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Of Freedom
Be Extinguished!



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Slovenian Youth Circle Celebrates 50 Years

The Slovenian Junior Chorus of SNPJ Circle 2 will present a 50th Anniversary Concert on Sunday, Nov. 13, starting at 3 p.m. at Slovenian Society Home, 20713 Recher Ave., Euclid.

The program will feature the 45 young members and a special guest appearance by a young adult choir formed by Alumni of the Circle. The two choirs will also perform together.

The Circle is the oldest active Slovenian youth group in America. The Circle was organized in 1938 by the Napredne Slovenke Lodge (forward-thinking Slovenian women) and had Antoinette Simcic as first Circle Director. Mrs. Simcic and charter members of the first circle will be recognized at the concert.

The Circle survived World War II and the waning interest of the 1950s. In 1955, the formation of the chorus as the main activity brought new life into the Circle. Anton Schubel, the late Slovenian singer and choral director, was the music director for 10 years.

In 1962 the children relocated to the suburbs, moving from the Slovenian National Home, East 65th St. and St. Clair, to the Slovenian Society Home, Euclid. Since 1965, Cecilia Dolgan has been the music director as well as circle director. The Circle is known as the traveling Circle for performing in other states, Canada, and Slovenia.

The Circle invites you to join them for the 50-year celebration and especially past members and families. There will be a social, with dinners, refreshments, and music for dancing by the Sumrada Orchestra.

Donation is \$5. Tickets are available at the door and in advance at Tony's Polka Village.

The concert is under the direction of Cecilia Dolgan, with Ed Sumrada accompanying.

Many persons didn't expect a Slovenian youth group to be thriving in the 1980s. The members of Circle 2 have had another busy year promoting Slovenian heritage and culture. This year the children sang at the Cleveland Home & Flower Show, Cuyahoga Community College -Ethnifest, Old World Oktoberfest, Sygan, Pa., Collinwood Slovenian Home Homecoming, Slovenian Man of the Year banquet, the reception for the President of Slovenia, and our annual visit to the Slovenske Home for the Aged.

We hope our friends will fill the auditorium on November 13 to show the children we support their efforts as second and third generation American Slovenes carrying on our nationalities' traditions and music.

Recognize this girl?



See article on Cultural page 7

Over 400 attend retirement testimonial for August Pryatel

by James V. Debevec

Judge August Pryatel was saluted by a full-house of well-wishers on Sunday, Nov. 6 at the Slovenian National Home, St. Clair Ave.

At a testimonial dinner sponsored by the Slovenian American Heritage Foundation, August Pryatel, the group's first president, listened to various notables recall highlights from the judge's distinguished law career spanning over 44 years.

On Dec. 31 of this year Pryatel will step down from his post as full-time Judge on the Court of Appeals. It was announced, however, by Thomas J. Moyer, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Ohio, that Pryatel was welcome and urged to step out of retirement and continue hearing cases at his discretion.

Judge Pryatel was born in the Slovenian American community of Cleveland on E. 66 St., near St. Clair. When he was four years old, Pryatel was stricken by polio. Encouraged by his mother and father, Frank and Mary Pryatel, August, one of seven children, did not let his handicap get in the way of carving out an honorable career.

He graduated from Hiram College in 1936 with a B.A. in Economics. He graduated in 1942 from Cleveland Law School and passed the Ohio Bar the same year.

His public service began in 1944 when he was appointed Assistant Police Prosecutor for the City of Cleveland. On March 7, 1949, then Ohio Governor Frank J. Lausche named him Deputy Superintendent of Insurance for Ohio.



Judge August Pryatel, seated, left, is in the company of Chief Justice Supreme Court of Ohio, Thomas J. Moyer, and standing, left, Ronald J. Suster, State Representative from Ohio's 19th District, and Ralph Locher, Justice, Supreme Court of Ohio.

(Photo by Emilee Jenko)

Pryatel began his judicial career in 1957 when he became a judge of the Cleveland Municipal Court. He has been serving on the bench ever since. He was elected, then re-elected to the Court of Appeals, Eighth Appellate District, where his term expires at the end of this year.

Judge Pryatel never forgot his Slovenian heritage and his friends came to recognize their distinguished patriot. Besides his fellow Slovenians, there were literally dozens of judges in attendance, from the top, Chief Justice Moyer, to almost every judge in northern Ohio. The judicials were favorably impressed with Frances Babic's slide presentation depicting various scenes from Pryatel's life as well as a lengthy feature on his Slovenian heritage.

Senator Frank J. Lausche, who will be observing his 93rd birthday on Nov. 14, gave the most stirring and attention demanding speech remarking on the courage of Judge Pryatel to overcome every adversity on his road to a proud and distinguished career.

Ralph Locher, former Cleveland mayor, and now a Justice on the Supreme Court of Ohio, talked lovingly about his very close friend August Pryatel and their parallel political vocation.

Pryatel's nephew Ronald

Suster, State Representative from Ohio's 19th District, let the audience in on numerous personal anecdotes.

Dr. Karl B. Bonutti, president of the Slovenian American Heritage Foundation, also lauded Pryatel for his unwavering support especially during the group's formative years.

Cleveland Mayor, George Voinovich, gave the Judge a key to the city and a proclamation declaring Nov. 6 "August Pryatel Day" in Cleveland. Although running a vigorous campaign for the U.S Senate, he and his wife, Janet, stayed for the entire program.

Bishop Edward Pevec, and Monsignor Louis B. Baznik, briefly complimented Pryatel during their prayers before and after the delicious meal.

The speeches lasted about two-and-a-half hours and testified to the respect and admiration Pryatel has earned during his years in public service.

To American Home's staunch and unwavering supporter and friend, we offer our heartiest and sincerest congratulations to Judge August Pryatel and his wife, Elaine. When a non-Slovenian wonders what is the essence of the Slovenian characteristic, we can proudly point to August Pryatel, and say "to emulate him."



St. Clair Pensioners News

Our annual meeting is held every year in the month of November, at which time we elect our officers for the coming year. We urge all members to attend this important meeting. The date this year is Thursday, November 17 at 1:30 p.m. in the usual meeting place, the Annex of the St. Clair Slovenian National Home.

With this year's early arrival of the cold, wet, and miserable days, signs that mean the end of summer, who would have believed that the day of our scheduled Lolly the Trolley tour, Oct. 27 would turn out to be a beautiful sunny day. Cold and rain before, rain and snow after, but just beautiful on Oct. 27.

Arriving at the SNH, the starting point of our tour, I was pleasantly surprised to see our trolley driver and tour guide was Barbara Pangonis, the wife of Dennis Pangonis. How fortunate to have this charming young lady show us the sights of Cleveland. Her friendly manner and warm personality quickly endeared her to the whole group.

After all boarded Lolly, Barbara gave us the history of the birth of Lolly, its growth in Cleveland, and now expansion

Entertainment Books Available

"Entertainment '89" books are available for \$22.50 from the Mary Mavec School, 22103 Lake Shore Blvd., Euclid, Ohio. There are hundreds of coupons in the book offering discounts at restaurants and entertainment events. The books are good between November, 1988 to the end of October, 1989.

Books may be purchased at the school week days from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

into Canton, Ohio. Then after a brief outline of our tour route... clang, clang, and we were on our way.

As we moved down St. Clair, Barbara said, "As we approach the American Home Publishing, I will slow down and clang, clang my bell. All wave and sent up a loud cheer for those who work there..." Of course we all were happy to oblige, and many a head on St. Clair turned, probably wondering if we were a cheering section for the Cleveland Browns going by. We later learned that those whom we cheered, were so busy at work, they were unaware of our presence. Probably most disappointed was our trolley guide, Barbara. Her mother-in-law, Mary Pangonis, whom most of us know, works in the American Home office.

I will not go into detail of the tour. One must actually experience the tour to fully appreciate our city of Cleveland. One begins to realize how little we know of our city's history, its growth, its many "firsts," its wealth of cultural, educational, and medical institutions, etc.

As a bonus we were treated to a 15 minute stop at the City Greenhouse where we were greeted by Don Slogar, manager of the Greenhouse. Of course the mini-stop permitted only a glimpse of the beauty therein. Don invited all to come back for a leisurely and relaxing tour of the place. Some who had never been there before, stated they certainly would be back.

Our tour terminated back on St. Clair, at the SNH where a dinner was being prepared for us, in the Clubrom. To our surprise and delight, the Club's volunteer ladies transformed the room's decor.

White tablecloths, floral arrangements on the tables, gave a festive atmosphere.

The food was delicious and excellently prepared. There was salad, roast chicken, potatoes, vegetables, and an array of tempting desserts and coffee. The portions were very generous, in fact I believe everyone went home with a "doggie bag." The compliments to the enterprising ladies were generous, most sincere, and truly well deserved. Thank you ladies for an outstanding job.

I might remind our readers and friends that these same ladies prepare and serve delicious fish dinners and several types of meat dishes every Friday noon and evening in the same clubroom. Do yourself a favor and visit them on a Friday and treat yourself to one of their dinners.

On Thursday, December 15 we will have our Annual Christmas Dinner and Social for members of the club. Members, please attend the November meeting to get your tickets for this event.

Then, because of the great success of our Lolly Trolley tour, there is a great interest in a "Lolly Trolley Christmas Light Tour." If necessary we may consider a second trolley to accommodate all wishing to go along. Probable date will be the early evening of December 7th. Final details will be announced at our November meeting. If space permits, we may be able to accommodate some non-members, also. Let us know if you are interested. Call either Fran Karnak at 486-0818 or Stan Frank at 391-9761. Note: No meal is planned with this tour,

Stanley J. Frank
Secretary

SAINT VITUS PARISH

IT'S TIME TO ORDER!

The 1989 St. Vitus Calendar Fund calendars are in. This year, your chances of winning are even better —

- Total prizes increased to \$25,000.
- Only 3,000 calendars sold
- and the donation is still \$30.00/calendar.

We need your help for the continued success of the Fund. Your \$30.00 donation benefits the future needs of St. Vitus Church & School.

Pass the word to others, too — an extra order blank is attached.

Don't forget the calendars make great gifts for those hard-to-shop-for people.

YES! I'd like to order the 1989 St. Vitus Calendar to benefit future needs of St. Vitus Church & School.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ A.H. _____

Please enclose a \$30.00 check or money order made payable to St. Vitus Calendar Fund,
6019 Glass Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44103

Please attach separate sheet for each additional calendar ordered.

President and Dean of Ljubljana University Enjoy Cleveland Visit

St. Clair Ave. I would guess about 35 persons were present. Dr. Petrič spoke in Slovene at considerable length. He emphasized the seriousness of the problems Yugoslavia and Slovenia face, but was guardedly optimistic they could be overcome. He was disinclined to be too critical either about the nature of the political system or about the extent to which the process of democratization should go. He stated that while the goal was to achieve a pluralistic, democratic society, the idea of having more than one political party was not a viable alternative.

AMERIKA DOMOVINA. NOVEMBER 11, 1988

Dr. Peklenik and Dr. Petrič also had a chance on a variety of occasions to meet with many local Slovenes; both were very surprised to see how active is our local Slovenian community. Both attended the testimonial dinner held last Sunday at the Slovenian National Home on St. Clair Ave.

and were impressed not only by the calibre of the event but also and especially by the friendliness and informality that prevailed, the easy rapport between judges and political officeholders on the one hand and the general public on the other. They remarked that such gatherings tend to be a good deal more stiff and formal in Europe.

Last Friday evening, the new president of CSU, Dr. John S. Flower, hosted a dinner at his official residence in Shaker Heights for Drs. Peklenik and Petrič. It was a fairly small gathering, very informal and pleasant. Slovene Americans present included Dr. Karl and Hermina Bonutti, both a bit on edge as they were awaiting the birth of a grandchild — who arrived the next day in fine health —, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Osenar, and this writer. Dr. Flower proposed a toast to his guests and expressed the conviction that the contacts between the two universities would deepen over the years. Dr. Peklenik, who displayed a superb command of English, responded in kind and presented Dr. Flower with an illustrated book displaying the natural treasures of Slovenia. Dr. Petrič also spoke briefly, again in very good English.

While Dr. Peklenik concerned himself exclusively with academic matters, Dr. Petrič, who is 52, agreed to give a talk on current developments in Slovenia and Yugoslavia to local Slovenes. This took place last Saturday afternoon at the Slovenian National Home on

Anton M. Lavrisha

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Among other events on what clearly was a very intense round of discussions and meetings for the two guests and which left both literally exhausted, was a visit to the SNPJ Farm in Kirtland on Sunday morning, where they had a chance to see this facility and of course meet many local Slovene Americans not present on any of the other occasions. Also, Dr. and Mrs. Bonutti had a private dinner for Peklenik and Petrič at their home, which again was both very informative and pleasant.

What was among the most useful aspects of the visit by Peklenik and Petrič was that they had the opportunity to meet with a much wider and thus more representative group of local Slovene Americans than has in the past been the case. This is all to the good, in my view, for all concerned.

Rudolph M. Susek

Culture Page

Recalling singing of Lausche - Udovich duet

by Dan J. Postotnik

One of the most famous, if not the most famous Slovenian musical duets of all time has to be that of Josephine Lausche Welf and Mary Udovich, who were called the Sweethearts of Slovenian Columbia Records back in the twenties and thirties.

During those years they made at least 10 recordings and performed at numerous social events in Cleveland and other Slovenian settlements in Ohio. Accompanying them with his orchestra was Dr. William Lausche, a dentist, and brother of Josephine Welf. He also served as their pianist and composer.

Other musicians who accompanied the Slovenian Songbirds (another of their nicknames) were accordionists Eddie Simms, Johnny Pecon, and Lou Trebar. Their recordings were made in New York, and union studio musicians there were used. Dr. William Lausche had to write all the notes for the songs they were to record.

Josephine Lausche Welf was born in the St. Clair Ave. area of Cleveland to the well known business couple Louis and Frances Lausche (Lavše) on March 4, 1893. She attended St. Vitus and St. Francis Schools, and at an early age realized she had singing talent under the guidance of her mother, who also had an ear for music.

Josephine met her musical partner Mary Udovich in 1913. Josie invited her to her home, and they started to tinker with music with Dr. Bill doing the accompanying on piano. Thus began their illustrious career, which was to span two decades. Josephine sang soprano or lead part, and Mary Udovich provided the alto or harmony. Practically every Slovenian family in America, and many of those in Slovenia, listened and enjoyed their superb singing through the medium of records.

Josephine Lausche married Oliver Henry Welf, an attorney and veterinarian, in June, 1926. The couple resided in Mantua and Garrettsville, Ohio, and later returned to the Cleveland area. Her only son, Oliver Henry Welf, Jr., passed away on Dec. 13, 1964, and her husband on June 15, 1967. Although only half of the duet is still alive today, Josephine Lausche Welf is doing quite well, and has been a resident of the Slovene Home for the Aged for the past three years.

She is now in her 95th year. Her singing partner, Mary Udovich, who never married, passed away on Jan. 15, 1965. Mrs. Welf and her distinguished brother, Senator Frank J. Lausche, are now the lone sur-



Josephine Lausche, left, Mary Udovich, and Dr. William Lausche in a 1930s photo.

vivors of the famous Lausche family.

Mrs. Welf was a member of the Triglav and Ivan Cankar Dramatic clubs, and loved to perform at their social gatherings. Her greatest pleasure was to unite all of the Lausche family when Senator Frank and Jane Lausche came to Cleveland for the holidays.

The Slovenian Songbirds

gave us so many pleasurable moments with their exquisite voices and folksongs sung with perfection that we thank them. It is my belief that Josephine Lausche Welf and Mary Udovich should be considered for enshrinement in the Slovenian Musical Hall of Fame at an early date.

And now Mrs. Josephine Welf's many memories, some



Josephine Lausche Welf in a recent picture.

happy and some sad, linger on, and we sincerely hope the happy recollections will stay

and brighten her remaining days in the twilight of her life.

Heritage sponsors Slovenian recital

The Slovenian-American Heritage Foundation is sponsoring an evening of music with violinist Michael Grube and pianist Igor Dekleva on Sunday, Nov. 13 at 7:00 p.m. at the Cleveland State University Main Classroom Auditorium.

Admission to this concert, sponsored by the Slovenian-American Heritage Foundation and Cleveland State University, is free, but donations are encouraged. A reception will follow.

Michael Grube began playing the violin at four years of age and studied under respected teachers such as Prof. Günther Becker. He has conducted violin masterclasses in Europe and overseas and has been a concert soloist with renowned symphony and chamber orchestras the world over.

He has won prizes and awards in many countries including West Germany, Austria, Italy, Spain, Great Britain and the U.S. Among his accomplishments, he has received the Robert Stoltz Medal. He was named an honorary citizen of the city of Pueblo, Colo.

He has judged eight Mozart Festival Competitions for Orchestra and is also a respected lecturer having taught at major universities and music academies around the world.

Igor Dekleva studied the piano at the Academy of Music in Ljubljana with Prof. Janko Ravnik and Prof. Hilda Horak. He later studied with such respected artists and teachers as Alfred Cortot in Siena, Carlo Zecchi in Salzburg and Erik Then-Berg at the Academy of Music in Munich. He is currently teaching piano at the Academy of Music in Ljubljana.

Though Dekleva has an extensive repertoire, he is particularly interested in the works of his Slovenian contemporaries.



Six Weeks Before Christmas

'Twas six weeks before Christmas, when
all through the town
Not a Glasbena Matica member could be found;

The Slovenian auditorium was decorated with care,
In hopes that the audience soon would be there.

Children and grandchildren of Glasbena members
Would make this a program for all to remember;

When in the rehearsal hall there arose such a chord,
I sprang to my feet - and what was my reward?

A concert of beauty and rejoicing and fun,
Plus good food and dancing for everyone.

The cost - \$15.00 for all that I've told,
So get tickets now or they all will be sold.

2:00 p.m., December 4th is the chosen date
For this seasonal event to originate.

At the close of the program we'll all be aware
Of the time and the effort that helped the chorus
prepare:

So the audience can say as they leave the hall,
"We had so much fun, Merry Christmas to all!"

Joanne Fordyce

Ed. Note: Christmas Concert by Glasbena Matica on Sunday, Dec. 4, at 2 p.m., at Slovenian National Home, 6417 St. Clair Ave. Dinner to follow. Don Slogar Orchestra. Donation \$15.00 For tickets call Olga Klancher 289-1227. (The first 100 ladies receive a 'pre-Christmas present.'

