g. Jože Vogrin župnik v Parkers Prairie, Minn. Vsi omenjeni duhovniki so doma iz Štajerske in so spadali v mariborsko škofijo.

dovolj delovanja. Po večini smo pa že stare in bolehnne.

Vesela poročam, da sta dne 10. oktobra v naši cerkvi sv. Družine slovesno ovršavala 50 letnico zakona, naša poznana Mr. in Mrs. Anthony Lipovac. Slavje se je pričelo z zahvalno sv. mašo, katero je daroval domači župnik gosp. Helidor Mejak, ki jima je tudi izrekel prisrčne čestitke. Č. sestra Saba je lepo okrasila oltarje. Pevci na koru pod vodstvom njihovega sina Donalda kot organista, so tudi lepo peli, posebno slovenske pesmi; "Marija skoz' življenje," ki je mnogim prinesla solze v oči, dalje "Lepa si, lepa roža Marija...", "Angelsko češčenje", "Marija Mati ljubljena" in zahvalno pesem "Hvala večnemu Bogu".

Sv. maše so se udeležili hčerka Agnes Ann in soprog, 3 hčerke in sinovi Donald, Jim, dalje Tonetov brat in sestra in hči Agnesina, sestra Angela in družina in brat Michael z družino ter dosti nečakov in nečakinj ter številni prijatelji. Vsi so zlatoporočenecema čestitali po maši.

Popoldne pa se je vršilo lepo slavje v Pitkovi dvorani na čast slavljencema ob veliki udeležbi

sorodnikov in prijateljev. Za ples je igral sin Donald in njegov orkester. Ko je sin Donald poklical starše, so jima najprej zaigrali "happy anniversary" in potem jima je sin čestital in se jima zahvalil za vse njuno delovanje in rekel, da so najboljši starši, kar jih je, takrat je nastalo burno ploskanje in malokatero oko je ostalo suho. Predstavljeni so bili tudi vsi otroci in sorodniki. Bog jima daj še mnoga leta uživati njihovo veselje!

Slavljenka Agnes, je že od začetka članica podr. in Zveze in vsa leta nadzornica podr.

Sin Donald je 30. oktobra ovršaval 30 letnico svojega delovanja odkar vodi svoj orkester in delovanje z muziko. On je poznan in priljubljen po mnogih slovenskih nasebinah Amerike. Imel je veliko slavnost obletnice v veliki dvorani, ki je bila napolnjena do zadnjega koticčka. Moje čestitke staršem in sinu. Bog daj, da bi se mnogo let tako lepo deloval.

Najlepši pozdrav vsem glavnim uradnicam Zveze in vsem članicam, posebno želim ljubega zdravja bolnim sestram, in vsem vesele Božične praznike!

ANTONIA KOSTELEČ

ZAPISNIK DRŽAVNE KONVENCIJE ZA OHIO - MICHIGAN

Za državno predsednico je izvoljena Ann Terček, preds. št. 50, ki je nasledila naši prejšnji preds. Sophie Magajna, ki nas je tako nenadoma zapustila v januarju. Pri seji združenih podružnic v avgustu, je bilo sklenjeno, da bo drž. konvencija dne 10. oktobra 1982.

Članice podružnic so se zbrale pri cerkvi Marije Vnebovzete na Holmes Ave. Darovana je bila letna sv. mašo za pok. ustanoviteljico št. 50 in dolgoletno gl. tajnico, Albino Novak. Kadetke Marie Priland so vodile procesijo članic in delegatij podružnic. Na koro so zazvenele orglje in odmevale slovenske pesmi.

Po maši se je družba odpeljala v Euclid Park Club house, na 222nd in Lakeshore Blvd., kjer so članice št. 50 priredile okusni zajterk.

Seja se je pričela z molitvijo. Nato so članice pevskega zbora Zarja, zapele 3 izbrane pesmi: *Venček*, *Gozdič je že zelen in Zvezina himna*. Pauline Krall povabi vse k lepi udeležbi na koncertu, ki ga priredijo dne 28. nov. ob 4 uri popoldne v Recher Hall.

Predsednica veselo pozdravi veliko število podružnic, ki so zastopane. Predstavi sebe, nato gl. odbornice Irene Jagodnik in Albina Uehlein, ki je ženska direktorica in Marie Beck zapisnikarico konvencije. Sledi molitev za boljše zdravje Marie Bostian in za naše umrle delavne sosesestre: Frances Seitz in Sophie Magayna.

Zapisnik lanske konvencije je prečitán in odobren, nakar sledijo poročila podružnic: iz ozadja so kadetke pospremile Rose Kosko in Stella Dancul. Čestitke so zazvenele na čast dolgoletnima uradnicama št. 21. Šopek vrtnic so jima pripele na

prsi v zahvalo za trud in pomoč podružnice pri uspehu SŽZ. Stella je že mnogo let tajnica združenih podružnic.

Poročila podr. so dobro vplivale na novo preds. Ann Trček, ki priporoča, da pridobimo nove članice v Zvezo. Podr. št. 10 predlaga šolski sklad v spomin blagopokojne drž. preds. Sophie Magayna.

Seja je bila zaključena ob ob 4:30 pop. z molitvijo v spomin 39 umrlih članic leta 1981 ob prižganih svečkah. Ob zaključku preds. A, Terček prosi za sodelovanje vseh podružnic za bodoči uspeh naše S.ŽZ.

Naj Vam Vsemogočni da zdravje in srečo do snidenja na konvenciji prihodnje leto 1983.

MARIE BECK, zapisnikarica

SLOVENSKI DAN — SLOVENSKI PRAZNIK

30. oktobra v CHICAGU

Slovensko - ameriški radijski klub - v Chicagu je vztrajen v organiziranju vsakoletnega Slovenskega dne. Letos je obhajal že svoj 32. nastop s peštrim programom, ki vselej razgiba mlado in staro slovenskega rodu iz Chicaga in okolice. Direktorje slovenske radijske oddaje dr. Leskovar in njegova žena Corinne poskrbita, da je vsakoletni Slovenski dan tudi uradno proglašen od župana mesta Chicaga kot splošni slovenski dan - letos od ge. Županje Jane M. Byrne in soglasno od guvernerja Illinois James B. Thompson - a. Plesni skupini iz Chicaga se je letos pridružil Cleveland - člani folklornega instituta - da je lepota plesev in celotnega nastopa dosegla svoj višek. Iskrene častitke vaditeljicama ge. Leskovar in ge. Edi Vovk-Pušl za tolik umeniški dosežek. A.G.

MLADA BREDA

Povest
dr. Ivan Pregelj

I del.

9. Božični večer na Peči.

—Nadaljevanje—

Kmalu po večerji se je bila na Peči razkropila družina. Šime in Neža sta odšla v vas, Tomaž se je zavlekel v svojo sobo, katero si je bil zakuril, Lipe je oskrbel živino, Anže in Jerica sta se stisnila za ognjišče, kamor je prilezel, ko se je bila Katra dvignila iz kuhinje, tudi Luka. Pri Juriju je bila Anica. Toda mož je bil molčeč, slabe volje. Anica je mislila, da mu je huje in izpraševala ga je, kaj bi rad. Odklonil je vse. In tako je Anica skoro z veseljem pozdravila prihod matere, ki je zelo tiščala, naj le gre k polnočnici in naj gre, češ, da zna sama poskrbeti za Jurija. Anica je čutila, da jo tašča nekako podi, in ko se je ozrla na Jurija, se ji je zdelo, ko da hoče reči: »Pojdi no, čemu te komedije, saj

vem, da greš rada!« Vstala je torej in pustila moža samega z materjo in sedela potem žalostna v kuhinji in poslušala Marjanico, ki je polglasno čitala iz velikih, oguljenih knjig in samo zdaj pa zdaj vstala in si pogrela plev, ker jo je trgalo po glavi. Anže je pekel krompir in pripovedoval Jerici o nekaki božični noči na Ruskem, kjer in ko je bilo zasulo celo čredo konj, mejtem ko se je Jerica trudila, da posluša Anžeta in Marjanico in ni vsled tega, ker je bila povrhu še zaspala, nikakor mogla razumeti, kako bi bil konj rekel rimskemu cesarju, da ne bo daroval malikom, ali pa, da je sv. Sebastijan tičal dva metra pod snegom, in še mnogo podobnega. Tako se je zgodilo, da je končno zaspala in sanjala, da je svetnica. Šele, ko ji je Anže vtaknil pečen krompir mej prste, se je zbudila z glasnim vzdihom:

»Ali je že dan?«

Anica je sedela sama vase zamišljena in venomer je morala misliti na pohojeno rožo in na sanje Jurijeve. In čim dalje je mislila na to, tem trdovratneje se ji je vsiljevala misel, da je hotel Juri povedati nekaj drugega. In če je pomislila Anica, da tisto drugo obstoja, da bi ne bila mogla prenesti pogleda z oči v oči nasproti Juriju da je bil rekel

»tisto drugo«, da je v resnici padla mej njo in moža senca, dasi tako rahlo, da jo ona sama komaj sluti, ali da je padla vendar, tedaj je Anica začutila, da ji polje rdečica v lice in da se ji napolnjuje srce z bridkostjo.

»Pohodila si rožo, pomendrala jo. Primerjala si moža z drugim, lepšim, močnejšim, grešila si v mislih, kriva si pred možem, ki trpi in sanja, da se vrača in te vidi ko nevesto drugega. In kaj si storila ti? Si mu li padla okolu vratu, odgnala li moreče skrbi raz njegovo čelo? Tam gori leži in se muči z mislijo ko večnost težko, nocoj, ko je sveti večer. Tako ljubiš moža, ki je ves potreben potrpljenja in tolažbe? In hočeš biti srečna in mirna, in hočeš imeti svojo božično blaženost? Kako to hočeš? Kje je dobra volja v tebi, kje je tisti duh sprave, ki naj ga žena podeljuje celi hiši? Pojdi gori k njemu. Pri možu je Katra. Sezi ji v roko, reci ji, da je nocoj sveti večer in da naj pozabi vse, kar je bilo, da je mir plačilo za spravo. Ponižaj se, podvrzi se dolžnosti, bodi vredna blagoslova noči, bogate blagoslova za vse, ki hočejo.«

»Hočem!« je rekla skoro glasno in odhitela gori. In stopila je k Juriju. Pri svitu napol zatisnjene svetilke je opazila, da spi. Katre pa ni bilo nikoder.

»Hotela sem!« je pomislila in se sklonila nad moža in mu dahnala poljub na čelo. In solze so ji prišle v oči. Od daleč se je oglasil zvon; znanilo je k polnočnici. Oblekla se je praznično in sedla k možu in čakala. Čakala je, da pride ona, ki se je je bala. Ali dolgo je ni bilo, in ko je prišla, se je z nevoljo začudila, da je tu, in ko je Anica začela govoriti šepetaje, ji je pomignila tašča z roko: jutri!

In tako je ostavila spečega moža in odšla nespravljena s taščo, in skoraj vso pot do vasi je jokala. Tašča pa je sedla k sinu in se pogreznila v misli. Kakor soha je sedela negibna, in samo oči so govorile, pa ne o sreči, pa ne o miru. Kdo ve, kaj je mislila? In ji ni bilo dolgčas? Saj ga vendar ni ljubila, svojega sina? Kdo ve, kaj je sploh ljubila, ali je sploh mogla ljubiti koga? Njeno lice je bilo trdo in neprodarno, kakor je bila temna pot, katero je hodila. In vendar je zdaj pa zdaj zatrepetalo njeno rejeno telo od nekake notranje groze in zdaj pa zdaj je dvignila glavo naglo in nemirno. Toda nič ni bilo. Edino Tomažev pes Sultan je zalajal, in vse je bilo zopet mirno. Ona pa je odšla po prstih v svojo sobo, nalila si kozarec močne pijače in se spet vrnila k sinovi postelji. In zopet je sedela ko soha in samo, kadar je zalajal Sultan, se je zganila, in oči so ji nemirne zrle nekam, nemirne in zlokobne...

Anica pa je z jecljajočo skrušeno dušo molila v cerkvi za svojo in svojega moža srečo in zdravje, za mir in pravo pamet, za odvrnitev vseh izkušnjav in dobro voljo, za časni in večni blagor, za srečo in zveličanje njih, ki so ji umrli in onih, ki ji še niso bili rojeni. In v njene molitve je kipelo raz kor vedno znova:

Božična noč, prekrasna si,
krasnejša si nad vse noči.

In Anica sama je nehote pela. Bridkost in radost, žalost in veselje, solze bolesti in prijetne miline so se mešale v njenem srcu. Kakor dete se je

zdelo sama sebi. Čemu plašnost in strah? Čemu zdvajanje? Ali nismo vsi varovanci tega svetlega, čudežnega deteta, ki je rojeno nocoj in rojeno zato, da odzame breme z naših ramen in naše krivde na se? Naše krivde! O Bog, je jecala Anica, koliko greha je na meni. Kako je mogoče, da sicer ne vidim vse svoje ničvrednosti? In napravila je sklep, trden in svet, ostati močna in iskrena v hrepenenju po popolnosti in zatajevanju, in vse dneve skrbi, težnje in dejanja, vse je izginilo ko prah v senci, v solncu milosti, ki jo je rosilo nanjo novorojeno dete...

Stopila je v zimsko noč in jadrno odhitela po zasneženi cesti proti domu. Prehitela je razne gruče ljudi. Ko je stopila čez most in zavila v breg na Peč, se je izvila izza zapuščenega mlina temna postava in se ji približila.

»Kdo je?« je vprašala Anica.

»Jaz!« je odvrnil Lipe, »sem počakal, greva skupaj.« Skoro neljubo ji je bilo, da je storil to, ne da bi ji bila njegova oseba vsiljiva, pač pa, ker je bilo njeno srce tako prosto vsega strahu in njeno telo in oko sveže in odpočito.

»Drsi,« je dejal Lipe in pognal okovano palico v led.

»Da,« je odvrnila ona in si mislila, da bi se spodobilo, da reče katero. Ali sama ni vedela kaj. In zato je molčala. In zdelo se ji je, da je v tem molku nekaj slovesnega in da mora biti tako, da molčita. Šele, ko sta prišla že blizu staje, je dejal Lipe:

»Nocoj je malo spanja na zemlji.«

»Malo,« je potrdila Anica.

»Jutri bodo bedeli pa tatje!« je dejal Lipe.

»Kako to?« je vprašala ona.

»I no,« je odvrnil Lipe, »ljudje so trudni in potem imajo tatje lahko opravilo.«

»V naših krajih ni takih ljudi,« je odvrnila Anica.

Lipe je bil pretekel za par korakov Anico. In teme pred njima so se pojavile sence Peči. V hipu je opazila Anica, da je iz teme planilo nekaj temnega in jezno renčečega proti njej. Ali v istem hipu je videla skočiti onemu črnemu nasproti Lipeta. Slišala je zamolkel udarac in presunljivo cvilenje, in po vsem telesu se je tresla. Njena misel je bila, da je volk. V tem hipu je pristopil Lipe in dejal:

»Ali ste se hudo ustrašili?«

»Kaj je bilo?« je vprašala, »volk?«

»Ne,« je dejal z rahlo se tresočim glasom, »ni bil volk. Pa četudi je bil samo pes, zapomnil si bo on in njegov gospodar.«

»Ali je bil Sultan?« je vprašala ona z rastočo radovednostjo.

»Da,« je odvrnil, »pa se mi zdi, da ni bilo namenjeno meni!«

»Tomaž ga je naščuval?« je vprašala.

»Da,« je dejal fant. »Zato me je vlekel in mi ni dalo miru, da sem vas čakal. Zdaj veste.« In približal se ji je prav k obrazu in rekel: »Verujte mi, da ni veljalo meni. Kaj pa more meni pes, vas pa bi mogel ostrašiti do smrti.«

Anica se je zamislila. Grozovita nakana njene tašče se je razgrnila pred njo. Stopila je prav blizu Lipeta:

»Če je to res,« je šepetala, »potem, potem si me rešil velike nevarnosti, mene in otroka.«

»Pravilo mi je nekaj,« je odvrnil.

»Daj mi roko, Lipe, Bog naj ti plača.« Stegnil je levico proti nji.

»Zakaj ne desnice?« je vprašala.

»Boli me,« je dejal mirno, »pes me je popadel. Pa to ni nič, saj ni stekel, je samo naščuvan. Ali kdor ga je, ta bo plačal.« In zasmejal se je prav razposajeno...

10. »Plačal bom, Lipe pa mora od hiše.«

In smejal se je sam vase razposajeno in nekako zlobno še vse potem. In ko je Anica vzdramila nanjo čakajočo Marjanico, in je ta v prvi zmedenosti prinesla vilice mesto arnike in potem od samega strahu nad tem, kar se je bilo zgodilo, polila povrhu polovico zdravilne vode, in vsled tega še hujše zmedane zrezala najlepšo srajco Nežino za obvezo —, pri vsem tem se je Lipe, za mizo sedeč, smešil sam vase, razposajeno in nekako zlobno. Ko pa mu je Anica obvezovala rano, je prešel ta smehljaj v smehljaj vse druge vrste. Bog ve, da se ranjenici ne smejejo tako blaženo.

Marjanica je bila začela vikati, ko je zagledala kri. Komaj ji je Anica dopovedala, da naj bo tiho in naj ne budi spečih. Marjanica pa očitvidno ni nocoj čula na desno uho, zakaj še glasneje je vprašala, so ga li z nožem ali s sekiro, na kar je Lipe odvrnil, da z zobmi in je Marjanica skoro od strahu pobegnila, meneč, da je rekel z »rogmi«, katere nosi, kar vemo po naši pameti in veri, samo zloba. Streznila jo je stoprav Nežina srajca, katero je bila tako neusmiljeno zrezala, opravlja vneto lepo delo usmiljenosti. Videča, da za njo ni nobenega opravka več, je molče odšla »počivat«. Počivala je sicer slabo, ker se ji je sanjalo samo od srajc. Rezala je in rezala, in venomer je tekla kri. Še nikoli takih sanj, da bi srajce krvavele.

Anica je bila Lipetu obvezovala roko in se ozrla. Marjanice ni bilo nikjer. Ozrla se je kakor v zadregi na Lipeta. Izraz veselja in odkrite močate dobre volje mu je ozarjal lice. Ne, je pomislila Anica, v njem ni slabe misli. Dvignil se je bil in pristopil k nji ter je prijel za roko:

»Anica, tako pa lepa hvala in srečne praznike!«

»Tudi tebi, Lipe!« je odvrnila. Rahlo je bila vznemirjena, in njemu se je zdelo, da ni rekla še nikoli nikjer nobena žena tako prisrčno besede »Lipe«, in skoro primoran je bil, se mu je zdelo, da reče še kakšno.

»Ono pa naj ostane mej nama, četudi sem prepričan, da ni bilo namenjeno meni. Naj ostane, je bolje tako!«

»Kakor misliš!« Stisnila mu je roko. Nobene slabe misli ni bilo v njej. Mislila je na svoje še nerojeno dete, in kako bi mu bil strah škodoval, in kako je Lipe otel, in da mu mora biti za to hvaležna.

V hipu pa se ji je pokrilo lice z bledostjo, rahlo je vzdrtala in stremela nema v okno; tam je iskriilo iz teme na dvorišču dvoje oči. Čudovite oči: strah in žalost, jeza in zlobnost so se mešale v strasno razpaljenih zenicah. Te zenice so ko tat in izdajavec strmele v sobo na njo, ki je bila tu z Lipetom. Lipe je opazil strah na Aničinem licu, obrnil se naglo. V hipu je prešel izraz sreče in miru z njegovega lica.

»Tomaž!« je zasikal porgljivo, »kaj ne spi pijanec, mu ne da vest miru?« In odšel je naglo iz

sobe, in Anica je še čula iz dvorišča polagoma izgubivše korake in odhitela gori v sobo, ko da se podi za njo pol pekla. Našla je moža bededečega in mu šepetajoč povedala dogodek s psom, in da jo je samo Lipe otel velike nevarnosti, in je pripomnila, ko da išče pomoči in zaslobe pri možu, da je to že preveč, kar si Tomaž dovoljuje, da ta človek ne zasluži več, da ga trpijo na Peči. Juri je molčal trdovratno. Pričakovala je, da ji bo stegnil roko in jo potolažil ter ji voščil srečne praznike. Ne! Pač pa se je nekako nevoljno nasmehnil, češ:

»Lipe ni napačen človek, ni!«

Zazdehalo se mu je, ko da je zaspan. Anica pa je videla, da ne mara govoriti, in poslovala se je od njega s komaj slišnim pozdravom »lahko noč«. To jo je vznemirilo še bolj in dolgo ni mogla zaspati. Pa tudi Juri ni spal. Nevolja in dvom sta mu jemala spanec in mir. Hotel in želel si je od žene nekako nežno oskrbo, vsiljivo dvorljivost, hotel je biti od nje negovan, tolažen, mlrjen —; pri tem je pa pozabil, da je sam proti nji zadirljiv in siten in zakrito zvijačen. In potem mu je bilo hudo, in ker mu je bilo hudo, je obračal vso jezo na Anico in tolmačil njeno obnašanje, češ, »da je nemarna lahkoživka in brez srca«, in da ima prav mati, če to trdi, in da je gotovo res tudi ono o Lipetu. Čemu bi jo sicer fant čakal in spremljal? In ona, seveda, napravi iz vsega tega vse tako naravno, da bi živ človek ne mogel misliti slabega. Ne misliti slabega! Saj bi ne! je mislil Juri dalje, če pa vsa znamenja govore, da bo menda res za vso preprostostjo Aničino grda, gnusna laž, preračunjena reč. In vsi vejo to, vsi, je skoro škripal od bolesti, in samo jaz ne smem vedeti tega, ne smem misliti tega. In ne morem govoriti ž njo o tem. Zakaj ne morem, zakaj? In zgodilo se je, da Juri ni vedel, odgovora. Kako naj vendar ve bolnik, kakšno bolezen ima. On ve komaj, da je bolan. Juri pa niti tega ni vedel, toliko manj, da je otrovan, in so te misli znaki otrovanja in smrti.

In kakor dete je plakal v blazino od jeze, kljubovalnosti in bridkosti, kakor dete neutolažljivo in kujajoče se. In bil je Juri dete, nesrečno dete brez ljubezni in brez matere.

Rano zjutraj je bil vstal Lipe in odšel in se vrnil na Peč šele popoldne. Kmalu za njim je prišel na Peč orožnik z nasajenim bajonetom. Marjanica se ga je grozno ustrašila.

»Kje pa imate tistega psa?« je vprašal.

»Kaj hočejo?« je drhtala Marjanica. »Sem gluha, vejo, ne slišim, vejo, naj povedo še enkrat!«

Tu je pristopil Anže.

»Gospod, kar z menoj pojdite. V hlevu leži in liže rano.«

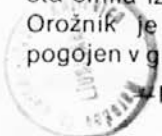
Orožnik je odšel s fantom in se ustavil pred hlevom in velel Anžetu:

»Spodi mi ga ven, fant.«

Anže je izginil v hlev. Orožnik je snel puško in čakal. Čuti je bilo Anžetov glas in jezno lajanje.

»No, ali bo kaj?« je viknil orožnik.

»Čakajte,« je vikal v hlevu Anže, »se mi noče premakniti. Mu bomo drugače postregli.« In za nckaj hipov je fant veselo viknil: »Zdaj!« V tem hipu sta šinila iz hleva razkačena mačka in za njo pes. Orožnik je pomeril, in nesrečni pes je padel pogojen v glavo.



"FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART"

"Here Piggy, Piggy!!"

Part I

Hi Boys and Girls,

It was about 10:30 a.m. on a Sunday morning. Claire had just gotten home from Mass and was about to start the morning breakfast dishes. Nick, her husband, was out back feeding the pigs.

Suddenly, Claire heard banging at the sliding glass doors off the backyard. She pulled back the floor length curtain to find Nick with a thick rope draped over his shoulder.

"Put your shoes on, Sweetie, the pigs got out of their pen!"

The land that surrounded their home was all woods. In the woods lived numerous wild animals including deer, wild cats and wild boar. Claire knew they had to find the pigs before they joined up with a pack of wild boar. If they joined their wild cousins they'd be gone forever.

Outside the pen were hoof-prints in the sand that led into the woods. The deeper into the woods Claire and Nick walked, the harder it was to

follow their trail, until finally the tracks couldn't be found at all. At one point Claire thought she could hear grunts, but the neighbor's dog was barking too loud to be sure.

Before throwing in the towel, Nick and Claire decided to ask the neighbors if they heard or saw anything.

The two girls, Joy, who was thirteen and Beth, who was ten, said they had just heard pig grunts and their dog was barking and acting up something awful. They didn't really pay any attention, because they thought it was just wild boar he saw. They also offered to help in the search. So into the woods they all headed.

DAVY'S COLUMN

At one point they split up. Nick and Joy went one way and Claire and Beth went the other. Claire and Beth circled back to the house. While they were there, on impulse, Claire decided to run in and get the jar that contained popcorn kernels. They then went back by the pen and retraced the tracks left by the pigs. Once in the woods again they heard Duke, Beth's dog, start to bark again.

"That's weird. Duke usually doesn't bark when we're gone. He cries. He only barks when someone or something is trespassing. Unless..."

"Unless what, Beth?"

"Well, it is kinda' windy. The pigs must still be in the area, and Duke is picking up their scent."

"If that's true, do you think they might be in the center? We've mainly have been sticking to the edges."

"It's worth a try."

Just as Beth and Claire turned to change directions they heard the crackle of something stepping on dried leaves. They immediately froze in their tracks.

"Beth," Claire whispered. "It came from behind that Palmetto bush. You're smaller than I am, so you won't make as much noise. Tip-toe over there and see if it's them."

Ever so careful not to make any noise, Beth tip-toed over to the Palmetto bush and peeked behind it.

"They're here," Beth whispered. "Both of them."

"Go find Nick. Bring him here. I'll stay here and keep an eye on the pigs. Hurry!"

Claire carefully tip-toed over to where Beth was standing as Beth ran through the woods in search of Nick and Joy. There Claire found a mound followed by a ravine. In the ravine were the two pigs eating berries.

Suddenly the male pig gave out a couple of grunts and the two pigs started to walk in the opposite direction as Claire was. Claire looked around. Nick and the others were nowhere in sight. What was she to do? She couldn't just stand there and let them walk away, but if she went into the ravine she'd scare them, wouldn't she? If not, how was she to get two 90 lb pigs back home by herself?

DAVY

P.S. The conclusion to "Here Piggy, Piggy!!" will be in the January 1983 issue of ZARJA-THE DAWN. In the meantime Happy Holidays.

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