



# ZARJA - THE DAWN

URADNO GLASILO  
SLOVENSKE ŽENSKÉ ZVEZE V AMERIKI

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION  
SLOVENIAN WOMEN'S UNION OF AMERICA

NUMBER 11

NOVEMBER, 1995

VOLUME 67



**LET'S SAY IT ONCE MORE:**

**"Thanks for the memories,  
Barbara, Beverly, Josephine  
and Michelle!"**



**Installation Banquet  
and the crowd at the  
Slovenian Hall, San  
Francisco, California**



# ZARJA - THE DAWN

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## Please Note!

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BEDFORD, OH 44146

## ANTIQUÉ SLOVENIAN NOTECARDS AVAILABLE

How many times have you purchased notecards or greeting cards at a Hallmark Store? Your answer may be "frequently," if you buy as many as I do. Let me suggest that you purchase these lovely antique cards for your correspondence and at the same time your purchase will help the heritage fund.

During the convention we all had the pleasure of enjoying dinner at the Slovenian Home on Potrero Hill. That was a lovely experience that took us back generations and made us reflect on the early Slovenian pioneers in San Francisco.

During that dinner I was approached by a lady who had purchased the Slovenian Antique Cards and had one framed. She brought it to the banquet and showed me the professionally framed picture and it was beautiful! She used a brown frame, a green matt and a small inner beige matt. Both colors were used in the picture itself. Let me encourage you to try the same idea and create a "thing of beauty" for your home.

### TEZAK FUNERAL HOME

Welcomes Lydia Marquardt to their professional staff of pre-arrangement Counselor's.  
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## DATES TO REMEMBER

- Nov. 4-5 ART EXHIBIT BY LUCIJA DRAGOVAN, SWU Home Office, Joliet, IL  
Nov. 4 COMMEMORATIVE MASS, Br. 35, Aurora, MN, 5 p.m.  
Nov. 7 NOODLE SALE & LUNCH, Br. 38, Chisholm, MN  
Nov. 8 FOUNDER'S DAY MASS, Br. 1, Sheboygan, WI, 8 a.m. followed by meeting  
Nov. 9 PENNY SOCIAL, Br. 2, Chicago, IL, 6 p.m.  
Nov. 18-19 HUNTERS BAKE SALE, Br. 102, Willard, WI

## CHRISTMAS PARTIES:

- Nov. 15 Br. 10, Cleveland, OH, SND Holmes Ave., 1 p.m.  
Dec. 2 Br. 43, Milwaukee, WI, 12:30 p.m. Call Mary Zortz, 281-6851 or Jo Zahn, 541-8829 for reservations  
Dec. 3 Br. 33, Duluth, MN afternoon  
Dec. 3 Br. 47, Garfield Hts., OH, SNH Maple Hts., 1 o'clock  
Dec. 5 Br. 14, Euclid, OH, Call Vera Bajec, 481-7473  
Dec. 7 Br. 12, Milwaukee, WI  
Dec. 7 Br. 42 Maple Hts., OH at Triple Crown Restaurant in Monroe Falls, OH, 11 a.m. Reservations by calling 467-0696  
Dec. 9 Br. 16, So. Chicago, IL, Crow Bar Restaurant, 11:30 a.m.  
Dec. 14 Br. 2, Chicago, IL  
Dec. 20 Br. 1, Sheboygan, WI at Shoney's  
Dec. 20 Br. 32, Euclid, OH  
Dec. 20 Br. 50, Cleveland, OH at Sterle's Restaurant, 1 p.m. Call Ann Tercek or Jean Miller for reservations one week before date.  
Dec. 20 Br. 54, Warren, OH, Elks Clubroom, 1 p.m.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN NOVEMBER

### National Officers:

- Nov. 11 - Mary Muller, Past Nat'l Pres., Oakbrook, IL  
Nov. 16 - Marion Marolt, Past Nat'l Auditor, West Allis, WI

### Presidents:

- Nov. 5 - Genevieve Grilc, Br. 85, Depue, IL  
Nov. 7 - Rose Trombley, Br. 52, Kitzville, MN  
Nov. 9 - Beverly Menart, Br. 33, Duluth, MN  
Nov. 13 - Josephine Auito, Br. 13, San Fran., CA  
Nov. 13 - Antonia Kostelec, Br. 64, Kans. City, KS  
Nov. 13 - Linda Kusar-Fischer, Br. 108, VA Beach, VA  
Nov. 20 - Marcella Zupec, Br. 23, Ely, MN  
Nov. 23 - Steffie Segulin, Br. 10, Cleveland, OH  
Nov. 28 - Valeria Carlson, Br. 56, Hibbing, MN  
Nov. 24 - Josephine Kassen, Br. 54, Warren, OH

### Secretaries:

- Nov. 10 - Alice Cacich, Br. 33, Duluth, MN  
Nov. 11 - Regina Cop, Br. 64, Kansas City, KS  
Nov. 13 - Dorothy Jamnik, Br. 35, Aurora, MN  
Nov. 15 - Dolores Hennelly, Br. 95, So. Chicago, IL  
Nov. 21 - Josephine Jacobs, Br. 106, Meadowlands, PA

**HABERMANN**  
Funeral Home  
805 N. 6th Street  
Sheboygan, WI 53081

# NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## Reasons to exist

I wasn't born until nine years after Mrs. Priland organized the Slovenian Women's Union, and here I am, speaking to our Minnesota Zveza Days as your National President!

So, when I was asked recently in an interview for the local newspaper, "What has the S.W.U. got to offer? Why would a person want to join your organization?" I hesitated just a moment before I answered. "I believe it is the importance of CONNECTING." It's to join, to bond. It strengthens us to hold fast to our traditions; to preserve our memories from our past; to continue our childhood ties.

What keeps us coming to our meetings, some of you for 20, 30 or even 50 years? Why do we care so much about holding on to and perpetuating our Slovenian Heritage?

The same reasons that prompted our mothers to join are still a compelling force for us, their daughters and granddaughters, in the 90's. They joined together mainly to support each other in their needs as newcomers in a strange country, but also to expand their knowledge of these very different customs. Now, 70 years later, we wish to return, in memory, to their original and familiar customs and culture. We American-Slovenians of the first and second generations don't hear our parents speak to each other in Slovenian any more, and we are hungry for our childhood; we want to keep (preserve) that connection between ourselves and our parents; between ourselves and our own children. Most of us dream of seeing the Slovenia where our parents were born. We want to "Go back in time", and we can do that in a small way by keeping connected through Zveza.

We are connected through food; when we sit down to eat together; from old recipes in our own Pots and Pans cookbook; or favorite Slovenian foods that our mothers and grandmothers made familiar to us.

We are connected through prayer, our Mass is the same in your home town as in churches across the Regions.

We are connected through our magazine, ZARJA. And finally, we are connected through this annual Zveza Day connection.

This past August my family members held a first-ever Reunion. It took a lot of preparation and hard work to get about 80 people together in McKinley, MN. Aunts and cousins from Minnesota, Wisconsin, Texas, California and Alaska. Some we had never met; some we may never see again. But a common bond drew us together. Every year in September, we also have a "Family" reunion of sorts. The Zveza Family Reunion. It takes many hours of hard work and planning to bring us together each year. But it's all worth the effort when we come here and get reconnected



to each other with our common heritage; remembering Mrs. Priland's dream, and seeing our ties strengthened through this gathering.

I had the pleasure of visiting the Home Office in Joliet, Illinois in July; my first official duty since being elected to the National Presidency; and I was deeply moved and impressed with the Slovenians in that area. They have renovated a whole city area, Slovenian Row, or The National Heritage Corridor of the Illinois-Michigan Canal System... 100 miles in length. The Slovenian Heritage Museum, our S.W.U. Building, has been granted "Landmark Status". This museum holds an impressive array of items representing the cultural and home life of Slovenian immigrants. Lifesize manequins dressed in the national costumes of Slovenia are treasured donations; along with books, newspapers and journals, all guaranteed to connect us in a compelling way to our Slovenian roots. The first S.W.U. members were immigrant (women) who helped shape this country.

As Americans of Slovenian descent, and inheritors of this legacy we owe it to ourselves and to our children and grandchildren to perpetuate this culture.

Our rousing new recruitment slogan for our membership drive is,

We want you to... Start With Us!  
We want you to... Stay With Us!  
We want you to... Swing With Us  
into the 21st Century!

*P.S. My report to ZARJA, as outgoing State President, is contained in this issue. I wish to congratulate Wisconsin, Illinois-Indiana, and Ohio-Michigan for their efforts to "Stay Connected" through their annual Regional Conventions. As your National President, I appeal to you to submit your regional reports to me and to ZARJA within two weeks after your State Convention.*

**Jean Korsman**

# MINUTES OF THE 22ND NATIONAL CONVENTION

May 19–21, 1995, San Francisco, CA

(Continued)

The members of the Nominating Committee were introduced:

Josephine Lustik, (20), Chairman  
Beverly Jackson, (13)  
Anne Orazem (35)  
Evelyn Majercik (Ohio-Mich. Reg. Pres.)  
Matilda Ausich (103)  
Anka Kregar (55)

The meeting reconvened and the slate of officers, as selected by the Nominating Committee, with acceptance received from the nominees, was presented to the delegates:

President: Jean Korsman (39)  
Vice President: Kathleen Dorchak (47)  
Secretary: Evelyn Majercik (73)  
Treasurer: Beverly Menart (33)  
First Auditor: Cirila Kermavner (25)  
Second Auditor: Marge Church (42)  
Third Auditor: Pat Figurovski (20)

Nominations for the officers were then opened to the delegation.

For the office of president: Irene Odorizzi and Beverly Jackson were nominated, both declined the nomination.

For the office of vice-president: No nominations received.

For the office of secretary: Olga Ancel was nominated, and accepted. With two nominations for the office, Adrienne Miklich moved that the nominations be closed. Motion was seconded and carried.

For the office of treasurer: No nominations received.

For the office of first, second and third auditors: No nominations received.

For the position of Director of Women's Activities, Kathleen Emerson (105) accepted the position, no further nominations received.

For the position of Director of Youth Activities, Kathy Schroeder (1) accepted the position, no further nominations received.

For the position of Director of Heritage/Culture, Irene Odorizzi agreed to continue in that capacity, no further nominations received.

Corinne Leskovar was retained as Editor of ZARJA.

Charlotte Kobe (20) moved that the nominations for the offices be closed. Motion was seconded and passed by a majority show of hands.

A vote for the office of secretary was in order. Tellers were appointed to count the secret ballots:

Olga Dorchak (47) Vida Kumse (16)  
Charlotte Laurich (38)

The tally of votes was presented to President Bobence and results were announced:

Olga Ancel – 23 Evelyn Majercik – 25

The slate of officers was presented to the delegation for approval. Motion to accept was made by Ceta Zagar (13), move was seconded and carried.

Corinne Leskovar addressed the delegation on the matter of a new secretary, ending her comments with a thank you and best wishes to Olga Ancel.

The site for the 1999 National Convention was discussed. Jeanne Eckert (100) proposed Minneapolis, Minn., Jonita Ruth (20) suggested Washington, D.C. or Florida. After a rather short but detailed discussion the Florida location was selected. It was felt that with many of our members having moved to that southern location, their participation would be a bonus to S.W.U. Branch No. 47, Garfield Hts., Ohio offered to host the convention in Florida, with either Orlando or Tampa being considered. Their offer was heartily accepted.

Congratulations to the new officers were expressed by Angela Nico (89), Anka Kregar (55) and Jonita Ruth (20).

Miscellaneous items were brought to the floor for discussion. Branch 105 presented seven (7) new members, Branch 38 presented one (1), Branch 2 present nine (9), and Branch 10 presented three (3). Delegates were congratulated for their efforts to gain new membership.

Jonita Ruth (20) questioned the need for a Financial Advisor for our organization. It was explained that the bank officers keep us advised as to our status and do make investments for us, the need for an outside advisor was not necessary at this time. Ruth also questioned the possibility of changing the name of our organization to one more compatible with today's world. She was advised that since the Articles had been approved the first day of the convention, Article I stating that the name shall be "Slovenian Women's Union of America", the call for a change in the name would not be accepted.

As branch delegates began expressing their problems/concerns regarding Ženske Zveza, Irene Odorizzi (103) suggested that a Share Shop be held on Sunday, May 21st, at which time each branch would have an opportunity to address those issues.

Reports from the various extra projects at the convention were received. Fran Morison reported a total of \$790 received thus far from the sale of crafts donated by members/branches for the Scholarship fund. Nika Kovacic (103) reported Heritage donations of \$500 and the raffle of tickets for special craft items, for which only 300 tickets would be sold, was \$300.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m., to reconvene at 9:00 a.m., Sunday morning.

President Tory Bobence opened our meeting with prayer, announcing that on Saturday a visitor, Margaret Means (103) had fallen and injured her leg while on a tour. She had been transported to a hospital, did require surgery but was doing well and would be able to return home with her group. Tory asked that we remember Margaret in our prayers, along with our intentions for the success of the convention.

Olga Ancel read a greeting received via FAX from Branch 55, (Girard, Ohio).

The Statement of Ideology was read by Olga Ancel, noting that membership as of December 31, 1994 was 5,565, the lowest it has been since 1987. Seventy-six (76) members had already been lost in 1995, with present membership at 5,489. She also reported that our peak of membership was in 1955 with 13,300 members. After the statement was read, Olga added her personal remarks regarding her office as secretary, her family involvement, etc.. The Statement of Ideology was not received for record.

Barbara Chiodo asked that delegates take the convention souvenir booklet back to their respective branches, especially for advertisers.

Share Shop was started with many items being addressed. Of particular interest was stated from Branch 1, Kathy Schroeder who reported a membership of 126, but having no president in office. The necessity of electing a vice president was discussed. However, in the sharing with other branches many were found to be in the same position, either without the office being filled, or with a president in office many, many years and no one willing to take on the job. Several branches reported a litany of relatives who make up their staff of officers. It was pointed out that this particular issue was important, that is, unwillingness of members to take office, since that certainly does not contribute to the progress of our organization.

Delegates were advised that the Mass Book that would be used at today's liturgy had been donated by K.S.K.J.

Remarks regarding Olga Ancel's term as secretary were presented by Jonita Ruth, who also asked if a decision had been made on printing another edition of "Pots and Pans".

With the resignation of Hermine Dicke as editor, a replacement would have to be named and the decision to print the edition would be the responsibility of the National Board and new columnist.

In 1966 Slovenian Women's Union of America will mark its' Seventieth (70th) Anniversary. A trip to Slovenia to mark the occasion is being considered, and the project was given to Kathy Emerson (105) as her first assignment as Director of Women's Activities.

Winners of the Scholarships for 1996 were announced:

Christopher Cazin (35), Aurora, Minnesota

Jennifer Dickinson (50), Fruitland, Idaho

James Hofsommer (35), Gilbert, Minnesota

Fran Morison thanked the workers who had handled the craft sales. Final totals on outside activities were reported as follows:

Scholarship Fund:

Crafts: \$927.45

Special Raffle: \$300.00

Heritage Fund:

Raffle (Dolls): \$1,800.00 plus

Heritage items sold (T-shirts, mugs, books etc.), no sales amount presented.

Meeting was adjourned. New officers will be installed at the banquet following the mass later on Sunday.

The twenty-second National Convention of the Slovenian Women's Union of America was formally concluded at the installation Banquet.

Respectfully submitted:

*Jean Korsman*  
National President

*Evelyn A. Majercik*  
Recording Secretary



THE  
1994 **Regional**  
CONVENTIONS

## Minnesota

Br. 39, Biwabik was the host for the 1995 Minnesota Zveza Day Convention on Sunday, Sept. 10.

The day began at 9 a.m. with registration and coffee an'. Tables were covered with white paper, and vases of fall flowers. The head table held a basket of green plants and real carnations, tied within a royal blue bow. The new flag of Slovenia was framed and hung on the wall behind. State President, Jean Korsman called the meeting to order with a greeting to all in attendance. State Vice President, Ann Orazem led the group in prayer. Sec.-treas. Dorothy Jamnik read the minutes of the 1994 Convention and gave the treasurer's report. She also reported that 168 members were in attendance, and increase of 29 members over 1994.

President Korsman gave a "State of the State" report, beginning with an apology to Kitzville Br. 52, who were incorrectly listed in the regional report as not actively holding meetings. She thanked the three Chairpersons and diligent ladies of Br. 39 who had worked so hard to host the Conven-

tion. She especially thanked the new members who did take an active roll, especially those from Minneapolis and other far cities. The Minnesota Branches that sent delegates to the National Convention were applauded, and those that did not were encouraged to seriously prepare for the next one.

President Korsman commended the Aurora Br. 35 for the honor of having two winners of S.W.U. \$1,000 scholarships. Aurora and Br. 33, Duluth, MN have both had scholarship winners in the past.

Beverly Menart of Duluth was introduced to the delegation as our S.W.U. National Treasurer. Past National President, Victoria Bobence was thanked for her dedication to S.W.U. and her eight years as National President and four years as National Auditor. Tory also held office at a local Branch level in Br. 34, Tower-Soudan, MN and her Presidency on the National level saw some dramatic changes in the leadership role. She said she didn't regret being regarded as the "by-laws President", as her firm belief in the strict adherence to our by-laws and protocol being observed at all meetings is essential to the proper functioning of our S.W.U.

The changes at the National Convention were discussed, especially concerning direct-billing and increases in dues. It was explained that the extra \$1.40, \$1.60 or even the larger increase for Social members will almost entirely go to meet the cost of ZARJA publication. We have to

consider our aging membership and realize that our Scholarship, Heritage, Youth and Women's Activities are suffering because of lack of funding, and we cannot continue to put all of our money into our ZARJA, as much as we all depend on the magazine to unite us with our sister members across the country.

President Korsman instructed those secretaries present to wait for instructions from our new National Secretary, Evelyn Majercik, concerning direct billing, and to follow directions concerning the elderly members payment schedule. This direct-billed method will remove the burden of some secretaries who must go door to door and beg for a member's dues, long past the deadline for payment. All will pay in January for the whole year.

Members were instructed to cut out and send in the form on the inside back cover of the Sept.-Oct. ZARJA so that secretary Majercik can have an accurate up to date listing of all members receiving ZARJA, their Policy number and current beneficiary.

Election of officers was the primary focus of our convention. Jean Korsman's four year term was completed and a new slate of officers was presented to the group. Charlotte Laurich, Br. 38 Chisholm, was unopposed and unanimously elected to the State Presidency. She graciously accepted the gavel from Past National President Tory Bobence, who read the oath of office to President Charlotte. Ann Orazem was re-elected to the Vice Presidency. Dorothy Jamnik was appointed to serve another term as Sec.-Treas. All these women are to be commended for accepting these positions and have our full cooperation.

A "Hats off to S.W.U." was a parade of hats modeled by each Br. while a narration took place, telling the members what each article decorated on the hat represented in the way of their activities. There were some really attractive and innovative ideas shown. Aurora Br. 35 won the prize, (a blue S.W.U. tote-bag) from our Heritage sales. Of course I was prejudiced towards our Br. 39 presentation, so I couldn't be an impartial judge.

Aurora, MN will host the 1996 Convention. The meeting adjourned to St. John's Church where Father Frank Perkovich was the celebrant of the "Original Polka Mass". Father's homily was a thoughtful message about our Slovenian Heritage and our connections with our ethnic roots. He advised the young women present to continue their interest in S.W.U., especially in light of the aging membership. Father reminded those present of the pride all should have in our past National President from Minnesota, Tory Bobence, and our continuing pride and support for the new National President and Treasurer from Minnesota.

A catered dinner followed in the church hall. Father Perkovich gave the invocation. State Representative, Tom Rukavina, was the speaker and talked about his ethnic background (Croatian-Italian) and delighted the group with his remarks about the ancient past and traditions of the South Slavs and his humorous renditions of real-life comical situations of our families from the "old country."

The 1982 winner of the Marie Prislund Award was present and acknowledged; she was Mary Spehar White from Duluth.

Past President Bobence and newly-elected President Jean Korsman both spoke briefly about our responsibilities

to our S.W.U. and our Keeping Connected to our traditions.

After the benediction by Father Perkovich, the raffle prizes were drawn. The \$100 first prize was won by Bill Slogar of Ely. Bill was in attendance at the dinner with his sister Ann Saari, longtime member and past president of Ely, Br. 23. Bill has always joined the fun of Zveza Day with Ann, and has sold hundreds of tickets for the S.W.U. A member of the catering staff won the \$50 prize and Millie Mestnik's daughter, Judy won the \$25. Poticas and afghans were won along with numerous drawings for door prizes, donated by Br. 39 members. Father Perkovich and Rep. Tom Rukovina received complimentary bottles of wine purchased from California, with the label of the S.W.U. National Convention in San Francisco.

*Jean Korsman,  
State president, MN*

## Wisconsin

Wisconsin State Convention and 65th Anniversary of Branch 43 started with a Mass at 8:45 a.m. at St. John Evangelist Church on Sept. 17th. There was Slovenian singing during Mass; and at the Offertory two of the younger women dressed in Slovenian costume carried the gifts and two small children dressed in costume carried carnations and presented them to Father Talaska, the Mass celebrant.

After Mass everyone went to Klemmer's Banquet Hall where coffee and bakery was served.

The meeting was called to order at 10:45 a.m. by Joan Yaklich, Acting State President, in the absence of Janet Maurin who is ill. Josephine Janezic, President of Branch 43 welcomed everyone. There were about 68 members at the meeting.

We were honored to have Kathy Schroeder, National Youth Director from Sheboygan Branch 1 at our meeting. She congratulated Branch 43 and welcomed everyone and gave a brief talk.

The banquet was at 12:30 p.m. with a family style dinner and homemade Potica and Strudel for dessert.

After dinner Karl Dovnik, Jr. our Master of Ceremonies introduced Father Talaska who in turn gave a brief talk on SWU and congratulated Br. 43.

The 50 year members were then honored. They each received a pin and a red carnation. After that there were many door prizes given out.

Mary Staut from Willard Branch 102 read the minutes from the Convention held in Willard in 1994. Mary Musich from Branch 43 took the minutes from this Convention.

Delegates from Br. 1, 12, 43 and 102 read their questionnaires. Some things that need to be improved on were lack of membership, how to get new members to attend meetings and how to get Juniors involved in activities. All branches are happy with ZARJA, Pots & Pans, recipes in ZARJA, Scholarship and Heritage Activities.

There was much discussion on the raising of dues. Many thought there would be members dropping out. Especially talked about was \$15.00 for Social members. It was explained that the printing of ZARJA was so expensive. It

## Meet Our National Secretary!

### EVELYN A. MAJERCIK

When someone says, "I know who you are", it scares me! do they really know who I am? My mother taught me one great lesson, don't brag. So, when Corinne asked for a biography, I tried to remember that one lesson.

As many of you know, I was born and raised in Warrensville Heights, Ohio, and there is still a bit of nostalgia that takes over when I drive past the home that dad built, when I visit St. Jude's Church, when I see homes that still stand whose floor plans were never a mystery to me. Guess "home" just means home.

After graduation from high school, I worked at the telephone company until my marriage to Steve in 1946. Raising a family was my next career, and when it became necessary I started working at part-time jobs. Some of them went into full-time. There was Sears Customer Service, and then for some unknown reason, I entered the field of Medical Records. That was most fascinating, all those big words that nobody else could pronounce or understand. I stayed in the medical field for several years, even doing dictation at home for eight different doctors, played the part of receptionist at another doctor's office. In 1969, I again changed my direction to learning law, per se. I went to work for the Municipal Court as a deputy clerk. I thoroughly enjoyed learning the real inside story of arrests, cases, appeals, bonds, fines, costs, warrants. It was truly another learning experience.

The court connection led me to the police department where I have remained, having retired (or at least tried to retire) twice. They keep asking me to come back, and I keep returning. Dispatching is fascinating and the men that I work with are terrific. I hold the title of the only "captain" in the department, and am always greeted with "Hi Cap" by many.

My life has made a sharp turn in the past few years. I

find myself fascinated now with computers and am blest to have three sons whose knowledge of computer workings have helped a great deal. And, there is my twelve-year-old grandson who, at this point, knows more about computers than Grandma will ever learn. I do want to keep on learning.

October will find me in evening classes to understand Windows. With the way the world is moving today, this is the only way to go.

My spare (?) time is spent in crafts. Give me piece of linen, a few threads and I am content. Or, a crochet hook and thread, knitting needles and yarn – who could ask for anything more. I am active with my Alumni Association, you know my affiliation with Slovenian Women's Union. I try to help out a dear friend with her newly opened shop (more computer work), and two days a week find me helping my family with baby-sitting. Every evening you will find me at my husband's side, as he struggles through his daily routines.

Steve and I marked forty-nine years of marriage in August. It was a long day. The nursing staff where Steve resides took note of the bulletin board I had arranged to mark the day. This is probably the hardest phase of my life at this time, but with the support of my sons, their wives and some very, very dear friends, I will see it through.

The job of S.W.U. National Secretary has given me an insight into the workings of our organization, and I have managed to acquire a lot of knowledge about many things. I feel privileged to have attained the office, and hope all of you will benefit from my efforts.

There is a popular song out that says, "If you don't know me by now, you will never, never know me at all..." How true.



was mentioned that the price was going up and we would get fewer issues of ZARJA. A suggestion was made to use recyclable paper. Some Branches have many Social members who are very hard workers and good donaters and they feel many will drop out.

Another topic was too much talking at the Branch meetings. It was stressed that visiting should take place after the meeting and that common courtesy tells you to be quiet during the meetings.

Election of State President and State Vice president took place. Joan Yaklich is the new State President and Karen Janezic is the new State Vice President.

The next State Convention will be held in Sheboygan, Br. 1 and it will also be SWU's 70th Anniversary. It will be held on September 8, 1996.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Then came the entertainment which was really very nice. There were a group of small children dressed in Slovenian costumes that sang Slovenian songs and said a poem. The age of the group was four to eight years old. They did a great job. They were directed by Mici Bregant a member of Branch 43.

Finally the raffle prizes were called and there were many.

Josephine Janezic, President of 43 thanked everyone who helped with everything and for all those who came to the banquet. There were about 200 attending the banquet.

It was a beautiful day and I am sure everyone had a good time.

**Joan Yaklich**  
State President of Wisconsin

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

MARCH, 1995

## REPORTS CONTINUED

### WISCONSIN

I would like to take this opportunity to wish the National Board and all other SWU members a successful meeting and a very Happy Easter.

Our Branches in Wisconsin have been busy.

**Branch 1** – In May they had Mother of the Year celebration, Mass for living and deceased members and a bake sale was held. In December, they had a Christmas Party and went out to dinner. They also visit the home-bound and Nursing Homes at Christmas time. They also had several members attend the Regional Convention on October 2, 1994 in Willard.

**Branch 12** – They have great attendance at all of their meetings and play their favorite game after the meeting and plenty of goodies are donated and served by the members. They honored their Mother of the Year in May, had a Mass for living and deceased members, visited Nursing Homes at Easter time, sent Christmas greetings to all in Nursing Homes. They also had a style show which was very nice and well attended. Also, they had a Christmas Party and dinner and a picnic in the summer. They had a large attendance at the Regional Convention October 2, 1994 in Willard.

**Branch 17** – This will be the last time a report will be given on Branch 17 as they merged with Branch 12 as of January 1, 1995. There was not too much held for Branch 17 except Mass for living and deceased members, Mother of the Year luncheon held at Kegel's Inn and a Christmas party. We thank Branch 12 for accepting us into their Branch.

**Branch 43** – There was a Mass for living and deceased members followed by a breakfast. Mother of the Year luncheon was held in May. A style show was held in September and was very successful and there was a card party held in November. They also have several members attending their meetings. They also play their favorite game and have goodies donated and served by the members. On September 17, 1995 Branch 43 will have the Regional Convention and celebrate their 65th Anniversary.

**Branch 102** – In February they have a Valentine Party. October is Strudel Day, also a Hunter's Bake Sale. A Bake Sale is held on Palm Sunday after the Masses. In Spring they have a Plant Sale. In July a Potluck with music and singing and visiting was held. December was their Christmas Party and gift exchange and played their favorite game and visited and ended with a Potluck lunch.

**Branch 102** had the Regional Convention on October 2, 1994 and again it was a great success and enjoyed by all who attended.

I am only Acting Regional President because of the illness of Janet Maurin. I did get to visit a couple of Branches and it is great to visit and meet other members.

As far as I know now, Branch 43 is hosting the Regional Convention and their 65th Anniversary on September 17, 1995. The Mass will be at St. John's the Evangelist on 84th and Cold Spring Road. The meeting and banquet was not a sure thing yet. When they have more details either I or the President of Branch 43 will let you know.

I would like to wish everyone good luck with the Board meeting and also with the National Convention in May.

Good luck to all of you.

Sincerely,

*Joan Yaklich*

# SCHOLARSHIP FUND REPORT

July 30, 1995

Balance forwarded 7/31/95

\$16,146.79

## DONATIONS

### July, 1995

<i>Memory of:</i>	<i>Donated By:</i>	
Leonard Cieslik	Mr. and Mrs. Allen Winters	\$10.00
Leonard Cieslik	Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Bittner	10.00
Leonard Cieslik	Gladys Buck	10.00
Leonard Cieslik	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Winters	20.00
Frank & Antonia Bernik	Tona Soukup	50.00
Charles Soukup		
Ted Bradock	Anthony and Anne Orazem	5.00
Ted Bradock	Anthony Orazem	5.00
Jessie Pustovar	Adeline Mustonen	10.00

### August, 1995

Bernice Kuzma Kostelc	Robert Kostelc	50.00
Branch 20		

### In Honor of:

Olga Ancel	Nat'l Membership - SWU	100.00
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### September, 1995

Agnes Kosciak	Slovenian Women's Union, Br. 20, Joliet, IL	5.00
Anton Janezcek	Anne L. Hodnik	5.00
John Starceвич	Marge Prebil	10.00
John Starceвич	Edna Winters	10.00
John Starceвич	Gladys Buck	10.00

Balance to 9/30/95

\$16,456.79

*Marge Church, Acting Director  
SWU Scholarship Fund*

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## SCHOLARSHIP DIRECTOR NEEDED

The Board of Directors announces that the position of SWU Scholarship Fund Director is vacant. Any member interested may submit a résumé to the National President, Jean Korsman, 4222 McKinley Road, Gilbert, MN 55741, telephone (218) 865-6020. The Scholarship Fund Director's duties are found in the SWU By-laws 7.20. Deadline for applications is November 1, 1995.

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### SWU NATIONAL SECRETARY'S MAILING ADDRESS:

*EVELYN MAJERCIK, National Secretary*

*P.O. Box 46539*

*BEDFORD, OH 44146*



# OPENING FOR FOOD COLUMNIST

If you are interested in becoming our new SWU Food Columnist for ZARJA, please send in your application. Please include your food interests and accomplishments, how you see your participation in this project and why you are interested in it.

The food columnist will submit one page of recipes, etc. for each of the eight yearly issues of ZARJA. For more information and all correspondence, please write to the National President, Jean Korsman, 4222 McKinley Rd., Gilbert, MN 55741, telephone (218) 865-6020 by November 1, 1995. Final selection will be made at the Board of Directors meeting in March, 1996.



Our guest food columnist this month is newly-elected National Auditor, Pat Figurowski. Pat is the Secretary-Treasurer of Br. 20 in Joliet, Illinois and has been active with the branch and Heritage Museum since 1990, the year she joined Zveza.

We are very grateful to Pat for her nutritious Turkey Lasagna, very tasty Breakfast Bake and yummy Chocolate Truffles. We're sure her hubby, Bob loves tasting these goodies, too. We met him at the recent National Convention when he exhibited many beautiful hand-carved wooden items, from wall-hangings to toys. All was donated for our Scholarship Fund... what good members they are!



## TURKEY LASAGNA

- |        |  |        |   |
|--------|--|--------|---|
| 1 lb.  | ground turkey                                      | 1      | jar spaghetti sauce                             |
| 1      | 16 oz. pkg. lasagna noodles,<br>cooked as directed | 1      | 24 oz. carton small curd<br>cottage cheese      |
| 16 oz. | shredded mozzarella cheese                         | 1 pkg. | frozen spinach, thawed and<br>drained very well |
| 1      | egg or equivalent of egg beaters                   |        |   |
| 1/2    | cup parmesan cheese                                |        |   |

In skillet, brown turkey and drain. Add sauce, bring to boil then reduce heat and simmer 10 minutes. In bowl, mix cottage cheese, egg (or substitute) and spinach.

In baking pan, spread 1/2 cup sauce on bottom. Place a layer of noodles; then on top of noodles spread 1 cup sauce, 1 cup cottage cheese mixture, and sprinkle mozzarella and some parmesan cheese. Repeat layers with sauce, noodles, cottage cheese mixture and mozzarella and parmesan cheese. Bake 30 minutes @ 350°.

## DELICIOUS BREAKFAST BAKE

- |           |                            |       |                           |
|-----------|----------------------------|-------|---------------------------|
| 1 1/2 lb. | bulk pork sausage          | 9     | eggs, well beaten         |
| 3         | cups milk                  | 1 1/2 | tspn. mustard             |
| 1/3       | tspn. salt                 | 3     | slices white bread, cubed |
| 1 1/2     | cups grated cheddar cheese |       |                           |

Brown sausage and drain well, mix eggs, milk, mustard and salt. Add bread, sausage and cheese. Pour in greased 13/9 pan. Refrigerate overnight covered with plastic wrap. Uncover, bake 1 hour @ 350°.

## EASY CHOCOLATE TRUFFLES

Makes 5 dozen

- |       |  |   |                                       |
|-------|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1 1/2 | pkgs. (12 squares)<br>semi-sweet chocolate | 8 | oz. package cream cheese,<br>softened |
| 3     | cups powdered sugar                        | 1 | tablespoon coffee liqueur             |
| 1     | tablespoon orange liqueur                  | 1 | tablespoon almond liqueur             |
- Finely chopped nuts, unsweetened cocoa, flake coconut.

Divide mixture into thirds. Add 1 flavor liqueur to each third, mix well. Refrigerate about 3 hours or till firm. Shape into 1 inch balls, roll in nuts, cocoa, or coconut.

(May use vanilla in place of liqueurs)

# GENEALOGY NOTEBOOK

Hello researchers! I've included some additional leads that you may wish to follow if you are searching for your ancestors. When you are searching, remember that name changes were not uncommon years ago. Sometimes, the spelling was changed or "Americanized." In other instances people shortened the name or even took on a completely new name but actually another name was used. There are all kinds of strange things that pop up when you are climbing that family tree. It can prove to be a very interesting project and challenge. Good Hunting!

## Social Security Records

For a photo copy of the original application send the social security number to:

Social Security Information  
FOIA Freedom of Information Staff  
4H-B Annex Building  
6401 Security Boulevard  
Baltimore, MD 21235

No charge for first record. \$7.00 for additional records.

Pension files are available within four years of the death.

## Railroad Records

R R Retirement Board  
Public Affairs/Railroad Records  
844 Rush Dr.  
Chicago, IL 60611

National RR Historical Society  
P.O. Box 58153 12th floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19102-2748

Railroad Pension Office  
(Large cities where the railroad has an office)

Railroad records for former workers can be requested within 50 years of their retirement.

Railroad social security numbers are different than the average numbers.

## Local Libraries – Local Mormon Library – Historical Societies

They have on microfilm:  
newspapers, obituaries, city directories,  
telephone books, tax records (check various spellings  
of the name.)

## Documents

Can be obtained from churches, county seat, local libraries or the Mormon Library (a great source.) They provide you with key information:

Social security applications; birth; baptism; confirmation; marriage; death; will/estate inventories; land/deed records; military records; funeral homes; cemeteries; churches; tax records; fraternal organizations; voting records; court minutes; divorce records; city directories; county histories; naturalization papers.

Ask court house about "delayed birth record," which could be obtained at a later date.

## Declaration of Intention/Naturalization Papers/Card Index Information

They can sometimes be found at the  
Local County Seat  
National Archives, Washington, D.C.

Cleveland area:  
Rhodes House  
County Archives  
2905 Franklin Boulevard  
Cleveland, Ohio

Western Reserve Historical Society  
10825 East Boulevard  
Cleveland, Ohio

For a photo and history of your relative's ship if you have this information write to and send a SASE (self-addressed, stamped envelope) to:

Steamship Historical Society of America  
University of Baltimore Library  
1420 Maryland Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21201

## Fraternal Organizations

Purchase an advertisement in one of the Slovene fraternal newspapers/magazines, asking for information about (the name of your relative) who lived in (cities) at or about (years). Give your name, address and phone as a contact. A minimal fee is charged for this advertisement.

ZARJA–The Dawn, 4851 S. Drexel Blvd.,  
Chicago, IL 60615

PROSVETA, 247 W. Allegheny Road,  
Imperial, PA 15126

KSKJ GLASILO, 708 East 159th Street  
Cleveland, OH 44110

Also, try this method in the local newspaper in the area in which your relative resided.

## Soundex Code

You will need this in order to look up your relatives on microfilm. Every soundex code (index to census) begins with the letter of your surname and three additional numbers. The code was devised for sound rather than spelling, so you can locate a surname no matter how it is spelled.

The following letters are disregarded:

A, E, I, O, U, W, Y, H.

Here is the code:

1 = B    2 = C, S, K, G, J, Q, X, Z    3 = D, T  
4 = L    5 = M, N    6 = R

Example: ABRAM would be A165. "A" for the first letter of the surname and the rest are on the chart, elimination the second vowel.

Example: For very short name, add a zero at the end if there aren't enough letters to make up the first letter and three numbers following.

Example: PRIMOZIC would be P652. If you have a longer name, use only the first letter, followed by the next three numbers, eliminating the vowels and any more after the required three.

Example: COTTON would be C350. Any double letters side by side should be treated as one letter.

Example: JACKSON would be J250. The "cks" are all the same number so treat it as one number. Any large library or historical society can help you if you have any problems.

## Port, Ship, Date of Arrival

Request Passenger Arrival Forms if you have this information and write to:

National Archives  
7th & Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20408

\$10.00 for one record. You will be billed later. Also ask for any packet of genealogical material they may have.

## LJUBLJANA ARCHIVES USED FOR RESEARCH

Joann Hanson, Branch 30, recently returned from researching her family tree in Slovenia. She phoned me upon her return to California and raved about her genealogical progress at the Archives in Ljubljana. Joann has promised to provide more detail about her research which we can publish in ZARJA as assistance to other genealogists in search of Slovenian ancestors.

## GENEALOGISTS MEET IN CLEVELAND

The largest and most diverse multi-ethnic East European genealogical conference was held in Cleveland, August 3-6. Since many of our members are interested in genealogy, I attended the conference specifically to hear the guest speakers so that I could assist our genealogists with "leads," for their Slovenian research. I was joined by my husband, Kenneth and Editor, Corinne Leskovar, who is personally interested in tracing her family tree.

Slovenia was ably represented in the conference sponsored by the Federation of East European Family History Societies (FEEFHS) by guest speakers: Dr. Peter Klasinc of Maribor, Slovenia, Donna Debevec Cuillard of California

and Al Peterlin of West Virginia.

Peter Pavel Klasinc, Ph.D. head of the Institute of Archival Science in Maribor, Slovenia who was on a brief tour of the U.S. revealed a very important aspect of research in Slovenian archives unknown to genealogists until now. Family histories and personal histories, called "Fonds," are now available to researchers.

A partial listing of the fonds available is given below:

### V

Valentic-Dakani (3)  
Varini-Piran (3)  
Vidmar-Ljubljana (4)  
Vittori-Koper (3)

The small number following the city represents the location of the archives where the information can be obtained. Listed below are a number of items which you can receive by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

**Irene M. Odorizzi**, SWU Heritage Director,  
2362 Paddock Lane, Reston, VA 22091

Please include one stamps for each item listed below:

- \* A complete list of "fonds" available and the address of Dr. Klasinc who can assist you with your research by providing xerox copies of a specific fond.
- \* Dr. Klasinc's two speeches.
- \* A list and description of all the Archives of Slovenia.

\* \* \* \* \*

Another guest speaker at the conference was Donna Debevec Cuillard, director of the Simi Valley Family History Center in California, who gave an excellent presentation describing twenty-nine years of research in which she traced her ancestors back to the 16th century without leaving the United States. The speech was absolutely fascinating and at times I felt Mrs. Cuillard beame a "Jessica Fletcher," as she delved into the "mysteries" of her ancestral tree. Hopefully, our SWU researchers will have an occasion to hear this same presentation in the future. She is a perfect example of the persistent researcher.

The third speaker on Slovenian research at the conference was Albert Peterlin, born and raised in Forest City, PA, and a retired Lt. Col. of the U.S. Air Force Reserves. Al has worked in the field of genealogy for many years and has helped numerous individuals seeking genealogical information and direction. His presentation at the conference was enthusiastic and interesting. We have known of Mr. Peterlin for some time and are grateful to him for donating many books and magazines to the library in the Slovenian Heritage Museum in Joliet.

Also attending the conference was Doris Sadar, member of SWU Br. 32. Doris is an enthusiastic member of the Slovenian Art Guild in Cleveland and last year was Slovenian instrumental in providing a genealogical meeting in association with a Art Guild Exhibition. Al Peterlin was the guest speaker for the event.

Doris and I have exchanged many letters in the past and it was indeed a pleasure to have met this charming and enthusiastic lady in person. I'm hoping our paths will cross again.



Slovenia's leading genealogist, Dr. Peter Klasinc of Maribor and his daughter, Mateja, attended the FEEFHS conference in Cleveland and there met genealogists from around the country. Pictured here with them (left) are, l. to r. Corinne Leskovar, Albert Peterlin, Irene Planinsek Odorizzi and Prof. Edi Gobetz. Peterlin was another guest speaker at the Conference and Dr. Gobetz, Director of the Slovenian Research Center was a translator for Dr. Klasinc.

Donna Debevec Cuillard was a fascinating speaker at the Conference.



## HERITAGE HINTS

At the Christmas Party and Woman of the Year event, the members sing Slovenian songs. Some branches type out the words and xerox them so everyone can have a copy if they are not familiar with the words.

Record on a tape recorder all the old Slovenian hymns and songs that the immigrants sang. Send a copy of the tape to the Heritage Museum or the Heritage Director.

Bring a prospective member to a special meeting. Introduce that person. The members should introduce themselves and speak to the new member welcoming that person to the group. Ask the prospective member to join.

**IT'S IN  
EVERY  
SLOVENIAN**

### THE "RABBITS" PLAY BASEBALL

On Tuesday, August 8, the Slovenian baseball team, "Zajčki" (Rabbits) visited Joliet hosted by Rev. David Stalzer of St. Mary Nativity's Parish. The newly-formed baseball team from Ljubljana, Slovenia, was touring the U.S. and while in the midwest played a game of baseball in Joliet against the local team of policemen. Following the game there was a gala reception in St. Mary's cafeteria. The Zajčki also visited Canada and played a game in Cleveland. They ended their U.S. visit in Chicago. Several corporations in this country helped to sponsor them.

### MUSEUM FLYER UPDATED

Many thanks to Molly Gregorich, Sabina Bartol and Museum volunteers who have updated the Museum flyer by placing a label on each flyer showing the date of Slovenia's independence. At the time of the printing, Slovenia was still part of Yugoslavia. Since it was too costly to reprint the flyer to change one sentence, it was imperative that the information be updated on those we still had. Thanks, ladies.

### GOTTSCHEERS WANTED

Who are *Gottscheers*? Why are they wanted? The *Gottscheers* are descendants of the people who lived in the German-speaking district of *Gottschee* in the Austrian Duchy of Carniola (Krain), which was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire until 1918, when the Empire was dissolved following World War I. From 1918 until 1991, *Gottschee* was part of the northernmost Yugoslav Republic of Slovenia. Since 1991, Slovenia has been an independent country. Today, *Gottschee* is a city and district in Slovenia and is known by its Slovene name: **Kočevje**.

Mrs. Sophie Wyant of the Gottscheer Research and Genealogical Association requested that we publicize the organization in hopes of assisting SWU members who are descendants of the Gottscheers wishing to locate other members of this select group.

She would be happy to hear from other Gottscheers and can send a brochure listing the purpose and objectives of the GRA to interested individuals. Write to her at this address:

**Mrs. Sophie Wyant, Rt. 2, Palisade, MN 56469**

## **Pittsburgh's Children's Museum Experience Slovenian Exhibit**

Members of the Slovenian Heritage Association in Pittsburgh under the direction of SHA Executive Director Terry Stefl represented the Slovenian nationality at the Children's Museum on August 20th.

The theater was packed with children who enjoyed the colorful costumes and a collection of puppets imported from Slovenia. The program began with a mini-history lesson on puppets and ended with a display of a miniature Slovenian room in the "Neighborhood Windows Exhibit."

The event was so successful, that the group was invited to return to repeat their entertaining program many other times. Great going Terry Stefl and the members of the Slovenian Heritage Association of Pittsburgh. You are really making a difference for future generations!

## **Happy Birthday Over 80 and Happy Anniversary over 49**

The White House will send birthday greetings to anyone over 80 years of age and to couples celebrating any wedding anniversary after their 49th.

Send your request at least six weeks in advance to:

**Greetings Office, White House,  
Washington, D.C. 10500**

There isn't a cost assigned to this "very nice thing to do for someone special." Make a difference in someone's life.

\* \* \* \* \*

## **DATING OLD PHOTOGRAPHS THROUGH CLOTHING**

Has an old photograph ever come into your possession and you wondered what year the picture was taken? There may be an answer to your question. Dating an old photograph can be accomplished by studying the clothing being worn in that picture, especially of the women. If you would like a chart that can help you in this respect, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Irene M. Odorizzi at the address given above.

## **Cleveland Seeks "Early" Slovenian Families**

The Early Families in Cleveland Program is sponsored by the Genealogical Committee, an auxiliary of The Western Reserve Historical Society. You may be able to qualify for an Early Families In Cleveland (EFIC) Certificate if your earliest ancestor moved to Cuyahoga County no later than Dec. 31, 1900.

Certificates will be presented as part of two events scheduled at Western Reserve Historical Society during the Cleveland bicentennial year, i.e., Family History Fair, May 4-5, 1996 or Family Day, November 29, 1996.

For information on how to obtain an application packet, call (216) 721-5722, voice mailbox 408, and leave your name, address and phone number. Documentation requirements and firm deadline information is included in the application packet.

## **HERITAGE HEROES**

Recently, I received a letter from Dorothy Jamnick, Secretary-Treasurer of the Minnesota Combined Branches along with a check for \$125.05 for the Heritage Fund. It read as follows:

*"We had another successful Minnesota Zveza Day. 180 were in attendance and Branch 39 of Biwabik hosted the convention.*

*The Minnesota Branches had a very good day. We collected \$125.05 for the Heritage Fund. I know you need monetary help to keep it going."*

The Minnesota Branches are the Heritage Heroes of the month. We can count on them every year with a sizeable check for the Heritage Fund. Many thanks to the ladies from Minnesota. You're the greatest!

## **Slovenian Air-Rescue Museum Opens in Illinois**

On August 12, a permanent exhibition entitled, "U.S. Airmen Rescued in Slovenia During WW II," was opened in the Octave Chanute Aerospace Museum in Rantoul, IL.

The exhibit emphasizes the rescue of over 300 U.S. airmen and the exhibit is as much about American history as it is about Slovenian history.

The Chanute Aerospace Museum is located at: 2 Aviation Center, P.O. Box 949, Rantoul, IL 61866-0948. Tel. (217) 893-1613.

## **POPE TO VISIT SLOVENIA**

Pope John Paul II will visit Slovenia between May 17-19, 1996. He is scheduled in Ljubljana and Postojna on May 18 and 19 and in Maribor on May 19. Some 200,000 to 300,000 people are expected to attend.

John Paul II, the leader of the State of the Vatican, was the first to recognize Slovenia's independence in 1991. He will meet the Slovenian political representatives on his visit.

The highlight of the visit will be the beatification of Bishop Anton Martin Slomsek, a former bishop of Maribor.

## **New American Ambassador to Slovenia**

Victor Jackovich, the new American Ambassador to Slovenia, is a veteran diplomat of Croatian background who speaks very good Slovene. Prior to his appointment as U.S. Ambassador to Slovenia, Mr. Jackovich served as the American Ambassador to Bosnia-Herzegovina.

## **RARE MAPS AVAILABLE**

Maps and map sets for 18th and 19th century European research are available from Jonathan Sheppard Books, Box 2020, Plaza Station, Albany, NY 12220.

Some of the maps available are the Austrian Empire, Hungary, Baltic States, Germany, Italy and many others. The maps are black and white reprints of original maps in their collection. They are usually 18" x 24" unless indicated otherwise and are printed on fine quality parchment stock. Send for information including a 55-cent stamp.

## **Thought of The Month**

**Life is fragile  
Handle with care.**



*Irene M. Odorizzi,  
Heritage Director*

## HISTORY OF S.W.U. BRANCHES

# Looking Back

## to the Future

### BR. #103, WASHINGTON, D.C. MARYLAND, VIRGINIA

#### Part II

#### THE SLOVENIAN CHAPEL

At the SWU Convention held in Washington, D.C. Branch 103 provided the initiative to erect a Slovenian Chapel in the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, the largest Catholic church in the U.S. and the seventh largest in the world. The Chapel would serve as a permanent place for the Slovenian Americans from all over the U.S. to honor Marija Pomagaj.

During the three-year campaign, which was undertaken by the SWU, a National Committee under the leadership of Marie Prislend, Albina Novak Antonia Turek and ZARJA, collected approximately \$80,000 from Slovenian-Americans throughout the U.S. The Chapel became a reality by 1971, and its design highlighted the religious and cultural heroes of Slovenia, placed with Slovenian artistic motifs. Our Lady of Brezje had assumed her place of honor among the many other ethnic memorial chapels in the Shrine of the Immaculate conception.

On August 15, 1971, the magnificent upper church was filled with Slovenians attending the Mass and Chapel Dedication from many parts of the world. Chicago Bishop, Thomas Grady delivered the homily at the Dedication Mass and representatives dressed in Slovenian National costume presented the offertory gifts. The entire dedication was an impressive ceremony, inspired by pageantry, ritual and

music but most importantly represented with Slovenian tradition and culture.

In conjunction with the dedication, Branch 103 hosted a reception on Thursday, August 12, from 7 to 10 p.m. at St. Thomas the Apostle Hall for approximately 175 SWU guests that were in attendance at the Dedication. Some families came along but groups from Illinois and Minnesota arrived by plane and a bus brought the pilgrims from Wisconsin.

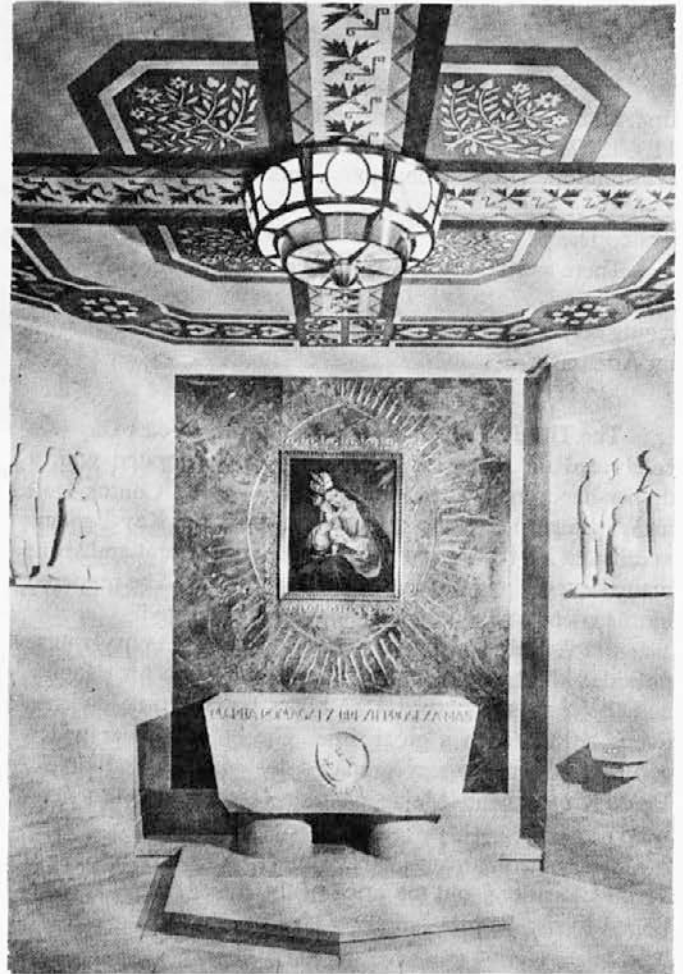
Ken and Irene Odorizzi arranged a dedication tour package for the many SWU guests and according to Corinne Leskovar, "...no stone was left unturned for the comfort and enjoyment of these visitors."

Matilda Ausich, reception co-chairman stated that "the food was a complimentary buffet supper and donated by members." Matilda Podborsek and Freda Michelitch made sure the pastry table was filled with potica, flancate, krofe and a variety of cakes. Molly Thomas mixed the punch and served the coffee. Spirited dance music was arranged by Phil Michelitch and John Podborsek.

Eight prizes were awarded for the raffle conducted that evening; one potica and a potted plant donated by Matilda Podborsek; three poticas and two surprise packages donated by Emma Planinsek, Pres. of Branch 20 and a bottle of champagne donated by Ken and Irene Odorizzi. The raffle proceeds assisted the fledgling branch which was merely



**Altar of Marija Pomagaj, Our Lady of Brezje at the Slovenian Chapel in Washington's Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, a place every American-Slovenian should visit! On this photo we see the Bishop of Maribor, Most Rev. Maximilian Držečnik blessing the altar at the dedication, August 15, 1971.**



five years old but boasted a membership of 37 adults and 13 juniors.

President of 103, Irene Odorizzi, commented, *"The reception was an excellent way to commence with the dedication activities and a wonderful method for members of various branches to become acquainted and socialize. The spirit shown that evening was superb and reflected the genuine fraternal feeling that exists among the SWU members."*

The Slovenian Chapel continues to be the site of a Slovenian Mass, the first Sunday of each month for residents of the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area and Slovenian guests to the city. Visitors to the Basilica, of all ethnic denominations, admire the beautiful chapel in honor of Our Lady of Brezje.

## ON THE STEPS OF THE SHRINE, AUGUST, 1987

*1st row: Antonia Cigale, Nancy Terselic, Lydia Millonig, Nika Kovacic; 2nd row: Ica Zebot, Matilda Ausich, Fred Michelitch; 3rd row: Ana Skopec, Mara Chokel, Mary Mejac, Mary Lou Terselic. An unknown guest, (hidden) Jane Bevec, Bernadette Kovacic Fitzsimmons.*



## ANNUAL ANNIVERSARY DINNER DANCES

The Second Anniversary was celebrated with the very first dinner dance held on St. Martin's Feast Day, Nov. 11, 1967, at the Holiday Inn-Catholic University in Washington, D.C. A delicious dinner was enjoyed along with Slovenian tapes for dancing by music man, Stane Sustersic. The price of this event was \$4.00 per person.

There were four door prize won by Kay Parsons (ham), Dave Parsons (turkey), sculptor, Franc Gorse (Dodge road racing set) and the potica baked by Nika Kovacic was won by Amalia Jazbec.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Third Anniversary and St. Martin's Feast Day was celebrated on Nov. 16, 1968 was also celebrated with a dinner-dance held at St. Thomas the Apostle Church Hall in Washington, for the mere price of \$5.00. Kay Parsons and Diane Moffit co-chaired the wonderful event and spent many hours in preparation since the food would be prepared by the members and a live band would be hired.

Frank Baloh's orchestra from Jeanette, Pennsylvania, provided the most authentic Slovenian music for dancing and the orchestra played 1/2 hours beyond time because everyone had such a great time. The buffet dinner which served 130 guests was prepared by Matilda Podborsek, Helen Krotec, Mary Mejac, Matilda Terselic and Mary Povlic.

Through the years, other dinner dances were held at various locations and the price of the ticket each year continued to rise with inflation.

From 1969 to 1973, the dinner dances were first held at St. Thomas Apostle Hall and then at Little Flower Hall in Bethesda, Maryland, with the Frank Baloh Trio. The cost of the dinner-dance was \$6.50 on Nov. 8, 1969, and was raised to \$7.50 in Nov. 10, 1973, with the menu being prepared by the members.

The next six years, from 1974 to 1979, featured the music of Eddie and the Slovenes from Creekside, Pennsylvania, in either the month of October or November. Frank Baloh had suffered a heart attack and could no longer play for the event so another orchestra was hired. The Little Flower Hall was the site of these dinner dances and prices for the event started at \$8.25 and rose to \$10.00 by Oct. 6, 1979. Again the members prepared the delicious dinner.

In 1980, Oct. 25 to be exact, Tom Fudala's group from Richmond, Virginia, provided the music @ \$11.50 per guest and in October on the 31st, of 1981, the Alpine Sextet from Cleveland played for dancing and featured the Fantje Na Vasi Choral Group. The price rose to \$15.50 per person.

Happy Slovenes danced to the music of John Dubravec, "Polka Express," from Steelton, Pennsylvania on Oct. 23, 1982, @ \$12.50. There was no celebration in 1983, but the following year, 1984, brought the "Polka Express" back again to Little Flower Hall and featured the ZVON Choral group from Bridgeport, Connecticut. The entrance fee for the dinner dance provided by the wonderful cooks was \$16.50.



The dinner dance held on November 11, 1972, at St. Thomas Church Hall found the ladies being introduced to the crowd. Left to right: Hidden is Mara Chokel, Matilda Podborsek, Antonia Cigale, Ivanka Antolin, Lydia Bevec, Jane Bevec, Mary Mejac, Mollie Thomas, Becky Nagel, Tillie Ausich, Mary Michelitch.





Senator Frank J. Lausche with our group

## TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY

Twenty years marked a special point in the youngest of the SWU branches. Members reflected on the years with, "I can't believe that 20 years have passed so quickly." The event was celebrated on November 2, 1985, with an extra special dinner prepared at a cost of only \$17.00 per person.

In conjunction with the anniversary-dinner-dance, Senator Frank J. Lausche, participated as guest of honor, celebrating his 90th birthday. A program booklet was printed, with a history highlighting the growth of Branch 103. The event was held at Little Flower Hall in Bethesda, Maryland, with Eddie and the Slovenes providing the music for dancing.

The dinner-dance of October 25, 1986, was held at Holy Cross Church Hall in Kensington, Maryland, and John Dubravec returned with the "Polka Express." There was a simplified menu that year which included klobase, sauerkraut, potato salad, bread, cake and coffee. The price charged was \$15.00. On Oct. 10, 1987, John returned again to Little Flower Hall but the dance was priced at a cost of \$18.00 per person.

John Shelko, a local band, provided dancing at Little Flower on Oct. 22, 1988. Member, Maria Paulin, prepared the delicious meat entree and the strudels were made by Nika Kovacic, Jane Bevec and Antonia Cigale.

In 1989, a polka orchestra from Forest City, Pennsylvania was hired to entertain the group for the night of dancing.

## SILVER ANNIVERSARY

The Silver Anniversary celebration was held on October 25, 1991, and featured on the program were Mistresses of Ceremony, Bernadette Kovacic and Lidija Bevec Millonig. President, Freda H. Michelitch welcomed the group and Rev. Raymond Wadas presented the Invocation.

The group was privileged to have as the guest speaker for the event, Corinne Leskovar, Editor of the ZARJA, who offered some very inspirational comments in her speech.

The "Polka Express," a variety band from Steelton, Pennsylvania, returned to provide the toe-stepping music following a delicious dinner prepared by the wonderful Slovenian cooks under the culinary expertise of Maria Paulin.

A feature of the evening was "SOCA" the Slovenian Folkloric dance troupe of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. They performed excellently and were very entertaining not only in their dance presentation but during the entire evening. They added much gusto to the entire event.

Reflecting on the anniversary dinner dances, the first one began on a small-scale but led to an annual event held in either October or November and became more elaborate with each anniversary. The members presented a wonderful evening of fun which included unlimited home cooked food, pastries, beverages and a live band playing many of the old and traditional Slovenian melodies.

More recently and for a number of years, member, Maria Paulin, assumed responsibility for preparing the majority of the dinner, purchasing the food and preparing the meat and vegetables. There have always been raves about her cooking. Other members assisted Maria with finishing details, serving the dinner and volunteering pastries. One Saturday was spent in peeling apples and making the strudels for the event by a group of ladies experienced in the art of strudel preparation: Nika Kovacic, Ivanka Antolin, Toncka Cigale, Jana Bevec, Terezija Bevec also Matilda Ausich, Mimi Mejac, Molly Thomas, Mara Chokel, Ica Zebot and Freda Michelitch.

For many years, John Underwood, the son of member, Matilda Podborsek, donated the lovely fresh red carnations which were used for table centerpieces and the fresh hard-crusted bread. After his mother passed to her eternal reward, he continued this practice in her memory until moving west, to the state of Washington.



The ladies relax at the Sept. 10, 1989 picnic held in Emmitsburg, MD at the home of Ivanka Antolin. Seated in the center left to right: Nika Kovacic, Tillie Ausich, Ivanka Antolin, Anna Skopec. Standing in the rear are left to right: Freda Michelitch, Molly Thomas, Regina Rasket, Bernadette Kovacic. The three members on the left are: Matilda Terselic who is seated, Mary Lou Terselic is on the left and Nancy Terselic on the right.

## PICNICS

The picnics began on an annual basis but then became a sporadic event. They were always enjoyable events held in the great outdoors and there was fun for the entire family.

The picnic site was usually held in a different area because of the travel distance involved for members from two states and the district. In the metropolitan Washington area, traveling to a picnic area usually took one to two hours. Looking back on the picnics brings back happy memories.

July 12, 1966: Held at the home of M/M Victor Antolin, Emmitsburg, MD. Thirty-nine people attended including adults and children. The Antolin family consisted of eleven children and the parents. It was a large and wonderful family. Mother and daughters were members of ZVEZA.

Sept. 15, 1966: Held at Brighton Dam, Maryland. The picnic was so successful that the members wanted another one soon after.

June 11, 1967: Ivanka and Victor Antolin invited the group once again. The group also toured the Battlefield at Gettysburg, PA and attended the Cyclorama Theater at the

Visitor's Center. The group also passed President Eisenhower's farm on the way to the Antolin home for the picnic lunch.

June 16, 1968: Brighton Dam, Maryland. Sausages, sauerkraut, bean salad, potato salad, potica and soft drinks were some of the items included in the picnic menu. The Mother of the Year was also honored at this time.

Volleyball, badminton, archery and games were the sports of the day. Mrs. Ivanka Antolin proved to be the volleyball champion of the group. Adults and children alike scurried under plastic tableclothes when an unexpected rainstorm threatened the picnic. Mrs. Podborssek arose at 4 a.m. that day to make 144 delicious krofe and Helen Krotec and her friend, Ray, arrived at 9 a.m. to "save" the special picnic area.

Oct. 13, 1968: Ivanka and Victor Antolin invited the group to a picnic lunch and a visit to the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes at Mt. St. Mary's College in Emmitsburg, MD. Professor Antolin was a professor of philosophy at St. Joseph's College.

June 15, 1969: Camp Letts, Edgewater, MD was chosen for the picnic site. The large pavilion allowed the group

The SWU Regional Convention PA/NY/DC held on May 6, 1950. Shown at the head table from left to right: Rev. Raymond Wadas, Spiritual Advisor; Jennie Flisek, Regional President, Freda Michelitch, Br. 103 President, Victoria Bobence, National President, Bernadette Kovacic, National Youth Director, Matilda Ausich, Recording Secretary, Br. 103.



to host the SNPJ Junior Circle Singers and Dancers from Cleveland under the direction of Cecilia Valencic. It was a hot and steamy picnic day.

Oct. 12, 1969: A picnic was held at a park near Thurmon, MD but was preceded by Mass at the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto near St. Mary's College.

May 31, 1970: Fort Hunt National Park in Alexandria, Virginia, was chosen as the site for the annual picnic. This was the Branch 103 Bowling League picnic as well -- an end of the bowling year gathering.

May 27, 1973: Back again to Fort Hunt National Park in Alexandria, VA.

Sept. 10, 1989: Many years had elapsed since the last picnic and the Antolin's invited the group to their home in Emmitsburg, MD with a Mass at the Lourdes Grotto.

May 31, 1992: Lake Needwood, Rock Creek Regional Park, in Rockville, MD was chosen this year as the site.

May 1, 1994: Lake Needwood beckoned members once again. The Mother-Woman of the Year program was held as a picnic, suggested by Bernadette Kovacic. It included an outdoor Mass by Rev. Raymond Wadas, spiritual advisor.

### NORTHERN VIRGINIA FOLK FESTIVALS

Every two years a folk festival is held in northern Virginia at the Thomas Jefferson High School in Arlington, Virginia. Many ethnic nationalities are invited to participate in this event, presenting the ethnic costume, food, artifacts, music and customs of their specific group. This popular event is held in the month of May and the booths which are set up in the huge gymnasium host many nationalities and bring many curious visitors to the festival.

The purpose of the festival, which began in 1960, was intended to promote a mutual appreciation and understanding of the cultural traditions and folk heritages in the Northern Virginia area which includes famous historical places such as Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax and Leesburg. It started as a one day festival and grew to three days attracting 30,000 visitors.

Branch 103 participated in the festival on seven occasions in the years from 1975-83 and 1985-89, which highlighted at least 35 nationalities. The ladies demonstrated the preparing of flancate, sold klobase (sausages), potato salad, sauerkraut, rolls and of course the Slovenian pastries, which included potica, apple strudel, Slovenian Holiday cookies and Slovenian Honey Heart Cookies among many other items. All these items were sold and only crumbs remained.

On various occasions, the Slovenian national dress might be modeled by a member or two; a map of Slovenia displayed; painted drawings of Slovenian flowers or scenes of Slovenia exhibited. All in all, the Slovenes established a very positive portrait of the Slovene heritage in the northern Virginia area.

### 30TH ANNIVERSARY

*The Slovenian Women's Union Branch 103 cordially invites you and your friends to join us in celebrating the 30th Anniversary of our founding with an evening of Traditional Slovenian Dining and Dancing!*

President of one year, Jill Augustine, designed and produced lovely invitations that were sent to the Slovenian community in advance of the event on Oct. 27th, 1995 and brought a very favorable response in the number of celebrants at the dinner-dance. Her enthusiasm and dedication in promoting and preparing for this celebration was exceptional.



**Jill Augustine, Pres. and Nika Kovacic, Vice-Pres.**

A short program, under the direction of Jill Augustine, welcomed the guests and relayed greetings from the National President, Jean Korsman and Organizer of Branch 103, Irene M. Odorizzi. Former branch president of twenty years, Freda Michelitch, extended her greetings.

Raffle prizes were awarded to lucky winners who had purchased tickets in advance. The prizes were: Original art works by Estelle Zorman McGuckin and Marie Robinson; Slovenian prints donated by Mary Plantan Bodling; An AT&T Cordless Speakerphone; Canvas Garment Bag Trimmed in Leather; Uni-sex Jacket by Trademark Sportswear; Woman's Toiletries Package; Man's 100% Shirt by Three Rivers; Quick Snap 35 mm Film & Camera All-in-One by Fujicolor; Wine & Cheese Caddy Pack.

Needless to say, the dinner was delicious and under the expertise of member, Maria Paulin. The menu consisted of: Tillie Austch's recipe of Chicken Casserole with Mushrooms; Rice seasoned with herbs; Klobase and auerkraut; Tossed Salad; Bread; Cake and Beverages. Assorted homemade pastries were available for sale.

**(To be continued)**

# ACTIVITIES

## NO. 1, SHEBOYGAN, WI

We have had a beautiful fall and Indian Summer here in Sheboygan.

Our Sept. meeting at Father Cherney Hall was a busy one. We planned our Founder's Day mass that will be on Nov. 8th at 8 a.m. and a beautiful meeting will follow. We would like to see a good attendance.

Plans are being made for the Christmas meeting and party, Dec. 20th at Schoney's.

The Annual Bake Sale and Valentine's Day party will be in February and a Bingo is planned for March to help pay for some of the expenses for our Big Event in 1996, our 70th Anniversary and Wisconsin State Convention. This will be on Sept. 8th. We want it to be Extra Special - so we will be calling on all the ladies in Br. 1 to help us!

We wish to express our sympathy to Rudy Saye and the Plesetz family on the death of Olga Saye, our past president and a long-time member.

Our sympathy to Olga Manyard on the death of her brother, Frank and to Carol Persutti on the death of her son, Peter Beck. May all their souls rest in peace.

We have several members in nursing homes in the area and several of our members are recuperating at home. Franny Rothe, Ruth Sheck, Frances Krolnik and Theresa Udovich are wished a speedy recovery.

Congratulations to Joan Yaklich on her office as State President of Wisconsin and as Vice-President of our Branch.

Thanks to Br. 43 for an enjoyable State Convention in Sept. It was good to see so many members of Slovenian Women's Union gathered together and enjoying the Slovenian culture presented to us!

DOROTHY BREZONIK

## NO. 2, CHICAGO, IL

Hope that everyone had a wonderful summer, it went by so fast and here we are starting another year. We had so many great times at Lemont for picnics this summer. Still talking about S.F. and the wonderful people that we met. Each time we talk about the trip someone remembers a fun moment. Thanks to all the members who shared their pictures in ZARJA it brought back many memories of the fun we had. Should we have a reunion to S.F.?

Everyone asks if the "new board" is planning a get together soon! Also, will "SLOVENIA '96" be a reality? We will be watching the ZARJA!!!

Some of our members have traveled to many places over the summer: Elsie Ciszek went on a happy birthday trip to the east. Her daughter Donna Cecer and husband treated her to this exciting trip to the east coast. Barbara Lataranico and her children spent two weeks with Mickey Mouse in Florida. Meta Hanszlik and Gezzilla Zlak spent two weeks in the northwest, climbed Mt. St. Helen, hiked in the backwoods. Katie Srabarnek spent the summer in Colorado with her daughter. Albina Cecich spent a month in California. Corinne Leskovic spent family time in New Hampshire with son's family. Kati and Nežka Gaber were in North Dakota for a reunion, Kati also had a wonderful time on a Caribbean Cruise. Mihela Simrajh had a fun time in Slovenia.

Theme for our September meeting was, "Falling Leaves" the hall and tables were decorated in that theme and each member received a pretty corsage of autumn flowers and leaves. We had a nice turn out; it was nice to see everyone. There was so much to go over that there was not too much time left for social. Father Blase told us about his trip to Slovenia this summer,

meetings, the visit with relatives and sight-seeing. He had a full month of activities.

Please remember to send cards to our sick members: Chris Pirman, Mayme Mueller, Mary Slabe, Irene Carter, Kay Turner, Sharon Naduziunas, Tina Stanek, Helen Storcz, Olga Antonilli, Michael Cerec. Mr. John Jasbec was overcome by the severe summer heat and was in the hospital; he is at home now doing ok. If any of our members are sick, please contact one of the officers or leave word at St. Stephens. Thanks to the members who have participated in our rosary as a group. Our "Rosary Tree", is growing for our sick members.

Father Vendelin will resume having the Mass for the beatification for sainthood of Bishop Baraga. Please try to attend, **St. Mary's Lemont - last Saturday of each month - 5:30 p.m.**

Our condolences to Mayme Malloy on the loss of her husband, also to Margaret Hergenrother (Kocehevar) on the loss of her husband (Margaret now lives in Florida)

After a long stay in the nursing home, God has called our member Ann Mladic (Grill) to her rest in heaven. She was always very active with Br. 2, as well as other societies at St. Stephen's. Our condolences to her children and to the Mladic/Grill families.

Our condolences to the family of our late member, Ann Wagner (Wagner's Bakery), to her husband Jake, sons Wayne and Paul. Ann bowled many years with our bowling league, and was a member of SWU Sports Club.

Please remember them in your prayers, that they may rest in peace.

**Remember:** St. Stephen's Benefit Dinner - Nov. 5, after 11:00 Mass. Call Jean for tickets.

**PENNY SOCIAL: November 9, 6:00 p.m. Bring a friend and have a great time.**

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.  
Love,

DAISY

## IMPORTANT! READ INSTRUCTIONS ON BACK INSIDE COVER!

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### NO. 3, PUEBLO, CO

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We had a very nice turnout at our meeting in September.

A beautiful memorial tribute was given for deceased members Anna Germ and Mary Kochevar. Anna Germ's daughter, Audrey Perko, and sister, Elsie Dolan, were present as were Mary Kochevar's daughters, Frances Ondovchik, Rose Zupancic and Shirley Cook.

Members were reminded of the dues increase in 1996 and that direct billing will also be done. Read the September-October issue for more information regarding the above.

A discussion was held on a money-making project. There will be more discussion on this at the next meeting.

Members reported on the sick list were Hermina Petrick who has been ill and Mary Keller who had cataract surgery. Get well wishes are extended to them.

The mystery gift was donated by Mary (Mitzie) Drobnick and won by Frances Nelson.

Refreshments were served by our hostesses Steffie Barnett and Helen Skul and then Bingo was played.

Congratulations are in order for Rose and Stanley Jersin who celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary in September. They were married September 7, 1940 at St. Mary's Church. Their children are Pat Long of Colorado Springs, Co., and Mary Ann Barker of Pueblo. They have nine grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Condolences are extended to the families of Anna Agnes Germ, Leo J. Sabosky, Geraldine Huber, Edward J. Prijatelj, Sr., Tony Perse and Catherine Rugar.

We are planning to get a history of S.W.U. No. 3 in Pueblo together. We will be able to get some information from the Slovenian Museum in St. Mary's Educational Center, but will also welcome any information we can get from others. This will be one way we can pay tribute to the women who worked so hard to make our branch what it is today.

As always, get well wishes are extended to those who are ill and homebound and we do remember those who are in nursing homes in our prayers.

PAULINE PAUCHICK

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### NO. 5, INDIANAPOLIS, IN

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Our sympathy goes out to the family and friends of Tillie Kampovsky. After a long illness, Tillie passed away in the latter part of August. She will be sorely missed. Tillie was an enthusiastic worker and booster of our branch. She was quite talented in the arts and craft fields as well as a wonderful cook. At any of our pitch-ins you could find the members anxiously waiting for a piece of Tillie's lemon or coconut meringue pie. Just this past summer Tillie had entered a painting of a little Indian girl into competition at the Indiana State Fair. Tillie won a first place ribbon for her efforts. Tillie also donated many beautiful hand painted items for our branch raffle. Branch 5 will miss you, Tillie.

Any branch news, let me know so we can include it in our next newsletter. I hope everyone is feeling great and all is going well.

Love from Texas,

BARBARA MOHR

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### NO. 6, BARBERTON, OH

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#### A CARING THOUGHT

*There is no greater pleasure  
Than to help a friend in need  
A simple act of kindness  
A smile, a word, a deed.*

*A little comfort given  
To those who are alone,  
A little thought for others  
To their needs and not our own.  
Author Unknown*

It's November already. Where has this year gone?

November birthdays: Mary Yankovich, 11-21; Mildred Vidergar, 11-17, Mary Okolish, 11-27 and George Hill, 11-20. Many happy returns!

Hope everyone had a chance to walk around Lake Anna this past summer and enjoy the music.

Mary Kovacic is still under the weather. All our prayers go out to her for a speedy recovery.

Our second annual newsletter will be out around Christmas time. Am waiting for new officers to tell us about

1996. Will inform you as soon as I know.

Have a blessed Thanksgiving and any questions, please write or call. God bless!

LINDA LAMBRIGHT  
P.O. Box 221, Steubenville,  
OH 43952  
(614) 283-1255

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### NO. 10, CLEVELAND, OH

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Our meeting was held on Wed. Sept. 27th at the Collinwood Slov. Home on Holmes Ave. Prayers were said for our sick and deceased members and Minutes were read. Treas. report given and approved. Present were 13 members. Correspondence and community news brought us up-to-date on events. A report was given on the Convention by our pres. Steffie Segulin. An important item was that there will be only 8 issues of ZARJA per year. Get well wishes to Joyce LeNassi who had a knee replacement, Rose Vicic, Peggy Dobnikar.

Sympathy to Toni Alec on the loss of her sister, Mary Trepal Milner. Please notify us of the death of a member so we can pay our respects.

The Ohio-Michigan Convention was on October 15th and five members planned to attend the mass at St. Vitus, dinner and meeting, hosted by Br. 25.

Plans were finalized for our Christmas Party on Nov. 15th at 1 p.m. at Collinwood Slov. Home on Holmes, first floor. Reservations must be made in advance. Call 944-4954 or 531-7625. Members and guests are cordially invited to attend.

Congratulations to Anton Kerzičnik who was honored as a 60 year member of Lodge 10.

Grandson of pres. Steffie Segulin is Lance Blything. He is a U.S. Marine and was in Italy, saw the Pope and will be seeing many countries. Niece Nancy Koncilja had a baby girl in July.

Hope all members had a safe and healthy summer, even though it was hot. Now will come the cold weather.

Mary Pologar, our member, visited the Pope in Italy and spent some time in Slovenia.

ANN STEFANCIC

I was very pleased to see notice of my move published in my lodge No. 12's news. I have many friends in Wisconsin, Ohio, Michigan and Minnesota, who have written to me.

Please tell my friends that I am not only visiting Indian pueblos here in New Mexico. I am carrying on the Slovenian tradition here by baking poticas at Christmas and Easter for my family, my parish priest and Blaz Puljic. Blaz is a young gymnast from Ljubljana, Slovenia attending U.N.M. He is, it is my understanding, representing Slovenia in the 1996 Summer Olympics in Georgia. I very much want to attend. My daughter, Dana and I have him over for dinner and he loves our goulash, gnocchi, polenta, salata and especially, apple strudel. We love cheering for him during his meets at the University. (He also came in second in the U.S. National gymnastic meet).

I also love the mountains here. They remind me of Triglav. For my 87th birthday, Dana and her husband, Gary took me on a train ride to Colorado right over the mountains. I've also attended my grandson, Erik's wedding in Wisconsin and enjoy Dana's children's visits; especially meeting Andrew, my new great grandson. It is wonderful seeing all of these new Slovenian faces entering the world. Isn't it?

Also, I wish to thank ZARJA for publishing the address for the Ellis Island Wall. I had my parents, Frank and Frances Peritz's name placed on the wall and Dana had my name and her father, Josef Stampfel's name placed

## GREAT GRANDMA'S PRIDE AND JOY!



*Sophie Stampfel and her great grandson, Andrew Michale Goetz*

on the wall. I hope that I can go to New York next spring to see us "immortalized."

To all my friends, I moved to a new place in April. My new address is 10916 Juan Tabo Place, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87111. Don't forget to write and if you are out this way, look me up.

Love to all,

*Sophie Stampfel*

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### NO. 12, MILWAUKEE, WI

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Had to make some calls for news as we had no meeting. Evelyn Laurich had quite a summer! Her granddaughter, Lu Ann from Arizona was married in Switzerland, the home of the groom's family. They spent 3 weeks with Evelyn so the families had a wedding dinner at a local restaurant and showered them with gifts. Congratulations Lu Ann and Claude. Having been to Switzerland myself, I can attest to the beauty of the country - it made for a fairy-tale wedding setting.

Jo Wilhelm will be seeing her daughter and family more often as they are

moving to Madison. It's a little closer for you, Jo, than Wisconsin Rapids!

Agnes Morrow's travels this summer were put on hold as she came down with the shingles. I know this is a miserable illness. Hope you are feeling better, Agnes. Rose Luebke is feeling low - hope you are better soon.

We had a big representation from our branch at the 65th Anniversary of Br. 43, and State Convention in September. They really had a big turnout. The officers and members deserve a big hand for the tremendous job, well done. The entertainment was beautiful and the Slovenian desserts delicious.

Our meeting in September was well-attended with 46 members. We dis-

cussed our Oct. luncheon and fashion show. The members were notified to circle their calendars for Dec. 7th, our Christmas party. We'll discuss this more at the Nov. meeting. Please come.

Remember, we will be on direct billing for our dues, so do not send any dues for 1996 to Mary Dezman, our secretary. You will receive a bill from the National Secretary. I personally think this is a good idea.

Everyone was glad to get together after a hot summer. We enjoyed spaghetti and meat balls for lunch. Thanks to the cook and all the helpers.

Pray for our sick members and also for those in nursing homes.

MARY KIEL

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### NO. 14, EUCLID, OH

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Another hot, muggy and humid day today as I write this article amid all the hoopla of Cleveland's opening of the Rock 'N Roll Hall of Fame this Labor Day weekend. Too bad we didn't see all this excitement about the opening of our National Cleveland-style Polka Hall of Fame!

Our annual picnic on August 29 turned out to be on a warm sunny day with a lovely breeze on the grounds of President Martha Koren's home. A sizable group of members and guests and husbands attended as we chatted and exchanged pleasantries and caught up with the latest news from our friends. The ladies brought delicious foods for us to enjoy from tasty appetizers to salads, potatoes and vegetable dishes. Pat Nevar patiently spent hours at the barbecue grill preparing the chicken. Desserts were of all delicious varieties and we ended up the meal with a beautiful birthday cake for Ileene Collins celebrating hers that day and for Rose Rodgers who celebrated hers a few days before. A delicious way to end the day!

Marty had a bad fall a few days before our picnic and even then, she and her husband Ed were excellent hosts. Many thanks to both for their super hospitality!

Some of the news I gathered at this picnic was that Josie Spech had spent several weeks in Slovenia the early part of this year. Since she stayed with relatives she was able to be there during pig slaughtering time and enjoy the ritu-

als at this time. She also assisted her relatives in making the Palm Sunday butara out of colored wood shavings.

Ileene Collins enjoyed her vacation traveling through Slovenia, Germany, Austria and Switzerland this past May. Peggy Smerke and her sister vacationed for their first time in Slovenia, in a town near Domzale, and stayed with relatives who showed them the beautiful sights of Slovenia. Peggy was so thrilled with her trip she insists she'll have to go back at least one more time.

We're saddened to report the death of member Alma Tercek, who had been parish secretary at St. Christine's Church in Euclid for 28 years before her retirement two years ago. A beautiful mass was concelebrated by Bishop A. Edward Pevec at St. Christine's which was attended also by her daughter, Sr. Beth Anne S.N.D., a Notre Dame nun and her colleagues. Our deepest sympathy is extended to her husband John, her five children and her sister Rose Rodgers and aunt Mary Strazisar (Arrowhead). May our merciful Lord and His Mother Mary receive our dear departed ones with open arms.

Keep in mind that our annual Christmas Dinner takes place Tuesday, December 5 at 6:00 and to call Vera Bajec at 481-7473 for your reservations.

Hope your Thanksgiving is filled with blessings.

Alice Kuhar

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### NO. 16, SO. CHICAGO, IL

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Greetings and salutations! Have you been enjoying this most delightful weather? Enjoy! Enjoy! It may leave us all too soon.

We had twenty-four members in attendance at our September meeting. The pizza lunch was enjoyed by all of us. Vida Kumse provided a delicious salad. Desserts were made by Clara Saviano, delicious apple strudel; Helen Milanovich made some yummy cheese squares; Mary Vidovich baked Blondie squares. All those calories, but who is counting? Clara Saviano and Sylvia Spretnjak serve everything so nicely. Thank you so much.

Olga Kowalkowski (our Bionic Woman) attended this meeting. She has had two hip replacements and is ready to polka - anytime! We also enjoyed the company of Ana Vrhovnik, Vida's

sister, from Slovenia. She left to go back to Ljubljana, her home, on Sept. 11th. Sylvia Vukodinovich also graced us with her presence.

Would the following members try to join us at our next meeting on Sat. Nov. 11th at 12:30 p.m. at St. George's Hall? I promise that you will leave with a really good feeling and a smile. C'mon down! We miss you! They are:

Mary Crnokrak, Dolores Franko, Stephie Golob, Helen Gornick, Elsie Grunhard, Bernice Jarkovich, Kay Jurincic, Andrea Kral, Toni Krese, Ann Ksiazak, Kathy Monahan, Draga Pavlovich, Dorothy Perko, Mary Priesol, Vi Somin, Elsie Seiner, Elsie Starceвич and Chris Tomasik.

We recently had some very sad news. John Starceвич, beloved husband of Mary Ann, passed away in Florida, only a few days after his sixty-fifth birthday! To Mary Ann, all of her family, to John's mother, Elsie, and to his sister, Elsie Grunhard, our most sincere condolences. He will be remembered in our prayers. Mary Ann was a vice-president during my term as president - she was my right hand!

We just recently heard that congratulations are in order for the grandparents of Ashley Caroline Fagan! Best wishes to grandma and grandpa, Andrea and Ed Kral.

We were happy to hear...

THAT: Julie Vrlich enjoyed a super trip to California with her two daughters, Julie and Diane. While enjoying the sights and sounds and delicious meals, they also visited Beverly Vrlich, Julie's sister-in-law. A highlight of their trip happened at the airport when Diane spotted Kineau Reeves. Be still my beating heart!!!

THAT: Alvina Sreboth and Madeline Jerich spent a couple of hours at Chicago's Navy Pier.

THAT: Tina Sertich is tooling around in a '95 Olds Cierra. Drive safely and many happy miles!

Is it too early to talk about our Christmas Party? Please keep the date open. It's December 9 at 11:30 a.m. at the Crow Bar restaurant. Mark your calendars now! Don Reitsma will put you into a holiday mood. More about this in our Christmas issue!

We had a group of fifteen at the State Convention, fourteen members and one brave gentleman, Bud Skibbie. Members attired in Slovenian narodna nošas were: Edna Winters, Mary Rago,

Gladys Buck, Vida Kumse, Mary Ann Skibbie, Sylvia Spretnjak and Marge Prebil. Our two Italian members dressed up in their native costumes, Clara Saviano and Helen Pastirik. Other members attending were Mary Brozovich, Manda Maggio, Dotsi Rossi, Tina Sertich and Helen Milanovich.

Congratulations and best wishes for a successful term to our new State President: Gerri Lynn Bima.

To our dear editor, our good wishes for a most joyous and blessed birthday! (Thanks so much, you are a darling to remember! C.)

Stay well and enjoy!

MARGE PREBIL

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### NO. 20, JOLIET, IL

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We have just completed having our Grape Dance this year. Joe and Tony Wolf were our honorary mayors. Their parents came from Slovenia in the early 1900's. Both Joe & Tony attended St. Joseph's grade school. They both learned to play the accordion from their father who also played. Tony went on to play with Pinky Cankar in the 50's and 60's and with Bob Dalman in the 70's. Tony is retired from Caterpillar. Brother Joe owned a tavern in Joliet



Joe and Tony Wolf, Co-Mayors at this year's Br. 20 Grape Harvest Festival.

for 32 years. Last year the brothers and their wives visited their relatives for the first time in Slovenia and Croatia. This year they played for Mayor Art Schultz of Joliet for his swearing-in ceremony. They also play for polka masses and for special Slovenian functions in our area. → Page 23

# N o v e m b e r

*Yes, we are thinking about our beloved who have left us on earth to enter the eternal kingdom. We pray for their souls – and remember that they were a part of our lives. November is a sad month.*

*On this page is a November story, in a way, but it is also a story of life and hope. And, I think it will ease the pain that comes with the message of death.*



## *Angel of Consolation*

*Lillian Brulc*

Michael and Frances (Ancel) Ruggera of Rancho Palos Verdes, California have purchased and donated to the St. Joseph Cemetery Chapel, Joliet, Illinois, an original painting titled "Angel of Consolation" by Artist Lillian Brulc. Frances, a former parishioner of St. Joseph's Parish writes: "We love the "Angel of Consolation" and are happy we can be the donors for the St. Joseph Cemetery Chapel and share its beauty and inspiration with others."

The Ruggeras donated the painting in memory of her parents, Peter and Anna Ancel and all of the Slovenian Immigrants. It measures 54" x 30" and was installed in the Chapel in October, 1995.

## *GIFT OF LIFE, GIFT OF LOVE*

As he glided on his snowboard down Snowbird Mountain near Salt Lake City, Utah, Michael Grill never realized the effect the next moments would have on so many persons – his family as well as perfect strangers. Five days before Christmas he crashed into a rock and died from injuries to his head. Michael was my 28-year-old nephew, the youngest son of my younger brother, John Grill. His death unleashed a series of events that left a deep and lasting imprint on many lives, and with which his family is still coping.

Michael was an organ donor who enriched the lives of his family when he was alive and who enriched the lives of others through his gift in death. The number of persons receiving his organs is impressive. His heart was transplanted into a 46 year-old husband who had been slowly dying from heart failure, his liver into a 45-year-old father of two, one kidney into a 32-year-old commercial artist, the other into a 50-year-old man, and each of his lungs into a 50-year-old and a 64-year-old man. The sight of two persons was restored through the transplant of Michael's corneas. His bones and veins will be used for patients suffering from orthopedic injuries and vascular disease. All of the recipients have responded well and their lives have been extended and enhanced because of the caring exhibited by Michael and later by the compassion shown by his family.

We all still feel the pain of his loss and cannot quite comprehend that such a young and vital person is dead. However, he lives on because of his gifts. By honoring his wish to be an organ donor, **his family** may have given even more generously. It was heart-wrenching for them to say yes to hospital physicians as Michael had requested. It is a matter still to be reconciled and accepted completely by some in his loving family.

Michael's family has received letters from the hospital where Michael died and from the wife of one of the recipients. She expressed her grief at his death and described the vitality returning to the man who received his heart. She spoke of "the miracle" of "no longer watching him slowly die" by "watching this beautiful man spring rapidly back to life..." In response to that letter Michael's father said, "When I read that letter, I was moved in a way I never have been. There was something about the love in that letter that had no bounds. In those words that woman expressed something so very beautiful. If the whole world operated on that level of love, we might have an interesting world to live in."

Thanks to the hospital and the organization that coordinated the recovery of the organs, the information and letters were made available to Michael's family and, for some, helped ease a bit of the pain and difficulty of their loss.

*Mary Mejac  
Washington, D.C.*



## LUCIJA DRAGOVAN EXHIBIT AT HERITAGE MUSEUM

Lucija Dragovan will be exhibiting at the Slovenian Women's Union Heritage Museum on Saturday, November 4, 1995, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Sunday, November 5, 1995 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

On exhibit will be posters of the outside murals depicting the immigration of the Slovenes to the United States.

Framed posters and framed cards of the murals will be on sale.

Refreshments will be served.

On the photo is Lucille at one of the mural panels.



### No. 20, Continued:

Br. 20 congratulates Pauline Bick and Tom Mihelich on their recent marriage this past August 19th. Congratulations and may you have many happy years together.

Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Rozman celebrating 55 years of marriage. To Gordon and Rosetta Corp. celebrating 40 years, and to Gene and Gen Klainsek who also celebrated 40 years of marriage. Congratulations and may you also have many more happy years together.

Bernice Metesh is a new grandma to Krista Katherine, born on June 28th.

We send get well messages to Jim Metesh and Carol Thomure. Hope you are all feeling better real soon.

Br. 20 extends our deepest sympathy to Jim Sefcik on the loss of his mother Babe. to Josephine Berard on the death of her brother Bill Perush and to the family of our dear member Ann Dehm. May God comfort you all during your time of sorrow.

The leaves are changing, the pumpkins are growing and the turkey is getting fat. This is the best time of the year. Thanksgiving is such a nice quiet holiday. No hustle or bustle. There is more time for family and friends to sit around, have a nice dinner and good conversation.

Lucija Dragovan will be exhibiting at the Slovenian Women's Union Heritage Museum on Saturday, November 4th from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sunday, November 5th from 9 a.m. to 1

p.m. On exhibit will be posters of the outside murals depicting the immigration of the Slovenes to the United States. Framed posters and framed cards of the murals will be on sale.

"If you build it they will come." And they did. A softball team from Slovenia known as the "Zajcki" which means "Rabbits". They played an exhibition game here in Joliet last August against our own F.O.P.

There are a lot of famous corners in the world. Hollywood & Vine, State



**Rev. David Stalzer sits at the new Marian Shrine dedicated to all the women in the Council of Catholic Women who have given their time and talent in support of the St. Mary's Nativity parish in Joliet.**

*John Patsch/Joliet Herald News*

& Lake and now Joliet has there's too, Broadway & Ruby. Fr. David Stalzer, pastor of St. Mary's Nativity Church and spiritual director for Br. 20 has beautified the corner making it one of the most beautiful in our city. A 7-foot statue of the Virgin Mary on a 4-foot pedestal faces the intersection. It is surrounded by two water fountains and several shrubs in a circular base, all of which is lighted at night. I pass this corner on my way to work every morning and say a small prayer when I see the statue. I want to think it helps me get through the day.

Fr. David Stalzer has also been named National Spiritual Adviser for the KSKJ. His term is Sept. 95 to Dec. 98. Congratulations, Fr. Dave.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 21st at 7 p.m. at St. Joseph's Park. Our guest speaker will be Lenny Feil from PRP Wine International. This evening our taste buds will be treated to a variety of wine samples. The wine is available for purchase in case of lots only, but can be split up.

Till the next time we meet, take care and may God bless.

JOYCE VICICH,

### NO. 23, ELY, MN

Thirty-seven members of Branch 23 in Ely left by bus to attend the Minnesota State Convention in Biwabik on September 10, 1995. We had barely gotten underway when our bus broke down; and several of the ladies volunteered to drive their cars for the day. The various Branches had a display of hats depicting the activities they take part in during the year. President Jane Yadlosky from our Ely Branch gave the narration for Ely's hat while Treasurer Rosemarie Buchner did the modeling. We are 166 members strong. One of our special events is the Mother of the Year Banquet and also our Valentine's Day Dinner. We attend funerals of our deceased members. All meetings are opened with prayer. We pay dues for members over 90, send get well cards and monetary gift to hospitalized members, sell raffle tickets and our 50/50 drawing, and give to our Priest and the church at Christmas. All of the above were represented on Ely's Hat.

Everyone had a wonderful time in Biwabik.

MARCELLA ZUPEC, Reporter

**FOR YOUR BIRTHDAY...NOVEMBER 1st**

*Lynne Chrzanowski*

**WE SEND YOU LOVE AND BEST WISHES!**

**John & Cirila Kermavner**  
Cleveland, Ohio



**Happy Birthday from those who love you!**

*to*

*John and Cilka Kermavner*

**October 31st and November 12th**

*from*

**Ati and Mom**  
Cleveland, Ohio

**NO. 24, LA SALLE, IL**

Our opening meeting of the fall season had 15 members in attendance. Plans were finalized for the trip to South Chicago on Sunday, October 1 for the Illinois-Indiana State Convention hosted by Branch 95. Our annual Fall project-the Bakeless Bake Sale was to take place after the October meeting with Helen Swietek serving as chairman. The members received explanatory letters with return envelopes enclosed.

We are sad to report the deaths of two members; Ann Kastigar on August 14th and Anne Pieczynski on September 27th. Ann Kastigar is survived by her husband, Frank, and son, Frank, and daughter, Joyce Vulcani, and two grandchildren. She was a 43 year member of SWU. Anne Pieczynski joined SWU in 1951 and enrolled her two daughters at that time as Junior members. She is survived by Mary Ann Pieczynski and Rose Mary McLaughlin, our active members, and two grandchildren. We were especially impressed with the tribute to grandma Anne that granddaughter Melissa McLaughlin read at the funeral Mass. We hope to enroll Melissa as a Junior in the near future. I thank the members who come so faithfully to pray the SWU Burial prayer before each funeral Mass. Our sympathy to Mary Ann Brunner whose father-in-law passed away on September 20th in Mendota. We pray that our loving Father will grant Heavenly peace to our departed.

Two members had family wedding celebrations on September 30th--Theresa Wellner's daughter Julie married John Lynch at Resurrection Church and Vice-President Minnie Carter's granddaughter, Robin Entwistle married Jerry Hancock in St. Mary's

Church in Peru. We wish the young couples a long and happy life together. We wish to congratulate Minnie on the arrival of great granddaughter, Carly Irene. This is Minnie's 14th great grandchild.

Belated birthday greetings to our October celebrants: Mary Sever (101), Josephine Grabowski, Josephine Savnik, Junior member Kaycie Plowman, Francis Puetz, Theresa Gende, Shirley Miller and our Treasurer, Anna Serri. Happy birthday to November birthday celebrants: Rose Furlan, Mary Gornik, Florence Smorkel, Anne Matthews, Mary Senica, Loretta Story, Helen Swietek, and Mary Ann Pieczynski.

I had my article ready to mail on September 29th but a little voice kept saying "don't mail this until after the State Convention on Sunday -- you will have more to write". And so I have great news to add! There were 12 members from our Branch in attendance plus 2 guests. Branch 95 President Mildred James greeted us warmly and made us feel welcome. The Mass in beautiful Sacred Heart church celebrated by Father Paul was wonderful.

Father's homily awakened us to the issues confronting our beloved SWU at this convention and how important it is to work together. Everyone enjoyed the choir and their music. After the convention meeting began, Corinne Leskovar, our Editor, spoke to us and explained the changes that will be taking place in the collection of dues and reasons for the changes. Her talk was enlightening and renewed our pledge to work for new memberships. The two large issues were the election of a new Illinois-Indiana State President. We have been without a president since the death of Romaine Jablonski. I had the privilege of nominating our member GeriLynn Bima for the office of State President. She was unanimously

elected by the members and will make a wonderful president. Angie Nico of Br. 89 suggested that we elect a Vice President so there will be someone to serve in the event that the President is unable to do so. Your new State Vice President is also a member of Branch 24, Bonnie Pohar Prokup. We feel very honored to be the home branch of these two fine young ladies. The other issue was whether to continue annual conventions or go to an every other year convention. The members voted to keep it as is, every year. We thank Mildred James, her officers and committee for an excellent convention. Business was handled well and the day's activities followed the time schedule set by the committee. After a delicious dinner and musical program we were on our way home, enjoying the sunshine and beautiful fall colors. We worried about the predicted rain and storms but when Betty Stack called to make our reservations, Millie assured her that the day would be bright and sunny and she was right! It was a perfect day and we agreed that we attended a great convention.

Corinne reminded us that we should take time to check the back cover and your mailing address and then turn back to the inside back cover of the ZARJA and fill in the information and mail it to National Secretary Evelyn Majercik. This information is imperative for the new computer system and must be up to date and correct. Help the senior members, especially the shut-ins and those in nursing homes to complete the form. It only takes a few minutes but is vital to the success of the new billing system.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, November 16th at 7:00 p.m. in La Salle Catholic School library. Please join us.

ANNE M. WANGLER

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**NO. 25, CLEVELAND, OH**

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Dober Dan!

A little late, but we want to thank Branch 13 for a beautiful convention and a vacation for all delegates. We would like to give a big round of applause to Branch 13 for a great convention and tour of San Francisco (especially to Beverly and Barbara). Also Good Luck to all of the new officers.

Our branch has been very busy the past few months getting ready for the Ohio-Michigan Convention. All members really pulled together and showed their team spirit. Would like to thank everyone who attended the Ohio-Michigan Convention which was held on October 15, at St. Vitus Church. Also want to thank our Branch 25 members for a great job. A big round of applause to the cooks, the decorators, and ALL (and I mean all) that assisted (and assisted me personally) with the convention.

S.W.U. is an important organization for all members. Remember this organization began with women many decades ago, who might not have had positions outside of the homes, but remember they didn't have modern day appliances either. I know that it is hard for working mothers to attend meetings. Take a look at your children and think about how it would be great to carry on an organization that your children can have in the future. We don't know what the future holds, but at least we will know in our hearts that our children are holding up the Slovenian traditions.

A Happy Birthday wish is being granted to all of our October/November sisters. Also a remembrance prayer to all of our members who can't join us. You are always in our hearts and prayers.

Bring in your pennies of the meetings, so that we can send them to the ZARJA fund; remember, each penny counts.

Please look for your dues books, to find out how much your dues are, and please report this to Cirila. We would like to start the New Year with a clean slate, which means no back dues owed. (After the New Year we will remind all members of their back due accounts in the ZARJA.)

With the new administration we would like to update our records. We need our members to report their updated addresses and phone numbers. (See back inside and outside ZARJA cover.) Call this information either to Cirila or me (or mail) to the undersigned.

FRAN GAZVODA

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**NO. 32, EUCLID, OH**

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Our traveling ladies were on the go again. Josephine Gornik visited Russia and the Baltic countries and said she is glad she is living in the U.S. as the elderly people are having a bad time trying to live on their pension with the staggering inflation. Frank and Frances Ogoreuc went to Myrtle Beach for a week's vacation. Pres. Anne Cooke went to Denver, Colorado visiting her daughter Chris and husband Scott, and guess what she found there, SNOW!

Member Mary Drobnick is now at the Slovene Home for the Aged. Alma Eppich broke her arm. Esther Garbinus and Rose Hahn had cataract surgeries. A member for a long time, Margaret Sas, lost her husband Joe in June. He was 85 years old and was ill for 7 years. They have 5 children and 13 grandchildren. Our condolences to the family.

Will have to give you the report on our Oct. 18th Chinese Auction next month. Nov. 15th meeting we will have election of officers. Dec. 20th is the Christmas Party.

Letter from Evelyn Majercik (Pres. Ohio-Mich Branches) about State Convention at St. Vitus on Oct 15. Five members were going.

Oct. Birthdays: Mary Zakrajsek and Elizabeth Perme and Nov. Birthday: Helen Kovacicic.

Thank you,

ROSE HAHN, Reporter

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**NO. 33, DULUTH, MN**

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At our Oct. 4 meeting plans finalized for 21 to take a bus to Biwabik. Anniversary Dinner was to be in Oct.

Christmas Party will be Sunday, Dec. 3, in the afternoon, so more older members as well as junior members will attend.

Congratulations to Barbara Bucar on her wedding. She and mother, Sharon

are members. Rose Kochevar's granddaughter was married in Ely.

Congratulations also to Jackie Rukavina, a new grandchild.

Prayers for sick members including Stella Mattson.

Happy Holiday Season to all.

LOIS M. PELANDER  
Reporter

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**NO. 35, AURORA, MN**

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A Luncheon meeting was held at the Hoyt Lakes Golf Club on August 9th with 26 members present, including out-of-town members Betty Carlson and Barbara Vodonik. Plans were made to attend the Minnesota State Convention in Biwabik on Sept. 10th.

Interesting reports on the meetings and tours at the San Francisco Convention were given by delegate Anne Orazem and members who were visitors.

Congratulations to all our Scholarship Winners, especially Robert J. Orazem from Sandstone, MN who won 6 scholarships and is attending Macalister college.

Betty Orazem was pleased to have so many relatives and friends attend her 80th birthday party. A week later, she fell and was hurt, but is doing fine! She doesn't give up and is busy with all her activities. Hope you are all well by now, Betty.

Correction: Barbara Urick is from Aurora, not Biwabik!

Next meeting is Nov. 8th at Holy Rosary Church Hall. October hostess was Dorothy Jammick.

Mass for our deceased members will be on Sat. Nov. 4th at 5 p.m. Please try to attend.

Special thanks to Br. 39 for the beautiful Minnesota State Convention. It was good to see so many young members taking part, you all did a great job!

We enjoyed the meeting and parade of hats which were very interesting. Our Br. 35 won a prize! The Polka Mass and Fr. Perkovich's homily and delicious dinner were superb.

Bill Slogar, SWU member from Ely, won the \$100 prize which he well deserves - he is such a good ticket salesman!

Outgoing State President, Jean Korsman gave an interesting report and explained the direct billing system, increases in dues and costs of operating,

# THREE PRESIDENTS!!!

Charlotte Laurich (on right top photo) receives the president's gavel and good wishes of past National President, Tory Bobence and present National President, Jean Korsman after her election as Minnesota's new State President, replacing Jean. Charlotte is also the president of Br. 38, Chisholm. "She'll fulfill her new duties excellently," was the comment expressed by many who attended the State Convention in Biwabik, hosted by Br. 39, in September.



At the same event, a parade of funny hats was made by all Branches; Emcee, Ann Hodnik, past Youth Director and model, Dorothy Jamnik, Minnesota's two term Sec.-Treas. are pictured top left.

*Lower photo:*

**WELCOME HOME,**

**MADAM PRESIDENT!**

Returning from San Francisco, the Minnesota group was met at the airport by a whole contingent of relatives and friends who were especially overjoyed to congratulate newly elected National President, Jean Korsman. The proudest was her mom, 93 year young Annie Purkat (front), and husband, Roy, (right). Others on the photo are, left to right: Dorothy Jamnik, Jean's sister, Margaret Walling, Jane Purkat, Phyllis Kukar and Jean in the center.

also ZARJA. Again we are encouraged to sign up new members.

The 1982 Marie Priland Scholarship winner Mary Spehar White from Duluth was a guest at the Convention and she said she enjoyed her "first convention" very much. She is a member of Br. 33. See you in Aurora next year, Mary!

Our thanks to Jean Korsman for serving as our State President these past four years and congratulations and best wishes in your new position as our National President, Jean!

Congratulations to the new Minnesota State President, Charlotte Laurich of Br. 38, Chisholm. Others on the new slate include Yours Truly as State Vice President, Dorothy Jamnick as State Sec.-Treas. (Br. 35) appointed by Pres. Laurich.

Next State Convention will be in Aurora in 1996. See you all then!

Happy Thanksgiving!

ANNE M. ORAZEM



**38, CHISHOLM, MN**

The day was warm and sunfilled as we gathered in Biwabik on Sun. Sept. 10th to hold the MN State SWU Convention. I felt God's blessings upon us as we celebrated our togetherness.

The meeting was headed by our state pres. - who is now our Nat. President! Hats off to the Biwabik branch and to Jean Korsman for your efforts to make the day super! By unanimous vote our new state pres. is our own Charlotte Laurich. Both Jean and Charlotte are their own local branch presidents also. What a wonderful example of dedication by these two women!!

Back to local activities and talk about **raising money!** Our Chisholm branch will hold two fund raisers in the next several weeks. The annual and very

popular card party and luncheon was planned for Oct. 29. On Election day -- Nov. 7th we will sell Fran Zalec's "special" home-made noodles plus tempting the buyers to stay for Jenny Samsa's delicious "Župa" with crusty bread. We hope to sell lots of noodles and count lots of money! This is a new idea.

After attending the Nat. Conv. our local pres. expressed a desire that our group be creative and active in order to survive. We're trying!!!

Wishing everyone the magic of fall's bright blue weather.

GERT ZAKRAJSEK

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*Postcards of the "Angel of Consolation" on page 22 will be available at the S.W.U. Heritage Museum, 431 No. Chicago St., Joliet, IL 60432 at the Open House on November 4th & 5th and at the L'Atelier Studio, 909 Summit St., Joliet, IL 60435.*



### 39, BIWABIK, MN

The September 10th, 1995 Minnesota State Day for the Slovenian Women's Union was attended by over 180 members and guests. The warm fall morning greeted the participants as they fled into the Pavilion in Biwabik which was the home base for Br. 39, the host for the Convention.

State President, Jean Korsman, who is also the newly-elected National President presided over the business meeting which included a report on the new policies and regulations. Also, a parade of hats which accompanied the Branch Reports. Aurora was the winner and what a beautiful job every branch that participated did! After the parade, the election of officers for the ensuing year was held. The new officers are as follows:

President, Charlotte Laurich, Vice-President, Anne Orazem, Secretary-Treasurer, Dorothy Jamnik. We all wish you a successful and healthy year.

A Polka Mass was then conducted by Father Perkovich and music by the Polka Masters which found many of our members tapping their toes in the pews. Everyone enjoyed the Mass.

A dinner of stuffed pork chops, etc. was followed by remarks from Tony Bobence, past National President. Tony encouraged members to put great effort into membership drives as the numbers of SWU members are dwindling.

Guest speaker, Tom Rukavina, Minnesota Representative from the 5th District, entertained the ladies with stories from his youth in a Balkan-rich neighborhood in Virginia, MN. What is a Slovenian? was the theme of his speech.

The day ended with door prizes, raffle drawing and members ventured home with memories of an enjoyable day of food, fun and friendship.

A great big Thank You to all our wonderful ladies who put in all the hours to make this Convention a big success.

KATHY SISKAR,  
Vice President

SWU Crest indicates the 65th Anniversary of this branch in 1995.

Congratulations!



### 40, LORAIN, OH

Now that the hot summer days are behind us, let's hope that more of our members will join us at our meetings on the second Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m. in the school hall. Come and enjoy a delicious dessert and the hospitality of a bunch of lovely ladies.

On Sept. 13th we had a luncheon at the Holiday Inn at which time we honored our 50 year members. We have 11-50 year members. Sophie Pogacher, Angie Zgonc and Agnes Drstvensek were the only ones present, since the majority were either ill or are in Rest Homes. We sadly missed our Angie Kozjan who passed away recently. She was our 60 year member! 28 members were present.

After our lunch we went to our Social Hall and played Keno, after which Francine Pavlovic and our Pres. Agnes Tomazine surprised us and served us a delicious dessert. Thanks to all for a lovely day.

Olga Love's sister passed away recently. We wish to express our sympathy.

Thomas Nickoloff is attending college in Helsinki, Finland until Jan. 1996. He is majoring in Industrial Design. The proud grandma is our Rose Jancar.

Tricia Russ and Mohammed Kassem were married in St. Anthony's Church in Lorain on Aug. 12th. We wish to congratulate them. Tricia received a \$1,000 scholarship from the Slovenian Women's Union several years ago. She is a 1994 graduate of Ursuline College, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree and is attending Western Illinois University for a specialist degree in school psychology.

I saw an article in our daily paper that dealt with Slovenians who came to Lorain at the turn of the century. As I read on I learned that it was our Olga Love who gave the reporter the news of the changes that took place. She was born in those surroundings and remembers well of all the changes. I also was raised in that area that she writes about and I remember a lot about the changes. I wish to congratulate Olga on a very interesting write-up.

Hope you all enjoy your Thanksgiving. See you at our Nov. 8th meeting.

Love,  
MARY MATOS



### 42, MAPLE HTS., OH

Hello Ladies!

Newsletters were sent to members in July and September which gave you info on upcoming activities. Time permitting, the branch secretary will try to correspond with a newsletter on a quarterly basis. Your thoughts on plans for activities are welcome.

We are pleased to tell you that Lynn and Gene Kossakoski have announced the birth of their second child, Alex 9 lbs. 2-1/2 oz. born July 21st. May he and his family always be blessed! Alex may be our newest member!

To our October birthday ladies, may your dreams come true... Francis Tomasic, Amy Thompson, Tracy Buehner, Lynn Kossakoski, and Jeannie Offutt! Belated wishes.

Please welcome a new ZARJA Reporter, Diane Balach. Diane will start with the December (Christmas) issue. Her grandmother, Pauline Hribar, opened her house to SZZ meetings in 1929 when Branch 42 originated. Meetings were held in Paula's living room in the winter, and on the porch in the summer. Her granddaughter now offers her thoughts and talents to our ZARJA column. Diane, as a reporter, has written articles for the print media in the Cleveland area on various subjects. Also, for some time now, Diane has been a member of the Maple Heights Planning Commission and in April of this year was appointed to Chair the Commission, a one year term. Both her husband, Mike, and daughter, Kimberly, are SZZ members. For any news you may have, please call Diane at 663-2717. She needs your input and your backing.

Our deepest sympathy to Mel Blazy and Jo Stoltz on the loss of Sister Joseph Marie, Dominican Order of Adrian, MI. She was an aunt to Jo, sister to Mel and cousin to Millie Lipnos. Memorial mass was held at St. Lawrence Church, September 2, 1995.

November Birthday congratulations go to Jo Stoltz, Louise Toth, Elyse Harr (a big ten), Betty Kosak Gawor, Cilka Hocevar, Jennifer Kosak Salonia, and Teresa Gorup. Many good wishes to all!

Millie Lipnos' granddaughter, Denise had a baby girl, Tara Marie on September 20th. That's the fourth great one for Millie.

Travelers incoming and outgoing: Bob Kastelic enjoyed having three young Slovenian Travelers at his farm this late summer... they want to come back and work the fields again next year if at all possible; Lil Sadowski left for California to visit daughter, Lynn Kossakoski, and with grandchildren incorporated a sightseeing travel trip up the west coast; and in town, briefly, was Lou and Betts Kastelic from Silver Spring, MD. Travelers in August were Karen, Fred and Jennie Lockard on a three week tour of the west, the wide open spaces. Josie Gruden spent a few days visiting a sis-in-law in Fairmont, West Virginia and Kelly Gaines visited a long-time pen pal in Canada for a couple of days and the two returned to Cleveland where Kelly gave her friend a grand tour of the fair city north of us.

We need your support and input at the meetings. Please be sure to attend the November meeting. Also look forward to our Christmas Luncheon planned for December 7, 1995 at 11:00 a.m. at the beautiful Triple Crown Restaurant in Monroe Falls, OH. The annual raffle will be held at the luncheon and we hope you have the winning ticket. We have many lovely prizes. Be sure your reservations have been made by calling 467-0696 day or night and leave your name and the name/names of your guests. Deadline: Monday November 27th.

Thanksgiving, and the most beautiful religious season of the year, is upon us. There is much to prepare for, to enjoy and be thankful for. May the season warm your hearts and bring you good wishes.

In the meantime, a thought:

*What you have always done, you will always do; what you always gave, is what you always get.*

Z Bogom,

MARGE

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## A Beautiful Celebration in Milwaukee!

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### 43, MILWAUKEE, WI

September 17th was a very special day for our Branch. We celebrated our 65th Anniversary and we hosted the 1995 State Convention, starting with the 8:45 a.m. Mass at St. John the Evangelist Church. It was a beautiful Mass in our beautiful church celebrated by our Pastor, Father Richard Talaska. We then went to Klemmer's Banquet Center for some Bakery and coffee and our meeting. Minutes of the National Convention were read by our National Director of Youth Activities, Kathy Schroeder. By unanimous votes Joan Yaklich is our new State President, and Karen Janezic is our State Vice President. A wonderful luncheon was served. Father Talaska lead us in prayer before the luncheon, and later congratulated us on our accomplishments, and wished us future success. After the luncheon we were entertained by three Slovenian songs, sung by Jan Gehm, accompanied on the keyboard by Mici Bregant. We also had seven young ladies dressed in Slovenian Narodna Noša who sang songs in Slovenian and recited the poem STATUE OF LIBERTY taken from the book, "Flowers From My Garden" by Mary Stangelj Murn, our late member. Mici, you certainly brought out the talents in these young ladies! Kathy Gordon, Michelle Goldmann, Elizabeth Becker, Kathryn Kaye, Rebecca Kaye, Kristina Mejac, and Michelle Mejac.

It was a wonderful day and wish to thank our sisters from Willard, #102, Sheboygan, #1, Milwaukee #12, and all of our other friends who came. Thank you, again.

\* \* \*

Mici Bregant, the Director of the USPEH Chorus has asked me to include the following in our ZARJA. She felt that this would be of interest to all of our members. The USPEH Chorus recently gave a concert at the Octave Chantute Aerospace Museum in Rantoul, Ill. where they were invited to participate in the unveiling of the Republic of Slovenia World War II Exhibit

which will be permanently housed in this museum. After singing the National Anthems of Slovenia and America, a variety of Slovenian and English melodies were sung.

The Exhibit shows how the United States Airmen were rescued in Slovenian Territory by the People of Slovenia. In 1944 and 1945 thirty-three B17's and B-24's were shot down over Slovenian Territory by German Aircraft and anti-aircraft artillery. The crews included over 300 U.S. Airmen. Many survivors were treated, concealed from enemy forces, and eventually returned safely to allied control.

The ceremony was attended by dignitaries from Slovenia, a representative from the Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia in Washington D.C. in addition to some of the rescued fliers.

Now on a sadder note. Josephine Strukel, who was our Mother of the Year for 1995 has undergone surgery, and also Sophia Schachtschneider. Josephine is still in the hospital, Sophia is recuperating at the home of her daughter.

We lost one of our very good members, and also a very close friend of mine, Amalia Fritzel. We wish to express our deepest sympathy to her family and friends. May her soul rest in peace in her heavenly home.

We lost another member, Josephine Durand, who was called to her heavenly home. We wish to express our sympathy to her family and friends.

At our meeting on September 27th we sang Happy Birthday to Frances Sagadin, and Rose Vodnik, who, with a few of our other members, treated us to a wonderful lunch. Thank you ladies, and we wish Frances and Rose many more happy and healthy birthdays.

Because of Thanksgiving our November meeting will be on the 15th.

Our Christmas Party will be on Dec. 2nd at 12:30 p.m. For further details on the place which will be selected, please call Mary Zortz 281-6851, or Jo Zahn, 541-8829.

Keep in your prayers all of our sick and deceased members.

ANNE E. KONCZAL

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#### Please Note:

All mail may be directed to the new SWU National Secretary at the following address:

EVELYN MAJERCIK, Nat'l Sec.  
P.O. Box 46539  
BEDFORD, OH 44146  
Telephone: (216) 439-1825

# In Memory

## MOLLY M. MAUER

A Member of Br. 50,  
she was born: May 13, 1916  
and died, August 16, 1992



Molly Mauer, Diane and  
Sherri Bencin, Christmastime 1989

**O**ur family had a member  
whose heart was sold gold,  
that makes us all remember  
with whom we've shared our mold.

*Her heart was in her baking  
a gift she loved to share.  
No matter what she was making  
it was done with special care.*

*Her heart was like no other –  
pure beauty time couldn't rob;  
to be a great mother and  
grandmother  
pure joy came with the  
never-ending job.*

*Her heart was made for giving.  
It knew no other way.  
It's been three long years  
since God took her,  
that very sad day.*

Eternally remembered by  
Loving Daughter, Diane  
Granddaughter, Sherri  
Cleveland, Ohio

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## NO. 47, GARFIELD HTS., OH

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It came and went. After a hot scorching dry summer of 90 degrees and better, we are all ready to enjoy cooler weather. A nip in the air tells us that a long dreary winter is approaching us fast. The ground will be covered with snow and preparation for the blessed holidays will follow. Being we had no meetings during the summer months our September meeting was well attended. President Olga Dorchak gave us a report on the National Convention. Br. 47 was well represented. Congratulations to Kathy Dorchak our new elected National Vice President.

Ohio-Michigan State Convention was hosted by Br. 25 on Oct. 15th with Mass at Saint Vitus Church followed by a luncheon.

Belated congratulations to Todd Kociancic. He graduated summa cum laude, was Salutatorian of St. Peter Chanel High School, received Phi Beta Kappa award and Plain Dealer excellence award. Finally, he received the St. Peter Chanel Award, (no greater award given to a graduate) and also Alumni Service award. Todd was a member of National Honor Society for 3 years.

He was past president also president of school paper. Received scholarship award from A.M.L.A. Mutual Life, played on Volleyball team, played Trombone in the band.

He is planning to attend Ohio Northern University majoring in pharmacy. Todd's parents are Anthony and Gail Kociancic. Todd's proud grandparents are Anthony and Mary Kociancic.

Congratulations are also in order to James and Ginger Kemmerling who celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on Sunday, Aug. 6th. A Mass of Thanksgiving was said at St. Rita's Church, followed by breakfast for family and a few friends at Jim's place of business (The Heart of it all) in Solon.

(Vinska Trgatev) wine festival was held on Oct. 8th at S.N.H. Maple Hts. It was a success as always. Many thanks to all ladies that worked, baked, sold raffle tickets; without your help we could not do it.

Dec. 3 at one o'clock is the yearly meeting and election of officers. It will be a pot luck Christmas party at S.N.H. in Maple Hts. Bring door prizes, can-

ned and staple food to fill baskets for raffle; will also raffle a basket of cheer.

To all our November and December ladies who have birthdays, happy birthday and the best of health.

We are saddened by the passing of our beloved members Katherine Gasparic and Jennie Praznik; they were both members of Br. 47 for 59 years. Jennie Praznik held office of Recording Secretary for 28 years. May they rest in peace, and perpetual light shine upon them. November is the month of All Saints and All Souls day. Remember them in your prayers.

Our best wishes to shut-ins and all members on the sick list.

Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Respectfully submitted,

MARY TAUCHER

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## NO. 50, EUCLID, OH

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Dober Dan!

Here is a brief reminder that your membership dues for 1996 will be handled differently. Notices will be sent in January and February. The statements from headquarters will specify the amount owed which you must settle by the end of February --- or else you cease to be a member. There will be slight increases. For instance: Social members will now pay \$15.00 per year.

The 1995 Ohio-Michigan State Convention was held Sunday, Oct. 15, in Cleveland, Ohio which began at noon at the St. Vitus Church with a mass followed by dinner and meeting. It was hosted by our competent Branch 25.

Our October 18th meeting was a dress-up affair. That is, in "Halloween Fashion." The get ups were really got-up.

Elections will be held during the November meeting.

By the way, our Annual Pot Luck Picnic on Sept. 27 was the usual success, if not more so. A good time and excellent fair were appreciated by all who attended. We look forward to the next one.

The Christmas Dinner, to be held at Sterle's on Wednesday, Dec. 20th at 1:00 p.m., will require a reservation and a check for \$14.00. Please call Jean Miller or Ann Tercek a week in advance for more detail. We hope everyone will attend.

Now for the bad news. The following were on the sick list.

Josephine Petrovic, Albina Mrsnik, Angie Perusek, Jennie Kokotec, Mamie Marin, Mary Budas, Vida Rupnik, Dolores Cetensky and Stella Baum. We all hope you are on the mend or nearly so by now. By the way, Jennie Kokotec now resides in a senior citizen home called Liberty Commons at 2320 41st Street, Wilmington, NC 28403. Write to her when you can or call Jennie. Phone #is 1-910-792-9182. Also, Mary Marinko moved to #97 Gateway in Euclid recently.

A special birthday worth noting was the 87th for Vera Sebenik in August. That's a good number. Also, Vera and Frank celebrated their 60th anniversary in September. Frank and Ella Skoda and Martin and Beatrice Tomc celebrated their 60th also recently. Congratulations to you all.

Sorry to report that Lillian Homar's brother Michael Drensek passed away. Our deepest sympathy goes to Lillian and to Frances Scigliano and family on the loss of her husband Joe, and also to Mary Persin and family on the loss of her husband, John.

A pleasant newflash. Irene Jagodnik, who was our secretary for 19 years and now lives in NY, came to visit. A group of our members took her to lunch. It was like old times to be with her again.

So long for now. I am on my way to Myrtle Beach. I will leave you now but not before I remind you that people who snore always fall asleep first. — Oh yes, keep on praying. It's not over yet.

Nasvidenje!

VI MORAVCHEK

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#### NO. 54, WARREN, OH

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Our group held their first fall meeting and Anne Brdek vice president, presided — filling in for Jo Kassan who was unable to be with us. Plans were made for our Christmas Luncheon on Dec. 20th at the Elks Clubroom, Rt. 422, at 1:00 p.m. You are asked to bring a door prize, cookies and canned goods for the raffle. No gift exchange is planned. We will donate to a worthy cause, the Scholarship Fund or whatever. You will be called for reservations. Please come and enjoy your Slovenian heritage with your branch sisters.

I mentioned Anne and Martin Savor,

## REMEMBERING THE WONDERFUL SAN FRANCISCO CONVENTION

Thanks to Beverly Jackson and her sister, Barbara Chiodo and the whole crew for a wonderful convention and for a better understanding of the Slovenian Women's Union.

In my family we have 8 members. My daughter, Mary Ann, her four children and my young son's two daughters (not very active).

My granddaughter, Jenny Drobnick her mother and I attended the convention together. What a wonderfully surprising time we had!

San Francisco couldn't have had any better "good will ambassadors" with their promotion of the city, including the western dress that Barb and Beverly wore (they not only outdid themselves in the convention but promoted their home state as well) — what classy ladies!

The hospitality was superb. Delicious cookies and coffee in the hospitality room every morning and coffee in the lobby in the evening. Meals every day were delicious and unique in that they were served at different sight-seeing places.

The touring every day gave us a panoramic view of San Francisco that NO OTHER vacation could equal! There is no way I can adequately describe it and thank all the officers of Br. 13 — a wonderfully fulfilling experience.

The Banquet at the hotel was super with the lovely talented Diana Fir entertaining us. Exquisitely performed. It made us proud to be Slovenian. Sunday

wishing them a Happy Anniversary last month, but failed to write the number — it's 68 years! God bless you both! What a wonderful anniversary! They are still traveling and were in Canada a few weeks ago.

Angela Kaferle of Madison, Ohio was spending some time in Warren with her sons and recuperating from a serious illness. She's planning to move back to Warren.

Remember, the Christmas Luncheon Dec. 20th, 1 p.m. and the November 15th meeting at the Elks at 12 noon.

God's blessing to all!

JOANNE PONIKVAR



Golden Gate Bridge

was another lovely day where we all walked to church for the inspiring mass, then boarded buses to the Slovenian Hall where the installation services were held — again a lovely meal and great welcome!

Since we were not delegates, I am giving you a description as a visitor to the convention.

The hospitality room was opened to all conventioners all day, with lovely gifts displayed for sale that the ladies from different branches made and donated. Unique. We came home with quite a few treasures bought and won.

In the evening we walked, rode the cable cars and shopped. We really and truly left our hearts in San Francisco. Thanks Beverly and Barbara and everyone connection with the convention. You would have to be super human to outdo this!

(Enclosed is a check to be used as needed in appreciation of the warm hospitality shown to us in San Francisco.

MARY CULKAR,  
MARY ANN DROBNICK  
Br. 47, Garfield Hts., OH

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#### NO. 56, HIBBING, MN

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Meeting was opened and all reports made. A bill for flowers for Pep Erickson was accepted and approved for payment. Program of Minnesota State Convention was discussed and members planned to attend. Sick members reported were Ann Pintar, Agnes Barkis and Veronika Marter.

The Sept.-Oct. issue of ZARJA was appreciated. Lunch committee for Sept. was Valeria Carlson, Milena Koehler and Romalea Perprunner. Nick and Rose Maras will donate two Slove-

(Please turn to page 32.)





**SAN FRANCISCO  
NATIONAL CONVENTION**

*From the perspective of  
Jo Mistic, Cleveland, OH*

**No. 56, Continued:**

nian flags for the ethnic flags. Thanks, Rose and Nick.

Happy birthday was sung to the September celebrants. Milena Koehler won the jackpot. Meeting closed with prayers.

Winners are cards were, Cannasta, Fran Tobey, 500, Liz Spolar.

The minutes were taken by Ann Satovich in my absence. Thanks to Ann.

EDITH JONES

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**NO. 57, NILES, OH**

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It has been a long time since you heard from Niles, but we are still having meetings – just no news to report.

We held the August meeting with 10 members present. We were served our lunch first, then opened the meeting, took care of all reports and found that we have some ill members. Ann Gunther had surgery and had to give up her position as Treasurer. But, one of our faithful members, Elizabeth Havaich volunteered to take over for Ann. We offer Ann our best wishes for a speedy recovery. Ann Hostensky is in Glen View Manor and we also pray that she will soon be feeling better.

Mary Opalka was our hostess in August and Denise Bahn was our birthday celebrant.

We have some travelers again. Elizabeth Havaich and her husband left for a beautiful trip to Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island for two weeks. Another member, Charlotte Lah and her husband and sons spent a week at Cape Tiva Island in Florida.

Our hostesses for Sept. were Mimi Shirkman and Josephine Fabian.

Looking forward to seeing you at the next meeting. God bless you all.

FRANCES STANEC

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**NO. 63, BESSEMER, PA**

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No meeting. Ann and I are still waiting for you ladies to come up with something to keep our Branch together. Like I said in the July-August ZARJA, we can meet every 4 or 6 months.

We have another chance to decide at a meeting on Dec. 10th. Please bring a casserole dish – friends as guests are welcome! It will be at the Croatian Club, 2 o'clock. Hope to see you there!

## A Crafty Idea

We're back, and hopefully will give you something to do to fill in the long winter days that undoubtedly are ahead of us.

While visiting my husband in the nursing home, the one thing that catches my eye are the beautiful lap robes that the residents are given. Many of the beds are covered with afghans that you just know someone made to express their love. I have the pattern for a crocheted lap robe/afghan. You can adjust the beginning chain to suit your needs.

You can have this pattern for \$1.00 (checks made payable to SWU/ZARJA, and a self-addressed stamped envelope. Send your requests to:

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

We just lost another long-time member, Katie Herbolich who died of complications of a stroke. She is the last charter member to join (1936.) Katie was born in Karlovac, Croatia on Feb. 14th, 1903 and was 92 years old. She was the daughter of Matt and Anna Bubas Banicich. Her husband, Mike preceded her in death – they were married in 1920. She was a long-time cook at the Croatian Club in Bessemer and a member of St. Anthony Church, the Senior Citizens and our branch.

Surviving are a daughter, Esther Horvath of Struthers, a son, Larry of Bessemer, 4 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. Larry took care of his mom and for her age, Katie was very active, even went dancing every Sunday and played Bingo every Wednesday at the Senior Citizen's Club.

We will miss her. Merciful Lord grant her eternal peace.

God bless everyone and all our shut-ins!

Don't forget the Christmas meeting and party, Dec. 10th!

MARY PERCIC

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**NO. 73, WARRENSVILLE, OH**

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While we are happy for the relief of the hot, hot summer, the chill in the air reminds us that Ole' Man Winter is waiting in the wings. Before too long, the fall chill will be replaced by the sting of snow and cold. Enjoy the autumn days that are with us now.

Branch 73 cancelled their cookout, the first time in many years. We often talk about how things are getting harder

for us to do, and as in every other branch, it's the older members who take on the burden of preparing, cooking and cleaning up later. When Alouise Epley took a nasty fall and it resulted in injury to her leg, followed by infection, the cookout was not the most important thing to consider. It may be good warning to everyone, unless our younger members start coming forward and offering their assistance, a prelude to "taking over", cancellations are going to be part of our history. Alouise has mended well, and we wish her continued good health.

GET WELL WISHES are also extended to Angela Winter who had knee surgery, to Helen Cergol following eye surgery. Josephine Globokar who suffered a stroke and Angela Mollica whose illnesses still prevail. There are many more names that come up in conversation, and to all of you, our thoughts and prayers are with you.

CONGRATULATIONS to Katrina Jones on her recent marriage. She is the daughter of Kathy (Vorisek) and Bill. Maybe Mom will furnish us with more information and perhaps a photo.

Travelers were busy throughout the summer, and many scheduled Cleveland as their destination, just as many Clevelanders traveled elsewhere. Louise Zabukovec had a houseful when her two sisters and their families came from Krka and Ljubljana to visit. There were six people who made the trip, we trust that they returned home with happy memories.

The Turk Family went to Toronto, Canada for a wedding. Daughter,

Joanne Tomsick, and her family traveled with Mom and Dad. Joanne also had the pleasure of a visit from her son John David and his wife, Sami. John is stationed at an Air Force Base in Utah.

Mary Ann Hlavaty went to Texas to visit her daughter, who in turn traveled to Ohio to spend time with her mother.

A new grandbaby, a girl, was greeted by Margarita Franchini. Let's see, Margarita could give us a photo and we could give her a membership form.

We hope that before you read this article we will have seen many of you at the State Convention. There are so many new changes within our organization, your input is important. Please read your ZARJA to keep abreast of what's happening.

Have a very HAPPY THANKSGIVING.

Respectfully submitted,

EVELYN MAJERCIK

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#### NO. 81, KEEWATIN, MN

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Members met for a short business meeting on Aug. 23rd at Fr. Frederick Hall. Pres. Josie Kapla presided. Main topic for discussion was the Convention being held in Biwabik Sept. 10th. Members purchased the raffle tickets sent to us. It was decided we again make and bake apple strudels for St. Mary's annual October Bazaar.

We are saddened by the sudden death of our president's husband. Louie Kapla was always so helpful at our group projects, usually he was our "go for". May he rest in peace.

Josie Churack is in Golden Crest Nursing Home recuperating from a recent hospital stay.

September Birthday greetings were extended to Vice-President, Mary Marolt.

TONI DIORIO

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#### NO. 89, OGLESBY, IL

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Now that summer is gone and fall is around the corner, we are ready to tackle all of the projects which were put aside for further consideration.

Angie Nico was the delegate at the Ill.-Ind. Regional Convention on Oct.

1st. which was hosted by Branch No. 95, So. Chicago. Barbara Bruch was our alternate delegate.

Rose Ann Prey received a round of applause when it was noted that she was instrumental in the sale of "Pots & Pans" cookbook which totaled \$276.00. Good work, Rose Ann.

Marilyn Argubright wore an extra special smile when the ladies mentioned Erin Kathleen Quick who joined the George Argubright family as their 5th grandchild. What a lovely little girl and Marilyn is so proud! Erin's mother is Lynn Quick who teaches at Holy Family Catholic School. Congratulations to the proud parents and grandparents.

Bill and Mitzi Banich and their two sons, Chris and Adam toured the Western States. They really enjoyed the vacation but it's back to school for the boys. See you at the meeting in Nov.

Respectfully,

EUNICE KOMATER

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#### NO. 95, SO. CHICAGO, IL

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Since August 1st was the deadline for September and October news, and our meeting for September was held on the 9th, no report in ZARJA! Just so you all understand.

All were reminded by Dolores Hennelly to fill out the forms in the back of the Sep.-Oct. ZARJA and mail back to the Nat'l Secretary so that the direct billing system can be set up.

Final plans were discussed for the impending Oct. 1st Ill.-Ind. State Convention. Manda Dosen and Mary A. Perkovich, "Raffle Queens" will handle same, ably assisted by Mary Brozynski and Bernice Morrison. Ann Yosue is in charge of the flowers. Evelyn Driscoll is handling the tickets along with President Millie James. Generous Marge Krmpotic is donating favors, plus many prizes. Split-the-Pot will be run by Helen Santy and Ann Yosue.

Good and sad news from the Cuzella family. First, the good news. Member Catherine Hansen and husband Philip were surprised with a 25th Anniversary party hosted by daughters, our members Christina and Ann Marie, Jr. Grandmother Amelia led the cheers with additional family members.

The sad news is that Sylvia Dobrich,

Amelia's sister-in-law was laid to rest Sept. 20th following a lengthy illness. It has been a long vigil for her sons and loving husband, Carl. May she rest in peace!

Matilda Grepo is back with her daughter in Arizona, following a brief illness. Still on the sick list, following major eye surgery, many kudos to Dolores Hennelly for attending our meeting.

Hostesses were the officers, who served a resplendant feast! Split-the-Pot winners were Ann Cikulin and Evelyn Driscoll.

MARIE MARAS

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#### NO. 102, WILLARD, WI

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Greetings from the Northlands!

The frost is on the pumpkins and the leaves are showing their beautiful fall colors! Hopefully, we'll have a few weeks of Indian Summer before the snow flies!

It has been a very busy year. The last of our activities is now over. The "Vinska trgatav" or Grape Festival was held on Sept. 24th. The youngsters enjoy this very much and like to dress up in Slovenian costumes to participate. Each year we must explain to them what this celebration is all about. In their future years they will remember this and perhaps be able to put this together themselves when our generation is no longer around.

The SWU State Convention hosted by Br. 43 in Milwaukee was very well-attended. Acting State President, Joan Yaklich graciously accepted a term as State President with the help of newly-elected Vice President, Karen Janezic from Br. 1, Sheboygan. Direct Billing was discussed and explained. All the events of the day were well planned and enjoyable, especially the group of 7 young ladies, ages from 4 to about 8 or 10 years, dressed up in Slovenian costumes and singing 3 lovely Slovenian songs so well.

Several ladies mentioned having old ZARJA copies from years gone by. What an opportunity to make memory albums of your branch activities to pass on to the future generations! Br. 43, with 65 years in existence, Br. 17, now non-existent, could each complete one nicely with these issues. Br. 102 already has one book with items of the past 50 years. It is surprising how much

history is in these past ZARJAs! This is a very interesting project, where the social members might enjoy helping.

The program book put out by Br. 43 on this occasion was very informative. Br. 1, Sheboygan, accepted the next State Convention in 1996. It will be nice to meet old friends again.

Another event we enjoyed this year was the wedding on Sept. 2nd of our granddaughter, Aimee Staut, daughter of Victor and Mira, to Randy Nothing from the Manitowoc area. Aimee was the first to win a SWU Scholarship from our branch. She is a lab technician at the Holy Family Hospital in Manitowoc. We wish the couple much happiness.

Our Fall Hunters Bake Sale on Nov. 18-19 is coming up fast. Ladies, you know what the hunters like to eat, so let's have a good turnout. No definite date for the Christmas party, but it will be early in December. We will finally get to honor our Mother of the Year, Edith Backus with a special pot-luck dinner. Better late than never!

In November we will remember our deceased members with a mass.

MARY STAUT

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### NO. 103, WASHINGTON, D.C.

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On Sunday, September 3, we convened for the first meeting after the summer vacation. First of all, some bits of news since the last issue. We were saddened to learn of the death on June 21, 1995 of Leo Odorizzi, father of Kenneth Odorizzi husband of Irene, SWU National Director of Heritage. One cannot experience a more traumatic experience as that of losing a member of the family, and all prayers are solicited during this time of sorrow. We are also sorry to learn that Mara Chokel's husband is quite ill; we hope everyone will remember him in your prayers.

On a happier note, Branch 103 is happy to announce that three members are new grandmothers. Mary Mejac and Mary Lou Terselic were recently blessed, and Nika Kovacic became a grandmother for the first time on September 1 when her daughter Bernadette gave birth to a beautiful boy. Congratulations to all three grandmothers. Nika informed us that her grandson, Matthew Erik Fitzsimmons, will be a

new member of the SWU -- our membership is growing!

The majority of the meeting revolved around our future activities, and especially the annual dinner-dance scheduled for October 27.

Branch 103 is privileged to be located in our Nation's Capital where we have access to many cultural activities. On September 6, 1995, Slovenian Ambassador Dr. Ernest Petric invited members of Branch 103 and their friends to visit the Slovenian Embassy. We received a very cordial reception by First Secretary Miklavz Borstnik who invited us to be seated in the reception room where we were served cakes and refreshing soft drinks. Ambassador Petric then arrived. After initial greetings he described the many responsibilities of an Ambassador. One cannot help being overwhelmed when realizing how demanding the job of an Ambassador can be, including trips throughout the country, official visits with other diplomats, government officials, etc. Dr. Petric is a very effective speaker and extremely thorough in his delivery. After answering questions, he left for an appointment on Capitol Hill.

Mr. Borstnik then added some remarks and answered questions before escorting us on a tour of the Embassy. We will treasure the literature we were given of Slovenia. We were indeed privileged to be invited to the Embassy, realizing that the Embassy staff sacrificed precious time to entertain us.

To Ambassador Petric and Mr. Borstnik, once again a sincere thank you from Branch 103 and other Slovenes who enjoyed visiting the beautiful Slovenian Embassy.

Hope everyone had a wonderful summer vacation, despite the hottest weather we've had in recent memory. Since this article will be published in the November issue of the ZARJA, we wish to extend our best wishes to all for the holidays.

MATILDA AUSICH

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### NO. 105, DETROIT, MI

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Branch 105 held our first formal meeting since April on Saturday, September 23rd.

There was much to discuss beginning with the changes made by the 1995 National Convention delegates. We ag-

reed that these changes appeared to be good ones and we will all do our best to work with the new officers to make their jobs easier.

There was a round of applause for our President, Kathleen Emerson, who was appointed to the position of National Women's Activities Chairwoman. We know with your enthusiasm for the SWU you'll do well in this job, Kathleen.

Several members expressed an interest in attending the Ohio-Michigan Convention in Cleveland. I'm sure there will be a good representation from our Branch.

We are planning to attend a "Brunch with Bach" concert at the Detroit Institute of Arts on November 5th. These are very popular concerts and have been reinstated this year. They had been cancelled for several years because of budget cuts.

Several suggestions for restaurants were made for our Christmas Luncheon to be held on Saturday, December 2nd. Details on time and place will be discussed at our October meeting.

We had quite a bit of discussion regarding a weekend activity on a National level in the Detroit metropolitan area. Several good suggestions were made and we will explore the possibilities at future meetings.

During the meeting we had a chance to view the scrapbooks being prepared by our Historian, Mary Jane Smith. She is doing a wonderful job. If you haven't yet sent her your completed "History", please take the time to do so. It's sad to see how much of our history has been lost and we really appreciate the hard work Mary Jane is doing to see that we preserve the history we have and chronicle our activities and achievements for future generations.

On a sad note, our Recording Secretary, Louise Maisel, lost her husband, Bob, due to a massive heart attack on August 13th. Louise and Bob had been married for forty years and both of their daughters, Beth Ann and Mary also are members of Branch 105. Bob's mother, Zorka, and his sister, Betty, were very active until their deaths. Our sincere condolences to Louise and her family.

To our members in nursing homes and those who are ill, our love and best wishes.

PATRICIA ADAMIC

# MEMBERS VISIT SLOVENIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON



Officers of Br. 103, Washington, D.C. were guests at the Slovenian Embassy in September. L. to r. Matilda Ausich, Rec. Sec., Molly Thomas, Treas., Jill Augustine, Pres., Mary Mejac, Sec. and Nika Kovacic, Vice Pres.

With Ambassador, Dr. Ernest Petrich (center), l. to r. Molly Thomas, Nancy Terselic, Mara Chokel, Jill Augustine, Mary Mejac, Matilda Ausich, Polly Caldwell, Nika Kovacic, Anna Skopec, Freda Michelitch, Veronika Oven, Angela Daly, a guest and Anna Menapace.

Members of our Washington Branch enjoyed the Ambassador's tour through the Slovenian Embassy: from l. to r. seated, Jill Augustine, Terezija Bevec, Angelca Stare with little Verica Bevec, Molly Thomas, Nika Kovacic and Freda Michelitch; 2nd row: Tillie Ausich, Mary Bodling, Jane Bevec, Anna Skopec, Matilda Terselic, Ica Zebot; back row, Anna Menapace, Sabina Bartol, Angela Daly, Mary Mejac, Loretta Kennedy, Mary Lou Terselic and Polly Caldwell.



First Secretary of the Slovenian Embassy, Miklavž Borštnik.

(Photos courtesy, Tillie Ausich)

## MEMBER CREDITS POSITIVE THINKING AND PRAYERS FOR SURVIVAL

Dear Sisters:

When you are reading this, it will be holiday time, and then soon time for the new year 1996 -- not much more to the year 2000! How many of us will live to see it? I am hoping I will be able to, though a couple years ago it did not look like I would.

On the morning of February 19, in 1993, I was rushed by EMS to the local Mercy Hospital in the state of acute hypoxia and heart failure. I had not felt quite right for a couple months, and I did go to the doctors who had taken over the office of my deceased and wonderful physician, (who had taken care of me most of my life,) but nothing was done!

At the hospital, the specialist called in on the case took my family aside and informed them I would be dead in two weeks. Needless to say, I am very much alive and off all medication and off all oxygen. I am involved in many activities that I am able to pursue and it feels good!

As far as oxygen, that is a story in itself. I was on 15 liters flow, something so unheard of, that even many oxygen companies claimed there was no such thing. However the company that has been servicing me, which is the largest and oldest in this part of the country, set up 15 large hospital size tanks in my home, and came every day, with another 15 tanks. I used that many for nearly two years, and then I was slowly put on lower and lower doses: 12, 10, 8, 6, etc. And of course daily stops, turned into every other day, then twice a week, etc. First I was able to go for long periods without any oxygen, and these go longer and longer. Now, for the last several weeks, I do fine without any.

According to the oxygen company, they have never had a patient with this type of miraculous recovery; instead of improving, all the people on 6 liters or more, became progressively worse and

eventually died. Needless to say, I have been the "talk of the town." I attribute this to many prayers, positive thinking, and more specifically, the intercession of Ven. Father Solanus Casey, Detroit's own saint, whom I knew personally and visited often while he lived. (Died in July 1957). The Monastery was not far from our home, incidentally. [His story was featured a few months ago on UNSOLVED MYSTERIES TV program].

Many years ago, I understand he had predicted that I would not die as a child, but that I would grow up to be a "little old lady" and I guess here I am.

Presently, I am finishing a book, which details many events in my life. I am doing it to give "hope to the hopeless" -- another of my efforts in life to help others. I wish it will.

It was a difficult way to do it, but in my illness, I found a doctor, who is a most sincere, sensitive, compassionate person that I have ever met for ages. No, it was not the cardiologist, who gave me a mere two weeks to live, but another one assigned to my case at the hospital, an internist. While I was bedridden, when I first returned home from the hospital, he paid me monthly visits, at the home. Few doctors now make house calls. I am indeed fortunate and I can't help but think that my deceased doctor, did not arrange it all from heaven.

Another great thing that happened to me of late, of course, is winning the Slovenian doll couple. What a thrill.

I think I have brought you all up to date, and from deep in my heart I wish everyone Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May God bless you richly.

*Marie Bombach Dye  
Br. 105, Detroit, MI*

## GOVERNOR VOINOVICH AT 100TH YEAR LAUSCHE RECOGNITION

CLEVELAND, OH -- Ohio Governor George V. Voinovich will be the keynote speaker on Sunday, November 12, 1995 at St. Vitus Parish Auditorium, 6111 Glass Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio when St. Vitus celebrates the 100th anniversary birth of late Frank J. Lausche.

Lausche, former governor and U.S. Senator from Cleveland, Ohio, was a lifelong member of St. Vitus Parish, the first American Slovenian parish in the state of Ohio and the diocese of Cleveland. Voinovich shares similar ethnic values and roots with Lausche.

Voinovich's speech at 2 p.m. will follow an 11:00 a.m. Mass in St. Vitus Church and a lunch served in the parish auditorium. A cultural program, featuring selections by Fantje Na Vaši, a northeast Ohio Slovenian men's *a capella* chorus, will precede Voinovich's remarks.

St. Vitus pastor, Father Joseph P. Boznar is the chairman of the Ad Hoc Lausche Anniversary Committee comprised of representatives from St. Vitus Parish and the American Slovenian communities in northeast Ohio.

*Stan Kuhar*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS GRATITUDE.....

Enclosed please find a check in the amount of \$30.00, twenty of which I am sending in memory of Stanley Baloh, who died April 7, 1995. His daughter in law Barbara Baloh, and his granddaughter Brandy Baloh, are both members of our Branch 105 here in the Detroit area.

The other \$10.00, I am sending in for the publishing fund.

I love reading the ZARJA, as I am a true Slovene who loves her heritage, as all loving Slovenes do. I have been a member of Branch 105 for over 6 years now, and am also a member of S.N.P.J.

Sincerely yours,

*Marion Volpe  
Warren, MI*



**MEMBERS OF S.W.U.!**  
**PLEASE FILL OUT FORM ON**  
**BACK COVERS OF THIS ZARJA!**

## SLOVENSKA ŽENSKA ZVEZA ZBORUJE NA ŽELEZNEM OKROŽJU...

...JE PRINESEL PODLISTEK V NEDELJSKIH JUTRANJIH NOVICAH, 10. SEPTEMBRA,

potem, ko je naša glavna predsednica, JEAN KORSMAN podala svoje vtise novinarki. Že nekaj dni prej je govorila po radiju in seznanjala publiko o delu in važnosti povezave slovenskih deklet in žena po vsej deželi. Oboje je pripravilo pot naši vsakoletni državni konvenciji.

Letos so se vse naše podružnice zbrale na Biwabiku za ta vsakoletni Minnesotski dan. Naše članice so se ponovno izredno potrudile, da je bilo vse v najlepšem soglasju na tem zborovanju, katerega je vodila spretno in v soglasju z navzočimi Jean Korsman. Bila je to izredno lepa in sončna jesenska nedelja, ki je privabila skoraj 200 žena od blizu in daleč. Več o tem bo objavljeno v angleškem delu. Sama bi Vam rada povedala tisto, kar je prinesel članek v "Mesaba Daily" to jutro.

JEAN KORSMAN, predsednica naše podružnice, tako naše Minnesote – in sedaj tudi glavna predsednica, se je vključila v SŽZ po posredovanju svoje mame, Anne Purkat, katera je bila članica že od prvih početkov. JEAN je začela agilno delovati za Zvezo pred kakimi 10 leti. Posebno se je za delo navdušila med konvencijo v Clevelandu, katera je njene interese privedla do večjega zanimanja in delovanja. Danes je Zvezina glavna predsednica, katera je bila izvoljena na konvenciji v San Francisco meseca maja letos. Postala je nadvse entusiastična voditeljica celotne Ženske Zveze, katera ima 5,600 članic v 17. državah Amerike. Podružnica na Biwabiku je zelo delavna. Njej so se pred par leti pridružile še članice iz Gilberta. Ima blizu 80. članic. Med njimi dela s ponosom še ena ustanovna članica, to je vedno nasmejana Jennie Ahlin.

Jean izhaja iz dobre slovenske družine. Njen mož Roy Korsman pa je sin Finskih priseljencev. V njunem domu, ki ga uživata zdaj zunaj mesta Gilbert je oboje v prijetnem skladu. Stalno se tu srečujeta dve kulturi, kjer je prostora in ljubezni dovolj za nju in njuni družini, ki rade prihajajo domov.

Ko se je JEAN podala na konvencijo v San Francisco, jo je tja spremljala hčerka Barbara, ki je s svojo sestro Kathleen tudi članica naše podružnice. Privolila je, da da svoj glas za mesto podpredsednice. Ko pa je tam novo izvoljena predsednica odklonila to mesto, je Tory Bobence, ki je bila dosedanja glavna predsednica vprašala, če bi ona prevzela to mesto. Sama pravi, da je to bilo tako nenadno in kaj takega ni mogla takoj odobriti. Tory jo je zagotovila, da bo dobra glavna predsednica ... *Vendar ne morem kar brž v to privoliti, moram premisliti, saj je to le zelo velik korak... ali bom zmožna to delo vrsiti?* V svoji sobi se je potem posvetovala s hčerko Barbaro. In ona je bila, ki je dala odločitev svoji mami češ: *Mama to ni problem, Ti boš to gotovo zmogla...* Bila je izredno presenečena, da

ima hčerka toliko zaupanja v njo samo in veliko delo, ki jo čaka. In je privolila.

Ko se je po končani konvenciji Minnesotska delegacija vračala domov, ni manjkalo posrečenih dovtipov, kakor: gotovo nas bo na letališču pričakala godba s pihali... Godbe res ni bilo, ampak celotna Korsmanova družina je sprejela svojo mamo in staro mamo z balončki in plakati in šopki kot novo izvoljeno glavno predsednico SŽZ!

Gornji članek nadalje pove, da je bila SŽZ ustanovljena na pobudo Marie Priland in to v decembru 1926. Ona sama je često rada pripovedovala vtise iz svoje bogate zakladnice slovenske žene in matere. En tak spomin je iz Ellis Island v New Yorku. Tja je namreč prišla njena družina preko morja da bi v Ameriki našla delo in blagostanje. Prišla je tja brez znanja jezika. Bili so lačni in žejni, a za vodo niso znali vprasati. Pa pride mimo mož z vedrom in zajemalko ter jo ponudi njej. Naglo se vrine med njo mož, ki hoče biti postrežen naglo... Mož pa, ki je vodo prinesel pravi: tu imajo prednost žene... Marie Priland tega ni pozabila in bila vesela, da je prišla v deželo, ki daje prednost ženam!

Kmalu po prihodu v Ameriko je spoznala, da je tu le poskrbljeno za može, za žene ni bilo ničesar, da bi jih družilo. Tako je po njenih posredovanjih nastala SLOVENSKA ŽENSKA ZVEZA. Danes ima svoj glavni urad v Joliet, Illinois, kjer je tudi poleg še izredno lepo oskrbovan muzej.

Kljub velikim časovnim spremembam, JEAN čuti, da so cilji in delo SŽZ isti, kakor so bili dani ženam na početku. SŽZ je vedno imela smernice, da povezuje in ohranja slovenske žene, kar dela tudi danes. Članice so posebno povezane preko svoje revije: "ZARJA", ki izhaja 8 krat na leto. Glavna predsednica vedno poda svoje misli in s tem seznanja celotno članstvo o njenem delovanju. Celotna organizacija ima 7 članski odbor. Poleg tega je v odboru še urednica Zarje, direktorice za kulturne aktivnosti, za šolnine, ženske aktivnosti in mladinski krog. Vendar te nimajo pravice pri volitvah glavnega odbora. SŽZ obstoja zdaj že 69 let. Glavni namen je še vedno isti: Povezovati na družaben način slovenske žene, ohranjati našo slovensko kulturo v svojem okolju in privabiti tudi druge žene v našo sredo. To je zelo važna točka, saj je naše članstvo precej padlo in več imamo starejših, nego mlajših članic. JEAN se dobro zaveda velike naloge, ki je pred njo, da bodo potrebna nova pota in nova sredstva za obstoj SŽZ na finančnem področju. Kljub vsemu pa bo potrebno, da se ohranja slovensko kulturno zanimanje za etnične programe in da predvsem ohranjamo naša slovenska izročila v naših družinah in okolju, kjer smo.

Mimo tega imajo lokalne podružnice nalogo, da pobirajo dohodki od prodaje kuharskih knjig, voščilnih kartic in koledarjev. Za lokalne izdatke pa veliko pripomorejo tudi razne prireditve, ki pomagajo do ob-



## Smrt njegovih svetih

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»... Si more kak škof želeti bolj blaženo smrt, kakor jo je božja Previdnost podelila škofu Slomšku? Na svoj zadnji rojstni dan napisati oporoko – oporoko, ki je od prve do zadnje vrstice izraz najbolj vzvišene pastirske ljubezni, – v zadnjem letu življenja opraviti milostipolno romanje h grobovom prvakov apostolov v Rim, – v zadnjem mesecu življenja vzeti nase najnapornejšo vizitacijsko pot, – v zadnjem tednu življenja opraviti duhovne vaje in poromati k Materi božji, – na smrtni dan s tako ganljivo vdanostjo v božjo voljo prositi zakramente za umirajoče in jih s takšno pobožnostjo sprejeti, – do zadnjega trenutka vztrajati v molitvi in z veselim vzdihom Mariji »Prosi za nas!« nastopiti svojo pot v večnost – kateri duhovnik, kateri škof bi si mogel želeti srečnejši konec? Sic moritur justus (Tako umira pravični). Resnično dragocena je v božjih očeh smrt njegovih svetih...« (Franc Kosar).

Letošnja Slomškova nedelja nosi prav smrtni datum božjega služabnika Antona Martina Slomška: 24. september 1862. Takrat je bila sreda in spomin Marije Rešiteljice jetnikov. Duhovnik Franc Kosar, Slomškov spovednik in spiritual v bogoslovju je bil sam navzoč pri Slomškovi smrti. Zapustil nam je enkratni pogled z vidika večnosti na zadnje leto tega velikega »slovenskega pravičnika«. Ne razumite me narobe, če rečem, da nas Slomšek uči tudi prav umreti. To ni žalostni trenutek, ki bi se ga morali bati. Slomšek je vso svojo duhovno vizijo nenehno postavljaval v okvir zadnje ure, za katero je veliko zasebno in javno molil. Pogosto je učil duhovnike, bogoslovce in vernike, naj ne pozabijo na to, da bodo umrli; nihče ne ve za svojo zadnjo uro, zato je potrebno vsak trenutek živeti tako, kot bi bil zadnji. Tako je učil pozornosti do vsakega

trenutka, saj je lahko vsak zadnji v našem zemeljskem življenju. Smrt mu ni nikoli pomenila katastrofe ali izgube, ampak jo je doživljal kot rojstvo za nebesa. To je vneto razlagal že otrokom v najnežnejših letih, pa beračem, pa odraslim in tudi duhovnikom. – Na zadnjih duhovnih vajah v Rogaški Slatini je ob koncu zmolil očenaš za tistega med njimi, ki bo prvi umrl – in molili so ga zanj.

V letu, ki je pred nami, se bomo verjetno veliko ustavljali pri našem svetniškem kandidatu. Pri tem ne bi smeli pozabiti, da mu je bila misel na zadnjo uro vedno v pomoč, da je trenutne razmere pravilneje presodil in se odločal z vidika zadnje ure. Seveda ne v suženjskem strahu, ampak v novi in močnejši svetlobi, ki je bolj realno osvetlila različne možnosti in omogočila pravilnejšo izbiro, saj ta svetloba sije skozi vrata smrti iz večnosti. Prav izbire v tej smeri vodijo človeka tako, da je vedno bolj pripravljen na tisto zares zadnjo uro svojega življenja.

Pa vas povabim, drage bralke in bralci, da se v tem trenutku zamislimo in si predstavljamo, da smo prav zdajle v svoji »zadnji uri«. Kaj bi lahko rekli o svojem zadnjem rojstnem dnevu; kje je bil osrednji poudarek praznovanja? Kaj je bilo glavno težišče in glavni dogodek v zadnjem letu mojega življenja? Kaj v zadnjem mesecu, tednu, dnevu? In končno, kako sem v temle trenutku pripravljen stopiti pred svojega Boga in ga pogledati »iz oči v oči«? Ni vzroka za preplah. Smrt je lahko rojstvo za nebesa; saj se jih menda ne bojimo, kaj? Le za veselo resnost in odgovornost v življenju gre, ki nas jo je z besedo in zgledom učil božji služabnik Slomšek.

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stoja. V naši podružnici imamo vsakoletni: "Weihnachtfest", kjer se poslužimo s prodajo orehovitih potic in raznih štrudelnjov. To za božično sezono.

Veliko delo v podružnicah vrši tudi letna stipendija "scholarship", katera obdari 5 studentov letno. Vsak dobi po \$1,000 šolnine za študij na univerzi. Do sedaj je bilo v ta namen zbranega preko \$100.000.

Minnesotska konvencija je zdaj že "zgodovina". Pred nami pa je delo, ki nas vse čaka, da bomo hranile stare ideale in jih znale povezati v nove, ki bodo primerne našemu času in naši mladini, da bo vzljubila vse to, kar so naše slovenske žene in matere dosegle pred skoraj 70. leti. Bog daj tako!

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## B A R A G A



*Začetki Katoliške Cerkve v Ameriki*

FRANC TAKER

### VIII. BARAGA APOSTOLSKI VIKAR V SAULTU SAINTE MARIE

**DRUGIČ V DOMOVINI**  
(1853 – 1854)

Bila sem letos v poletnem času v Štici. Hodila sem bo stopinjah Patra Ašiča. Bila sem v samostanu in okolici. Tam okoli po pašnikih, travnikih, ob obronkih gozdov je Pater nabiral in smukal zdravilne rastline, cvetje, travice, lubje, koreninice in še kaj za svoje zdravilne čaje.

Ogledala sem si starodavni samostan, ki je nadvse zanimiv in dobro ohranjen. Ima bogato zgodovino. Morda kdaj pozneje kaj več o tem.

Imajo tudi lepo trgovino, oziroma bi jo skoraj lahko imenovali domačo lekarno. Tam lahko dobite že mešane in pripravljene čaje in tinkture Patra Ašiča. Vse sem si podrobno ogledala in glej ga šmenta, en čaj za boljši spomin! To je za boljši spomin, ne za zdravo pamet. Za zdravo pamet se je treba priporočiti Sv. Katarini. No, in jaz sem si ga kupila! Čez par mesecev vam bom že sporočila, kako je z mojim spominom. Ob koncu vam bom priložila recept, ki je na škatlji Patra Ašiča Čajev.

Moja preteklost s Stiškim samostanom sega kakih 55let nazaj. Sestra Edita nas je vodila v Šticho, na enodnevno ekskurzijo. A, ne povem vam v kateremu razredu sem bila, če molčiš devetim odgovoriš... Torej, peljale smo se z vlakom do Štichne. Od postaje do samostana smo hodile peš, ker pač takrat se je tako delalo.

Spomnim, kot, da so imeli veliko ribnikov z malimi ribicami in rožičevo moko (carob flour). Tudi takrat so že imeli nekako trgovino, pa sam Bog ve, da takrat mene niso zanimali zdravilni čaji Patra Ašiča. Kupile smo vsaka po en škrcniceljček, katerega so kar zvilili pred našimi očmi in ga napolnili z rožičevo moko. "Tunkale" smo jezičke v škrcniceljček, da se je mokica prijela na naše jezike, malo pocmokale, da se je stopila in nato spolzela gladko po grlu v naše želodčke. O, mm, bila je nebeško dobra!

### ZA BOLJŠI SPOMIN:

#### MEŠANICA:

Kamelice (Camomile), Baziliko (Basilici Hebra), Liste Rožmarina (Leaves of Rosemary), Korenine Kolmeža (Calamus or Sweet Flag), Plod Ovsa (Kernels of Oats), Liste Kopriv (Leaves of Nettle Sting).

#### PRIPRAVA:

Žlicka mešanica naj se prelije z 2/3 dcl vrele vode. Čez 15 minut čaj precedimo in ga vsakokrat pijemo svežega. Po želji z dodatkom medu in žlicko jabolčnega kisa večkrat na dan.

Pa Bogu se priporočite!

CIRILA

28. marca se je za vselej poslovil od Ljubljane. V Zgodnji Danici se je rojakom zahvalil za vso ljubezen in za vse prispevke za njegov apostolski vikariat. Pri mnogih je videl, da so sebi pritrgali, da so mogli njemu dati. Zgodnja Danica je dostavila: "Pri nas so bili le malo časa, ali kdo more popisati, koliko dobrega je njih apostolsko vodenje tukaj obrodilo!"

Po železnici se je odpeljal v Celje. Spremil ga je kanonik Novak z nekaterimi duhovniki. V Celju ga je pozdravilo 40 duhovnikov. Pri opatu je bil slavnosten obed. Baraga je obiskal vse razrede gimnazije; njegova dostojanstvenost in prisrčnost sta študente kar očarali.

S Celjskim opatom se je s pošto peljal v Slovénj Gradec. Kósila sta v poštni gostilni. Prišlo ga je pozdravit osem duhovnikov; občudovali so njegovo ponižnost in ljubeznivost. Pred poštno hišo se je zbralo precej ljudstva; ko je prišel ven, so poklekli, da jih je blagoslovil. Poštar Golè se je še dolgo potem hvalil, da tako visokega in slovečega gosta še svoj živi dan ni imel.

In Celja se je peljal v Šent Andraž, kjer je takrat še bil sedež lavantinske škofije. Hotel se je škofu Slomšku zahvaliti za vse, kar je storil za njegove misijone, in se mu priporočiti tudi za naprej. Slomšek mu je poslal svojo kočijo naproti. O snidenju Barage s Slomškom je zapisal nemški Ljubljanski časnik: "Videla in razgovorila sta se dva cerkvena kneza, ki sta si po mišljenju in vnemi za duše tako sorodna."

V Šent Andražu je Baraga obiskal tudi bogoslovje, v katerem so pa bili samo četrtoletniki. Govoril jim je o časti in dolžnostih duhovnika.

Prav takrat so imela dekleta v lavretanski cerkvi pri Šent Andražu duhovne vaje. Maševal jim je in pridigal o čistosti. Za zgled sramežljivosti jim je stavil mlade Indijanke.

S Slomškovim dovoljenjem sta se priglasila za njegov vikariat brata Jožef in Jurij Reš, doma iz Póroč pri Velikovcu.

Slomšek je spremil svojega gosta do Šent Pavla. Dne 30. marca se je Baraga za vselej poslovil od slovenske zemlje.

Ustavil se je v Gradcu in 2. aprila pridigal v stolnici. Dne 4. aprila se je pripeljal z vlakom na Dunaj in ostal več ko tri tedne. Tudi zdaj je stanoval v Avguštinaju. V tem času, 8. aprila, mu je Ljubljanski časnik prinesel nemško poslovilno pesem Bernarda Tomšiča.

Na Dunaju se je spet mnogo razgovarjal z odborom Leopoldinine ustanove. Ostal je pa na Dunaju zato tako dolgo, da je mogel biti pri poroki cesarja Franca Jožefa z bavarsko princeso Elizabeto, ki ju je 24. aprila nadškof-kardinal Rauscher v navzočnosti 70-ih škofov poročil v avguštinski cerkvi. Rauscherju in drugim se je zdelo prav, da Baraga pri poroki zastopa severno-ameriške škofe in vernike, ki so z Dunaja prejeli toliko podporo. Cesarska poročenca sta ga sprejela v posebni avdienci. Cesar mu je podaril zlat naprsni križec na zlati verižici. Baraga je v Ameriki, ko je bil v denarni stiski, oboje prodal, a si je dal poprej napraviti natančen posnetek. Prav ta križec mu je za 15 mesecev podaljšal življenje in trpljenje. Cesar mu je daroval tudi dva dragocena keliha v romanskem slogu; enega še zdaj uporabljajo v marquettski stolnici ob posebnih slovesnostih. Cesarica Elizabeta je pa darovala Baragi zelo dragocen škofovski prstan z vijolčastim dragim kamnom ametistom, obdanim z diamanti. Na ametistu je vrezano Jezusovo ime.

Tiste tri tedne, ko je bil na Dunaju, je Baraga prejel iz različnih krajev države mnogo denarja in cerkvenih potrebščin za svojo misijonsko škofijo.

Prijatelji v Ljubljani so ga prosili, da bi njim in vsem prijateljem njegovega msijona pustil svojo sliko za spomin. Na Dunaju je napravil kamnotisk (litografijo) umetnik Kriehuber (Kriehúber). Po tem kamnotisku je tiskarna Höfelichove (Héfelihove) vdove izdelala slike v velikosti osmerke, ki so imele nemški napis, tiskarna Rauh (Rau) pa v elikosti pole (fólio) z angleškim napisom.

Po tem Kriehuberjevem kamnotisku in po spominu je napravil potem Langus v Ljubljani sliko Barage kot škofa. Ta slika visi zdaj poleg Langusove Knobleharjeve slike v dvorani starega ljubljanskega bogoslovja.

17. aprila se je Baraga s francoskim pismom zahvalil papežu za 200 skudov (zlatnikov), ki mu jih je poslal.

29. aprila se je odpeljal v Prago. Tam mu je bivši cesar Ferdinand, ki ga je bil že na prvem potovanju v Evropo sprejel v avdienco, zdaj dal 1000 goldinarjev. Povedal mu je, da ga bavarski kralj Ludovik spet želi sprejeti.

Res ga je v Münchnu kralj Ludovik sprejel in mu dal dragocene darove. Ludovikovo misijonsko društvo mu je naklonilo obljubljenih 2000 goldinarjev.

Dne 5. maja je bil v Parizu. V hiši za zunanje misijone (Missions Etrangères) se je mudil dva tedna, da so se zbrali vsi priglašeni duhovniki. Eden izmed njih je bil Lovrenc Lavtižar, rojen leta 1820 v Srednjem vrhu pri Kranjski gori. Bil je zelo nadarjen in zelo pobožen. Zaradi svoje ponižnosti, potrpežljivosti in ljubeznivosti je bil ljubljenec svojih sošolcev, ki so mu radi ponagajali. Kot kaplan je služboval šest let v Trebnjem in je bil torej z Baragovimi dobro znan, tri leta pa na Dóbrovi

pri Ljubljani. Njegovi prijatelji so že prej domnevali, da ga bo gorečnost pognala v misijone in sicer v afriške. Sam se je pa čutil nevrednega in nezmožnega za ta poklic, o katerem je vzkliknil prijatelju: "Srečen pa res, kdor je od Boga v misijon poklican!" Dne 10. maja se je pa poslovil od matere, ki jo je prisrčno ljubil, in šel za Barago. Domače kraje in ljudi je do smrti ljubil; ta ljubezen se kaže v vseh njegovih pismih, četudi bi jo bil pod misijonskim navdušenjem rad prikril pred seboj in pred drugimi. – Tudi nečak misijonarja Pirca, ki je bil takrat študent, se je priglasil. Baraga ga je v Ameriki poslal v semenišče v Cincinnati, a je odšel po svojih potih.

Vsega skupaj se je Baragi priglasilo v Evropi 11 duhovnikov in duhovniških kandidatov. Pa so se mu prej ali slej domala vsi izneverili.

V Parizu mu je misijonska družba dala še celih 10.000 frankov in mnogo cerkvenih potrebščin. Iz Pariza se je peljal z irskim duhovnikom Dunnejem v Dublin in v Liverpool. Od tam se je od Slovencev še enkrat pismeno poslovil. Pismo se začneja z besedami: "Za vselej se poslavljam od Evrope." V pismu tudi pravi, da je zvedel, da ga je na Dunaju Kriehuber na kamnotisku dobro zadel in da so se večje in manjše slike dobro posrečile.

V Liverpoolu se je z Dunnejem vkrcał na brzoparnik "Niagara" in se v desetih dneh pripeljal v Boston. Od tam se je peljal v New York. Dunneja je poslal v Sault Ste. marie, sam se je pa peljal v Washington, da pri osrednji vladi zaprosi za stavbišče za novo cerkev in za druge misijonske stavbe u Saultu in pa za oprostitev carine za devet zabojev cerkvenih potrebščin, ki jih je pripeljal iz Evrope. Pa mu je vlada zavrnila obe prošnji. Carine je moral plačati 310 dolarjev.

Vrnil se je v New York, da počaka svoje duhovnike. Nastanil se je pri redemptoristih. Duhovniki so se vozili z jadrnico, da je vožnja manj stala. Nekateri so Baragi očitali, da se je sam vozil z brzoparnikom, svoje duhovnike je pa pustil na počasni jadrnici, na kateri so morali računati z mnogimi viharji. Pa Baraga je bil že nestrpen zaradi tako dolge odsotnosti od svojega vikariata; hotel je v New Yorku in drugod vse hitro urediti in se odpeljati v Sault.

22. junija je pisal tajniku Kongregacije za širjenje vere, Alojziju Barnabò, nej se v njegovem imenu zahvali svetemu očetu, da je bil do njega in do sestre tako ljubezniv. Pravi, da sestra ni mogla prehvaliti papeževe prijaznosti.

V New Yorku je dvakrat birmal in večkrat pridigal, neko nedeljo je imel kar pet pridig.

15. julija so se duhovniki pripeljali. Celih 43 dni so bili na morju. Lavtižar je 26. julija pisal iz New Yorka: "O kako veselo je bilo moje srce, ko kmalu nato ljubeznivi škof sami pridejo, nas z nenavadno priljudnostjo pozdravijo in povedo, da so nas že težko čakali in bili v velikih skrbah za nas."

— NADALJEVANJE —



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## FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

### November: A Time of Change and Thanks

Boys and girls, the other day while I sat thinking of something to write about November, I couldn't help but think about all the changes that happen in November.

All of nature is busy preparing for Winter. By November all the leaves have changed color and are falling off the trees. (Some trees are completely bare.) The migrating birds have long gone. The last of the harvesting is being completed and the farmers are cutting their fields. Nature is preparing for it's winter nap.

Also, we as a nation, have chosen the 4th Thursday in November to give thanks to God for all He's done for us and for all He's given us.

No matter what one's personal status is, everyone of us could come up with a list of things to be grateful for!

Our health, or if lacking perfect health, the blessing of the doctors, nurses and other people who can help us get well or at least ease the suffering.

The gift of Freedom of Worship and Freedom of Speech. These are two rights not all nations enjoy.

The gift of Friendship and Family.

The food on our tables, the clothes on our backs, and shelter from the weather.

The opportunities for education.

The list is endless. We have so much to be thankful for.

In accordance with these ideas of change and thanks, this Thanksgiving is a very special Thanksgiving for me. My life is taking a major change. A

change that I am very thankful to God for and will be thankful for a long time.

This Thanksgiving weekend, the Lord will be joining two households and making one family. I will become Mrs. Robert L. Stoner, thus expanding my little family consisting of my daughter, Katie, and myself to include my husband, Bob, and sons Randy and David.

Until Next Time, Have a Blessed and Safe Thanksgiving.

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